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HISTORY OF CHESHIRE.

VOL. II.

CONTAINING THE

HUNDREDS OF EDISBURY, WIRRAL, AND BROXTON.

O! thou thrice happy shire! confined so to be,
 'Twixt two so famous floods as Mersey is and Dee!
 Thy Dee upon the west from Wales doth thee divide;
 Thy Mersey on the north from the Lancastrian side,
 Thy natural sister shire—and link'd unto thee so,
 That Lancashire along with Cheshire still doth go.
 As towards the Derbian Peak, and Moreland (which do draw
 More mountainous and wild), the high-crown'd Shutlingslaw
 And Molcop be thy mounds, with these proud hills whence robe,
 The lovely sister brooks, the silvery Dane and Dobe!
 Clear Dobe that makes to Trent, the other to the west—
 But, in that famous town, most happy of the rest,
 (From which thou tak'st thy name) fair Chester, call'd of old
 Caerlegion, whilst proud Rome her conquests here did hold;
 Of those her legions known the faithful station then,
 So stoutly held to tack by those near North-Wales men.
 Yet by her own right name had rather called be,
 As her the Britons termed, the fortress upon Dee,
 Than vainly she would seem a miracle to stand,
 Th' imaginary work of some huge giant's hand.

DRAYTON'S POLYOLBION, SONG XI.

THE
HISTORY
OF THE
COUNTY PALATINE AND CITY
OF
Cheshire
C H E S T E R ;

COMPILED FROM
ORIGINAL EVIDENCES IN PUBLIC OFFICES,
THE
HARLEIAN AND COTTONIAN MSS., PAROCHIAL REGISTERS,
Private Muniments,

UNPUBLISHED MS. COLLECTIONS OF SUCCESSIVE CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIES,

AND

A PERSONAL SURVEY OF EVERY TOWNSHIP IN THE COUNTY;

INCORPORATED WITH A REPUBLICATION OF

King's Vale Royal,

AND

Leicester's Cheshire Antiquities.

BY

GEORGE ORMEROD, LL.D. F.R.S. & F.S.A.

“ EXIMIA NOBILITATIS ALTRIX; NEC ENIM ALIA EST IN ANGLIA PROVINCIA, QUÆ PLURES NOBILES
IN ACIEM EDUXERIT, ET PLURES EQUESTRES FAMILIAS NUMERARIT.”

CAMDEN.

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

London:

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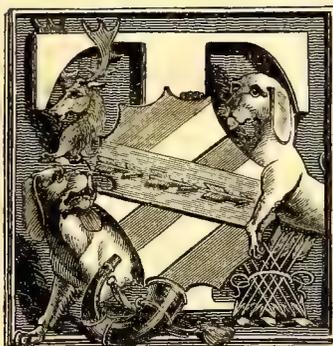
1819.

History of Cheshire.

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Hundred of Edisbury.

INTRODUCTION.



HE boundaries of the Hundred of Edisbury are defined, with one slight exception, by the courses of rivers. On the North, the estuary of the Mersey spreads the magnificent expanse of its waters between this district and the Lancashire shore; on the East and North East the Weever separates it from Northwich and Bucklow Hundreds; and the Gowy forms a similar line of division from the Hundred of Broxton on the South West. The southern angle alone is defined by an imaginary line commencing at the source of a small brook near Horseley Hill, and extending to the confluence of the Ashbrook and the Weever below Swanlow, in the township of Over; and a part even of this line is accompanied by one of the principal feeders of the early course of the Weever.

The space comprized in these limits contains the entire antient Hundreds of Roelau and Riseton; with the possible exception of the vills of Ulvre and Kenardeslie, now unknown, but noticed in Domesday.

Roelau, as appears from that Survey, stretched over the northern side, and is contained within the present Second Division of Edisbury: that division comprehending also those parts of Riseton Hundred, which form the parishes of Tarvin and Barrow.

Riseton, with the exception of these parishes, is comprized within the First Division of Edisbury, lying South and South West of the parish of Delamere; in which division are also contained Over, Oulton Lowe, Little Budworth, Rushton, and Alraham, formerly part of Dudestan Hundred; and Wever, surveyed under that of Mildestvic.

The vills of Edisbury and of Done (most probably Utkinton) are not attached to any Hundred in the Domesday Survey.

The present name of the Hundred is obviously derived from the Hill of Edisbury in its centre, the site of Ethelfeda's Fortress, and is of a pure Saxon etymology, signifying the town of Nobles.

On the South the features of this district are imperceptibly connected with the flat part of Cheshire, but assume a more interesting appearance as the surface

rises towards the open grounds of Delamere, exhibiting considerable inequalities and undulations, and broken by meres or pools of water. This open part ends abruptly in bold and rocky precipices to the North and West, forming a line parallel with the courses of the Mersey and the Gowy, with a fruitful valley at their feet, but slopes gently on the North East to the Weever, through a region rich and well wooded.

On the south west side of the country already described, the wild rocky line of hills which has been mentioned as ranging along the bank of the Mersey, breaks off abruptly at Manley, and sweeps with an irregular semicircle over the Hundreds of Edisbury and Broxton towards the Dee, with the exception of a tract of level country on the banks of that river, and a wide chasm near Tarporley, between the termination of the Forest Hills and the commencement of the Peckforton and Broxton ranges. These two openings, with the pass of Kelsal, and another pass of less importance near Larton, defended by a strong British fortress called Maiden Castle, formed the only antient avenues to the city of Chester, unless an approach was made by crossing the stream of the Dee or Mersey, an arm of which latter river appears to have separated from the main branch at Stanlaw, and to have proceeded down a deep valley, forming the boundary of Wirral Hundred, to a confluence with the estuary of the Dee below the walls of the city.

The first of these openings, situated on the bank of the Dee, afforded a passage for the road described in the second iter of Antonine, from Deva to Uriconium or Wroxeter, forming the communication between the great northern and southern British trackway distinguished by the name of Watling Street. The entire line of this road within Cheshire is contained within the Hundred of Broxton.

The line of another Roman road, which formed the communication between Colchester and Chester, through the counties of Cambridge, Leicester, and Stafford, passes through the second of these openings (that of Tarporley) most probably on the site of a more antient road, and has been recently traced under the rock of Beeston, converging to the same point, the city of Chester. In its progress through the Hundred of Edisbury several tumuli are raised on the high grounds in its neighbourhood. One of these is situated immediately to the left of the turnpike road leading from Ches-

ter to Tarporley at about half a mile distance from the latter place, and another to the right of the continuation of the same road within the township of Tiverton.

The third and last mentioned opening in the hills, the pass of Kelsal, was penetrated by the most important of these roads, the great northern British trackway, called the *Via Guethelinga* or Watling Street. It descended from the north east side of Scotland by *Reichchester*^a, *Corbridge*, *Ebchester*, *Lanchester*, *Binchester*, *Catteric*, *Newton*, *Masham*, *Ilkley*, *Halifax*, *Manchester*, and *Cross Street*, entering this Hundred at *Northwich*, and leaving it at *Stanford Bridge*, and proceeded by *Chester*, and from thence across the *Dee* to *Caerhun*, *Aber*, and *Holyhead*, the district opposed to the part of the *Irish coast* inhabited by the *Guethelingæ* or *Guathelingæ*, from whom it is supposed to have derived its name^b. The Roman road from *Manchester* to *Chester*, formed on the basis of this street, turns off to the left, before *Northwich*, to proceed by *King Street* to the station of *Condiate*, but rejoins the *Watling Street* in the centre of this Hundred, and proceeds with it by *Kelsal* and *Holme Street* to *Chester*. This later road has not been traced in any part of the gravelly surface of the forest, but was discovered (as mentioned by *Lord Brereton*, in a communication to the *Royal Society*;) about the year 1667, at the point where it crossed the *Weever*, near *Winsford*, in digging a salt-pit, at the depth of two yards. Several Roman coins were found both at this depth and at a greater one; and the skeleton of a stag was found at two miles distance from this place twenty-one feet below the surface, and ten feet and a half below the level of the river^c.

The *Watling Street* enters this Hundred in the township of *Castle Northwich*, at the confluence of the *Weever* and the *Dane*, at a point defended by earthworks of considerable strength, and of remote but unknown antiquity. They consist of two large mounts rising over the ascent called the *Hollow Way*. The lower one is irregular in its form, and of about fifty-one feet diameter in the broadest part of the summit. The upper mount is nearly circular, and is of ninety feet in diameter on the summit.

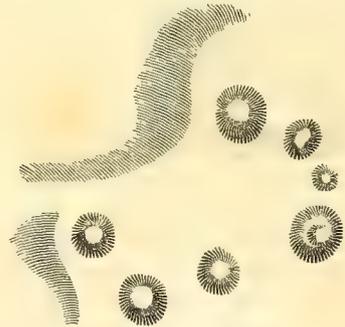
The mounts have a strong resemblance to the keep of a Norman fortress; but it does not appear that any strong hold was erected here by the barons of *Kinder-ton*, to whom the place was granted shortly after the *Conquest*: and the probability of the works being of a date so recent is further discountenanced by the deeds printed in the account of this township, of the time of *Richard the First*, in which it appears recognized merely as the site of a former fortress, "*terra Castellii de Norwico*," and to have been then possessed, for two generations, by an obscure family who derived their name from it, and who would not, in all probability, have been suffered to possess a fortified post in so important a situation.

The *Street* proceeds along the high ground for two miles, in a direction nearly parallel with the course of the *Weever*. Two considerable tumuli, in a perfect state, remain close to the banks of the river, at the point where it deserts this line, and assumes its north west course towards the estuary of the *Mersey*.

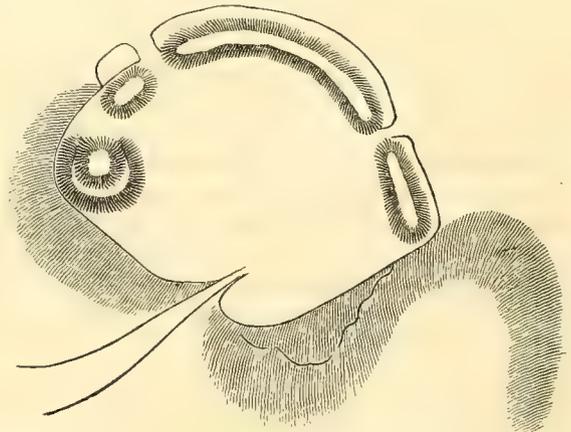
In a few miles the *Street* enters on the forest of *Delamere*, and in the point where the Roman road is sup-

posed to have united with it, passes under the *Hill of Edisbury*, crowned with the remains of the fortifications erected by *Ethelfleda* at the commencement of the tenth century. Before arriving at this point it leaves in the flat ground on the right a tumulus called *Gar-ruslow* by the country people, and two other tumuli at a greater distance and on very elevated ground, known by the names of *Castle Hill Cob*, and the *Glead Hill Cob*^d, the former sixty-six, and the latter ninety-nine feet in diameter at the base. The tumulus called *Castle Hill Cob* has been opened, and was found to contain nothing but a quantity of black soil, which might be supposed to be either animal matter, or produced by the effects of fire. At this point the *Street* is diverted considerably to the left, to avoid ascending the *Hill of Edisbury*; and the present line of road is still further diverted in the same direction.

A mile South East of the foot of the *Hill*, at the lower end of a small natural lake called *Fish Pool*, are the tumuli known by the name of the *Seven Lows*, undoubtedly the "*vii Loos*"^e alluded to by *Leland* as the works of "*men of warre*," and much spoken of in his time. They are ranged in a form nearly semicircular, and are of different sizes, varying in diameter at the base from 105 to 40 feet^f. One has been removed in the recent alterations on the forest, and another was opened at a former period, both of which were composed of the dry gravelly soil of the forest, and contained a black matter similar to that which appeared on opening *Castle Hill Cob*.



About two miles from this place, the road descends into the vale of *Chester* by the pass of *Kelsal Hill*, and leaves, at the distance of about a quarter of a mile to the right, a strong British camp, formed for the protection of the pass, and the last vestige of antiquity which marks the line of road in its progress to *Chester*.



To this camp tradition has assigned the name of *Kellsborrow*. It is distant, as before-mentioned, about

^a MSS. communications by the Rev. W. Leman.

^c Birch's History of the Royal Society, vol. ii. p. 185.

^e Leland, vol. v. fol. 82.

^f Beginning at the highest tumulus in the annexed plan, and following the semicircle, the tumuli measure in diameter at the base 105; 45½; 40; 105; 66; 68 feet: the seventh has been carried away to form a road. The plans of these tumuli and the following earth works have been reduced from the great map of the forest by permission of the commissioners.

^b Hoare's *Giraldus Cambrensis*.

^d *Glead* is a provincial term for a large kind of hawk.

a quarter of a mile South from the village of Kelsal, and situated on the edge of the precipices which bound the forest towards the vale of Chester, by which it is defended on the southern and western sides. The northern and eastern sides are level with the adjacent plain, and are defended by a rampart fourteen yards thick at the base, and a ditch about eight yards wide. Through these works are two openings, for entrances, to the East and North. The line described by these works is nearly semicircular; they stretch from precipice to precipice, and include precisely the space of nine statute acres. The camp measures about 300 yards in diameter at its greatest length and breadth, and was concealed from an enemy advancing over the forest towards Chester, by superior elevations.

The claim of the Britons to the erection of this fortress is strengthened by the discovery of a brass celt, found within the inclosure in the year 1810, and now in the possession of Mr. Barrit, of Manchester. It measures six inches in length, and weighs 1lb. 3½oz.

At the same time a fragment of an iron sword was discovered, which makes it probable that the works were the scene of warlike contention, at a period which must be left to conjecture, but may, with the greatest probability, be referred to the irruption of Ethelfrid, at the commencement of the seventh century, or the reduction of this district by Egbert in 830. The small slip of land between the northern termination of the

would then be the waters of that woods, which each circumstances on the North, to high ground of

side in assigning i; but it is most the causes of the, and that those lower part of the

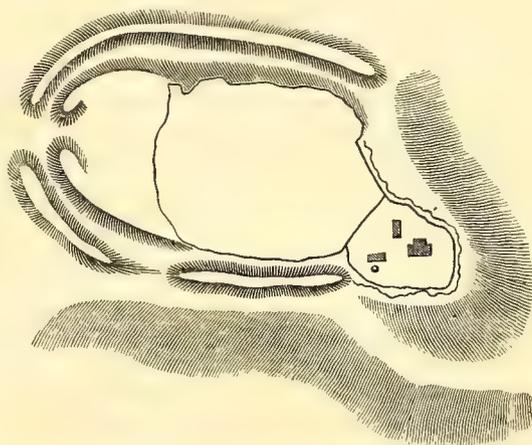
of Finborrow or

Finness, no traces have been discovered. Erdswick (H. MSS. 473, p. 5,) speaks of it as occupying one of the elevations of the forest. "Upon divers other hill "tops are signes of other forts, whose names are to be "had, as Kelborow Castle and Finness." Webb mentions the Finny Oak, as borrowing its name from it. There is an estate in Budworth called Finny Wood, which name it has borne from the time of Edward the Third, as appears by Inquisitions, but there are no traces of earthworks.

With respect to the camp of Edisbury, which has been previously mentioned, we have the authority of the old chronicles for its being formed by Ethelfleda in the year 915, at the time when Chester was newly fortified and enlarged by her husband Ethelred.

It is erected, as before-mentioned, at a point calculated to command the British road, as well as the later Roman road from Condote to Deva. The form is nearly oval, and its situation within the inclosure called the old pale, on the summit of the hill which gives name to the Hundred. It contains 11 acres, 3 roods, and 10 poles, of statute measure; and extends 250 yards in breadth, and 400 in length, exclusive of the projection of rock at the south east angle. The eastern side is irregular, being defended by a natural precipice; the other parts, being accessible by a gentle slope, are defended by a

ditch and double rampart, with an entrance to the West. The ditch is about twelve yards wide; the ramparts, which are constructed with red stone, now buried under the soil accumulated by the lapse of centuries, are still fourteen feet high in some places. No other vestiges of buildings are distinguishable.



The only interesting architectural antiquities which the Hundred can boast, exclusive of manor houses of the seventeenth century, are the churches of Frodsham and Bunbury, the manor house of the abbots of St. Werburgh at Ince, and the Castle of Beeston.

At the Norman Invasion the Church was suffered to retain possession of three townships in this Hundred, Ince, Trafford, and Idenshaw; and, by a similar courtesy, the Bishop kept his manors of Tarvin and Burton. One Saxon proprietor, Dunning, the Lord of Kingsley, was equally fortunate; and a second, Leuric, who was the proprietor of Wimbolds Trafford, obtained in lieu of it a settlement at Alvanley. All the rest of the Hundred was parcelled out among the invaders. The Earl afforested a considerable share, and retained to himself eleven townships; Elton, Wimbolds Trafford, Dunham, Frodsham, Manley, Hellesby, Weverham, Over, Oulton Low, Little Budworth, and Rushton. Robert Fitz Hugh, Baron of Malpas, obtained the townships of Tilston, Beeston, Bunbury, Teverton, Spurstow, and Peckforton; Gilbert Venables, Baron of Kinderton, had Wetenhall, Done, Hartford, Tarporley, and Alraham. William Fitz Nigel, Baron of Halton, had Barrow; Richard de Vernon, Baron of Shipbrook, had Ashton, and his brother Walter had the manor of Willington. The minor proprietors were Ilbert, Lord of Eaton and Waverton, grantee of Clotton; Hugo de Mara, of Wardle; Nigell, of Oulton; Bigot, of Thornton and Wever; Baldric, of Kelsal; and Ranulf, ancestor of the Mainwarings, of Winnington. No other townships are noticed.

In a short period these grants were parcelled out into numerous subinfeudations, the lords of which assumed the names of their respective manors, with the exceptions of the families of Grosvenor, Gerard, Bruen, and le Roter, the last of which used the local name of Thornton occasionally. The Dones may be considered with great probability to bear the antient name of Utkinton. Many representatives of these families, in the female line, still hold the estates which were won by the sword of their Norman ancestors, and the greater alienations have in general only introduced a Cheshire family from another part of the county; but it must still be remarked, as the effect of time, even on a county proverbially tenacious of the antient lines of its gentry, that not one family in the Hundred now

† Vide Introduction to Wirral Hundred.

‡ Vide Domesday in Dunham and Hellesby.

bears the name of its estate, and that the Ardernes of Alvanley are the only house in the Hundred who have held their estate in the direct male line for nearly six centuries, Walkelin de Arderne having obtained that manor by fine in the year 1244.

From the inequality of surface in this district, the landscape exhibits a variety of interesting scenery, which opens from the line of the Edisbury Hills, to the vale of Chester, the Rock of Beeston, the Peckforton Hills, the Welsh Mountains which form the boundary of the Vale, and the Lancashire shore, separated by the noble estuary of the Mersey, with an effect particularly pleasing, and surprizing to any one who emerges upon them from the uninteresting flat which the adjoining part of the county presents.

The Hills of Kelsal, Willington, and Manley, command the most striking of these views; and there is likewise a narrow defile leading by Alvanley to Frodsham, where the whole groupe of the hills through which the road winds, the partial disclosure of the Mersey, and the massy bulk of Hellesby in front, present a picture rarely surpassed.

It is observable, that along the whole of the ridge which bounds in the forest on the North West, the ground in general slopes gently to the forest, and all the projecting hills terminate in the same manner, with an abrupt precipice towards the sea, resembling the neighbouring rock of Beeston. Trees thrive well among the hills, though exposed to the sea air and the north winds; and one of the most exposed parts, by the application of slate marl, has been recently changed from barren heath to a most beautiful verdure.

The rivers of the Hundred are the Ashbrook, the Gowy, and the Weever. Another small stream, called Ashton Brook, rises from the marshes between the old and new Pales, and descends by Molesworth to a junction with the Gowy above Trafford Bridge.

The Ashbrook rises from Fish Pool on the Forest of Delamere, passes through the park of Oulton, and after receiving several smaller streams near Darley Hall, proceeds by Darnhall Mill to a junction with the Weever at Swanlowe.

The Gowy has its source near Peckforton, and after passing through some low marshy ground, divides Bunbury into the upper and lower town with its waters. It then continues its course to the North of Beeston, and passing under the Chester Canal, becomes the boundary of the Hundred to its junction with the Mersey at

Stanlow. The stream divides into two branches at Picton, which originally fell into the Mersey at Ince and Poole, but which are now soon reunited.

The principal stream of the Weever rises in the Hundred of Broxton, near Bulkeley, and becoming the boundary line of Edisbury and Broxton, continues as such to Cholmondeley, where it enters into the Hundred of Nantwich: after a very irregular course, which belongs to the account of that Hundred, it joins the Ashbrook at Swanlowe, from which point it again defines the limits of Edisbury, to its junction with the Mersey at Weston, passing by Wever, Over, Vale-Royal, Hartford, Northwich, Winnington, Weverham, Acton, Crowton, Kingsley, and Frodsham, and receiving the Dane and Peover at Northwich, and a variety of other streams descending from Bar Mere, Combermere, and other places, in its progress through Nantwich Hundred. Between Weverham and Frodsham it flows through a series of rich meadows, bounded by well-wooded banks of an elevation not usual at the side of the Cheshire Rivers. The important uses of this stream, as a navigable river, will be found in the general introduction to the work.

Of natural pools of water, or meres, the most considerable are: Petty Pool, within the grounds of Vale Royal; and Fish Pool, Hatchew Mere, and Oakmere, in Delamere Forest. The last of these continues attached to the dissolved abbey of Vale Royal, on which it was bestowed by the foundation-charter of Edward the First. Numerous other less considerable pools are scattered over the marshy parts of the forest.

The manufactures of the Hundred are confined to the saltworks which extend along the banks of the Weever, from Winsford to Winnington.

The ecclesiastical distribution of parishes, with their component townships, is exhibited in the table annexed.

The hundred is farmed under the crown by the most noble the Marquis of Cholmondeley. The summons to the hundred court was antiently performed in a manner not unlike the gathering of the highland clans by the circuit of the fiery cross. The messenger bore a large oaken ball, perforated, and slung on a leathern thong, the ends of which were fixed on an iron bar. After summoning one township, he was met on the limits of the next by a person to whom he transferred the summons and the ball, which was sent, in this manner, round the circuit of the hundredⁱ.

ⁱ From the information of Francis Ashley, of Frodsham, Esq. who states that the ball was preserved in his memory at Manley Hall, where he had seen it.

POPULATION TABLE

Of the Hundred of Edisbury, abstracted from the Returns to Parliament A° 51 Geo. III.

The Letters affixed to the Townships denote the Hundred in which they are included in the Domesday Survey.
R. Roelau. — R. Risetou. — D. Dudestan. — M. Mildestvic.

FIRST DIVISION.

TOWNSHIPS.	HOUSES.				OCCUPATIONS.			PERSONS.		
	Inhabited Houses.	Families.	Houses building.	Uninhabited.	Families employed in Agriculture.	Families employed in Trade.	Families not comprized in these Classes.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
BUNBURY. P.										
Alraham D.	57	68	2	—	52	16	—	161	172	333
Beeston R.	76	76	—	—	57	8	11	195	215	410
Bunbury R.	105	121	—	1	78	42	1	294	280	274
Calveley	26	38	—	—	34	4	—	97	104	201
Haughton	23	26	—	1	22	3	1	69	69	138
Peckforton R.	46	55	—	—	34	11	10	143	138	281
Ridley	16	16	—	—	8	2	6	67	56	123
Spurstow R.	76	76	1	—	65	11	—	180	193	373
Tilston Fearnall R.	20	29	—	1	26	3	—	75	70	145
Tiverton R.	86	90	—	—	62	28	—	249	244	493
Wardle R.	23	29	2	2	11	8	10	70	62	132
L. BUDWORTH. P.										
L. Budworth D.	75	95	—	—	66	23	6	230	240	470
Part of MIDDLEWICH. P.										
Weever M.	20	28	—	—	22	6	—	67	64	131
OVER. P.										
Oulton Low D. & R.	6	6	—	—	6	—	—	32	30	62
Over R.	339	358	—	19	37	33	288	938	858	1796
Wettenal R.	39	47	—	1	42	5	—	126	142	268
TARPORLEY. P.										
Eaton	71	88	—	—	76	8	4	197	172	369
Rushton D.	45	56	—	1	42	10	4	141	144	285
Tarporley R.	155	157	—	11	36	93	28	317	384	701
Utkinton	77	96	—	5	80	16	—	262	235	497
Part of St. OSWALD'S. P.										
Idenshaw R.	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	8	10	18
WHITEGATE. P.										
Darnhall	27	30	—	—	18	9	3	90	85	175
Marion	86	111	—	2	111	—	—	251	265	516
	1496	1698	3	44	987	339	372	4259	4232	8491

POPULATION TABLE.

SECOND DIVISION.

TOWNSHIPS.	HOUSES.				OCCUPATIONS.			PERSONS.		
	Inhabited Houses.	Families.	Houses building.	Uninhabited.	Families employed in Agriculture.	Families employed in Trade.	Families not comprized in these Classes.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
BARROW. P.										
Great and Little Barrow. . . R.	97	100	—	2	95	5	—	299	286	585
Part of GREAT BUDWORTH. P.										
Castle Northwich.	87	90	—	—	2	15	73	230	192	422
Hartford. R.	146	146	—	3	69	22	55	309	358	667
Winnington. R.	42	42	—	3	6	31	5	89	103	192
FRODSHAM. P.										
Alvanley. R.	53	56	—	2	56	—	—	142	145	287
Frodsham Township. . . . R.	262	279	—	4	170	72	37	662	687	1349
Frodsham Lordship. . . . R.	126	137	—	1	100	—	37	375	381	756
Hellesby. R.	43	53	—	—	41	2	10	144	153	297
Kingsley. R.	135	135	2	1	121	14	—	318	338	656
Manley. R.	49	53	—	3	23	5	25	139	123	262
Newton.	16	16	1	1	13	3	—	52	48	100
Norley.	77	79	—	3	66	11	2	193	198	391
INCE. P.										
Ince. R.	82	85	—	1	61	23	1	203	223	426
Part of PLEMONDSTALL. P.										
Bridge Trafford. R.	11	12	—	—	9	2	1	27	40	67
TARVIN. P.										
Ashton. R.	71	86	1	1	46	20	20	169	196	365
Bruen Stapleford.	33	33	—	1	31	2	—	100	98	198
Burton.	12	12	—	—	12	—	—	37	40	77
Clotton Hoofield. R.	55	65	1	—	52	13	—	145	167	312
Duddon.	28	45	—	—	37	8	—	120	123	243
Hockenhull.	5	5	—	1	3	2	—	21	19	40
Horton cum Peele.	4	5	1	1	3	2	—	18	21	39
Kelsal.	102	102	1	1	57	36	9	300	257	557
Mouldsworth.	25	28	—	—	24	4	—	61	64	125
Tarvin. R.	178	183	2	1	95	61	27	461	460	921
Wildington. Extra par. . . R.	13	17	—	—	17	—	—	52	57	109
THORNTON. P.										
Dunham. R.	52	52	1	1	19	10	23	143	146	289
Elton. R.	21	28	—	—	25	3	—	85	80	165
Hapsford.	11	15	—	—	12	3	—	47	45	92
Thornton le Moors.	25	25	—	—	25	—	—	76	82	158
Wimbolds Trafford. . . . R.	20	20	—	—	20	—	—	43	60	103
WEVERHAM. P.										
Acton.	49	49	—	2	35	14	—	140	123	263
Crowton.	60	75	—	1	66	9	—	186	169	355
Cuddington.	37	45	—	—	32	10	3	105	112	217
Onston.	11	11	—	—	9	2	—	35	25	60
Wallerscot.	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	3	2	5
Weverham Township and } Lordship. R. }	190	218	—	—	84	70	64	559	561	1120
	2229	2403	10	34	1537	474	392	6088	6182	12270

ITINERARY OF EDISBURY HUNDRED.

BY WILLIAM WEBB, M.A.

Reprinted from KING'S VALE ROYAL.

THE Hundred of Edisbury may well prove the antiquity of itself, and of other hundreds; for that whatsoever they had their division, this got its name from the place, which then was of no small account, and that was the city, town, fort, or whatsoever other great foundation, which had been built by that noble Elfreda, the Mercian lady; for variable conjectures are made by writers hereof, and that place was called Eadsbury, giving name to this hundred; the form and fashion whereof, by reason that rivers and brooks bound it almost round about, is something irregular, though it comes nearest to a pentagon of any other figure, saving that one of the five sides is unequal to all the other four, and that is it which is extended from about Thornton, towards Wirral hundred to Ridley, touching near Cholmondeley, in Broxton Hundred, which is a longer side than all the rest.

Our view shall begin where we come over Frodsham Bridge, from whence lies a lower way to Frodsham Town, and an upper way to the parish church: the town a fair continued street, with handsome buildings, and at the West end of it a fair house, which having been a castle, continues still the name of Frodsham Castle, though long since used for a relying seat of pleasure to the honourable owner thereof, Sir Thomas Savage, and stands within view of Rocksavage itself.

The church is fair and pleasantly situated on the hill over the town, and extends the bounds of the parish to a large precinct. Those buildings about the church carry the name of Overtown, in relation to another village beneath, called Nethertown, together with the Wood Houses, a member of it: and over them all, a high towering hill, with a beacon upon it; and between all these and Merzey, which here is grown to be a petty sea, lies a fair and fruitful marsh of a large extent; and all this, and much more, make but that one lordship, belonging to that honourable man last named; and next unto it another, almost of the same nature and condition, both high and low, called Hellesbey, well known by that craggy high rock Helsbytorr, at the foot whereof is a high road-way to Chester.

Let us here, if you please, take with us a sight of a goodly vale of the fertile and fruitful marshes, towns, and fields, lying toward Merzey side, and wherein this hundred shoots out one of her nooks into the parish of Ince, a goodly lordship of Sir Robert Cholmondeley's, formerly spoken of: and of Thornton, another of Sir George Booth's, with both their churches and their precincts pleasantly situated, and friendly neighbouring one another; whereof Thornton, extending her limits to the towns which you see on this side Hapsford, where Edward Greg, a gentleman, for special employments in his highness's Court of Exchequer at Chester, being examiner there, hath a fair seat, and Dunham, for the high situation called Super Montem, where also Robert Whitby, gentleman, and alderman of the City of Chester, hath a very pleasant house, seen far off: and unto this add, that third of Elton, where hath been

a long descent of gentlemen, who derive unto them, from the late rehearsed great lordship, the name of Frodsham.

But let us now go on; and being come to the water, that from the original beginning of it we have formerly called the Beeston Water, and which will now lead us by the bounds of this hundred, till we come to the furthest southern point of that, our course shall be as it directs us. We may see on our left hand a fair lordship called Manley, wherein is an ancient seat and a fair house belonging to the Birkenheads, of Manley, whose owner was, in our remembrance, Richard Birkenhead, esq. a learned counsellor at law, and recorder of the city of Chester; his eldest son, Adam Birkenhead, esq.

And now we take with us the view of Mouldsworth, which they distinguish into two, the Great and the Little. And herein the goodly ancient house called the Pool, or the Pile, and fair demesnes, the habitation of the Hardwares, a race of worthy gentlemen, the heir whereof, Henry Hardware, esq. is now in minority, but the inheritance of the house belongeth to Sir Robert Cholmley, and so we leave Asceton, a fine township, behind us; and turning us a little to look upon Bridge Trafford, so called of the bridge which giveth passage over that water, and in which a long continued race of gentlemen of that name, have a seemly seat, the owner now being Mr. Trafford, we see Barrow, a fine lordship, belonging also to Rocksavage, and therein the mansion-house of John Savage, esq. one of our city aldermen, and a magistrate in the government, in the country a man in estimation answerable to his worthy name.

We pass on to Celshall, situate very high in the skirt of the forest, and is a lordship of Sir John Done's, knight: beneath which, taking with us an ancient house of the Trevices, called Horton, we come to the town and parish-church of Tarven; in which town, besides the fair church and vicarage, which is in the gift of the Lord Bishop of Coventry and Litchfield, we see a very ancient seat now ruined, of a branch of the Bruines, gentlemen of long continuance. But this house and demesne is come to the heir of a late famous lawyer, William Brock, a younger house of the Brocks of Upton; and a little way distant from the town, a large sweet farm belonging to Rocksavage, called Holmstreet, which was long time a breeding-place of the Wallies, gentlemen of good account. The lordship itself of Tarven, with many members thereof, all belonging to the same honourable Sir Thomas Savage, of whom we often make honourable mention.

Not half a mile distant from the same church, we may see a finely-seated comely house, called Hockenhall, and giving name to gentlemen that have possessed the same, in succession, for a long continuance, carrying the same name; though, for the present, the owner of it, John Hockenhall, esq. hath passed some term in it, and lives not at it. At the one side of which demesne lies Hockenhall Plot, a place well known, being the

passage over our said water, in our great London road-way to Chester, wanting nothing but a bridge for carts to pass that way when that river riseth, which were a very necessary and charitable work to be done. Which river now leads us by another fair and fruitful demesne, in the midst of a fine lordship, taking name from a passage over the same water, called Stapleford, having been, for an ancient continuance, the seat of gentlemen of great esteem in one well-known name of the Bruines, the owner now, and long hath been, and long I would he might be, John Bruine, esq.; who might, if he affected praise, perhaps receive from me some little remembrance; but all he gets, it shall be this, to pray him to look for his praise amongst those his predecessors, of whom he may take notice in Deuteronomy the 16th, 17th, 18th, and 19th.

And now we turn our face a little Eastward, to take with us Burton, wherein there is a fair and fine conceitedly built house of brick, which belongeth to Mr. John Werden, a gentleman well descended, and one whose well known deservings are like to add great estimation both to that and to his other possessions. Next to this lies Duddon, wherein one branch of the Hockenalls have a pretty seat; and Mr. Ralph Done, one of the descent of the Dones of Flaxyards, another: and more towards the forest, a fair house and demesne of a son of Mr. Bruine, lately mentioned, called Price Hall; and a little further, the township of Clotton, and a fine house and fair demesne of Idenshaw, the mansion-house of John Hurlestone, esq.; and near unto it lies Howfield, a member of the same township of Clotton.

Towards this river side, which now hath parted itself into that stream which we have thus far followed, and that other which we crossed over at Huxley, in Broxton Hundred, we come to Terton, or Tearton, a lordship divided into many parts; but the greatest parts of them belong to the Davenports of Bramhall, before mentioned, and one house and demesne of one descent of the Bressies, which hath been a great name of gentlemen.

And so we cannot here but stay to look upon the next stately house and fine demesne of Beeston, the name both of the house, the township, and that famous and far-seen castle, built there by the last Ranulph, the famous earl of Chester, and without question was a place, when such strong holds were in request, of admirable and impregnable strength. It is mounted upon the top of a very steep hill of stone; the chief tower whereof, in the very summity of it, had a draw-well of an incredible depth, to serve it with water. I have measured it; and notwithstanding that, by the great number of stones, which, from the ruined walls, those that repair thither do cast in, it is supposed, as the well in the outward, to be half stopped up, yet it is, of true measure, ninety-one yards deep, and the other above eighty yards deep by M. S. and from that tower a circular wall of a large compass, containing a fine plot of ground within the circuit of it, and in the midst of that another well, which yet, by the long descent of a stone, before it fall down to the water, when you shall hear the fall of it, of a huge depth; and the foot of that whole wall standing so deep on every side, that, saving one way up to the gates of the castle towards the East, and those very fair and stately, men can hardly find footing to stand on any part of the said hill. Concerning which, though I have no reason to fix my belief upon any, either idle prophecies, as they call them, or vain predictions of vulgar report; yet neither will I be so scrupulous, as not to make mention of the common word thereabouts used, that Beeston Castle shall save

all England on a day; nor so envious, as not to take notice of old Leland's bold conjecture of the future exalting of the head of it in time to come, whereof I only say this, that I wish every man to look upon what grounds he gives credit to any old dreams. To the place I wish all good, and to the name of Beeston I could also wish a continuance as the castle stands, being now in the possession of an ancient knight, Sir Hugh Beeston, of much respect; but now, through want of issue-male, like to pass into another name, the heir being now married to one of the younger sons of the honourable and often-mentioned knight and baronet, Sir Thomas Savage.

Being almost at the head of this water, our guide hitherto, we will take with us the uttermost nook of this hundred, lying Southerly upon our right hand, and then return. We come next to Spurstow, a lordship, with the fair house, demesne, and the ancient continued race of gentlemen, in a direct line of the same name, the owner now George Spurstow, of Spurstow, esq. for the antiquity of whose ancestors, I could mention some memorable arguments from the matches of great houses with them, and of them in great places; as also from their being the first that bore the office of high sheriff in this county-palatine, which I have seen testified in a deed of credit among the evidences of that house; but though my duty and my love bind me to do all I can for the estimation of that house, yet my own poor alliance to some that have interest in that blood, makes me more sparing with that precinct. John Aldersey, gentleman, termed also of Spurstow, hath a fine ancient and fair demesne, and the birth-place of that most worthy to be honoured Aldersey of London, whom the parish stands bound ever to remember, with praises to God, for the preacher's and minister's great stipend there; as also the schoolmaster's and usher's, together with the yearly gifts of ten pounds to the poor for ever. But on the east side of Spurstow lies Haughton, and therein an ancient race and seat of the Haughtons, gentlemen of good esteem, and another of the Buckleys; and on the West side, a stately house and great demesne of Ridley, the possession of that honourable descent of the Egertons, sometime a great name of this house, and is now the principal seat of that worthy knight, Sir Richard Egerton, formerly mentioned, and of whom, for worthy respects, I could oft still willingly make mention. Here lay that famous pool, a shallow but a broad water, heretofore a great nurse for fish and fowl; but of late years, and in our remembrance, drained dry, and made more profitable in a goodly meadow for hay; and true it is, that through this pool, though not beginning here, as some writers suppose, the head of that water of the Weaver is fetched, which afterwards soon grows to so great a name; and upon the Northwest side of Ridley lies the lordship of Peckforton, some time belonging to the great name of the Corbetts, in Shropshire, but now to Sir Hugh Beeston. And herein is a fine ancient seat of one branch of the Calveleys, and now possessed by my much respected friend Mr. Thomas Calveley, to whom I wish as great good as a friend can to a friend.

Now we see the mother church of all these townships, and many more, the church of Bunbury, the name, derived from that bishop that was sainted by the name of Boniface (but which of them I take not upon me to relate), shews, that the church which was dedicated to that name, and still gives name to the township and whole parish, is of great antiquity, the church a fair one, and unto it, not many years ago, was added to the South side of the chancel a very fine chapel, by

one of the Egertons, knights of Ridley, which serves for a burial-place to the heir of that house: and hath some monuments, with inscriptions, in tables of brass, of some of that family; in which church, in the middle of the chancel, is the vault where the Calveleys are usually buried, under a fair monument, adorned with the arms.

Not far from the church, we see the ruins of a college, which was there founded by that famous Hugh Calverley, or Calvely, and most finely built and furnished for the maintenance of six priests, who had there their beginning, and such employments as the devotion of those times required, which afterwards was among other such like foundations dissolved, and turned to better uses. And the rectory of the parish being in queen Elizabeth of noble memory her hands, the same was purchased by that worthy citizen of London, Thomas Aldersey, Merchant-tailor, and a parishioner, born here of those Alderseys of Spurstow a little before-mentioned; and the same by him bestowed, part amongst his kinsfolk and friends, but the greatest part founded a preacher's place of one hundred marks per annum, to which he also added a fine house, which he built for that purpose, with a pretty parcel of land unto it, and twenty li. per annum, for an assistant to the preacher, and to be a curate there; and likewise built a new fair free-school, and laid unto it two convenient dwellings, one for a schoolmaster, with twenty pounds per annum stipend, and one for an usher, with ten pounds per annum for ever. Ten pounds per annum to the poor there, besides other charitable gifts to that parish: all which he saw actually effected and performed many years in his life, and fully established by act of parliament before his death: and I may add, that his godly intendments hath been by the several persons enjoying those places since he founded them with such incessant pains, laborious diligence, and great learning, endeavoured to be fully effected, as I think the snaky tongue of the fury Envy herself cannot but spit forth the truth of it; and I know there be some that do and shall bless God all the days of their life, that ever they saw and heard the power of the ministry of God's truth in that place; and if any do complain of the small crop of that great harvest, and indefatigable pains there taken, let them impute it to the barrenness of the soil, and want of due care and attention in the hearers, and not to the labours of the workmen, whose comforts I know lie stored up in the conscionable discharge of the duties enjoyed them. The bestowing of the preacher's place there, and the rest, are in the disposing of the master, wardens, and some others, of the worshipful company of Haberdashers, of London; who are much directed therein, when occasion serveth, by that well-disposed and well-deserving gentleman Mr. John Aldersey, of Spurstow, the owner of that ancient house and land, from whence the worthy founder had his descent. By the prudent and godly care of which said worshipful governors, the said places have been, and yet are, most worthily supplied by very learned, godly, and able men.

But now fetching in one nook of this hundred, and of the parish where we be, lying farthest East, a lordship called Wardhall, where hath been a seat and a large demesne of an ancient family of the Prestlands, esquires, of long continuance; whereof I take it all the heirs male are now failed, the lands being come in our days, by purchase, to the house of Woodhey.

Along this township lie the well-known pavements or stone causeway, called Watfield-Pavement, so termed of the founder, and to the repairing of which was given a pretty house, and grounds to it, situate in the

middle thereof; the pavement itself being two miles in length, and the disposing and government thereof left to the citizens of Chester.

Near the west end of it is situate a fair house, called the Cleys, the dwelling of a younger brother of the Davenportes of Calveley; and upon the north side of it stands the township of Calveley, whence that great name had first their denomination. Now the principal seat and demesne therein yet remains, and hath been long the habitation of one race of the Davenportes, the owner thereof now Arthur Davenport, esq. and near unto it another fair house, the seat of the Mainwarings, of Calveley, gentlemen. Beneath this, more North, lies Wettenhall, where is a chapel, and also an ancient seat and demesne of the long continued race of the Breretons, of Wettenhall, now Richard Brereton's, of Wettenhall, esq. a gentleman of well known experience in the government of the country.

Hence we return westwards again, and come by Alraham, wherein were anciently a house and name of the Pages, now wholly extinct; and here the lofty pile of that sweet and delicate seat of the Hall of Tilston Fearnhall, shews itself, the remembrance of the builder whereof stops again the walk of my pen, and I wish I could neither think upon the happiness of my years there spent, nor upon the unrecoverable loss I there sustained, in the departure of my dear master, the renowned last deceased owner of Woodhey.

Near to this we see the ruins of a house indeed, but no decay of the name or the owners thereof, which was Flaxyards, the ancient seat of the Dones, who were called Dones of Flaxyards; betwixt whom, and those Dones of Utkinton, I have heard was no little emulation, until it pleased God the heirs male of Utkinton failing, were glad to knit with the heir of Flaxyards, that so the union of both by marriage might make one greater name; as now we see in the person of the worthy knight, Sir John Done, of Utkinton, a gentleman very compleat in many excellencies of nature, wit, and ingenuity, which, together with his diligence and well-pleasing service to his majesty, who took his pleasure and repast in his forest of Delamore, in the year 1617, where this gentleman being chief forester and keeper, ordered so wisely and contentfully his highness's sports, that he freely honoured him with knighthood, and graced his house of Utkinton, near hereunto, with his royal presence, making him Sir John Done, of Utkinton; of which name the country speaks much of brave knights, his ancestors, and especially the last of them, his grandfather, by his mother.

But before we go far, let us take with us the view of Torporleigh, both town, and church, and parsonage, all well known by their situation; and making a thoroughfare of great passage upon the great road-way to Chester, a lordship of the said Sir John Done's, and a fit place for keeping the sheriffs, townes, and hundred courts, for that hundred.

From whence we go by Eaton and Rushton, two great lordships in one; a great part whereof hath belonged to a race of Hintones, whose heirs male are thought to be all extinct, but the chief lord there is the same knight last named.

We go from thence to Darley, a fair seat and demesne, of one house of the Starkies, esquires, of good account, now the owner there, Henry Starkie, of Darley, esquire; near unto which is situate another great house and well known seat of another worthy race, called Egertons of Olton, whereof have succeeded for some descents knights of no obscure note; and now the most compleat successor of them, Sir Rowland

Egerton, knight and baronet, whose great alliances and worthy parts have caused other countries to deprive this his birth-place of such an ornament. In this edge of the forest, near hereunto, stands a little church and town, which in relation of Great Budworth, formerly mentioned, is called Little Budworth, and no great thing it is, yet a parish by itself: in the same is a fair mere, likewise as at Great Budworth, from whence begins a brook, which if we follow but a little way, brings us to Dernhall Grange, once a famous place, as it should seem, by the residence of some of the earls of Chester, of whom John Scot, the last of the seven famous earls next after the Conquest, died there; but afterwards made a place for the entertainment of those monks from whom the abbey of Vale Royal was founded; or rather, as some think, was the abbey itself, which afterwards, as it were, was removed thither as a more wholesome seat: and because this place, as amongst woods and waters, was not, forsooth, lightsome and pleasant enough for their fat worships; for some write it, and think, the name came from Dernhole; howsoever it was then, it is now a fine seat with a sweet house of brick lately erected, and now the possession of Henry Lee, esquire, heir to Sir Richard Lee, formerly mentioned, and a gentleman, for his sober and wise carriage, of very worthy esteem. Along the park side of Darnhall lies Swanlow, and therein many good farms that have been of the abbey lands.

And here we approach again upon our old acquaintance, the river Weaver, whom we need follow but a little way, ere it brings us to that famous seat which it gave name unto, how long since were a hard task to search for; where have sitten that great descent of the Stanleys, of Weever, and now is one of the mansion-houses of Thomas Stanley, of Alderley, or Weever, esquire, of whom we spake heretofore.

