

Illins<sup>1</sup>—to T. Eades, Esq. The latter conveyed it about 1841 to G. J. A. Walker, Esq.,<sup>2</sup> from whom it passed to the Rev. Thomas Walker, rector of Abbot's Morton from 1861 to 1904 and joint lord of the manor. The representatives of his widow, Mrs. Walker, of Battenhall Manor, Worcester, are the present patrons.

The chapel is mentioned in 1206 as being held appropriated to the sacristy of the abbey, and in 1211-2 Abbot Thomas Marlborough again granted it for the same purpose.<sup>3</sup>

Early in the thirteenth century this church formed one of the causes of a dispute between the bishop of Worcester and the abbot of Evesham, as to the rights of the monks.<sup>4</sup> The dispute which had begun before 1206<sup>5</sup> does not seem to have been settled until 1248-9, when the bishop's jurisdiction in the church and parish of Abbot's Morton was acknowledged by the abbot and convent. A vicarage seems to have been ordained to which the abbot and convent were to have the right of presentation; the vicar was to receive the obventions of the altar and mortuaries and the greater and lesser tithes, and was

to bear all episcopal and archidiaconal charges, while it should be lawful for the abbot to have a private chapel in his manor at Abbot's Morton without prejudice to the mother church. This arrangement was confirmed in 1269.<sup>6</sup> A portion of the tithes was withheld, apparently as a pension, by the abbot,<sup>7</sup> and since the vicar received the great tithes he became practically rector, and a few years later is so described.<sup>8</sup> In 1291 the abbot's portion in the church of Abbot's Morton in tithes withheld was estimated at 13s. 4d.;<sup>9</sup> the total value of the church is not stated.

The procurations and synodals were released in 1877.

There is no nonconformist place of worship in the parish. There is a non-provided school, built in 1844, with provision for 56 children.

Mrs. Elizabeth Walker by deed dated CHARITY 26 July 1862 gave £174 towards the support of a Sunday School in Abbot's Morton. This sum is invested in Great Western Railway 4½ per cent debenture stock which is dealt with by the Official Trustees.<sup>10</sup>

## BADSEY WITH ALDINGTON

Badeseia (viii. cent.); Badesei (xi. cent.); Badseie (xii. cent.).

The parish of Badsey, which formerly comprised the hamlet of Aldington, formed into a separate civil parish in 1883, lies in the south-east part of the county. It contains 1,882 acres, and in 1901 possessed 198 inhabited houses, of which 675 acres and 100 houses were in Aldington.<sup>11</sup> The subsoil is of lower lias and the surface is a fertile mould. The fields in the parish are chiefly laid out in market gardens. The Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton branch of the Great Western Railway passes through Aldington; the nearest station to Badsey is that of Sledington and Badsey, in Offenham parish, opened in April, 1884. There is a siding for goods, chiefly vegetables, in Aldington, about a mile west of the town, opened in 1872. The village of Badsey is situated between the main road from Evesham to Broadway and the main road from Evesham to Chippenham Campden, which latter runs through the parish directly from west to east. From Badsey village a road passes southwards through Wickhamford and meets the main road from Evesham to Broadway.

Aldington forms the western part of the parish, stretching along the left bank of the Avon for about a mile. The hamlet is situated to the north of the London main road about a mile from Badsey, and from it a road runs to the north-west in the direction of Offenham. Two of the larger farms in the parish are Lower's Hill and Badsey Field, and Netherfield is an ancient place name still existing.<sup>12</sup>

Allies quotes from May's *History of Evesham* to the effect that about a mile distant from Badsey church, in a field called Foxhill, human bones and the bones of animals were found together with pieces of coarse dark gritty pottery, and rude slabs of stone occasionally laid kiln-wise and bearing marks of fire.<sup>13</sup> Roman coins and Edward I. pennies have also been discovered in the parish.<sup>14</sup>

An Enclosure Act for Aldington was passed in 1807<sup>15</sup> and one for Badsey in 1812.<sup>16</sup>

Prattinton states in a 'note from a man on the road, July 1817,' that a wake used to be kept on Holy Thursday, but since the enclosure the farmers had endeavoured to put a stop to it. There used to be much cudgel playing at this wake<sup>17</sup> which is now abandoned. The chief scene of revelry was at the Royal Oak public-house near the spot where the road to Badsey turns off to the right from the main road, but the public-house was then shut up, and in 1807 the wake was kept in the angle of the road.<sup>18</sup> A few hundred yards to the east of the spot mentioned the main road turns at a right angle to the left, and shortly again as suddenly to the right.

× Badsey is said to have formed part of the MANOR grant made by Offa, king of the East Angles, in 703, to Evesham Abbey,<sup>19</sup> while it is also stated that in 709 five and a half 'mansæ' there were included in the joint grant of Offa and Kenred, king of the Mercians, to that house.<sup>20</sup> Badsey was the property of the abbot and convent at the time of the Domesday Survey, which states that it had contained

<sup>1</sup> Prattinton Coll. (Soc. Antiq.).

