

FARM ACCOUNTS—LATE. 14th CENTURY  
BY EDWIN HOLLIS

The document of which a free translation is given below is one of seven recently presented to the Society's Library.

They are all of 14<sup>th</sup> Cent., and deal with a farm at Water Eaton, near Fenny Stratford, Bucks, and are known as Compotus Rolls.

This farm was part of the Manor of Water Eaton which was held by the family of Grey from early in the 13<sup>th</sup> Cent, until Thomas Lord Grey de Wilton was attainted in 1603 for the part he took in the attempt to place Arabella Stewart on the throne.

The roll is made up of four membranes of parchment sewn together, and measures 6ft. 5in. in length, and 9in. in breadth. Accounts on paper do not appear till the Tudor times. Slightly earlier one may find occasional complaints of defaulting officials who have rendered *in papiro et non in pergameno*, and they amended their ways.

The roll is closely written on both sides in a very scholarly hand, and covers the period from Michael-mas, 1394, to Michaelmas, 1395, and it will be seen from the illustrations that it is still in fine condition.

Exceedingly few farmers of the present day could show such a detailed statement of their year's work.

The accounts are those of the demesne, that is, of the lord's strips scattered in the two fields under cultivation.

They are written in Latin (much abbreviated) with an occasional word such as " wippecord " or " pak-thred " in English when the scribe's Latin was at fault.

The information contained would be derived from the reeve, bailiff, keeper of grange, or other responsible official.

The form of such accounts as these is fairly well known.

The inside (*infra*) of the roll is a financial statement for the year. The receipts almost invariably came from Rents of Assize (fixed rents), rent of land and appurtenances (as mills, dovecotes, pasture), sale of surplus corns and "works," and the fines and fees coming from the manor courts, Leet and Baron.

The expenses relate principally to farming operations, such as upkeep of ploughs and carts, of farm buildings, of harvesting and the attendant operations of threshing and winnowing, but they also include payments for administrative and clerical work, gifts to servants, etc.

The back of the roll (*dorso, dorse*) deals with three things.

1. The crops seriatim under headings of yield and allocation.
2. The stock, issue and destination, and frequently
3. The works of tenantry—*opera and precaria*—or ordinary and boon works, the former being harrowings, carryings, ditching, etc., the latter those demanded at the special seasons of ploughing, seeding and harvesting.

The lovebenes were almost certainly *precaria*, diverted owing to the economic changes, to such labours as mill-wheel making, etc. Those not taken were sold to the tenants, and this commutation was one of the early steps in the emancipation of this relic of serfdom. Thus the dorse serves as a check upon certain of the items in the finance account.

Whilst details of the other sources of revenue appear on the dorse, the proceeds of Courts and the incidents are recorded on the separate court rolls to which reference is made here.

In this case the parchment for court rolls and this account cost 12d. (equal to quite 15 shillings of pre-war money).

One cannot judge the size of the Manor from the demesne at this period, but the tenants' holdings varied from 50 per cent, to 150 per cent, of the demesne.

As regards the yield of grain, the results are sur-prisingly low to us:

	Acres sown.	Seed per acre.	Yield.
Wheat	58	2 bus.	30 qrs.
Peas	39	3 bus.	20 qrs.
Barley	74	4 bus.	81 qrs.
Oats	none sown	— •	— •

---

171

This shows that the yield of these corns varied between 4 bus. and 1 qr. per acre.

The seed sown varying from 2 bus. to 4 bus. per acre, the return was anything between double and quadruple, or, as they would express it, the 2nd grain to the 4th grain.

This starvation return seems almost incredible to our modern ideas, accustomed as we are to a 16th grain yield.

Dr. Jessop<sup>1</sup> was unable to credit it, but all recent research confirms this state of husbandry. Of 208 crops recently noted of the 14th century, in only 71 cases was the 4th grain reached.

Two increments are mentioned. Measure could be either *mesura cumulata* or *mesura rasa*, i.e., heaped or straked. The 3 bus. arising from the heaping of barley does not seem to belong to any particular item, but generally it represented an advantage of about 5 per cent.

In making malt the barley swells and there results increased measure. This is here given as 6 bus. from 24 qrs., or roughly 3 per cent., but the surprising fact is that they sell at 9 bus. the qr.

The lord of the Manor at the time of this account was apparently Henry, Lord Grey, who died in 1396.

It will be noted that in the account for shoeing horses, Sir John Grey (probably a younger son of Henry) is mentioned as setting out for Aquitain. Reference is made to this in Note No. 19.

The writer would like here to express his thanks to Dr. W. H. Saunders for much help in elucidating difficult portions of the account.

---

<sup>1</sup>Vide *Random Roamings. A Fourteenth Century Parson*, p. 136.

## INSIDE OF ROLL

*Eton Farm*

Account of Henry Heriot<sup>1</sup> reeve there from the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel in the 18th year of the reign of Richard II., after the Conquest, to the eve of the same feast in the 19th year of the same King.<sup>2</sup>

For one whole year.

*Arrears*

The same (Henry Heriot) answers for arrears of 4s. 6d. shown on last account as appears at the foot of the same.

Total 4s. 6d.

*Fixed Rents*<sup>3</sup>

For fixed rents nothing here, because collected by rent collector.

Total nothing.

*Small Rents*

And for 8d. received for 4 gross of horse nails the proceeds of the rent of John at the Hall of Hame to the Feast of the Nativity of John the Baptist sold at 2d. per gross, see reverse.

Total 8d.