And so we come first to Overchurch, situate somewhat remote from many of her parishioners, and half a mile well near from the town itself, which being one of the main goodly possessions which the abbot and convent of Vale Royall enjoyed, obtained by them, or by their means at least, to be made a mayor-town, which government they hold till this day, as also a fee and liberty of a good precinct, wherein strangers and all are liable to their arrests; near unto which is a fine gentlemanly seat, called Knight's Grange, now the lands of the lady Mary Cholmondeley formerly mentioned; and not far from this a very pleasant house and demesne of one other branch of the house of Peever, now the possession of Thomas Mainwaring, of Marton, gentleman. And so a little further we pass by Whitegate, which though it shew you but a chapel, yet challegeth, by a statute in the year . . . Henry VIII. to be an entire parish of itself. The vicarage there is in the gift of the said Mr. Mainwaring; and so we come to that famous Vale Royal.

Methinks, it is not altogether improbable, that some such like occasion might long ago, by the presence of a king (and it may be king Edward the First, who founded here the abbey), give this denomination to the goodly tract of grounds betwixt the forest and the river Weever, by his hunting, or other princely sports, to term it *Vallem Regalem*, as the late occasion of our gracious sovereign, his making the house here four days his royal court, while in his fore-mentioned return out of Scotland, he solaced himself, and took pleasing contentment in his disports in the forest, he confirmed it indeed to be a Royal Vale, where it was the joy and gladness of our hearts to behold how graciously his highness spent there the King of Heaven his own day

in the service of his God; and where he was pleased to hear our reverend dean of Chester preach unto him God's truth, and could at his dinner recount the heads and chief points of his sermon as punctually, as if his highness had been acquainted with the preacher's notes: and where his majesty, the day following, had such successful pleasure in the hunting of his own hounds of a stag to death, as it pleased him graciously to calculate the hours, and confer with the keepers, and his honourable attendants, of the particular events in that sport, and to question them whether they ever saw or heard of the like expedition, and true performance of hounds well hunting, at which his highness's princely contentment we had much cause to rejoice; and the rather, for that the diligence and service of Sir John Done had so prosperously prepared his majesty's sports, which he also as graciously accepted. This Vale Royal was the seat of a noble race of the Holcrofts for two descents, but of late is come by purchase to the lady Mary Cholmondeley, widow, a lady of great possessions, whom we have had several occasions to mention heretofore, and who, for her wisdom, virtue, and careful provision for her child, and great hospitality, deserveth worthy remembrance. We see, beyond this Sandy-way, where hath been a descent of the Eatons, gentlemen; and Hertford, where Mr. Thomas Row hath built a very delicate little house; and so we look as far as this Hundred reacheth to Winnington, where is a fair stone bridge over the river Weever, who now having met with the Dane, grows very haughty and proud, and hath once or twice of late swelled and foamed too impatiently; because it may not be employed with boats and carriages from Mersey mouth, which it thinks itself sufficient enough for, if it were cleared of some wears and stoppages by the way: and going first by Wallerscote, a very ancient seat of the Litlers, gentlemen of good worth, and now the possession of Ralph Litler, gentleman; it hastens to Weeverham, who receives name from it, and is a parish, with a church and pretty town, having been also a member of that abbey of Vale Royal, and holding still a great liberty, with a court and prison, of no mean power and jurisdiction of the chief lordship thereof, now in the hands of the worthy Thomas Merbury, esq. formerly spoken of; and in this liberty I may not omit one ancient seat, having been one of the Abbey Granges, which never were any of the meanest holdings, and this called Hefferstone Grange hath belonged to the Warburtons, so called of the Grange, and now possessed by Peter Warburton, esq. learned in the law, whom my love will not let me pass in silence, though I say no more, but that which is in every man's expectation, that his worthy parts would soon fit and prepare him, if his own modesty kept him not back, to come make a supply to the want that death and great preferments bring upon us of our great lawyers of our country, though we have yet some good store of them. The vicarage thereof, being a pretty living, after the expiration of a lease for years in being, belongs to the reverend bishop of this diocess.

From hence Weaver shall bring us but to Acton bridge, where we must part with it, and so turn us more westerly, to look upon that township of Acton, wherein there is a house of one James Row, gent. a freeholder of this precinct, and an ancient seat of the Farrars, and so we take with us Craughton, or Crawghton, where Sir Gilbert Ireland, knight, the heir and possessor of a great fair house in Lancashire called Hutt, hath a fair house and demesne.

And next unto this lies Kingsley, a fair lordship, whereof much of the lands belong to Rocksavage. Mr. Cambden derives Sir John Done's name from one Randal of Kingsley, to whom the earl of Chester, Randal the first, gave the forestership of this forest, and he to the Dawnes to hold by right of inheritance, which since fell to be called Dones, and therein also is an ancient seat of the Rutters, of Kingsley, gentlemen of long continuance; and not far off, a fair brick house belonging to one of the Gerards, called of Crownwood.

But we pass thence to Newton, a lordship in the edge of the forest, belonging to Sir John Done, and so to Alvandley, a pretty township, wherein is a chapel, and a very fine house that belongs to Henry Ardern, esquire, of Harden, formerly mentioned; and so having but only the Peel farm, the ancient inheritance of Sir John Done; and beneath it Catnall, a very fine seat and demesne, the possession of J. Nuttall, esquire, a man of good sufficiency; we pass by Norley, where one of the Halls, a freeholder, hath a pretty seat; and by Cuddington, wherein is divers pretty farms, we fall into the spacious forest of Delamere itself, having gone round about the same in the view of this hundred; which forest is a very delectable place for situation, and maintaineth not only a convenient being and preservation for his majesty's deer, both red and fallow, whereof there is no small store, but also a great relief to the neighbouring borders and townships round about it; yielding plenty of pasture in the vales; wood upon the hills; fearn and heath, of some called ling, in the plains; great store of fish and fowl in the meres; puits,

or sea-maws in the flashes; both the kinds of turf for fuel, one they call flea-turf, because it is flead from the upper face of the ground in void places; the other dep-turf, because it is digged out of pits, whereof there is abundance. Upon the highest hill of all, and about the midst of the forest is seen a very delicate house, sufficient for the dwelling of the chief forester himself when it pleaseth him, and is called the Chamber in the Forest; there being likewise in the several parts dispersed on every side of the said forest, pretty and handsome lodgings, with fees and commodities thereunto belonging, for the keepers in each distinct walk.

I might venture to wade into a long discourse of these two towns, or rather cities, which not only old tales, but even the writers both ancient and modern, do make report of; but because few other circumstances do concur, and not so much as the ruins of any piece of them do remain, the names only of the Hundred of Edsbury, and a stately old tree, which they call the finny oak, which are said to be derived from the town or city of Edelfled, and the fort or castle of Finborow, only except: I had rather leave to the credit of those reports and writers, than labour farther for a thing, which if we find, we can never recover.

I also let pass some old prophecies, some conceited names of trees, of moss-pits, pools, long shoots of old archers, as also the horse race one or two, and the late new found well, which I hope I may take the liberty to leave untouched, because I suppose my long journey in this little Hundred hath well nigh tired my reader already.

PAROCHIAL TOPOGRAPHY.

Ince.

THIS manor was the property of the secular canons of St. Werburgh at the time of the Domesday Survey. "Ipsa ecclesia tenet et tenuit Inise: ibi III hidæ geldabiles: terra est v carucarum: in dominio est una caruca, et II servi, et VIII villani, et unus bordarius cum una carucâ. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat xxx solidos, modo XVI solidos, ibi II acræ prati."

6 William II. 1093. Hugh Lupus and Ermentrude his countess gave the manor of Ince to the abbot and monks of the order of Benedictines, whom they had introduced into the abbey of St. Werburgh, along with the other estates of their predecessors, the secular canons.

In the red book^k of this abbey is a petition from the abbot to Hubert, who was archbishop of Canterbury from 1193 to 1207, stating that in *Wyrall and in their manor of Ynes, they had lost by the inundations of the sea thirty carucates of land, and were daily losing more*; that they had lost 20l. per annum in Wymbaldesley, 20 marks in Brocton, and 100 marks value in the loss of their church of Hallewell from the wars with the princes of Wales; for which reasons they beg from the archbishop and the bishop of Worcester permission to appropriate their church of Campden for the repairs of their abbey, "quæ dudum ruinam quasi intolerabiliter minabatur," the choir only being rebuilt, and the rest of the church and belfry being still ruinous.

The leger book^l of the same abbey contains an agreement between the monks of Stanlaw and St. Werburgh relative to the mills and fisheries in Tarvin Water between Stanlaw and Ince, and a covenant on the part of the monks of the first, to maintain a road of thirty feet in width, through their domain, "versus Wyrhale, directo extendentem, usque ad altam calceam^m inter abbatiam de Stanlaw et Grangiam de Staney." The bridges on the Ince side to be maintained at the expense of Chester Abbey, "unum ad bigas et plastrum, et aliud ad equites et pedites;" and those towards Wirrall at the expense of Stanlaw. The monks of Chester, as lords of Ince, also agree, that the monks of Stanlaw and their successors, and free men, shall have passage "bigis et plastris in perpetuum, per viam quæ ducit a molendinis de Ynes, trans campum, subtus villam a parte occidentali, versus ad le Portway ducentem a dicta villâ de Ynes versus Cestriam. Hæc concordia irrotulata est in Domesday."ⁿ

Of these roads, that which formed the communication between Ince and Stanlaw, much to the inconvenience of this part of Cheshire, has been disused beyond the memory of man: the other part leading from Stanlaw to Stanney, crossed a piece of land called Pooles Wharf, and was swept by an inundation into the Mersey, about the middle of the last century.

Shortly after this, another entry occurs in the same leger book, of a deed whereby John son of William Fitzalan lord of Dunham, quitclaimed to the abbot of St. Werburgh all his natives of Ynce, and contracted, that if one of his natives should afterwards take a wife out of the natives of Ynce, an equal division should be made from time to time between them according to former custom. This agreement is about the time of Henry III.

The abbot of St. Werburgh in the 22nd year of Richard the IInd. had licence by patent to enkernel, or fortify, his manor house of Inise^o, along with his other manor houses of Sutton and Salghton: and in plea to a quo warranto^p 31 Edward III. claimed to have view of Frankpledge here of his tenants of this manor, with infangtheof, wayf, stray, wrecks, and goods of felons, natives, and fugitives.

After the dissolution this was one of the manors which passed into the hands of Sir Richard Cotton, and it is valued along with lands in Bridge Trafford, Alvanley, Manley, and Hellesby, at 35l. 16s. 4d. per annum, in the inquisition after his death, dated the 2nd of October, 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary.

By the final award relative to the lands wrested from the dean and chapter by the fee farmers, made 19th December, 22nd Elizabeth, the manor and impropriation of Ince, which had been purchased from George Cotton, son and heir of Sir Richard Cotton, were confirmed to Sir Hugh Cholmondeley. Having descended to the Vale Royal branch of his family, they continued vested in them to the year 1724, when they were purchased by Sir George Wynne, of Leeswood, bart. from Charles Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq. who left two hundred pounds in the hands of the purchaser, to assist in the procuring Queen Anne's bounty to the living; his family having previously allowed 20l. per annum as an augmentation of the minister's stipend^q.

Margaret daughter and sole heiress of Sir George Wynne brought the estate in marriage to Richard Hill

^k Page 73, b.

^l P. 46, b.

^m Todd observes, in his edition of Johnson, that Causey was antiently spelt Calsey, but not being aware of this Latin etymology, refers it to the Teut: Kausije. It is evidently derived from calceo.

^o Tanner's Notitia Monastica.

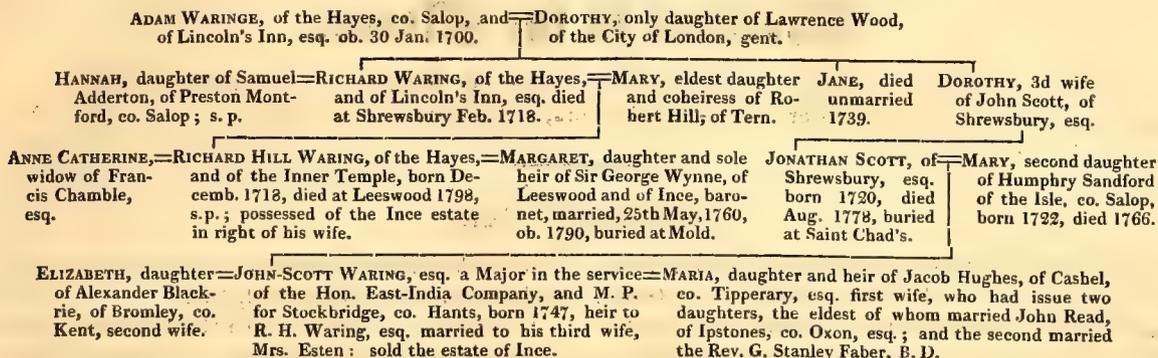
ⁿ The series of inrollments under the Norman Earls was formerly so called.

^p Records in the Exchequer of Chester.

^q Gastrell's Notitia Cest.

Waring, of the Inner Temple, esq. by whose bequest it passed to John Scott, esq. (grandson of Dorothy third daughter of Adam Waring, of the Hayes, in the county of Salop, and aunt of R. H. Waring, esq. be-

fore mentioned) who assumed the name and arms of Waring. The relationship will appear clearer by examination of the pedigree annexed, transcribed from a recent entry in the College of Arms.



The entire estate of major J. S. Waring, in Ince, containing in the whole 1600 statute acres, and including the impropriation of the great tithes, and patronage of the curacy, was sold about the year 1800 to Robert Peel, and Edmund Yates, of Bury, esquires, for 80,000l. Mr. Yates (who was high sheriff in 1812,) afterwards gave his partner in the purchase 50,000l. for his share, and is now possessor of the entire parish, excepting a part of the Holme House estate, which extends into it, but is included within the Lordship of Thornton, with which it has descended to the present proprietor, George John Legh, of the East Hall, in High Legh, esq.

A part of the parish of Ince is situated on a rocky elevation, on the bank of the Mersey; the remainder lies low, and slopes to the Gowy, the feet of the Forest-hills, and the Frodsham marshes. From the antient name of the parish, and the general appearance of the surrounding country, which is more particularly noticed in the introduction to Wirral Hundred, there is every reason to believe that a considerable portion of the lower grounds was occupied by the waters of the Mersey on the side of Thornton and Frodsham, in such a manner as to leave the rock on which the village stands nearly insulated, and joined by a line of marshes only, to the contiguous townships on the South. The land which was under this old sea-mark, is almost inexhaustible, and has recently averaged a rent of eight pounds to the Cheshire acre.

Immediately North of the open part of the village, below the church-yard, is the site of the Manor House of the abbots of St. Werburgh, fortified according to the licence before-mentioned. The area contains rather more than an acre, and was originally defended by a stone wall and a vast moat, hewn in the solid rock: the external wall remains on the south side, and the moat may be traced on the other sides. Only two sides of the building of the quadrangle remain, which appear to have been little altered since the time when the ruins were engraved by Buck. They consist of part of the buildings occupied by the monks, now used as a farmhouse, and a larger building, converted to the purposes of a barn; which, from the circumstance of the two ends being pointed to the North and South, appears not to have been intended for a chapel, but to have been used as the hall of the Manor-house. It is lighted by eight large square-headed windows; of which, those on the eastern side are included within a range of elliptical arches. The area has evidently been used as a place of interment, from a number of bones which have from time to time been discovered.

From the situation of Ince, on the end of a neck of land almost surrounded by rivers, it has little advan-

tage of land communications, and there is not any road within the township, which is now reputed a regular highway. The Mersey forms an easy and lucrative conveyance for the produce of the farms to Liverpool, to which place a packet sails daily, from the little port below the village. The houses are scattered over a considerable extent of surface, forming a motley groupe of farms and fishermen's huts, below the newly-erected residence of the manerial proprietor, which stands on a small elevation adjacent to the bank of the æstuary. A spirited attempt to recover a large extent of land from the Mersey, by embankments at this point, has been recently commenced by this gentleman, and seems likely to be attended with success.

The prospect from Ince to the South West is extensive, but marshy and unpleasing. To the North and East the view is more confined, but of a superior nature: consisting of the bold eminences of Hellesby and Overton, the Frodsham pastures, the opposite woods of Hale, and the moving scenery of the Mersey.

CHURCH.

On the highest point of the village stands the parish church of Ince, an antient stone fabric, without aisles, but possessing a handsome tower, which is a prominent object in a vast tract of country. It is dedicated to St. James. The living is an augmented curacy, not charged, to which the impropiator presents. It is of the certified value of 8l. 3s. 3d. and valued at 5l. in the taxation of pope Nicholas. The yearly value of augmentation stipend and surplice fees was returned April 17, 1810, as amounting to 105l. 5s. 11d.

In the chancel are the following inscriptions on brasses affixed to the walls.

I. *Infra sunt Samuelis, Johannis Hardware, de Brombrough, in com. Cest. arm. filii natu maximi, cineres, qui obiit anno Domini 1701.*

II. *Infra sacrae sunt conditæ exuvia, Saræ, Ricardi Holt, de Aulâ juxta pontem in par. de Bury, in com. Lanc. gen. filia, Robertiq; Bellis, A. M. hujus Ecclesie Pastoris, uxoris dilectissimæ; quæ dotibus animi præclaris prædita, vitæ integritate adornata, sincera pietate Deo probata, et ad cœlum, per Jesu Christum matura, a nobis, pro Dolor! decessit; discessit ad beatos cœlicos, ad patrem cœlestem, ad Xtum mediatorem, sanctorumq; Παμμιυριυ, quibuscum perennes agit triumphos, Gloria donata Dei, Jan. 5, anno Domini MDCCVI.*

III. *Dorothea, R. Bellis, A. M. hujus Ecclesie Ministri charissima conjux. Octav. kalend. Octobris obiit 1708.*

IV. *Johannes Wright, nuper de Elton in com. Cest. gen. obiit decimo septimo die Januarii 1706, anno æt. 33.*

Thornton in the Moors.

IS bounded by the adjacent parishes of Ince, Frodsham, Barrow, Plemondstall, and Stoke; and contains five townships; Thornton, Elton, Hapsford, Wimbolds Trafford, and Dunham on the Hill.

THORNTON.

THE township of Thornton-le-Moors is situated in a low flat country, on the bank of the river Gowy, about five miles North-east from Chester, and one mile South of the river Mersey, and is thus described in Domesday.

“Isdem Bigot tenet Torintune. Steinchetel tenuit, et liber homo fuit: ibi ii hidæ geldabiles. Terra est ii carucarum: in dominio est dimidia, et ii villani et Bordarius habent dimidiam carucam: ibi Ecclesia et Presbyter, et una acra prati. Tempore Regis Edwardi valebat xx solidos; modo x solidos: wasta invenitur.”

In or about the reign of king John, the town of Thornton became a member of the fee of Aldford, with several other townships, of which Weever, Siddington, Norbury, Mobberly, Sutton, Wymbaldesley, and moieties of Alderley and Farndon, as well as this township, had been the property of the before-mentioned Bigot, at the Conquest. At this period it was confirmed by Richard de Aldford, lord of that fee, to Peter, the secretary of the Earl of Chester, by the charter annexed, executed whilst Philip de Orreby was justice of Chester, who continued in office from the 10th of King John to the 13th of Henry the Third.

“Sciunt omnes presentes, &c.—Ricardus dominus de Aldford dedi et concessi, &c. Petro, clerico domini Comitis Cestriæ et heredibus suis, cui aut quibus illa dare aut assignare voluit, villam totam de Thorntone et quicquid in eâ jure habuit, sine ullo retenemento, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, in donatione ecclesiæ, in bosco, in plano, in pratis, in pascuis, in moris, in mariscis, in turbariis, in molendinis, in aquis, in stagnis, in viis, in semitis, in servitio liberorum hominum, in hominibus et nativis, et in omnibus rebus, locis et libertatibus eidem villæ de Thorntone pertinentibus, habendam et tenendam, &c. reddendo inde annuatim mihi et heredibus meis quandam calcarem deauratum aut sex denarios in nat. Sancti Johannis Baptistæ pro omnibus servitiis, &c. Et ego dictus Ricardus warrantizabo, &c. In cujus rei, &c. His testibus. Philippo de Orreby tunc Justiciario Cestriæ, Warino de Vernon, Willielmo Venables, Hugone et Galfrido de Dutton, Roberto Patricio, Willielmo de Heselwall, Patricio de Modburleia, Josceramo de Hellesby, Roberto et Ranulpho de Praers, Ricardo de Sandback, Ricardo de Vernun, Davide de Malopassu, Ricardo de Brescy, Philippo de Werhall, Ricardo de Rawstorn clerico,

Thoma Camerario Cestriæ, et multis aliis.”—Vernon’s Collections, Harl. MSS. 2074, 168.

This grant of Thornton to Peter the Clerk was confirmed by Sir John de Arderne, in a charter attested by Philip de Orreby, Justice of Chester; Roger de Montalt, and others, after the said Sir John’s succession to the Lordship of Aldford^s, by grant of Randle Blundeville, Earl of Chester, an alienation of Thornton by Peter to his son Randle was also confirmed by the same Sir John de Arderne, in the charter annexed^t. The seal affixed to both these charters is armorial, being three garbs with a triangular shield, circumscribed Siglhm Jōis de Arderne. Harl. MSS. 2131, p. 30.

“Johannes de Arderne omnibus presentibus, &c. salutem. Noveritis me confirmasse Ranulpho, filio Petri Clerici de Cestria, filiolo Domini Ranulphi Comitis Cestriæ et Lincolnæ, et heredibus suis, vel cui dare vel assignare voluit, assignationem et concessionem, quam prædictus Petrus fecit dicto Ranulpho, scilicet de tota villâ de Thorntone sine ullo retenemento, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis in donatione ecclesiæ, &c. (ut supra). His testibus. Johanne de Orreby tunc Justiciario Cestriæ, Henrico de Audithlega,” &c.

I. *Peter the Clerk*, who became possessed of the manor of Thornton by the first of these charters, is stated by Collins^u, on the authority of the Egerton pedigree, to have been a younger son of David Le Clerc, lord of a moiety of the Barony of Malpas. The same descent is frequently given among the Cheshire pedigrees^x; and in one copy of Booth’s pedigrees^v a reference for confirmation of this fact, is expressly made to an original charter then in the possession of the writer, and numbered XXXIII. in his collections. Randle, sixth earl of Chester, by deed without date, granted to this Peter a boat, and the right of fishing on the Dee from Chester to Eaton; and by another deed, without date, granted to the same, an acquittance from attendance on the court of the shires and hundreds, and the pleas of the forests, from puture of serjeants of the peace, and payment of pannage in the earl’s forests. (Harl. MSS. 2131, p. 35.) Peter the Clerk had issue Agnes^x, wife of William de Blore; and,

II. *Randle*, son and heir, who assumed the name of Le Roter, and also the name of Thornton from his place of residence, and is sometimes designated by both. He is termed godson of Randle, Earl of Chester, in the above confirmation of Thornton by Sir John de Arderne, and also in a grant of the vill of Onston by the Earl of

^r Harl. MSS. 2074, 168.

^s Ibid. 173.

^t Ibid. 168.

^u Vol. IV. 211. edit. 1768.

^x Harl. MSS. 2119 and 2038.

^v The Arderne copy of Booth’s Pedigrees, which is now in the hands of Archdeacon Churton.

^w The following notices of this Agnes occur in Bassano’s Collections, communicated by the Rev. W. Garnett, Rector of Tilston.

^z “Omnibus, &c. Petrus, C’icus D’ni Comitis Lincolnæ Salt’m. Nov’tis me dedisse W’mo de Blore in libero maritagio cum Agnete filiâ mea, et eorum heredibus de se genitis unam liberam salinam in Wick Maubank cum duodecim plumbis, et tolneto, et sale de die Veneris, &c. Testibus Philippo de Orreby tunc Justic. Cest. D’no Henrico de Audithley, Warino de Vernon Radulpho de Molton, Ivone de Mere, Thomâ filio Rogeri,” &c.

The same grant was confirmed by Henry de Audithley, by deed without date. Seal fretty on a Canton, a lion passant. This Henry had a portion of the Barony of Wick Malbank in marriage with Elenor, daughter and heir of William Malbank.

By another deed, witnessed by Randle Earl of Chester and Lincoln, Fulco Fitz Warin, and others, Philip de Orreby grants the wardship and marriage of Clemence and Eleanor, daughters and coheirs of the said William and Agnes de Blore to Henry de Audithley.

Chester himself^a. He died before the 28th of Henry III. having married Amicia, daughter of Richard, and sister and coheir of Randle de Kingsley, as appears by a deed^b bearing the date of that year, in which Henry Done gives one bovate of land in Kingsley to this lady, then his widow. The seal^c annexed, representing an



armed figure on horseback, circumscribed, "Sigillum Ranulphi filii Petri," is affixed to a deed without date, whereby he grants one bovate of land in Aston to Hugh le Chamberlain. By another deed^d, without date, Amicia, widow of this Randle, gives lands in Crowton to David, son of Philip de Malpas, in frank marriage with Cecilia, her daughter.

III. *Peter le Roter de Thornton* succeeded to his father's estate, and received from Prince Edward a confirmation of the privileges of the manor of Thornton, anno 51 Hen. III.^e He occurs again, as Peter le Roter, in a grant of lands in the Castle Lane^f at Chester, 2d Edw. I. and died in the eighth year of that reign, leaving, besides his eldest son, another son, Richard le Roter, who settled at Kingsley, and was ancestor of the Rutters, of that township, who bore as their arms the three garbs of the Earls of Chester, with reference, most probably, to the honour before mentioned, conferred on them by Randle Blundeville; adding a lion passant, in chief, for difference.

IV. *Randle le Roter of Thornton*, son and heir of Peter, (which Randle is sometimes, but erroneously, called *Piers* de Thornton^h), married Katherine, daugh-

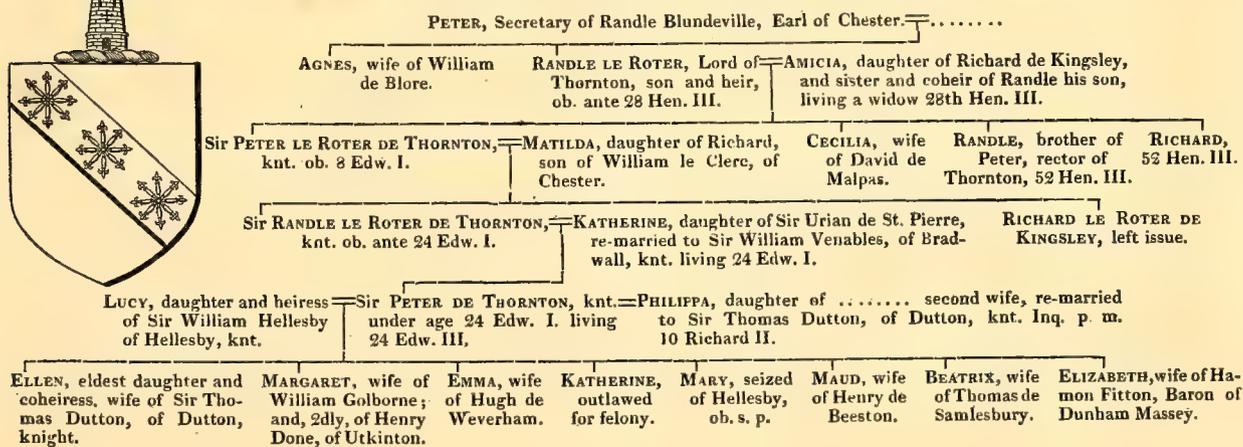
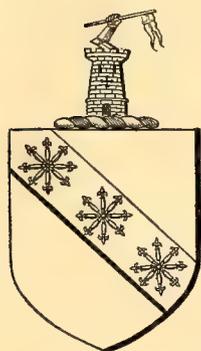
ter of Urian de St. Pierre; who was re-married, after her husband's death, to Sir William Venables of Bradwall, in conjunction with whom she had a contest with the Crownⁱ, in Trinity term, 24 Edward I. respecting the right of presentation to the church during the minority of her son Peter, which was decided in favour of the former.

V. *Sir Peter de Thornton, knt.* in whom this family terminated, was under age, as before mentioned, 24 Edw. I. and also in 1301. He appears in a fine 10th Edw. III. He was also one of the contributors to the magnificent feast given by the Abbot of Vale Royal, at the consecration of his monastery, on the feast of the Assumption, in 1330, his donation to which consisted of two cygnets and three porpoises, valued at 12s. in the Leger Book of the Abbey. Anno 22 Edw. III. he was summoned on a jury, with other knights, before Robert de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, and Thomas Ferrars, Justices of Chester, and pleaded the exemptions of the manerial lord of Thornton as excuse for non-attendance. Anno 24 Edw. III, in plea to a Quo Warranto, he produced the before mentioned grant of Earl Randle of the fishery in Dee, and of houses in Chester, with exemption from toll of Dee mills, or the Wiches, from all pleas but those belonging to the earl's sword, and from suit to the Portmote of Chester, or finding a juror therein. He married Lucy, daughter and coheir of Sir William de Hellesby, by whom he had eight daughters and coheirresses^k. His widow died before the 10th of Richard II. in which year the inquisition respecting her lands in dower states, that her husband, Sir Peter de Thornton, held in demesne, as of fee, by knight's service, from Sir Thomas de Ardren, knt. the manor of Thornton, with its appurtenances, and the advowson of the church, valued at xvil. per annum.

THORNTON OF THORNTON.

Harl. MS. 2119, 2032, 1535; and Chesh. Ped. Coll. Arm.

Arms: Arg. on a bend Gules, three escarboucles Or. Crest, on a wreath a tower proper: issuing from the summit, an arm in armour, embowed, proper, grasping a pennon of St. George.



The manor of Thornton^l, on partition of the estates of the coheirresses, became the property of Hamon Fitton, of Dunham Massy, in right of his wife, Elizabeth Thornton. Peter Fitton, only son of this Hamon, dying s. p. his sister Joan brought the estate, in marriage, to Richard Venables, younger son of Hugh Venables, Baron of Kinderton.

Sir William Venables, of Bollin, eldest son of Richard, died in the year 1421, leaving two daughters and co-heirresses; Douce, wife of Robert Booth, esq. of Dunham Massy, in right of his wife; and Alice, wife of Sir Edmund Trafford, of Trafford, knt.; between whom the manor of Thornton was divided in equal moieties.

^a Harl. MSS. 2074, 169.

^b Harl. MSS. 2038, 45.

^c Ibid.

^d Ibid, 48.

^e Harl. MSS. 2131.

^f Harl. MSS. 2038, p. 45.

^g Leicester MSS. Ped. 180.

^h Harl. MSS. 2038, 45. Vide also the account of Kingsley, in this Volume.

ⁱ Leicester MSS.

^k Sir Peter Leicester omits Beatrix, wife of Thomas de Samlesbury, who is inserted on the authority of Richard Done's claim in Eyre, which recounts the several descendants of the Kingsleys then living.

^l Leicester's Antiq. p. 243.

Of the *first of these moieties*, the following notices occur in the Inquisitions.

Inq. p. m. 11th Hen. VIII. Sir William Booth, knt. held, among other lands and manors, the moiety of Thornton manor, with the advowson of the church, in socage, from the king, as of his manor of Elford^m; valued, with lands in Onston, Cuddington, Elton, and Norley, at 40l. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VIII. George Booth held lands in Thorneton and Onston from the King, in socage, as of his manor of Elford, valued at 13l. 7s. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Sir William Boothe, knt. held the manor of Thorneton in socage, from Sir Edward Fytton, knt. as of his manor of Aldford; valued at 28l. 2s. 2d.

Of the *second moiety* I find, in Williamson's Evidences, that John de Bradford, Chaplain, in the 8th of Henry VI. obtained from Edmund Trafford and Alice his wife (the coheir above mentioned), among other manors and estates, the moiety of Thorneton, which he settled on them for life, without impeachment of waste, remainder to the right heirs of Alice.

Inq. p. m. 36 Hen. VI. Sir Edmund Trafford, knt. held a moiety of the manor of Thorneton from Sir John Arderne, knt.; and, subsequently, the same was holden of Sir Thomas Stanley of Elford, successor to the Ardernes of Aldford. Value, x marks per annum.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VII. Sir John Trafford, knt. held the same from John Stanley, of Echells. Value, x marks per annum.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. VIII. Sir Edmund Trafford, knt. held 40 messuages in Wilmslow and in Thorneton on the Moors, from the manor of Aldford, by knight's service, as the 15th part of a knight's fee. Value, per annum, vi. vis. vii. d.; also the mill of Thorneton, value xxs. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VIII. Sir Edmund Trafford held half the manor of Thorneton from the King, as of his manor of Aldford, by knight's service, as the 15th part of a knight's fee. Value, per annum, vii. l. vii. d.

40th Eliz.ⁿ Edmund Trafford, esq. passed over half the manor of Thorneton (super le mores) to Peter Warburton, esq. serjeant-at-law, afterwards Sir Peter Warburton, knt. whose only daughter, Elizabeth, married Sir Thomas Stanley, of Wever, knt.

20 Jac. I.^o Sir Peter Warburton, knt. died seized of half this place, lately purchased from Sir Edmund Trafford, held of the manor of Aldford; leaving Elizabeth, widow of Sir Thomas Stanley, his daughter and heir, aged 40 years.

By a purchase from the Stanleys of Alderley and Weever, this moiety was obtained by the Booths of Dunham; and the whole manor, thus reunited, descended, in this family, to the Hon. Langham Booth, third son of Henry, first Earl of Warrington^p. Upon his decease, on the 12th May, 1724, the manor of Thorneton, and the demesne attached to it, passed, by his bequest, to George Legh, of the East Hall, in High Legh, esq. grandfather of George John Legh, esq. the present proprietor.

A Court Baron is held by Mr. Legh for the manor of Thornton, and a game-keeper appointed; but the paramount jurisdiction of the superior court is still maintained by the present lord, the Right Hon. Robert Earl Grosvenor; and the land-owners of Thornton are summoned to attend at his Leet of Aldford.

The township of Thornton contains about six hundred Cheshire acres^q, of which nearly two thirds are the property of Mr. Legh. One part of this estate, the Holme House farm, is in the parishes of Stoke, Ince, and Thornton; but every part is within the manor of Thorneton. Of the remaining land, 16 Cheshire acres are glebe of Thornton Church; 6 acres, of Stockport; 7 of Over; 10 of L. Budworth; and 7 acres, of the church of St. Martin, in Chester.

The present hall of Thornton is merely a farm-house; and it is most probable that none of its manerial lords have resided in this township since the decease of Peter de Thornton, in the reign of Richard II. Within these few years a moated site was remaining, on the East side of the open village space, about two hundred yards East of the parish-church. The moat is now filled up; but some indications of its situation may still be traced, at the side of the highway and in the farm-yard adjoining; and it is most probable that its area once contained the mansion of the knightly family of Le Roter.

A valuable collection of Deeds relative to this manor, copied from the originals at Dunham Massey, is preserved in Harl. MSS. 2131.

RECTORS OF THORNTON.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1268. (ante.)	† Ranulphus, frater Petri le Roter de Thorneton.		
1301, die Jovis, in Vig. Concept. B. M. V.	Robertus de Ashby.	Rex rācōe custod. Petri f. et h. Ranulphi le Roter, def. qui ten. de R. in cap. infra ætatem.	
1304, 3 Id. Dec.	Adamus de Kelsale.	Petrus de Thorneton.	
1330.	Willielmus de Dutton.	Petrus de Thorneton, miles.	P. m. D'ni Adami de Kelsale, ult. Rect.
1343. (circa.)	* Ranulphus de.		
1375, 11 Kal. Junii.	Willielmus de Kekwicke.	Thomas de Dutton et Philippa, uxor ejus.	P. m. ult. Rect.
1405, 2 Junii.	Jo. de Oldeton, Cap's.	Oliverus de Staveley et Johanna, uxor ejus.	P. m. Willielmi de Kekwicke, ult. Rect.
1405, 22 Jan.	Hugo de Wever, Cap's.	Oliverus de Staveley, Domicillus, et Joha. uxor.	P. resig. Jo. de Oldeton, ult. Rect.
1409, 5 Sept.	Walterus Power.	Oliverus de Staveley et Johanna, uxor ejus.	P. resig. H. de Weever, ult. Rect.
	Johannes Booth.		

^m Elford is most probably inserted erroneously, from the circumstance of Stanley of Elford, haing succeeded to Aldford Fee.

ⁿ Williamson's Evidences, p. 89.

^o Villare Cestriense, p. 97.

^p Information of G. J. Legh, esq.

^q Information of the Rev. Thomson, Minister of Thornton.

^r Harl. MSS. 2038.

^s Inserted on the authority of a grant of lands in Wimbold's Trafford, q. v.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1452, 8 Julii.	Edmundus Booth, Cl'us.	Rob. Booth, miles, et Dulcia, uxor ejus.	P. m. Johannis Booth, ult. Rect.
1457, Julii 14.	Robertus Baburey.	Robertus Booth, miles.	P. resig. Robt. Baburey.
1494, Feb. 15.	Ricardus Booth, Cl'us.	Willielmus Booth, Arm.	P. m. Ricardi Booth, ult. Rect.
	Johannes Booth, LL.B.		
	William Plumtre.		
1545, Nov. 15.	Peter Tatton.	George Astley, Robt. Parker, and Ralph Massey.	Death of William Plumtre.
	Bernard Gilpin.		
1553.	William Ducke.	The Queen, on account of the minority of William Booth.	Resig. of Bernard Gilpin.
1581, Sept. 7.	John Underhill.	Peter Warburton.	Death of last Incumbent.
1599.	William Sobarae.		
	Samuel Fisher, A. M.		
1691, Oct. 13.	Robert Booth, A. M.	Henry, Earl of Warrington.	
1730, Oct. 13.	Rowland Hill, A. M.	Sir R. Hill, Bart.	Death of Robert Booth.
1733, Sept. 1.	Edward Harwood.	Thomas Hill, esq.	Death of Rowland Hill.
1760, Sept. 29.	Rowland Chambre, M. A.	Thomas Hill, esq.	Death of Edward Harwood.
1797, March 14.	Henry Cay Adams, M. A.	Lord Berwick.	Death of Rowland Chambre.
1799, March 25.	Hon. Richard Hill, M. A.	Lord Berwick.	Resig. of H. C. Adams.

Ranulphus, the earliest rector on record, identifies his near connection with his patron's family, by attesting an existing deed already referred to, under the signature of "*Ranulphus frater Petri le Roter de Thorneton.*"

The fifth Rector, also *Ranulphus*, was a land-owner in the adjacent township of Wimbold's Trafford, where will be found a further notice of his settlement of his estates there, on "his adopted daughter Avice de Moleworde."

Hugo de Wever may be referred with tolerable certainty to the family of the manorial lords of Weever, which, like Thornton, was dependent on the paramount royalty of Aldford. His patron, Oliver de Stavelegh, had a life-interest in the manor and advowson of Thornton, during the life of his wife Joanna, widow of Richard Venables, and daughter and heiress of Peter Fitton, of Bollin, and Thornton, on whom they were settled by Thomas de Stavelegh, trustee of the said Oliver and Joanna, with lands in Bollin, Pownall, Stoke, Picton, and Hellesby, anno 7 Hen. IV.^r

None of the rectors of the name of *Booth*, or *Bothe* (as then written), can be positively ascertained to have been of the Dunham or Mollington families, but were all contemporary with younger brothers of those houses of similar names.

There are few families which have attained an equal number of dignities in the church, with those possessed by the kinsmen of sir Robert Booth, who presented to this church in 1457. His brothers, William and Laurence, bishops of Lichfield and Durham, were successively seated in the archbishopric of York: his son John obtained the wardenship of Manchester and the see of Exeter^s. His nephew, Ralph Booth, of the Mollington branch, was archdeacon of York^t: his other nephew, John Booth, of the same branch, held the prebend of Riccal, in York Cathedral, the archdeaconry of Durham, the treasurership of Lichfield with Salley Rectory annexed, and the mastership of Denwall with the annexed rectory of Burton. His great nephew, Charles Booth, of the same branch, after going through many succes-

sive dignities, obtained the bishopric of Hereford in 1516, to the archdeaconry of which, in 1522, he collated his nephew, John Booth, D. D. of Brasenose College, Oxford.

John Booth, or *Bothe*, LL. B. was ordained deacon at Coventry, June 13, 1495, four months after he had been instituted to Thornton, and priest 19th September following. He was of course contemporary with John Bothe, who resigned Denwall in 1495^u, but it must be observed that the master of Denwall was prebendary of York as early as 1459, and archdeacon of Durham before 1478, when he is noticed as such in the monumental inscription of his brother, Robert Bothe, or Mollington.

Bernard Gilpin, a name entitled to peculiar reverence, as that of a divine distinguished in the reformation of our church, and only not a MARTYR in the Holy Cause, appears on the Episcopal Registers of Chester, as resigning this rectory in 1553. He was descended from a respectable family, and was nephew of Cuthbert Tonstall, archdeacon of Chester, afterwards bishop of Durham. After being educated at Queen's College, and Christ Church, in Oxford, he was collated by his relation to the rectories of Easington and Houghton le Spring, and the archdeaconry of Durham. In this situation his principles and activity exposed him to the resentment of the papists, and he was twice screened from a charge of heresy by the interference of his uncle, on which the subject was brought under the notice of Bonner, who is said to have pledged himself that Gilpin should suffer at the stake within a fortnight. For this he had prepared himself, but so severe a test was spared him, the queen dying while he was on his way to London. An accidental fracture of his leg brought on a delay of a few days, and was the immediate cause of his escape from martyrdom.

Mr. Gilpin returned to Houghton amidst crowds of his exulting friends and parishioners, which gave his journey the appearance of a triumphal procession, and there remained firmly fixed, declining the Provostship of Queen's College, the Bishopric of Carlisle, and other

^r Williamson's Deeds, p. 34.

^s Leicester, under Dunham Massey.

^t Vide the copy of his father's epitaph, in Wirral Hundred, under Mollington.

^u Vide Churton's Founders of Brasenose, p. 114, and a subsequent correction, p. 550.

offers of splendid preferment. His hospitality was unbounded, and his personal exertions, in visiting the prisons, and supplying the deficiencies of neglected parishes, obtained him the name of the Northern Apostle; added to which, his learned acquirements are said to have equalled his benevolence and his piety.

The life of this exemplary man has been written by bishop Carleton, who was educated at a school which he founded at Houghton, and by the Rev. William Gilpin, his descendant, the author of many well-known elegant and tasteful publications.

Samuel Fisher was ejected from Thornton for non-conformity. He died at Birmingham, and was the author of *Spiritual Submission*, in two funeral sermons; and of a fast sermon, on January 30th.

Rowland Hill, M. A. was nephew of the Honourable and Rev. Richard Hill, LL. D. a distinguished statesman of the reigns of William and Anne, through whose influence, a baronetcy was obtained for the Hawkstone family, in the limitations of which, this rector of Thornton was included. He was rector, also, of Forncet, in Norfolk, and Hodnet, in Shropshire, and died unmarried, July 11, 1733^t.

Dr. Samuel Clarke, an eminent biographer and puritanical divine, was a short time minister at Thornton, but will be noticed more properly under Shotwick, where he served the Curacy to the Improriation.

CHURCH.

Taxat. Eccl. P. Nicholai, 10l. 13s. 4d.
Val. Eccl. 24l. 7s. 8½d.

It appears from Domesday, that there was a church here before the Conquest. By the Charter of the fee of Aldford, in the time of king John, all the churches dependent on that fee were confirmed to sir John de Arderne; by whose charter, as well as by that of his predecessor, Richard de Aldford, this church was granted to Peter the Clerk, along with the manor of Thornton, as before-mentioned.

The patronage continued united to the manor, until the earl of Warrington sold the perpetual advowson for 500l. in or shortly before the year 1708, to the Rev. Richard Hill, LL. D. from whose nephew, Thomas Harwood, esq. who assumed the name of Hill, on succeeding to part of his uncle's fortune, it has descended to the present patron, lord Berwick^u. The rector has the tithes of all the parish^x: but the townships of Thornton, Elton, and Dunham, are protected by a modus for hay.

The church itself, which is dedicated to St. Helen^y, is a neat fabric of red stone, in good repair, and pleasingly embosomed in trees. It consists of a handsome tower-steeple containing three bells, a nave, chancel, and south aisle, at the end of which is another small chancel, supposed to have been erected by the Frodshams of Elton. This aisle and chancel are divided from the body of the church by eight arches, five of which are acutely pointed; the remaining three, being those next to the altar, are very obtuse. In the south wall of the aisle is a piscina, with a handsome trefoil arch, under a canopy ornamented with crockets, terminating in a rich

finial. The general style of the original windows is that of the time of Henry the Sixth; but flat-headed windows have been substituted for many of these, at the time of the repairing of the church in 1715.

^zThe windows of the church were antiently decorated with the coat-armours of Le Roter, Fitton, Hurlston, and other families; but of these, every vestige has disappeared. Two coats of Le Roter were of extreme antiquity; the first was the usual coat, three escarboucles on a bend; the second, Gules, three garbs and a lion passant in chief, Argent; a coat which does not appear from any other evidence to have been borne by the Le Roters of Thornton, but is universally given to the Roters of Kingsley, with a variation in the tinctures.

The following monuments are contained in the church, most of which consist of armorial paintings on wood, exhibiting the quarterings of the deceased, and reciting their marriages and issue, in the form of a funeral certificate. The churches in this part of Cheshire abound in them, and although frequently incorrect in blazonry, they are of singular use in genealogical researches.

I. On the north side of the communion table, a neat marble mural monument. Arms: Argent, a saltier Gules. Crest, on a wreath, a lion's gamb erased ermine, holding a hawk's lure, Or.