<sup>2</sup> *Chery List*, 1841 and 1842.

<sup>3</sup> *Chron. de Evesham* (Rolls Ser.), 276.

<sup>4</sup> This was apparently an ordination taken from those grants, as it is stated in the text that the sacrist had previously only received 3s. yearly.

<sup>5</sup> *Ann. under Evesham Abbey*, p. 119.

<sup>6</sup> *Cal. of Papal Letters*, I. 24, 25, 252.

<sup>7</sup> *Worc. Epis. Reg. Giffard* (Worc. Hist. Soc.), 9 and 10; *Cal. of Papal*

*Letters*, I. 252; *Chron. de Evesham* (Rolls Ser.), 191-4.

<sup>7</sup> *Pope Nich. Tax. (Rec. Com.)*, 217b.

<sup>8</sup> *Worc. Epis. Reg. Giffard* (Worc. Hist. Soc.), 212; *Sede Vac. Reg. (Ibid.)* 210.

<sup>9</sup> *Pope Nich. Tax. (Rec. Com.)*, 217b.

<sup>10</sup> *Digest of Endowed Charities, Worc.*

*Parl. Papers*, 1900, lxiii.

<sup>11</sup> *Worc. Co. Coun. Handbk.* (1903), 148.

<sup>12</sup> *Chan. inq. p.m.* 4 Jas. I. ccccix. 148.

<sup>13</sup> Allies, *Antiq. of Worc.* 88.

<sup>14</sup> *V.C.H. Worc.* i. 218 and information supplied by Mr. O. G. Knapp.

<sup>15</sup> *Stat. 47 Geo. III. c. 15.*

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.* c. 45.

<sup>17</sup> Prattinton Coll. (Soc. Antiq.).

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>19</sup> *Chron. de Evesham* (Rolls Ser.), 71.

<sup>20</sup> *Birch Cart. Sax.* I. 183. This charter, however, is marked as spurious in Kemble, *Col. Dip.* I. 70.

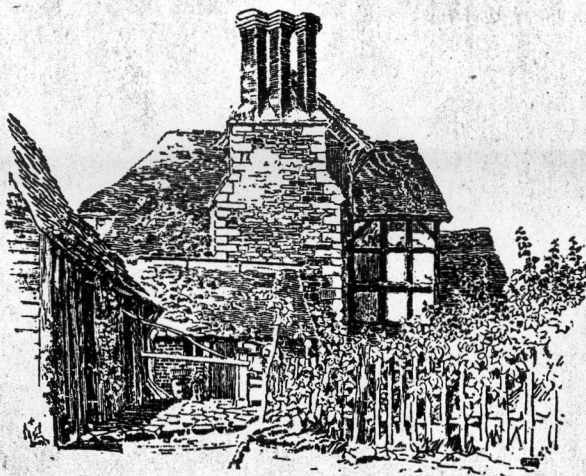
*Some notes on the manor of Aldington Badsey P. 119 July 1910*



## A HISTORY OF WORCESTERSHIRE

six and a half hides in the time of Edward the Confessor.<sup>1</sup> Abbot Walter afterwards granted five virgates of this land to William, one of his Norman kinsmen,<sup>2</sup> to whom he also granted in inheritance the office of steward of the abbey lands, of which office he had deprived the prior.<sup>3</sup> William was succeeded by Philip the steward, probably his son, who is said to have held five virgates and a half, and who was contemporary with Richard Francis who held half a hide in Badsey by the service of going with a packhorse to carry the cloths of the monks throughout England at the expense of the abbot.<sup>4</sup>

In 1246-7 William of Evesham, steward of the abbey, brought a suit against Abbot Thomas of Gloucester because the latter would not permit him to hold the hallmote and hundred courts in the Vale of Evesham as his ancestors had held them from time immemorial, and had detained from him a daily corrody and other perquisites pertaining to his office. William appears to have won the case by default of the abbot,<sup>5</sup> and was probably restored to his stewardship.



BADSEY: THE SEYNE HOUSE.