*Farm (= Letting on Hire)*

For farm of mill<sup>4</sup> nothing because shown in corn account,

<sup>1</sup> It will be noticed that personal names were common at this time. Generally they indicate places or occupations and often carry the article, or preposition, as Richard at Diche. Thus in this account we have:—Henry Heriot, Henry Cok, John Ostiller, Richard Lammas, John Plouwrite, John Freynsheman. Relation-ship is indicated in such as John Thomas, which would have appeared in the preceding century as "John son of Thomas." More fanciful names are William Beawings and John Pennyfadir.

<sup>2</sup> 18-19 Richard II. equals 1394-1395.

<sup>3</sup> There are separate rent accounts in the possession of the Arch. Soc. of the *Collector of Rents* for the years 1385-6 and 1391-2 totalling £58 9s. 10½d.

<sup>4</sup> This was an important source of income to any lord of a manor apart from the fact that its primary reason was for the grinding of the demesne and tithes. The tenants were, frequently, compelled to grind their corn there; otherwise the hand mill or quern was used at home. The cost of upkeep this year of 21s. 7½d. is not excessive, considering that a new wheel was constructed. Payment was made in kind—*i.e.*, a percentage deducted for grinding—see 21 Qrs. toll corn. In the previous year the water gates had to be mended at a cost of 6s. 4d. By this date windmills had become



And for 72s. received for the farm of 13 cows and 6 heifers, at 4s. 6d. for the milk of each cow, and 2s. 3d. for the milk of each heifer, the calves reserved to my lord, see reverse.

And for 5s. received for the farm of 5 geese let on hire this year, see reverse.

And for 3s. received for the farm of 6 hens let on hire this year, see reverse.

And for 6s. 8d. received for the farm of the dove-cote <sup>5</sup> this year, see reverse.

Total £4 6s. 8d.

*Output of the Manor*

And for 6d. received for apples sold from garden this year.

And for 75s. 6d. received for 151 fleeces sold <sup>6</sup> see reverse.

And for 16d. received for 2 rotten sheep, killed by dogs, sold in the skins, see reverse.

And for 11d. received for skins of 6 calves which died or were killed, sold, see reverse.

And for 6s. received for skins of sheep and lambs with wool, sold in gross, see reverse.

And for 8s. for pea straw sold to John Cabbull this year.

And for 26s. 9d. received from divers men for divers beasts pastured both in the Great meadow and Northfield this year as appears in a schedule to this account where the names of those pasturing, with the meadow of each one, is given in the said schedule.

Total 119s.

*Sale of Works*

And for 3s. received for the works of Henry Cok, sold this year.

Total 3s.

---

common, but were unknown in England before 1191, see Bennett and Elton, *History of Corn Milling*. 1899, Vol. II. p. 235 ; the first section of this volume is devoted to Water Mills.

<sup>5</sup> One of the greatest grievances of the medieval peasantry. See Coulton *Medieval Village* 77-8, 556.

<sup>6</sup> In the account 44-45 Ed. III. we see that 59 skins produced 5½ stone 3 lbs. and sold at 32s. 6d. (altered from 28s. 6d. & 5/3d., the stone). In the year before this account 171 skins sell at 4 pence each, and the produce this year is 168 fleeces.

*Sale of Corn*<sup>7</sup>

And for 2d. received for 2 pecks of wheat sold		see reverse
And for 4½d. do. 1 bushel 2 pecks of peas sold		
And for 8s. 11d. do., 3 qrs, 2 bus, 3 pks of barley sold at 2s. 8d. per qr.		

(Note. This should cast 9/5½). Total 8s. 5½d.

*Sale of Malt*

And for 38s. 4d. received for 10 qrs of malt sold to John Wynkworth at 3s. 10d. per qr.		see reverse
And for 43s. 6½d. received for 11 qrs. 7 bus. Of malt sold at 3s. 8d. per qr.		

Total £4 1s. 10½

*Sale of Stock*

And for 11s. 6d. received for 1 horse useless for the lord's stock sold to William Cownwyne		see reverse
And for 44s. do. 3 bullocks do. do. sold to John Ostiler and Henry Walder		
And for 7s. received for 1 bull do. do. sold to the said John Ostiler		
And for 20s. 4d. received for 3 cows do. do. sold to Richard Lamas and Walter Braban		
And for 9s. 2d. received for 5 calves do. do. sold to the said John Ostiler and William Botiler		
And for 7s. received for 28 capons sold at 3d. each. <sup>8</sup>		
And for 15d. do 10 cocks sold. And for 17½d. do. 10 hens sold at 1½ each		

Total 101s. 8½.

<sup>7</sup> By this date, and probably from the beginning of the century, measures were fixed—Quarter, Bushel, Peck. Previously we have local variations—the Mett, Seam, etc.

<sup>8</sup> The castration of chicken was general and almost every account mentions this effort to secure delicacies.

*Sale of Pasturage*<sup>9</sup>

For pasturage in the Breche and Shepcotesgarden nothing this year because the lord's sheep were pastured here.

For pasturage in Writle nothing this year because the lord's oxen were pastured here.

For pasturage of Growelond nothing because sown this year with corn for the lord's use.

And for 16d. received for pasturage of Rederwike sold to Walter Braban this year.

And for 2s. 6d. received for pasturage of the Cloos sold to Henry Janne this year.

For pasturage of Writelese nothing this year because the lord's oxen were pastured here.

For the pasturage of Bradmede, Neyt, and the Orchard nothing because the lord's cows were pastured here.

*Sale of Herbage*<sup>10</sup>

And for 3s. received for part of the herbage of Southmede sold to William Stevens this year.

And for 16s. received for the herbage of Northwelleslade sold to Henry Walder this year.

And for 13s. 4d. received for the herbage of Thremerslade sold to the foresaid Henry this year.

