

a year in Cornwall in 1297, but was also a landholder in Buckinghamshire and Berkshire, granting land in the former county, which previously belonged to his brother Stephen, to Merton College Oxford in 1283.<sup>6</sup> The main line continued with Stephen's son and grandson of the same name. Meanwhile Bodannon was held by Sir Ralph's descendants, who adopted the new arms *gules semy of acorns and a lion rampant regardant or*.<sup>7</sup> From the stoop, it is a reasonable assumption that these arms belonged to William Chenduit who flourished from the 1330s to the 1350s, and was the ancestor of the Roscarrocks. By the time of William's grandson John Chenduit (d.1426) there was a reversion to the oak tree arms of the senior line, the correct colours for which (*gules an oak tree or*) were plausibly recorded by Thomas Willement from the cloister, where these arms occur twice.<sup>8</sup> The Roscarrocks probably eschewed these arms because they bore an enmity towards John Chenduit, who had tried to exclude them from the succession.

John Chenduit was the son of Thomas Chenduit (d.bef.1370) and his wife Joan, daughter of Benedict Berkeley.<sup>9</sup> His grandfather William Chenduit owed Benedict Berkeley sixty shillings in 1355.<sup>10</sup> John represented Cornwall in parliament on three occasions, in 1395, 1404 and 1407, and was married four times, but had no legitimate children by any of his wives.<sup>11</sup> With his earliest known wife, Katherine, he had license to hear the mass in his oratory at Bodannon in 1390.<sup>12</sup> His great grandfather John Chenduit was granted the same privilege in 1331.<sup>13</sup> In 1398 King Richard II granted him an annuity of £10 for life as a king's esquire from the duchy of Cornwall, and this must have been continued by Henry IV, as Henry V in 1413 confirmed it on the condition that he should not be retained by anyone else. In 1415 John contracted to serve in France, and to bring with him two archers, but he became sick at Harfleur in October of that year and was invalided home. Disappointed to have missed Agincourt, he contracted to serve again in 1417 for a year under John **Holand**, earl of Huntingdon.<sup>14</sup> The costs of equipping himself for this expedition were high, and necessitated him taking out a loan for a thousand marks which he still owed in 1423.<sup>15</sup>

His earliest known ancestor was Ralph I de Chenduit (d.bef.1179) who held a knight's fee in Kent in 1166 of

<sup>6</sup> Parl Writs; Kts E1: 204.

<sup>7</sup> DBA vol 1: 196, the tinctures were recorded in the Tudor Prince Arthur's Book.

<sup>8</sup> At 23/10=452 and 26/35=543.

<sup>9</sup> Devon AO 1262M/TC/153.

<sup>10</sup> TNA C241/134/130.

<sup>11</sup> John Chenduyt, (d.1426) by Anon in Hist Parl. For a history of the Cornish branch with pedigree on: 546 see Maclean vol 1: 544-6 and vol 2: 340-1.

<sup>12</sup> Reg Brantyngham vol 2: 698.

<sup>13</sup> Reg Grandisson vol 1: 594.

<sup>14</sup> CPR 1396-99: 293; TNA E101/70/1/561; E101/45/1 m.9; E101/51/2 m.26.

<sup>15</sup> TNA C241/216/29.

the new enfeoffment, and another in Leicestershire from William de Albin the Breton of the old enfeoffment, in other words granted to his family before 1135.<sup>16</sup> His surname indicates an origin at Chênedouit in Normandy. Ralph's grandson Ralph II Chenduit (d.1229) held altogether eleven knights' fees as a subtenant, while his son and heir Ralph III (d.1243) acquired Isenhampstead in marriage to the daughter of Walter Foliot.<sup>17</sup> The family were hereditary knights of the Abbey of St Albans, a relationship not without its difficulties: Ralph III was despised by the St Albans chronicler Matthew Paris, who likened him to a bull, and he died having been excommunicated by the abbot of that monastery.<sup>18</sup> William II Chenduit (d.1246) his son and heir was the same who sealed with the *lion passant regardant*. The next heir Ralph IV (d.bef.1250) like his father before him was head of the family for only a few years, and in the next generation his son Sir Stephen Chenduit (d.bef.1281) became heavily indebted to Jewish money lenders. Stephen's debt of a thousand marks was repaid by Queen Eleanor in exchange for property, which included the manor of King's Langley in Hertfordshire and a mill in Little Langley rented from St Albans Abbey, originally given to the monastery by Ralph I Chenduit during the reign of King Henry II.<sup>19</sup> Stephen must have been on friendly terms with Queen Eleanor as she granted him houses in London in 1276.<sup>20</sup> Stephen's descendants in the senior line held the manor of Chenduits, later corrupted to Shendish, in King's Langley, until the late fourteenth century, when the line terminated with female heirs.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Red Book: 193,328.

<sup>17</sup> CFR H3 vol 1: 180 has Ralph III's accession in 1229.

<sup>18</sup> Paris: 76..

<sup>19</sup> TNA SC8/11/545A. A case concerning this mill from 1334 usefully gives the father to son descent from Ralph to William to Ralph and then to Stephen, who sold his interest. See also TNA E329/191.