In memory of

George Edward Gerrard, esquire,

one of his majesty's justices of the peace,
and

one of the deputy lieutenants of this county:
who was born in Chester, April 23, 1723;
and died at Trafford, August 20, 1794.

In public and private life
his conduct was the result of a mind
governed by the principles
of uniform rectitude and integrity.
As a magistrate, he was intelligent and active;
as a husband, tender and affectionate;
as a father, mild and provident;
as a master, just and benevolent;
as a friend, zealous and sincere;
as a Christian, pious, steady, and orthodox,
constantly evincing his faith
by the works of righteousness.

He married Elizabeth, the only daughter of
George Johnson, of Warrington, esquire,
a woman of singular piety and discretion;
who, having feared the Lord all her days,
departed this life, July 21, 1766,
in the 37th year of her age.

They had issue two daughters and one son:
the latter died an infant, and was interred
in the chancel of St. John's church, in Chester.

Dorothy, their eldest daughter, married
the Rev. Richard Perryn, A. M.

Rector of Standish, in Lancashire;
by whom, as a testimony, however small,
of his gratitude and respect,
this monument is erected.

II. On the opposite side of the chancel, against the first pillar from the rails, is suspended a small wooden tablet, inscribed:

^t Wotton's Baronetage, IV. 217.

^u Purchase Deed is entered in Reg. B. 4. 1708. Gastrell's Not. Cest.

^x Information of the Rev. . . . Thomson, minister of Thornton.

^y So Gastrell; but dedicated to St. Mary, according to Bacon's Liber Regis.

^z Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 11.

Neer unto this place lyeth interred the body of James Gerrard, of Wimbold's Trafford, gent. son of Richard, a younger son of Richard Gerard, of Crewood, esq. who died the 8th day of December, 1679, aged 54 years.

Arms: 6 quarterings; 1st. Arg. a saltier G. for Gerard; 2d. Az. a lion rampant Ermine, ducally crowned, Or. for Bryn; 3d. Az. a lion ramp. Arg. Gerard of Kingsley, as descended from Montalt; 4th. Vert. a cross engrailed Erm. Kingsley; 5th. Arg. a tree erased Vert. Storeton; 6th. as first. Crest as in No. I.

III. Immediately opposite to this tablet is a pyramidal marble monument, attached to the North wall.

In memory of
the Rev. Rowland Chambré,
late Rector of this parish.

He was presented to this church in the year 1760;
where, no predecessor having resided
within the memory of man,
it devolved upon him to refit the parsonage,
erect several additional buildings,
and decorate the grounds about it.
He resided here during his incumbency,
and died the 10th day of December,
in the year of our Lord 1796,
aged 65.

Hæc domus ultima.
Tendimus huc omnes.

Attached to the pier, between this monument and the pulpit, are five monumental tablets, in memory of the Bunburys of Stanney, in the adjacent parish of Stoak; the largest of which is thus inscribed.

IV.

Next under this place lyeth the body of Sarai, daughter of John Chetwode, of Ockley, in the county Stafford, esq. late wife to Thomas Bunbury, of Stanney, in the county Palatyn of Chester, esq. by whom she had issue 5 sonnes, Thomas and John, which both dyed younge, and one unbaptized, Henry, William, and 7 daughters; Ursula, Martha, Eleanor, Elizabeth, that died younge, Abigail, Lidia, and Mary. She died the 24th day of November, A^o Dñi 1671, aged almost forty and five years.

Arms: Bunbury, with 7 quarterings, impaling, quarterly, Arg. and Gules, four crosses patée counterchanged, for Chetwode of Oakley, with eleven quarterings. 1st. Argent, on a bend Sable, 3 chess rooks of the first for Bunbury; 2d. Argent, a fesse Gules between three pheasants of the second; 3d. Gules, on a bend engrailed Argent, between 2 cinquefoils Or, 3 lions heads cabossed Vert. Aldersey; 4th. Argent, a bend double coticed Sable; 5th. Sable, 2 barrs Argent, Brereton; 6th. Or, on a chief Gules, 3 trefoils slipped Argent. a crescent for difference; Bamville of Chester; 7th. Arg. a tree erased Vert, Storeton; 8th. as the first. Crests: For Bunbury, on a wreath a lion's head Or, pierced in the mouth by two swords in saltier, with the points upwards, Argent, pommelled and hilted Or. For Chetwode, a demi lion rampant Gules, issuing from a ducal coronet.

V.

Here lieth the body of Mary, the daughter of Sir Thomas Bunbury, of Stanney, bart. She died the 13th of June, 1686, aged 19 years.

Arms: 8 coats, as in No. IV. except that the fourth coat is not doubly coticed.

VI.

Here lyeth the body of Sir Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, in the County of Chester, bart. who married dame

Mary, daughter of Sir Kendrick Eyton, of Eyton, in the county of Denbigh, knt. by whom he had issue, Thomas, Mary, William, John, Joseph, Richard, Francis, and Elizabeth. He died the 20th day of December, A^o Dñi 1687, aged 31 years.

Arms: Bunbury, with 7 quarterings, as in No. IV. impaling, Ermine, a lion rampant Sable for Eyton, with seven quarterings.

VII.

Here lyeth the body of Sir Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, in the co. of Chester, knt. He married two wives, first, Anne daughter to Geoffry Shakerly, of Holme, in the county of Chester, esq. by whom he had yssue 3 sonnes and 6 daughters (of whom there is surviving a sonne and four daughters). To his 2nd wife he married Anne daughter of Edward Norreys, of Speake, in the county of Lancaster, esq. by whom he had yssue 7 sonnes and 3 daughters, of whom there is surviving 6 sonnes and 2 daughters. The foresayd Sir Henry dyed on the viiith day of September, anno Domini 1634.

Arms: two large shields; the first of which consists of Bunbury, quartering as in No. IV. with the exception of the 4th and 8th coats, and impaling Shakerly, of Somerford, with 15 other quarterings: viz. 1st. Argent, a chevron between three mole hills Vert, for Shakerly; 2ndly, Sable, three shuttles Argent; 3dly, Azure, two bars Argent, over all a bend Gules: Legh of Booths; 4th, Or, a lion rampant Gules; Leigh of West Hall: 5th, party per fesse Argent and Sable, three boars passant counterchanged; Swineyard. 6th, Or, three lozenges Azure, Bagulegh. 7th, Argent, a fesse indented Gules, Chedle. 8th, Or, a fesse Azure, Vernon. 9th, Quarterly Or and Gules, over all a bend Sable, Malbank. 10th, Azure, a chevron between three ducal coronets Or, Corona. 11th, Azure, a garb Or, Grosvenor. 12th, Sable, a cross fleury Argent, Pulford. 13th, Azure, three Falcons Or. 14th, Argent, two barrs Gules, Mainwaring. 15th, Azure, three garbs Or, Earl of Chester. 16th, Azure, a wolf's head erased Argent, Lupus earl of Chester.

The other large shield consists of the coats of Bunbury, quartering as before and impaling, quarterly Argent and Gules, in the 2nd and 3d quarters a fret Argent, over all a fesse Azure, for Norreys of Speake, with 19 other quarterings.

VIII.

Here lyeth the body of Martha daughter of Sir Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, knt. by Anne his first wife, daughter of Geoffry Shakerly, of Shakerly, esq. she died the 1st day of July, in the year 1664.

Arms: Bunbury quartering the 2nd, 3rd, and 6th, coats of No. IV.

IX. On the south side of the south aisle is a mural monument of blue and white marble, decorated with several ornaments, and a shield emblazoned Sable, two calves counterpassant Argent, for Cottingham, impaling Argent a saltier Gules, for Gerard of Wimbold's Trafford. Crest, a Saracen's head proper, coupéd at the shoulders; on the crown of the head a wreath Argent and Azure. Inscription as follows:

Here lyeth interred with his ancestors
Peter Cottingham, esquire, first secretary
to the Lord Chancellor Macclesfield,
who dyed the 30th of January, 1743,
aged 71.

Also Jane Cottingham, his dearly beloved
wife, who died the 25th of November, 1751,
aged 76.

X. Close to this monument, but within the chapel at the end of the aisle, is another mural monument, of white veined marble. Arms and crest as before, for Cottingham: on an escocheon of pretence Or, three trefoils slipped Sable, between two chevrons of the second, for Gregge. Inscription:

Underneath lies interred
the body of
Richard Cottingham,
of the city of Chester, gent.
eldest son of John Cottingham,
of Dunham on the Hill, gent.
He married Mary the only daughter
and heir
of John Gregg, of Elton, gent.
by whom he had issue one son,
named John.

He departed this mortal life
the 27th of August, 1720,
in the 49th year of his age.

XI. On a flag stone within the chapel:
Here lyeth interred the body of John Farrar, of the

city of Chester, gentleman, late one of the attornies of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer, who married Eleanor, daughter of John Frodsham, of Elton, esq. who departed this life the 6th day of July, 1684.

The Registers commence in 1574: there is a deficiency from 1682 to 1688.

In 1722 there was a School^a in the church-yard, erected by the parishioners, the master of which was maintained out of the money left to the poor for charitable purposes, amounting to 305l. 10s. of which sum 63l. had then been lost. The school has been lately rebuilt in the village, by the parishioners^b, and the master receives, as his salary, a moiety of the rent of seven Cheshire acres, in the township of Elton, in which the parish money has been vested, and which produce about 15l. per annum. The other moiety is expended without distinction of townships on the poor of the parish.

The master is appointed by the minister of Thornton and the Rev. Richard Perryn, in right of the manor of Wimbolds Trafford.

ELTON.

THE township of Elton adjoins to Thornton on the South East, and like that township is somewhat unfavourably situated, in a low damp country, north west of the Frodsham marshes. It is the second township in extent in the parish.

Of this place, Domesday states, "Ipse comes tenet Eltone. Tochi et Grym pro 11 maneriis tenuerunt ut liberi homines: ibi duo hidæ geldabiles: terra est vii carucarum: in dominio est una: et 11 bovarii, et vi villani, et unus bordarius cum una carucâ: tempore R. Edwardi valebat xxxviii solidos, modo vi solidos. Wasta est."

At a subsequent period the manor of Elton became dependant on the fee of Aldford, and was granted by John de Arderne, lord of Aldford, in marriage with Cicely his sister, to William de Wasteneys, 4 Edw. II. to hold the same by the annual render of a rose^c.

William, son of this William de Wasteneys, vested this manor in trust, together with the services of Robert de Elton, and Richard de Marshall, anno 1341; and his daughter Agnes dying without issue, William, son of Masculin de Wasteneys, was found his next kinsman and heir, 12 Hen. IV.^d

This William, son of Masculin de Wastneys, enfeoffed Sir Hugh de Holes, of Brunstath, with the manor^e of Elton; from whom, 19 Richard II. Robert Erneways, Chaplain, obtained the same manor, and settled it on Hugh de Holes for life, remainder to Edmund son of Hugh, and his heirs male, remainder to Roger Holes, remainder to David, son of John de Holes, and his heirs for ever^f.

Margery, daughter and heiress of Thomas de Holes, brought the estates of her family in marriage to John Troutbeck, whose son Sir William Troutbeck, held among other estates the manor of Elton, from the king,

by military service, as the tenth part of a knight's fee; value x marks per annum. *Inq. p. m.* 4 Edw. IV.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VIII. Sir William Troutbeck, knt. held lands in Elton from the king by military service. Value, per annum, vii. xiiis. ivd.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VIII. Margaret Talbot, widow, held the manor of Elton from the king by military service. Value, with lands in Thornewton, xiiii. vis. viiis.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. VI. Sir John Talbot, knt. held six messuages in Elton, from the king, by military service. Value, per annum, xixl. viis.

Inq. p. m. 2 and 3 Philip and Mary, Sir John Talbot, knt. held lands in Elton and Thornewton, from the queen, by military service. Value, per annum, xixl. viis.

39 Eliz. John Talbot, esq. and Katherine his wife, passed over by fine to Sir Edward Brabazon, half the manor of Elton, with 10 messuages, and 720 acres of land, for the sum of 2000l.^g

The estate thus acquired by the Brabazons, or a considerable portion thereof, was sold by them to the Crewes; and, during the civil wars, again passed by purchase, to the family of Gregge, of Hapsford^h. The daughter and heiress of Edward Gregge, brought the estates of her family in marriage to Roger Barnston, esq. in the seventeenth century, from whom a considerable property in Elton has descended to his grandson, the present Roger Barnston, of Churton and Chester, esquire.

Other estates in the township, which were most probably parcel of the dependant manor, are in the possession of Townsend Ince, of Christleton, esquire, Bell Ince, esq. his brother, and the purchasers from the representatives of the Frodshams; but the only manerial rights now exercised within the township are those claimed by the right honourable the Earl Grosvenor, in right of his manor of Aldfordⁱ.

^a Gastrell's Notitia.

^b Information of the Rev. Mr. Thomson.

^c Villare Cestriense. Williamson's Collections, p. 8.

^d Vill. Cest.

^e Ibid.

^f Williamson's Evidences, p. 31.

^g Williamson's Collections, p. 83. Harl. MSS. 2090, p. 32.

^h Vill. Cest.

ⁱ The same rights were claimed by Aldford, in 1671, as appears by a Villare of that date. Harl. MSS. 2010, p. 209.

The interest of the Eltons, ancestors of the Frodshams, in this township, was acquired before the close of the reign of Henry the Third, when Thomas de Helton appears as witness to a grant of lands in Hapsford, with Hugh lord of Hapsford, Peter le Roter, Ranulph rector of Thornton, and others. In the reign of Edward the Second Thomas de Elton remitted to William Wastneys, sen. and Cecily his wife, all his rights in the wastes of Elton^k.

Thomas de Elton's grand-daughter and coheirss, in the reign of Edward III. brought three messuages and three bovates of land in Elton, to William de Frodsham, in marriage^l.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edward III. William de Frodsham held in demesne, as of fee, three messuages and three bovates of land in Elton, from the lord of Pulford in capite, by the services of the tenth part of a knight's fee, and the render of a pair of white gloves yearly, also by the payment of *xd. ob.* to the heirs of William Wastneys, value per annum *xxs.* also one burgage in Frodsham, value *xiiid.* per annum, and a moiety of other lands in Elton, value *iiiiid.* per annum Robert Frodsham, son and heir.

4 Hen. IV. Sept. 18^m. The king grants to William Frodsham, of Elton, all the lands and tenements of the late William Frodsham, Chamberlain of North Wales, granted by mistake to John Done, of Utkinton, and Richard Chetwyndⁿ.

From this period, the descent of the Elton Hall estate is traced by the pedigree subjoined to the account of this township; to the usual copies of which the two last-mentioned Williams are added, on the authority of the deeds above-mentioned; and a third William is added in the next generation from another pedigree occasionally given in the Cheshire Collections, which agrees with this pedigree after the match with Longworth, but is perfectly contradictory to it in the earlier generations. According to this pedigree Edward Frodsham, of Elton, who married Margaret Bunbury, was the fourteenth in descent from Peter Frodsham, of Frodsham Castle, in the reign of Richard the First; but from several marriages being inserted which cannot be reconciled with the accounts of the families alluded to, and from the names of the Frodshams mentioned therein, being such as do not occur in charters of that age, these descents appear to be erroneous, and are accordingly here rejected.

The male line of this antient family terminated in 1765, in the person of Peter Frodsham, of Elton, esq. After the division of the property amongst his sisters three fifths of the Elton estate came to the Rev. George Hodson, rector of Liverpool, from his mother, one of the co-heiresses, and her two sisters Alicia and Catherine. This portion was sold by him about the year 1789, to Charles Goodwin, of Farndon, esq. on whose decease, in 1814, it passed by bequest to his niece, the

daughter of Walter Thomas, of Chester, merchant, and now wife of Hugh Maxwell, esq. of Croes Howell, in the county of Denbigh, who has assumed the name of Goodwin.

The remaining two shares were purchased from the other co-heiresses by a family of the name of Platt, in which they continue vested, with the exception of seven Cheshire acres, which have been sold to the parish of Thornton.

Elton Hall is a large brick mansion, with gables, in the style of the seventeenth century. It is now occupied only as a farm-house, a destiny which all the halls in its neighbourhood partake of, and which throws no small air of desolation over a district once the residence of many knightly families. Still, however, its high moss-grown garden walls, and the venerable trees which surround it, maintain the respectability of its appearance, and recall the memory of its better days.

Of its former possessors, William Frodsham, as has been noticed in the preceding abstracts, held the office of Chamberlain of North Wales in the reign of Richard the Second. To this family we may also in some degree refer Sir Thomas Chaloner, son of Sir Thomas Chaloner, of Steeple Claydon (a poet, statesman, and soldier, of the sixteenth century,) by his wife Ethelreda, the daughter of Edward Frodsham, esq. He was educated under the direction of the Lord Treasurer Burleigh, and was the discoverer of the first alum mines that were known in this kingdom, on his estate near Gisborough in Yorkshire. He accompanied king James on his journey into England, and was afterwards entrusted with the care of Prince Henry's education.

William Chaloner, the eldest son of Sir Thomas, and grandson of Ethelreda Frodsham, was created a baronet in 1620. Edward, the second son, was educated at Magdalen College, Oxford, from which he was elected a fellow of All Souls, and was afterwards made chaplain to James the First, and Principal of Alban Hall. Thomas Chaloner, another son, was member for Aldborough, in the Long Parliament, one of the judges at the trial of king Charles, and a member of the Council of State. James Chaloner, a fourth son, also one of the king's judges, married a daughter of Sir William Fairfax, of Steeton, in Yorkshire. He is supposed to have been the James Chaloner who wrote the History of the Isle of Man appended to the original edition of the Vale Royal.

The family of Frodsham has now retired from Cheshire, but it must not be omitted, that the eldest line of its representatives has given the present learned and accomplished Principal to a College, which, in its origin, partook most largely of Cheshire munificence, and, during a lapse of three centuries, has continued to repay the debt, by supplying in never failing succession the supports and ornaments of the county of its founder.

^k Vill. Cest.

^l Vill. Cest.

^m Records in Chester Castle.

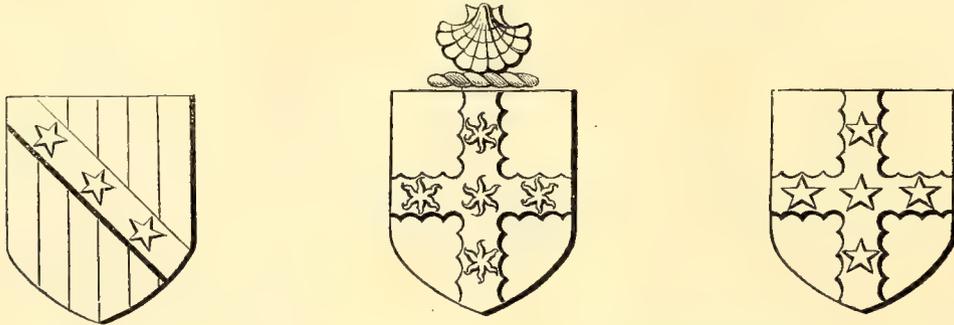
ⁿ The mistake most probably consisted in the circumstance of its not being known that William Frodsham was of age fit to receive the livery of his father's lands.

ELTON, AND FRODSHAM, OF ELTON.

Collected from Vincent's Cheshire; Harl. MSS. 1424, 1535, and 2119; the Inquisitions p. m. and Parochial Registers.

ARMS. Elton. Paly of 6, Argent and Gules, on a bend Sable, 3 mullets Argent.
 FrodsHAM. Argent, on a cross engrailed Sable, 5 stars of six rays Argent.
 Crest. On a wreath an escallop shell, Argent.

Note, the later pedigrees of FrodsHAM substitute mullets for the stars, as in the coat annexed.



THOMAS DE HELTON, witness to a grant of lands in Hapsford, along with Peter le Roter, Lord of Thornton, Ranulph, Rector of Thornton, and others, about 1268.

THOMAS, son of Thomas de Elton, temp. Edw. II. =

THOMAS, son of Thomas de Elton, died before his father. =

FELICIA, daughter of Thomas, son of Thomas de Elton, = WILLIAM DE FRODSHAM, coheiress to her grandfather, temp. E. III. Inq. 35 E. III.

ROBERT DE FRODSHAM, son and heir, per Inq. aforesaid, 35 E. III. =

WILLIAM FRODSHAM, of Elton, esq. Chamberlain of North Wales, ob. ante 4th Hen. IV. =

WILLIAM FRODSHAM, of Elton, son and heir, had livery of his father's lands 4th Hen. IV. ward of John Done, of Utkinton, and Richard Chetwynd. =

WILLIAM FRODSHAM, of Elton, esq. = MARGERY, daughter of William Bordsley, of Manchester.

LAWRENCE FRODSHAM, of Elton, second son. Harl. MS. 2119. = ELIZABETH, daughter of Thomas Daniell, of Daresbury. THOMAS FRODSHAM, of Elton. = MARY, daughter of Ingram Longworth, of Longworth, Co. Pal. Lancast. gent.

ALICE, wife of John Rosse, of Stapely. MARGARET, wife of Laurence Woodnoth, of Shavington. CICELY, wife of Randle Moore, of Haslington. MARGERY, wife of Robert Sadler, of Nantwich. ELEANOR, wife of John Bromley, of Basford. EDWARD FRODSHAM, of Elton, esq. = MARGARET, daughter of John Bunbury, of Stanney, esq. by Agnes, daughter of William Norreys, of Speyke.

HENRY, 4th. GEORGE, 3d. JOHN FRODSHAM, second son, in orders. ANNE, buried at Stoke, 29th Jan. 1544. ELIZABETH, daughter of ... second wife, buried at Thornton 15th Feb. 1599-1600. WILLIAM FRODSHAM, of Elton, esq. 1566, buried at Thornton 29th July, 1660. MARGARET, daughter of John Broster, of Bosley, near Macclesfield. 2. DOROTHY, died unmarried, buried at Thornton 14th Nov. 1592. 1. MARGARET, married to Robert Shefford, of Yorkshire. 3. ETHELRED, wife of Sir Thomas Chaloner, of Steeple Claydon, co. Bucks, knt.; secondly, of Edward Brockette. Had issue.

WILLIAM baptized at Thornton 5th Nov. 1585. HENRY, baptized at Thornton 20th Dec. 1586. ANNE, baptized at Thornton 22d Aug. 1589. JANE. JOHN FRODSHAM, of Elton, esq. 10th June, 1609. MARY, daughter of William Radclyffe, of Manchester, buried at Thornton 5th June, 1596. EDWARD. THOMAS. ROBERT.

5. HUMPHREY, 5th son, a doctor in London. 3. HENRY, 3d son, a captain, bapt. at Thornton 20th July, 1586. Had issue. 2. WILLIAM, ob. s. p. baptized at Thornton 22d Jan. 1582-83. 4. THOMAS, ob. s. p. baptized at Thornton 18th June, 1589. JOHN FRODSHAM, of Elton, died 23d March, 1641-2, to whom his daughter, Catherine Savage, administered 2d April, 1642. BEATRIX, daughter of Robert Hyde, of Norbury, co. Cest. esq. buried at Thornton 20th July, 1628. 6. EDWARD, residing in the Low Countries, 1650. MAUD, wife of Thomas Caldwell, of Appleton. MARY, baptized at Thornton, 30th Aug. 1584, wife of Thomas, second son of George Rutter, of Kingsley.

WILLIAM, died in the Low Countries, s. p. JOHN, ob. s. p. CATHERINE, buried at Thornton 2d October, 1600. ELIZABETH, baptized at Thornton 30th April, 1609; buried there, 2th Jan. 1611. EDWARD FRODSHAM, of Elton, baptized at Thornton 5th April, 1593; died before his father, æt. 37, 10th March, 1630, buried at Thornton. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Hawarden, of ... co. Lanc. buried at Thornton 9th July, 1671. ELLENA, buried at Thornton, 7th Dec. 1601. CATHERINE, wife of ... son of John Savage, of Barrow, and after to ... Hendrop, of Little Lever, co. Lanc. ELIZABETH, baptized at Thornton, 10th March, 1594-5, buried there, 1608. MARY, baptized at Thornton, 15th Oct. 1615, buried there 24th Oct. 1625.

WILLIAM, second son, baptized at Thornton, 2d June, 1622. AMY, daughter of ... Thornton, of Chester, sugar-baker. Had issue. Two Sons, still-born, buried at Thornton, 7th July, 1629. EDWARD, baptized at Thornton, 16th Jan. 1630-31, buried there 29th April 1631. JOHN FRODSHAM, of Elton, esq. born 1620, buried at Thornton, 22d Sept. 1668. MARY, daughter of John Savage, of Barrow, esq. who survived her husband. CATHERINE, baptized at Thornton 23d July, 1615, married to Nathaniel Bannister, co. Salop. MARY, baptized at Thornton 22d August, 1616, s. p. ELIZABETH, s. p. MARY, wife of Captain Francis Duckenfield.

1. JOHN FRODSHAM, baptized at Thornton, 13th Feb. 1653. 3. HUMPHREY, baptized at Thornton, 16th Feb. 1642, buried there 23d Feb. 1653. 4. HENRY FRODSHAM, of Hapsford, baptized at Thornton 22d May 1645; buried there 14th March, 1712-13. MARY, daughter of ... buried at Thornton 15th Feb. 1691-2. 2. EDWARD FRODSHAM, of Elton, baptized at Thornton, Feb. 7, 1643-44, buried there 29th December, 1688. ELIZABETH, Cratchley, of Daniel's Ark, married at Thornton 3d Feb. 1669-70. 5. WILLIAM, bapt. at Thornton 30th June, 1646, buried there 24th Dec. 1647. 6. RICHARD, bapt. at Thornton 13th Oct. 1651, bur. there 25th May 1653. ELENOR, bapt. at Thornton 20th Feb. 1647-8, bur. 18th Sept. 1649. ELEANOR, wife of John Farrar, of Chertsey, gent. who was buried at Thornton July 6, 1684. ELIZABETH, bapt. at Thornton 3d July, 1649.

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JOHN FRODSHAM, baptized at Thornton 25th April 1672; buried there 9th July 1689.	EDWARD FRODSHAM, baptized at Thornton 6th July 1675, buried at Thornton 22d February, 1686-7.	ROBERT FRODSHAM, baptized at Thornton 19th Sept. 1676, died in Chester, buried at Thornton 20th May, 1676.	THOMAS FRODSHAM, of Elton, esq. baptized at Thornton 24th March, 1670-71, buried there 30th March, 1727.	CATHERINE, daughter and coheir of Peter Venables, of Mere, co. Cest. esq. buried at Thornton 18th March, 1718.	CHARLES, baptized at Thornton, 28th Dec. 1677.	HUMPHREY, baptized at Thornton 14th Sept. 1680; bur. at Thornton 29th Dec. 1680.	JAMES, baptized at Thornton 3d June, 1686.	MARY, bapt. at Thornton 19th June, 1673; buried at Thornton 17th Nov. 1673.	MARTHA, baptized at Thornton 21st August, 1683.
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1. EDWARD FRODSHAM, baptized at Thornton 19th Feb. 1694-5; buried at Thornton 21st April, 1696.	2. THOMAS FRODSHAM, baptized at Thornton 21st June, 1696; there buried 20th March, 1696-7.	3. JOHN FRODSHAM, baptized at Thornton 23d May, 1698; buried 22d June, 1731; s. p.	4. PETER FRODSHAM, baptized at Thornton 14th May, 1702; buried 17th Nov. 1765; s. p.	5. ROBERT FRODSHAM, baptized at Thornton 19th June, 1706; buried at ditto 25th May, 1707.	6. WILLIAM FRODSHAM, baptized at Thornton 12th June, 1708; buried at Thornton 14th March 1709-10.	7. THOMAS FRODSHAM, baptized at Thornton 5th May 1713; died young.	MURIEL, 6th daughter and co-heiress, baptized at Thornton 4th Nov. 1711; buried there 30th July, 1730; s. p.
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GEORGE HODSON, M. A. eldest son of John Hodson, rector of Thurston, by his wife Dorothy, daughter of John Hockenhull, of Prenton, esq. baptized at the chapel of Brucra 9th Oct. 1701; buried at Thurston 28th Dec. 1758.	ELIZABETH, eldest daughter and coheir, baptized at Thornton 26th November, 1699, buried at Saint George's, Liverpool, 18th Sept. 1778.	ALICIA, 2d daughter and coheir, bapt. at Thornton 17th Jan. 1700-1, wife of the Rev. John Hodson, A. B. 2d son of John Hodson aforesaid, died in Liverpool, buried at Saint Oswald's, Chester, s. p.	MARTHA, 3d daughter, bapt. at Thornton 8th July, 1703, married at W. Kirby 6th Jan. 1729-30; died at Neston 20th Sept. 1737; buried at Thornton, wife of Thomas Crane, of Chester. Left issue.	MARGARET, 4th dau. bapt. at Thornton Dec. 27, 1704; mar. at Malpas, Aug. 19, 1728; died at Trafford; buried at Thornton 17th May, 1771.	WILLIAM HANDLEY, clerk, who died at Trafford 14th June, 1790, et. 85; buried at Thornton.	CATHERINE, 5th daughter, baptized at Thornton 2d October, 1709; died in Chester; buried at Thornton 3d July, 1786; s. p.
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GEORGE HODSON, Rector of Liverpool, born May 1738, died at Liverpool 14th April, 1794; buried at Saint George's, April 18th. Married at Preston 18th October, 1764.	ELIZABETH, only daughter and heir of the Rev. R. Nightingale, of Allington, co. Lancaster, born at Farnworth, co. Lancaster, 1st October, 1743.	GEORGE HODSON, eldest son, died an infant, buried at Thurston 13th May, 1733.	ELIZABETH, buried at Thurston, o. s. p. 1729.	ELIZABETH, buried at Feb. 11th, 1730.	FRANCES, buried at W. Kirby 3d Aug. 1731.	DOROTHY, bapt. at W. Kirby Jan. 1st, 1737.	ELIZABETH, buried at Thurston 14th Jan. 1748-49.	MARY, only daughter and heiress, born 20th Dec. 1732, baptized at Thornton.	RICHARD ROBINSON, of Liverpool, married at Thornton 8th May, 1755.
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FRODSHAM HODSON, D. D. born at Liverpool June 7th, 1770, bapt. at St. Thomas's Ch. elected Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford, 1809.	ANNE, eldest daughter of John Dawson, of Mossley Hill, esq. married at Camberwell, co. Surrey, 30th June, 1808.	JOHN HODSON, 2d son, bapt. at St. George's, Liverpool, May 5, 1775, died at Liverpool 8th July, 1801, buried at St. George's.	ELIZABETH, eldest daughter, baptized at St. Thomas's, Liverpool, 29th August, 1765, married at Saint George's, 12th Nov. 1805, to Richard Salisbury, esq. of Cooper Hill, near Preston, ob. s. p.	FRANCES, SA-RAH, MARY.	THOMAS FRODSHAM ROBINSON, ob. s. p.	HANDLEY, living at Barboes.	Two daughters.	CATHERINE, wife of William Leigh, of Liverpool, esq. married at Thornton 12th Feb. 1798, by whom she had issue one son.
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ANNE ELIZA, eldest daughter, born June 25th, 1809.	GEORGIANA, second daughter, born 18th October, 1810.	ELIZA, third daughter, born 27th July, 1812.	CAROLINE NIGHTINGALE, fourth daughter, born 1814, May 24.
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HAPS福德.

The Fitzalans, earls of Arundel, were antiently the superior lords of this place, in right of their manor of Dunham.

24 Edw. III. John de Elton and Sibilla his wife obtained from Thomas, son of Roger de Simonson of Oswalstree, and Katherine his wife, half the manor, one messuage, and two bovates of land, in Stony Dunham, and half the manor of Hapsford, paying five marks of silver.

39 Edw. III. William Dutton, parson of Thorneton, obtained from Thomas le Younge, of Oswalstree, and Margaret his wife, the 8th part of the manor of Hapsford, with lands in Hapsford and Stony Dunham. This Thomas le Younge had received a grant of Dunham and its dependant manors from the earl of Arundel, ten years preceding.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Thomas de Dutton held, among other estates, lands in Hapsford.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VIII. Sir Peter Dutton, knt. held, among other estates, lands in Hapsford, from the earl of Arundel, by military service. Value per annum vii.

27 Eliz. John Dutton^p, of Dutton, past over the manor of Hapsford, among other estates and manors, by fine.

Inq. p. m. 6 Jac. I. John Dutton^q, of Dutton, esq. held, among other estates and manors, the manor of Hapsford, from the earl of Arundel, by the 30th part of a knight's fee.

Elinour Dutton, grand-daughter of this John Dutton, and heiress of this antient family, married Gilbert Gerard, lord Gerard, of Gerards Bromley, father of Dutton, father of Charles, father of Digby fifth lord Gerard, who sold the lands of this township^r to the several tenants, but reserved the Royalty, which, on the death of this Digby, lord Gerard's, without male issue, Nov. 8, 1684, passed under a settlement made by his father Charles lord Gerard (Nov. 29, 1660.) to his cousin Charles, sixth lord Gerard, from whom it passed to his sister Frances, wife of Thomas Fletewood, esq. under a settlement made by indentures of lease and release dated 22d and 23d of November, 1705, which was confirmed by his will, dated March 14, 1706. After some intermediate alienations the manor of Hapsford is now vested in Hugh Maxwell Goodwin, of Croes Howell, in the county of Denbigh, esq. in right of his wife, the daughter of Walter Thomas, of Chester, merchant, and niece and heiress of the late Charles Goodwin, of

^o Williamson's Evidences.

^p *Ibid.* p. 83.

^q *Ibid.* p. 96.

^r Villare Cestriense.

^s From a collection of Gerard deeds, communicated by William Hamper, esq. which will be given at greater length in the account of Dutton.

tofts, and sixty acres of land cum pert. in W. Troghford, from Sir Rowland Lentall and William Trowtbecke, esq. by services unknown. Value xxviii. viiij.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. James Bruyne, esq. held two messuages, and two shillings rent in W. Troghford, from John Talbott and Margery his wife, by services unknown. Value, per annum, xxviii.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VIII. John Bruyne, esq. held lands in W. Trafford, from John Talbot and Margaret his wife, by services unknown. Value xxxs. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 29 Eliz. John Bruyne held the manor of W. Trafford from John Trafford, esq. by services unknown. Value, per annum, xxxs.

Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz. Thomas Bunbury, esq. held lands in W. Trafford, under John Bruyne, esq. by fealty. Value 3l. per annum.

The manor of Wimbalds Trafford passed in 1752, in the sale of the Bruen estates, to Randle Wilbraham, esq. of Rode, by whom it was sold to the late George Edward Gerrard, esq. whose family had been for several descents possessed of another estate in this township, which was also purchased from the Bruens by Hugh Williamson, 19th Jac. I. and was sold by his descendant John Williamson^x, in 1659, to James Gerard, gent. son of Richard Gerard^y, who was a younger son of Richard Gerard, esq. of Crewood. Since the decease

of Mr. Gerard the estate has passed in right of his eldest daughter and co-heiress Dorothy, to her husband, the Rev. Richard Perryn, A.M. Rector of Standish, in Lancashire, who is the present proprietor.

No court is held for this manor.

The Hall of Wimbalds Trafford, a large brick mansion, pleasantly situated in well-timbered grounds, at the distance of four miles and a half North East from Chester, was built by the late possessor, and stands at a short distance from the Frodsham Road.

In the preceding series of Inquisitions, the Bruens are first recognized as proprietors of a share of the manor in the reign of Edward III. In the earlier period of their connexion with this township, the manor was held by the Robert le Bor, who was sued by them for lands in this township 43 Edw. III. In the archives of the earls of Shrewsbury is a deed of Randle, "rector of Thornton," by which he grants to his adopted child, Margery, daughter of Avice de Moldeword, lands lately purchased from this Robert styled lord of Wymbaldis Trofford; remainder to her uncle Peter de Moleworde. The seal is diamond-formed, bearing a half length of the virgin and child, and an ecclesiastic praying, in a niche of tabernacle work beneath. The inscription:

S. RANVLF I DE DE THRINTON.

DUNHAM ON THE HILL.

THE situation of this township accords precisely with its Saxon name, *sun* a hill, and *ham* a dwelling-place. It is seated on a gentle and verdant elevation above the vale which extends from the forest hills to the banks of the Mersey. On the summit of the knoll is scattered a motley assemblage of farm-houses and cottages, which form the village of Dunham, pleasingly diversified with trees, and surrounded with fruitful pastures.

Of this township, we find in Domesday "Ipse comes tenet Doneham. Essul tenet in paragio ut liber homo: ibi III hidæ geldabiles: Terra est IX carucarum: in dominio est dimidia caruca, et VII villani, et faber, et III bordarii cum una carucâ et dimidiâ: ibi II acræ prati: silva dimidia leuvâ longitudine et quarta parte latitudine. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat XL solidos, modo XVI solidos. Wasta fuit.

The Fitzalans, afterwards earls of Arundel, and connected by marriage with the earls of Chester, appear to have been the first grantees of this manor. Dunham now became head of an extensive seignior, comprizing the manors of Alvanley, Hellesby, Mickle^z Trafford, Wimbalds Trafford, Hoole, and Hapsford. John Fitzalan, between 1208 and 1226^a, confirms an alienation of Alvanley to Philip de Orreby, as capital lord in right of Dunham. By another charter enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday, dated "apud Braundon xx^o Hen. f. R. Johan." Matildis de Verdun "d'na de Arundel," releases to her son John Fitzalan, all her claims on the manor of Troghford, which he had assigned her for dower. This charter is extant at length among earl Grosvenor's MSS. XXI: 5. p. 104.

Edmund Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, who was taken prisoner at Shrewsbury, by means of Roger lord Mortimer, the minion of the queen, incurred a forfeiture of his estates, and was beheaded at Hereford, 20th Edw. II. after which queen Isabella gave this manor with Trafford, to John Hotham, bishop of Ely, with remainder to John, son of Peter his cousin, 23d Dec. 1 Edw. III.^b Richard Fitzalan, son of Edmund, subsequently recovered his estates and was restored in blood by king Edward the Third. This Richard granted in trust to Thomas Yonge, eschætor of Cheshire, the manors of Hoole, Mickle Trafford, and Dunham, 29th Edw. III.^c

Richard earl of Arundel, son of the preceding, had license 11 Ric. II. to alienate the manors of Trafford and Dunham, held of the king in capite, to Hugh Browe, chevalier, for life; for which license, Hugh Browe paid ten marks^d.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. V. Thomas earl of Arundel, son of the preceding Richard, held in demesne, as of fee tail, the manors of Stony Dunham and Mykull Troghford, in com. Cest. cum pert. from the king as earl of Chester in capite, by military service. Value, per annum, xxi.

By this inquest, I believe the capital or paramount manor of Dunham only to be intended, which continued vested to a distant period^e in the collateral line of the earls of Arundel, to whom the castle and seignior of Arundel descended by entail on the death of this Thomas. A subordinate manor had, for some time existed, as will appear by the following documents, which had been divided previously between the sisters

^x Vill. Cest.

^y Monuments at Thornton.

^z Vide the accounts of these townships.

^a Vide Alvanley. The predecessor of Hugh Grylle, a witness, died in 1208, and he died in 1226.

^b Villare Cest. p. 6.

^c Harl. MSS. 2074. 224.

^d Harl. MSS. 2074. 205.

^e Vide *Inq. temp.* Jac. I. in Hapsford.

of earl Thomas, of whom Alice, the fourth daughter, died without issue^f. The others were, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas lord Mowbray, earl of Nottingham, afterwards duke of Norfolk, Joan wife of William Beauchamp, baron of Abergavenny, and Margaret wife of Sir Rowland Lenthall, knt.

Under these sisters, William Troutbeck, held a third of the manor of Dunham, in the time of Richard II., by rent certain, as appears by the following directions from the wife of the unfortunate Mowbray, then justice of Chester, to his deputy Peirs Pole, relative to an alienation of their share of this manor to Norman Babyngton. ^g

“ { The Duchesse
 { of Norff.’

“ Right dere and well belovet, we grete yow well, and for alsmycull as we have given under oure great seall of oure armes, unto oure servant Norman Babyngton, and Margaret his wife, and unto the heires of Norman, the thrid part of the manoirs of Staune Dunham and Troghford, with the app’tenuz, of the which, William Troutbek holds of us the thrid part; t’me of his life yeelding to us yerely a certayne rent, as the said William Troutbek can declare yow more pleyneley, we pray you with all oure hert, that ye make fine to be rered before yow of thrid part of the s’d manoirs, and also of the thrid part of the ferme, the which the s’d Troutbek yeelds to us and to our sistres, unto the said Norman and Margaret, and to the heires of Norman, and with warantie, writen under our great seale at Annesley, xx May.

“ To our dere and right wellbylovet Peirs of Pole,
 “ Justice of Chester.”

Seal of arms two and a half inches diameter, bearing the arms of England, with a label of three points, impaling a shield blazoned, quarterly, 1st and 4th checquy, 2nd and 3rd a lion rampant, circumscribed “ + Sigillum d’ne Elizabeth . . . norforthie : comitisse : marçlli : . . . redby : de knapp

At what time Babyngton’s share passed to the Troutbecks does not appear: the other shares passed as follows.

^h 4 Hen. VI. William Troutbeck, esq. obtained from Joan Beauchamp, lady of Abergavenny, a third part of Stony Dunham, and Hole, with three messuages, and one hundred and thirty acres, to him and his heirs for 100l. In the same year, Sir Rowland Lenthall and W. Troutbeck only, are described in an Inquisition, as joint superior lords of Wimbalds Trafford, in right of this manor. ⁱ 22 Hen. VI. Sir Rowland Lenthall, with his wife Margaret, and Edmund his son, sold their share to William Troutbeck, by which the whole became vested in this family^k

Of the Troutbecks I find the following Inquisitions, &c.

Inq. p. m. 36 Hen. VI. William Troutbecke, esq. and Johanna his wife, held the manors of Troghford Magna, Stony Dunham, and Hole, and also of Budworth en le Fryth, and Little Neston, of the feoffment of John del Dodwoode and Richard Bolde, and also of lands in Woodchurch, Ledsham, and Little Xtleton, of the feoffment of Roger de Hulme, Parson of Astbury, and John Massy, chaplain, John Troutbeck, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 31 Hen. VI. Johanna, widow of William Trowtbeck, held one messuage in Chester, value 111s.

per annum, and x11js. rent, issuing out of a messuage in Eastgate Streete. John Trowtbeck, son and heir, forty years old and upwards.

6 Oct. 25 Hen. VI. John Done releases Johanna, widow of William Troutbeck, and Sir John Troutbeck, chamberlain, his son, from puture, for their manor of Dunham.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. John Troutbecke held in demesne, as of fee, the manors of Brinstath, Dunham, Troghford, and Budworth, cum pert. with lands in Carnesdale, Barneston, Oxton, Tranmore, Upton, Raby, L. Neston, Hargreave, Newton in Wirral, Chester, Handbridge, Woodchurch, Christelton, Ledsham, Pickmere, Moberley, Newton juxta le Midelwich, and the advowson of Moberley.

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. IV. Sir William Trowtbecke, knt. held the manors of Great Troughford, Dunham, and Hole, from Henry, late king of France, “ et non de jure Rege Angliæ sexto,” with lands therein, valued at xl marks per annum: also the manor and advowson of Moberley, the manors of Brunstath, Raby, and Budworth, half of L. Neston, and one fifth of Hargreave; with lands in Hargreave, Barneston, Carnesdale, Ledsham, Woodchurch, Eccleston, Chester, Hulme, Kinderton, Brereton, Newton, Cogshull, Xtleton, Tattenhall, Bridge Troghford, Elton, Oxton, Pickmere, Thingwall, Tranmere, Upton, and Wirswall. William Trowtbecke son and heir.

This Sir William Troutbeck, knt. in plea to a writ of quo warranto, claims for himself and his heirs, the manor and vill of Budworth le Frith, in the forest of Delamere, with power of building, and of inclosing the same, so as to be safe from the beasts of the forest, and to have free warren of rabbits in the same, and power of felling and selling wood and underwood, without the interference of any forester or verderer; and to have pasture for the hogs of himself and tenants in the forest without payment of pannage.

Also in right of the said manor to be sole forester of part of the said forest within the bounds specified as follows: those of the forest which extend from Stanford Bridge along the king’s highway to Northwich, and from Northwich to Darlegh Brook, following the course of Darlegh Brook to the bounds between Rushton and Olton to Yanelegh Mill, and following thence the bounds between Ayton and Alpram to the town of Torpley, and from thence the bounds of the forest to Stanford Bridge.

And in right of the bailiwick of this forest, all dead and fallen wood and underwood, ferns, boughs, croppings, and branches, cut, or to be cut with the axe, or windfallen, with all stocks, stubbs, &c.

And, in consideration of the same, to make all distresses and attachments for forest offences in the said limits, and also claims the right of taking two bucks in summer and two does in winter, and to keep greyhounds and all other kind of dogs of chace for taking of hares, rabbits, foxes, and other vermin, without expedition or other impediment.

And the said William claims, in right of his manors of Stony Dunham and Brynstath, to have two separate views of Frank Pledge in the year at each of those manors, one at Easter at each manor, and one at Michaelmas at each manor, and a Court Baron at each every three weeks, with fines, penalties, and amerements.

^f Williamson’s Evidences, p. 30.

^h Vincent’s Discoverie of Errors, p. 28.

^g Communicated by William Hamper, esq. from the archives of the Earls of Shrewsbury.

ⁱ *Inq. p. m.* 4 Hen. VI. vide Wimbalds Trafford.

^k Vill. Cest. p. 6.

And in right of his manors of Little Neston and Hargrave, to have unlimited fishery in the Dee for the extent of those manors, with all profits of the said river, except wrecks, treasure trove, wall, sturgeon, and therpoll, which when taken or found shall be carried to the Castle of Chester, for the usual fee. To have the liberty for himself and the tenants of those manors, of passing over and purchasing merchandize in all countries in the king's peace, and of buying victuals in Chester or elsewhere, toll free, provided the same are not exposed again to sale for a year and a day; and to be free (both himself and tenants of the said manors) from all suit to the Hundred Court.