Total 32s. 4d.

*Sale of Hay*

From sale of hay nothing this year. Total nothing.

*Perquisite of Views*<sup>11</sup>

And for 36s. 6d. received from the views (of Frank-pledge) together with the Court held at Eton on the Monday before the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>9</sup> This manor was evidently in the transitional stage. We have pointed out that a demesne of 174 acres was under cultivation, but these closes (hence "inclosure") show the move towards sheep farming and the resulting dwarfing of the arable.

<sup>10</sup> Heather or heath and corresponding to turbaries in other parts. Turves and heath were in demand for heating, as were faggots and astell (chips).

<sup>11</sup> A View of Frankpledge corresponds to a Court Leet or presentment of offences against the peace.

<sup>12</sup> One notices the dating by Feast Days. Such days were a blessing to the tenancy. Thus, a villein's ordinary and boon works were always stated to fall on certain days (say Tuesday

172 RECORDS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

And for 54s received from views, with Court held there on the Monday next after the Feast of St. John before the Latin Gate.

And for 5s. 7d. from the Court held there on the Monday next after the Feast of St. Peter in Chains.

And for 27s. 6d. received from the views, with the Court held at Fenny Stratford on the Thursday next before the Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist.

And for 31s. 6d. received from views with the Court held there on the Tuesday after the Feast of St. John before the Latin Gate.

And for 23d. received from the Court held there on the Monday next after the Feast of St. Peter in Chains.<sup>13</sup>

Total £7 17s. 0d.

*Sales beyond above Accounts*

And for 52s. 5¾d. received for various things sold beyond above account Total 52s. 5¾d.

Sum Total received with arrears £32 11s. 6¼d. <sup>14</sup>

*Costs of Plough* <sup>15</sup>

In account with John Plouwrit hired to make four new ploughs from the lord's wood, by the task 16d.<sup>16</sup>

And for cutting out the same 8d.

---

and Friday). If in the course of the year 15 feasts fell on those days, the villein would be excused labours to that extent.

<sup>13</sup> For description of the conduct of a court and the cases most common, there is a popular and accurate account which is written for school acting—*Representation of A Court Leet and Court Baron*, C. E. Snowdon (Sumfield, Eastbourne).

<sup>14</sup> This account omits for some reason the "firma mercate." It says in the account of 44-45 Ed. 3, "7/- received as in the previous year from the profit (proficuo) of tolls in the market." This opens up quite an interesting side light at Eaton. The stalls would probably be in and around the church-yard and along the thoroughfare. The stalls of similar nature were grouped together and would include some or all of the following—Meat, fish, wool, spices, iron, leather, drapery, gloves, and, at times, the "forum calepodiorum" or hot pudding market.

<sup>15</sup> Generally 8 oxen to the team. They were smaller beasts and apparently short horned. The tenants yoked their beasts together in common team—hence the meaning of co-aration. This is seen below, 36 men coming with 18 of their own ploughs and 42 with 21 carts. Consequently we assume the draft-beasts were of the lord.

<sup>16</sup> "Ad tascam"—as opposed to day labour "per diem." The iron was bought in strips and at this date was mostly imported—bundles of Osemund, Gudemer, etc.

FOURTEENTH CENTURY FARM ACCOUNTS 173

- And for strengthening the same four ploughs at different times 4d.  
 And to the same John Plouwrit hired for five days shaping timber taking by the task 4d. per day 20d.  
 And for iron bought for the ironwork of two ploughs to keep them in good repair for the year, together with the wages of the smith making and repairing the same ironwork with the foresaid iron this year 17s. 2d.  
 And for two feet of iron bought 8d<sup>17</sup>  
 And for shoeing twelve oxen, 6 on all feet, and 6 on forefeet 3s. 2d.

(Note : This should cast 25/-) Total 23s. 8d.

*Cost of Carts*

- In purchase of two pairs of wheels at Aylesbury to-gether with expenses (incurred) there in purchasing them 8s. 2d.  
 And to the said John Plouwrit hired to make four carts with the lord's materials 8d.  
 And to the same John hired for five days shaping timber for two carts and sawing other wood, taking by the task 4d per day 20d.  
 And to the same John Plouwrit hired for four days to make one new manure cart<sup>18</sup> of part of the said wood taking by the task 4d. per day 16d.  
 And to William Beawings carpenter hired for four days to make one other cart of the said timber taking by the task as above 16d.  
 And for two collars bought 22d.  
 And for sixteen clout-nails bought 2s.  
 And for six large clout-nails bought 12d.  
 And for 3 hundred clout-nails bought 9d.  
 And for 1½ hides of white leather bought this year 22d.

<sup>17</sup> The Iron Work consisted of the share and iron tips protect-ing the wooden frame.

<sup>18</sup> Manure, it must be remembered, was beyond value Apart from a few localities—as Devon, where fish and sand were used— manure is always either animal dung or ditch scourings. The *fald soc* was jealously guarded.

174 RECORDS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

And for red leather bought for traces, back-ropes and mending other harness	16d.
And to John Wyot hired for two days to alter and repair the said harness with the foresaid leather taking by the day as above	8d.
And for pakthred bought	2d.
And for grease bought to grease the cart	11d.
And for whippecord bought	1d.
And for two pairs of buckles bought and put on	6d.
And for six yards of flannel bought to line the collars and repair the saddles, at 5d. the yard	2s. 6d.
	Total 36s. 9d.

All this year provisions of the lord carried to Sterisbrugge and Shirland.

