

the unreformed Church. Here the names of Lanfranc and Kilwardby and Winchelsea, Courtenay and Chicheley and Arundel, and Warham and Cramer, sound almost as truly "household words" as at Oxford or Cambridge, at Westminster or Lambeth. The very air here is redolent of churchmanship of the past Saxon type, and our only regret is that we can learn so little about their Anglo-Saxon predecessors. But, alas! though Croyland and Malmesbury and Waltham figure there, we can find no reference at all to Croydon in Mr. E. A. Freeman's "Old English History," a book which treats fully of the Saxon times.

The town of Croydon is one of the largest in all Surrey, and occupies a pleasant position on the Brighton road, about ten miles from London. It consists chiefly of one well-built street, about a mile in length, called the High Street. This was in former times nothing more than a bridle-way over the fields; but leading over higher ground, and in a more direct course than the way through the old town, by usage it became the principal road, and was at length built upon, and superseded the former highway.

Croydon parish is bounded on the north by Lambeth and Streatham, on the east by Penge, the parishes of Beckenham and West Wickham, in Kent, and that of Addington, in Surrey; on the south by Addington, Sanderstead, and Coulsdon, and on the west by Beddington and Mitcham; it is no less than thirty-six miles in circumference, and the soil is, in different parts of the parish, chalk, gravel, sand, clay, and peat. Lysons mentions a large chalk-pit about a mile from the town, near the road to Addington, which afforded a large number of fossils; indeed, all the southern side is chalk.

Croydon lies in the opening of a rich and beautiful vale, as Camden observes, "lying under the hills." Speaking generally, those to the east are wooded, those to the west and south-west are mostly open downs.

The manor of Croydon is thus described in the "Domesday Book" among the lands of the Archbishop of Canterbury:—"In the hundred of Waleton (Wallington) Archbishop Lanfranc holds Croidene in demesne. In the time of King Edward it was assessed at 80 hides, now at 16 hides and 1 visgate. The arable land amounts to 20 carucates. There are in the demesne 4 carucates, and forty-eight villans and twenty-five borders, with 34 carucates. There is a church, and one mill at 5s., and 8 acres of meadow. The wood yields two hundred swine. Of the land belonging to this manor, Restolf holds of the archbishop

7 hides, and Ralph 1 hide; and thence they have £7 8s. rent. The whole manor, in the time of King Edward, was valued at £12; now at £27 to the archbishop, and £10 10s. to his men."

This manor is said to have been given by William I. to Archbishop Lanfranc, who is supposed to have founded the archiepiscopal palace, though Robert Kilwardby is the first prelate who is certainly known to have resided at Croydon. He resigned the metropolitan dignity on being made a cardinal, in 1278, and went to Rome, leaving the castles and mansions belonging to the see in such a dilapidated state, that Archbishop Peckham, his successor, found it necessary to expend 3,000 marks in repairs, though it is uncertain what part of this sum may have been laid out at Croydon. The manor continued to belong to the see of Canterbury until the troubles of the seventeenth century, when the revenues of the archbishopric were seized by the Parliament. The annual value of the manor, place, and land, was then estimated at £275, exclusive of the timber.

The manor-house, or palace, situated near the church, was for several hundred years the occasional residence of the Archbishops of Canterbury, who had attached to it a park and grounds containing 170 acres. These stretched away on to the high ground to the south-east. Of this park the famous Sir William Walworth was keeper in the reign of Richard II. In July, 1573, Archbishop Parker entertained Queen Elizabeth and her whole Court here seven days, and Whitgift received more than one visit from the same princess at this palace. When the possessions of the see of Canterbury were seized by the Parliament during the civil war with Charles I., Croydon Palace was first leased to the Earl of Nottingham, and afterwards to Sir William Brereton, the famous Parliamentary General, "a notable man, at a thanksgiving dinner," writes a pamphleteer of the time quoted by Lysons, "having terrible long teeth, and a prodigious stomach to turn the archbishop's chapel into a kitchen, and to swallow up that palace and lands at a morsel." After the Restoration this edifice was fitted up, and restored to its former state by archbishop Juxon." We shall treat more fully of the archiepiscopal palace in the next chapter.

Croydon is first mentioned in the joint will of Beorhtic and Ælfswyth, dated about 962. It is there spelt *Crogdane*. "Crog," says Mr. J. Corbet Anderson, in his "Chronicle of Croydon Parish," "was, and still is, the Norse, or Danish, word for crooked, which is expressed in Anglo-Saxon by *crumb*, a totally different word. From the Danish