

the creek of the river." By that name, too, it is called in the Domesday Survey; but in the *Textus Roffensis* it is written Welwic. Later on, in the fourteenth century, the name was written Wolwiche, and two centuries later it is spelt Wolwych. Mr. Taylor, in his "Words and Places," assigns the name to the Danes, and explains its etymology thus:—"Woolwich, *the hill reach*, so called apparently from its being overhung by the conspicuous landmark of Shooter's Hill." "This," observes Mr. Thorne, in his "Environs of London," "may

which William the Falconer held of King Edward. In this estate there are eleven bordars, who pay 41 pence. The whole value is three pounds." The estate, remarks Lysons, is supposed to be comprehended in what is now the principal manor, and which, at a very early period, was called the Manor of Wulewicke, and afterwards the Manor of Southall, in Woolwich. This manor, however, together with all other parts of the parish, is subordinate to the parish of Eltham, as was proved in the Court of Exchequer in 1702, when



CHARLTON HOUSE. (See page 10.)

be correct; but when he adds in a note, 'The etymology is confirmed by the fact that Woolwich is written *Hulviz* in Domesday,' we feel that he is on unsafe ground. A comparison of the names in Domesday with the earlier Anglo-Saxon forms shows that in a large number of instances the Domesday spelling—at first sight often very startling—is merely the attempt of a Norman clerk to represent the, to him, strange English pronunciation. The English called Woolwich *Wulewic* (which we are afraid will not help Mr. Taylor's etymology); this the Norman scribe represented by *Hulviz*, just as, in the seventeenth century, we find a French ambassador writing *Oulmarlton* for *Wimbledon*."

The reference to this place in Domesday Book is to the effect that "in the half-lath of Sudtone, and in the Grenviz (Greenwich) Hundred, Haimo has thirty-six acres of land in Hulviz (Woolwich),

the claims of Eltham were contested by

Mr. Richard Bowater, who had then recently purchased the Manor of Woolwich, and with whose descendants it continued down to the present century. In whose reign this manor became an appurtenance to Eltham is unknown.

By what means the portion of land called North Woolwich, lying as it does on the Essex side of the river, came to be incorporated with this parish is not clearly known. "Probably," says Hasted, "Haimo, Vice-comes, or Sheriff, of Kent in the time of the Conqueror, being possessed of Woolwich as well as of those lands on the other side of the river, procured them, either by composition or grant, from the king, to be annexed to his jurisdiction as part of his county, and then incorporated them with it."