*Shoeing Horses*

For shoeing 4 horses on all feet for the year, for shoeing each 18d.	6s.
And for 2 other horses shod on all feet from Easter to Michaelmas	18d.
And for shoeing the horses of Sir John Grey, the lord's son, previous to his setting out for Acquitain <sup>19</sup> together with shoeing the horses of Henry Lyle, Robert Chamberlen, William Botyler and John Mey, and other valets of the lord working on his business and living here at times this year as testified by John Mey	3s. 8d.
	Total 11s. 2d.

*Costs of Upkeep*

For 1½ bushels of salt for the potage of the servants and other workers, bought this year	15d.
And to the castrator hired to castrate calves, lambs, and little pigs this year	14d.
And for beer bought and given to the workers stacking peas into granary	2d.

<sup>19</sup> On the death of Ed. III., apart from Calais and Ponthieu, there remained to England only the coast strip of the S.W. of France containing Bordeaux and Bayonne. No outstanding events occur until the resumption of war in 1415. Consequently Sir John was probably off as one of the garrison there.

FOURTEENTH CENTURY FARM ACCOUNTS 175

And for two open barrows bought	4d
And for a piece of iron for one barrow bought	2½d
And for two manure forks bought	16d
And for two other forks for lifting sheaves, bought	8d
And for baskets made of twigs bought	16d
And for one scuttle bought	3d
And in gifts to nine servants of the Manor at Christmas day namely to each of them 2½d.	22½d
And for candles <sup>20</sup> for the Foreman, Reeve, and the said nine servants at the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Mary, at ½d. each	5½d
And in gifts to the same at Easter, to each as above	5½d
And to one woman hired to make 24 qrs of malt, as shown above, at the rate of 2½d. for 3 qrs	20d
And for parchment for the rolls of the View and Court held here and at Stratford this year, and to write up this account	12d
And for one pail bought	3d
And cheese bought for the expenses of 50 men coming for two lovebenes (or loveboons) working for two days about the hedge of the coppice, the bread and meat being taken from stock	15d
And for six ells of linen bought for two table cloths made for various repasts of the workers on the manor this year	2s
And to Robert Rede hired for four days to carry dung with the lord's cart, taking by the task 4d. per day	16d
	Total 17s.

*Costs of the Buildings*

To Henry Phillips thatcher hired for 34 days  
to thatch the whole of the dovecote, the  
whole east part of the cowshed, and the

---

<sup>20</sup> It was the custom for the lord of a manor, or the head of a religious corporation, to provide the "collection money" for candles to be placed before the altars. It appears that the ser-vants did not handle this but that it was paid over in lump sum to the Sacrist or Church Official responsible.

south part of the reeve's chamber and dairy, as well as repairing sundry defects in the gentleman's chamber, yeoman's cham- ber, great barn, hay barn, kiln house, and cart house by the task at 4d. per day <sup>21</sup>	11s. 4d.
And to John Thomas waiting on the said Henry for eight days, taking by the task 3½d. per day	2s. 4d.
And to Robert Rede waiting on the said Henry for eight days taking by the task 3½d. per day	2s. 4d.
And to one woman hired for 21 days carrying straw for the above work taking by the task 2½d. per day	4s. 4½d.
Total 20s. 4½d.	

*Costs of the Mill*

To John Jakeman carpenter hired for 14 days and John Janne hired for 11 days, and to William Beawings and Robert Pye, car- penters, hired at the same time for 3 days, to make one new mill wheel, with water gate and the . . . . .of the same, as are made in woodwork each taking by the task 4d. per day	10s, 4d.
And for 500 large spikyngs <sup>22</sup> bought for above work at 6d. per 100	2s. 6d.
And to John Deye hired for fourteen days and John Thomes hired for twelve days to cover, fill and strengthen sundry breakages about the said mill each taking by the task as above	8s. 8d.
And for 12 men performing their lovebenes filling and strengthening flint work round the said mill, and in bread bought to feed them	1½d.

<sup>21</sup> In addition to the buildings mentioned here we have in the roll of 1393-4 the " Howndhous " and " le logge (house)."

<sup>22</sup> Nails are mostly bought by number. Of kinds we meet there are " middelspykyng, " " grospsykyng," " splentnayl," " Tyngel-nayl, " etc., thus " xj C middelspykyng ij s ix d." It is interest- ing to note that rent was paid in nails—see p. 168 John at the Hall.

FOURTEENTH CENTURY FARM ACCOUNTS 177

And for 3 flagons <sup>23</sup> of beer bought 3d.  
 And for cheese bought 3d.  
 Total 23s. 1½d.

*Purchase of Grain*

For 1 qr. 2 bus. of peas bought for seed, see  
 reverse 2s. 6d.  
 For 2 qrs of oats bought at 3d. per bus, see reverse 4s.  
 Total 6s. 6d.

*Purchase of Stock*

For stock bought nothing.

*Thrashing and Winnowing*

To John Freynsheman, thrasher, hired to  
 thrash 17 qrs. of wheat 28 qrs 1 bus 1 pk  
 of peas and 74 qrs 2 bus of barley (see  
 reverse), which amounts to 119 qrs 3 bus  
 1 pk. taking for each quarter 3d. 29s. 10d.  
 And to one woman hired to winnow 66 qrs  
 6 bus of various kinds of grain (see re-  
 verse) taking 1d for each 3 qrs. 22¼d.  
 Total 31s. 8¾d.

*Hoeing Corn*

To Nicholas Cabbul hired to hoe the Wouolves-  
 forlong which is 28 acres, as shown in an  
 account made in gross by John Mey 16d.  
 For the remainder nothing as done by the  
 works of the customary tenants Total 16d.

