



PREFACE.

THE Domesday record of the Manor and the Berewic which, at the time of the Conquest, were intermixed under the name of SUDTONE, describes a tract of land containing no more than a fifth of the area of mediæval and modern Sutton. It is in the earlier chapters of the *Chronica Monasterii de Melsa*, which deal with the twelfth century, that we first recognise the broad meadows and far-stretching pastures out of the midst of which there rose, on a group of gently swelling hills, the carucates and oxgangs of the more ancient town. But since the days of our great-grandfathers, both the older and the newer lands have been seen in a changed aspect, under the network of hedges, tree-bedecked, which, since 1767, has covered the old meadows and pastures and the open arable fields.

Long ago I formed the idea of making more familiarly known the condition of the parish at two or three of the most notable periods of its history. In 1892, impressed with the accuracy and the interest of the monastic Chronicle, I read before the British Archæological Association a paper on "Sutton-in-Holderness and the Monks of Meaux."* In the Transactions of the East Riding Antiquarian Society,

* Pron. Mewse.

vol. 2, I shewed that the "Hull" of thirteenth century writers was not, as had been supposed, the same as Wyke, now the central portion of Kingston-upon-Hull, but a tract of land by the river-side in the western part of Sutton, and that old references to Dripole usually refer not to any part of the present parish of Drypool, but to the south-western corner of Sutton, now called the Groves. I intended to shew finally, out of the ample materials that exist, how, before the Enclosure, the fragments of the old-fashioned farms lay scattered and intermingled over the Ings and Carrs and tillage fields. The gaps between these portions of the history of the parish were, at first, wide and deep, but as they began to fill with new materials, essential to a correct understanding of the matters in hand, it became necessary to make the whole into one story. Thus, without premeditation, I felt myself responsible for a book.

The work has had to be taken up in the intervals of many absorbing occupations, as its structure and arrangement must, no doubt, indicate. It deals with the great variety of occurrences which, in the course of eight centuries, mark the history of a manor or a parish, and hardly any period has failed to furnish some illustrative examples. Sometimes I have been writing for those to whom ancient documents and family pedigrees and customs, long extinct, would be of especial value; sometimes for those who would be more interested in the long array of names of fields and roads and boundaries which I have been enabled to

trace and identify. As a rule I have dealt only with events long past, and with persons mostly forgotten, but in a few cases I have not refrained from using a modern name, or a recent incident, when these helped to illustrate some old-fashioned habit worthy of remembrance. Whether the matter of the book is, or is not, of general interest, a reference to the table of contents will shew.

I have to acknowledge gratefully the assistance which I have received from the custodians of many public and private documents. I have been allowed to search the manorial records in the possession of the Corporation of Kingston-upon-Hull, and the manorial and family records of the late Colonel W. H. Harrison Broadley, as well as papers of the families of Priestman and Ross, of Sutton. I have received very cordial assistance, in many ways, from Mr. R. Hill Dawe, the Town Clerk of Hull; from Dr. Walter de Grey Birch, LL.D., F.S.A., of the British Museum, who shewed me the newly-acquired charters in the Stowe collection; from Mr. Edward S. Wilson, F.S.A., particularly with respect to Ann Watson's College; from Mr. J. Travis-Cook, F.R.H.S., and Mr. Fred A. Scott, as regards modern dealings with the land. I have also to acknowledge much kindly help in relation to ancient legal documents, and in other ways, from Mr. E. W. Oliver, of London. The Rev. H. A. Holme, the late Vicar of Sutton, and the Rev. G. A. Coleman, the present Vicar, have much facilitated my examination of the parish

documents. To the latter is owing the original photographs which so effectively illustrate the church. From Mr. T. Tindall Wildridge I have received great assistance in many details of local history, and I am much indebted to Dr. G. B. Longstaff, of Putney Heath, the Rev. John Ellam, formerly Vicar of Drypool, Mr. J. R. Boyle, F.S.A., Mr. Godfrey R. Park, Mr. J. G. Hall, Mr. W. G. B. Page, and many others, for information and suggestions bearing upon certain sections of my subject. In many ways I have benefited by the judicious advice of Mr. William Andrews, F.R.H.S., of Hull.

Without the assistance and suggestions of Mr. A. Gibbons, F.S.A., of Heworth Green, York, Miss Martin, of 250, Portsdown Road, London, and Miss Parker, of 39, Wellington Square, Oxford, I could not have utilized in any material degree the documents stored in the Registries at York, in the Record Office, London, and in the Bodleian Library at Oxford.

Some new matter which was obtained while the book was going through the press, and some additional references, will be found in the appendix, which should be referred to after reading each of the chapters. There also are noted some errors in the text. I hope there are few that have failed to be noted.

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