

and let it be the same about all river banks which have been enclosed in our time.

d) All evil customs of forests and warrens, of foresters and warreners, sheriffs and their servants, river banks and their wardens shall at once be enquired into in each county. Persons who live outside the forest must not be tried in Forest Courts'

e) The king's officers must not seize corn or other provisions, carts or horses, without payment and consent. Legal punishment must not be deprive of his holding, a merchant of his wares or a villein of his 'wainage', which probably means his farming gear.

Further Notes.

a). Means that the king can't interfere with the church or the church courts.

- a₁ John had been collecting too much money this was mentioned, taxes.
- a₂ You hold land as a vassal of the king and if you die it went back to the king. For your son to inherit it he had to pay the king and he could get it back. John asked for too much.
- a₃ The liberties of the City of London and other cities meant that they had the right to appoint their own officers who would run the city without the needs of a sheriff.
- b) The king cannot punish a man, it had to be made lawful by his equals. The 'law of the land' meant an ancient law by which a man could rightfully be punished. To no man will we 'sell' we won't take bribes and further everybody has to be tried.
- c) A forest is not necessarily all trees it is an area where the king can

hunt and the animals are protected from other people. If you do steal a deer you were brought up before the 'forest courts'. John had applied these rules on more land, and where John had afforested the land it was disafforested. The king had tried to shut off the rivers, this was changed.

e) The medieval king travelled around to enforce order and so they had to get food and carts and horses to carry their belongings eg. portable altars, baths, chairs, carpets etc. This was changed by Magna Carta so that such things could not be seized without payment.

f) The guardian of the land of an heir who is under age shall take from the land nothing but the reasonable produce, reasonable customs and reasonable services, and that

without destruction of men or goods....
V. The guardian..... shall restore to the heir, when he comes of full age, all his land stocked with ploughs and instruments of husbandry (farming)

These clauses aim at preventing a guardian from defrauding an heir. In most cases the guardian was the king. He could sell serfs which would enrich himself but leave the estate without without sufficient labourers.

XII. No scutage (money for not fighting) or aid shall be imposed in our kingdom unless by common counsel of our kingdom.

XIV. And for obtaining the common counsel of this kingdom as to the assessing of an aid or scutage, we will cause to be summoned the archbishops, bishops, abbots, earls

and greater barons, by our letters, under seal; and we will moreover cause to be summoned generally, through our sheriffs, all others who hold of us in chief.

XX A freeman shall not be fined for a small offence except in proportion to the offence.

XIV. The writ 'Proœcipe' shall not be made for any estate on which a freeman has his own court (Proœcipe = people cannot be tried in a Baron's court if a Proœcipe was passed which allowed ^{them to be} ~~tried~~ ^{in a} ~~king's court~~).

XIX. No freeman shall be arrested, or imprisoned, or deprived of his land, or outlawed or banished or in any way molested, unless by the lawful judgement of his peers or by the law of the land.

VII Let no widow be compelled to marry so long as she prefers to live without

a husband.

LX. Said that the barons chose 25 barons of the kingdom who shall carry out and cause to be carried out, the liberties which we have granted; in such manner that, if we have done anyone an injury, or transgressed against any article of the Charter, and the transgression shall be laid before four of the above mentioned barons, those four shall come to us and seek amendement of the crime without delay. And if we shall not have amended the crime within forty days, then the twenty five shall coerce us and harm us in all the ways they can, by the capture of our castles, lands and possessions, and by all other means possible, until amendement shall have been made; saving our own person and those of our queen and

children..... This really gives the
Barons permission to rebel if the king did
not keep to the charter.

II The ancient relief was the payment of
money to the king when the heir became
the owner of the land. John made the
money much to much.

✓

... important members:

PARLIAMENT.

The People who went to the early Parliament

In 1275 a famous 'conference' was passed. It selected members for the first parliament.

1. The Leaders of the Church:

2 archbishops, 20 bishops, abbots, priors and archdeacons, and the heads of the Knights Templar and the Knights of St. John. (In our early

Parliaments there were more churchmen than lay).

2. The next group invited were:

earls, barons and judges. (These were considered as the second class).

3. The next group was the 'delegates'

(These represented the lower ranks of the clergy). Withdrew in 14 century.

4. The last group (probably considered as the least important members:

- f) two citizens from each town (chosen by the mayor).
- g) two knights from each shire (chosen by the county court).
- Later, the sheriff of each county chose the delegates, who represented our 'upper middle class'. The common people had no representatives till recent years.
- h)
- i)

The Work they did in Parliament.

j) All the members met at the royal palace of Westminster (probably now Westminster Hall).

1. At first they met chiefly to agree upon taxation.

k) see further notes

2. Soon they began to perform another very important duty: to agree with petitions.

l) It was the custom for people who had a strong complaint and who

had got no satisfaction about it from their own local officials or magistrates, to go direct to the King

m) tell him their complaint and beg him to see that justice was done.

This 'petition' was usually made in writing and the King, with his secretaries and lawyers by him, would issue an order that such and such an official should attend to the matter. What he had to do about it was carefully stated.

n) o) 3 To watch over the Charter.

When the same sort of trouble was the cause of many petitions an

p) 'Act of Parliament' was passed, consisting first of the grievance and then the remedies. It even

q) became the rule that the King could not make laws except by Act of Parliament, and that an Act of Parliament must be carried out.

How Parliament came to be divided into two Houses.

A full Parliament was not a convenient assembly for discussing details of taxation and of laws, for it would consist of several hundred men.

1. Before long the knights and citizens began to sit by themselves and no doubt felt more comfortable so, than in the presence of the King and the great men of the realm.
2. They chose one of their number as their Speaker, to act as their chairman and take messages to and from the king and the other House. In time they claimed that their own views on taxation were more important than those of the Lords, as the latter were agreeing

personally to taxation on their own estates, while the Commons had to think of their neighbours at home who would be compelled to pay whatever the Commons agreed to at Westminster.

The lesser clergy separated off, too.

v) But they took little interest in law-making and confined themselves mainly to tax questions.

w) The districts which sent the knights and citizens (constituencies nowadays) were called 'communes'. And that is how 'the House of Communes' got its name. It is noticeable that the knights of the shire, who were landowners of good birth and social position, might very well have sat with the lords, with whom they had a great deal in common. But it was a good thing for England that they did not.

x)

Otherwise the representatives of the nation would have been sharply divided into aristocrats in one House and the lesser breeds in the other.

- y) This would have set up a 'caste system', and it is not a good thing for the classes of a country to be too sharply divided off. The mixture of the upper and middle class was brought about because of the custom by which the eldest son of an earl inherited all the estate and the title, the younger sons had to do something for a living, and it was quite a usual thing for them to go into business.
- z)

Further Notes.

- k. Kings were not powerful enough to collect taxes, so they persuaded the knights and burgesses to agree to the tax, and they would then

try to get the people to pay the tax.
It was really propoganda.

The Chief Ceremonies of the Year of a Medieval Church.