*Costs of Sheep*

For 1½ gallons of tar bought to keep the sheep  
 in good health 12d.  
 For 1 gallon 2 pottles <sup>24</sup> of grease bought to put  
 with the above 10d.  
 For the expense of divers men and women  
 washing and shearing the lords sheep, which  
 this year numbered 166, taking in cash all  
 things included 3s. 8d.  
 Total 5s. 6d.

<sup>23</sup> Said to be quart. Here a much bigger measure—probably nearer a gallon.

<sup>24</sup> How is this to be explained? Pottle = 2 Qts. and so 2 Pottles = 1 Gall. It is evident that the Pottle was a smaller measure. This mixture was for foot rot.

*Costs of Pastures*

To four mowers hired for two days mowing in Bradmede Holme and the More, beside the works of the customars, each at 8d. per day	5s. 4d.
And to two mowers hired to mow in Gretemede for 1 day beside the works of the said customers each as above, by the task	16d.
And given to the same customars mowing in Gretemede according to custom called Medshipp	18d.
And to Robert Rede and Thomas Hankyn hired to mow the second crop in the Holme for one day each as above, per day, by the task	16d.
And in expenses of making the said hay of the said fields both at first and second crops, spreading it about and stacking it up, besides the works of the customars, and help of the servants of the manor	2s. 11d.
And given to the above servants of the manor this year for assiduous work at the hay-making	7d.
And to Thomas Berbar Thomas Colyn John Thomas and John Dey hired for one day pitching the hay into carts and throwing it into the barn this year, each taking by the task 4d. per day	16d.
	Total 14s. 4d.

*Autumn Expenses*

For seven pairs of sickles bought at harvest for servants of the manor	11d.
And to Thomas Hankyn in gross by the task cutting and stacking all the lord's barley as is shown by an account of John Mey, besides wheat and malt	48s. 8d.
And to 118 workers hired for one day to bind and stook the remainder of the lord's grain besides the works of the customars <sup>25</sup>	

<sup>25</sup> Those working according to the prescribed regulations governing the manor. Such obligations were entered in the Custumal.

and the servants of the manor <sup>26</sup> and the lovebenes performed as appears by a schedule attached to this account each taking by the task 4d per day	
And for beer brought for expense of 42 men coming with 21 of their own carts for one day to carry the lord's peas together with the expense of 8 men throwing up the said peas for the said day	21d.
And for cheese bought for the same	9d.
And for bread bought for the expense of 28 men coming for lovebenes reaping wheat for ½ day	4d.
And for beer brought for the same	9½d.
And for cheese bought	6d.
And in rewards to the servants of the manor on several occasions this year during harvest as vails to encourage them to work better and more diligently	2s.
	Total £4: 15s. 0½d.

*Outgoings of the Reeve<sup>27</sup> and Wages and Rewards to Servants*

By outgoings of Henry Heryot, calculated for his board at the rate of 7d. each week for the year	30s. 4d.
For wages to the servants of the manor nothing, because each of them had the crop of an acre of the lord's grain as is set out above.	
And in reward given to Nicholas Peg on behalf of the lord this year	3s. 4d.

<sup>26</sup> The "famuli" were servants who had no land and were resident within the courtyard of the Hall.

<sup>27</sup> Heryot was elected from the tenantry to perform the obligations of reeve. It was a full-time job and the whole 52 weeks are here accounted for. Frequently the expenses associated with the time of harvest are transferred to "Autumn" expenses, and the payment here would have been for, say, 48 or 46 weeks. But this harvest was very quickly carried through by the introduction of hired labour and so the "lords table" does not appear in these accounts.

And in reward given to Thomas Carter on behalf of the lord this year 12d.  
 And in payment of the clerk for making and writing this account, 6s. 8d.<sup>28</sup>

Total 34s. 8d.

*Fees of the Steward with his expenses*<sup>29</sup>

To the fee of John Broughton, steward, for the year 40s.  
 And for his expenses coming here for the Views and Courts held here and at Stratford this year as is testified by John Mey, in addition to the feed of his horses 11s.6½d.

Total 51s. 6½

*Expenses of Audit, etc.*

In expenses of John Penyfadir auditor, and John Mey and others living here for eight days to audit and decide upon the Reeve's accounts, and also to collect accounts, draw up and determine rents for the 17th year, and to make a new rental for the month of March in the 18th year, all shown in the cash account together with feeding their horses, as by one bill sealed and exhibited with this account 11s.

Total 11s.

*Expenses of Attendants*

For expenses of John Mey, William Botiler and Robert Chamberleyn and other attendants of the lord living here and riding to Shirland and to other manors of the lord on several occasions this year, on his busi-

<sup>28</sup> Accounts were drawn up by a peripatetic scribe from information supplied by reeve or bailiff. He gets his fee and board and lodging during the time. The new rental (below) was the result of the farming of land. Otherwise a copy of a custumal would have been all needed. This entry was crossed out and not included in the cast.

<sup>29</sup> The Steward (seneschal) superintended all the manors of the lord and was at the charge of each manor. In addition, his "feodum" was met jointly by the manors, an amount probably proportionate to size.

ness, together with shoeing and feeding  
 their horses, all shown in cash account as  
 testified by the said John Mey 15s 8½d  
 Total 15s. 8½

*Outside Payments*

Paid to the Count of Stafford for a certain fine  
 of one acre of pasture in the meadows of  
 Collebickhull near and formerly belonging  
 to the Rectory of Bleycheley and recently  
 acquired by the lord 2s.  
 Total 2s.

