

CHIPPING WYCOMB.

The following curious notice is from the Rotuli Hundredorum.—“Villata de Wycoumb—Dicunt quod Rogerus Maloysel Ballivus Wallingfordie cepit de Ada de Oxonia de Wycoumb unum par sotulariorum precii vj denariorum pro eo quod suo tempore non poneret eum in assisas. Item dicunt quod idem Rogerus, in ultimo itinere Justiciariorum apud Wycoumb maliciose extorsit de Agnete Bordwad vj marcas dum fuit in prisona in hospicio Symonis de Hibernia et recognovit etiam multis hominibus quod tradidit medietatem dicto Simoni.”

MEANING OF THE WORD CHIPPING.—This word, says Kennett, is from the Saxon, Ceap, which means goods, or vendible wares; whence Ceapan, is to buy or to cheapen. Hence a Chapman; a cheap price; and the names of several places of market or trade, as Cheapside in London, Chepstow in Wales, Cheping-Norton in Oxfordshire, Chipping Wycomb in Bucks, &c. Hence also to Chaffer, to Chop; and, in the North, to Swop, meaning to bargain, to change or exchange. And “Chop-Churches,” a term applied to those secular priests who drove a trade or made an advantage by exchanging of their benefices, a mercenary practice very common in the fourteenth century.

[W. H. K.]

* Magna Britannia.