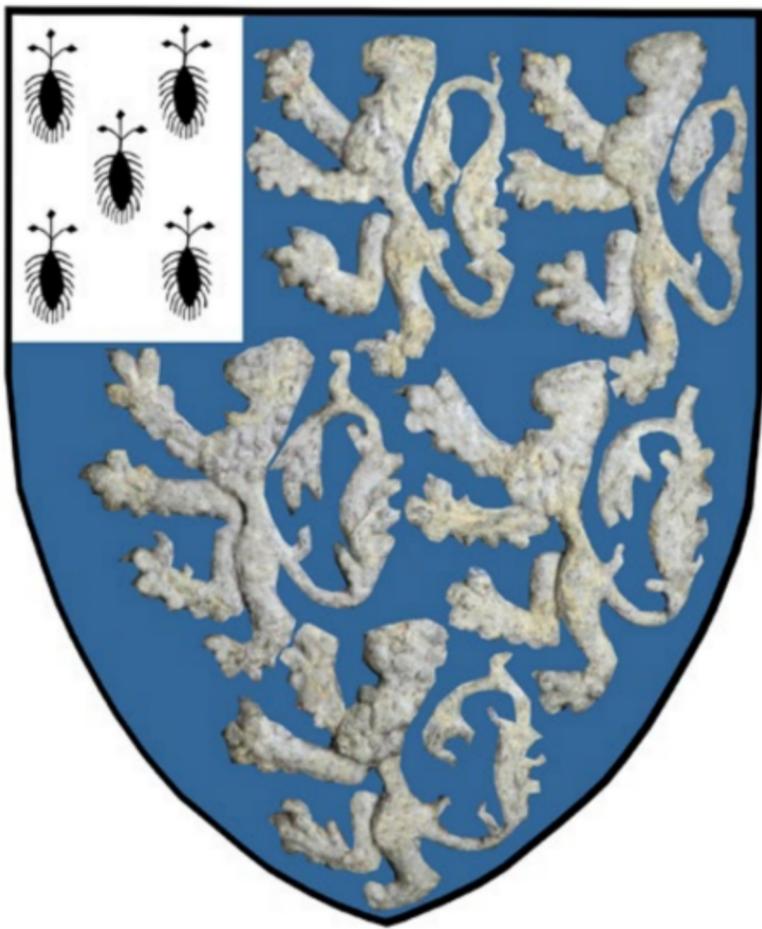
<sup>20</sup> Kts E1: 204.

<sup>21</sup> VCH Herts vol.2: 234-45. Useful dating information of the family is supplied by the Cartulary of Missenden Priory in Buckinghamshire, of which they were benefactors, see vol 2 no.388.390, vol 3 no.874.

## CHEYNE of Kent

The version of the arms of Cheyne found in the cloister is the second device used by the Kentish branch, whose original coat-of-arms, *quarterly or and gules with a label of five points* for difference, was derived from the arms of Say. Sir Alexander Cheyne (d.1295) added the label to the *quarterly or and gules* arms of his father-in-law William de Say, and was using them by around 1275. The arms of Say were in turn derived from those of **Vere**. There are three different recorded versions of the colour of Alexander's label, of which the first, *argent*, and the second, *azure*, might simply be unfinished drawings. The correct usage was probably *sable bezanty*.<sup>1</sup> Both Alexander and his wife Agnes were descended from

<sup>1</sup> DBA vol 4: 189.



Ralph de Cheyne who held Bosham in Sussex in 1086, and who came to England in the retinue of William de **Warene** from Le Quesnay, situated just north-east of Rouen, from which the surname derives.<sup>2</sup> From the Say barony Alexander Cheyne gained Street in Sussex plus Patribourne and Keston in Kent.<sup>3</sup>

Sir William Cheyne (d.1322), the son of Alexander and Agnes, married another great heiress, Margaret Shurland, the daughter of Sir Robert Shurland (d.1327). After inheriting the manor of Shurland on the Isle of Sheppey, with its eleven hundred acres, it seems probable that Sir Robert Cheyne (d.1361) adopted the arms of the grandfather for whom he was named, *azure six lions rampant argent and a canton ermine*.<sup>4</sup> The figure of Sir Robert Shurland is shrouded in legend because of the rather singular tomb at Minster in Sheppey which has been attributed to him. There are a variety of unusual features to this monument. The knight lies on his left side pressing his shield into the ground with his legs are crossed, while beneath his feet is located a fully equipped knight or squire, and beside his right leg is the head of a horse.<sup>5</sup> Local tradition has it that he rode his horse 'grey dolphin' into the Thames estuary at *the Nore* in order to beg forgiveness from a passing King Edward I for some misdeed.<sup>6</sup>

The tomb might equally belong to his crusading father Sir Roger Shurland, who was a knight of Sir Roger de Leybourne (d.1271).<sup>7</sup> Leybourne was a considerable figure at the court of King Henry III who at the apogee

of his career was simultaneously Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports and constable of the castles of Dover, Rochester, Nottingham, and the Tower of London.<sup>8</sup> Shurland served under him in Gascony in 1269, and the following year Leybourne accompanied the Prince Edward on his crusade to the Holy Land. It is distinctly plausible that he took Sir Roger Shurland with him (if he went at all: he was back in England in 1271). Shurland must have been extremely proud of his relationship with Leybourne to have adopted a version of his arms *azure six lions rampant argent*, adding the canton ermine for difference.<sup>9</sup> The respect must have been mutual for him to have been given permission.