*Cash Payments*

In payment to the lord's Cofferer for sale of  
 malt by a tally against John Mey 71s. 4d.  
 And in payment to the lord's Cofferer<sup>30</sup> at  
 another time for the sale of one bull and  
 two cows sold as against another tally 20s. 4d.  
 And in payment to the lord's Cofferer for wool  
 sold, as by another tally against John Mey 73s. 4d.  
 Total £8 5 0

NOTE. The following summary is spoilt by damp, but  
 appears to read as follows:—

		£	s.	d.
Total of all expenses and cash paid (to cofferer)	27	16	4	¾
	£	s.	d.	£
So the Reeve owes the lord	4	15	1	½
Owing since for flesh of a sheep killed which did not appear as owing in above account	1	2		
				£4 16 3½
So there is now owing to the lord				£4 16 3½

\*Since charged to this account  
 from the profit made on the  
 skins and flesh of the ten sheep  
 killed by the dogs of William  
 Woketon and valued by the  
 Reeve and shepherd at 13s. 9d. 6 6

---

<sup>30</sup> i.e., Treasurer.

£ s. d.

*And so he sold those sheep that are counted above, wherefore he reckons that he owes the aforesaid 6/6 to that man, and he owes to the same man from the price of the sheep which were valued quite fairly as the account above has been ex- amined by the auditor	2 3
(. . . . . is another item certified by the auditor, but is not readable)	2 2 11¾
. . . . . (words unreadable)	----- 2 11 8¾
So there is owing to the lord	<u>2 4 6¾</u>
*To William Woketon for sheep killed by his dogs	5
So Henry Heryot accounts for	<u>1 19 6¾</u>

*Note.—It will be, seen that the three items starred make up the 13/9 at which Woketon's sheep were valued.*

## REVERSE OF ROLL

*Eton Farm*

Account of Henry Heryot, reeve, ending at the Feast of St. Michael in the 19<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of Richard II.  
Output of the barn made there.

*Wheat*

The same (Henry Heryot) answers for 17 qrs. re-ceived as part of the output of the barn, in addition to the crop of 5 acres of the servants in the field, allowed to them as part wages, thrashed and winnowed by the task, and by the works of the customars, as a moiety, straked measure at 8 bus per qr to each as shown by a tally of John Freynsheman, thrasher, and a counter-tally. And for 4 bus 1 peck received from their tail-corn.

And for 10 qrs. received from the whole residue of the output, by estimation<sup>31</sup> in the sheaves.

<sup>31</sup> It appears that corn was put in the barns sacked and un-sacked. Then an " Estimation " was made, and later in the year, and probably as the result of actual measure as the corn was taken away, revised totals were added. This is shown below.

And for 3 bus. received as rent from 4 customars, at the rate of 3 pecks each for the year.

And for 2 qrs. 6 bus. 3 pecks received from . . . . .  
 . . . . .

Total 30 qrs. 6 bus.

From which in seed on 58 acres, by estimation, as shown by a tally of Nicholas Pegs, seeder, at the rate of 2 bus. per acre, 14 qrs. 4 bus.

And given to the servants of the manor to sow for their own food 1 bus.

And in mixture as allowance to the servants (see also peas, barley, and tail-corn accounts below) 1 qr 1pk.

And in allowance to Richard at the Diche and John Dumberdale by the lord's charity (see also barley account below) at 3 bus. each, 6 bus.

And in bread baked to feed 50 men coming for two lovebenes for two days and new making the coppice hedge. 5 bus.<sup>32</sup>

And in bread baked to feed 36 men coming with 18 of their own ploughs, to plough and sow the lord's land, 1 bus 2 pecks.

And in bread baked to feed 42 men coming with 21 of their own carts for one day to carry the lord's peas, together with the reward to servants of the manor for their help on many occasions at harvest time 3 bus.

And in sales as (shown on other side of a/c) below. 2 pecks.

And in sales beyond accounts 3 qrs 3 pecks.

Total 20 qrs 6 bus.

And there remains in sheaves 10 qrs by estimation. *Peas*

And for 14 qrs. 1 bus. received from the remainder of the thrashing- in the Rectory of Blegcheleye, esti-mated in the sheaves in the preceding year at 20 qrs., thrashed, winnowed and measured as shown by a tally<sup>33</sup> and counter-tally of the aforesaid John.

<sup>32</sup> 1 qr. made 120 two-pound loaves. Therefore 5 bus. Would make 75 loaves, or 1½ for each man.

<sup>33</sup> A stick notched to various depths to represent £100, £10, £1, 1/-. This was split, each party to the transaction retaining one half.

And for 3 bus 2 pecks received from the tail corn of the same.

And for 8 qrs received from the remainder of the thrashing in the Manor as estimated the preceding year, and not then thrashed.

And for 14 qrs 1 peck received as part of the out-put this year thrashed and winnowed by the task and by the works of the customars as a moiety, straked measure as above.

And for 3 bus 2 pecks from the tail-corn of the same.

And the remainder of the output expended in feed-ing the lord's sheep while wintering, which in all amounted to 3 qrs by estimation.

And for 1 qr 2 bus received by purchase (see inside).

And for 1 peck from the tail-corn of the same.

And for 1 qr 2 bus 1 peck received . . . . as seed and no more this year because it is a common defect of this corn.

Total 42 qrs. 4 bus 3 pecks.

From which in seed for 39 acres estimated as seeded by a tally against the said Nicholas Pegs, seeder, 14 qrs 4 bus, at 3 bus per acre being on the whole 1 bus less.

And in mixture as allowance to the servants (see also wheat account above, and barley, toll-corn, and allowance accounts below) 11 qrs 2 bus 1 peck.

And in bread baked to feed two hare-hunters<sup>34</sup> living here for eight weeks this year 2 bus.

And as provender for cart horses this year as shown by a tally against Thomas Carter 1 qr.