The three important events in the life of an ordinary person were his birth, marriage and death. The church took a large part in each of these. A baby was quickly christened so to become a christian as soon as possible. Marriage was centered around the church and the bride and bridegroom took communion before they were wed. People confessed their sins to a priest before they died so they were freed from the feeling of guilt, and after Purgatory went into heaven unless they had committed an awful crime.

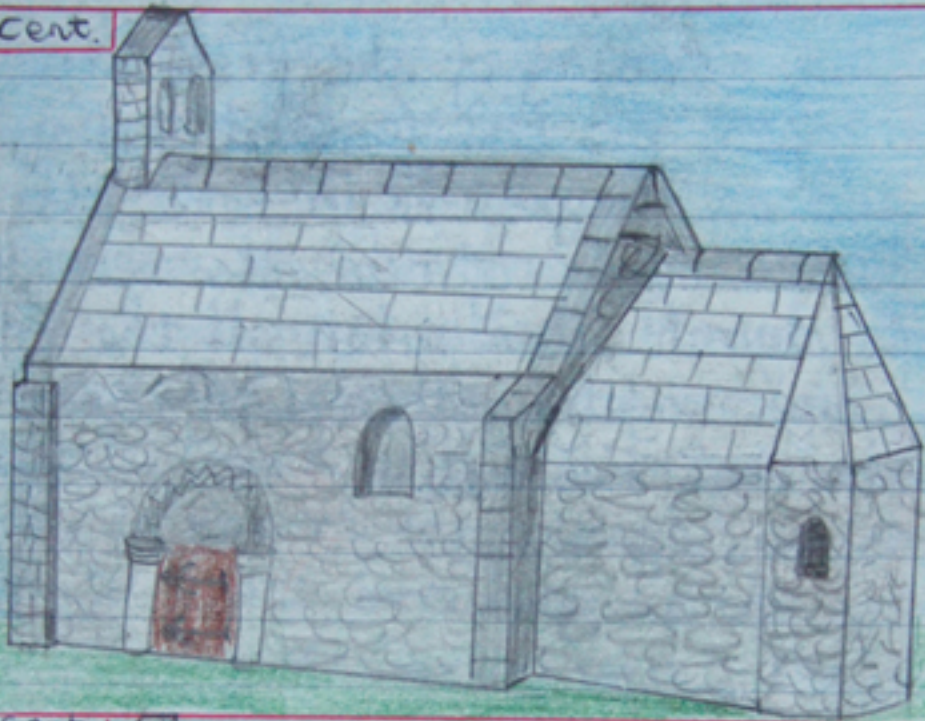
d A greater proportion of the population than nowadays lived in the country then and they depended on the produce of the land. The first Monday after the festivities of Christmas and New Year were over was called ⁶⁰ Plough Monday⁷⁵. A decorated plough was brought to the church tower and the priest asked God to 'speed the plough', which was soon to start breaking up the soil for the sowing of 'spring corn'. The 'plough candle' shone on the altar.

e Early in May came the ⁶⁰ Rogation⁷⁵ processions. The priest led the villagers through the hawthorn-scented fields chanting prayers and carrying willow-rods decked with flowers. As they passed the young corn and the growing lambs and calves they prayed God would defend and save the corn in the field and vouchsafe to purge
f * from later to ask rogo.

the air.

The ripening of the first corn was the reason for the festival of "Lammias" and on August 1st in some places loaves made of new oats were brought to church. Then when all the crops were safely gathered in came the "Harvest Festival."

12 Cent.



13 Cent.



Evolution of the Parish Church

10

14 CENT.

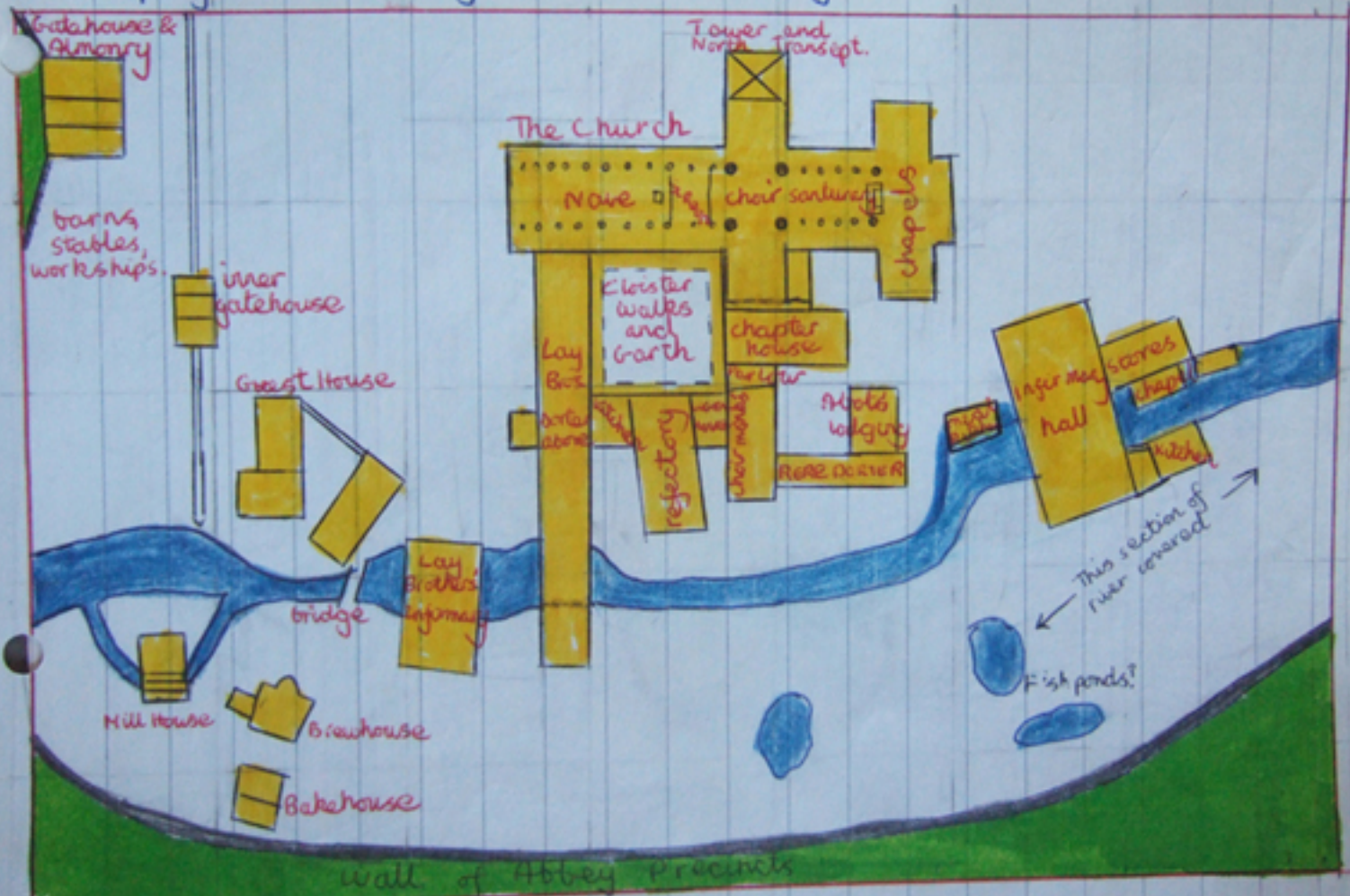


15 CENT.



Simplified Plan of Fountains Abbey (Cistercian).