And the said William claims for himself and his heirs, a moiety of the office of keeper of the Bridge Gate in Chester, and a moiety of the serjeancy or Bridge Street, and the alternate appointment of a deputy serjeant to those offices, and to receive all the profits of the same.

And to have the custody of the garden and orchard of the Castle of Chester, by finding the earl sufficient kale from Michaelmas to the end of Lent, for which he receives, from the hands of the chamberlain, 4l. 11s. 3d. yearly, namely 3d. per day.

And, lastly, the said William claims nine fishing stalls and two boats in the water of the Dee opposite to the city, with the right of fishing in the said water, without any impediment, saving to the earl the royal fish, to be carried to him for a fee, according to custom¹.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VIII. Sir William Troutbecke, knt. held lands in Great Trafford and Stony Dunham from the king in capite, value, per annum, xxvii. viiis. iiijd. Also the manors of Moberley, Brinstath, Oxton, Raby, Budworth le Frith, three parts of Neston, and lands in Hargreve, Barneston, Carnesdale, Ledsham, Woodchurch, Chester, Kinderton, Newton, Coggeshall, Christleton, Elton, Pickmere, Thingwall, Tranmere, Upton, Wirswall, Handbridge, and Claverton. Valor. tot. cvil. vis. Also lands and messuages in Chester, value xiiij. xiijs. iiijd. Obiit. 8th Sep. 2 Hen. VIII.

Margaret, wife of John Talbot, esq. next of kin and heir, as daughter of Adam, brother of William, aforesaid, and aged sixteen years and upwards at the time of his death.

4 Hen. VIII.^m Jo. Talbott, esq. and Margaret, his wife, obtained of William Poole and Margaret his wife (widow of Sir William Trowtbeck), the manors of Brunstath, Oxton, Raby, Elton, Great Trafford, Stony Dunham, Budworth le Frith, and Modburlegh, with lands in the townships recited in the last inquisition, and in Thornton, Shotwick, Bebington, and Plemond-stall, with the custody of the garden in the ditch of the Castle of Chester, half the serjeancy of the Bridge Gate, with the custody of the gates of Dee Bridge, and twelve fishing stalls in the water of Dee, to them and their heirs, for which John and Margaret granted to William and Margaret 10l. for the life of Margaret, remainder to her, and to her heirs.

From Margaret Troutbeck and her husband Sir John Talbot, the manor of Dunham, and the greatest part of these extensive properties, have descended to their lineal representative, the present earl of Shrewsbury.

A Court Leet and Court Baron are held regularly for this manor, with Mickle Trafford and Hoole.

William Troutbeck, esq. the purchaser of Dunham, held the honourable office of chamberlain of Chester from the 14th Hen. IV. to the 17th Hen. VI. in which year his son John Troutbeck succeeded him, and retained it to the 35th year of that reignⁿ. In conformity with the usage of the times, the elder of these chamberlains erected a sumptuous chauntry, dedicated to the Trinity, adjacent to the church of St. Mary, in Chester, and the succeeding generations decorated it with tombs, which in the language of a contemporary "for the finenesse of the work, exceeded any tombe or monument of that nature, or any that our English churches could produce."

By marriage with the heiress of Hulse, John Troutbeck, who succeeded his father in the office of chamberlain, became allied to the best blood of Cheshire, and obtained a suitable extent of manerial possessions. From this match they derived their township of Raby, and the serjeancy of the Bridge Gate, a service deemed honourable in later ages, but in times nearer its origin, considered as a burthensome tenure, and resigned by one of its serjeants, Richard Bagot, (54 Hen. III.) "propter paupertatem et impotentiam."

The zeal of the chamberlain for the house of Lancaster, to which the long services of his family had doubtless strongly attached him, led him to embrace a cause which his county almost uniformly favoured; and under the banners of Henry the Sixth, he fell with the flower of Cheshire, on the fatal heath of Blore.

To Sir William Troutbeck, founder of the Troutbeck Chapel, I must appropriate the tomb, once existing therein, which, either by an error of the writer or the printer, is given in the Vale Royal to a Sir Henry Troutbeck, whom I do not believe to have existed. As the chapel itself has been long destroyed, I shall here add to the account of its founders, a description of the tomb, taken a short time before its destruction, and a very curious copy of the agreement for the erection of the chapel itself, obligingly communicated by William Hamper, esq. with other copies of antient deeds preserved in the archives of the earls of Shrewsbury^o. The erection of the tomb may be attributed to the grandson of the founder, with whose impalement the series of armorial decorations terminates. The other monument, erected to the memory of his great grandson, Adam Troutbeck, is described in the Vale Royal.

"It was a faire tombe of one of the Troutbecks. The man all in riche armour, with a riche border of pearles, and stones, about his head, on the helmet. On the front of the helmet, over his forehead, was engraven *Iesu Nazarenus Rex*. All the plates and edges of his armour curiously wrought, as it were imbracery, with a collar of SS. about his neck, of gold, one gauntlet in his hand, and his wife's hand in the other. Under his feet a lion couchant; under her head, a helmet mantled, having on it a wreath of trouts and a moor's head. She hath her head richly attired, with a veil over her head, with a blue gown, and a short surcoat of black. At her feet a lamb, and two angels supporting the cushions under her head."

¹ Harl. MSS. 2115.

^m Williamson's Evidences, p. 58.

ⁿ His accounts are yet extant. Harl. MSS. 2005.

^o By a deed in the possession of the earl of Shrewsbury, enrolled at Chester, anno 23 Hen. VI. it appears that William Troutbeck, esq. vested lands in Chester, Wode Chirche, Little Xleton, and Ledsham, in trustees, who reconveyed the same to him and his heirs, in trust, to pay to one chaplain the sum of cxs. and viiij. yearly, "to pray for the souls of Willm. T., Johanna, his wife, their son John, their ancestors, descendants, and all to whom they were indebted, or who had befriended them, or should befriend them," remainder in the trust to Ric. Bolde, to Sir Thomas Par, to Sir Geoffrey Warburton, to John, son of Hugh Dutton of Hatton, to king Henry VIth. and their heirs successively.

At the head was the coat of Troutbeck, impaling Rixton; at the feet, 3 shields; 1st, Troutbeck; 2d, Rixton; 3d, Arg. a fesse Sable, in chief 3 mullets Sable, impaling Arg. a fesse.

On the North side. 1st, Mobberley, of Mobberley; 2d, Venables; 3d, Argent, 2 bars Gules; on a canton Gules, a cross crosslet fitchè Or, impaling Az. a lion rampant Argent; 4th, semee of cross crosslets fitchèd a cinquefoil Or.

On the South side. 1st, Troutbeck, impaling Hulse; 2d, Troutbeck impaling Stanley; (the coat of Stanley impaled with Latham, and the arms of Man in chief); 3d, Rixton, impaling Troutbeck; 4th, Venables, impaling the same.

In the South window the following memorial of the founders, with the armorial coat: "Orate pro aīabus Willī Troutbeck, et Johanne uxoris ejus, qui hanc capellam fecerunt. A'o D'ni 1424.

AGREEMENT between WILLIAM TROUTBECK, esq. and THOMAS BETES, Mason, For building a Chapel at Chester.

This indenture, made by twene William Troutebek, esquier, on that on p̄tie, and Thomas Betes Mason, on that other p̄tie, beres wittenesse, that the forsaid Thomas has made covenant and granted to the said William, that he shall make a Chapell in the chirche yorde of Seynte Marie on the Hill, on the South side of the chauncell of the chirche there; that is to wete, the Est ende, the South side, and the West ende; contenyng the lengthe of the chauncell there, and xviii fote wide with inne the walles, and as high as hit nedes resonably to be: with v faire and clenely wrought wyndowes, full of light; that is to say, on gable wyndow in the Est ende, with iiij lightes; and iij wyndowes on the South side, ichone of iij lightes; and on in the Weste ende, in the beste wise to be deviset: and iiij botras on the South side, with a grete arche in the Weste ende; and

the chapelle to be battellet above, like to the littel closet with inne the castell of Chester, with a corbyl table longyng thereto: and at ayther end iij honest fynyals. And the forsaid William shall pay to the forsaid Thomas xxli. like as the worke goes forwarde; and also give him a gowne; and alsoe the forsaid William shall fynde fre stone, lyme, sonde, wat', wyndelasse, and stuff for to scaffalde with, and such manere necessaryes as the forsaid Thomas nedes; and all manere of cariages that longen therto; and the forsaid Thomas shall, by the ov'sight of Maester John Asser, make the chapell, and all thynges that longen therto (masoncraft^p), honestly. In wytnesse of the'whech thynges to these p'sentes endentures, the p'ties forsaid, aither anendes o'other, haven set to their sealx.

Gyven at Chester the Mononday next before the feste of the Natvyte of Seynt John the Baptist, in the yere of Kyng Henry the the Sixt after the Conquest xi.

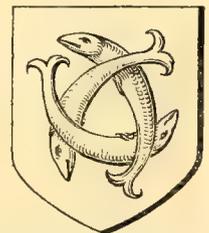
Seal gone.

In the possession of the E. of Shrewsbury, 1837.

The greatest part of the township of Dunham is attached to the manerial estate. There are no remains of the seat of the Whitbys mentioned in the Vale Royal, or of the later residence of the Cottinghams, which distinguish them from other farm-houses. The Talbots, after their accession to this estate, resided, when in Cheshire, at their other manor-house of Brunstath, which appears to have been built about the time of Henry the Sixth, and was also, most probably, the residence of the later generations of the Troutbecks. The hall of Dunham is a mere farm-house, and of a date comparatively modern. It is singular, that an estate which has passed, from the conquest to the present time, in the immediate line of descent, excepting one alienation by sale, should, on examination, appear to have been a manor insulated from the other possessions of the proprietors, and to have been honoured with their residence for not more than three generations.

TROUTBECK OF DUNHAM. From Records in the Exchequer of Chester.

ARMS.—Argent, 3 moors heads Sable, in the centre a fleur-de-lis of the second. Crest, on a wreath, a moor's head erased proper. Ancient Coat. Az. 3 trouts fretted in triangle proper.



WILLIAM TROUTBECK, purchaser of the manor of Dunham from the coheirs of Fitzalan. Chamberlain of Chester, 14th Hen. IV. Ob. ante 25 Hen. VI. JOHANNA, daughter of William Rixton, of Rixton, co. Lanc. Inq. p. m. 31 H.VI.

..... Sir JOHN TROUTBECK, kt. aged 40 years MARGARET, sole daughter and heiress of Thomas Hulse, of Brunstath, esq. aged 10 years 10 Hen. VI. and then wife of John Troutbeck, obiit 35 Hen. VI.
 wife of 31 H. VI. Chamberlain of Chester, Lord of Dunham; and, in right of his wife, Serjeant of the Bridge Gate, and Lord of Little Neston, Raby, Oxton, Brunstath, and Barnston, slain at the battle of Blore Heath. Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI.

JOHN TROUTBECK, ob. s. p. Sir WILLIAM TROUTBECK, knt. son and heir, buried in the Troutbeck Chapel, at St. Mary's, in Chester, Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. IV. MARGARET, daughter of Thomas Lord Stanley; re-married by dispensation, 1461, 1 Edw. IV. to Sir John Butler, of Bewsey, knt.; and, thirdly, to Lord Grey, of Codnor.

Sir WILLIAM TROUTBECK, knt. son and heir, ob. s. p. 2 Hen. VIII. leaving a widow, Margaret, who re-married William Poole, of Poole, ante 4 Hen. VIII. ADAM TROUTBECK, second son, died before his brother, as by Inq. 2 Hen. VIII. MARGARET, daughter of Butler, of Bewsey, co Lancast. THOMAS. JANE, wife of Sir William Butler. ELIZABETH, wife of Sir Alexander Houghton.

MARGARET TROUTBECK, heiress to her uncle, Sir William Troutbeck, and aged 16 years at the time of his death, wife of Sir JOHN TALBOT, knt. ancestor of the Earls of Shrewsbury.

P Interlined in the original.

Part of Plemondstall.

BRIDGE TRAFFORD.

IMMEDIATELY S. W. of the Parish of Thornton lies Bridge Trafford, a township of Plemondstall, separated from the other portions of that parish, which are within Broxton Hundred, by the stream of the Gowy.

It is not easy to distinguish to which of the Traffords the several notices in Domesday, of places of that name, apply; but the following, most probably, relates to this township.

“Ipsa Ecclesia tenuit et tenet Troford. Ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est In dominio est una caruca; et iv servi et una ancilla, et unus bordarius, et una acra prati, et unus homo reddit xx denarios. Tempore R. Edwardi, valebat v solidos, modo viii solidos.”

The manor was afterwards vested in the Crown, in right of the earldom of Chester, under which there formerly existed a mesne manor which became the property of a family who assumed the local name, before the reign of Edw. I. when Robert de Troghford married Wervil, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Matthew de Alraham.

30 Edw. III. Richard, son of William de Troghford, obtained from William de Wetenhale and Sibill his wife, 4 messuages and 70 acres in Alraham, remainder to Nicholas his son and his wife and their heirs, remainder to Roger, Joan, Margery, Mary, and Margaret, brothers and sisters of Nicholas de Troghford^a.

3 H. VI. † James Brown, chaplain, a trustee of the Traffords, obtained of James Holt and Eleanor his wife, half the manor of Bridge Trafford, and half of a third of Alraham.

7 messuages and the mill of Bridge Trafford were vested, about the same time, in the Troutbecks. Sir William Troutbeck died seized thereof 4 Edw. IV. *per Inq. p. m.* held from the queen in socage, and valued at xxs. per annum.

The entire town became subsequently the property of the Traffords, as appears by an *Inq. ad melius inquirend.* 4 Eliz. when Thomas Trafford, gent. was found to have held the vill of Bridge Trafford from the Queen by military service, as the eighth part of a knight's fee, value per ann. viii l.; also lands in Bridge Trafford, from the same, as the 20th part of a knight's fee, value, per ann. xs.; and messuages and lands in Chester, value xxvii s. viii d. Thomas Trafford, son and heir. Obiit May 20, 7 Edw. VI.

Inq. p. m. 2 Car. I. Thomas, son of William Traf-

ford, died 23 Jan. 2 Car. I. seized of lands in Trafford, &c.

Thomas, son of William Trafford, had livery of his father's lands in Trafford, 18th April, 13 Car. I. In this Thomas ended the male line of this family; he fell at the battle of Naseby[‡] leaving only one surviving child, Alice, the wife of John Barnston, of Churton, esq. from whom the property has descended (according to the pedigree of that family, which will be found under the head of Churton), to his representative, Roger Barnston, of Churton and Chester, esq. the present proprietor of the entire township.

Bridge Trafford is situated four miles E. of Chester, on the road to Frodsham and on the bank of the Gowy. The banks of this stream have been originally the bed of one of the ramifications of the estuary of the Mersey; and it does not appear at what period they have been so contracted by embankments, as to admit the substitution of a bridge for the ancient ford. Whether the following extract from the record of a plea in the Red Book of St. Werburgh refers, or not, to the erection of the original bridge, must be left to conjecture.

“Ptita apud portam Monast. Cest. coram Fratre Nicholao, Seneschallo Abbatis Monasterii p̄diti Sc̄e Werburgæ Virg. in æstate anni Dñi 1410.”

John de Podington, citizen of Chester, and executor of the will of John de Grey, Rector of Astbury, appeared to answer against “Ricardum de Manlegh, attorney et procuratorem *fabricæ pontis de Troghford*,” relative to 40 l. vested in his hands, and a verdict is given in favour of the said Richard Manlegh. Vernon's Notes. Harl. MSS. 2071, p. 82.

The ancient hall of Bridge Trafford is taken down, and a farm-house erected on its site. The only manerial rights exercised are claimed by the Dean and Chapter of Chester, in right of St. Thomas's Court, the jurisdiction of which extends over some other townships in the neighbourhood of Chester.

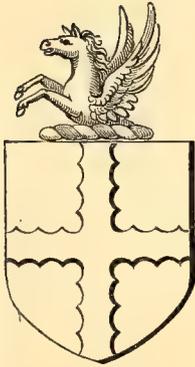
In the following pedigree, William Trafford has been substituted, on the authority of the Inquisitions, in the room of a Thomas, inserted in the Visitation of 1613; and a Christopher has been removed, where the pedigree is joined by dotted lines, for whom no authority but that visitation has occurred, the number of generations being irreconcilable with the dates. The two first marriages are also very doubtful.

^a Williamson's Collections, p. 24. 3 Hen. VI. &c. &c.

[†] Ibid. p. 39.

[‡] Wincham and Arderne copies of Booth's Pedigrees.

TRAFFORD, OF BRIDGE TRAFFORD.

From the Visitations of 1613 and 1663, the Inquisitions *p. m.*, and the Plemondstall Registers.

THOMAS TRAFFORD, of Bridge Trafford, gent. Inq. p. m. 4 Eliz. Ob. May 20, 7. Edw. VI. = ELLEN, daughter of Sir William Stanley, of Hooton, knt. (Visitation, 1613.)

ARMS.
Argent, a cross engrailed Sable. Crest, on a wreath, a demi pegasus, with wings expanded Argent. These arms were claimed, but not proved in the Visitation of 1663.

THOMAS TRAFFORD, of Bridge Trafford, gent. son and heir, per Inq. = daughter of Ireland, of the Hutt. co. Lancast. esq.— (Visitation 1613.)

WILLIAM TRAFFORD, of Bridge Trafford, = JANE, daughter of John Rodon, of Burton.

THOMAS TRAFFORD, of Bridge Trafford, son of William Trafford, per Inq. buried at Plemondstall January 26, 1625. Obiit Jan. 23. Inq. p. m. 2 C. I. = ALICE, daughter of William Massey, of Puddington.

ANNE, wife of Edward Williamson, of Tusmore, co. Oxon.

WILLIAM TRAFFORD, aged 40 years, 1613; buried at Plemondstall 4th August, 1636.

= ALICE, daughter of Catesby, of the county of Buckingham.

DOROTHY, died unmarried.

THOMAS TRAFFORD, born 1613, baptized at Plemondstall March 30, had livery of his father's lands April 18, 13 Car. I. Slain at the battle of Naseby. = daughter and coheirress of Aldersey. (Wincham Pedigrees.)

ALICE TRAFFORD.

WILLIAM TRAFFORD, son and heir, baptized at Plemondstall March 28, 1637; buried there March 24, 1646.

JOHN BARNSTON, of Churton, esq. baptized at Farndon July 18, 1630, buried there May 13, 1661, first husband.

= ALICE, only surviving daughter and heirress. Obiit anno 1666, buried at Plemondstall, in the Trafford chan- cel.

= RICHARD SAVAGE, esq. second son of John lord Savage, of Rock Savage, second husband. O. S. P.

DOROTHY, baptized at Plemondstall July 25, 1639. Ob. s. p.

TRAFFORD BARNSTON, of Churton and Trafford, esq. aged three years at the Visitation of 1663, baptized at Farndon May 10, 1660. Had issue.

Frodsham.

THE parish of Frodsham is bounded by the waters of the Weever and the Mersey, on the North-east and North-west; and by the parishes of Weverham, Tarvin, Thornton, Ince, and the forest of Delamere, on the South, South-east, and South-west. It extends, in length, from about the seventh to nearly the eleventh mile-stone, on the turnpike-road from Chester to Manchester, and rather exceeds this length in its broadest part, between Crowton, in Weverham parish, and the bank of the Mersey. In this compass are comprehended eight townships: Frodsham Borough and Fee, Frodsham Borough and Lordship, Hellesby, Alvanley, Manley, Kingsley, Newton, and part of Norley.

FRODSHAM BOROUGH AND FEE.

FRODSHAM Borough and Fee, or Frodsham Township, is comprehended within the same manor with the Lordship, and is thus described in Domesday, as part of the estate of the Earl.

“ Ipse comes tenet Frotesham: Edwinus comes tenuit: ibi III hidæ geldabiles. Terra est IX carucarum. In dominio sunt II, et unus servus et VIII villani, et III bordarii, cum II carucis.”

Randle de Blundeville, sixth earl of Chester, granted the following charter to his burgesses of Frodsham between 1209 and 1228, which was pleaded^t in reply to a writ of Quo Warranto 22d Hen. VII. and confirmed 33d Hen. VIII. and 18th May^v, 21st Eliz.

“ Ranulphus comes Cestriæ, &c. salutem.

“ Sciatis me concessisse et hâc presenti charta mea confirmasse Burgensibus meis in Burgo de Frodesham manentibus, et mansuris; quod unusquisque eorum habeat unum liberum burgagium in eodem burgo, et unam acram terræ in campis, reddendo inde annuatim 12d. pro omnibus serviciis. Concedo etiam eisdem

Burgensibus quietem de Tolneto per totam terram meam, tam per aquam, quam per terram, nisi de sale tantum: et quod pro nullo placito, exeant foras de Burgo nostro, nisi pro placitis ad gladium meum pertinentibus, et de omnibus aliis placitis judicabuntur in ipso burgo per propositum nostrum. Et si aliquis eorum inciderit in manum meam, pro aliquo forisfacto inter eos iudicato, quietus erit de illo per 12d. forisfactum a nonâ diei Sabbati usque ad horam primam diei Lunæ, de qua scilicet forisfactum contigit. Concessi etiam memoratis Burgensibus pasturam pecoribus suis in foresta mea, et in marisco meo, et in omnibus locis in quibus liberi homines mei pasturam habent, et quod habeant de foresta mea quod eis opus fuerit ad edificandum per visum forestariorum meorum. Quare volo et firmiter præcipio quod prædicti Burgenses et eorum hæredes prædicta habeant et teneant de me et heredibus meis, libere, quiete, et pacifice et plene. Salvis mihi et heredibus meis passuagio meo, et sequela molendinarum mearum et furni mei. Et præcipio omnibus ballivis meis et

^t Harl. MSS. 2115. 170.

^v Ibid. 2074, 169.

ministris, quod prædictos Burgenses meos custodiant et protegant et manuteneant in prædicta libertate, et in liberis consuetudinibus; et quod nullus eorum eos super his vexare, aut disturbare presumat, super forisfacturam 10l. His testibus, Philippo de Orreby, Justic. Cest.; Har. de Salignis; Jo. de Prately; Tho. Paganello; Ric. de Pierpunt, vic. Cest.; Tho. Camerar. Cest.; Alex. fil. Rad.; Josceramo de Hellesby; et multis aliis. Apud Cestriam.

This Earl Randle most probably resided occasionally at Frodsham Castle, as some of his charters bear that date.

The manor is said to have been granted at an early period to a family who assumed the name of Frodsham, and incurred a forfeiture, by having slain the Prince's favourite in an affray; but the story rests on no sufficient authority^u.

King Edward the First granted this manor in 1279, to David^w, brother of Llewellyn, Prince of Wales, who afterwards forfeited his estates for treason, and was executed with most horrible torments in 1283.

Richard the Second made a grant of the same for life to Radegunda^x Becket, under whom William de Frodsham, sen. held lands and burgages in capite, *Inq. p. m.* 21 Ric. II.

10 April, 32 Hen. VI. The King grants to his uterine brother, Edmund of Hadham (Earl of Richmond, father of King Henry the VIIth), the manor of Frodsham, with its appurtenances; which Edmund died seized of the manor in demesne as of fee, held in capite from the Prince, as Earl of Chester, by military service, and valued at xvij. per annum. *Inq. p. m.* 35 Hen. VI.

During these grants, the capital Lordship continued vested in the Earldom; and whilst Edmund Earl of Richmond was in possession of the dependant manor, this paramount royalty was enumerated among the members of the earldom, granted with the principality of Wales, and duchy of Cornwall, to Richard Duke of York, on the pacification between him and King Henry the Sixth in 1455^y.

About the commencement of the seventeenth century, the manor of Frodsham was granted to the Savages of Clifton, whose representative, Richard E. Rivers, by indentures^z of lease and release, vested the same, with other large estates, in Cheshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Essex, in Charles, duke of Shrewsbury, and Robert earl of Oxford as trustees, to the use of earl Rivers for life; remainder to the use of John Savage, afterwards earl Rivers (a catholic, who never assumed the title); remainder to his issue successively; remainder to Bessy Savage (afterwards Countess of Rochford, a natural daughter of earl Richard); remainder to his own right heirs.

From some irregularities in this disposal of his property, the will of earl Rivers was litigated in chancery; and under an act of the 7th George III. this manor, with other estates, was declared to be vested in James, earl of Barrymore, to the use of John, earl of Rivers for life, with remainder to lady Penelope Barry, daughter of Elizabeth, wife of lord Barrymore, and sole daughter and heiress of Richard earl Rivers; with a power to dock the remainder to the heirs of earl Richard by fine or recovery. Lady Penelope afterwards brought the estates of her family in marriage to James, second son of George, second earl of Cholmondeley, who died a few years before his lady; on whose decease, in 1786,

they passed to her husband's nephew, George-James, fourth earl of Cholmondeley, who is the present proprietor.

The following extent of the manor of Frodsham was made in the 8th Edw. I. on the first discovery of David's treason, on the oaths of Roger Domville, William de Venables, Roger de Baddelegh, William de Bostock, William le Brun, Richard Lancelyn, Richard de Hellesby, Randle de Molesworth, and Randle de Acton, by virtue of a commission directed to Leo filius Leonis, William de Tykehull, and Walter Chetwynd.

Messuagium^a illud sup. quo fundat. manerium cum gardino, val. p. ann. 6s. 8d.

Tres molendinæ aquaticæ cum uno stagno, val. p. ann. 12l.

Pannagium cum sex porcis de consuetudine ejusdem manerii, val. p. ann. 40s.

cx. Burgag. in eodem manerio, val. p. ann. 110s.

Reddit. Assis. ejusdem manerii, val. p. ann. 11l. 13s. 6d.

Reddit. . . . hominum ejusdem manerii, val. p. ann. 20s.

Firma de consuetudine, val. p. ann. 40s.

Exitus Tolneti perveniens de Navibus arrivientibus ad portum ibid. val. p. ann. 10l.

De Exitu perveniens. perquis. profic. cur. ejusd. manerii, val. p. ann. 4l.

Advocatio Ecclesiæ ejusdem manerii, 3l. 6s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VI. William Torfort held in demesne, as of fee, the office of serjeant of the peace, and the right of making attachments and presentments in the manor of Frodsham, and the custody of the gaol of Frodsham, with the fee appertaining to that office from the king, as earl of Chester in capite by grand serjeancy. Value per annum, nihil. Ralph T. son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 18 Edw. IV. Richard Torforde held the same office. Arthur T. son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VII. Arthur Torfort held the same office, &c. Ludowic T. son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 40 Eliz. Sir John Savage, knt. held, *inter alia*, the office of bailiff of the Queen's manor of Frodsham, by the service of collecting the rents of the manor, and making attachments and presentments; also of constable or keeper of the Queen's gaol of her manor of Frodsham.

This office, as well as those powers of the court, which under earl Randle's charter, conferred any unusual privileges of jurisdiction on the burgesses, expired most probably on the manor being separated from the earldom.

In the Harl. MSS. 2095, p. 31, is "a copie of proceedings at the court of the manor of Frodsham, 17th April, 20th Eliz. before Rob. Whitby, steward, being suits, one a trespass on the case, the other an action of debt." The court held by lord Cholmondeley now claim no privileges varying from other courts leet and baron. They are held twice in the year, and there are two presentments, one for the borough and fee, the other for the borough and lordship. One constable is appointed for each of these townships, and sworn in the court. The lord of the manor has also the tolls of a market held on Saturday, and of two fairs, on the 15th of May, and the 21st of August.

The town of Frodsham forms a broad street of a mile in length, along the road from Chester to Warrington, at the distance of ten miles from the former place: another street diverges at right angles, in the

^u Villare Cestriense, p. 17.

^w Ibid. and Holinshed, vol. II. 482.

^x Ibid.

^y Rot. Parl. vol. V. p. 380.

^z Act for disposal of the Rivers estates. 7th Geo. III.

^a Vernon's Collections. H. MSS. 2074, 201.

centre of the town, towards the church and the high grounds of Overton, which overhang the town. The ground in general is hilly, and in some places the road is excavated upwards of twenty feet in the solid rock below the level of the houses. From the foot of the hill a large marsh extends to the Mersey, which once was doubtless the regular bed of the waters, and is still subject to occasional devastations. In the town and lordship of Frodsham there are 697 acres of land liable to be overflowed, which pay a ley per acre for the repairs of the embankments, according to the damage likely to be suffered. In 1793 and 1802, the tide burst down these embankments, and flowed over the marshes to within a hundred yards of the centre of the town^b.

At the west end of the town originally stood Frodsham castle, guarding a narrow pass to Chester, between the verge of these marshes, and the steep precipices of Overton Hill. The building was stone, the arches semicircular, of early Norman work, and the walls of enormous thickness, cemented by mortar which had acquired a hardness equal to that of the stone itself. The original uses were certainly military, but from the reign of Henry the Sixth to that of Elizabeth, it appears, from the Inquisitions before-mentioned, that it was used as the gaol of the manor, and that the office of its constable was hereditary. After the acquisition of the manor by the Savages, it became the residence of the family, and was burnt down on the night of the 10th October, 1654, whilst the dead body of John earl Rivers, who had died the day preceding, was lying in it; a coincidence which, uncharitable traditions say, was not accidental. The ruins were taken down to make way for the erection of a mansion called Park Place, the residence of Daniel Ashley, esq. the present proprietor, whose grandfather, Mr. Daniel Ashley, purchased the site, under an act of parliament, from the Daniels of Daresbury^c. An antient lamp, a plate, a cannon-ball, and several coffins, were found amongst the ruins.

At the east end of the town is the bridge of Frodsham, which gave name to a family in the time of Richard the Second, in the 12th of whose reign Richard de Bruggehowse held a moiety of the estate in Frodsham called le Bruggehowse, in capite, from the earl, by the service of finding half the charge of a horse, uncaparisoned, to serve the king in his wars in Wales^d. The original bridge was of wood. There is a precept to John Done, forester of Delamere, now remaining in the Exchequer of Chester, dated 28 April, 4 Hen. V. to give one oak for the repairs of Frodsham bridge. It was rebuilt with brick in the reign of Elizabeth, and is described as such in Smith's account of Frodsham, in the Vale Royal; but when Webb's Itinerary was written, in 1625, it was rebuilt with stone, and consisted of four arches.

Before the Weever was rendered a navigable river, the part below the bridge was crowded with vessels which unloaded there, and assumed the appearance of a petty port. This spot was most probably the port mentioned in the extent of the 8th Edw. I. where the lords of Frodsham then received a toll from the vessels frequenting it, amounting to 10l. per annum.

16 Edw. I.^e the burgesses of Frodsham found eight soldiers in time of war, in the event of Chester castle being in a state of siege.

An annuity of forty marks per annum, issuing out of this manor, was granted by letters patent^f of king Richard the Second to Thomas Daniers, esq. afterwards knighted, until a proper reward could be conferred upon him for his services in the battle of Cressy. This reward was afterwards made in a grant to his daughter Margaret the wife of Peirs Leigh, of the manor of Lyme Hanley, in the forest of Macclesfield.

THE CHURCH.

Val. Eccl. 23l. 13s. 11½d. Taxat. Eccl. P. Nicholai, 24l.

Hugh Lupus and Ermentrude, by their great charter to the abbey of St. Werburgh, in 1093, gave the tithes of Frodsham to that foundation, but the advowson of the vicarage continued united with the manor of Frodsham until the building of the abbey of Vale Royal, and is enumerated among the other manerial privileges already given in the extent of the 8th Edw. I. The rectory and the advowson of the vicarage were both conferred on the abbey of Vale Royal by its founder king Edward, and it appears from the leger book of that abbey, that the monks of St. Werburgh received four pounds annually^g as a compensation for releasing these tithes in compliance with the royal request.

After the dissolution of monasteries the rectory and advowson were conferred on the dean and chapter of Christ Church, Oxon, under whom the great tithes are now leased by Richard Massey, of Moston, esq. and are underleased by Mr. John Higson, of Frodsham, who lets them out in separate townships^h.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Laurenceⁱ, is situated on very high ground, overlooking the town, the marshes, and the Mersey, under the craggy precipices of Overton Hill, and is in the township of Frodsham, but immediately adjacent to the village of Overton, in Frodsham Lordship, of which the church-yard wall forms the boundary. The fabric is built with red stone, and consists of a nave, chancel, side aisles, and tower, containing six bells. The nave is divided from the side aisles by three arches, of which the two on each side nearest to the tower are semicircular. Three of the pillars supporting these arches are cylindrical, the fourth is octagonal: the capitals square, and decorated with sharp leaves, and an imitation of volutes at the angles, in a style which, but for the omission of the church in the Domesday survey, might have been referred without much hesitation to the Saxon period; the other arches of the nave are very obtusely pointed.

The chancel has been originally separated from the nave by a screen, now removed, of which the marks are visible in the pillars to which it was attached. It is divided from the side aisles by two obtuse arches, on either side, of unequal height, over which is a row of flat-headed clerestory windows. This chancel is repaired by the lessee of the great tithes, and a small chancel at the east end of the south aisle, is also

^b Information of F. Ashley, esq. in whose garden a stone is fixed to mark the extent of the inundation.

^c Information of F. Ashley, esq.

^d Inq. p. m. 12 Ric. II.

^e Harl. MSS.

^f Woodnoth's Cheshire Collections, Brit. Mus. p. 69.

^g Commissio directa Rob'to Holand, 5 Edw. II. Leger Book of V. R. p. 254.

^h All the parish is titheable: the estates of Peele Hall, Kingsley Hall, Cattenal, and part of Crewood, are protected by a modus; and a modus is also paid through the parish for tithe hay, varying from 3s. 6d. to 1s. 4d. per Cheshire acre. The lords of the manor have the tithes of geese and pigs in Frodsham and Manley. From the information of F. Ashley, esq.

ⁱ Bacon Lib. Reg.

repaired, by its proprietor, the owner of Kingsley Hall.

On the south side of the altar is a single stall for the officiating priest, under a gothic arch, with a trefoil head, and canopy, between two pillars terminating in crockets. The general style is that of the fifteenth century, but the porch and a considerable part of the north side was rebuilt in 1715. The church was anciently decorated with painted glass, representing the armorial bearings of the Kingsleys, Holcrofts, and Rutters.

Against the second pillar, on the north side from the altar, is a marble monument, inscribed,

M. S.

Underneath lies interred the body of

Robert Hyde,

of Cattenhall, esquire.

He married Eleanor

the daughter of John Mather, of Chester, gent.

by whom he had one son, and five daughters,

who all survived him, except

the youngest daughter.

He was a loving husband,

an indulgent father,

a faithful friend, an honest man,

a true son of the church of England.

He lived well beloved,

and died much lamented,

Feb. 24, A. D. 1715,

of his age 36.

Arms. Azure, a chevron between three lozenges, Or, for Hyde, impaling, party per fesse, Argent semeé of trefoils slipped Sable, and Ermine, on a fesse wavy, Azure, between three lions rampant, Or, a bough of a tree raguled, Vert, for Mather.

Near the north door, another mural monument:

Near this place

lies the body of

Francis Gastrell,

late Vicar of Frodsham,

who departed this life

5th April, 1772,

in the 64th year of his age.

Also the body of Jane his wife,

who departed this life

the 30th Oct. 1791,

in the 81st year of her age.

On a blue stone, near the altar,

M. S.

of Geo. Villiers, A. M.

late Vicar of Frodsham,

obt. June 24, A. S. 1774,

æt. 50.

Many other brasses and monuments are affixed to the walls, of which the following is the only one that possesses any degree of interest or curiosity.

"Near this place, lies the body of Peter Banner, carpenter, of Frodsham, who died of a dropsy, Oct. 21, 1749, aged 50. In 33 weeks he was tapped 58 times, and had 1032 quarts of water taken from him."

Radulph^k son of Roger gave two bovates of land and tithes in Aston to St. Chad and St. Werburgh, on the condition of the Parson of Frodsham finding a resident chaplain to perform divine service in honour of God and St. Werburgh.

This chantry fell into disuse at a very early period, and the lands with which it was endowed passed to the abbey of Vale Royal, at the same time with the tithes of Frodsham, as it appears from an entry in the leger book^l of that monastery, that the abbot and convent of V. R. granted to the prior and convent of Norton, two bovates of land in Mid. Aston, formerly given to the rectors of Frodsham, for the purpose of founding a chantry for the souls of the lords of Frodsham in that church.

The parochial registers of Frodsham are contained in seven volumes, exclusive of those provided under the late act, and commence in the year 1558.

They are imperfect from 1642 to 1661.

VICARS OF FRODSHAM.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1307, 9 kal. Feb.	Benedictus Woodford, cap̄s.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	
1320.	Ricardus de Wytton, prb̄f.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	P. resig. Benedicti de Woodford. ult. Vicar.
1349, 12 kal. Julii.	Robertus de Wermyncham, capellanus.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	
1361.	Willielmus filius Rogeri de Kirkham, prb̄f.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	
1374.	Ricardus de Swanlow, diaconus.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	
1387.	Ricardus de Hokenhull, prb̄f.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	
1435.	Ranulphus de Tyldesley, prb̄f.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	P. m. R. de Hokenhull, ult. Vicar.
1452, 4 Junii.	Willielmus Bretherton, cap̄s.	P'nob. Tho. Stanley, miles. hac vice. Abbot of St. Werburgh.	P. resig. Ran̄i de Tyldesley.
1505, June 30.	William Blagg.	Richard Marshall, S. T. P. Dean of Christ Church, Oxon.	Death of W. Bretherton.
1554, Aug. 16.	George Hough.		
1557.	Richard Smith.	Eliza Hartopp.	Death of George Hough.
1582, Jan. 30.	Daniel Barnard.	Dean of Christ Church, Oxon.	
1588, June 11.	Thomas Dutton.		
1614, July 9.	Thomas Bickerton.	Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ch. Oxon.	
1632.	Rowland Heywood, D. D. James Cockayne.	Occurs in P. reg.	

^k Leger Book of St. Werburgh's Abbey, p. 41.

^l Leger Book of V. R. p. 267.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1661, May 30.	Theophilus Cooke, A. M.	Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ch. Oxon.	Resignation of R. Heywood.
1663.	John Davie.	Occurs in P. reg.	
1708, July 7.	Moses Hughes, A. M.	Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ch. Oxon.	Death of John Davie.
1711, Oct. 16.	Benjamin Woodroofe, A. M.	Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ch. Oxon.	Death of Moses Hughes.
1725, Aug. 14.	Thomas Roberts, A. M.	Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ch. Oxon.	Resignat. of B. Woodroofe.
1740, July 22.	Francis Gastrell, A. M.	Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ch. Oxon.	Death of Thomas Roberts.
1772, July 14.	George Villiers, A. M.	Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ch. Oxon.	Death of Francis Gastrell.
1774, Oct. 19.	John Cleaver, A. M.	Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ch. Oxon.	Death of George Villiers.
1776, Aug. 20.	Wm. Emanuel Page, A. M.	Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ch. Oxon.	Death of John Cleaver.
1801, March 4.	Charles Sawkins, A. M.	Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ch. Oxon.	Death of W. E. Page.

Richard de Swanlow was also vicar of Over, to which he was presented in 1387.

Rowland Haywood, according to Walker, "was harassed and persecuted, and thereby driven from this living. He lived to see the Restoration, but did not return to the parish. His first successor was a presbyterian; and the next (James Cockayne) an anabaptist, who quitted it at the Restoration, leaving most of the parish either of his own persuasion, or quakers^m."

Francis Gastrell, was son of the bishop of Chester of that name.

John Cleaver, was elder brother of the late Dr. William Cleaver, Principal of Brasenose College, and successively bishop of Chester, Bangor, and St. Asaph, and also of Dr. Euseby Cleaver, the present archbishop of Dublin. He was collated to the first stall in Chester Cathedral in 1775, which he resigned the year following.

William E. Page, whose sepulchral memorial is already too much defaced for transcription, was father of William Page, D. D. the present head master of Westminster, and of John Page, M. A. Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford.

Charles Sawkins, the present incumbent, and a prebendary of Chester, is the author of an elegant Latin poem, "*Ars Botanica*," which obtained the vice chancellor's prize, and was recited in the Theatre at Oxford, 1778.

The Free School of Frodsham, built (according to bishop Gastrell) about 1660, is a neat fabric of stone, within the yard of the church. The master is elected by twenty-four feoffees, consisting of the vicar and churchwardens for the time being; four feoffees out of

the township and lordship, three out of Kingsley, and two each from Norley, Newton, Alvanley, Manley, and Hellesby. The master has a good house in Overton, near the vicarage, and a salary of upwards of 100l. per annum, issuing from lands in Frodsham and an old rent charged on an estate in Christleton. A salary of 7l. per annum is secured to the usher on an estate in Overton.

A tenement, called the organ lot, is appropriated to the salary of an organist. The trustees are the vicar for the time being, and four feoffees chosen from this township and lordship. The organ was given by John Wilkinson, of Newton, esq. and fixed up 1790.

An estate adjoining the town bequeathed by Mrs. Gastrell to the vicar and his successors, is charged with the payment of 10l. per annum, to the Warrington Society, for the relief of widows and orphans of the clergy in the archdeaconry of Chester.

The other charities consist of: the interest of 100l. distributed by the church wardens at Christmas by the bequest of Banner.

Ten shillings per annum, charged on a meadow in Frodsham Marsh, called Carvers Quarter.

The rent of a field called Brook Furlong, left by Mr. Chesshyre, of Stockham, in Runcorn parish, to the poor householders of Frodsham.

Twenty shillings per annum paid from an estate in Huntington, to the same.

A donation given in bread, charged on the school lands.

And the interest of a sum of money paid to the poor of Newton.

There also are legacies to the poor in most of the townships of the parishⁿ.

FRODSHAM BOROUGH AND LORDSHIP.

In this district are comprehended the hamlets of Overton, Bradley, Woodhouses, and Netherton, which form a distinct township, but are comprehended within the earl of Cholmondeley's manor of Frodsham. In all of them are several small freeholds, but the greater part of the land is leased for lives under the marquis of Cholmondeley.

Immediately over the village of Overton rises the Beacon Hill, one of the abrupt points in which the forest terminates towards the sea, descending to the marshes in precipitous crags of red rock. On the summit was an antient beacon, traditionally said to have been used as late as the beginning of the last century.

Within these few years several marks were remaining^o, which had been fixed to guide the eye to a corresponding beacon on Mole-Cop, and to others in Shropshire, Lancashire, and North Wales, all of which were perceptible through the openings of the hills, when the eye was guided by these marks from a common centre, but were not to be seen together from any other point. Overton Hill is reputed to be the highest ground in this part of the county.

The hamlet of Bradley lies immediately contiguous to Overton, and was formerly divided into Over and Nether Bradley. Nether Bradley, now unknown as a separate manor, was a mesne manor held under the

^m "Sufferings of the Clergy," p. 261.

ⁿ For these particulars, and much other information relative to the parish, I am indebted to F. Ashley, esq. of Frodsham, and the Rev. . . . Fletcher.

^o Information of F. Ashley, esq.

lords of Frodsham by the Gerards of Kingsley and Bryn. William Gerard, sen. of Kingsley, obtained this manor with other estates from William Gerard, jun. p. 9 Edw. II. and John Gerard, and Peter Gerard, of Kingsley and Bryn, esqrs. died seized of the same in the 10th Hen. VI. and the 10th Hen. VII. Bradley Mill, situated on a small stream which falls to the Weever, is to be traced from a very early period, in the Inquisitions of the Dones, of Utkinton, who most probably inherited it from the Kingsleys, and passed to the Nuthals^r of Cattenhall, in the time of Elizabeth.

Netherton and Woodhouses, the remaining hamlets of the lordship, extend from the west side of Overton Hill to the Frodsham Marshes. An estate in Woodhouses has been possessed from the reign of Henry the VIIIth by the Nangreaves, who for several generations resided at Netherton Hall, a respectable old stone mansion of the style of James the First's reign, standing on a knoll about half a mile West of Frodsham, but almost concealed from the road by the surrounding cottages. Richard Nangreave, esq. barrister, the last

occasional resident, married Anne eldest daughter and coheirress of Samuel Wareing, esq. of Walmersley, in Lancashire, by whom he had issue, Richard Nangreave, barrister at law, of Pipe, in Staffordshire, and John Nangreave, a captain in the dragoons, who died without issue. The family became extinct in October 1815, in the person of his third son, Samuel Wareing Nangreave, a lieutenant colonel in the service of the East India Company, in the illegitimate issue of whose eldest brother, the estate is now vested.

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NEWTON,

Adjacent to Frodsham, on the South West, is also within the manor of Kingsley.

The most considerable land proprietors are, John Arden, esq. John Smith Barry, esq. the devisees of John Wilkinson, esq. Mr. Richard Milner, Mr. Thomas Ashton, and Daniel Ashley, esq.

HELLESBY.

IPSE comes tenet Helesbe, Ernūt tenuit, ut liber homo; ubi una Hida geldabilis. Terra est III Carcarum; ibi III villani cum uno Bordario habent unam carucam, ibi una acra prati, et silva dimidia leua longitudine, et totidem latitudine.

In the commencement of the thirteenth century, this township was held as a mesne manor under the lordship of Dunham-on-the-Hill, by a family which assumed the name of their possessions; of whom the first that occurs is Josceramus de Hellesby, sheriff of Cheshire in the time of Philip de Orreby.

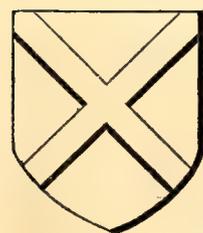
26 Hen. III. Adam de Hellesby had a confirmation of two bovates of land in Hellesby, from Richard, son of Robert de Frodsham, which Emma, mother of Richard, sold to Josceramus de Hellesbys.