And as provender for the Steward's horse when holding Courts here and at Stratford this year 1 bus 3 pecks.

And in provender for the private servants of the lord coming here on several occasions this year on the lord's business as appears by account examined 1 qr 1 bus.

---

<sup>34</sup> The 2 Hare hunters, here for 8 weeks, may have brought their own dogs or may have used the lord's dogs. Anyhow it explains the "Howndhous."



And in feeding- boars, sows, pigs, and little pigs in the fields this year, as shown by a tally against Henry Coks swineherd 1 qr 6 bus.

And in sales as below 1 bus 2 pecks.

And to sheep while wintering, by estimation as shown above 13 qrs.

And in sales beyond accounts 1 qr. 2 bus. 1 peck.

Total 33 qrs 2 bus 2 pecks.

And there remain in sheaves 8 qrs by estimation.

### *Barley*

And for 81 qrs 4 bus received for the whole produce of the farm thrashed and winnowed by the task as above, and by the works of the customars and by the aforesaid measure, as shown by a tally against a counter-tally of the aforesaid John.

And for 2 qrs 3 bus. 3 pecks from the tail-corn of the same.

Total 83 qrs 7 bus 3 pecks.

From which in seed over 74 acres, by estimation seeded, as shown by a tally against the aforesaid Nicholas Pegs seeder, 36 qrs 7 bus, which is at the rate of 4 bus per acre less one bushel on the whole.

And in mixture as allowance to the servants (see also Wheat and Pea accounts above and tail-corn and allowance accounts below) 10 qrs.

And in charity to Richard at Diche and John Dumberdale by the lord's charity (see also Wheat account above) at 5 bus each 1 qr. 2 bus.

And in malt made (see Malt account below) 24 qrs. And in sale as below 3 qrs. 2 bus. 3 pecks.

And to advantage by heaped measure according to the custom of the market 3 pecks.

And in bread baked for two hare-hunters while living here 2 bus.

And in sales beyond accounts 8 qrs, 1 bus, 1 peck.

Total as above, and it balances.

### *Oats*

For Oats as produce this year nothing, as none were sown.

And for 7 bus 2 pecks received as rent from five customars at the rate of 1 bus 2 pecks each.

And for 2 qrs. received by purchase as below.

And for 2 pecks from tail-corn of the same.

Total 3 qrs.

And the whole made into oatmeal (see below).

Total as above and it balances.

*(Toll-corn) grinding at the Mill*

And for 21 qrs of toll-corn, straked measure, received from farm of the mill, And no more because it stood empty for six weeks this year.

Total 21 qrs.

And the whole made into mixture for allowance to the servants (see wheat, pea, and barley accounts above and allowance account below).

Total as above and it balances.

*Allowances for the Servants*

And for 1 qr 1 peck of wheat

11 qrs. 2 bus 1 peck of Peas

10 qrs. of Barley

21 qrs. of Toll corn

received as above for allowances to the servants

Total 43 qrs 2 bus 2 pecks

From which in allowance for the foreman, for the carter, four ploughmen; for the shepherd, for Deye, for the cowman, and the swine-herd for the year, each at the rate of 1 qr for 12 weeks 43 qrs 2 bus 2 pecks.

Total as above and it balances.

*Malt*

And for 24 qrs received (see Barley account above). And for 6 bus. received from increase of above when made, at the rate of 1 peck per qr.

Total 24 qrs 6 bus

From which in allowance to Thomas Hakan and Robert Rede when cutting all the lord's barley as shown in account made in gross by John Meye, charged partly to wheat account above and cash account below. 2 bus.

And in sales as below 21 qrs 7 bus at the rate of 9 bus per qr. And for the ninth bushel 2 qrs 5 bus.

Total as above and it balances.

*Oatmeal*

And for 6 bus 3 pecks of meal received (see Oat account above).

Total 6 bus 3 pecks.

And the whole made into potage for the servants at harvest time.

Total as above and it balances.

*Sown this year with*

Wheat 58 acres

Peas 39 acres

Barley 74 acres

Total acreage 171

*Stock Account*

*Cart-horses*

And for 4 horses remaining at last account.

And for 2 derived from the heriot of John Pynnok as recorded in the Court Roll of Eton.

Total 6.

From which one sold see inside.

Total 1 and there remain 5 cart-horses.

*Bullocks*

And for 15 bullocks remaining at last account.

And for 1 received as heriot from John Pynnok, (see Court Roll.)

Total 16.

From which one sold see inside.

Total 3, and there remain 13 bullocks.

*Bulls*

And for 1 bull remaining at last account.

And for 1 received see accounts

Total 2.

Sold 1 see inside and there remains 1 bull.

*Cows*

And for 11 cows remaining at last account.

And for 4 moved up from heifers see below.

And for 1 derived as heriot of John Meleward before calving as shown in Court Roll

Total 16.

From which 3 sold as inside because useless for breeding.

Total 3 and there remain 13 cows.

*Heifers*

And for 4 heifers remaining at last account.

And for 5 moved up from Stirks see below.

And for 1 received as heriot from John Pynnok as shown in Court Roll.

Total 10.

From which 4 admitted as cows. See above.

Total 4 and there remain 6 heifers.

*Stirks*

And for 5 stirks remaining at last account.

And for 6 moved up from yearlings, see below.

Total 11.

From which 5 admitted as heifers, see above.

Total 5, and there remain 6 stirks,

of which 3 are males.

*Yearlings*

And for 6 yearlings remaining at last account.

And for 7 moved up from calves, see below.

Total 13.

From which 6 admitted as stirks, see above.

Total 6, and there remain 7 yearlings,

of which 3 are males. *Calves*

And for 7 calves remaining at last account.

