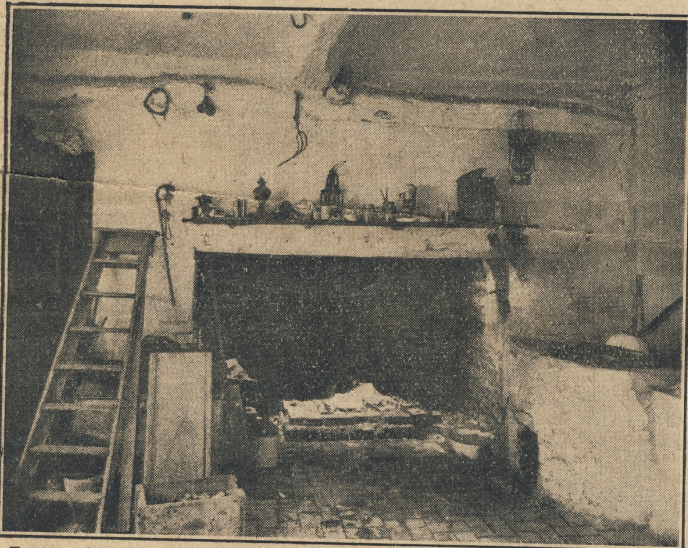


Date 1656 on one of the eastern chimney stacks of Sheen Manor House.



S.W. view of the Sheen Manor House, Meldreth, showing the old wing to the left and the outside of the walled garden.



Faggot hearth in the oldest portion of Sheen Manor House. It is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet across and the beam over the hearth is 16 inches deep. By the side of the central beam in the roof can be seen the wheel round which the pulley of the roasting jack turned.

Coulsouter's of 8 acres. The last two items are marked as belonging to Streetes; the last item of 8 acres lies high and dry between the river and the marsh, separated from Coulsouter's only by the moat. Other items in the terrier are:—A foldcourse for 400 sheep worth £10 a year; a watermill abutting on Peterhouse Close, with a willow yard belonging. £15 a year; the Court Baron of Sheen and Streets and the Royalty of the High River. £15 a year. There were 239 acres of arable land and 65 $\frac{1}{2}$  of meadow, and 2 orchards of 5 acres. The annual value is put at £257 10s. One hundred and ten acres were tithe free, and 73 acres paid tithe to the lord of the Manor of Sheen.

In 1342 Henry Strete, miller of the Prior of Ware, was fined at the Court Leet of the Honour of Clare for taking unjust toll. But he flourished in his wickedness, for in 1442 his descendant was receiver of the county taxes. He got together a good estate, which went by the name of Strete's Manor. When he died his only daughter married William Alington. She died without heirs, and the manor came to the Sterne family. Parts of the Sheen meads once belonged to Henry Strete. Mr. Jebb now owns the Manor House of Strete's.

6. In 1716 the free, and customary rents amounted to £7 17s. 4d., besides 18 hens, 2 cocks, and 3 capons. There were also 391 bederepes. In 1578 an attempt had been made to change these into a payment of 3d. a year for each bederepe, but John Hytche would not agree.

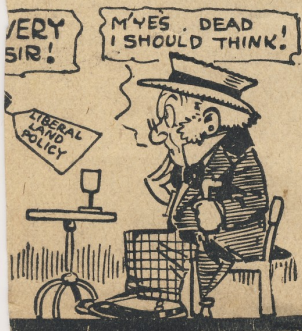
7. About the year 1222 the Prior of Ely and the Abbot of St. Elrulf came to an agreement about tithe. All the demesne lands of the Abbot in Meldreth were to be tithe free, with this exception. At the time of reaping each should select an acre of wheat alternately, the Abbot having first choice, until the Prior had selected three acres. The rest of the demesne was to be tithe free. When the parish of Meldreth was enclosed in 1813, the allotting of land in lieu of rectorial tithe caused some difficulty, and application was made to Mr. Caley, Keeper of the Records. But he did not find the above agreement, which lay hidden in the muniment room at Ely.

About the same time (1222) the Abbot got leave to have a private chapel in his manor house here, but only he and his monks were to use it.

8. In June, 1647, Francis Westrope, yeoman, of Melbourn, complained to the Court of Chancery of his treatment by James Ayloffe, gent. He said that about July, 1645, he hired half the Manor of Sheen, including half the manor house, and other buildings, at a yearly rent of £135. He was at great cost repairing the buildings fit for his habitation, in following and manuring the land with marl and dung, and he paid the Parliamentary taxes of over £78. In the autumn of 1647 corn made high prices; this spring Ayloffe refused to accept his half year's rent, saying that his elder brother had the right of letting. This looks as if the landlord wanted a share of the high prices or wanted possession because of the sale to Pyke.

(To be continued.)

\* Being the second instalment of an account of a recent visit by the Cambridge Antiquarian Society to Melbourn. Last week Dr. Palmer dealt with Melbourn Bury.



doing.

From "The Man in the Street."

# L. & F. COLE, Ltd.

MARKET STREET.

Wrist Watches, Jewellery and Plate

REPAIRS BY COMPETENT WORKMEN ON THE PREMISES.