3—10 Edw. I. Thomas, son of Ralph de Hellesby, quitclaims to his brother Hugh, the lands given to his

father^t Ralph, by Adam de Hellesby. Witnesses, Gancelin de Badlesmere, Justice of Chester; Patrick de Haselwall, Sheriff; and Galfrid de Byrun, Bailiff of Northwich.

17 Edw. II. William de Hellesby, and Hawisia his wife, passed over by fine the manor of Hellesby, to Peter de Thornton^u, and Lucy his wife, with the services of the free tenants. This was confirmed by Hawisia 1332, on which a claim was put in by the sister of William, Alice de Hellesby, and his nephew, Ralph Starkie.

It will be difficult to reconcile the pedigree of Hellesby, as it is uniformly given in the Cheshire collections, with the following one, formed upon these evidences; but it agrees with it in the most important points, the connection with the Hattons, and the termination of the descent in the Thorntons.



HELLESBY OF HELLESBY.

ARMS: Or, a saltier Sable.

JOSGERAMUS DE HELLESBY, Sheriff of Cheshire, temp. P. de Orreby. =.....

ADAM DE HELLESBY, 26 Hen. II. =.....

RALPH DE HELLESBY. =.....

THOMAS, son of Ralph de Hellesby, 3 Edw. I. HUGH, brother and heir of Thomas de Hellesby. =.....

ALAN DE HELLESBY, grantee of lands in Hatton by deeds, S. D. = BEATRIX, daughter and coheir of Adam de Hatton, juxta Daresbury.

ALICE, wife of Geoffry Starkie, and mother of Ralph Starkie.

MARGERY, sister of William de Hellesby, joins with her nephew Ralph Starkie, in putting in a claim against the fine past by her brother. 17 Edw. II.

WILLIAM DE HELLESBY. = HAWISIA, daughter of living a widow 1332.

LUCY, wife of Sir Peter Thornton, of Thornton-in-the-Moors, by whom she had eight daughters and coheirresses. Had issue.

On the partition of the estates of sir Peter Thornton amongst his coheirresses, the manor of Hellesby was divided between Elizabeth, wife of Hamon Fitton, ba-

ron of Dunham Massey, and Maud, wife of Henry de Beeston: The first of these moieties passed with Joan, sister and heiress of Peter Fitton^x, in the same manner

^p Williamson's Evidences, p. 10.

^q Inq. p. m.

^r Inq. p. m. Johannis Nuthall, 29th Eliz.

^s Harl. MSS. 2079, 13; and Grosvenor MSS. xxi. 5, p. 100 from Cheshire Domesday.

^t Chesh. Domesday. Grosvenor MSS. p. 104.

^u Harl. MSS. 2083, p. 47. Williamson's Evidences, p. 13.

^x She died seized of Bollin and a seventh part of Thornton's lands. Inq. p. m. 12 Ric. II.

as Thornton, to sir Richard Venables of Bollin, and subsequently with Alice, the daughter and coheir of his son sir William Venables, to sir Edmund Trafford, of Trafford.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. IV. Sir William Venables of Bolyn, knt. held in demesne, as of fee, a moiety of the manor of Hellesby, from the earl of Arundel, as of his manor of Stony Dunham, in socage, and by the yearly rent of four shillings. Value x marks per annum.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. V. Richard, son of sir William Venables, held a moiety of the same manor as aforesaid, but no rent mentioned. Value, 1111l. per annum. Alice and Douce sisters and heirs.

Inq. p. m. 36 Hen. VI. Sir Edmund de Trafford, knt. held a moiety of the same manor in socage, from John Trowtbeck, esq. as of his manor of Stony Dunham. Value, 1x marks per an. John de Trafford son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VII. Sir John Trafford, knt. held a moiety of the same, as aforesaid, from sir William Troutbeck, knt. Value, per annum, 1x marks. Edmund Trafford son and heir.

y 33 Eliz. Edmund Trafford, esq. great grandson of the last Edmund, past over half the manor of Hellesby, for 300l. to Thomas Rowe; and shortly afterwards it became vested in the Hobarts. Sir Henry Hobart, knt. sold it to John Savage, first earl Rivers, about the middle of the seventeenth century^z.

Of the other moiety, the following notices are remaining in the inquisitions:

Inq. p. m. 6. Hen. VI. William, son of Thomas de Beeston, held in demesne, as of fee, a moiety of the manor of Hellesby from the earl of Arundel, as of his manor of Dunham. Value, 1111l. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 33 Hen. VIII. Johanna Beeston, widow, held the same of the king, as earl of Chester in capite, as the tenth part of a knight's fee. Value, per annum, 6l. 13s. 4d.

Inq. p. m. 9. Hen. VIII. Tochet Beeston held the same. Value, per annum, 6l. 13s. 4d.

Inq. p. m. 34 Hen. VIII. John Beeston, esq. held the same. Value, per annum, 8l. 13s. 4d.

Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz. Sir George Beeston, knt. held the same from the Queen in capite, as before mentioned. Value, per annum, 8l. 13s. 4d.

Margaret, grand daughter of this sir George Beeston, and heiress of sir George her brother, brought the moiety of Hellesby, among the other Beeston estates, to her husband, William Whitmore, esq. of Leighton, whose daughter and heiress, Bridget, married Thomas Savage, second son of Thomas, viscount Savage, and brother of John, earl Rivers, who purchased the other moiety. Earl Rivers became possessed of both shares shortly afterwards, most probably by a purchase of this second moiety from his brother^a. The entire manor, thus reunited, has followed the descent of the manor of Frodsham, pursuant to the settlement made by Richard, earl Rivers in 1711, and is now vested together with it in the Marquis of Cholmondeley.

In the settlement of earl Rivers, the estate is not distinguished as a manor; the tenants having attended the court of Frodsham from the time of both manors having been vested in the same family, notwithstanding its original dependance on the court of Dunham. From this usage, the manor of Hellesby is now considered a part of the borough and lordship; and its inhabitants serve as jurors in that court, retaining, however, an appointment of distinct constables for Hellesby.

The village of Hellesby is situated two miles west of Frodsham, on the Chester road, immediately under the hill known by the name of Hellesby Tor.

This beautiful hill is a striking object in many parts of Cheshire and Lancashire. The ground declines gradually southwards from its summit to the feet of the forest hills, from which range it is entirely detached. To the North it presents an abrupt precipice of naked rock, descending in lines parallel to those of the neighbouring hill of Overton, and from most points catching the eye together with it; corn is cultivated on its highest summit, and from its exposure to the estuary below, it scarcely retains the snow on the rocks in front for a single day in the severest winter.

ALVANLEY.

ADJOINING to Hellesby, on the S. W. lies Alvanley, for nearly six centuries the property of one of the most antient of those knightly families of which the county of Chester may so justly boast; a duration of possessions in the male line, with which no family in Edisbury Hundred can enter into competition. The township is seated among broken mountainous swells, which intervene between the forest and the back of Hellesby, and present a scenery rarely met with in Cheshire. In one point, where the road from the forest approaches the end of the village, the view is peculiarly striking; the huge bulk of Hellesby presents itself immediately in front, giving to the estuary on the left, the appearance of an inland lake; on the right, a wild valley opens between the crags of Hellesby and Overton, to the town of Frodsham, over which the eye catches the castle and rock of Halton in the distance, and the Weever and Mersey at the point of confluence.

“Leuric tenet de Comite Elveldelie. Ernui tenuit et liber homo fuit; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est iv. carucarum. In dominio est una, cum villano et ii. bordariis. Silva dimidiæ leuvæ longitudinè, et dimidiæ latitudinè.” This Leuric was the Saxon Lord of Wimbalds Trafford, from which he was ejected; and it is most probable, that he was not long allowed to retain possession of his new grant, and that it was resumed by the Earls. It is certain, that before the reign of John, this manor had passed from the Earls, to the Fitzalans, as a component part of the lordship of Dunham, and was then held under them by Richard de Perpunt, and Robert de Alvandeleg. From these proprietors, Philip de Orreby the elder, afterwards justice of Chester, purchased the entire vill of Alvanley, between 1208 and 1226, which purchase was confirmed to him by John Fitz-alan, the capital lord, in the following charter:

^y Williamson's Chesh. Evidences, p. 83.

^z Williamson's Villare Cestriense, p. 33.

^a Harl. MSS. 2010, 209.

" Omnibus, &c. Ego Johannes filius Alani salutem, &c. Noveritis me concessisse, &c. Domino Philippo de Orreby et heredibus suis, de me et heredibus meis in perpetuum, totam villam de Alvandeleghe cum omnibus suis pertinentiis quas emit de Ricardo de Perpunt et Roberto de Alvandeleghe, habendam et tenendam, &c. reddendo annuatim, &c. viginti solidos; scilicet ad annuntiationem dominicam decem solidos, et in festo Sancti Michaelis decem solidos, pro omnibus serviciis. In cujus rei testimonium, &c. Testibus, Domino Hugone Abbate Cestriæ, Warino de Vernon, Willielmo de Venables^b, &c.

Philip de Orreby, son of the justice of Chester, married Leuca, daughter and sole heiress of Roger de Montalt, and of his wife Cecily, the daughter and finally coheiress of William, earl of Arundel. By this lady he had one daughter, Agnes, with whom the manor of Alvanley passed in marriage to Walkelin de Arderne, son of Sir John de Arderne of Aldford.

By this match with Orreby, Walkelin de Arderne obtained the towns of Upton, Frankby, and Willaston, in addition to Alvanley. The Grosvenor MSS. authenticate this connection with the Orrebies (leading through coheiresses to the blood of the earls of Arundel and Chester, and the dukes of Normandy) by two deeds: the first of which (copied from the Cheshire Domesday), contains the grant of the marriage and wardship of Agnes, daughter of Philip de Orreby, to Roger de Montalt: the second, the recovery by this Agnes and Walkelin de Arderne her husband, of the manors before mentioned, from her cousin Fulco de Orreby. In right of this marriage, the representatives of Walkelyn de Arderne are entitled to quarter the Ducal coat of Normandy, and those of the earls of Arundel, Chester, and Mercia.

" Hæc est conventio facta coram Warino de Vernun, Will'o de Venables, Hamone de Masey, R. de Meynwaryng, &c. inter Philippum de Orreby, Justic. Cest. et Rogerum de Montealto Seneschallum Cest.; viz. quod predictus Philippus, predicto Rogero 100 marc. argenti pro custodia Agnetis filie Philippi de Orreby junioris et Leucæ quondam uxoris suæ filie Rogeri de Montealto, et totius hæreditatis descendentes de predicto Rogero patre dictæ Leucæ in Ellesford et Casinglond, cum pert. habend. et tenend. eidem Philippo Justiciario Cestriæ, quousque predicta Agnes talis sit ætatis, quod secundum legem et consuetudinem terræ, possit et debeat copulari viro, et cum ad talem ætatem pervenerit, de assensu et consilio predicti Rogeri Sen. Cestriæ, et ejusdem Philippi et aliorum amicorum dictæ Agnetis, maritata erit. Si autem de ipsa Agnete, antequam ad talem ætatem pervenerit, humanitas contigerit, et idem Philippus de prædicta hæreditate valentiam prædictarum 100 marcar. tunc non perceperit, idem Philippus eandem hæreditatem tenebit quousque valentiam prædictarum marcar. plene perceperit, &c.; et tunc remanebit dicta custodia eidem Rogero Sen. Cestriæ."^c

Finis C. A.º. 28 Hen. f. Reg. Johan. Coram D'no Johanne Extraneo tunc Justic. Cest.; viz. inter Walkelinum de Arderne et Agnetem uxorem ejus petentes, et Fulconem de Orreby tenentem de manerio de Stapleford, &c.; et pro hac recognitione idem Fulco remisit Walke-

lino et Agneti villas de Uptone et Frankeby, Willaveston et de Alvandeleghe, habenda et tenenda dictis Walkelino et Agneti et hæredibus suis de eadem Agnete legitime procreatis. Testibus, Rogero de Montealto Sen. Cestr. Warino de Vernun, Hamone de Masey, Hugone de Venables, Gaufrido de Dutton, Johanne de Heselwelle, Hug. de Corona, Roberto de Masey, Roberto de Domville, Ric'o de Wibbenbir. tunc Vicecomite Cestreshire, &c." Ex Cart. Will'i de Brereton, 1583.^d

The parentage of *sir John Arderne*, whose son thus obtained possession of Alvanley, and was the male ancestor of the numerous branches of this distinguished family, is a matter of considerable uncertainty. An interpolated leaf in Vincent's Cheshire collections, has given rise to a generally received opinion, that he was son of Randle, son of Peter the clerk of the earl of Chester; who is identified in this pedigree with Peter the clerk, son of Ralph de Hampton, who, in 33 Hen. III. was justice itinerant, under the name of Ralph de Arden, and descended paternally from Turketill de Arden, the Saxon governor of Warwickshire in the time of king Edward the Confessor. That Ralph de Hampton had a son Peter "the clerk" is certain; but the circumstance^f of his making his brother Roger his heir, is very strong presumptive evidence of this Peter's dying S. P. And it is also certain, that Peter, the clerk of the Earl of Chester, and his son Randle, had their immediate male line continued by the Le Roters of Thornton, and that Peter himself, supposed by this account to be grandfather of John Arderne, was his contemporary, and received from him a confirmation of the manor of Thornton, as a dependent member of his capital lordship of Aldford.

Another account supposes John de Arderne to be son of Richard de Aldford, to whom he succeeded in that lordship, and who was certainly a contemporary, and perhaps the same with Richard de Harderna^g, whose possessions, from an early period to the present day, have been vested in the Ardernes of Alvanley. The descent of the property of both families, and of the name of Arderne, may be likewise accounted for, by supposing John de Arderne the son in law of Richard de Aldford, a relationship countenanced by many ancient pedigrees; but as far as conjecture may venture, the probability seems to be in favour of the former theory, that John de Arderne was the son of Richard de Aldford, who was maternally the grandson of Richard Fitz-Eustace, constable of Cheshire, and baron of Halton. And it is no slight confirmation of this theory, to find that John de Arderne seals with a coat precisely resembling that of the constables of Chester (three garbs), in a grant to his brother *Eustace* of the manor of Wathford^h; and also in a grant and confirmation of the manor of Thornton to Peter the earl of Chester's clerkⁱ. This, indeed, may lead conjecture further still; Eustace de Arderne being contemporary with Eustace, an acknowledged younger brother of Roger de Lacy, the seventh baron, and constable; but the accidental disclosure of papers, which may have escaped the hand of time, can alone unravel the mystery. It is only clear that the accounts are erroneous, which would refer the origin of this family to the Ardens of Warwickshire; and

^b Harl. MSS. 2074, 172.

^c Cheshire Domesday. Grosvenor MSS. xxi. 5, p. 100.

^d Grosvenor MSS. xxi. 5, p. 148.

^e Vincent. MSS. 120. Coll. Arm.

^f Dugdale's Warwicksh. under Chadeswic. p. 709.

^g Richard de Harderna occurs as witness to a charter of Bertred, Countess of Hugh Kevellock. Leyeester, 132.

^h Harl. MSS. 2077.

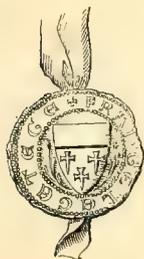
ⁱ Vide Thornton, p. 14.

that the rank and possessions which they obtained in Cheshire in the 13th century, are to be traced to a connection with the baronial house of Halton, the immediate mode of connection remaining unidentified.

This sir John Arderne was grantee, or rather received a confirmation of the fee of Aldford, from Randle Blundeville, in the time of King John, with powers extending over nearly twenty townships little inferior to those of the barons themselves; and built, at this place, a castle, of which considerable vestiges are yet remaining, and which formed an important link in the chain of fortresses on the Welsh border, both from the strength of the works and of the situation. He was^k succeeded by his son *Walkelyn de Arderne*, who discharged the office of Justiciary of Chester, between the 37th and 42d of Hen. III. and obtained the manor of Alvanley, in marriage with Agnes, daughter of Philip de Orreby as before-mentioned. He had a grant of a market and fair in his manors of Aldford, Alderley, and Elford, by patent, 38 Hen. III. and occurs as witness to several deeds enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday, in the first year of John Scot's Earldom, to which none others are witness, besides the Earl's Barons, and his chief Justiciary, Roger Mainwaring.

Sir Peter de Ardern, knt. is the first who can be ascertained to have used the present arms, which are appendant to an original deed in the possession of William Hamper, esq. of which the following is a copy:

Seal as annexed of green wax. “Universis presentes literas inspectur’



Petrus de Ardern miles sal'm in D'no. Noveritis me recepisse de d'no Joh'e de Horreby unam marc' argenti de quadr' libr' quas idem Joh'es cogn' se debere apud Westm' mihi in Cancellar', et solvere ad natale d'ni, anno r' Reg' Edwardi septimo decimo. In cujus rei testimoniu' p'sentibus l'ris Sigillu' meu' apposui. Dat' apud Westm' in vigil' S'ci Andr' Ap'li anno suprad'co.”

This sir Peter was lord of Aldford, Alvanley, and other manors, and^l died seized of the latter place, as *per Inq.* 20 Edw. I. holding it from Richard Fitzalan by the rent of twenty shillings per annum, doing suit at Dunham court from three weeks to three weeks. He married Margery, daughter of -----, and was succeeded by his son,

John de Arderne, of Aldford and Alvanley, to whom, and to his wife Margaret, daughter of Griffin, Lord of Bromfield, his father had granted the manor of Congleton by deed of the 53d Hen. III.^m This John de Arderne grants to Hugh Venables, baron of Kinderton for 25 marks (A^o. 1 Edw. II. 1307), the marriage of his son John with Alice, daughter of the said Hugh, on whom he settles the township of Alvanley for dowerⁿ; and in the same year, Hugh Venables empowers his brother William to take possession of the township, on behalf of John, son of John Arderne deceased, and Alice, daughter of the said Hugh Venables^o. This John de Arderne was also father of Peter Arderne, of Over-Alderley, who had a grant of that manor from his brother John, and was represented, together with his wife Chris-

tiana, in the windows of Alderley Church, in habits emblazoned with the coat of Arderne, and a bend engrailed over all for distinction^p. This Peter had issue by his wife Christiana, who was living a widow 32 Edw. III. one son, Peter de Arderne, who purchased the marriage of Richard, son of Thomas de Wever, for twenty-five marks, 8 Edw. III.^q from his uncle John Arderne, of Aldford, from which marriage the Alderley estate passed to the families of Wever and Stanley, as will hereafter be more fully mentioned in the account of that township.

John Arderne, eldest son of Sir John de Arderne and Margaret, was under age, and ward of Edward III. then earl of Chester^r, in 1317. He had issue by his wife Alicia Venables, John Arderne, son and heir, and Peter, second son, on whom Thomas de Alderley and Hugh de Bromley, trustees of Peter Arderne, of Alderley, settled the successive remainders of that estate, after Peter's own issue, by a deed in French, without date^s.

John Arderne, eldest son of John de Arderne and Alicia Venables, married, first, Johanna daughter and coheir of Sir Richard de Stokeport, widow of Sir Nicholas de Eton, knt. He afterwards married his cousin Ellena, daughter of William Wastneys. By the first wife he had no issue, but enjoyed for life the manors of Stockport, Poynton, and Woodford^t, by an agreement which was confirmed by Nicholas de Eton and Robert his son, 6 and 9 Edw. III. and died seized of these manors for life, 23 Edw. III.; in the Inquisition after which his brother Peter was found next kinsman and heir, as he also was in another Inquisition of the same year, after the death of the same John and Ellen his wife, which mentions their estates being settled on Thomas son of Ellen.

From this *Peter* is traced, in the following pages, from a clear series of deeds, the descent of the Alvanley family; but it is first necessary to unravel the most intricate knot in the Cheshire pedigrees.

Sir John Arderne, to whom Peter his brother was found heir, was unquestionably father of Thomas, of Walkelin, who died s. p. and of John de Arderne. Thomas was ancestor of the Ardernes, of Aldford; Walkelyn died without issue; and John has been asserted in the pedigrees to be father of Henry Arderne, of Dorfold, whose son Ralph has been confounded with Ralph^u Arderne, of Alvanley, of whom hereafter. Thomas, the first of these sons, obtained by successive recoveries during his father's life, the manor of Aldford, and the manor of Nether Alderlegh; and from the circumstances of these settlements, the Inquisition on his father's death finding his uncle Peter his heir, and from a successful claim advanced by this uncle, after that event to the Alvanley estate, he was evidently born before marriage, as well as his brother Walkelyn. Of the manor in which Aldford was alienated from the legitimate line as well as its dependency of Alderley, I find the following notes in Williamson's Collections.

P. 24, 19 Edw. III. Robert de Hampton, parson of Alderlegh, obtained from John de Arderne, the manor of Aldford, with the homages and services of Peter de Thornton, Jo. de Legh, Wm. Russel, Jo. Trussel, of Cubleston, and Wm. his son.

^k Leycester, p. 172.

^l Villare Cest.

^m Harl. MSS. 2079, 15; and Cheshire Domesday, p. 105. Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5.

ⁿ Harl. MSS. 2077.

^o Harl. MSS. 2074, 132.

^p Bostock's Church Notes, 1598. Harl. MSS. 2151.

^q Harl. MSS. 506. 204.

^r Presentations to Aldford Ch. Lichfield Regrs.

^s Harl. MSS. 2074. 132. Arderne deeds.

^t Watson's History of Earls of Warren and Surrey.

^u The Ardernes, of Dorfold, are proved to be a distinct family by the Inquisitions after the death of Ellen, widow of Henry Arderne, 9 Hen. IV. and of Ralph Arderne, of Dorfold, 8 Hen. V. which will be given in that township.

Ibid. 20 Edw. III. Sir Jo. Arderne and Ellen his wife, obtained from Jo. son to Roger Motlow, the manor of Alderlegh, for their lives, remainder to Thomas son to Ellen, and his heirs male, then to Walkeline his brother, remainder to the right heirs of John and Ellen.

P. 25, 23 Edw. III. Thomas son to Ellen (wife of John Arderne, knt.) and Catherine his wife, obtained of Jo. Arderne and Ellen his wife, the manor of Alderlegh and the advowson of the church to them and their heirs, remainder to Walkelin brother of Thomas.

Walkelin, second son, by all accounts died without issue, but by some has been erroneously called the eldest son. John, the third son, was betrothed "infra annos nubile" to Cecily daughter of Sir Nicholas de Eton, knt. from whom he was divorced in 1332^x. I apprehend him to have been born in marriage, and to have died soon after, before the settlement of the estate of Aldford on his illegitimate brothers, in which he is altogether omitted; but if the pedigrees are right in making him father of Charles Arderne, of Timperly, Henry Arderne, of Dorfold, and others, he must also have been illegitimate, or his uncle Peter would not have been found heir to his father, or succeeded to Alvanley.

To return to the immediate ancestor of the Alvanley family. *Peter de Arderne*, after the death of his brother, claimed and recovered the manor of Alvanley, as being then eldest son and heir of John son and heir of John Arderne, and of Alicia Venables, on whose heirs his grandfather had settled the estate. He married Cecilia daughter and heiress of Adam de Bredbury and Cecilia his wife, with whom he had seven parts of Bredbury and half of Bromley, as appears by a deed in French, without date, between John de Arderne, lord of Aldford, and Adam de Bredbury and this Cecilia: and by another deed, without date, in which William de Stokeport regrants to this Adam and Cecilia lands which he had received from them, with remainder to Peter de Arderne and Cecilia his wife. Peter de Arderne, 29 Edw. III. settled on feoffees his manors of Harden, Bredbury, and Bromley: and 42 Edw. III. made a similar settlement of his manor of Alvanley.^y He left Hugh, eldest son and heir, and John, who, as trustee, ^z vested lands in Walter le Walsh, by deed, before 2 Ric. II. for the benefit of Cecilia daughter of Ralph Hide, and wife of Hugh Arderne his brother.

Hugh de Arderne was son and heir of Peter de Arderne, as appears by a mandate to Matilda, widow of William de Carrington, to restore to him the manor of Bothomes, which William, ^a son of Walter de Stokeport, had settled on the issue of Peter and Cecilia de Arderne. He is also recognized as son and heir of Peter de Arderne, in an agreement between him and Richard de Hulme, respecting the stopping a divorce then intended between Hugh and ^b Agnes daughter of this Richard. Hugh Arderne afterwards married Ce-

ilia daughter of Ralph Hide^c, to whom, and to her husband, 2 Ric. II. Walter le Walsh gives the lands which he had in Stockport by gift of John son of Peter Arderne. The same Hugh, 46 Edw. III. vests in feoffees his lands^d in Bromley, Alvanley, Bredbury, and Harden, in trust for his son Peter, remainder to Ralph his brother. He survived to the 6th Hen. V. having had two other sons, John and Ralph, who succeeded him, and Alicia wife of Christopher Davenport.

Of his sons, Peter had issue John, who died before 2 Ric. II. when Robert Tatton and Margaret his wife, widow of Peter son of Hugh de Arderne, restored to Hugh^e their interest in lands accruing by the death of John son of the above Peter, being a third part of the manor of Alvanley settled on Margaret. Ralph, the second son, probably died an infant, not occurring after the deed before-mentioned, 46 Edw. III. John, the third son, was the eldest surviving son, 20 Ric. II. in which year he received lands in Alvanley from John le Walsh, a trustee. Ralph Arderne, the fourth son, finally became heir by survivorship^f, and 6 Hen. V. together with Catherine his wife, received a grant of lands in Alvanley from his father Hugh, lord of Alvanley^g. An indenture bearing date 38 Hen. VI. states that in a matter of variance between Jenkin Arderne, and Jenkin Hyde and Catherine his wife, the parties have been bound to stand to the award of Sir John Stanley, knt. and Bartholomew Arderne, and among other things, that Rafe Arderne died seized of all the lands which were Huchons of Arderne. 25 Hen. VI. a part of the dower^h of his wife Catherine was secured on his manor of Alvanley, where the same lady had afterwards a licence to erect an oratory after the death of her husband. By this wife Ralph Arderne was father also of Thomas, Robert, Hugh, and Ralph, who occur in successive remaindersⁱ in a deed of trust dated 13 Hen. VII. whereby Sir Thomas Ashton and Robert Dokenfield are made feoffees of the manor of Alvanley, to the use of John Arderne, esq. for life, then to the use of the dower of his wife Margaret, then to the use of Ralph Arderne his son and heir, and Margery daughter of Thomas Davenport, of Henbury, esq. whom the said Ralph shall marry, with remainder to Thomas, Robert, Hugh, and Ralph, brothers of John.

John Arderne, esq. eldest surviving son, succeeded his father anno 25 Hen. VI. in which year his father appears to have been living by a deed before mentioned, and of which year an indenture bears the date, between "Iohnson and heire of Ralph Arderne and Katherine, mother of the said John," who assigns to the said Catherine, in name of her dower, lands in Bredbury, Wernith, Romiley, and Stockport. He settled his estates 13 Hen. VII. with remainder to his younger brothers, as before mentioned; and survived to 22 Hen. VII. as proved by another deed of trust, in the collection before referred

^x Plac. ap. Cest. coram Barthol. Burghersh, Justic. D'ni Com. Cest. die Mart. p'x p. fest. Stæ Trinitat.

Petrus de Arderne petit versus Tho. f. Elurson de Buckley man'm de Alvandeleghe cum p't quod Jo. de Arderne chv'r dedit Jo. f. suo et Aliciæ filiz Hugo'is de Venables, et heredibus de corporibus ipsorum Joh'is f. Joh'is et Aliciæ exeuntibus: et quod post mortem p'dictorum Joh'is f. Joh'is et Aliciæ, præfato Petro filio et heredi p'dictorum Joh'is f. Joh'is et Aliciæ descendere debet pro forma donationis p'd'tæ, &c. &c.

Dicunt super Sacramentum quod p'd'tus Joh'es de Arderne dedit p'd'tum manerium Joh'i f. suo et Aliciæ f. Hugonis de Venables, et heredibus de corporibus ipsorum exeuntibus; et concessum est quod p'd'tus Petrus recuperet, &c. versus p'd'tum Thomam de man'io p'd'to. Arderne Deeds, Harl. MSS. 2074. 132.

^y House of Warren, 274. vol. II.

^z 33 Edw. III. the Abbot of Vale Royal acknowledges the receipt from him of 6l. 13s. 4d. due from 30 Edw. III. and styles him D'nus de Alvandeleghe.

^a Arderne Deeds, Harl. MSS. 2074. 132.

^b Ibid.

^c "Come Peirs de Arderne soit tenu et oblige a Robert de Hulme de Accompte rendre de 80l. et des profits des avandits 80l. &c. et avandit Robert veot et grante pur lui et ses heires, que si le dit Peirs ne procure a devorse fait entre Hugh son fils, et Agnes la fille de dit Robert le Hulme &c." Dat. a Stoppord, 31 Edw. III.

^d Arderne Deeds, Harl. MSS. 2074. 132.

^e Ibid.

^f Ibid.

^g Ibid.

^h Ibid.

ⁱ Ibid.

^j Ibid.

to. According to these deeds he had issue Thomas Arderne, who occurs as his eldest son and heir in a release of lands in Wernith, which he executes in conjunction with Isabella his wife, 16 Edw. IV.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VIII. Thomas Arderne held the manor of Harden, and lands in Bredbury, Romiley, and Wernith. Val. Tot. viii. xs. Od. Obiit 7 Dec. anno pdt'o. Thomas Arderne, son and heir, aged upwards of forty years.

This Thomas Arderne died most probably issueless. He was succeeded by Ralph Arderne; but whether he was his son or brother the silence of the escheats and fines prevents us from precisely ascertaining. There can be little doubt of Ralph being his brother.

Ralph Arderne, esq. died per *Inq.* 30 Hen. VIII. seized of lands in Alvandeley, held from John Talbot in socage, val. per ann. xxi. also of the manor of Harden, and lands in Bradbury, Wernith, Romeley, Offerton, and Stockport. Value of the whole 4*l.* 8s. 4d. John Arderne son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 6 Edw. VI. John Arderne, esq. died 7 Dec. 5 Edw. VI. died seized of the lands and manors before mentioned. Ralph Arderne son and heir.

From this Ralph the descent of Alvanley to the present proprietor will be traced by the pedigree annexed. The particulars of the succession of the Ardernes to the forestership of Delamere, and the estates of the Dones, of Utkinton, will be given with more propriety in that township. It remains to close this account of the family, with a short memoir of two of its sons, whose names have reflected a new lustre on the long pedigree roll of their ancestors.

James Arderne, fifth son of Ralph Arderne, of Harden and Alvanley, esq. was born 1636, and was entered of Trinity College, Cambridge, July 9, 1653. He removed to St. John's, and there took his degree of B. A. in 1656, where he proceeded master about the usual time.

Being a man of good parts and great ingenuity, he was admitted in 1659 a member of a society, which used to meet nightly at the Turk's Head in New Palace Yard, Westminster, where James Harrington, the author of "Oceana," was the general president.

On the restoration he took orders, and in April 1666 was presented to the curacy of St. Botolph, Aldersgate, which he held until his promotion to the deanery of Chester, when he privately resigned it to Dr. Richard Hollingworth.

In the years 1673 and 1674 he was a gentleman commoner of Brasenose College, Oxford; from the double inducement of the public library and the society. Here he was incorporated in 1658 M. A. and in 1673 D. D. both which degrees he had taken regularly in his own university.

He was chaplain in ordinary to Charles the Second, and by him was presented on lapse to the rectory of Davenham 10 Jan. 1681, and afterwards appointed dean of Chester, where he was installed in July 1682: he is also said to have had a promise of succession to the bishoprick from James the Second. The glorious events which occurred at the period of bishop Cartwright's death, in 1689, did away with the promised appointment; but his attachment remained unshaken to his dethroned benefactor, and is said to have subjected him to many affronts and indignities in the vicinity of Chester. The disappointment probably shortened his life, as he died the 18th of September 1691, having bequeathed his property to the dean and chapter of Chester. It was then

small, the property of Mrs. Jane Done, which afterwards so much enhanced the value of the bequest, not having reverted to the younger branches of Arderne; and it was principally intended to form the foundation of a public library. He was interred in the choir of his cathedral, on the south side, near the bishop's throne, where a monument is put up to his memory, corresponding with the directions contained in his will, of which the following is a copy — a will which the dean would certainly never have executed if he could have imagined, that, from subsequent contingencies, it would have been the means of wresting from his family a very large share of one of the most antient estates in the county, and have involved the representatives of two of his brothers in a series of law expences, which compelled them to alienate a considerable portion of Mrs. Jane Done's bequest, the successive turns of presentation to the rectory of Tarporley.

"In the name of God, Amen, I James Arderne, D. D. and dean of Chester, being weak of body, but of perfect sense and memory, praised be God for it, doe make this my last will and testament, as followeth: First of all I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God, professing to die in the communion of the Catholic Church, and more immediately of that part of it in England; and next to this, the best branch of the Catholic I doe esteem to be the Greeke Church, except only as to their practice of invocation of angels and saints. As to my whole estate, which is at my disposall, (and by these presents I declare, that except only a bond, in which captain Beresford and I have joined, and as for any thing relating to my nephew John Arderne, of Peele, or his sister, it will be made to appear by my papers, which may be referred to after my death, provided that Ortelius's great book of maps be restored to my brother, Sir John Arderne, who only lent it me during my life, and my seal-ring given to my nephew James Arderne, I have not disposed of any thing,) I give it to the glory of God, and the service of the Cathedral Church of Chester, more particularly for a small beginning of a publick library of books; but if a library cannot be had, I do hereby desire, that the fathers of the first three hundred years, which I have, together with a common place book, which I made out of them, of controversies, may be set up in the Chapter-house, for the use of the dean and prebends: and if this doe not take place, a further use hereof is, that this may be kept as a stock, whereby they may defend the rights and privileges of this ecclesiastical corporation, and that it may serve to defray the expences of procuring an Act of Parliament for disposing of the great lease, called Jollive's Lease, when it shall fall, so as shall be most conducive to the welfare of this Cathedral, and to the public good. Excepting only, out of this my whole grant to them, my best suit, as gown, cassock, hat, silk stockings, doublet, and breeches, which I desire may be given to my curate, Mr. Peter Morrey, and that my executors do take care of his preferment, he leaving a very good place to come to me; and that they would pay my curate, and the rest of my servants, a quarter's wages at the quarter's day next ensuing my decease; and alsoe, that one piece of grey cloth, the same as their suits, may be given to my two servants in livery. And, as to my debts, I desire (not having a particular acconnt) that those, and particularly Captain Beresford, may certify upon oath what is owing, excepting such whose credit is known to my executors, whom I do hereby appoint, and desire to be, the prebends of this Cathedral Church of Ches-

ter, and their successors, and the dean, when there shall be one made, in all things, excepting the furniture of the deanery-house. And I do hereby recall all former wills that were, or that may be pretended to be made by me, particularly that made in the parish of St. Martin's, Westminster, the last winter. Lastly, I do appoint my body to be buried in the quire of this Cathedral, near the foot of the altar, with an inscription upon a cheap stone, or brass, set up in the wall, as followeth: Here lies the body of doctor James Arderne, brother of Sir John Arderne, awhile dean of this Church; who, though he bore a more than common affection to his private relations, yet gave the substance of his bequeathable estate to this Cathedral; which gift his will was should be mentioned, that Clergymen may consider whether it be not a sort of sacrilege to sweep all away from the Church and Charity into the possession of their lay kindred, who are not needy. Dat. Oct. 27, 1688.

"In testimony that this is my last will and testament, read and interlined by me, before signing and sealing, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

Signed and sealed in
presence of

ELIZABETH KALSALL, JAMES ARDERNE, L. S."
MARY BURROUGHES,
JOHN BASSNETT.

A fine portrait of dean Arderne is preserved in Chester Deanery. His works were:

1. Directions concerning Matter and Stile of Sermons, 12mo. 1671.

2. Conjecturæ circa *Επιτομήν* D. Clementis Romanis: cui subiiciuntur castigaciones in Epiphanium et Petavium, de Eucharistiâ, de celibatu clericorum, et de orationibus pro vitâ functis. In the title of this book he stiles himself "Jacobus de Ardenna." London, 1683, 4to.

3. The true Christian's Character and Crown: a Sermon. London, 1671, 4to.

4. A Sermon on the Visitation of John Bishop of Chester. London, 1677, 4to.

5. A Speech to his Majesty, 27 Aug. 1687.

* "Richard Pepper Arden, younger son of John Arden of Harden and Alvanley, received his early education at the grammar school of Manchester, and, was subsequently, of Trinity College, Cambridge, where he

took the degrees of A. B. and A. M. and became Fellow. Afterwards studying the law, he was called to the Bar, attained a silk gown, and in 1782 was appointed Solicitor General, and in 1784 Attorney General and Chief Justice of Chester. In 1788 he succeeded Lord Kenyon in the office of Master of the Rolls, and was knighted at Whitehall on the 18th of June the same year.

In December 1782, he was elected M. P. for Newton, and in 1784 for Aldborough in Yorkshire. In 1790 he was elected for Hastings, for which he vacated his seat in April 1794, and was immediately elected for Bath, to which he was re-elected in 1798, and continued its representative until his elevation to a peerage.

In May 1801, he succeeded Lord Eldon as Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and on that occasion was raised to the peerage, assuming his title from his brother's estate, and was created baron of Alvanley in Cheshire, by patent, dated May 22, 1801.

His Lordship died March 19, 1804, and was interred on the 26th, in the Rolls Chapel, Chancery-lane. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. John Strachey, D. D. and the body was deposited in a vault on the right side of the communion table."

The Hall of Alvanley has been abandoned as the residence of the family for nearly a century and a half, and very little of it can now be traced in the walls of the farm which occupies its site. The oratory built by Catherine, widow of Ralph Arderne, is also destroyed, and a chapel substituted in its room: which, after being disused for several years, has been again recently appropriated to the celebration of divine service. From some difficulties in proving a title to the lands with which it was supposed to be endowed, there has been a failure in procuring Queen Anne's bounty, in aid of the curate's salary, which is barely 20 pounds per annum.

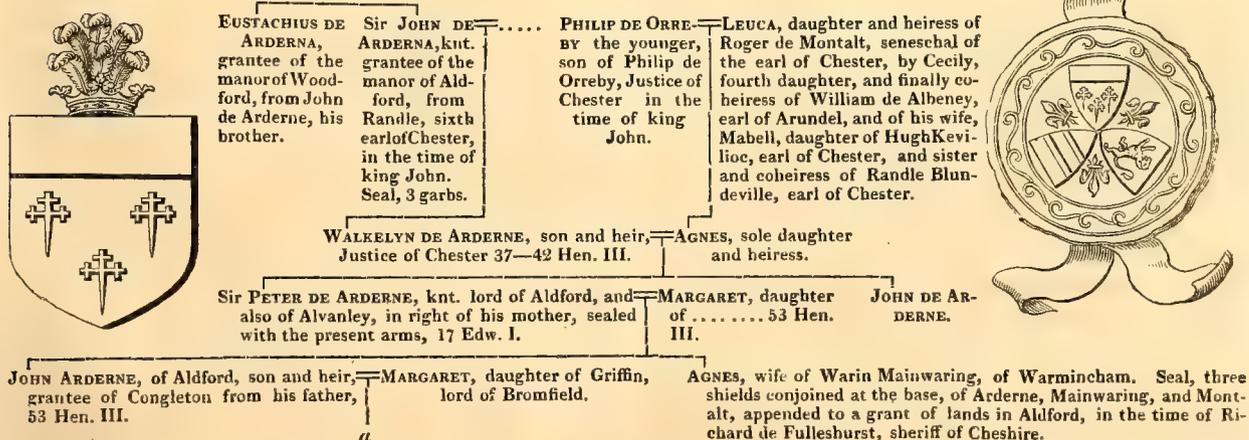
The chapel is thus mentioned by Gastrel: "Alvandley. certif. val. 5l. 10s. per ann. viz. 5l. interest of 100l. left by Thomas Hignett, and 10s. interest of 10l. left by Richard Lincock. Surp. fees belong to Frodsham. Vol. contrib. about 8l. per ann. of which 2l. 18s. by Mr. Richard Arderne of Stockport, who nominated the last curate, and 2l. 18s. by his elder brother's widow. After the death of Anne Churchman, is left to the curate 60l. by John Dugdale her husband." p. 144.

ARDERNE, OF ALDFORD, ALVANLEY, AND HARDEN.

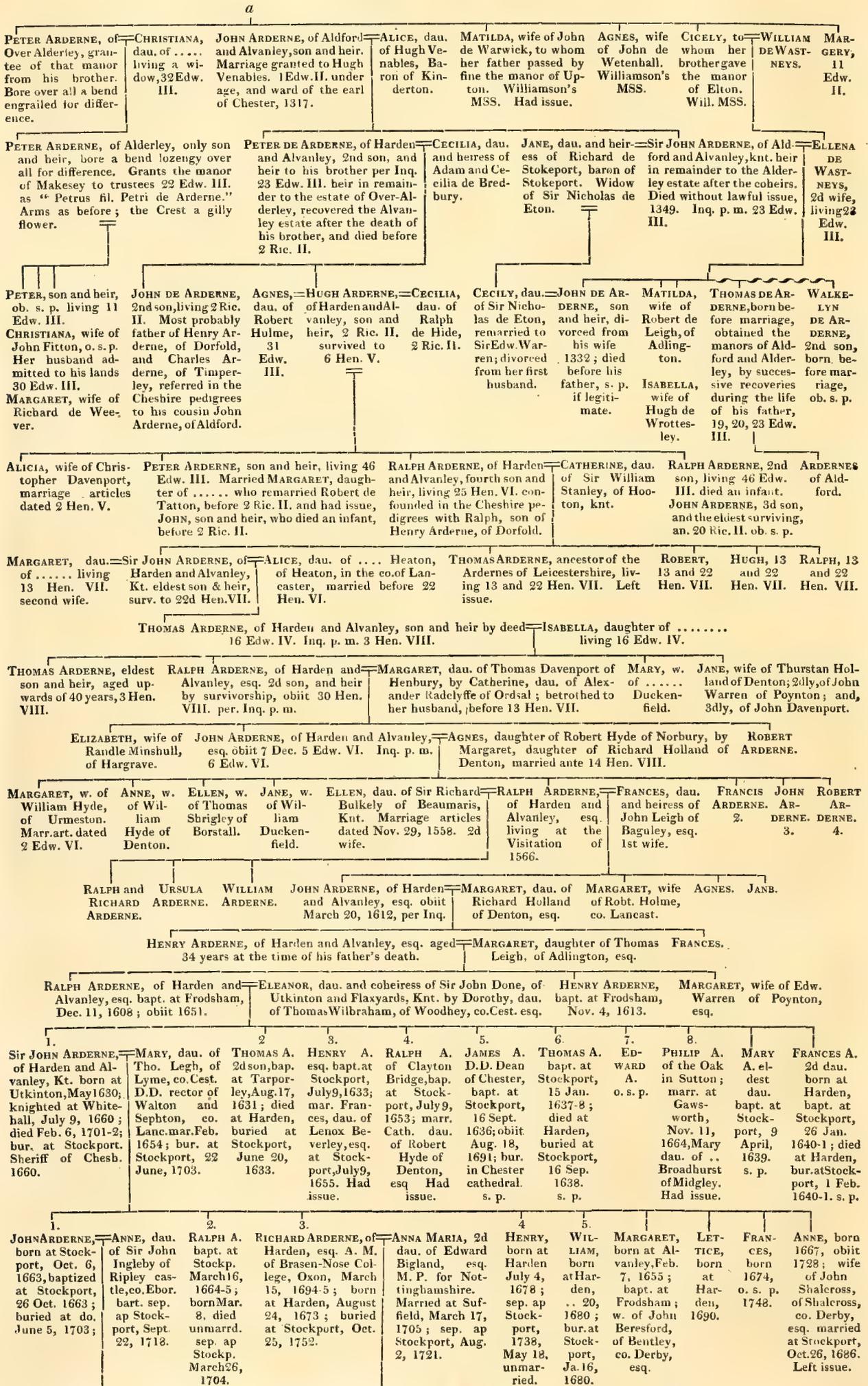
Arranged from a series of family deeds, abstracted by Sir Peter Leycester, and preserved among the Harl. MSS. 2074, and continued from the Inquisitions, Visitations, and Parochial Registers.

Arms. Gules, three cross crosslets, fitchè, Or, a chief of the second.

Crest. A double plume of feathers, Gules, the ends of the feathers turned downwards Or, issuing from a ducal coronet.