In the Lay Subsidy Roll of about 1280, William the Steward occurs under Aldington, which apparently included Badsey, and from the amount 20s. which he contributed it is evident that he was the wealthiest landowner there.<sup>6</sup> After this date, and some time before 1316, he conveyed his land in Badsey, which produced a rent of 60s. a year, to Abbot John Brokehampton.<sup>7</sup> Shortly afterwards, John Wellesley, knight, conveyed to the succeeding abbot, William of Cheriton, a messuage and two carucates of land 'which formerly belonged to William the steward of Evesham.'<sup>8</sup> Possibly Sir John Wellesley was William's heir, since he held and surrendered to the abbey the corrody which the steward and his heirs had held *ab antiquo* from the monastery.<sup>9</sup>

At an early date there appears to have been a house at Badsey for the use of the sick and blooded (*minuti*)

monks of Evesham. In 1328 Abbot Chiriton assigned the lands above referred to as belonging to William the steward with all the tithes of sheaves there to the chamberlain, who, in return, was to render every year for the bettering of the clothes of the brothers £10 of silver. Buildings were to be erected in the garden to accommodate the sick monks, and as often as they or other monks of the monastery who had obtained permission from the prior wished to feed there they should receive from the cellar and kitchen the corrody belonging to them as fully as at the monastery.<sup>10</sup> On 3 March 1333-4 Thomas of Evesham, the king's clerk, had licence to alienate to the abbot and convent of Evesham a messuage with a garden and virgate of land in Badsey for the refreshment of the monks in sickness, and to find a chaplain to say one mass at the high altar in the convent church for his soul and the soul of Robert de Netherton his uncle, late a monk of the abbey.<sup>11</sup> Later on, Abbot Roger Zetton (1380-1418) appropriated the demesne lands of Badsey to the use of himself and his successors, abbots of the monastery, at the same time charging the lands with the payment of 10s. a year to the monks and three cartloads of straw for the beds of the monks and the blooded, to be taken from the manors of Aldington and Wickhamford.<sup>12</sup> This house for convalescents was granted in 1545, under the name of the 'Seyne house,' to Sir Philip Hoby;<sup>13</sup> it passed with the manor of Abbot's Morton to Sir Edward Hoby, and in 1595 Richard Hoby resided there.<sup>14</sup>

Badsey continued in the possession of the abbey of Evesham until its suppression in 1539. In 1535 it was annexed to Aldington, which seems to have been at that time the more important manor; the demesne lands were then on lease. In 1539 the manor came into the hands of the Crown, with whom it remained until 24 April, 1562, when Queen Elizabeth granted it, with that of Aldington, to Sir Robert Throckmorton of Coughton and his heirs, to hold in chief by the service of a twentieth part of a knight's fee.<sup>15</sup>

Sir Robert died seized of the manor on 12 February, 1580-1, leaving as heir his son Thomas, then forty-five years of age.<sup>16</sup> Thomas Throckmorton seems to have held it until 1589, when jointly with Margaret his wife, the daughter of William Whorwood, who had been Attorney-General of Henry VIII., he had licence from the Crown to alienate it to Rice or Richard Griffin,<sup>17</sup> in whose favour a fine was accordingly levied in Michaelmas term of the same year,<sup>18</sup> probably on Richard's marriage to their daughter, Margaret Throckmorton.

In 1598 the manor of Badsey passed from Richard and Margaret Griffin to Richard Hoby,<sup>19</sup> who two years later conveyed it by fine, with the manor of Abbot's Morton, to Richard Mottershed and Ralph Hodges.<sup>20</sup> For some years afterwards Badsey seems to have followed the same descent as Abbot's Morton. In 1609 Charles Kettily and Elizabeth his wife conveyed it with the latter manor to John Kettily and

<sup>1</sup> *V.C.H. Worc.* i. 306b. In an extent marked in the margin T.R.E. which occurs in Cott. Vesp. B. xxiv. f. 49d, five and a half hides are said to be in Badsey, and one and a half in Aldington.

<sup>2</sup> Cott. MS. Vesp. B. xxiv. ff. 12d.

<sup>3</sup> *Chron. de Evesham* (Rolls Ser.), 97.

<sup>4</sup> Cott. MS. Vesp. B. xxiv. f. 46.

<sup>5</sup> Assize R. Reds. 31 Hen. III. No. 4, m. 22d.

<sup>6</sup> *Lay Subs. R. c.* 1280 (Worc. Hist. Soc.), 83.

<sup>7</sup> *Chron. de Evesham* (Rolls Ser.), 285.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.* 289.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.* 291; Tindal, *Hist. of Evesham*, 108-9.

<sup>11</sup> Pat. 8 Edw. III. pt. i. m. 24.

<sup>12</sup> *Chron. de Evesham*, 309.

<sup>13</sup> Pat. 37 Hen. VIII. pt. 5.

<sup>14</sup> Com. Pleas Deeds Ent. 17 Eliz. in. 3.

<sup>15</sup> Pat. 4 Eliz. pt. 4, m. 46.

<sup>16</sup> Chan. inq. p.m. cxcciii. 89.

<sup>17</sup> Pat. 31 Eliz. pt. 14, m. 27.

<sup>18</sup> Feet of F. Worc. Mich. 31 & 32 Eliz.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.* Trin. 40 Eliz.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.* Hil. 42 Eliz. See Abbot's Morton.