



North Wiltshire Muster Roll Anno 30 Henry VIII (Year 1539)

In Tudor times each village was responsible for maintaining the necessary arms to defend themselves - this was known as the furnishing of harness. Muster commissioners would inspect the harness (which would include long bows, bills, salets (helmets), brigandines (torso armour) and gorgets (neck and shoulder protectors) and ensure each individual was also assessed with his quota of the cost. The muster roll records who owned the arms, along with value of land (valor terr et tent) or value of goods (valor bonorum) held by the other residents of the village who were liable to provide financial support if necessary. (These values have not been transcribed in the Wiltshire Roll)

There were two main arms used in this period. The bill had a point at one end and a blade at the side, so had a dual purpose in battle, while the bow was a long bow used for archery.

The Hundred of Chippenham The Tithing of Bremhill



Surname	Given Name	Status	Notes
Baker	Richard		Archer
Barly	John		Billman
Bense	John		Archer
Brown	Robert		Archer
Buckelonde	Hugh		Billman
Busshell	Richard		Billman
Bygle	Richard		Billman
Bysshoppe	Thomas		Archer
Chessher	Edward		Billman
Davys	Morris		Billman
Fralyn	Henry		Billman
Harward	Thomas		Billman

Haynes	Thomas		Archer
Heth	Wyllyam		Archer
Jeffery	Mathew		Archer
Jeram	John		Billman
Marshall	John		Billman
Millar	John		Archer
Millar	John, Jnr.		Archer
Noble	Nicholas		Archer
Norborn	Humfrey		Archer
Norborn	John		Billman
Paraud	Robert		Archer
Prater	Robert, Jnr.		Archer
Rose	Nicholas		Archer
Stretton	Robert		Billman
Stretton	William		Billman
Sutton	Wyllyam		Archer
Tremnell	Thomas		Billman
Wallyssheman	Mathew		Billman
Woodeland	Anthony		Archer
Wyeman	Edward, Jnr.		Archer
Wyllyams	Nicholas		Archer
Wynlett	Thomas		Archer
Wysedom	Richard		Billman

The whole Tything hath yn a redynes I horse and iij harnes, with other small wepyns.

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