10



The Rules and Duties of a Monastery.

a, Monks were not jolly men who had a whale of a time, they had to keep to strict rules and had a hard life.

b Monks gave up their ordinary life of earning a living and bringing up children.

c Monks did this so as to devote themselves entirely to a religious existence of daily and nightly prayer.

d When they became monks they gave up all they possessed, often to the monastery.

e Their clothes etc belonged to the monastery.

f They took the triple vow of Poverty, Chastity and obedience.

g Chastity meant they could not marry: they were unlikely to meet women.

for they hardly ever went out of the monastery.

The monk gave up his name; to show his devotion; and became Brother Clement etc. or any other saint.

A monk could at special intervals see relations in a special room.

Monks' food and clothing were intended to be similar to that of a not too prosperous peasant.

The days work was set out on a timetable marked by the tolling of a bell.

Monks had no privacy at all.

A good deal of the day was passed in silence.

There was a recreation period for the younger monks who found it difficult to stand the great strain the system required.

p It was the fixed duty of a monastery to distribute food daily to the poor at the almonry gate, also used as a hostel for poor travellers. All travellers who applied had to be provided with food and shelter for themselves and their horses for at least two nights.

q Monks who were priests were called Father —.

r The Monks chief duty was to pray. They spent a considerable part of every day in the church.

s No monk, unless ill, ever had a long unbroken night's sleep.

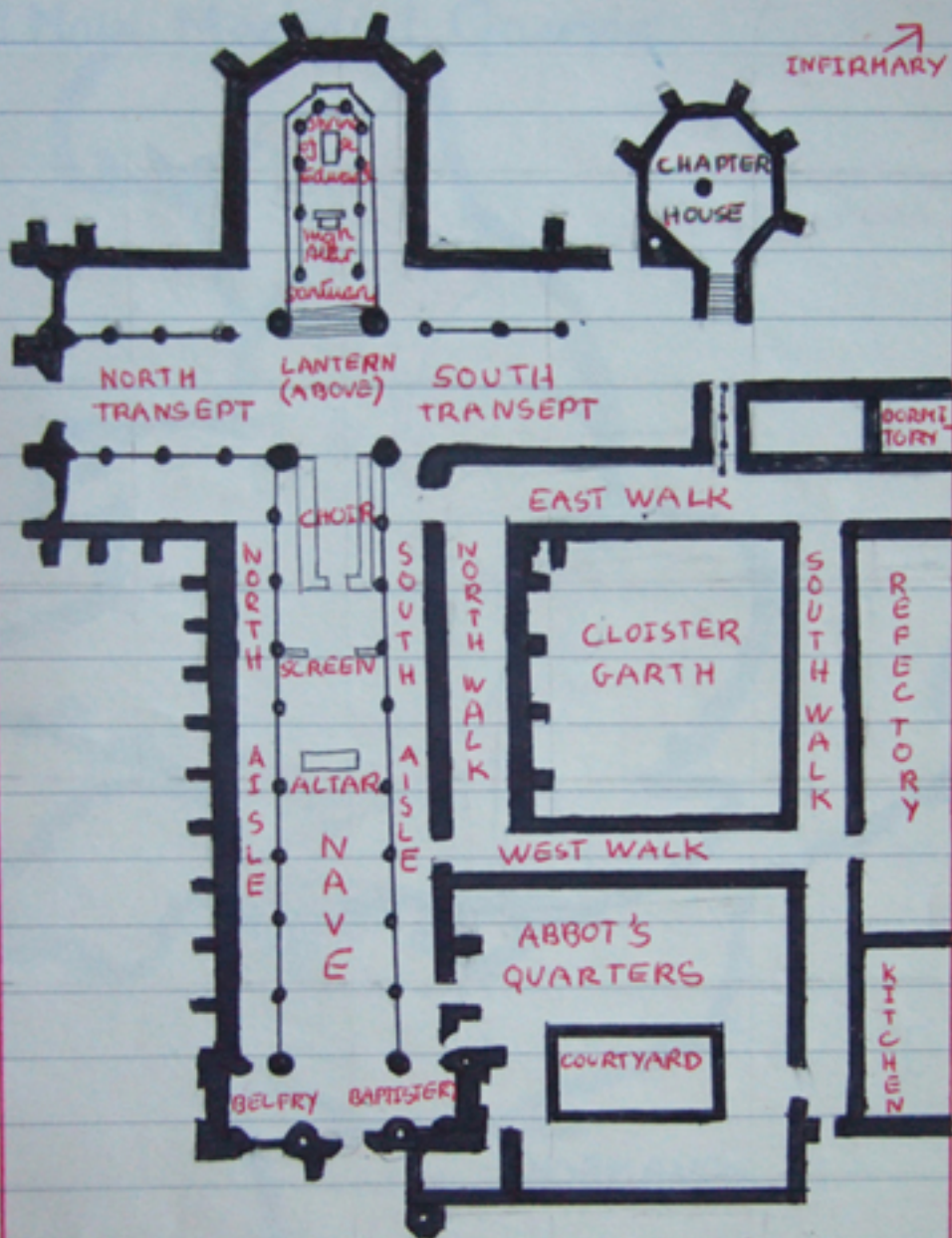
t There were at least six services every twenty-four hours: one around midnight, the next between 5 and 6 am.

u They had to obey their abbots.

Further Notes about Monks.

They had to pray for the founder of the monastery.

