ther be also other thinges of sylver right honest and of gudde valewer, as well for the churche use as for the table, reservyd and kept to the kinges use. In thys churche we founde a chaple and monument curiously made of Cane stone, preparyd by the late mother of Raynolde Pole* for herre buriall, wiche we have causyd to be defacyd and all the armys and badgis clerly to be delete. The surveyng of the demaynys of thys howse, wiche be lardge and baryn, and som partt therof xx^{ti}. mylys from the monastery, wiche we also do survey and mesure, hathe causyd usse to mak longer abode at thys place then we intendyd. And now we be in jorney towardes Amysbery, wher we schall use like diligens for the accomplisshing of the kinges highnes commission, and as sone as we have don ther we schall farther certifie your lordeschippe of our doinges. And thus we beseke almyȝtie Jhesus longe to preserve your gudde lordeschippe with increse of moche honour. At Christchurche, ij^o Decembris.

Your lordschipes humbly to comand,

ROBT. SOWTHWELL.

EDWARD CARNE.

JHON LONDON.

RYCHARD POULET.

WILLIAM BERNERS.

It appears by the following that Dr. London had been to Coventry and Northampton, as he intimated his intention in a former letter. He is now returned to Oxford, where we found him at the beginning of his correspondence.

CXIV.

DR. LONDON TO CROMWELL.

[From MS. Cotton. Cleop. E. iv. fol. 208.]

In my most humble maner I have me commendyd unto your

* Cardinal Pole. His mother was severely persecuted by the crown.

gudd lordeschippe, with my assurede prayer and servys during my lyf, I have sent unto your gudde lordeschippe a power tokyn, beseking almyȝtie Godde most hartelye nott oonly to graunt unto yow thys new yere prosperose, butt many moo also, to the hyghe pleasure of Godde and the great comfortt of your lordeschipp and all your boundon oratours.* I have also sent with the same power tokyn the half-yere fee it pleasishe yow to accept of me and my power howse. Godde willing, I schall now with all diligens applie the execution of the commission I hadde of your lordeschippe in places wher as yet I have nott be. M. Williams, I trust, hathe certefied your lordeschippe what we have don at Ensham† and Notley, and at the Crowche Fryers at Newberye.‡ And with the farmers of Ensham I have don my best diligens for syr George Darcy,§ and do trust that we shall com to som gudde conclusion. Thys day the late abbott, they, and I shall mete agen for that purpos. Att Delapray besyde Northampton § I have taken thabbesse surrendre. Sche ys a gudde agydd woman, and lately hadde the kinges chartre for the contynuanee of herre howse; that notwithstanding, she willingly withowt any refusall renderyd unto the kinges majestie that chartre, wiche with herre and her sisters surrendre I have sent by thys berar, and acording to your commaundment have putt Small, M. Hennage kinsman, in possession of the same. And forasmoche as I founde that late abbesse

* On the old custom of giving new year's gifts (étrennes), still preserved in France, see Brand's Popular Antiquities, vol. i. pp. 5—11 (ed. 1841).

† The abbey of Ensham, or Eynsham, in Oxfordshire, was founded by Athelmer earl of Cornwall and Devonshire, at the beginning of the eleventh century. It was a rich house. The last prior was Anthony Dunstan, *alias* Kitchen, who was subsequently (in 1545) made bishop of Landaff.

‡ This was a small priory at Donnington, near Newbury, in Berkshire. See the Monasticon, vi. p. 1562. Henry White was the last prior.

§ Sir George Darcy was the elder brother of Sir Arthur Darcy, mentioned before, and was restored to his father's title of Lord Darcy in the 2nd Edw. VI.

|| Delapre (*De-la-pré*), a Cluniac nunnery in the parish of Hardingstone, founded in the reign of king Stephen by Simon de St. Liz, earl of Northampton.

so comformable, and the howse in so gudde state, considering dyvers grave chardges sche hathe be att, I dydde assigne unto herre for her comfortt in herre great age the fowrt partt of the schepe, viz. fyve score, a certen of every kynde of grayne, a certen of every sort of the catell, wherof I founde praty store, and lykewise of the stuff and implementes, beseking your lordeschippe to ratefie the same, and to be gudde lorde unto herre and to herre power sisters in ther pensions. I have also receyvide the unwise letters wryten by the monkes of the Chartre House in Coventrye.* Ther and at the priory I schall I trust accomplishe the kinges grace pleasur and yowers. And forasmoche as Colme ys so nye unto Coventry, and thabbott with all hys fryndes at your lordeschips commaundement, as I am pryvie of ther myndes, if it be your lordeschips pleasure I schall be gladde to goo thorow with that howse also. All the sortt of them do lok dulye for ther departing, and therfor they mak ther handes by leesyng, salys of wodde, and of ther plate. I suppose thys abbott will leve hys howse and landes lyk an honest man; wherfor, inasmoche the howse hathe many gudly commodities, wherof if any be lett (as in dede som be) and will easily com agen to your lordeschips hondes, I think it best your lordeschipp do tak itt while yt ys at the beste. I am so bolde to desyer M. Thacker to know your lordeschips pleasur in certen other thinges, wiche I schall duly accomplishe with the help of God, who with increse of moche honour long preserve your gudde lordeschippe. Oxon., xxviij. Decembris.

I have sent to your lordeschippe also a coote of idolytrie, with iij. frontlettes apperteynyng to the furnytüre of the same. I have dyvers other propre thinges, as two heddes of seynt Ursula, wiche bycause ther ys no maner of sylver abowt them, I reserve tyll I have another hedd of herse, wiche I schall fynd in my waye within thees xiiij. dayes, as I am creadably informyd.

Your most bounden oratour,

JOHAN LONDON.

* The monastery of St. Anne near Coventry, founded by William lord Zouch in 1381, for Carthusian monks.

In the following letter we find Dr. London still on his way to Coventry: it is supplementary to the preceeding.

CXV.

DR. LONDON TO SIR RICHARD RICH (?).

[From MS. Cotton. Cleop. E. iv. fol. 207*.]

Right worschipfull, in my most harty maner I have me commendyd unto yow, in lyk maner thankinge yow for your kynde paynys taken for me, wherby ye have bound me to ow yow the best servys I can do yow, and therof always ye schall be well assured. I besek yow to delyver unto my lord suche surrendors as I have sent uppe. The plate of Notley and Ensham M. Williams being in commission with me ther hath browzt uppe; and at the Crowche Fryers besyd Newbery wasse no more butt a power chalys. The londes be gudde xxij^{li}. by yere, butt the guddes all were nott worth the mynistre rewardyd vj^{li}.

At Delapray I hadde ij. chalyses and a pyxe, and the howse wasse prately storyd with catell and corn. Ye schall se me mak yow a praty bank by that tym I com next uppe. I pray yow know my lordes [will], and that I may be acertenyd of the same in thinges folowing.

Imprimis, my lord commandyd me to putt M. Lucy in possession of the Crowch Fryers howse in Thelsford,* and now he wrytithe that I schall putt M. Cheynye in possession of the same. If M. Lucy schall have Thelsford, then if my lord so will that I do go to Nuncotton or Stikkiswold nonryes † in Lincoln schyer, M. Cheyney may be servyd in som of them.

* The friary of Thelesford in Warwickshire was founded in the reign of king John. Edward Davy was the last prior.

† The Cistercian nunnery of Stykeswold, or Stixwold, in Lincolnshire, was founded by the widow of Ranulph first earl of Chester, in the reign of Stephen. It had been refunded after the act for the suppression of the smaller monasteries, under which it fell. The last prioress was Mary Missenden.