

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT
OF THE
Manor=House at South Wraxhall,
WILTSHIRE.

IN consequence of the "*litle Maner at Wrexley*," as Leland* calls it, having anciently formed part of the Manor of Bradford, which was among the many temporalities attached to the Abbey of Shaftesbury previous to the dissolution of religious houses in Great Britain by Henry VIII., the records concerning it are very few, and those which do exist throw but little light on the early history of what afterwards constituted the *reputed Manor* † of South Wraxhall.

The Manor of Bradford was granted to the Abbess and Convent of Shaftesbury by King Etheldred, ‡ which was confirmed to them by Richard I. and Edward I. ; § and mention is made of Wraxhall in the Chartulary of the Abbey, Harl. MSS. 61, in which "Agnes de la Ferei," whose name occurs as abbess in 1252, 1257, and 1267, || "with consent of the convent, granted and" "confirmed to God and the blessed Mary Magdalene of Fernlegh, ¶ and to"

* *Itinerary*, Vol. II. fol. 30 (p. 25, Oxon, 1711).

† As it did not form a distinct manor at the time of passing the famous statute known as "The third of Westminster," viz. "*Quia emplores terrarum*," 18th of Edw. I. A.D. 1290; it could only be recognised as what was termed "*a reputed manor*." — *Barrington on the Statutes*. 4to. Lond. 1775, p. 167.

‡ See the "*Chartulary of the Abbey of Shaftesbury*." — *Harl. MSS.* 61, fol. 1.

§ On a plea, "*de quo warranto*," temp. Edw. I., the Abbess of Shaftesbury contended that her right to the Manor of Bradford was derived from a grant by Richard I., and the jury determined that the title was undisputed. *Placita de Quo Warranto*. — Rot. 47d. and 50.

|| Dugdale's "*Monasticon*," Vol. II. p. 473.

¶ Monkton Farley, about a mile from South Wraxhall.

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