* Extracted, with a few additions and alterations, from a memoir in Brydges' Peerage, ix. 147.



a			b								
MARY, bapt. at Stockp. Sept. 2, 1690. o. s. p.	CATHERINE-MARIA, bapt. at Stockport, Dec. 10, 1694, died unmarried, sep. ap Stockport, June 1767.	MARGARET A. of London, died unmarred, sep. ap Stockport, Sept. 30, 1735.	RICHARD, born at Stockport, Sept. 12, 1717, died May 1726, sep. at Stockport.	JOHN ARDERNE, of H. esq. born Ap. 20, 1709, bapt. at Stockport. Sheriff of Chesh. 1760, obiit Dec. 3, 1786. Sep. ap Stockport.	SARAH, dau. of Cuthbert Pepper, of Pepper Hall, co. Ebor. esq. sister and heiress of Prescott Pepper, mar. at Scarborough, Aug 30, 1735, sep. ap Stockp. July 1753.	CREWE A. 2d son, born at Stockport, Oct. 12, 1712, and there bapt. bur. at Stockport, March 22, 1742-3, married at Taxall.	Jane, dau. of John Gee of Manchester, bur. at Stockport, Dec. 10, 1754.	MARGT.-ANNE, born 1706-7.	FRANCES, 1707-8.	ANNA-MARIA, 1710.	ELIZABETH, 1711.
JOHN ARDEN of Harden, Urkinton, and Pepper Halls, esq. son & heir, born July 19, 1742; unmarried 1816.	LEGH ARDEN, bapt. at Stockp. 1748, obiit April 28, 1766. s. p.	CREWE ARDEN, M. A. rector of Tarporley, bapt. 1750, sep. ap s. p.	SARAH born 1736. MARGARET, 1738. ANNA MARIA 1739. FRANCES 1752. s. p.	RICHARD PEPPER ARDEN, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, created baron Alvanley, of Alvanley, 1801.	ANNE DOROTHEA, dau. of Rich. Wilbram of Rode, co. Cest. and Lathom, co. Lanc. esq. born Sep. 26, 1757.	LETITIA, bapt. at Stockp. Sep. 1745, wife of Ed. Rudd Clerk, rector of Hapton, co. Durham.	RICHARD ARDERNE of Heaton Norris, bapt. at St. Anne's, Manchr. Jul. 31, 1735. sep. ap Stockp. July 15, 1779.	ANNA-MARIA, bapt. at Manchr. March 17, 1736. o. s. p. 1804.			
JOHN ARDEN, born in Lincoln's Inn Fields, Dec. 7, 1786, ob. 1787, sep. ap. St. Andrew, Holborn, s. p.	MARIANNE, SARAH, died infants.	FRANCES-HENRIETTA, born at the Rolls House, April 9, 1791.	CATHERINE-EMMA, born at the Rolls, April 23, 1794.	RICHARD-PEPPER, 3d son, born at the Rolls, Dec. 8, 1792.	WILLIAM-ARDEN, second lord Alvanley, born at the Rolls, Jan. 8, 1789, baptized at St. Dunstan's in the West, Feb. 20, unmarried 1816.						

KINGSLEY.

DUNNING tenet de comite Chingleslie : ipsemet tenuit sicut liber homo : ibi una hida geldabilis : terra est II carucarum : In dominio est una, et v servi, et unus Villanus, et III Bordarii. Ibi piscaria et dimidia ; ibi silva unius leuvæ longitudine et unius latitudine.

Hanc posuit comes in sua forestâ ; et ibi aira accipitris, et iv haiæ capreolorum tempore R. Edwardi valebat xxx solidos, modo vi solidos.

From this extract from Domesday, it appears that Kingsley was afforested immediately subsequent to the Conquest, but that the Saxon possessor was allowed to preserve his estate in it ; a solitary instance as far as concerns this hundred. This right was enjoyed for a very short period, Randle the first, third earl of Chester, having conferred the place on Ranulph de Kingsley (who, from his name, appears to have been a Norman), in the reign of Henry I. together with a master-forestership in the forests of Mara and Mondrem. Ranulph², son of this Ranulph de Kingsley, had issue Richard, who, in 1233, recognizes the right of Mabell de Moston, widow of Ranulph de Kingsley, to the township of Norley, which she held in dower, before Richard Draycot, Just. Cest. and others. She, most probably, was the widow of an elder brother who died issueless ; but, from the date, was certainly not the widow of the first Randle, as is generally stated in the pedigrees.

Richard de Kingsley married Joan, daughter of Alexander Sylvester of Storeton, forester of Wirral ; who is proved, by a plea of William Stanley to a writ of quo warranto, exemplified under the seal of the Exchequer of Chester, to have died issueless. By another wife, he was father of Ranulph, who died s. p. and of five daughters and coheiresses ; Emma, wife of William Gerard ; Agnes, wife of William Lancelyn ; Amicia, wife of Randle le Roter of Thornton ; Joan, wife of Henry Done ; and Margaret, wife of Richard de Cholmondeley.

Of these coheiresses the four first only are noticed in Richard Done's claim in Eyre, in which he deduces to 31 Edw. I. the lines of the other three coheiresses. It

is, nevertheless, evident that Margaret Kingsley had issue, by a charter noticed by Sir Peter Leycester^a, who has, however, mistaken the name of her husband. By another deed, without date (Harl. MSS. 2038. 55.) she grants lands in Aston, in her widowhood, to Hugh de Camera: the seal circumscribed "Sigillum Margerie Celmundele." She occurs in the following deed along with her sisters : 29 Hen. III.^b

"Nos Margareta et Amicia et Johanna, filie Ricardi de Kingsley, quietum clam's D'no Thomæ de Dutton et heredibus suis totas p'tes n'ras de piscar: salamon: et anguillar: apud Rowton ford in aquâ de Wever. Test: d'no Galfrido de Dutton, et alio Galfrido de Dutton, Ada: de Helesby ; Hugo de Lyme ; Petro Ballivo ; Fr'o Cl'ro, et aliis.

And she also occurs, with other representatives of the coheirs, in the Cheshire Domesday, p. 104.

"Memorandum quod hæredes Ricardi de Kingslegh, scilicet Will'mus de Senevile, D'na Margeria Cholmondelegh, Ranulph le Roter, Willi'us Lancelyn, coram D'no N. de Wilib. Constabulario Castri Cestr. : D'no Walkelino de Arderne, &c. Anno Regni Dni Regis Henrici 29 ; manuceperunt, quod dominam Johannam uxorem quondam Ric'i de Kingslegh, plenar: dotem habere facient de omnibus terris quas habuit die quo d'cus Ricardus obiit," &c. Who William Seneville was, does not appear, unless it was a local appellation of William Gerard.

The fee of Kingsley included the manors of Newton, Norley, Cuddington, Crowton, and Onston ; the Kingsleys were also lords of Barterton, and capital lords of Manley, and had considerable estates in the townships of Arrow, Stoke, Picton, and Pulton-Lancelyn. In the partition of these estates, the fee of Kingsley was equally divided between the coheiresses who married Gerard, Lancelyn, le Roter, and Done. The Dones had also the master-forestership of Delamere. The minor estates were subdivided in shares which it would be equally vain and unprofitable to attempt to trace.

¹ Richard Done's claim in Eyre, 31 Edw. I. In a pedigree of the Norreys family, it is stated that the escocheon of pretence charged with a bugle-horn, Sable, formed part of Earl Randle's grant ; but this allusive bearing must have been adopted subsequently.

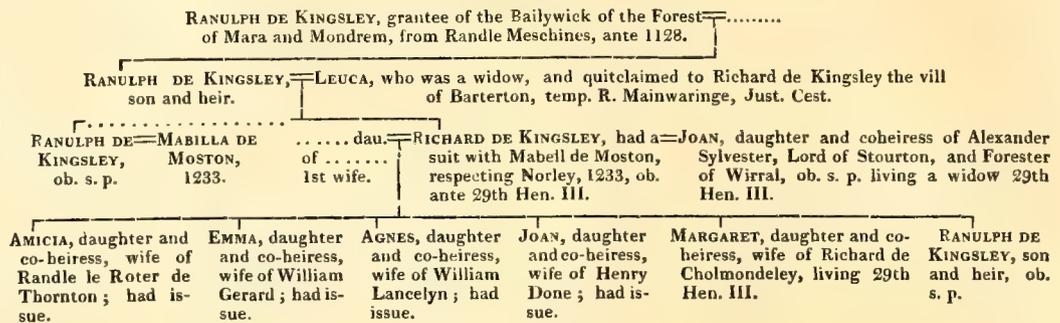
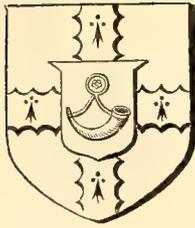
² Grosvenor MSS. xxi. 5, p. 97, among extracts from the Cheshire Domesday.

^a Leycester, 221.

^b Harl. MSS. 2038. 56 b.

KINGSLEY OF KINGSLEY.

ARMS: Vert. a cross engrailed Ermine. On an escoccheon of pretence Argent, a bugle horn, strung Sable.



Ist Share. Sir Peter le Roter, de Thornton, son of the first of these coheirs, had issue Sir Randle de Thornton, among the daughters and coheirs^c of whose son, as mentioned in Thornton, a considerable part of his share of Kingsley was divided. Sir Lawrence Dutton, son of the eldest of these coheirs, had licence, 45 Edw. III. to carry away the chapel of Kingsley^d, formerly belonging to Sir Peter de Thornton, being within the bounds of the forest.

Richard le Roter, second son of Sir Peter le Roter, also obtained a share of the Thornton estates in this manor, by gift from his father, in the time of Edw. I. and occurs as grantee of lands in Kingsley in the following charter: "Ego Ricardus le Roter de Kingsley, filius Petri de Thornton, dedi Henrico de Glasshowse et Hawisæ uxori ejus, dimidium landam terræ in Kingsley. Test. Will'mo Gerard, Ricardo Done, Hugone de Newton, Johanne de Aula."^e

4 Edw. II. Richard le Roter, jun. obtained from Richard le Roter, senior, lands and messuages in Kingsley, Crowton, and Newton.

8 Edw. II. Richard le Roter and Emma his wife, obtained from Randle de Merton, 22 messuages, 6 carucates of land, woods, and the fourth part of two mills, in Kingsley, Crowton, and Newton, including a reversion of one-third of the same, which Amilia widow of Richard le Roter, senior, held in dower, to them and their heirs; remainder to William, Robert, Margery, Hawise, Elizabeth, and Katherine, brothers and sisters of Richard le Roter, successively.

An Inq. dated 36 Edw. III. Harl. MSS. 1535. 427. states Randle, son of Randle le Roter, to have succeeded to lands by inheritance from William le Roter, being acquired by him from William Gerard of Kingsley, also to lands in Norley acquired from Thomas Gerard.

This Randle the elder also possessed all the wastes not appropriated in Kingsley, Newton, Norley, and Cuddington, by gift of William Gerard, 33 Edw. III. being lands which he had purchased from William Lancelyn. Seal of Gerard: a lion rampant without the bend. The same Randle also acquired another portion of Lancelyn's share in Norley, within Kingsley fee, by alienation to him, 34 Edw. III. from — Sparke, to whom they had been given, 13 Edw. III. by William Lancelyn^f.

Inq. p. m. 38 Edw. III. Randle le Roter held a fourth part of the vill of Oldmulnesteude from William Lancelyn in capite, val. 1d. per annum. Also lands in Kingsley, from the earl of Chester, val. xiiis. per annum. One messuage, one water-mill, and xv acres, in Kingsley, from the same, val. per annum v marks, and other lands in Kingsley; and a fourth part of all the wastes therein held from the earl in capite, val. xiiis. ijd. per annum, together with lands in Aston, Weverham, Bradley, Frodsham, and Haselwall. Randle le Roter son and heir.

William le Roter^g, son of this last Randle, witnesses deeds of Randle de Norley, 4 Rich. II.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VI. Richard le Roter held in demesne as of fee, lands and messuages, in Kingsley, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite; also a fourth of the wastes in Kingsley, William le Roter son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VII. Johanna, widow of William le Roter, held in demesne, as of free tenement, lands in Kingsley, Norley, Frodsham, Bradley, and Haselwall, held from the king as earl of Chester, as the twentieth part of a knight's fee, Thomas le Roter son and heir; who was also found heir of William, per Inq. 1 Rich. III.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VIII. Thomas Rutter^h died 25th March, anno pd'to, seized of lands in Kingsley and elsewhere, val. viiij. xs. per annum, William le Roter son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Thomas Rutter, gent. (brother of William) obiit 9th Nov. 21 Eliz. seized of lands in Kingsley fee, val. vii. xiiis. ijd. also of lands in Frodsham, Bradley, Acton, and Haselwall. Thomas Rutter son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 37 Eliz. Thomas Rutter obiit 1 Sep. anno pd'to, seized of lands in Kingsley and elsewhere, val. viiij. xs. per annum, Geo. Rutter son and heir, aged thirty years.

The pedigree annexed brings down the pedigree of Rutter to the lowest point I have been able to trace it to, from the parish registers; but its immediate descendants, heirs male of Peter, the clerk of the earl of Chester, a brother of the baronial house of Malpas, and representatives also of the eldest coheir of the Kingsleys, are still living as day labourers within the precincts of the feudal power of their ancestors.

This share of Kingsley was alienated in the last century by . . . Rutter, to Mr. John Welles, of Sandbach, from whose widow and trustees it passed by purchase to Mr. John Reddish, the present proprietor, who resides at Kingsley Hall.

^c The subdivision of this part of the share among the coheirs of Thornton, may be traced in the following Inquisitions post mortem: Thomas de Scynsbury, 20 Rich. II. Thomas de Dutton, 4 Rich. II. Richard Venables, 3 Hen. V. William Beeston, 6 Hen. VI. John de Dutton, 24 Hen. VI. Thomas de Dutton, 38 Hen. VI. Sir William Booth, 17 Edw. IV. Thomas Beeston, 16 Edw. IV. George Booth, 1 Rich. III. Tochet Beeston, 9 Hen. VIII. William Booth, 11 Hen. VIII. George Booth, 23 Hen. VIII. and Sir William Booth, 22 Eliz.

^d Leicester, 255.

^e Harl. MSS. 2038, 45, and Leicester, MSS. p. 180.

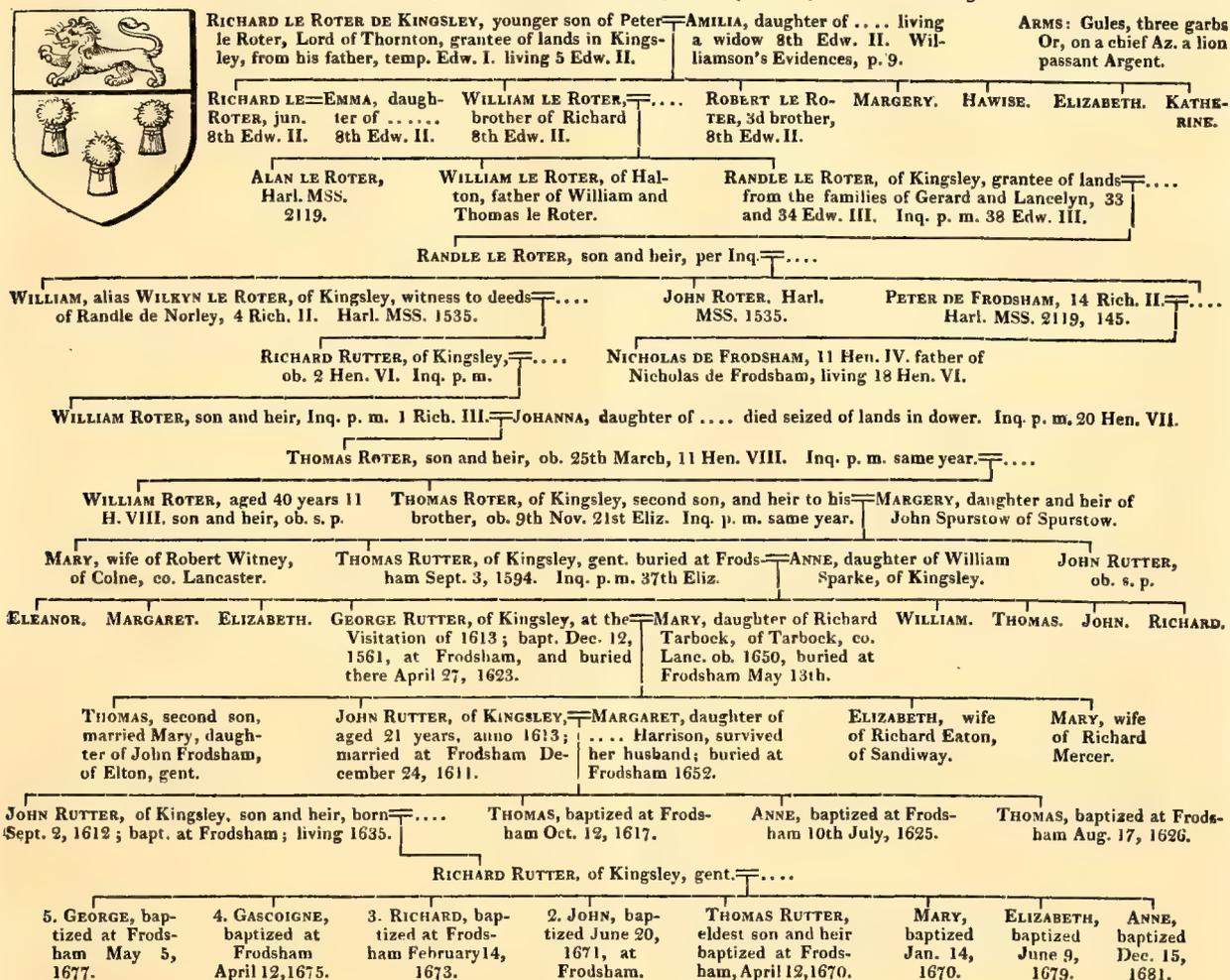
^f Harl. MSS. 2038, p. 71.

^g Ibid. 1535

^h Grosvenor MSS. Wilcoxon's Abstract of Inquisition.

RUTTER of KINGSLEY.

From the Visitation of 1613, Harl. MSS. 1535 and 2119, the Inquisitions, and Frodsbam Registers.



Ind Share. The Gerards, as appears by their grant of wastes to Randle le Roter, 33 Edw. III. purchased the share of the Lancelyns in Kingsley, and thus possessed a moiety of the manor.

9 Edw. II. William Gerard, sen. son of the husband of Emma de Kingsley, obtained from William Gerard, jun. 17 bovates of land, 7 messuages, and 12 acres of meadow, in Hawarden, the manors of Cattenale and Bradelegh, and half the manor of Kingsley, Newton, Norley, Crowton, Cudington, and Barterton. Peter de Thornton, Richard son of Richard le Done, and Richard le Roter, put in a claim.

16 and 19 Edw. I.^h William Gerard (the second of the name) gives lands in Crowton and Kingsley to his younger son Thomas, which donation was confirmed 21 Edw. I. by prince Edward, as earl of Chester, under the seal of the earldom.

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. William Gerard (the last-mentioned) held in demesne, as of fee, the moiety of Kingsley, from the earl of Chester, in capite, as the moiety of a knight's fee, value VIII marcs per annum. Also the manors of Bradley and Cattenhall. William Gerard, son and heir.

33 Edw. III.ⁱ William Gerard confirms to his brother Thomas the lands which he held in Kingsley, Crowton, and Bradley, by gift of William his father. Witnesses, Thomas de Dutton, Randle le Roter, and others: dated at Catenale. Seal, a lion rampant on a heater shield, within Gothic tracery, circumscribed, Sig'm

Willi. de Gerrerd. This William married the heiress of Bryn, and was father of

Peter Gerard, who, by *Inq. p. m.* 4 Ric. II. in which he is styled Chv'r, held in demesne, as of fee, a moiety of a knight's fee, in Kingsley, Norley, Cudington, and Newton, except certain lands in Crowton, which Thomas Gerard holds, in capite, from the earl of Chester. Thomas Gerard, son and heir.

10 April, 10 Hen. VI.ⁱ John Gerard, of Bryn, died seized of Nether Bradley, and a moiety of Kingsley, &c. in joint feoffment with Alice his wife, of the feoffment of John de Markelande and William Kirke, chaplains, to whom Sir Thomas Gerard had given the same in his lifetime. Peter Gerard, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VII. Peter Gerard, esq. held in fee lands in Frodsbam, value xs. and sir Thomas Gerard, kt. held the manor of Nether Bradley, and a moiety of the manor of Kingsley, &c. value xvii marks per annum, which he had vested in trustees. Thomas Gerard, son and heir.

24 Sept. 28 Hen. VI. custody of lands of the late Sir Peter Gerard, was given to Thomas Danyell, esq. until Thomas his son shall be of age. 20 Feb. same year, a mandate was enrolled to set out dower for Isabella his widow. Thomas Gerard, eldest son of this Thomas, died 6 Nov. 15 Hen. VIII. in the wars of Scotland, seized of lands in Ledsham, Bradley, Kingsley, and Frodsbam, value, per annum, 23l. Thomas, son and heir, aged 12 years. *Inq. p. m.* anno predicto.

^h Harl. MSS. 2038, p. 54.

ⁱ Enrollments in the Exchequer of Chester.

3 Eliz.^k Sir Thomas Gerard and Elizabeth his wife passed over the manor and fee of Kingsley to Sir John Savage and his heirs, for 200l.; and 6th Eliz. Thomas Gerard, bastard son of Sir Thomas Gerard, passed over also his right in the same for 1000l.

12 and 13 June, 1711, Richard Savage, earl Rivers, vested this manor in trustees, by indentures of lease and release, to the use of himself and his heirs; in default of which, to the use of the trustees, for payment of debts and legacies, with divers remainders. In consequence of this settlement, the manor of Kingsley, with other manors, after the earl's death¹ in 1714, was sold to James Barry, earl of Barrymore; under whose bequest it passed to his second son the honourable Richard Barry, who died without issue, and bequeathed the same to his nephew, James H. Smith Barry, esq. in whose natural son, John Smith Barry, of Marbury, esq. the manor is now vested.

The chief part of the IIIrd Share, brought by Agnes de Kingsley in marriage to William de Lancelyn, was sold by them to the Gerards before 9 Edw. II. in which year, as has been mentioned, the Gerards possessed a moiety of the manor. Portions of this share have also been previously noticed, as being conveyed to Randle Roter, in the 33d and 34th Edw. III. by . . . Sparke, who acquired the same from the Lancelyns 13 Edw. III. It may be considered as altogether merged in the 1st and 2nd shares of Rutter and Gerard.

The IVth Share has descended with the other property of the Dones, to John Arden, esq. the present proprietor, as will be traced by reference to the pedigrees of Done and Arderne, in Utkinton and Alvanley. Of this share the following notices occur in the Inquisitions:

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VI. John Done held (inter alia) a fourth part of the manor of Kingsley, with its appurtenances in Kingsley, Norley, and Cudington, with the Bailywick of the forest of Delamere, as the fourth part of a knight's fee, from the king, as earl of Chester, in capite, value vii marks.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VII. Sir John Done, knt. held a fourth part of the same, value xxs. per annum. Under this share was held the estate in Crowton, granted to the younger branch of the Dones of that place; also the manor of Manley, held by the Manleys, from the Dones, of Crowton, as mediate lords.

Having brought down the descent of the shares of Kingsley fee to their present proprietors, John Arden, J. S. Barry, and John Redish, esqrs. it remains to mention that the lordship of Kingsley is at present divided into twelve parts, of which four are the property of Mr. Arden, five of Mr. Barry, and three of Mr. Redish, as lords of the soil: in which proportion their allotments of waste were distributed on an inclosure in pursuance of an act of parliament in 1777, in Kingsley, Newton, and Norley; and in the same proportions, also, on an inclosure of Cuddington, in 1766. The same privileges extend over the township of Onston; but in Crowton they are claimed by Ralph Leycester, and George Wilbraham, esqrs. as is mentioned in that township.

The court leet and court baron of Kingsley are claimed and held by J. S. Barry, esq. alone; and the

jurisdiction extends over all the six townships of Kingsley fee.

In the township of Kingsley, on the left bank of the Weever, opposite Aston, is the estate of CATTENHALL, at a very early period the residence of Ranulphus Venator; Roger, bishop of Chester, about the middle of the 13th century, having certified that this Randle, with his wife and sons, gave Catenhale, the place of his habitation, to God, and St. Mary, and Sir Inhel^m, the priest, and his successors, for ever, together with the tenths of the possessions of his house.

Afterwards the abbot and convent of St. Werburgh became lords thereof, who enfeoffed William Gerard, of Kingsley, with the same. William Gerard, sen. obtained it by fine from William Gerard, jun. 10 Edw. II. under the denomination of the manor of Catenhaleⁿ.

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. William Gerard held the manor of Cattenhall, in demesne, as of fee, from the abbot of Chester, in socage, by the payment of xxxs. rent, and by finding in the same manor two chaplains to celebrate mass for the souls of the lords of Kingsley, and for the souls of all the faithful deceased. The manor is said, in this Inquisition, to be worth nothing beyond reprisals.

Robert Griffin, in the time of Edw. III. purchased the manor from Peter Gerard, of Bryn, grandson of the last-mentioned William Gerard. Agnes, daughter and heiress of his great grandson John Griffin, brought it in marriage to John Nuthal, whose descendants alienated it in the time of Charles the First, to Sir Arthur Aston, son of Arthur, a second son of Sir Thomas Aston^o, of Aston, a celebrated military officer.

Sir Arthur Aston was principally distinguished by his services in the royal army during the great rebellion, but spent the early part of his life in continental warfare. Among the Harl. MSS. (2149, 28--32,) are the following testimonies to his military merits in the service of foreign princes.

Letters testimonial of Christopher Radzivil, duke of Birze, great general of Lithuania, to the valiant behaviour of Arthur Aston, in all the proceeding of the wars there, where he commanded three companies of foot. Dated at Vilna, Jan. 1, 1623.

Grant of a pension of 700 florins per annum, to the same, by Sigismund, king of Poland, dated at Warsaw, April 23, 1635.

The same king's letters testimonial to the valour and good conduct of the same, who was sent to him by the king of England in the Turkish wars, and advanced to a lieutenant-colonelcy. Dated at Warsaw, 1630.

A pass from the Russian emperor, Michael Theodorowitz, for Sir A. Aston, knt. who arrived in his empire with a number of other officers and men, sent from king James I. to serve against their common enemy, Sigismund, king of Poland, where he performed good service. Given at Moscow, A. M. 7122, viz. 1614.

Commission from Gustavus Adolphus, king of Sweden, to colonel A. Aston, for raising a regiment of English soldiers, and transporting them into his service. Aug. 19, 1631.

In 1640, Sir Arthur Aston was appointed colonel-general of one of the brigades of the royal army, under a commission from the earl of Strafford, and ten days

^k Williamson's Collections, p. 85.

¹ Act for settling the Rivers estates, 7 Geo. III.

^m "D'no Inhelno Sacerdoti." Vernon's MSS. added to the Leger-Book of St. Werburgh, p. 38.

ⁿ Williamson's Evidences, p. 10.

^o Villare Cestriense. Harl. MSS. 2010. The grant from Kingsley to St. Werburgh's abbey, from St. Werburgh's abbey to William Gerard, and the purchase from Peter Gerard by Robert Griffin, are stated in a plea exemplified at the instance of Richard Nuttall 24 June, 3 Edw. VI.

afterwards was appointed serjeant-major-general of that part of the army which attended the king's person. He commanded the dragoons at the battle of Edge Hill, and was afterwards governor of Reading, in 1643, where he thrice foiled the attempts of the earl of Essex, but was compelled to resign his command in consequence of a wound on the head. This accident, according to Clarendon, was esteemed a great misfortune to the king, as there "was not in his army a man of greater reputation, or one of whom the enemy had a greater dread."

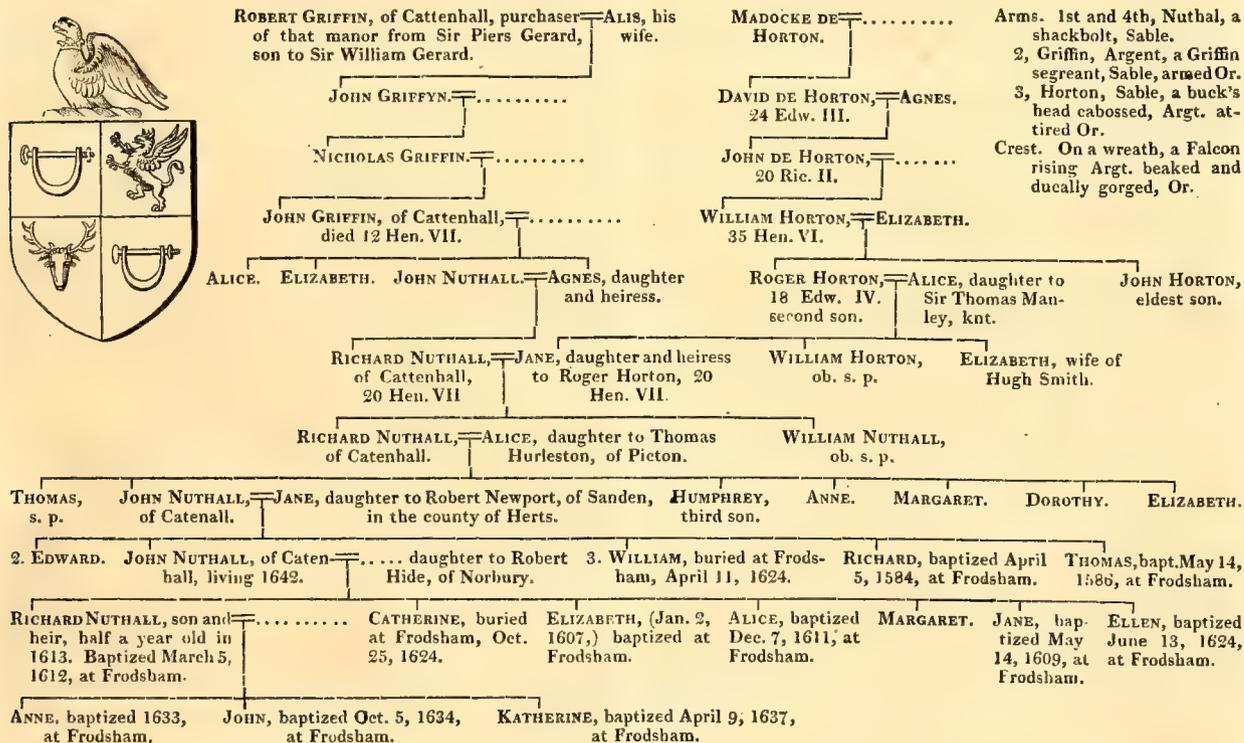
After his recovery, Sir Arthur Aston was made governor of Oxford, in which office he had the misfortune to lose his leg, in consequence of a fracture occasioned by a fall from his horse, under which circumstance, his future services being despaired of, the king

settled on him a pension of 1000*l.* per annum. Sir Arthur, nevertheless, afterwards served at Tredagh, in Ireland, where all the royalist garrison were put to the sword, and he himself had his brains barbarously beaten out with his wooden leg. Clarendon observes that he was the only papist that had a command in the army, and was a very unpopular though deserving officer.

After some intermediate sales, subsequent to the death of sir A. Aston, Cattenhall was purchased by Robert Hyde, esq.^p who, dying without issue, left it to his great nephew Robert Hyde, esq. in reversion, after the death of his widow; and on the termination of that family in the male line, it passed in marriage, with the heiress, to the late John Gifford, of Nerquis, esq. and is now the property of his daughter Elizabeth.

NUTHAL, OF CATTENAL.

1535, Collated with the Visitation of 1613, Coll. Arm. and the Parish Registers.



Peele Hall in Kingsley, was undoubtedly, in former times, as its name imports, one of the Peels or Castelletts, used for mixed purposes of habitation and defence. The name is common on the northern border of England, and it is singular that in a part of Cheshire, exposed to the incursions of the Welsh, two instances only of the name are now remaining. The site is occupied by a farm-house.

The estate descended in the Dones and Ardernes to the year 1696, when John Arderne, then residing here, conveyed it to Robert Hyde, of Sutton, gent. having received a conveyance of it himself in 1691, from Sir John Arderne, his father.

1706, Joseph Hornby, gent. and Elizabeth his wife, conveyed it to Richard Norreys, of Speyke, esq. whose daughter and heiress, Mary Norreys, in 1736, on her intended marriage with lord Sidney Beauclerk, conveyed it to Sir Thomas Aston, and others, trustees,

1767. The honourable Topham Beauclerk, the only child of this marriage, conveyed to Elizabeth Aston, spinster, the daughter of Sir Thomas Aston, bart. and she, by her will, dated 12 Nov. 1777, devised it to her sister Magdalen Walmesley, and her heirs; who by will dated 12 Dec. 1785, bequeathed the same to her sister Jane, wife of Francis Gastrell, clerk, vicar of Frodsbam, 1787. Mrs. Gastrell conveyed to Samuel Plumb, and Walter Kerfoot, who, in 1797, conveyed to George Whitley, esq. and, in 1813, the hall and estate were finally conveyed by George Whitley to Samuel Plumb, son of Samuel before-mentioned, who now enjoys the same.^q

Salt pits are noticed in this township in Inquisitions of the time of Edward the Third, and some weak brine springs are now existing in the township, but no salt is made here.

^p Williamson's Villare Cest.^q Communicated from deeds by George Whitley, esq.

MANLEY,

adjacent to Alvanley, and the boundary of Frodsham parish on the N. W. is thus described in Domesday: "Ipse comes tenet Menlie; Touchi tenuit ut liber homo, ibi dimidia hida geldabilis; terra est una caruca; reddit de firmâ marcam argenti. Tempore regis Edwardi, valebat x solidos."

The manor of Manley was possessed, in the reign of Henry the Third, by a family who assumed the name of the township, and held it as mediate lords under the Dones of Crowton, who held from the Dones of Utkinton, as part of the fee of Kingsley. About this time Roger, son of Robert de Manley, remitted to the Church of St. Werburgh an halfpenny rent, which his son used to pay him issuing from this township^r.

21 Rich. II. Richard Ins Presbyter, vicar of Tarvyn, settled on Richard Manley this manor for life, remainder to John his son and heir; remainder to Robert his younger son.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. V. Richard de Manley (son of John) died seized of the manor of Manley, held in socage under Richard Done, of Crowton, and valued at xl. per annum, also of the manor of Wettenal, and lands in Elton, Happesford, and Alvanley. John de Manley son and heir.

This Richard was eschætor of Cheshire, in the first, third, seventh, and tenth years of Henry VII.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VI. John Manley died seized in fee tail of the site of the manor of Manley, held as before in joint feoffment with Elizabeth his wife, also of the manors of Wettenal and Mouldsworth, with lands in Manley, Elton, Hapsford, and Alvanley. Thomas de Manley son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 12 H. VII. Thomas Manley held in demesne as of fee tail, the site of the manor of Manley, from R. Done, of Crowton, in socage, val. xl. per annum; also the manor of Wettenal, and lands in Elton, Happesford, Alvanley, Frodsham, Bradley, Kingsley, Weverham, Horton, and Molesworth. James Manley son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VII. James Manley held as aforesaid the site of the manor of Manley; also the manor of Wettenal, and lands in the townships recited in the last inq. William Manley son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VIII. James Manley (brother of William) held lands in Manley, of Ralph Birkenhead, in socage, as of his manor of Crowton, val. xxl. per annum; also half the manor of Mouldsworth, lands in Wettenal, and the townships before recited, val. tot. xxxixl. iiii. vid. William Manley, son and heir of this James, aged nineteen years at the time of the inq. sold^s his Manley estate to Richard Birkenhead, recorder of Chester, natural son of John Birkenhead, of Crowton, 22 Hen. VIII. and his Wettenal^t estate to the Breretons.

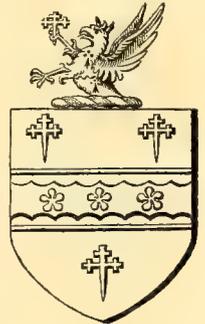
Adam Birkenhead, son and heir of Richard, resold^u the manor to the Rev. Gregory Turner, rector of Sephton, in Lancashire, with whose daughter and heiress Dorothy it passed in marriage to Henry Legh, of the

East Hall in High Legh, esquire, about the year 1630.

Henry Legh^v sold the manor to Robert Davies, gent. who died in 1658, and was a great purchaser of land in the neighbouring parishes. Robert Davies, of Manley, esq. in whom the male line of this family terminated, had issue Thomas Davenport Davies, who died in Jamaica 1741; and one daughter, Salisbury, wife of sir Matthew Dean, of Dromore^y, who became heiress to large possessions, which had accrued to this family by the purchases of Robert Davies, in the 17th century, in Horton, Ashton, and Manley, and also to the manors of Davenport and Marton, acquired at a later period by the marriage of Robert Davies, esq. with Elizabeth, heiress of John Davenport, of Davenport, esq. in whom the eldest line of the Davenports became extinct.

Sir Robert Tilston Deane, (son of Sir Robert Deane, barrister at law, the only brother of Sir Matthew,) who inherited the greater part of these estates, and was created Lord Muskerrey in 1781, sold the manor of Manley to Thomas Lowten, esq. an eminent conveyancer, in 1789.

"Mr. Lowten died the 2nd January 1814, and devised the said manor, and all other his real estates, by will, to his nephew Thomas Wainwright, of the Temple, solicitor, son of the testator's only surviving sister, Elizabeth, the widow of George Wainwright, of Dunham Massy, in the county of Chester, merchant. The said Thomas Wainwright, shortly after the decease of his relative, took the name of Lowten, by virtue of the king's sign manual;"^z and Aug. 2, 1814, had the following arms confirmed to him. Argent on a fesse engrailed Sable, with plain cotices Gules, between three cross crosslets fitchee, Azure, as many cinquefoils, Or. Crest, a demi griffon per fesse, indented, Erminois and Ermine, wings elevated Sable; in the dexter claw a cross crosslet fitchee, Azure.



The superior lordship of Manley, vested in the Dones, of Crowton, from whom the Manleys held, was derived by them, together with the said township of Crowton, from the gift of Henry Done to their ancestor, and passed in the same manner with it to the Birkenheads and Irelands. It was held in socage under the Dones of Utkinton, and valued at xxl. per annum in the Inq. after the death of John Birkenhead, 5 Edw. VI. The Dones of Utkinton^a did not obtain this lordship in the first distribution of Kingsley fee, but by gift, in the time of Edw. I. from Richard le Roter, to whom it was conveyed by William Lancelyn, being a part of his share of Kingsley. This William de Lancelyn, as capital lord of Manley, quitclaimed, to the church of St. Werburgh, all the lands which Roger de Manley, and Ralph his brother, had given to that abbey.

^r Vill. Cest. p. 62.

^s Ibid.

^t Ibid.

^u Leicester MSS. and Dugdale's Visitat. Cest. 1664. This Adam Birkenhead was buried at St. Mary's, in Chester, 1646.

^v Monuments formerly in Tarvin church.

^y Irish Peerage.

^z Obligingly communicated by J. H. Markland, esq. F. S. A. from the information of the family.

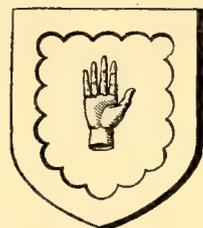
^a Villare Cest. p. 62, and Leger Book of St. Werburgh.

The township of Manley occupies an elevated situation on the road leading from Ashton to Frodsham, near the point where the range of the Forest Hills leaves the line which it previously preserved parallel with the vale of the Gowy, and gradually assumes a northern front. It, of course, commands both the Welsh and Broxton views, and the prospect over the Mersey into Lancashire. The ground slopes gently below to Dunham, and above is a series of wild hills, in which the one that bears the name of Manley hill, a singular ele-

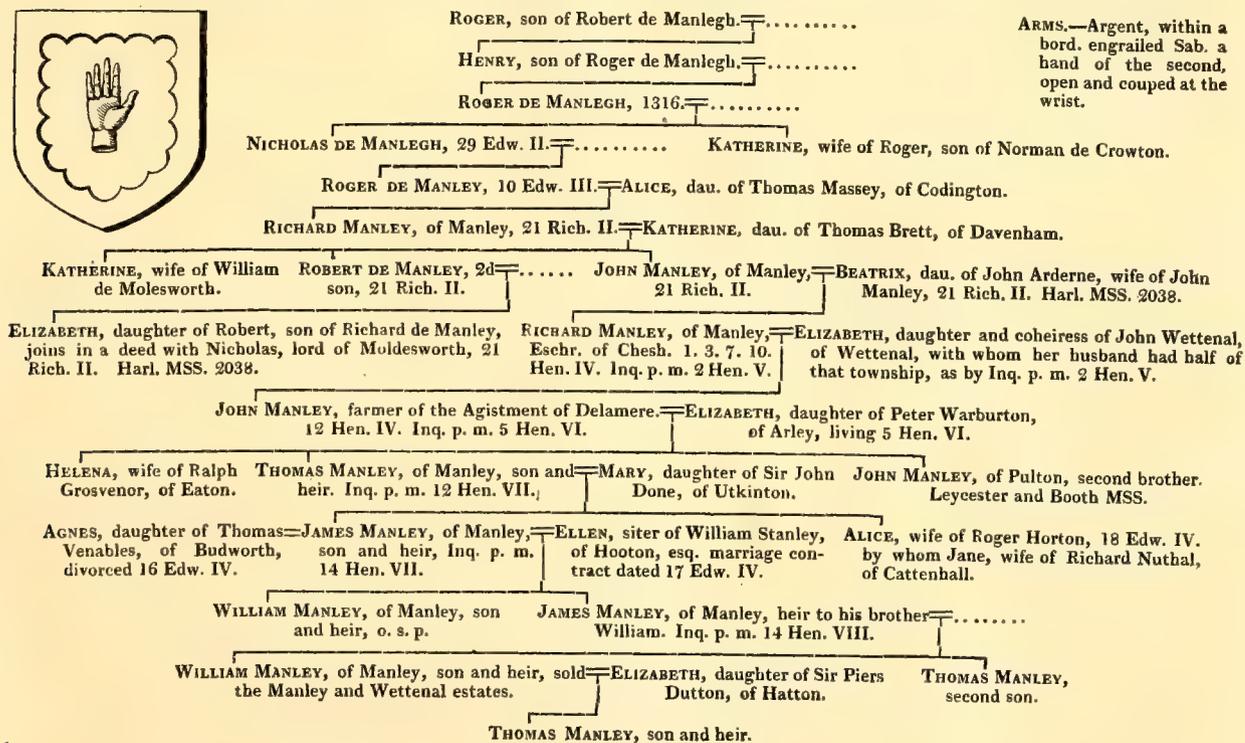
vation with a table-shaped summit, is a striking object. The site of the ancient hall is marked by a moat near the farm-house now called Manley Hall. At a short distance below are the quarries of beautiful white stone from which the materials of Chester castle and of a considerable part of Eaton hall have been obtained. From the demand for this stone for public purposes, the county has contributed considerably to the repairs of the roads in the townships.

MANLEY, OF MANLEY.

From a copy of a Pedigree, once in the possession of the Family, preserved in Harl. MSS. 2119; corrected by collation with the Inquisitions.



ARMS.—Argent, within a bord. engrailed Sab. a hand of the second, open and couped at the wrist.



Delamere.

BY an act of the 52d Geo. III. the remains of the once extensive forests of Mara and Mondrem, reduced to a space which contained, by admeasurement, 7755 acres, 2 roods, and 35 perches, were formed into a new parish under the name of Delamere.

It appears from Domesday, that the attention of the earls of Chester, in the taste of the sovereigns of the time, had been directed at that early period to forming chaces for their diversion. The earl's forest is noticed in several instances, and it likewise appears that it was not only formed of lands then found waste, but that several villas had been afforested from the express purpose of adding to its limits, as, for instance, Kingsley; of which the survey observes, "hanc posuit comes in sua forestâ;" and Weverham, "de hac terra misit comes tres hidas in forestâ."

The following are given as its original limits in an old MS. marked 2115. p. 79. Harl. MSS.

Villæ infra fforestam de Marâ et Mondrem.	
1 Brugetroghford.	34 Stoke.
2 Wymbaldetroghford.	35 Bedaleheth.
3 Thorneton.	36 Wardhull.
4 Ines.	37 Calvylegh.
5 Elton.	38 Alpraham.
6 Happesford.	39 Tydelston.
7 Stony Dunham.	40 Teverton.
8 Alvandeleggh.	41 Utkynton.
9 Manleygh.	42 Weylaton.
10 Hellesby.	43 Clotton.
11 Newton.	44 Duddon.
12 Kyngesleggh.	45 Ashton.
13 Norleggh.	46 Mykel Moldesworth.
14 Crouton.	47 Lyttel Moldesworth.
15 Codyngton.	48 Horton with Asseton.
16 Onston.	49 Mykel Baree.
17 Acton.	50 Lytel Baree.
18 Weynynton.	
19 Castel Northwyc.	Villæ infra libertates
20 Hertford and Horton.	EpiscopiCovent.etLich.
21 Weever.	Manerium suum de
22 Wetenhale.	Tervyn.
23 Olton and Lowe.	51 Tervyn.
24 Budworth.	52 Kelshale.
25 Rusheton.	53 Hockenhull.
26 Ayton.	
27 Torpylegh.	Villæ infra libertates
28 Church Minshull.	abbatis de Valle Regali.
29 Aston.	Manerium suum de
30 Worleston.	Weverham.
31 Whytpoole.	54 Weverham.
32 Barrellespull.	55 Merton.
33 Cholmundeston.	56 Overe.

Villæ infra libertates	58 Overton.
DominiComitisCestriæ	59 Netherton.
infra metas forestæ	60 Bradeleggh.
p'dtæ.	61 Mukesdale.
57 Burgus de ffrodesham.	62 Woodhowses.

From this document it appears that the limits of the forest extended over a great part of the hundred of Nantwich, and over all the hundred of Edisbury, exclusive of nine townships chiefly in the parish of Bunbury, the bishop's manor of Tarvin, and the earl's borough of Frodsham. The manors of Weverham and Over, with their dependencies, were subsequently disafforested by the foundation charter of Vale Royal; and a similar exemption in favour of Barrow, granted to Thomas le Despenser as early as the time of Randle the Third, was confirmed to Sir John Savage by letters dated 10th March, 10 Edw. VI.

The district extending from the banks of the Mersey to the south boundary of the late forest, was designated as the forest of Mara, whilst that of Mondrem stretched in the direction of Nantwich. It will appear from a subsequent document, that the jurisdiction of these forests was distinct; the claims of Henry de Wever being disallowed, on the hearing of the Grosvenor and Done cause, as to the forest of Mara, but granted as far as respected the forest of Mondrem; and the charter of Robert Grosvenor of Budworth, given in that township, mentioning his right to a moiety of the forest of Mara only^b.

The jurisdiction was originally vested in four families; Kingsley of Kingsley, Grosvenor of Budworth, Wever of Wever, and Merton of Merton.