A Simplified Plan of Westminster Abbey



10

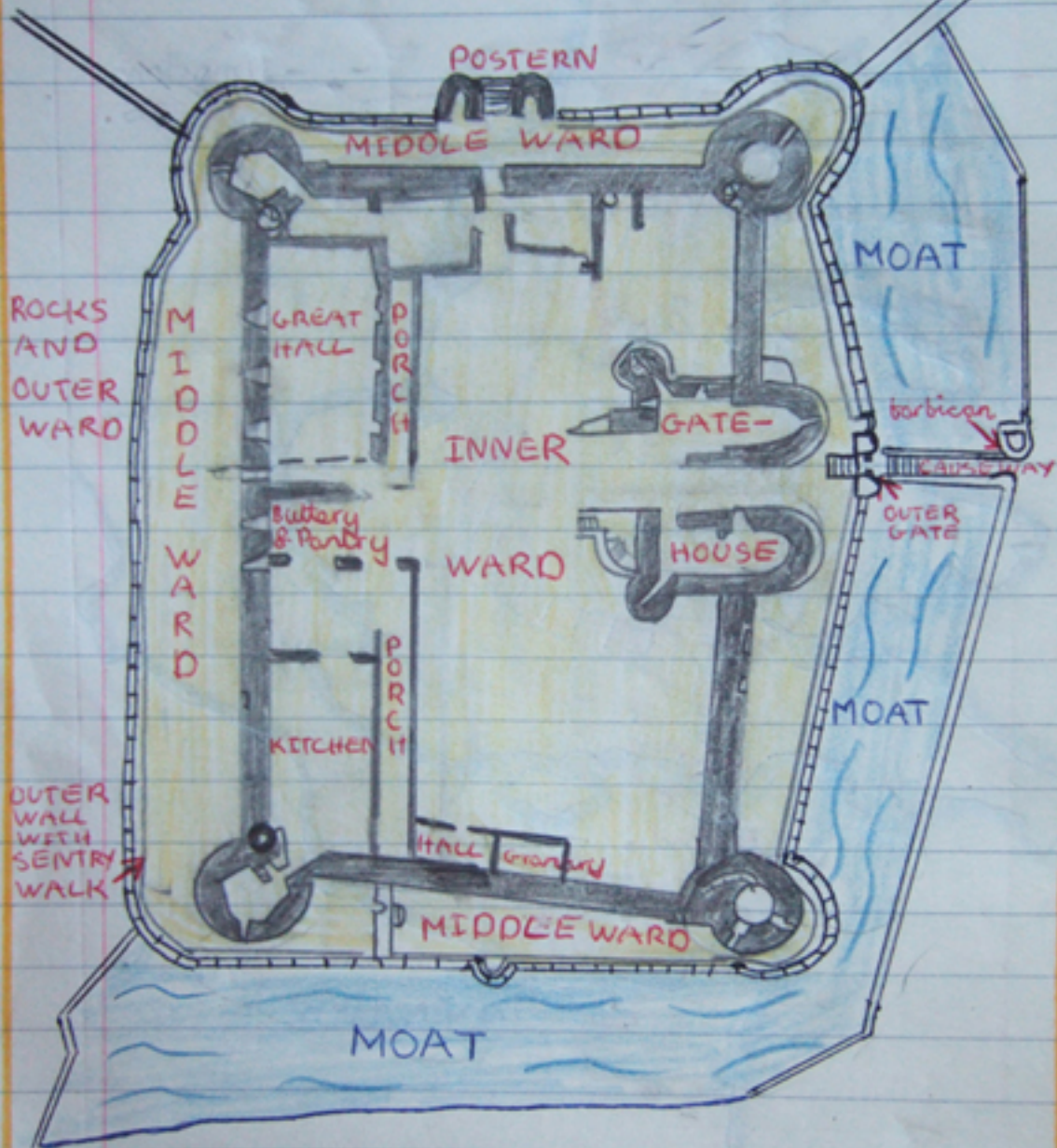
NORTH

The Main Medieval Quarries.



SIMPLIFIED PLAN OF HARLECH CASTLE.

ROCKS AND OUTER WARD



A List of Events in the Conquest of Wales

See further
Notes XI

1. Norman Nobles occupied South Wales.
2. Northern Tribes united by Llewelyn.
3. Llewelyn's grandson, Llewelyn ap Gruffydd, troubled the English border shires.
4. Edward I determines to bring all Wales under his own government.
5. Edward surrounded Llewelyn in Carnarvonshire.
6. Edward compelled Llewelyn to do homage to him as overlord of Wales 1277.
7. Some years later Llewelyn rose in rebellion against English rule.
8. Llewelyn killed in fighting. 1282.
9. Edward had an excuse to annex Wales outright, 1284.
10. Edward divided Wales into shires with English sheriffs.
11. He built strong castles, King's eldest son Prince of Wales.

The War against Scotland,

a. The Dispute for the Scottish Crown,

- a In 1290, the direct line of Scottish
x kings died out. This gave Edward I
b a chance to bring all of Great Britain
c under his rule. Two great nobles laid
d claim to the throne - John Balliol and
e Robert Bruce. They were both men of
Norman blood, with estates in England
as well as in Scotland. Because of
their English estates they were the
f vassals of King Edward. Naturally they
g asked Edward to settle their dispute.
Edward saw a chance to claim
supremacy over Scotland. Edward met
Balliol and Robert Bruce and other
Scottish nobles at Norham Castle.
Edward demanded that they should
all do him homage for their Scottish

- estates, neither of the claimants refused because that would offend Edward I. Eventually Edward I chose Balliol as king of Scotland, who was crowned after again doing homage to King Edward as overlord of Scotland.

Balliol's Rebellion.

- Edward, who still held Gascony, was the vassal of the king of France. When there was a sea battle between the Gascons and Normans the French king called upon Edward to appear before a feudal court at Paris to account for the actions of his Gascon subjects. Edward refused to obey the command so Philip declared he had forfeited Gascony and sent troops to take forcible possession of it. This meant war. However the Scottish nobles refused

to perform feudal service in the war.

X They felt they had been tricked into
o doing homage to him and they
o persuaded King John Balliol to declare
m his independence, and make an
n alliance with King Philip of France.
o Edward could not fight for Gascony
n until he put down the Scottish Rebellion.
o Edward summoned a complete parliament
p 'The Model Parliament' in 1295. Edward
q explained the position, and obtained
r a special subsidy. He collected an
s army and marched into Scotland. He
t defeated the rebels and compelled
Balliol to take refuge on the Continent.
He made arrangements for Scotland
to be ruled by his own officials, and
returned to England, bringing with him
a sacred stone upon which the
kings of Scotland had always been
crowned at Scone.

c. Wallace and Bruce

The Scots were determined to have independence, so they started another rebellion under Sir William Wallace. Edward found that they were not to be subdued by defeats in battle.

Wherever he marched with his soldiers the people submitted to him, but as soon as his back was turned they rose in rebellion again. The fighting dragged on drearily for several years. Then the Scottish nobles, jealous that a mere knight like Wallace should be their leader, left him in the lurch and made their peace with King Edward. Soon afterwards Wallace was taken prisoner and executed as a traitor in London.

King Edward had all the island under his control but the Scots soon

- 2 found a new leader, Robert Bruce.
He renewed the claim to the throne which had been denied to his grand-
- 3 father at Norham Castle twenty years before. For a time he was forced to take
- 4 refuge in the Western Isles but when he renewed the struggle, some
- 5 months later, thousands of clansmen flocked to support him. Edward gathered an army and marched to
- 6 Scotland but he died in Cumberland at the age of 70.

Edward II and Bannockburn: The loss of Scotland.

- While Edward II was having fun with his favourite, Piers Gaveston, the
- 7 position in Scotland was going from bad to worse. Bruce gradually captured all the royal castles and in 1314 he
 - 8 laid siege to Stirling Castle, the last

important stronghold in English hands.

This stirred even the faint-hearted Edward II to action, he managed to collect a considerable body of troops at Berwick, but he ruined the whole campaign. He went in luxury to Berwick then rushed off at the last moment and exhausted his men and horses.

Bruce marshalled his men, mainly footmen armed with pike and short-handled axe, by the side of the Bannock Burn, a few miles from Stirling.