Shurland took out letters of protection to serve overseas for three years in 1272, an unusually long time span which suggests that he might have been returning to Palestine. He went on pilgrimage again in 1279, and the following year was pardoned for hunting deer in the Sherwood Forest with his former lord's son Sir Roger Leybourne (d.1284).<sup>10</sup> He was then described as a household knight of Sir John de Vescy, another participant in the Ninth Crusade of 1270-74, and nephew of the earlier Roger de Leybourne.<sup>11</sup> That Sir Robert Cheyne used the Shurland arms is a presumption, but his eldest son Richard Cheyne certainly used them in 1393, and his grandson Sir William Cheyne (d.1441) in 1408.<sup>12</sup> The kudos of the arms, with their crusading connection, was high, and it would have been difficult for Robert to have resisted using them.

By his wife Margaret de Cralle, the Pepplesham heiress, Richard Cheyne had a number of sons. The eldest, William Cheyne, esquire, served intermittently as a JP in Kent between 1401 and 1423, was twice sheriff of the county in 1412-13 and 1423-4, and MP in 1416. He was a friend of John **Fremingham** and in 1411 was actively managing Fremingham's bequests to Rochester Bridge, of which he himself also became a benefactor.<sup>13</sup> He was also a benefactor of Canterbury Cathedral, in recognition for which he and his wife Eleanor Salerne (daughter and coheir of John Salerne of Iden in Sussex) with their eldest son John, were received into the cathedral confraternity in 1428.<sup>14</sup> William was buried near the sepulchre of his ancestor Sir Robert Shurland in the abbey of Saints Mary and Sexburga, Sheppey.<sup>15</sup> His descendant Sir John Cheyne, K.G., was unhorsed by King Richard III at the battle of Bosworth, and ennobled in 1497 by a grateful

<sup>2</sup> Loyd: 27-28; Salzman.1924 has various pedigrees.

<sup>3</sup> IPM vol 3 no.335.

<sup>4</sup> IPM vol 11 no.304.

<sup>5</sup> Kemp fig 41: 38-9.

<sup>6</sup> Harris: 108.

<sup>7</sup> Kts E1 vol 4: 249-50.

<sup>8</sup> Kts E1 vol 3: 35-6.

<sup>9</sup> The arms are attributed to Roger Shurland in the Dering, Charles and Camden Rolls c.1275-1285 to Robert Shurland in the first Dunstable (1308) and Parliamentary Rolls, DBA vol 1: 312.

<sup>10</sup> CCR 1279-88: 19

<sup>11</sup> Kts E1 vol 5: 117-9.

<sup>12</sup> Birch 8565, DBA vol 1: 311.

<sup>13</sup> L. S. Woodger, *William Cheyne (d.1441)* Hist Parl. The arms occur once in the cloister at 18/23=310.

<sup>14</sup> Arundel MS f.60.

<sup>15</sup> Reg Chichele vol 2: 584-5, 646.

## GREAT CLOISTER: A LOST CANTERBURY TALE

Henry VII.<sup>16</sup> William's younger brother Simon Cheyne (d.1445) inherited their mother's lands in Sussex, and adopted new arms, *ermine on a bend sable three martlets or*.<sup>17</sup> These arms have been incorrectly stated to be the original arms of Cheyne, for which there is no evidence. There was also a brother John Cheyne who in 1413 became a trustee for Sir Arnold **Savage** in connection with the **Scales** inheritance.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>16</sup> GEC vol 3: 191-2.

<sup>17</sup> DBA vol 2: 15;

<sup>18</sup> IPM vol 25 no.55. He was still a trustee in 1436.

### CHICHE of Canterbury (Lost)



Canterbury as half a knight's fee from Hamode Valoignes, John's seal of c.1220 bore a shield with *three cinquefoils*.<sup>2</sup>

Later that century Sir Stephen Chiche, knight (d.1295) purchased part of the manor of Goodnestone next Faversham to which his great nephew Sir Thomas Chiche (d.bef. 1362) and his second wife Wilmyne added in 1343.<sup>3</sup> The manor in 1346 was held by knight's service of three quarters of a fee from the honour of Leicester, or in other words, from the Duchy of Lancaster. Sir Thomas in the 1334 subsidy was a major landholder in Canterbury and in the hundred of Faversham, with smaller possessions on the Isle of Thanet.<sup>4</sup>

Members of the family represented Kent in parliament on various occasions from 1293, and served over seven successive generations as bailiff of Canterbury. The member of the family who donated to the cloister was Thomas (d.c.1429) son of Sir Thomas Chiche (d.1392).