The master-forestership of the whole was conferred by Randle the first^c, in the 12th century, on Ralph de Kingsley, to hold the same by the tenure of a horn. The Dones of Utkinton, who succeeded the Kingsleys as chief foresters, and whose names generally appear alone in suits, presentments, and precepts from the earls relative to the forest, are recognized in these^d as foresters of Mara and Mondrem likewise. The representation of the Dones and Kingsleys is now vested in John Arden, esq. of Harden and Alvanley, bowbearer and chief forester of Delamere, by a descent which is given in the account of the townships of Utkinton and Alvanley. This master-forestership of Mara and Mondrem, with the fourth part of the manor of Kingsley, was held of the king, as earl of Chester, by the fourth part of a knight's fee, and valued at vii marks per annum. *Inq. p. m.* Johan Done, a°. 19 Hen. VI.

^eThe moiety of the vert and venison of the forest of Mara, was granted, by charter of Hugh the second, to Robert le Grosvenor, along with the vill of Bud-

^b Vide Little Budworth.

^c MSS. in Coll. Arm.

^d Pleas of the Chesb. Forest. Harl. MSS. 2079.

^e The boundaries of this moiety are given in a plea to a quo warranto, under Dunham, and the privileges of the Grosvenors there stated. The original charter is given under Little Budworth.

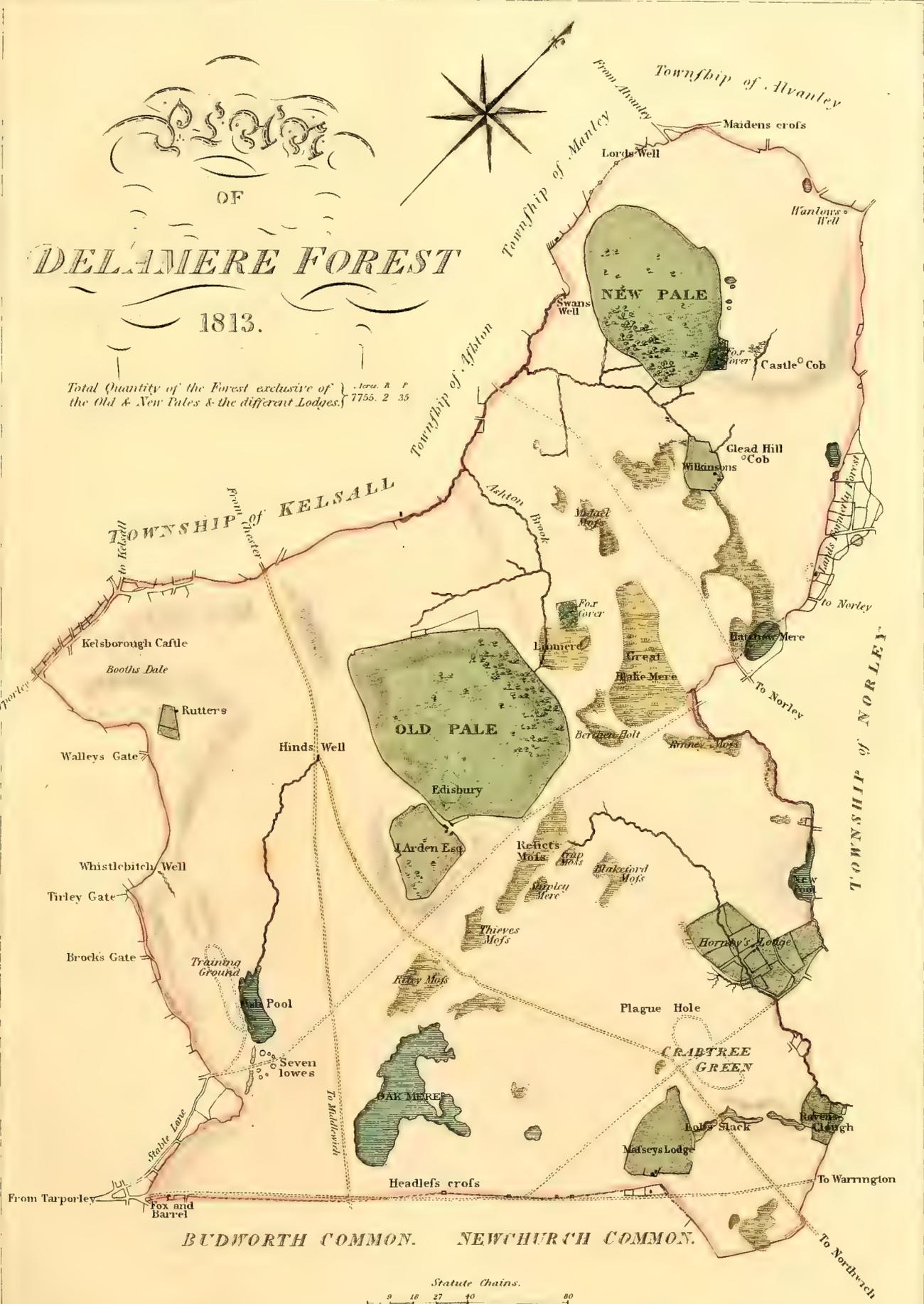
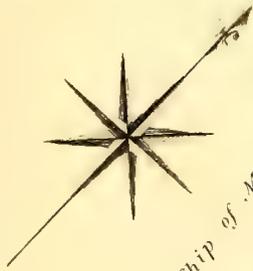


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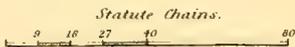
DELAMERE FOREST

1813.

Total Quantity of the Forest exclusive of the Old & New Pales & the different Lodges. $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Acres. R. P.} \\ 7755. 2 \quad 35 \end{array} \right\}$



BUDWORTH COMMON. NEWCHURCH COMMON.



worth, and, having descended with that manor to the Talbots, was passed over by fine, by Sir John Talbot, knt. and Margaret his wife, to John Done, of Utkinton, esq. 25 Hen. VIII.^f

I do not find at what period the moiety of the forestership possessed by the family of Weever was acquired by them, but, from the subjoined list of fines, it appears that they had acquired it before the 55th of Henry III. In the following reign, Robert, son of Stephen de Kelsal, John de Wetenhal, William Venables of Bradwall, and Nicholas de Wetenal, acknowledge a debt of four marks due to the earl for the custody of the forest during the minority of Henry Wever, to whom that forestership belonged, then ward of the earl of Chester.

Much about the same period, by an inquest of the 35th of Edw. I. the forestership of Warin^g, son of Warin le Grosvenor, is stated to be worth six shillings per annum.

There is an equal want of evidence to shew the period when the Mertons acquired their interest in the forest. Ranulph de Merton, who is styled "fidelis forestarius noster" in the confirmation charter of Merton by Randle Blundeville, was, most probably, father of the Stephen de Merton under-mentioned, and certainly lived in the time of Hen. II. and Rich. I.^h After their relinquishment of Merton to Vale Royal, and their subsequent settlement at Gayton, their name, as far as I have been able to trace it, occurs no more in the records of the forest.

The entries of the fines of the four foresters, which have been above referred to, appear as follows in the pleas of the forests held before Reginald de Grey, Justiciary of Chester, in the 55th of Hen. III.

	£.	s.	d.
ⁱ " De Ricardo Done, pro mala custodia ballivæ suæ et destructione nemoris in Utkinton	13	6	8
" De Warino Grosvenor pro mala custodia ballivæ suæ et destructione nemoris in Buddeworthe.....	13	6	8
" De Stephano de Marton pro iisdem factis	10	0	0
" De Henrico de Weever pro iisdem factis	5	0	0

The entire jurisdiction of the forest was usurped by the Dones of Utkinton after their marriage with the coheirress of Kingsley, which gave rise to a suit that has been the means of preserving a curious account of the duties of the master forester, and the ample powers and privileges with which his office invested him. A quo warranto was brought against Richard Done, the chief forester, at the suit of Richard le Grosvenor of Budworth, and the cause was tried at "the pleas of the circuit of the forest of Mara and Mondrem before sir Richard Willoughby and sir Richard Stafford, knts. John Delves and John Brundham, esqs. Justices in Eyre of the Lord Edward, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, and Earl of Chester," in the 31st of Edw. I. The plea of Richard Done was put in the Wednesday before Michaelmas, and a respite for further claims given to the Monday before the Assumption. After repeated hearings and adjournments, the claim of Grosvenor was respited until all the coheirresses of Sir

Piers de Thornton, who was also descended from a coheirress of Kingsley, were of full age and able to produce additional testimony. The justice of his claim was finally confirmed, and the moiety of the forestership continued in his descendants to the 25th of Hen. VIII. when it passed to the Dones by purchase as before mentioned. Another claim to a moiety of the forest of Mara and Mondrem, which had been preferred to the same judges, was confirmed at this hearing to Henry de Weever, as far as respected the forest of Mondrem only.

The plea itself will perhaps be more acceptable in the ancient dress of the version subjoined, than in any which a modern translator could furnish.

^k " Richard Done, of Utkinton, claimeth to have the forestership, in fee, of Mara and Mondrem, and for the keeping of the said forestership, to have eight under foresters, with two garçons, &c. in manner following: viz. two foresters, and one garçon, in the villages of Bridge Trafford, Wimbalds Trafford, Dunham, Hapsford, Manley, Molesworth, and Newton: two underforesters with one garçon, in the villages of Kelsal, Dudden, Norley, Codington, Hertford, Winnington, Horton near Hartford, Castell Northwic, and Horton near Aston: and one underforester in the villages of Minshull, Aston, Whitepoole, Barretspoole, Cholmudeston, Calvely, Whettenhall, and Lawe; of tenants of ware lands, from six weeks to six weeks; to witt, one day to supp, and to tarry all night, and to breake their fast in the morrowe following.

" And to have provender for his owne horse, viz. two strike of oats, onst a year, in Lent, of every tenant aforesaide: and to have fern in the saide foreste all tyme of year except hunting tyme.

" And claymeth to have the latter pannage in the saide foreste, and claymeth to have windfalen wood, croses of trees cutt down with axxes, crabstock, and stubb, in the demesne wood of the said forest; halph the bark of all falen okes in the sayde demesne woods of the sayde foreste.

" And claymeth to have of every beast, as oxen, kine, bulls, bullocks, and goats, taken, and strangers beasts, betwixt Mychellmas and Martlemas, a halph-penny.

" And claymeth to have all sparhawkes, marlens, and hobbys, founde within the said forest.

" And claymeth to have all swarmes of bees.

" And claymeth to have the right shoulder of everie deer taken; and claymeth if any stroken deer be found dead in the sayde forest, that he shall cause the hornes and the taw sides of the said deer to be sent to the castell of Chester, and the foresters to have the residue of the same.

" He also claimeth to have weiffes found in the bailywick, and claimeth to have all pelfe in his office, except that the lord earle of Chester ought to have, and claymeth to have, all hounds and greyhounds, to take foxes, heires, cattes, weesel, and other vermyn in the forest.

" He claymeth^l to have, for every one holding a meese and three selions of land, ware land, (which containeth one acre,) to have a puture: viz. from three weeks to three weeks, two underforesters and one garçon, and if he have a meese, one day he ought to supp, tarrye

^f Woodnoth's MSS. Brit. Museum, and Williamson's Deeds, p. 60.

^h Vide Merton in this bundred.

^k Harl. MSS. 2115, 232. The original plea is enrolled in the Exchequer of Chester.

^l This claim and the following one were pleaded in answer to questions from William de Wake, on behalf of the earl, as to his claims on the tenants of warelands, and the meaning of latter pannage, wayfes, and pelf: and follow those questions in the original record.

^g 2079. 123. Harl. MSS.

ⁱ Harl. MSS. 2060. 76.

all night, and in the morning breakfast: and although he have not a meese, yet he ought to have puture in forme aforesaid, but when he hath less than one acre.

“He claimeth to have all money for agistment of hogs within the same forest, from the feast of St. Martin, until the feast of the birth of our Lord, as they can agree among themselves: and as to wayfe, he claymeth to have every wayfe and stray beast as his own, after proclamation shall be made and not challenged, as the manner is.

“That when any shall do or commit felony or trespass within the forest, and fleeth for the same; if the lord’s venison shall be found within any man’s house, by search made in their houses and ovens, by this word pelfe he claymeth to have his best beast, and the lord the residue in all places where the lord’s bailiffs have to do of the comen. First of the oxen, kyne, hogs, and weathers, the best, and the lord the residue, and all his household cattle, and all goats, hens, geese, and capons, and all linen and woollen webs begun, and all vessels of wood and lead, except it be in the furnace, and all pans and trevets, all axxes and spades, all scythes and sickles, all carts and wains not bound with iron, with the harness for the same, all threshed corn within a quarter’s measure, all sheves of corn standing in the bottom of the mow, or stacks of hay touching the ground with their feet, and likewise turfs and timber not framed, and all money not amounting to a hundred shillings; if it amount to a hundred shillings, then he shall have none of it: and all ploughs and harness for the same, except all iron, and all bacon or pork piled or heaped together, and the lord the residue.”

Of these claims it may be observed that the “wind-falen okes” were not usually among the perquisites of a forester, but in the royal forests, having been parcel of the king’s inheritance, were directed to be sold by commission for the king’s best benefit. The puture, the warelands, and the perambulation of the foresters, will be best understood by a comparison of the arrangements of that period for preservation of order in the hundreds at large.

The earl of Chester had his grand serjeant of the peace, an office held in fee by the barons of Malpas, and under him were originally twenty deputies or subservients, who had an unlimited number of attendants, all of whom were maintained at the expence of the hundred through which they were regularly perambulating. This maintenance was denominated a puture, and was exacted according to the claims of Henry duke of Lancaster, as baron of Halton, from all holding “tres landas terræ vel plures, terrarum vocatarum warelands,” after this manner^m: the baronies, as well as the forests, having establishments of serjeants distinct from those of the earl.

The master serjeant, two subservients, and one garçon, supped, lodged, and breakfasted, at one tenant’s; two with a second; and two with a third; and so on, until the whole were lodged. This was so arranged, that they visited one half of the district in six weeks, reserving the other half for the other six weeks; so that in a year’s time they visited the entire barony four

times; always taking care that the place where they had billeted the last time, should be free from their visits for six weeks after.

By the Charter of the Cheshire Barons, granted by Randle the third, it was determined, that in time of peace there should be twelve serjeants only in the earldom, with one horse for the master serjeant, which should have no provender supplied from Easter until Michaelmas, but by courtesy; that the serjeants should eat such meat as they found in men’s houses, without buying other meat for their use; and that they should not eat in any manor-houses of the barons. The number of the serjeants, in time of war, to be regulated by the advice of the barons and Judges. Other estates in the county were exempted from their visits by particular grants. This charter did not affect the serjeants of the baronies, who perambulated the district of their lords, in the same manner as the earl’s serjeants, as appears by the plea of Henry Duke of Lancaster, before mentioned.

These serjeants were entitled to all felons’ goods within their respective circuits, under the titles of Pelfe, Wayfe or Stray. ⁿThey were bound, in time of war, to assist the earl with as many men as they used to preserve the peace at other times; at their own charges within the county, and at the earl’s expence without it. They had power to behead any thief or malefactor apprehended in the fact, or against whom there was sufficient evidence, by confession or otherwise, as appears by the following extracts from records, as well from the Baron of Halton’s plea, before referred to.

10th Edw II. ^o“Witmus de Astbury, serviens Thomæ de Davenport, præsentavit ad castrum Cestriæ capita Johannis filii Alexandri de Hyde, magistri latronis, Thomæ Sword, Henrici filii Alexandri de Hyde, et Thomæ filii Hugonis de Hough, decollata pro burglariorum domus Roberti filii Willielmi de Widford et asportatione bonorum ad valentiam quadraginta solidorum.”

“David Bulkeley serviens pacis sub Ricardo Sutton præsentavit ad castrum Cestriæ caput Adami Guiconis et Johannis Jannæ decollata pro burglariorum domus Fabri de Copenhale et asportatione bonorum ad valentiam xx solidorum.”

The foresters perambulated their districts in the same manner, and with the same powers, as the serjeants of the earldom and of the baronies; but their jurisdiction was not exclusive of that of the serjeants. By a deed, witnessed by Roger Holland, Justice of Chester, Urian de St. Pierre, serjeant of the peace for the county in fee, released the tenants of the Abbot of Whalley, in Willington, in the Forest of Mara, from providing puture for his subservients: and their perambulation is further proved by a mandate to John Donne, master forester, enrolled 14th Oct. 33 Hen. VI. to deliver “unum Stubbe pro focali infra forestam p̄dtam,” to Richard Sutton, bailiff itinerant.

In the execution of this duty, the foresters had also the assistance of the general forest-laws; and documents are still extant, in the castle of Chester, bearing testimony to the rigid execution of their duty: among others, a pardon of Richard Done and Hugh de Frods-

^m Vide the baron of Halton’s plea. *Leycester’s Antiquities*, 282.

ⁿ *Urianus de Sancto Petro, et Rotheric filius Griffin, tenent totam servientiam pacis in Cestrishyria, exceptis Hundredis de Macclesfield et Wirral, et inveniunt duodecim homines pedites, quorum unus exit eques; et illi servientes custodient pacem et venient ad summonitionem Domini Regis.* Harl. MSS. 2155, 75.

^o Harl. MSS. 2115. Other presentments occur, 2074, 222.

ham, 27th Edw. III. for killing Robert Cosyn, taken in the fact of slaying one of the deer, and having refused to surrender^p.

The justices of the earldom were in general justices in eyre of the earl's forests. Sometimes a distinct appointment occurs. 26th June, 6 Hen. VII. a writ is directed to William Tatton and Richard Birkenhead, justices, to hold the Court of Swaynmote for the forest of Mara and Mondrem, secundum consuetudinem.

In addition to the officers before mentioned, a Chief Ranger was, at different periods, nominated by the king as Earl of Chester, of which the following notices occur in the Enrollments of Chester Exchequer.

14 Feb. 14 Hen. VI. The King grants to John Stanley, jun. (on resignation of a former patent) and to Ralph Lord Cromwell, for the life of the first, the office of seneschall of Macclesfield, and chief ranger of the forests of Macclesfield, Mara, and Mondrem. 1 Feb. 17 H. VI. the same patent is renewed for their joint lives. 2 Jan. 20 H. VI. the reversion of the same; after the death of John Stanley and Ralph lord Cromwell, is granted in fee to Sir Thomas Stanley and the heirs of his body. 4 Jan. 1 E. IV. the same offices are granted to Thomas lord Stanley.

Sir William Stanley, of Holt, occurs as chief ranger 1 Rich. III.; and, in one instance, a precept is directed to him, May 2, 1 H. VII. to give eight oaks to the Abbot of Vale Royal, for the repairs of his monastery. The other similar precepts are almost invariably addressed to the Dones.

After the attainder of Sir William Stanley, the master forestership is claimed by the earl of Derby in a plea to a quo warranto 22 Hen. VII. by virtue of the patent 20 Hen. VI. The office was afterwards granted, with Sir William Stanley's manor of Ridley, to Sir Ralph Egerton, for life; after which, no further notice occurs of the office, either in the general documents relating to the forest, or in the enrollments.

The agistment and pannage of Delamere, the cropwood, fern, bark, turbary, and several subordinate offices, were farmed by surrounding families, under the crown.

The Charter of Vale Royal Abbey gave the monks the privilege of carrying wood from the forest for fuel, and the necessary repairs of the convent. This right was disputed by the foresters, and occasioned a precept^q to Richard Doun, (dated the 22d year of Edw. I. as King of England, and 9th as King of France), confirming the privilege to its full extent. Many precepts occur for sending timber for the repairs of Chester Castle and the Dee mills. The burgesses of Frodsham had also the liberty of using the timber for their buildings, by charter of Earl Randle:—"Habeant de foresta mea quod eis opus fuerit ad edificandum per visum forestariorum meorum." Sir Hugh Calvely had also permission to appropriate the timber of the forest to the repairs of his college of Bunbury, by a writ directed to John Done and Roger Molesworth his rider, 20th June, 9 Rich. II.^r Another precept occurs, dated 28th April, 4th Hen. V. commanding John Done to give one oak for the repairs of the bridge of Frodsham^t.

The preceding paragraph points out some of the uses of the timber of Delamere. The following charter regulates the appropriation of a part of the venison to the use of the monks of the abbey of St. Werburgh, and is registered in the Red Book of that abbey. Harl. MSS. 2071, 756.

"Edwardus, &c. Reginaldo de Grey Justiciario suo saltm̄. Cum per cartam nostram concesserimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris, dilecto nobis in Xfo Abbi Cestriae quod ipse et successores sui in perpetuum per se vel suos, singulis annis capere possint cum canibus currentibus leporariis, arcubus seu retibus, per duas vices anni vel pluries si voluerint sex damos et sex damas in sesona pinguedinis, et sex damas in sesona fermesonis, p̄t juxta modum p̄tum magis viderint expedire, et quod per omnes forestas nostras Cestresiria cum leporariis sive canibus currentibus habeant cursum suum ad lepores et vulpes capiendos, et quod habeant singulis annis in festo S'ce Werburge virginis unum cervum per nos vel nostros capiendum, et decimam venationis per nos vel nostros captæ in forestis nostris p̄dictis sicut cervum illum et decimam illam habere consueverint, temporibus retroactis. Vobis mandamus quod cartam nostram p̄dictam in pleno comitatu nostro legi et eam in singulis articulis firmiter faciatis observari. Teste meipso apud Westmonaster. primo die Julii ão regni n̄ro 13^o."

By a subsequent mandate to Richard Done, 33 E. I. the foresters were directed to permit the abbot to take the deer themselves, to the number of a stag and six bucks yearly, and to carry them away with such chance does or wild beasts as might be killed along with them. This privilege would be peculiarly acceptable, for the forest-laws had proved inadequate to restraining the keen zeal of these reverend sportsmen^u. 55 H. III. among a list of trespassers, occurs the following note: "Abbas Cestf̄ fecit unam chaceam in moris de Ouston et ibi cepit duas Damas." The considerable families of Edisbury were as refractory as the abbots. Another presentment occurs 13 E. II. of twelve individuals, who hunted "with hounds and horns," on the Sunday before the feast of St. Thomas, destroyed the deer, and finally joined in an affray with Thomas de Barewe, and John Bradley, keepers. In this presentment are contained the names of Robert de Wynington, Richard Starkey, John de Aldington, Richard, son of Henry Done; David Done, and Richard de Merton.

From the minute account given by Webb, of the progress of James the First through Cheshire, in 1617, it appears that a chace on Delamere, with the royal stag-hounds, formed part of the amusements of his journey, on which occasion the chief keeper received the honour of knighthood. It is described, in this Itinerary, as then containing "no small store of deer, both red and fallow; plenty of pasture in the vales, wood upon the hills, fern and heath in the plains, great store of fish and fowl in the meres, pewits or sea mawes in the flashes, and both kinds of turf for fuel; upon the highest hill, a delicate house for the chief forester himself; and, dispersed on every side of the said forest, pretty and handsome lodgings for the keepers in each walk."

This interesting picture represents it in its last stage of existence as a royal chace. About the conclusion of the reign of Charles the First, a plan was formed for indemnifying the Dones by grants of land, for the abolition of the oppressive jurisdiction attached to their office, and the annihilation of the herds of deer, which became a serious nuisance to the increasing cultivation of the district. As early as the reign of Henry VIII. Leland had remarked, "in the foreste I saw but little corne, bicause of the deere^v." To this

^p Records in Chester Exchequer, Rot. 23, 2.

^q Enrollments in Chester Exchequer.

^r Ibid.

^s V. R. Leger Book.

^t Harl. MSS. 2060, 76.

^u Harl. MSS. 2074, 169.

^v Vol. V. fol. 52.

may be added, that several townships of the parish of Weverham are still protected by an inconsiderable modus, which is supposed to have derived its origin from the damage done by the deer who traversed the country in their way to the banks of the Weever.

The original letter of Sir John Done to the commissioners of the forests, is subjoined entire, as a curious document of the profits of the office, at this comparatively recent period. As it is most probable they would be rated at the utmost, it affords a singular contrast to the description of Webb, which has been quoted, and which was drawn up only a few years preceding.

ORIGINAL LETTER of SIR JOHN DONE to the Commissioners of the Forests, Anno 1626. Harl. MSS. 2038.

“ A Particular of the Profits appertaining to my Office of Forester or Bailiff.

	l.	s.	d.
The seārn in the forest, known by the name of sengern ^y , valet p. ann. - - - - -	66	13	4
The wind-blown wood, which are now but birches, and a few dead oaks - - - - -	6	13	4
The crops of trees, and the half of the bark cut down with an axe, not any these many years - - - - -	0	0	0
The forfeitures of bulls, oxen, heifers, goats, &c. taken within the forest between Michaelmas and Martinmas, after the rate of a halfpenny a beast, no certain sum, but sometimes worth, per ann. about - -	3	0	0
The sparrow-hawks, hobbies, &c. - - - - -	0	0	0
The benefit of bees taken within the forest, valet. communibus annis, per ann. - -	5	0	0
The fee of deer, their shoulders, heads, suet, chines, skins, and fees for their killing, which are sixty or eighty every year, browse wood, and after pannage - - - -	0	0	0
All the wayfes within the forest, worth, one year with another - - - - -	6	0	0
Drinking for keepers, and oats and provender, valet p. ann. - - - - -	1	10	0
My privilege to keep greyhounds, to course and kill hares and foxes within the forest, not valued - - - - -	0	0	0
There are ten keepers, two woodmen, and four lodges: one of the lodges I live in myself. All of them have allowance from me, within the forest, for their horses and cattle - - - - -	0	0	0

For the inheritance of the bailiwick of the forest, and the profits pertaining (which are in part expressed in our claims in eyre), which I enjoy, besides the conferring of ten keepers places, the one of which hath some profit, their lordships are able to set an estimate upon such places of command; and I do hope that therein they will do with me as others have been dealt withall, in like case, whereof the particulars shall be shewn them; and although that inheritance have been descended to me by many ancestors, who for the space of 500 years have enjoyed it, yet I am not so in love with it, but that for his Majesty's service and advance of his profit, I shall be content to leave it.

Touching the inheritance in the common, to my manor of Utkinton, Willington, Kelsal, one quarter of

Kingsley Fee, part of the manors of Eyton and Rush-ton, the manor of Taporley, two thirds of Clotton, one third part of Duddon, part of the manor of Alpram, part of Manley, and some other lands; I have right of common, and divers others have likewise common there. As to the manors and lands pertaining such persons, and rates, as the rest shall agree, I shall be contented to accept.

I enjoy by lease, during the life of myself, my son, and sir Richard Wilbraham, all living, the agistment, herbage, and pannage, and turbary of the forest; of which the agistment, herbage, and pannage, have yielded no certain profit, but some years more, some years less, neither hath the best profit yet been made of it. The turbary yields forty pounds yearly. For the other, I desire that enquiry be made of the reasonable yearly value of it, which I affirm at 40l. the deer being continued, and what I increase would be of that value, the deer being removed; and that being known, I shall accept of a reasonable recompense in land, to be set out in places convenient for me, which I desire may be a lodge, and a place called the old pale, where I was born, and some places near adjoining.

JOHN DONE.”

From a part of the letter it would seem that a general inclosure of the forest was then intended. There is a considerable degree of feeling in the knight's description of his office, “descended to him by many ancestors:” and in his petition that his indemnification might consist in the lodge and the old pale “where he was born.” It is most probable that a part of the plan was then put in execution, as the deer and the perambulations of the foresters are not noticed after this period.

Sir John Done survived only three years after the date of this letter; and in the year following his own death, the direct male line of his family terminated in his son. The forestership became the property of the eldest sister and coheirress, Mrs. Jane Done, on whose decease, in 1662, it passed to the Crewes, in right of Mary, the second daughter of Sir John Done. On the termination of this line by the death of Mrs. Knightley, in 1715, it passed to Richard Arderne, of Harden and Alvanley, esq. grandson of Eleanor, the youngest daughter of Sir John Done, from whom it descended to John Arden, esq. of Harden, Alvanley, and Utkinton, in Cheshire, and the present master forester and bowbearer of Delanere.

By an act of parliament which received the royal assent, June 9, 1812, two commissioners were appointed for allotting the waste lands of the forest, and making a final award of such allotment within the space of three years, at which period the lands within the boundary should become disafforested, and all forestial rights and jurisdictions cease, saving to John Arden, esq. the titles of chief forester, bowbearer, and forest bailiff, and all forest rents due to the crown or the master forester.

Among the permanent provisions of the act, the lake of Oakmere, formerly the property of the abbey of Vale Royal, is reserved to Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. with the quarries of Edisbury Hill; and two lakes called Fish Pool, and Hatchew Mere, are also reserved to John Egerton, esq. of Oulton. One moiety of the whole is allotted to the share of the king, to be kept under the direction of the surveyor general of woods and forests,

^y This word occurs also in the Quo Warranto of the Prior of Birkenhead.

as a nursery for timber only; any grant thereof to be void, and the grantor to forfeit treble the value of the grant to any person who shall first sue for the same. A further allotment is also made to the king out of the remaining moiety of lands, of the value of 200*l.* per annum, on a twenty-one years lease, on which the king, within four years, shall erect a church and parsonage, and which church shall be endowed with the same lands. The district to be called the parish of Delamere, and divided by commissioners into one or more townships. The living to be a Rectory, in the presentation of the crown, and the parish to be tithe-free.

A power is vested in the crown to renew to earl Cholmondeley the leases of the old and new pales, for a term not exceeding sixty-one years, and the commissioners are required to set out lands, as compensation for the loss of conies, pasturage, and fisheries, sustained by the chief forester.

The residue to be allotted to the king, (in right of the pales,) and to other persons having rights of common, or other rights in the forest.

By another act, 54 Geo. III. the time for the final award is extended to three years, from the first of January, 1815.

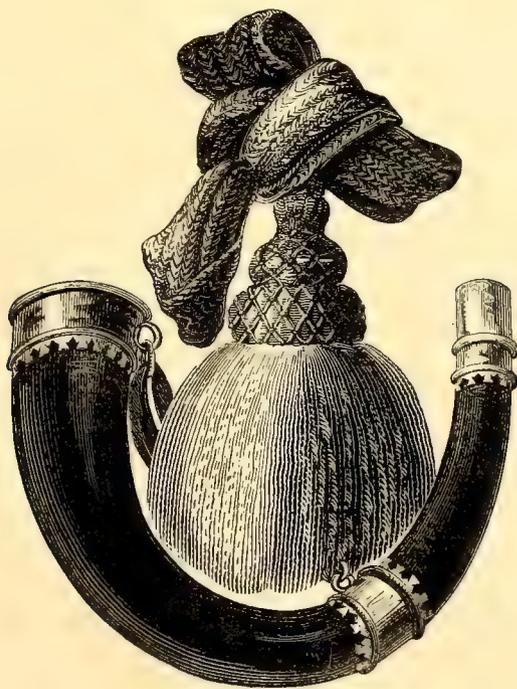
The pales noticed in this act, are two elevated points of the forest, on the side which overlooks the Mersey and the Vale of Chester. The new pale was inclosed in the seventeenth century; the old pale was inclosed by virtue of a precept now remaining in the exchequer of Chester, directed to John Done, Apr. 13, 11 Edw. III. commanding him to make a chamber in the forest for the preservation of vert and venison. In this pale

is the site of a lodge, called the chamber of the forest, the property of John Arden, esq. where the foresters occasionally resided, and which was most probably granted to them in consequence of the arrangements with sir John Done, before-mentioned. It was called Edisbury Hall, from the hill on which it stands; and is very erroneously stated, by the editor of Camden, to have given name to an antient family. Near it is the Saxon camp mentioned in the introduction to this Hundred.

Edisbury is thus noticed as a vill in Domesday, but its hundred is omitted:

“Ipse comes tenet Edeþberie, Godvinus tenuit ut liber homo: ibi duæ hidæ geldabiles. Terra est sex carucarum: wasta fuit et est. Hæc terra una leuâ longa et tantundam lata.”

An antient horn, in the possession of the chief forester, is represented in the annexed wood-cut, (engraved from a drawing obligingly presented by the forester,) which is said to be the identical horn by the tenure of which, the master forestership was conferred by Randle the first on Ralph de Kingsley. The horn is black, and that of a foreign animal, hooped with three hoops of gold, and considerably curved; it is fourteen inches in length, five inches between the extremities of the curve, three quarters of an inch in diameter in the narrowest part, and one and three quarters at its greatest breadth. Cheshire tradition asserts that the antient foresters were bound to use this horn, and attend in their office with two white greyhounds, whenever the earl was disposed to honour the forest of Delamere with his presence in the chace.



Weverham.

THE scenery of this district varies considerably from that of the adjoining parishes, and consists principally of fine meadow ground sloping to the banks of the Weever, not destitute of pleasing undulations of surface, or of fine timber, which here receiving protection from the sea breezes, begins to attain its wonted luxuriancy. The Weever is in many points a highly interesting object, but its beauty hardly compensates sufficiently for the bad effects, which its uses as a navigable river produce on the lower orders, to suffer it to be dwelt upon among the advantages of the parish, independent of its convenience for the disposal of produce.

Weverham comprehends six entire townships, Weverham, Acton, Crowton, Cuddington, Onston, and Wallerscote, also parts of Norley and Hartford.

WEVERHAM, WITH MILTON, GORSTICH, AND SANDIWAY.

THE manor of Weverham was the property of earl Edwin, before the Conquest, and was retained by Hugh Lupus at the Domesday survey, in which it is thus described :

“ Hugo comes tenet in dominio Wivreham, comes Edwinus tenuit: ibi XIII hidæ geldabiles. Terra est XVIII carucarum: in dominio sunt II, et II bovarii, et II servi, et X villani, et unus bordarius, et unus Radman cum uno villano: inter omnes habent III carucas: ibi ecclesia et presbyter et Molina serviens aulæ: et una acra prati. Silva II leuvis longitudine, et una leuva latitudine: ibi II Haiæ capreolorum: huic manerio pertinent X burgenses in civitate. Ex his reddunt X solidos et VIII denarios, et IV nil reddunt. Francigena tenet de comite.

“ In Wiche fuerunt VII salinæ, huic manerio pertinentes, una ex his modo reddit salem Aulæ, aliæ sunt wastæ.

“ De alio hundredo, una virgata terræ, Eutrebis dicta, huic manerio pertinet. De hâc terra hujus manerii tenet Gozelinus IV hidas de comite, et ibi habet unam carucam, et III servos et V villanos, et unum Radman cum II carucis, et dimidium piscariæ. De hac terrâ misit comes III hidas in forestâ.

“ Totum manerium tempore R. Edwardi erat ad firmam pro X libris. Comes wastum invenit: modo dominium ejus I solidis, Gozelini X solidis.

Edward the First, when earl of Chester, gave this manor to Roger Clifford, who, on his return from the Holyland, 1 Edw. I. contracted marriage at St. George, near Beaufort, in France, with the countess Lauretania^a, whom he enfeoffed, before marriage, with his manor of Weverham. On his death, 14 Edw. I. all his goods and chattels were seized for debts due to the king, with the exception of his wife's jewels. Weverham had been previously restored by a voluntary sur-

render, most probably before 4 Edw. I.^b in which year it was disafforested by charter, antecedent to its union with the other possessions of the new monastery of Vale Royal.

27 Edw. I. By the charter of Vale Royal abbey, it was bestowed on that house by its royal founder, with its church, mills, homages, and services, as more fully mentioned in the charter, under the head of Vale Royal. It was then valued^c at 25l. 3s. 10d. per annum, exclusive of the church, and continued to be possessed by the abbey to the dissolution.

1 Aug. 37 Hen. VIII. The king granted to sir Thomas Holcroft, knt. (four years after the grant of the site of the dissolved abbey itself), the manors of Weverham and Over, subject to a yearly rent of 10l. 0s. 4d. in consideration of the sum of 464l. 10s. 10d. and in exchange for the manor of Cartmel, in Lancashire, with its appurtenances, which sir Thomas surrendered to the crown.

Thomas Holcroft, esq. grandson of sir Thomas Holcroft before-mentioned, sold the manor of Weverham to Thomas Marbury, of Marbury, esq. his kinsman, the male line of whose family terminated in the third generation subsequent; after which, the three sisters and coheirs of Richard Marbury, Elizabeth Thacker, Mary Wood, and Katherine Marbury^d, sold the estates of their family, under a decree in chancery, to Richard earl Rivers.

Under the will of this earl, made in 1711, the manor of Weverham, together with those of Shipbrook, Marbury, Groppenhale, Latchford, and Kingsley, and other estates, was sold to his son-in-law James Barry, earl of Barrymore; from which period it passed in the manner already recited in the account of Kingsley, to James H. Smith Barry, esq. and is now vested in his natural son, J. S. Barry, of Marbury, esq.

^a Glover's MSS. quoted by Dugdale, Bar. I. 338.

^b Tanner, Not. Monast. under Vale Royal.

^c Vale Royal Leger Book, 59.

^d Leicester MSS.

The abbots of Vale Royal had here a prison and court, which claimed an exclusive criminal jurisdiction, in capital and other causes, over all persons offending within their limits, and over all their natives, wheresoever the offence might be committed. Justice was administered by the abbot's bailiff, who was usually selected from the younger branches of the considerable families of the county. Adam^e, son of Adam the bailiff, occurs in the Leger Book as holding this office in 1303; William del' Mere^f, vicar of Weverham, 1351; Adam de Wallerscote^g, 1354; and John de Vernoun^h, 1356. Certain lands were attached to the office, the duties of which, independent of enforcing the legal jurisdiction of the courtⁱ, consisted of summoning the tenants of the fee of Weverham in war time, and leading them to the bridge of Chester, and there making report of defaulters. It was also his business to claim the bodies of the abbot's tenants of Weverham from any courts which had assumed a jurisdiction over them, of which notes occur in the Leger Book, relative to their enforcing the claims against the courts of Mold and Gayton^k, and Pagan Tybtot, the earl's justiciary^l, in 1311. The bailiff of Weverham was also the person appointed by the abbot to appear in the court of Chester on a presentment by Urian de St. Pierre and Richard de Sutton, and to produce the abbot's charter in justification of his refusing to deliver up a banditti to the serjeants of the peace, who were then harboured in Vale Royal abbey, under the protection of its immunities^m.

In the Leger Book will be found notices of homage done to the abbot as lord of this manor, by the proprietors of the mediate manors of Swettenham, Nether Peover, Woodford, Lostock, Acton, Mulneton, and Stokehall, and lands in Stanthurle and Dutton. The homage was received in state by the abbot, who, on these occasions, had his little court about him, consisting of his seneschall and under-seneschall, the prior, the bailiff, the forester of Delamere, and generally some of the Oldetons, Roters, and Grosvenors of Budworth, or others of the neighbouring gentry. Before these the lord of the dependant manor repeated his oath of fidelity, and recited the circumstances and obligations of his tenure.

The jurisdiction of the manor is still preserved over the townships of Swettenham, Lostock, Twemlowe,

and Lower Withington. The penalties of tenants of these manors are levied by distress upon such as neglect to attend for the purpose of essoigning, and the constables are sworn in for these townships at the Leet of Weverham, which is held twice in the year with two adjournmentsⁿ. The township of Weverham itself is subdivided into what is called the town and lordship, the first of which consists of Weverham and Milton, the other of Gorstich and Sandiway; each of these two divisions has its separate overseer, but the rates are equalized at the end of the year by the two overseers, the whole forming only a single township.

The town of Weverham contains nothing worthy of notice except its church. It is situated on the road leading by Acton bridge from Tarporley to Warrington, at the distance of eight miles from the former of those towns. The streets are narrow, and composed principally of old timber buildings, separated from each other by small courts and gardens. In the main street are two may-poles, which are decorated on the proper day with all due attention to the antient solemnity: the sides hung with garlands, and the top terminated by a birch or other tall slender tree with its leaves on, the bark being peeled, and the stem spliced to the pole, so as to give the appearance of one tree from the summit^o. Between the church and the Weever are some inequalities of surface, which are supposed to have been caused by antient salt-works. Salt was made in this township in the seventeenth century, as appears by some leases extant in the Harl. MSS. Nos. 2090 and 2091.

The barons of Halton had lands in Weverham in the time of king John, when Roger de Lacy, constable of Chester, granted all his lands here to Geoffry "prepositus de Weverham," on the condition of the said Geoffry and his heirs providing, for Roger and his heirs^p, fitting hospitality, fire and water, for ever in the same.

In a distant part of this township, in the hamlet of Sandiway, partly in Weverham and partly in Whitegate, is Earnslow Grange, now used as a farm-house, and the property of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. to whose family it has passed with the dissolved monastery of Vale Royal. It is further noticed in the account of the Granges of Vale Royal.

VICARS OF WEVERHAM.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1299. die Mart. post ascens. D'ni.	Ws. Mackworth, Diaconus,	Abbas de Valle Regali.	
1300. postridie 6 Kal. Nov.	Marcus de Abington,	Abbas de Valle Regali.	
1304, 13 Kal. Junii.	Walterus de Coleshull.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	
1307.	Robertus de Aula.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	
1345.	Thomas de Champdene, cap's.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	
1348.	Ws. del Mere, presb'r.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	Causa permutat. cum Tho. de Champdene, vic. de Sonbach.
1351.	Thomas de Wyninton. Willielmus le Mynor.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	Per resig. Willielmi del Mere.
1382.	Thomas de Shelton. Willielmus de Weverham.	Abbas de Valle Regali. Incert.	Per mort. Willielmi le Mynor.
1432.	Stephanus de Norwico, alias Smith.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	P. m. Willielmi de Weverham.

^e Leger Book, 78.^f Ibid. 50.^g Ibid. 51.^h Ibid. 53.ⁱ Ibid. 78.^k Ibid. 65.^l Ibid. 86.^m Ibid. 64.ⁿ From the information of F. Ashley, esq. steward of the court.^o Vide the account of Maypoles in Sir Henry Piers description of Westmeath, 1682, quoted in Ellis's Brand's Popular Antiquities, i. 204.^p Harl. MSS. 2079. 64.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1446, 2 Sept.	Ricardus Bretherton, pr'br.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	P. m. Stephani Smith.
1460, 6 Feb.	Jo. Harrison, pr'br.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	
1481, 24 Aug.	Edw's Kirkham, cap's. Roger Sefton.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	P. resig. Jo. Harrison.
1557, April 6.	William Holcroft.	Thomas Holcroft.	Resig. of Roger Sefton.
1575, Dec. 7.	Edward Shallcross.	The Bp. of Chester, by lapse.	
1614, Oct. 5.	George Hale.	The Bishop of Chester.	
1622, May.	John Lloyd.	Incert.	
1623, Oct. 13.	Richard Oseley. John Barber.	Peter Warburton.	
1683, Feb. 28.	Samuel Hanmer.	Robert Warburton.	Death of John Barber.
1694, Nov. 2.	Stephen Morral, A. B.	Robert Warburton.	Death of Samuel Hanmer.
1712, March 12.	James Duckworth, A. M.	Peter Warburton.	Death of Stephen Morral.
1735, Oct. 3.	Edward Mainwaring, A. M.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of James Duckworth.
1755, April 18.	Thomas Hunter, A. M.	The Bishop of Chester.	Resig. of Edw. Mainwaring.
1777, Oct. 6.	Thomas Hunter, jun.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of T. Hunter, sen.
1796, April 12.	Thomas Blackburne, LL. B.	The Bishop of Chester.	Resig. of Thomas Hunter.
1806, Oct. 21.	Thomas Armitstead, B. D.	The Bishop of Chester.	Resig. of Thomas Blackburne.

William del Mere may be presumed to be a cadet of the antient family of Mere, of Mere, in the hundred of Bucklow. From the preceding account it appears that he was bailiff of the abbot's court of Weverham; an office of high trust and importance, involving a capital jurisdiction over criminals within the precincts of that manor or its extensive dependencies.

William Holcroft was brother of the grantee of the dissolved monastery of Vale Royal.

John Barber occurs in the parish register as being interred at Weverham, Dec. 22, 1683. *Samuel Hanmer*, Sept. 23, 1694; and *Stephen Morral*, Oct. 9, 1712.

James Duckworth, buried at Weverham, Sept. 11, 1735, was grandfather of admiral sir John Thomas Duckworth, bart.

Edward Mainwaring, a sixth son of James Mainwaring, of Bromborough, esq. will be further noticed among the prebendaries of Chester Cathedral. He was buried at Weverham, Sept. 4, 1755.

Thomas Hunter, whose monumental inscription will be found in the list of sepulchral memorials, was a minister highly respected for his private worth, and distinguished by no ordinary literary attainments. He was author of two volumes of Sermons, Observations on Tacitus, and Strictures on the Philosophy of Bolingbroke, the merit of which procured him the degree of M. A. by diploma from the University of Oxford in 1771.

Thomas Blackburne, a younger brother of John Blackburne, of Hale, esq. M. P. for the county of Lancaster, is the present warden of the collegiate church of Manchester.

CHURCH.

Taxat. Eccl. P. Nicholai, 13l. 6s. 8d. Val. Eccl. 12l. 11s. 10½d.

It appears from Domesday, that there was a church here at the Conquest. The tithes of Weverham, under the description of "recta decima non solum de annona, verum etiam de pullis et vitulis, de porcis et agnis, de butyro et caseo, et de omnibus rebus de quibus decima debeat dari," was given by Hugh Lupus, and Ermen-trude his countess, in 1093, to the abbey of St. Werburgh.

To this abbey, as appears from the Leger Book, Herveus, rector of Weverham⁹, quitclaimed "decimas pullorum et equarum."

The church of Weverham was afterwards resumed by the earl, and given by king Edward, with the advowson of the vicarage, to the abbey of Vale Royal, to which it was confirmed by the founder's charter, 27 Edw. I. In lieu of the tithes of this church, the abbot and convent of Vale Royal bound themselves to pay six marks yearly to the abbot of St. Werburgh, by payments within three days after the feast of the Annunciation and the feast of St. Michael, in default of which payment the monks of St. Werburgh had leave to re-enter into the possession of the said tithes.