The English forces included both knights and archers, but the latter were put out of action almost before the battle had begun by a flank charge of the Scottish horsemen. The English knights then attempted to charge, but were thrown into confusion by some concealed pits which the Scots had dug in front of their line. Then, at the critical moment Bruce

14 ordered a general attack. Edward II did not wait to see the end of the struggle: he galloped off to the coast and took a ship for England. There was no one to rally what was left of the English army, and they fled in confusion. Robert Bruce had long claimed to be the rightful king of Scotland; henceforth nobody ventured to dispute his title.

Edward II and the Ordainers.

a. The Quarrel.

17 Edward adopted a favourite Piers Gaveston. He allowed him to do what he liked. Everybody who had business at the Court had first to curry favour with the insolent Gascon, and it was not long before he became the most bitterly hated man in the country. But the English nobles

19 were not the sort of men to put up
with this sort of thing for very long.
They banded together and insisted that
the King should hand over all his
20 governmental powers to a committee chosen
by themselves. A medieval king could do
nothing against his tenants-in-chief if
21 they acted together, for the king had no army
and no revenue except what they provided.
So Edward had to agree to their demands.
The barons who formed this committee
22 issued a series of "Ordinances for the
Better Government of the Realm," and they
23 are known as "The Lords Ordainers."
One of their first ordinances was to the
24 effect that Piers Gaveston should go
back to Gascony, and stay there.

b. The Death of Gaveston.

Edward was very upset when Gaveston

25 went, but he had to submit. However
he soon found life unbearable without
his crony, and recalled him to
26 England in defiance of the Ordainers.
The Ordainers, however, raised an
X 27 armed force, captured Gaveston and
had him stabbed to death by hired
assassins. King Edward was so helpless
28 that he could neither prevent the murder
nor avenge it.

c. The Defeat of the Ordainers.

The Lords Ordainers were ruling
the country no better than the King
29 himself had done - they devoted most
of their energies to quarrelling among
themselves. Edward II gradually got
30 together a band of personal supporters;
and at length the disunion among his
enemies gave him a chance to turn

31

the tables on them. He defeated the dominant party among them at Borough Bridge in Yorkshire, in 1322, and had their leaders executed, as well as his brother Thomas of Langashire.

Further Notes.

1. The barons who held welsh principalities ^{on the borders} are called Marcher. Land in the north was in parts English.
3. The english spell Gruffydd as Grifith. Llewelyn operated around Snowdonia.
8. Llewelyn marching to the south to rally a rebellion was killed by some baron's men.
10. These groups are called the 'Principalities of Wales'. These were under the king of England whereas the march principalities were governed by the Marcher Barons. Wales stayed quiet until 1400. The Marcher Lords kept their lands and became very powerful eg. Mortimer

- h. The Scottish Kings were called Kings of Scots
- a. There were only remote cousins, half english who had lands in England as Bruce and Balliol.
- i. The scots thought the title overlord of Scotland was empty because other english kings had been overlords of Scotland.
- n. The border kept changing and there was a large area completely obliterated. Both Scots and English burnt towns and drove away cattle.
- x. Long bows were used for the first time, the welsh long bows. They played a prominent part in the battle of Falkirk, 1298. The scots main weapon was the spear, they formed schiltrons. Infantry were very important in the middle ages. Only the English and Welsh use the long bow, these archers needed practice.

1. By 1300 he held all Scotland, for many Scottish barons came on Edward's side. In 1304 Red Comyn and Bruce got together to talk about who was to be king. They talked, had a quarrel, and Bruce murdered Comyn near an altar.
15. After the battle the Scots raided the borders except for the land of the Earl of Lancashire. It is thought that the Earl might have been in league with the Scots at Bannockburn.
20. The barons wanted to have a go at the new king as Edward I. had been too strong.
18. The barons always objected to non-barons being near the king.
27. Gaveston gave himself up to the Earl of Pembroke, under a promise of saving his life, but the Earl of Warwick captured him and killed him.
16. England gave up Scotland after this

32. Andrew of Harclay won the battle of Boroughbridge for Edward II and was made ruler of north England. Edward refused to help him, so he talked about peace to the Scots, Edward found out and had him executed.

* The Mortimers, of Wales, deposed Edward II had him killed and ruled England, and tried to make peace with Scotland. However Edward III came to power and had Mortimer executed.

* Edward was shut up and killed at Berkeley in Gloucestershire.

Good boy

The Wars with France

The Causes of the War 1337

1. France had always supported Scotland in her struggle against England.
2. England traded in wool with Flanders and he supported them in a quarrel with their feudal lord, the Count of Flanders: the Count appealed to the King of France and the King of France declared that Edward had acted as a disloyal vassal and had thereby forfeited Gascony.
3. England carried on a great trade in wine with Gascony, and the French frequently threatened to absorb Gascony and so cut off this trade.
4. Edward was involved in perpetual disputes as to the performance of homage to the French king for Gascony.
5. After war began, Edward wished to give the

Flemings a good excuse for fighting against France, so he brought forward his claim to the throne of France, and the Flemings could claim to be fighting on behalf of their rightful overlord. Edward also claimed to be the King of France because he wanted something more romantic to fight about than the rights and wrongs of Flemish burghers.

6. There were many French and English Pirates in the English Channel

The Early Battles.

SLUYS. This battle was the first battle of the war. Edward crossed to Flanders in 1340 and his landing was opposed by a French fleet at Sluys. The English won and gained the "command of the sea" for the first time in history.

CRÉCY There was a five year truce after the battle of Sluys; but after this period Edward renewed the campaign.

PHILIP III
1270-1295

✓ good

Philip IV
1285-1314

Charles of
Valois

LOUIS X
1314-1316

Philip V
1316-1322

Charles IV
1322-1328

Isabella
m'd
Edward III

The
HEREFORD
COUNTY
Philip VI
1328-1350
(CRECY)

Joan m'd
King of
Navarre

Charles the Bad.

The Claim of Edward III
to the French Crown.

Edward II
1327-1377

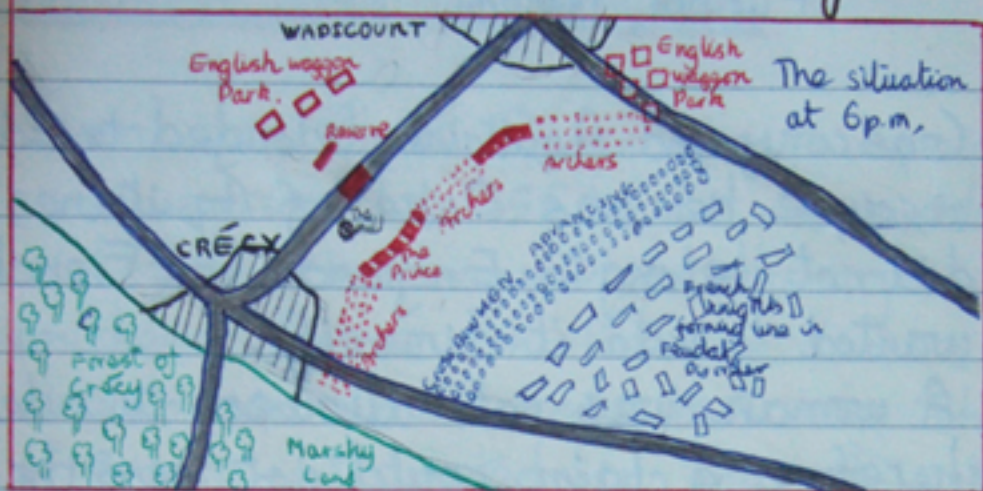
John
1350-1364
(Poitiers)

Charles V
1364-1380
Losses
regained.