And for 19 as produce of cows and heifers, see above.

Total 26.

From which given in tithes 2.

Died as recorded in Court Boll, 4.

Killed to feed 50 men at two lovebenes for two days at the hedge-cutting, together with two pigs, see below, 2.

Admitted to yearlings, see above, 7.

Sold, see inside, 5.

Total 20.

And there remain 6 calves, of which 5 are males. *Raw*

*Hides*

And for 6 hides (of calves) killed and died, see above.

Total 6, shown inside as sold, so none remain.

*Rams*

And for 2 rams remaining at last account.

And for 1 moved up from tegs, see below.

Total 3.

Sold as shown on account 1. And there remain 2 Rams.

*Wethers*

And for 83 wethers remaining at last account.

And for 56 moved up from tegs, see below

Total 139.

From which died before shearing as shown in Court Roll, 6.

Killed to feed 28 men coming to love feast in autumn to bind and harvest the lord's corn, 1.

By sale see accounts, 6.

Total 13, and there remain 127 wethers.

*(Note. This should be 126.)*

*Ewes*

And for 3 ewes remaining at last account.

And for 38 moved up from tegs, see below.

Total 41.

Of which 2 died after lambing and before shearing as shown in Court Roll.

By sale see accounts, 3.

Total 5 and there remain 36 ewes. NOTE.—

*In the original roll the three items given below appear, but have been crossed out.*

Rams.	From which, killed by the dogs of William Woketon					
	before shearing					1
Wethers	do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	6
Ewes	do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	3

*It is evident that these sheep were replaced by W. Woketon, for the totals given in these classes balance properly, and in the summary of account, at the foot of the roll, it is shown that he received payment for the amount realised by the sheep that were killed.*

190 RECORDS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

*Tegs*

And for 95 tegs remaining at the last account.

And for 3 moved up from lambs, see below.

Total 98.

From which one admitted as ram, see above.

Admitted as wethers 56, see above.

Admitted as ewes 38, see above.

Total 95 and there remain 3 tegs.

*Lambs*

And for 3 lambs remaining at last account.

And for 41 as produce of the ewes above.

Total 44.

From which given in tithe 4.

Died as shown in Court Roll 2.

Total 6, and there remain 38 lambs.

*Fleeces*

And for 168 received at shearing time, see above.

Total 168.

From which, given in tithes, 16.

Shepherd's commission for year, 1.

By sale as below, 151.

Total as inside, and none remain.

*Sheep Skins with Wool*

And for 16 (skins in wool) from sheep died or killed, see above, and not more because two of those killed were sold with the flesh as appears below in account of the produce of the manor.

Total 16.

From which given in tithes. 1.

By sale, see inside, 15.

Total as above and none remain.

*Sheep Skins*

And for 1 from a wether killed, see above.

Total 1. Sold see inside, and none remain.

*Lamb Skins*

And for 2 from lambs died, see above.

Total 2. Sold see inside, and none remain.

*Boars*

And for 5 boars remaining at last account.

And for 1 moved up from porkers, see below.

Total 6.

From which 3 sent to Shirland for the lord's larder as shown by two tallies against J. Mey.

Total 3 and there remain 3 boars.

*Sows*

And for 3 sows remaining at last account.

Total 3 and there remain 3 sows. *Hogs*

And for 40 hogs remaining at last account.

And for 28 moved up from porkers, see below.

Total 68.

From which as shown in Court Roll 4 died.

And sent to Shirland for the lord's larder 40 as shown by two tallies against J. Mey. And killed to feed 50 men at two lovebenes for two days for the hedge-cutting, which was in part done with two calves, see above, 2.

Total 46 and there remain 22 Hogs.

*Porkers*

And for 12 porkers remaining at last account.

And for 41 moved up from stores, see below.

Total 53.

From which 11 died, as shown in Court Roll.

And 1 admitted as boar.

And 28 admitted as hogs.

Total 40 and there remain 13 Porkers.

*Store Pigs*

And for 45 store pigs the produce of the above sows.

Total 45.

From which 4 given in tithes

And 41 admitted as porkers, see above.

Total as above, and no store pigs remain.

*Geese*

And for 1 gander and 5 geese remaining at last account.

And no produce from the geese this year because let on hire for cash, see inside.

Total 6 and there remain 6, of which five are geese.

*Capons*

And for 12 capons received from Walter Mayne farmer of Hardmede.

And for 13 the produce of rent at Xmas, as appears in new rental.

And for 3 received as rent from John Taylor of Sulbery.

And for 2 received as fine from John Smyth.

And for 2 received as fine from John Hammond as shown by Court Roll.

Total 32 of which 28 sold, see inside.

And there now remain 4.

*Cocks and Hens*

And for 1 cock and 6 hens remaining at last account.

And no produce from them this year because let on hire for cash, see inside.

And 22 cocks and hens derived from customary rent at Xmas as appears by revised new rental of which 11 were cocks.

Total 29.

From which 1 cock and 1 hen allocated to the reeve as perquisite of his office.

Sold 20, see inside.

Total 22, and so there remain 7,

of which one is a cock.

*Young Chickens*

And no young chickens this year as produce of the hens as shown above.

Total nothing, and there remain none.

*Hens' Eggs.*

Of eggs as produce of the hens none this year, as shown above.

Total none, and none remain.

*Produce of Dovecote*

Of produce of the dovecote nothing this year because let on hire, see inside.

Total nothing, and nothing remains.

*Horse-shoe Nails*

And for 4 gross of horse-shoe nails derived from rent of John at the Halle de Hame near Dodere-chull.

Total 4 gross sold, see inside. And none remain.