

A Brief Account of the Fortunes of Bourne:
H Avray Tipping, *Country Life*, May 6 & 13 1922

Bishopsbourne originally held by Royal Grant to the monks of Christ Church Canterbury 'towards the support of their refectory'.

811 assigned to the Archbishop, but the manor was held by laymen.
1086 (Domesday) Held by **Godric de Burnes** whose family held until
conveyed by heiress to **Shelvington**, which family held it under early
Edwards (ca 1272-1377) until
conveyed by heiress to **Haut** of Petham whose younger son took Bourne
as eg **William Haut** of Hautbourne until

1545 title conveyed outright by Archbishop **Cranmer** to **Thomas Colepeper** of
Bedgebury who had married a **Haut** heiress.

1546 sold to **Anthony Aucher** of Otterden who was
1537 paymaster to Henry VIII's harbour works at Dover,
1545 Surveyor of victuals at Boulogne and in December of that year
made Master of the Jewels to Henry.

His elder son took Otterden as ancestral seat, younger son **Edward** took Bishopsbourne.
Edward's son **Sir Anthony Aucher** was Sheriff of Kent in 1615.

Sir Anthony's younger son John b 1619 eventually became Prebend of Canterbury 1660
(-ca1700)

His elder son **Anthony** (1614-1692) knighted 1641, MP for Canterbury 1660, created
Baronet 1666, both staunch royalists, m(1) 1625 daughter of Robert Hatton - she died
1648 in Calais; (2) 1681 **Elizabeth** daughter of Robert Hewytt. She was born 1652 and
built Bourne House 1701 onwards for her second son using ashlar materials from
Westenhanger Castle, and partially incorporating the old house.

Her elder son **Anthony** (second Baronet) 1685-1695)

Her second son **Hewitt** (ca 1686-1726) died unmarried.

Her elder daughter married **John Corbett LLD** whose eldest daughter (of five) Katherine
married **Stephen Beckingham**, who bought out all four co-heiresses and died 1756.

House remained property of Beckinghams until Mrs Beckingham 'an aged widow living
in Dover' died in 1844, but was for most of that time rented out, principally (ca 1770-
1802) to Horace Mann, until he was evicted for non-payment of rent.

NB Cricket match for £1000 Kent vs Surrey 1773 (Surrey won).

House then put out to tender: **Matthew Bell** bid £150 more than Marchioness
Conyngham (who did not like prospect of landed neighbours near Bifrons).

Bell was grandson of Matthew Bell of Kendal, and son of John Bell KC (1764-1836)

Matthew Bell (1817-1903) (~~21821~~) rented Oswalds until Bourne came on the market.

Moved to Bourne July 1845 but stayed at Oswalds while substantial alterations made,
including construction of the lake. Took up proper residence 1849. His son predeceased
him. Succeeded by grandson **Lt-Col Matthew Bell** married 1905 Hon Mary Dyke, maid
of honour to Queen Alexandra.

Bridge Hill Lodge 1857; Bourne Cottages 1865; Bishopsbourne Lodge 1875.

7/7/17 -
24/12/03

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Ownership of Bourne: based on 'Country Life', 1922

Bish'orne Grants to Priests of Christ Church, Canterbury 'towards support of their refectory'
811 assigned to Archbishop, but manor held by laymen

1086 Godric de Bures → heifers in Shelvington: 1272-1377 heifers in Haut of Petham. Younger son took Bourne hence William Haut of Hautsborne. →

Cranmer 1545 → Thomas Colepeper of Bedlesham

↓
sold to Anthony Aucher 1546

Anthony Aucher: 1537 paymaster to Henry VIII's harbour works at Dover & later works of the Trenches to Henry. (Dec 1545)

1545 Surveyor of victuals at Boulogne

Anthony's eldest son → Otelden (ancestral seat)
younger son Edward took Bourne

↓
Sir Anthony: Sheriff of Kent 1615

Royalists

Anthony b 1614 d 1692 knighted 1641 John b 1619 (contingent Prebend 1660-1700)

m 1625 d. of Robert Hatton: she died 1648 in Calais

MP for Canterbury 1660

Baronet 1666

1681 m Elizabeth d. of Robert Hewitt, b 1652

2nd Bar: Anthony b 1685 d 1695 ♀ ♀ Hewitt b ca 1686 d 1726

House Built 1701 → using parts of Westernbargate Castle, & partially incorporating previous house.

← m John Corbett LLD

↓
Katherine ♀
m Stephen Beddingham who bought out co-heiresses d 1756 in the house

↓
Stephen Beddingham (non-resident)

ca. 1770-1802 Rented by Horse Pans

1773 Cricchet Patch Kent vs Surrey for £1000

1802 Pans evicted for failure to pay rent

1807 back with Beddingham.

Matthew Bell of Kendal

↓
sold by Mrs B "an aged widow living in Dover" died 1844

John Bell KC 1764-1836

House put out to tender:

?1821 Matthew Bell ?1827-1903

Bell beat Lady Conyngham by £150

Rented Oswalds

↓
N. Bell moved in July 1845 → allegations incl. lake
Took up proper residence 1849

Bourne Lodge 1857
Bourne Cottis 1865
Bish'orne Lodge 1875

↓
son predeceased

Matthew Bell Lt-Col.

1905 m Hon. Mary Dyke, maid of honour to Queen Alexandra

[to 1922]