His army was two-thirds archers. With about 12,000 men he crossed to Normandy and began to work his way towards Paris. King Philip met him with a huge army so Edward retreated, with the French on his heels, until he found a suitable place for his tactical plan. He made ready for battle on the outskirts of the Forest of

Crécy in August, 1346. His men-at-arms dismounted and he ranged them along with the archers in two crescents, side by side on the slope of a hill, with his flanks protected by marsh and woodland. The French King sent forward some companies of Genoese crossbowmen while his mounted warriors were marshalling their ranks for a great charge. The Genoese were stopped by the longbowmen so the French knights attacked and mowed down the Genoese. The knights however were driven into confusion by the English arrows. Twelve times the French attacked and they only reached the English line in one place. This place was commanded by Edward's 16 year old son, the Black Prince. He beat the French back and "won his spurs". In the evening King Philip retired leaving half his army dead and dying and the English line, unshaken.

Good



CALAIS. King Edward did not feel that his forces were strong enough to go any further so he marched to Calais and laid siege to it. After a blockade which lasted most of the following winter, the town surrendered. Edward compelled most of the inhabitants to leave, and replaced them by English people; for he wanted Calais to be a central market for English wool.

A truce followed which lasted for 1347-1355 but unofficial warfare went on all the time. After this the country around Calais The Pale of Calais as well as Calais was held for about 200 ^{years} ^{ill 1558}. It proved very expensive and ~~pretty~~ ^{pretty} useless.

Further Notes.

- a Gascony and Aquitaine belonged to Edward III because he was Duke of Aquitaine, it did not belong to England. The French king wanted to rule it himself.
- b A woman was not allowed to rule France therefore a claim could not pass through a woman (as in Edward III's claim) so the barons said. They may have said this because they wanted a French man to be the King of France.
- c The English wanted to conquer France to gain land, to get money by looting; for France was much richer than England. They wanted jobs in castles in France. The English wanted to get money from ransoms. The people captured are NOT called hostages.
- d. After Edward had landed he just sallied out once then went back home because he was bankrupt.

Poitiers and its Results

b.

Soon the 'Black Prince' won a reputation as a warrior. In 1355 he led a plundering raid from Bordeaux right through southern France. In 1356 he led a similar raid northwards but king John of France intercepted him near Poitiers in September 1356 with an immense feudal army. It outnumbered the English by about 3-1 and even the dauntless Prince asked for terms to avoid battle. However John demanded that the Prince and a hundred of his knights should give themselves up as well as all their booty. This was too much for the Prince's pride; he rejected the terms and drew up his men for battle. There were a lot of hedges and ditches and these compelled the French to attack on such a narrow front that their advantage in numbers

did not help them very much. Because the cavalry had no effect at the battle of Crécy 10 years before the French attacked on foot. However they found that the arrows were just as effective against their armour. When one of their lines was driven back, it threw the next one in confusion, and an unexpected attack on their right flank threw them into panic from which they never recovered. As the Frenchmen were dismounted and in heavy armour, it was impossible for them to escape. Knights by the hundred, nobles by the score and the French king himself were taken prisoner. They were all sent over to England until they could raise the money to pay the ransoms due to the lucky captors. Several years passed before King Edward reaped any advantage from the great victory. Although France fell into desperate confusion the peasantry, ruined by the devastation of the war, broke out into a terrible rebellion

is known as the 'Jacquerie'.

The Treaty of Brétigny

The French nobles utterly refused to accept King Edward as their overlord. So in 1359 he led another great raid into the heart of France, intending to have himself crowned at Reims. The country through which he marched had been so ruined by war and rebellion that he could not feed his army, and he had to agree to the 'Treaty of Brétigny' 1360. By this he gave up his claim to the French crown, but became sovereign of Aquitaine, Ponthieu and Calais, and King John promised to pay three million crowns as his ransom.

The French Recovery

Even the Treaty of Brétigny did not bring

war to an end. Although the French signed the document none of his provinces would submit to his authority save Guienne. The French formed Free Companies led by Bertrand Du Guesclin a very capable leader. King Edward although he was only 50 was growing weak-minded and the Black Prince was no good at ruling although he was governor of Aquitaine. He was ill with a wasting disease and had to be carried about on a litter. France had a new king Charles V who was very capable and energetic. He made Du Guesclin "Constable of France" (commander-in-chief). One after another the English possessions were overrun by French armies. The Constable's plan was to avoid pitched battles and to let the English wear themselves out marching about the country. The longbow was not an offensive weapon. The English fleet was destroyed in a great 2 day battle off La Rochelle 1372 and

England lost "command of the sea".

h. The Truce of 1375.

In 1375 another truce was signed. It made no definite change in boundaries, but the only parts of France which were henceforth really subject to Edward's rule were the districts round Calais and Bordeaux.

Further Notes.

- a. The English attacked the French just when they felt like and when the opportunity arrived.
- b. There was a great sea-battle ^{in the channel} between the English ^{who won} and the French and Spaniards. The latter being the main power. 1350.
- c. The Battle of Poitiers was by no means a walk over it was very hard fought.

- d. After the terrible rebellion there was trouble in the French Parliament and in 1359 he led a raid, captured Reims and set siege to Paris itself raiding all the country around. The French desperately need peace in 1360.
- e. Before the Treaty of Aquitaine was a 'fief' of France, but afterwards it was ruled by England.
- f. King John died in England.
- h. After this truce the English were back where they were in 1337, except for Calais.

Kinds of Peasants and Labourers.

1. The Free Peasants. Often these were poor labourers who worked for hire on a prosperous bondman's land. His status however was higher than his employer. He could sell his land. They did not do week work just boon work.

2. The Bond Peasants. The bondman could not leave the village without the lord's consent. He could not give up his farm or his job.

Serfs 1. The Villein. The villein had thirty to sixty acres. Sixty acres was called a 'full land'. The land was not divided strictly; a villein could hold 25 acres.

2. The Borderer. The borderer^(a) held from ten to fifteen acres of plough land.

3. The Crofter or Cottar. He had only a few strips or nothing but the 'croft' or rough garden round their 'cots'. They worked for wages.

as labourers on other men's holdings, or as carters, shepherds, swineherds and neatheels (cattlemen) or they were the village craftsmen. There would be plenty of work for smiths, wheelwrights and carpenters - wains, ploughs and tools to make and mend, the wind- or water-mill to be kept in repair. In prosperous villages on stone country there would be work for a mason-quarryman.

