



given to the Poor by -- - Hunt, payable out of Mr. Witterong's Copyhold Lands, which he holds of the Church of Westminster.

Hic etiam quiescit corpus Eliz. uxoris ejus, que v. vita migravit. Jua. 17. 1666.

W H E T H A M S T E D,

IN London Diocese, and Dacorum Hundred, lies upon the River Lea, adjoining to Saundridge and Hatfield. In Domesday 'tis written Watamestede. It has been thought derived from Wheat, which is good and plentiful here: And was so reckoned in the Time of Henry VI. when the Abbot of St. Alban's wrote himself Joannes de loco Frumentario. But whether that Name of the Grain be so old as the Town, I shall not pretend to determine. If Wet will signify what it does now, it may be to distinguish it from the other Hampsteds on the Hill, the Berkamsteds; this lying low, whereas the chief Parts of them were on the Hill. Or it may be from Watling-Hamsted, as standing upon

that Street which Harden (anciently of this Parish) does. And we see frequently a Syllable dropt for Brevity, as Harden from Harpenden. This Manor was given by Edward the Confessor to the Monastery of St. Peter, Westminster, and so it is in the Record: Valued at sixteen Pounds per Ann. upon the Conquest, at thirty in the Confessor's Time. Upon an Inquisition in Edward I's Time, it was found to be ancient Demeine, and settled upon the Church as above mentioned, that it was worth 50 l. per Ann. Master John of Leicester, the Parson, claimed then the Privileges of the Manor; but the Dean and Chapter of Westminster enjoy them, and hold Court-Leet and Baron.

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