

Payne of Domesday(*3), A.D. 1041-1086

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"Domesday Book, or the Great Survey of England, was made by order of William the Conqueror, A.D. 1086. It is contained in two volumes, the first of which, called Great Domesday Book, is a folio of 760 pages, two columns per page; The second, called Little Domesday Book, containing the survey of the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, is a large octavo of 900

pages, one column on a page. These volumes contain the Census of the Kingdom, made up from the returns from each county of England, excepting the four Northern counties; viz: Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Durham." - Introduction to Photozincograph.

The date (1086) is found at the end of the work itself, in Little Domesday. The book does not include a survey of Wales and Scotland. William sent out all over the conquered portion of England and took the names of all the men that owned land; found how much each held; how many serfs, bordercottagers, villani, etc., were on each lot; how much each piece was worth at the time of King Edward, and how much now; how much forest there was, pasture, and meadow; how many pigs, oxen, and sheep could be kept on the ground; and like particulars.

The original copy of Domesday has been preserved through all the centuries, 1086-1880. It has recently been Photozincographed; photographed into printers ink. A copy is owned by the Boston Public Library. It is in thirty-two thin volumes, exactly the size of the originals. They are very beautiful. Every letter and figure is sharp and very black. The language is Latin. The words are mostly shotened- often to a single letter, but the meaning is always certain.

I looked at every line and word of all these volumes (Nov. 6, 1879 - Feb. 2, 1880); in some volumes twice and thrice. I have translated , and published in the following pages, for the first time since the days of William the Conqueror, all the passages of Domesday describing the holdings of Payne, and of his son Edmund, and of Edmund's sister.

I have made the great discovery that Payne- first name not given- owned land in fifteen counties; that these counties touched each other, that he did not own in any other counties; that they formed four sides of a square; that every one of the four corners of this square touched an important body of salt water: the English Channel, the Wash, the Irish Sea and the Bristol

Channel.

I have found that not only Payne owned in this way, but that many others owned land in a similar manner. Hence I have made it appear that a man could not travel from one county into another unless he owned land in that other county. His passport was his certificate of ownership in the county through or into which he wished to go. The King and Church owned in every county, or others it is often said: "He (or they) could go withersoever he (they) would; they owned in one county after another, in every direction, so that they held passports for every point." I have proved that Payne owned in England before William conquered: "temult paganus

t.r.e.iii.car.'trae." Payne used to hold, in the time of King Edward, four ploughlands of land. See Norfolk, below. Edward the Confessor reigned, A.D. 1041-1065. William Conquered in A.D. 1066.

Beginning at the English Channel in Sussex, Payne could drive horse and hound from Sussex(2), to Hampshire(3), Berkshire(2), Oxfordshire(1), Buckinghamshire(8), Hertfordshire(3), Cambridgeshire(6), Norfolk County(1) on the northeast, to the Wash in the North Sea. Thence northwest, through Cambridgeshire again, Northamptonshire(1), Leicestershire(1), Staffordshire(1), Cheshire(4) to the Irish Sea. Thence south, through Worcestershire(1), Gloucestershire(1) to the head of the Bristol Channel. Thence southeast, through Wiltshire(2), Hampshire and Sussex again, home, to the English Channel. He could do business on the ocean at four points. The figure (2), etc., denote the number of holdings in the shire or county-37 in all, twenty-six of these lay in the line between the English Channel and the Wash. When he crossed over to the Irish Sea he brought only one holding in each shire- Northampton, Leicester, Stafford. When he reached the Irish Sea he brought four in Cheshire; then one each in Worcester and Gloucester; proving these single holdings to be mere stepping stones across otherwise impassable gulfs. His first holding thus lay between Sussex and Norfolk.

Other men held similarly, as said. Notice that Payne holds land from William, son of Ansculf, in Buckinghamshire, Staffordshire and Worcestershire. Of William Pevrel, in Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Leicestershire. Most of the men in Domesday have no name at all. They were simply called Villani, serfs, border cottagers, radmen, etc. When a man has

a name he has only one; as, Payne. A second man of the same name is Edmund, son of Payne; Hugh the Earl, Hugh de Port, Hugh de Saint Quintin, etc. The Payne of Domesday is never called anything but Payne. He had no brother, as some translators made him out to have, but one son, Edmond, and one daughter, name not given, simply; "Daughter of Payne" (Norfolk) these three

are all the Payne's of Domesday; there is not one other. Payne's name appears in two forms. his real name is Pagen- so written about half the time. As often, it is Latinized into Paganus. This "g" was soft, and was afterward changed into "y" and "i". Compare Old Legen (Anglo-Saxon), New

Lain; paenig, penny; daeg, day; paeglic, daily. This "g" even disappears in a long "a", as, thegen, thane. Hundreds of examples could be added. He was a Norman.

"Payne holds of the King" in Hampshire, and "Edmund, son of Payne, holds Bertune of the King" in Somersetshire; marks of Royal favor. Each shire or county has a head- list of first tenants- King, Church, and High-Churchman, Earls, etc. in Great Domesday Payne's name does not appear in any of these head-list. But in Little Domesday appears the name Edmund, son of Payne, in a head list of Norfolk County(*1).

When the Conqueror made his New Forest, "Nova Foresta", in Hampshire, he siezed all three of Payne's holdings, which lay in the New Forest region. This, and a great many other items of interest, may be picked out of the following full translation. "My brother, Hon. A.W. Paine, has

already made use of facts herein stated, for which he was urgent for permission to give credit to me; but I would not consent, because my researches was not completed(*2). Even now "Edmund, son of Payne," is only reported only where this full designation is written out in Domesday. But "Edmund" alone means "Edmund, son of Payne," but I need to study here yet further.

**1: In Great Domesday the writer calls his divisions Shires. In Little, a different writer calls his counties- Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex Counties.*

2: "Bangor, September 5, 1880- Dear brother: Domesday* For all this part of the history you alone deserve the credit; I am very sorry you would not let me say so as we went along. Brother, "Albert." All the Paines of America and England, for eight hundred years would most surely be looked upon by Payne of Domesday as his children and relatives, including the founder of the Knights Templar. This article would thus properly head the records of our vast and ancient family, uniting us in one brotherhood, joining hands across a great ocean and the great centuries.*

**3: Never "Domesday" in the book itself, or in the catalogues. Best Regards: Richard Bromley & Margaret Payne Bromley*