Kinds of Land and Divisions of Land.

The meadow. This was devoted year after year to hay - that is, rich grass allowed to grow to its full natural form, then cut, and dried by sun and wind. It usually had a brook or river along one side, for in the south of England such a position is necessary for good hay. It was divided into strips which were re-distributed each year in rotation. The hay

was essential as the main food of the cattle and horses in winter.

The commons. This was the better sort of grazing land. It was open only to holders of plough land and for horses, oxen, cattle and sheep, not other live-stock. The number of animals a villager was allowed to put on it was in strict proportion to his number of strips.

The waste. This was the roughest and poorest land and most of it lay farthest from the village. Here peasants could freely graze any live-stock they had, including pigs, goats and geese. They cut brush-wood and turf for fuel and reeds, bracken and heather for thatching and bedding and rope. The waste was the 'unoccupied no-mans land'.

The assart. A piece of waste land brought under cultivation.

The Open Fields. All the ploughland of the village was contained in three vast fields, adjoining each other, with hardly any hedges or ditches round or between them. In each year one of these fields grew the autumn, the slow-growing wheat and rye; another field was used for all the 'spring corn, barley, oats, peas and beans. The third field was fallow. Each peasant had pieces of land in each of the three fields. The fields were divided into 'shots' a furlong wide. Every 11 yards the shots was divided up into 2420 sq. yds. half an acre. These strips of land were called 'lands' or 'oxgangs'. The peasant might hold several 'lands' in one field but he would be lucky if they were near each other. So they had to plod around the shots on messy little paths.

A serf is not a slave, he is protected from crime. He cannot leave his land, ^{or job.} he has inherited it from his father. He also cannot in practice have his land taken away from him. If the lord sold the land the serfs went with it.

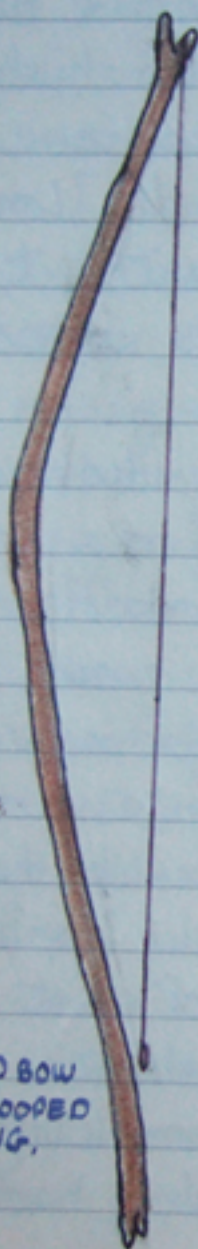
The Bordars and Cottars worked for wages.

Landless labourers, people who had no land could either be free or a son of a villein. he had no land, worked or made a farm in the waste, an assart. If there was not much common land for pasture left, it would be difficult to get an assart.

Only about half england was like the 3field system. The whole system was only applied to, the middle south england, east midlands, east anglia and yorkshire.

In the fenland it was completely different. In Wales and the west they had an ancient english system.

ARCHERY, The Long Bow.



NOCKED BOW
AND LOOPED
STRING.

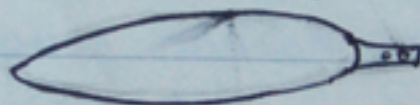
SADDLE BACK.



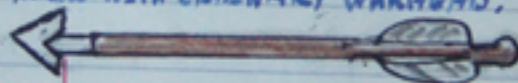
HOG BACK.



SOLID ARMOUR PIERCING HEAD.



ARROW WITH ORDINARY WARRHEAD.



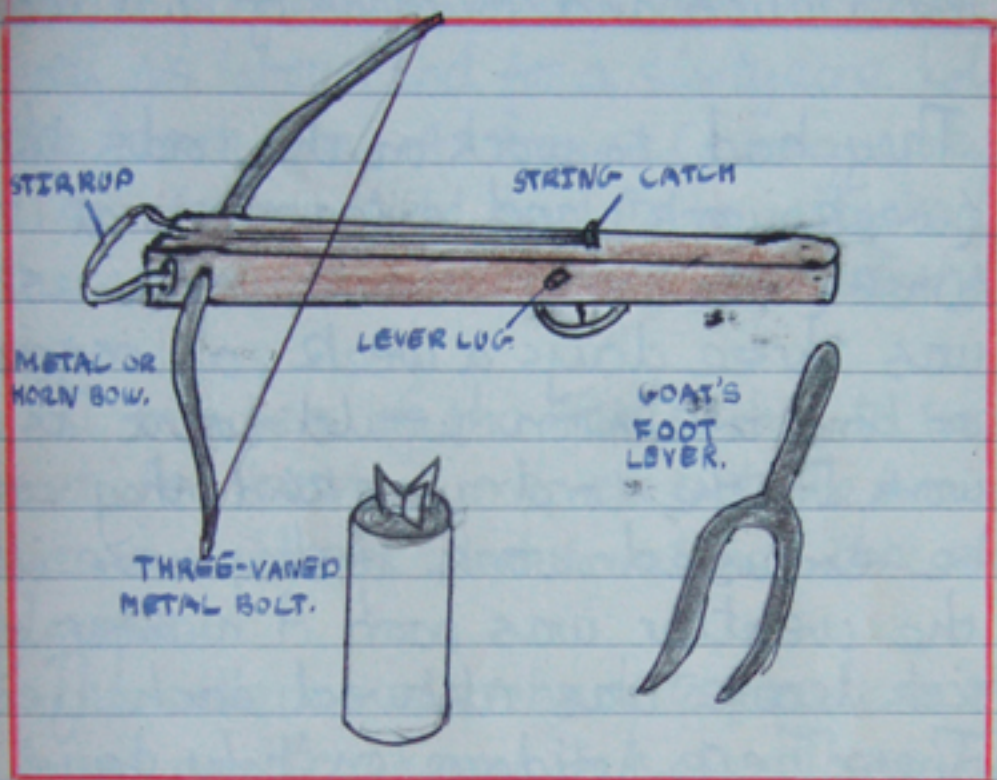
HOW QUELL WAS SPLIT
TO GET THE FLIGHTS.



GRATER
OR BRASSART.



The Cross Bow.



Every stave well nocked,
Every string well locked,
Every bow well bent,
Every shaft well sent.

10

The Duties and Burdens of a Villein.

- a. They had to work on the lord's land (week work) and extra days at busy times (boon work). Week work usually was three days a week; a long morning or long afternoon would count as a day's work. If the lord was kind they could be excused work if they were ill or if the weather was poor. A number of days sick leave was allowed each year. There were holidays on 'holy days'. The church wanted about 50 days a year to be left free but in practice it was between 15-20.

The lord insisted that most of the ploughing, hayseal and harvest should be finished on his private estate (demesne) before the bondsmen could carry them out on their own land.

For the ploughing, the full-land villeins

had to provide a plough and a team, as well as labour, and for a sixty-acre holding the team was 4-8 oxen (a long-yoke).

The fallow-field had to be ploughed twice, in April and June, to keep the weeds down.

All members of the family had to turn out for boom work, except the housewife, young children and sometimes the eldest daughter.

The villeins also had to pay dues of eggs, poultry, honey, fish etc. These had to be paid at intervals according to local custom or the conditions of the holding.

All corn had to be ground at the lord's mill and the villein had to pay the 16 grain, the freeman the 24 grain, and the lord and priest no 'multure'. All millers were cheats and a villein might keep a quern to grind small amounts of corn, with the danger of it being

confiscated if the lord found out. The villein also had to help keep the mill in good repair. As well as tallages the villein had to pay the most ^{the heriot} expensive piece of property to the lord, and the second most costly piece to the priest when the villein died. The villeins were forbidden to kill hares and rabbits or the flocks of pigeons that lived in the manorial dovecot and ravaged the corn.

- a. The work was done by one man per holding.

When a villein's daughter (not son) got married he had to pay a 'merchet' to the lord.

Ways in which a Villein could get Freedom.

1. He could buy his freedom. He could save a little at a time, but generally

he would be old before he could raise the heavy sum to buy him and his family freedom.

2. He could run away and stay in a town with a royal charter or royal estate for a year and a day. If he were wise he would not return for the lord might involve him in some trouble. His family would not be free.
3. Sometimes if the lord was kindly and was dying he might set some villeins free so that they could pay for him in Purgatory.
4. If there were a lot of labourers a villein's son, on payment of a fee, could leave the manor and go to a monastery and become free.

The officials of the Manor

1. The seneschal or steward

He was the most important person. He was usually a 'gentleman', sometimes a friend or relative of the lord. He was the general manager of all the estates. He received a large salary, and when he went from manor to manor he had the 'best'. He acted as judge in the manor law court and could sentence a man to death for theft. Once a year he held an enquiry called the 'audit'; he called for the exact figures all about the produce of the manor, how much was sold etc, he would work out if the manor was successful and received money for which he handed over a receipt in tally or paper form.

2. The bailiff or sergeant.

He was a free man, was paid a salary, and lived at the manor house or hall. He was the manager of one manor or a small group of adjoining manors. He relied a lot upon the reeve.

3. The reeve

He knew most about the manor, its soil, weather, labourers and beasts. He was a villein with a big holding and lived in the village. He was appointed for a year at a time, but could be reeve for over 20 years if he was good. He was chosen by the lord, or by the village, or by both.

He had to be a good leader. The lord paid him a salary, excused him from some rents and services, gave him special grazing rights, and at harvest the reeve dined with the lord. He had to make sure the accounts were wright

4. The hayward.

He was the reeve's assistant.

5. The pinder

He put stray animals in the manor 'pound' or corral, till the owner paid a fine to the lord and reclaimed them.

Results of the Black Death

The general result of the Black Death was to snap the strong bonds of custom. Many labourers died, food was scarce and as a result the manors were in a poor state. Men asked for half as much money again, and woman labourers double. In fact the cost of living rose sharply. If the lord refused to pay the new wages the labourers either went to towns or to other manors where

they could get the money they wanted.

The lords in danger of going bankrupt sold parts of land to free peasants and took to sheep farming for wool. The lords kept a tight hold over his villeins who had survived and refused to accept money for their freedom. While the villeins and lords were having a bad time the free men were becoming very prosperous. Sometimes villeins slipped away to a manor belonging to a kinder lord who, delighted with the extra labourers asked no questions and shielded the villeins against their former lords.

The government tried to get things back to what they were like before 1348, by passing a series of laws from 1351 onwards. The laws, the Statutes of Labourers, laid it down that no labourers were to receive higher wages.

than in 1346 and no master was to pay more. No worker was to leave his district if his master had need of him. Town workers must help with the harvest if called upon. No boy or girl who had worked on the land before twelve years of age was allowed to leave it for any other occupation. Penalties for breaking the laws were harsh. Prices were kept at their old levels but more laws had to be issued each year. The reign of Edward III ended gloomily for England.

The villeins wanted money-rent. Money paid to the lord instead of work for the lord.

The Causes of the Peasants Revolt.

The peasants revolt was not only an uprising made by peasants for men of good position joined it in protest against high taxation, failure to beat the French and the evil influences of the King's uncle, Edward 3rd's third son, John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. Townsfolk rose to free themselves from the iron grip of abbot or bishop. What really sparked the revolt off was a special tax of 1380, the Poll Tax. 4d, a groat, to 1s. for each member of a family over 15. Peasants tried to conceal the number in their family's so officials went round checking up. These officials were roughly treated and so the rebellion started. Another cause was the Black death, because they did not want to be bond men and they wanted to pay rent instead of work.

A party in London let the rebels in. There were two guilds against each other, the government supported one so the other supported the rebels.

Towns run by bishops and abbots rebelled. Towns on the king's land had freedom, eventually so did towns ~~begin~~ belonging to barons because they wanted money.

The clergy did not weaken: he held it for the church because it was not his. The two really big outbreaks were in St. Albans and Bury St. Edmunds; held by the clergy. They were quite peaceful in St. Albans but in Bury they beheaded the Prior and burnt the records hoping to destruct all record of their rights, but now ~~a~~ harsher rights were made. The revolt in Cambridge ~~the revolt~~ was directed at the university for the students and the dons had all sorts of special rights.

15 June, after Tyler had been killed, it began here. They attacked Barnwell Priory near the end. At Shingay they attacked the landowner; Hasilden; and destroyed his house stole his goods and animals.
see over p. 10

The Events of the Peasant's Revolt

The rebellion started in the south-east where villeinage was most common. In all districts the rebels made the same demands: no more serfdom, no reduction of wages for labourers, all land to be released on a moderate money rent, better charters for towns, and pardons for all rebels. They destroyed manor records and hanged lawyers.

A large rebel force armed mostly with, scythes, bills, bows and knives entered London. The young King granted them all they wanted. But some rebels went berserk and killed and looted parts of London. There was another conference with the king, during which Wat Tyler was stabbed by the Mayor of London; but the king got the rebels out of London, went back on his work and restored law and order by force. Eventually the cost of living fell, and villeinage died out.

The Revolt in Cambridge. cont.

The peasants backed by the major, were lead by Thomas and James of Granchester. The peasants did ^{not} like the bedel, William Wygmer, so they attacked his house. The peasants attacked the university and destroyed the documents. They did not like Corpus Christi, which was the only college founded by the guilds of Cambridge, because they had special rights, so the peasants destroyed Corpus' records. ^{some of} ~~All~~ the university records were kept ^{in a} ~~in~~ chest in a church, St. Mary the Great, and these were destroyed. The peasants forced the University to give up all their rights on Sunday, the second day. On the third day, when they had done all they could against the university, they attacked Barnwell Priory, knocked down walls and destroyed the surrounding fields. The Mayor denied that he supported the rebels.

The bishop of Norwich was Henry