After the dissolution of Vale Royal, the rectory and advowson of the vicarage were granted by patent, Jan. 8, 1546, 38 Hen. VIII. to John Bird, bishop of Chester, and his successors. The next presentation to the vicarage was made by sir Thomas Holcroft^r (grantee of Vale Royal and Weverham lordship) in 1556, by virtue of a lease from Henry VIII. for 21 years, from 1539; and the succeeding presentation, in 1575, is stated to be made by the bishop *by lapse*, the Holcrofts having had their lease renewed by the bishop, 1 Edw. VI. After this, the bishops presented regularly, with the exception of four presentations by the Warburtons of Grange, who were suffered to present as lessees of the impropriated rectory under the bishop.

The church (dedicated to St. Mary) has the appearance of being rebuilt about the time of Elizabeth or James the First. The materials are red stone, and the interior very open and lofty, the aisles and body of nearly equal height. The fabric consists of a tower-steeple of three stories, nave, chancel, and side aisles. On the south side of the steeple is the coat of Warburton carved in stone. The side aisles terminate in chapels: that on the North is appropriated to the Hefferston Grange family, and contains three funeral achievements, one for Ashton and two for Warburton. The opposite chancel is attached to Crowton Hall. In this chancel is the following inscription on a stone tablet:

"This was done at the cost of Mrs. Hannah Hatton, to the memory of her kind husband Thomas Hatton, gent. He died at Crowton Hall, Oct. 18, 1675, being 66 years of age, and lyeth buried in this chapel."

⁹ Leger Book, 57.

^r Registers of the Diocese of Lichfield.

Against the South wall is fixed a funeral achievement for the late George Wilbraham, of Nantwich and Delamere Lodge, esq. Arms, Argent, three bends wavy, Azure, for Wilbraham; impaling Or on a chief indented Sable, three crescents Argent for Harvey. Crest, on a wreath a wolf's head erased Argent.

Against the same wall, lower down, is fixed a mural marble monument, with this inscription to the memory of an officer who died whilst on a visit at Wallerscote.

"Near this place are deposited the remains of Col. John Mompesson, of the King's 8th regiment of Foot, and Lieut.-Governor of the Isle of Wight. Obiit Oct. 3, 1768, aged 46. Erected by Jenny Gaarben and Frances Oliver, his only surviving daughters."

On the North side of the communion table is another marble mural monument.

"Near this place are interred the remains of the Rev. Thomas Hunter, M. A. by diploma from the University of Oxford, late vicar of this parish, who died Sept. 1, 1777, aged 67.

"Also of Mary his wife, who died March 10, 1782, aged 71."

The registers of baptisms commence in 1694; marriages in 1695; burials in 1678.

Adjacent to the church stands the vicarage, substantially rebuilt by the present incumbent, and seated on a pleasant knoll looking down upon the Weever. The glebe is now reduced to fourteen Cheshire acres; the rest is held partly on chief, partly by payment of heriots, or by services, such as breaking flax, reaping, and "swingling". One tenement retains the name of the cuck-stool field, doubtless from having been the spot where the abbot exercised that part of his jurisdiction. Among the tithes should be mentioned an almost singular custom (not enforced) of claiming twopence in the pound from servant's wages^t.

The tithes of geese, pigs, hemp, and flax, in Acton, are paid to the lord of Dutton. The estates in Crewood,

Crowton Hall, Dutton Bottom, and Thane House, pay composition for all small tithes; and, with certain exceptions, the townships and hamlets of Sandiway, Gorstich, Cuddington, Crowton, and Onston, pay a modus instead of tithe hay at an extremely low rate. It is supposed to have originated in the injury formerly done them by the deer who ranged from the forest to the bank of the Weever through these townships. It is observable that Leland notices the damage done by them to the adjoining corn-lands in his time.

The bishop, as impropiator, has the corn-tithe only. This is now leased to Edward Starkey, esq. of French Wood, near Preston in Lancashire.

The parish is divided into two parts; the town and lordship part, and the parish part: the latter comprehends Acton, Crowton, Cuddington, and Onston; the first, Weverham and its hamlets. The two churchwardens are selected from these townships, the minister nominating one from the town and lordship only^u.

The charitable funds consist of a legacy of three hundred pounds vested in the funds, bequeathed by Mrs. Clowes, of Liverpool, for the use of six poor decayed housekeepers and their wives in the town and lordship, having no parish relief, to be selected by the vicar. If none such can be found, the interest to be paid to deserving widows; if none found, to be paid to "deserving old maids," on the day of St. John the Divine. The interest of various sums amounting to about 150l. is partly given in bread, and partly distributed, by the vicar and churchwardens at Christmas. The parish has also a small estate in Crowton and another in Gorstich, now let for about 50l. per annum. The latter was bequeathed about the year 1700 by William Barker of Sandiway. The twentieth part is paid to the vicar for a commemoration sermon every Easter Monday, a portion to the poor, and the remainder appropriated to apprenticing six poor girls of the parish.

ACTON.

THE earliest notice which I have been able to recover respecting this township, is a note in the Leger Book of Vale Royal abbey, that Peter, Lord of Thornton, did homage to the abbot of Vale Royal for his manor of Acton, on the Sunday^x before the feast of St. Barnabas, 17 Edw. II.

Inq. p. m. 16 Rich. II. Laurence Dutton, chv'r (eldest son of sir Thomas Dutton and Ellen, daughter and co-heiress of sir Peter Thornton) held inter alia, in demesne as of fee simple, two parts of the manor of Acton, cum pert. from the abbot and convent of Vale Royal as of their manor of Weverham in capite by military service. Val. x marks per annum.

Inq. p. m. 24 Hen. VI. John Dutton, of Dutton, held, inter alia, two parts of the manor of Acton from the abbot of Vale Royal as of his manor of Weverham by services unknown. Val. 5l. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Thomas de Dutton held, inter alia, in demesne as of fee-tail, the reversion of nine messuages and certain lands in Acton juxta Weverham

from the abbot of Vale Royal in socage. Value x marks.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VII. Thomas de Dutton held, inter alia, messuages and lands in Acton from the abbot of Vale Royal in socage. Val. vii. viiis. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VIII. Sir Peter Dutton, knt. held, inter alia, the manor of Acton from the king as of his manor of Weverham, by military service. Value xiiij. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 25 Ap. 7 Jac. I. John Dutton, esq. held inter alia, the manor of Acton cum pert. from the king, as of his manor of Weverham, as the twentieth part of a knight's fee. Value, besides reprisals, xivj. xviiiis. per annum.

Elinour, sole daughter and heiress of Thomas Dutton, esq. son of the last-mentioned John Dutton, brought this and other manors in marriage to Gilbert Gerard, son and heir of Thomas lord Gerard, of Gerard's Bromley, in whose family it descended to Digby Lord Gerard, who died without male issue, leaving one daughter,

^t The same is claimed at Coddington, in Broxton hundred.

^u The account of the tithes is taken from the Terrier, the charities from the information of the Rev. Thomas Armitstead. x Leger Book, 84.

Elizabeth, the lady of the unfortunate James, duke of Hamilton^y. After this period the succession to the manor was litigated, but finally passed, under a settlement made by Charles lord Gerard in 1660, to Charles, sixth lord Gerard; and from him, by a will and a previous settlement, to his sister Frances, wife of Thomas

Fleetwood, esq. by whose family it was sold to Charles Scrace, esq. of Brighthelmstone in the county of Sussex, who resold it to the present proprietor, Nicholas Ashton, esq. of Woolton in the county of Lancaster, and of Hefferston Grange in the parish of Whitegate.

CROWTON.

THE Domesday Survey omits all notice of this, as well as of all the other manors in this parish, with the exception of that of Weverham itself; and the earliest information that can be gained respecting it is, that it formed a part of the original fee of Kingsley, and was divided among the coheirs, respectively wives of Gerard, Lancelyn, Thornton, and Done.

It has been mentioned in Kingsley that the share of the Lancelyns was soon alienated, and that the Gerards were possessed of a moiety of the fee before 9 Edw. II. when William Gerard^z, sen. son of William who married Emma de Kingsley, obtained from William Gerard, jun. lands in Hawarden and the manors of Catenhale and Bradlegh, and one moiety of Kingsley fee, which included the paramount manor of Crowton. This William Gerard, sen. by deeds dated 16 and 19 Edw. I. gave lands in Crowton and Kingsley to his younger son Thomas Gerard: which lands, called "the lands of Crewood in Crowton and Kingsley," were confirmed to Thomas Gerard by Edward the Black Prince, as capital lord, 22 Edw. III. in a charter dated at Westminster. The seal appendant, a shield charged with three lions and a label, with Gothic tracery, circumscribed, S..... Edwardi Cestrie..... William Gerard, brother of Thomas, confirmed his father's gift, 33 Edw. III. as mentioned in Kingsley.

Inq. p. m. 21 Rich. II. Thomas Gerrerd of Cruewood, (son of the above Thomas) held in demesne as of fee from the king as earl of Chester in capite, 8 mess. cum pert. val. IIIJl. XIJJs. IIJd. also a certain place called Cruewood in Kingsley, from the same, in capite, by military service, val. xls. per annum. William Gerrerd, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. IV. William Gerrard, of Cruewoode, held, in joint feoffment with Margaret his wife, thirty acres of land, cum. pert. in Cruewoode, in Kingsley fee, from the earl of Chester by military service, value per annum xxvis. viijd.; also, in the said manner, one messuage and fifty acres of land in Crowton from the same by the same service, value IIIJ marks per annum. Peter, son of Thomas Gerrarde, brother and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. V. William Gerrard, of Cruewoode, held, in joint feoffment with Margaret his wife, (as before-mentioned) the lands in Kingsley and Cruewood as before, adding other lands in Crowton, value xxxs. per annum. Nicholas Gerrard^a, kinsman and heir.

In the Harl. MSS. 2038. p. 54, among the Gerard deeds, is a copy of a covenant between John Legh, of Booths, and this Nicholas Gerard, of Kingsley, gent. that the said Nicholas shall marry Margaret, daughter

of the said John, and that Nicholas shall enfeof with his lands Roger Venables, parson of Rosthorne, and Randle Eckleshall, vicar of Frodsham: specifying his lands in *Hawarden* and mine of sea coal, dated 4 Hen. VI.

^b10 Nov. 35 Hen. VI. Richard, son and heir of Nicholas Gerard, covenants with John Daniell, of Lymme, that he will marry Isabell, daughter of the said John Daniell. "The same Richard settles all his lands on his son and heir apparent, Thomas Gerard, and his wife Isabella, daughter of John Bruyn, of Tarvin, dated 1st Dec. 13 Edw. IV. By mandate to the eschætor, 33 Hen. VI. this Richard received lands, held in dower by Margaret, widow of William Gerard, as son of Nicholas, son of Peter, brother of the said William^d.

^e2 Hen. VII. Thomas Gerard, son and heir of Richard, settles in trustees the reversion of the lands held in dower by his mother Isabell, then widow, as provision for the dower of Matilda, daughter of John Minshull, of Minshull, gent. and wife of Richard his son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 34 Hen. VIII. Richard Gerard held lands in Crowton, from the king, as earl of Chester, value XLVIIs. per annum; lands in Kingsley, value LVIs. viijd. per annum; lands in Crowton, value VIIs. viijd. per annum; also three closes in Cruewood, value xxIs. per annum. Obiit 33 Hen. VIII. Elizabeth, his widow, died, *per Inq.* 35 Hen. VIII. Sept. 4, holding in dower Crowton mill and other lands there. Richard Gerard, son and heir, in both Inquisitions.

4th Eliz. Richard Gerard, son of the preceding, settles his estates on the issue of his son Richard, by Mary his wife, remainder to the heirs of Christopher Davenport, and died, *per Inq.* 14 Eliz. leaving Richard Gerard his son and heir, aged 44 years^f.

Inq. p. m. 26 Eliz. Richard Gerard, of Cruewood, held divers messuages and tenements in Kingsley, Cuddington, and Crowton, from the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, by military service, as the 20th part of a knight's fee. Value, per annum, Ixl. xiijs.

The male line of Gerard of Cruewood terminated in Peter Gerard, esq. great grandson of this Richard, and father of Anne Gerard, sole surviving daughter and heiress, wife of Edward Norreys, of Speyke, in the county of Lancaster, esq. whose eldest daughter and coheiress Susanna married Hugh Williams, of Botel, in the county of Denbigh; and secondly, Hugh Warburton, esq. of Penrhyn, in the county of Caernarvon. Katherine, the younger daughter, was mar-

^y From the information of the Rev. Ellis Ashton, A. M. and a collection of the deeds of the Gerards of Bromley, communicated by William Hamper, esq. of which see more particulars under Hapsford in Thornton parish.

^z Williamson's Collections, 10.

^b Ibid.

^c Ibid.

^a "Son of Peter Gerard, who was son of Thomas, and brother of William Gerard. Harl. MSS. 2038. p. 54.

^d Enrollments in the Exchequer of Chester.

^e Harl. MSS. 2038. p. 54.

^f Gerard Deeds, Harl. MSS. 2038.

ried in 1727 to Ralph Leycester, esq. of Toft, in the county of Chester.

These two daughters were joint heiresses of Crewwood, but Ralph Leycester, esq. purchased the moiety of the elder sister, and dying in 1777, was succeeded by his eldest son George Leycester, esq. who died unmarried in 1809, when he was succeeded by his brother, Ralph Leycester, esq. the present proprietor.

In right of the Crewwood estate, the Leycesters claim a share of the manor of Crowton. The hall is now a farm-house, and stands pleasantly on a knoll near the left bank of the Weever, in the townships of Kingsley and Crowton.

Having thus deduced the descent of Crewwood from William Gerard, the husband of Emma de Kingsley, it remains to speak of the family itself, which the pedigrees have uniformly referred to the stock of Walter Fitzother, Castellan of Windsor, and keeper of the Berkshire forests at the Conquest. A pedigree preserved at Toft, deduces the descent in this manner; but is thus corrected by the following coarse indorsement on the rough draught of a pedigree, made by Randle Holme, and existing among the Harl. MSS. 2119. 212.

“This made for Mr. Gerard, of Crewwood, 1635.

“Whereas the Gerards of Crew Wood and others derive themselves from the withinsayd Gerard Fitz Walter, of Windsor, and I made the pedigree for Mr. Gerard, of Crewwood, accordinge to the same. But synce I have mett with very auintient deedes to sattisfie any that the other is a false p'tence, for they be descended of the barons of Montealto, lords of Hawardyn, as is by the deeds made manyfest, and had land in Hawardyn from about king John's time, or before, to queen Elizabeth, as by the sayde deeds appereth, (wh'ch I have copyed, and are in custody of Mr. Ravenscroft, of Bretton, and sealed with the lion rampant, being Montealto cote) and came to Kingsley about H. 3 tyme.”

It would now be a vain attempt to seek for the Ravenscroft deeds, on which this positive assertion is founded, but the following deed abundantly proves that the Gerards who settled at Kingsley were immediately derived from Hawarden, one of the seats of the barons of Montalt, and disproves the manner in which

the pedigrees deduce the patronymic of Gerard from the Geraldts of the Fitz-other family.

“Sciãnt, &c. quod ego Radulphus filius Willielmi de Haurthine, dedi Willielmo filio Gerardi totam terram meam in Haurthine, quæ quidem fuit leprosorum, quam quidem terram Robertus de Montealto, senescalus Cestriæ, dedit Will'mo de Haurthine patri meo, habendam, &c. reddendo annuatim id. His testibus, Radulpho Corbyn, Madoço Vaughan, Willielmo filio Radulphi, &c. Seal: a hare sitting upright on the stump of an oak, circumscribed, “Sig. Radulfi fil. Will. de H.”

This document is preserved in a MS volume formed from copies of deeds in the possession of Randle Holme, (Harl. MSS. 1968,) and followed by others of later date, relative to the same estate, which has been already noticed among the abstracts of evidences of the Gerards in a fine 9 Edw. II. and a marriage settlement 4 Hen. VI. It is also a strong argument in favour of the hypothesis which deduces the Gerards from the male line of one of the most powerful of the earl of Chester's Norman barons, that the early Cheshire pedigrees concur in giving to this family the Montalt coat debruised with a bend, Gules; and it is certain that the armorial seal of William Gerard, 33 Edw. III. as already noticed, consisted of the Montalt coat, without the slightest difference. All the branches of Gerard have, however, discontinued this honourable bearing; some have adopted the saltire, Gules, in reference to the supposed descent from Fitz-other, and others have borne, Azure, a lion rampant, Ermine, ducally crowned, Or, in reference to their descent from the heiress of the Lancashire family of Bryn^x.

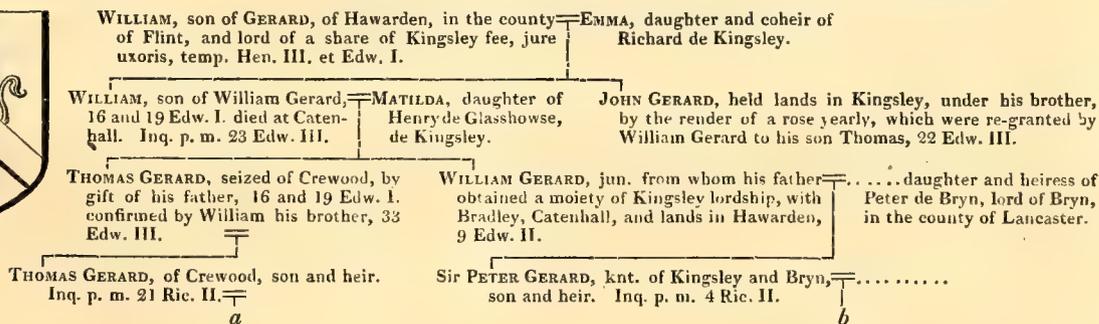
The male line of the eldest branch of this family is continued by the Gerards of Bryn and Garswood, in Lancashire; from younger sons of which house descended the Gerards of Ledsham, in Cheshire, and of Ince, in Lancashire, the latter of which was the parent stock of the Barons of Gerards Bromley, and of the earls of Macclesfield. Probably we may refer to the same family John Gerarde, the famous herbalist, born at Nantwich, in 1535, and the maternal ancestor of Gerard Legh, author of the Accedence of Armourie, and “the father of the modern art of blazonry^y,” descended paternally from a younger son of the house of Bagulegh.

GERARD OF KINGSLEY^z, AND GERARD OF CREWOOD.

From the Visitations and Inquisitions post mortem, a collection of Deeds preserved in Harl. MSS. 2038, and the communications of Ralph Leycester, of Toft and Crewwood, esq.

Arms of Gerard, of Kingsley. Azure, a lion rampant, Argent, for difference a bend, Gules.

Arms of Gerard, of Crewwood, as allowed 1613. Azure, a lion rampant, Ermine, ducally crowned, Or, over all a bend, Gules.

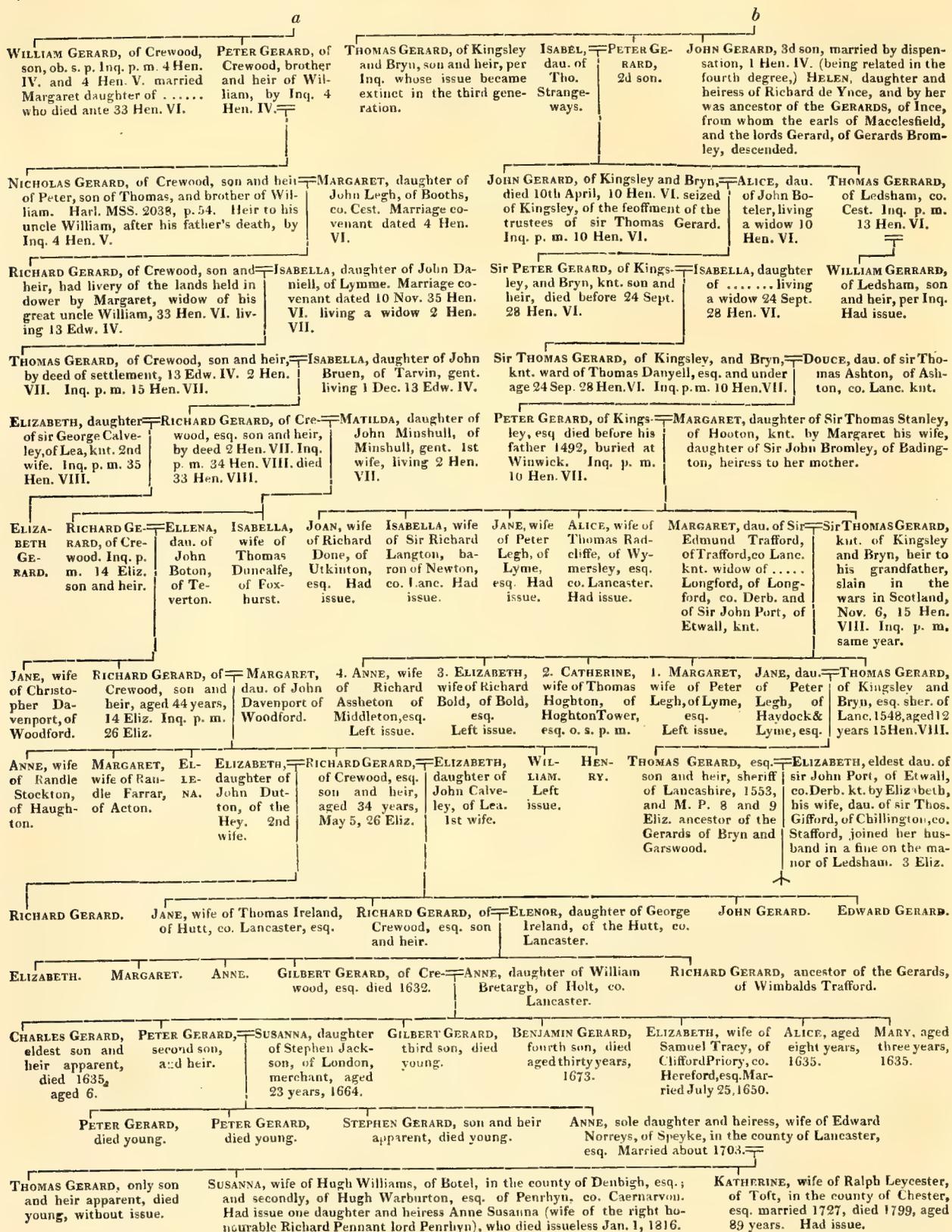


ⁿ P. 45.

^x This has also been adopted by the Gerards, of Crewwood, who branched off before the marriage with Bryn.

^y Dallaway's Anecdotes of Heraldry.

^z The authorities for the Kingsley branch of this pedigree are given in the account of Kingsley and Ledsham. A detailed account of this family, which was more peculiarly connected with Lancashire, will be found in the first volume of Wotton's Baronetage.



The Third Share of Crowton was given by Amicia de Kingsley, after the death of Randle de Thornton*, in frank marriage with Cecilia her daughter, to David son of Philip de Malpas, and passed with Ellen daughter and finally sole coheirress of his great grandson Philip de Egerton, to sir William Brereton, of Brereton, temp. Ric. II.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VI. sir William Brereton, knt. held (inter alia) in demesne, as of fee, but from whom, or by what, unknown, eight messuages, and certain lands adjacent, in Crowton. Value 44s. 2d.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. sir William Brereton, knt. held (inter alia) in demesne, as of fee, a fourth part of the manor of Crowton, from the heirs of Richard de Kingsley, by knight's service. Value 1111l. per annum.

This share^y is said by Dr. Williamson to have descended to the lords Brereton, and to have been sold by them to the Crewes, of Crewe. The estates of that family in Crowton passed by sale to the late George Wilbraham, esq. in 1789, as mentioned in the account of the next share.

* Harl. MSS. 2038. p. 48. Vernon's Collections, and Harl. MSS. 2074.

^y Villare Cest. p. 47. and Cole's MSS. V. 22. p. 193.

Dr. Willamson^z states also, that the Lancelyn share passed in the same manner to the Crewes, having been united early to the Thornton share. This must be understood of the mesne manor only, as otherwise the Gerards of Kingsley could not have possessed half of Crowton, 9 Edw. II. which is enumerated in the recovery of that year before-mentioned, as a component part of Kingsley, and which must include the share of the heiress who married Lancelyn, those of Done and Thornton being otherwise appropriated. Dr. Williamson's statement, though loose, agrees with the present division of the manor.

The *Fourth Share* of Crowton having passed to Henry Done, of Utkinton, as the share of his wife Johanna Kingsley, was given by him to his younger son Henry Done, of Crowton, whose descendants held the same, together with the superior lordship of Manley, from the Dones, of Utkinton, as capital lords, for many generations.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Thomas Donne, of Crowton, held in fee tail two messuages, three cottages, with lands adjacent, one mill, &c. from Richard Donne, of Utkinton, by the render of one penny per annum, value *iiii. iis. od.*; also lands in the same from the earl of Chester, in capite, value *xxxvs.* Also other lands in the same, Norlegh, and Codington, from Richard Donne, William Launcelyn, and William Gerrarde. Cecilia daughter and heiress.

Inq. p. m. 46 Edw. III. Cecilia daughter of Thomas Donne, held, in fee tail, two parts of a fourth part of the vill and mill of Crowton, partly from the earl of Chester, to the value of *xxs.* per annum, and partly from the heirs of Richard Donne, of Utkinton, value *xls.* per annum. Also lands in Norlegh, Kingslegh, and Codington. Richard, son of Henry Donne, next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 15 Ric. II. Richard Done, of Crowton, held in demesne, as of fee, a third part of two parts of the vill of Crowton, from John Done, of Utkinton, by military service, and the render of one penny, value *xiiis. iiii d.* Also lands in Kingsley, Norley, Christleton, Cudington, and a moiety of the vill of Filkden. Richard Done, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VI. Richard Done, of Crowton, held in demesne, as of fee, a third part of the manor and vill of Crowton, from John Done, of Utkinton, as aforesaid, value *liiis.* per annum. Also lands in Kingsley, Norley, Cudington, Chester, Wich Malbank, Hatherton, Hunsterton, Stanthorne, and a moiety of the vill of Filkden. Richard Done, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VI. Richard Done, of Crowton, held in demesne as of fee, lands in Kingsley, Norley, Cudington, and Filkden. Richard Done son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VI. Richard Done, of Crowton, held, &c. as before. Richard, son of Richard and Matilda, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Richard Done, of Crowton, held, as aforesaid, lands in Kingsley, Norley, Cudington, and Filkden. Thomas Done, son of Richard Done, of Crowton, uncle and heir.

This Richard Done was slain on the part of king Henry at the battle of Blore Heath, and is erroneously called John Done by Holinshed and other chroniclers.

Inq. p. m. 24 Hen. VII. Randle Done (son of Thomas according to the visitations) held in demesne as of fee, the *manor* of Crowton cum pert. from Richard Done, of

Utkinton, by fealty and services unknown, value *xl. iij s. iij d.* together with lands in Hunsterton, Hatherton, Wich Malbank, Stanthorne, Northwich, Cotton, Cuddington, and Chester, and half of Filkden in Eyton; also, in joint feoffment with Margery, daughter of John Starkey, of Olton, lands in Kingsley, Norley, and Cuddington. Johanna Done, daughter and heiress.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VIII. Margery, widow of Randle Done, held lands in Cuddington, Kingsley, Norley, Filkden, Crowton, Hatherton, Hunsterton, Stanthorne, and Cotton, val. tot. *xviii. xiiis. iiii d.* and died on the Sunday before the feast of St. Katherine. Johanna, wife of John Birkenhead, daughter and heiress.

Inq. p. m. 5 Edw. VI. John Birkenhead, of Crowton, esq. held the manor of Crowton in socage from John Done, of Utkinton, esq. by fealty, value *xiiii. xv s. viij d.*; also lands in Cuddington, Norley, Kingsley, Figden, Stanthorne, Hunsterton, Wich Malbank, Hatherton, Cotton, Bradley, Acton, Leigh, Frodsham, Alvanley, Weverham, Happesford, Elton, Mouldsworth, Horton, Manley, Chester, Handbridge, Claverton, and Stanthorne, the manor of Manley, and half the manor of Molesworth, and died 2d Sept. 4 Edw. VI. Elizabeth, wife of George Ireland, esq. and Margery Birkenhead, grand-daughters and co-heiresses, being daughters of Ralph Birkenhead, son of this John Birkenhead.

Inq. p. m. 39 Eliz. George Ireland, esq. obiit 15 July, seized of Crowton, &c. val. tot. 64l. John Ireland son and heir.

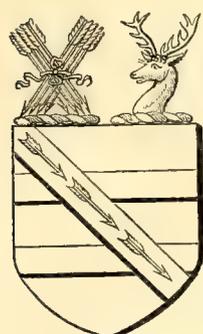
Inq. p. m. 13 Jac. I. John Ireland, of Hutt, died seized of the manor of Crowton, cum pert. held, as last mentioned, of John Done, and lands in the same, also in Cuddington, Norley, Kingsley, Frodsham, Weverham, Stanthorne, Hunsterton, Hatherton, and Nether Bebington, and the corn and hay tithes of Deresbury.

Sir Gilbert Ireland, knt. sold this share of Crowton to the Hattons, who resided at Crowton Hall, and resold the same, with the royalty, to sir John Crewe, of Utkinton, who had previously purchased the Thornton and Lancelyn shares. On his decease without issue, the estate passed by bequest to the Crewes of Crewe, and was sold by the present lord Crewe to George Wilbraham, esq. of Delamere Lodge, the father of the present proprietor.

In an act for inclosing the commons in Kingsley, Newton, Norley, and Crowton, in 1777, John Crewe, and George Leycester, esqrs. in right of the estates of Crowton Hall and Crewood, the descent of which we have thus given, claimed to be lords of the manor of Crowton, and as such had one-eleventh part of the commons allotted to them, with a clause "that if any trial shall be had concerning the right to the manor of Crowton, nothing in the act shall be given as evidence to prove it is a manor, or that Mr. Crewe or Mr. Leycester are lords thereof." In the conveyance from the present lord Crewe to the late Mr. Wilbraham, in 1789, his share is called three-fourths of the manor.

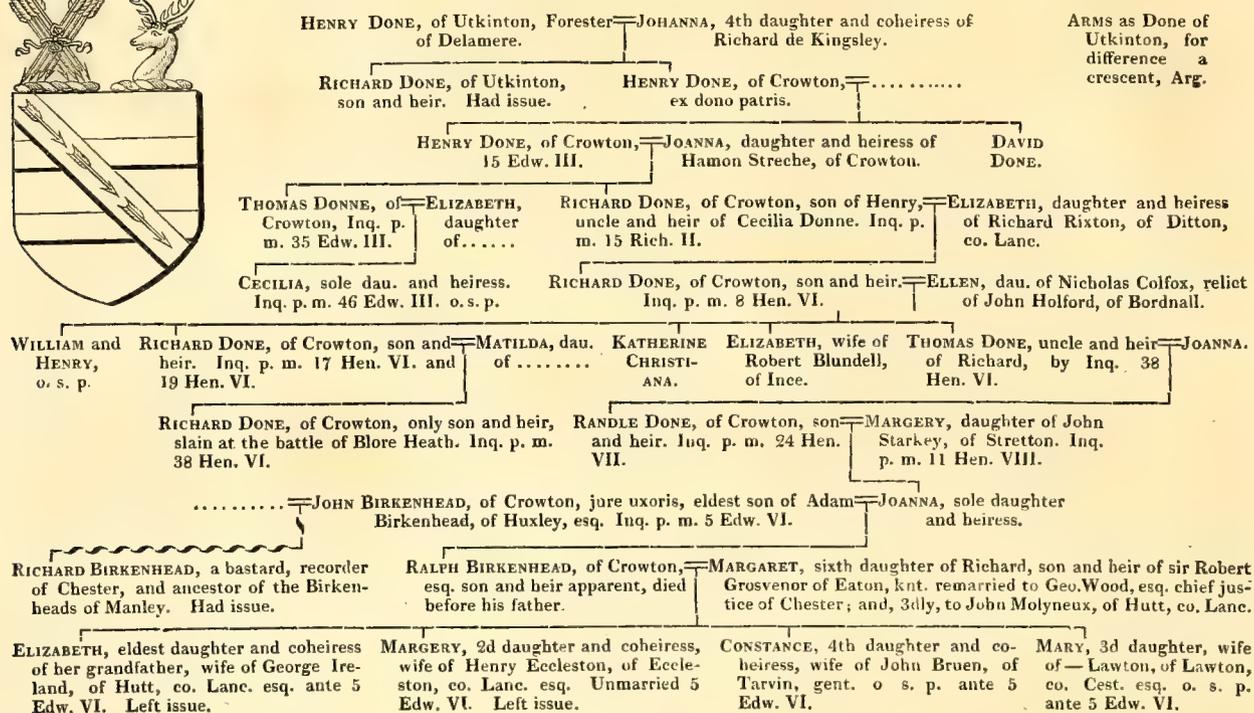
Crowton Hall is a timber mansion, used as a farm, and apparently built early in the seventeenth century.

It remains to close this account with the pedigree of the Dones of Crowton, every step of which has the authority of inquisitions. The collaterals are taken from a pedigree in Vincent's collections, (MSS. Coll. Arm. 120) which contains a supernumerary Henry and two Richards, between Henry Done and his son Richard, who was found heir to his niece Cicely, 46 Edw. III.



DONE, OF CROWTON.

ARMS as Done of Utkinton, for difference a crescent, Arg.



The township of Crowton is included within the jurisdiction of the court leet of Kingsley.

Ruloe, the occasional residence of the late James H. S. Barry, esq. and held by him on lease from the Fleetwoods, is seated in a sequestered and beautiful dingle between Delamere Lodge and Norley, and is now the

property of J. S. Barry, esq. by whose trustees the reversion was purchased from the countess de Front, widow of the late sir Thomas Fleetwood. The house is now undergoing considerable alterations and additions. Ruloe appears in the parish registers, in 1683, under the spelling of Roe-loe, and is most probably the spot which gave name to the ancient hundred of Roelau.

CUDDINGTON.

THIS township, as well as Onston, is omitted in Domesday, but is noticed in the earliest inquisitions relative to the shares of Kingsley fee, with which lordship it has regularly descended, and forms a part thereof: the lords of Kingsley being lords of Cuddington in the same proportions, and having received their shares of waste as such, on an inclosure of the commons in this township, by an act of parliament in 1766^a. The principal land proprietors are John Arden and John S. Barry, esqrs. whose property has come down to them with the shares of the lordship, and George Wilbraham, of Delamere lodge, esq. whose father acquired the greatest part of the township by a series of successive purchases.

The house of Delamere Lodge is an elegant modern stone fabric, erected from the designs of Wyatt, standing on a lawn possessing a pleasing undulation of surface, and surrounded with very extensive plantations. In the house is a small collection of paintings. The gardens, hothouses, and conservatories are on a large scale, and particularly pleasing, from the taste of the original plan, and the great neatness with which they are preserved.

^a From the information of Francis Ashley, esq. steward of the court of Kingsley.

^b For the pedigrees of these families vide Odd Rode and Acton.

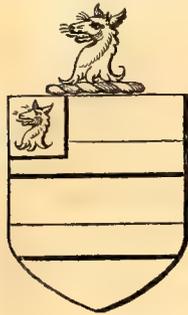
^c This MS. is described in the prospectus for a history of Cheshire, by Dr. Gower, page 56, but erroneously supposed by him to be the compilation of one of the family. It is now in possession of George Wilbraham, esq. of Delamere Lodge; and another copy is in possession of Edward Bootle Wilbraham, esq. M. P. by whom it was obligingly lent to the author for the purpose of making these extracts.

George Wilbraham, esq. the father of the present proprietor, who removed his residence here from Townsend in Nantwich, was heir male of this ancient and knightly family, the elder line of Woodhey having terminated in the coheirresses of sir Thomas Wilbraham about the end of the seventeenth century. The other existing branches^b, resident at Lathom, Rode, and Falmouth, (the last a representative of Wilbraham of Dorfold) descend from the younger sons of the line of Wilbraham of which we are now speaking. The pedigree annexed, containing the descent of the Townsend branch since their separation from the parent stock of the Wilbrahams, of Woodhey, has received very considerable additions from a curious MS diary in the possession of the family, commencing with notes made by Richard Wilbraham in 1542^c, and continued by his descendants to 1732, which contains a variety of general matter relating to the county, as well as the family itself, of which we shall have occasion to speak further under the head of Nantwich.

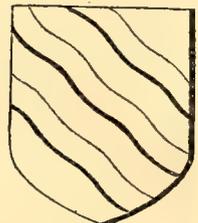
WILBRAHAM OF TOWNSEND AND DELAMERE LODGE,

From the Records of the College of Arms, and the Wilbraham MSS.

ARMS of Wilbraham, Azure two barrs Argent on a canton of the first, a wolf's head erased, Argent. CREST.—On a wreath, a wolf's head erased Argent. Antient Coat of Wilbraham, Argent, three bends wavy, Az.



Note.—These Coats are usually borne quarterly, the ancient coat occupying the first and fourth quarters.



RANDULPH WILBRAHAM, second son of Thomas Wilbraham of Woodhey, by Margaret, dau. and heiress of John Golborne, of Woodhey, esq. obiit March 2, 1548.

ALICE, daughter of obiit Oct. 18, 1503.

HENRY, second son, father of Henry Wilbraham, both of whom died April 14, 1528; bur. at Acton. Wilb. MSS.

RALPH WILBRAHAM, of son and heir, living temp. Hen. VIII. obiit March 7, 1552; buried in Acton church. Wilb. MSS.

ELIZABETH, dau. of Sandford, of in the co. of Lanc. (Harl. MSS 1535) obiit July 10, 1564. Wilb. MSS.

MARGARET, w. of Tho. Clutter of Nantwich, Harl. MSS. 2119. born July 24, 1523. Wilb. MSS.

RANDULPH WILBRAHAM, eldest son, a merchant at Bristol, obiit April 20, 1581, (Wilb. MSS.) born January 30, 1521.

RICHARD WILBRAHAM, of Nantwich, born Aug. 13, 1528; marrd. Eliza, daughter of Thomas Maisterson, of Nantwich, 20th Oct. 1550, 4 Edw. VI. (Wilbraham MSS. p. 20) remarrd. Aug. 7, 1591, to Margaret, w. of Alex. Elerch, gent. widow of R. Wright, of Nantwich, who died March 10, 1606. He died Feb. 6. 1612.

THOMAS WILBRAHAM, 3d son, recorder of the city of London, and attorney of the court of wards; born Jan. 30, 1530, obiit July 10, 1573. Wilb. MSS. Married Barbara, daughter of Robert Chudleigh, co. Middlesex. Harl. MSS. 2119, who died May 7, 1563. Wilb. MSS.

Sir ROGER WILBRAHAM, a master of the court of requests, May 1, 1600, and surveyor of the court of wards and liveries, born Nov. 4, 1553; appointed solicitor-general for Ireland, Feb. 8, 1585; admitted of Gray's Inn, 1576; died without male issue, July 31, 1616. Left issue.

THOMAS WILBRAHAM, of London, born Sep. 20, 1555. Wilb. MSS. married, 1586, to Anne, daughter of . . . Pyerson, citizen of London. Left issue.

RICHARD WILBRAHAM, common serjeant of the city of London, born Jan. 10, 1551, 5 Edw. VI. obiit ante patrem, Sept. 13, 1601; buried in St. Michael's, London.

ELIZABETH, dau. of sir Thomas Polesdon, kt. lord mayor of the city of London; married Feb. 21, 1584. Wilb. MSS. died in London, Feb. 25, 1611.

RALPH WILBRAHAM, born March 20, 1557. Wilb. MSS. feodary of Cheshire and Flintshire; ancestor of Wilbraham of Dorfold.

ELIZABETH, born 4th Dec. 1585. ob. infans.

THOMAS WILBRAHAM, of Nantwich, esq. born June 25, 1589, admitted of Lincoln's Inn, May 1613, and of Brasen-Nose College, Oxon, the July following. An esquire of the Body to King Charles, sworn Nov. 1, 1628. 'Died a° 1643, aged 54 years.

RACHEL, daughter and sole heir of Joshua Clive, of Huxley, co. Cest. by Mary, dau. of Andrew Charlton, of Apsley; married Richard, 1619, obiit 5th April, 1657.

RALPH WILBRAHAM, born in London, Nov. 13, 1601; admitted of Lincoln's Inn, July 11, 1619; died unmarried. a° 1637, Jan. 19.

RICHARD, born in London, May 29, 1599, W. MSS. obiit 1609.

RICHARD WILBRAHAM, born May 11, 1621; died before his father July 23, 1633, at. 12, bur. at Nantwich.

THOMAS WILBRAHAM, born Nov. 17, 1622; admitted of Catherine Hall, Cambridge, 1640, and of Lincoln's Inn, London, 1642, together with his brother, died unmarried. 1649, at. 27.

ROGER WILBRAHAM, of Nantwich, esq. born Nov. 3, 1623, aged 41, a° 1664; one of the intended knts. of the Royal Oak, his estate being then valued at 1000l. per annum.

ALICE, dau. of Roger Wilbraham, of Dorfold, esq. by Mary, dau. of Thomas Ravenscroft, of Bretton, esq. co. Flint. died Sep. 7, 1676, of grief for the loss of her two eldest sons. W. MSS. mar. Ap. 17, 1656.

RALPH, born Sep. 28, 1625. o. s. p.

GEORGE, born Ap. 27, 1628. o. s. p.

RICHARD, born Sep. 19, 1633. o. s. p.

RACHEL, born Mar. 7, 1626, w. of John Dalmaly, of Scotland.

ELIZABETH, born Dec. 17, 1631, died an infant July 17, 1637.

ALICE, wife of Ralph Wilbraham, of Dorfold, Wrenbury, May 26, 1709.

A dau. died unmarried. 1658.

THOMAS WILBRAHAM, aged 7 years at the visitation of 1664, born at Dorfold, May 23, 1657; admitted of Christ Church, Oxon, 1672; died s. p. 1675.

ELIZABETH, RACHEL, ANNE, o. s. p.

RANDLE WILBRAHAM, of Nantwich, esq. born 1633, admitted of Catherine Hall, Cambridge, a° 1680, Sheriff of Chesh. 1714, died Sept. 19, 1732, bur. at Nantwich.

MARY, dau. of sir Richard Brooke, of Norton, bt. by Francisca Posthuma, dau. of Thos. son of sir Peter Legh, of Lyme, kt. banneret, died 1739, at. 75, bur. at Nantwich. marr. Oct. 25, 1687.

RICHARD, born 1660, died 1675.

ROGER and ALICE, born twins, Roger died s. p.

GRACE, 5th dau. w. of sir Tho. Brooke of Norton, bt. born Dec. 23, 1667, marr. July 12, 1688.

STEPHEN, born July 4, 1669, admitted of Cath. Hall, Camb. 1686.

RICHARD WILBRAHAM, eldest son, born Jan 13, 1688-9, died Feb. 6, 1709; bur. at Astbury.

RANDLE WILBRAHAM, of Rode, esq. 3d son, ancestor of the Wilbrahams of Rode; barrister at law, LL.D. and deputy steward of the Univ. of Oxford.

THOMAS WILBRAHAM, of the city of Westminster, 4th son, LL.D. and Fellow of All Souls, Oxon, and Fellow of the College of Physicians. o. s. p.

DIANA, dau. of John Plumtre, of Nottingham. married in the city of Westminster, Nov. 2, 1757.

HENRY WILBRAHAM, 5th son, M. A. Fellow of Brasen Nose Coll. Oxon, and rector of Shelford in Oxfordshire, where he died unmarried.

FRANCES, eldest dau. mar. at Nantwich to William Wright, esq. of Stockport and Mottram Andrew, Feb. 14, 1720.

ELIZABETH, dau. of sir Thomas Brooke, of Norton, bart. died in childbed, Oct. 10, 1737, marr. at Trinity Ch. Chesh. Dec. 27, 1731.

ROGER WILBRAHAM, of Nantwich, esq. eldest surviving son and heir, Gent. Com. of Brasen Nose Coll. Oxon, Aug. 12, 1710. ob. Sep. 1754, at. 60, bur. at Nantwich.

MARY, eldest dau. of Thos. Hunt, of Mollingington, by Mary Vere Robertes, sister and heiress of Henry earl of Radnor, marr. Mar. 24, 1740; died 1760, aged 38, bur. at Nantwich.

ELIZABETH, 2d dau. married at Nantwich, Jan. 7, 1730, to William Falconer, esq. recorder of Chester.

MARY, 3d dau. mar. at Nantwich, March 1739, to Thomas Chetnam, of Mellor, co. Derb. esq. Left issue.

GRACE, THOMAS, and MARY, died infants, buried at Nantwich.

ROGER WILBRAHAM, of London, esq. F. R. S. and S. A. 2d son, born 1743, late M. P. for Helston, and afterwards for Bodmin. Living 1816.

GEORGE WILBRAHAM, of Nantwich and Delamere Lodge, esq. eldest son and heir, born April 4, 1741, sheriff of Chesh. 1791, died at Del. Lodge, Dec. 4, 1813, buried at Nantwich.

MARIA, 2d dau. of Wm. Harvey, of Chigwell in Essex, esq. many years M. P. for that co. marr. Oct. 13, 1774.

THOMAS WILBRAHAM, 3d son, born Jan. 1751. died unmarried.

ROGER WILBRAHAM, born Jan. 25, 1777, died Feb. 2, 1784.

WILLIAM, born June 30, 1781, a captain in the navy.

MARIA, born July 26, 1775, died 1794, buried at Nantwich.

GEORGE WILBRAHAM, of Delamere Lodge and Nantwich, esq. eldest son and heir, born Mar. 8, 1779.

Lady ANNE FORTESCUE, 3d dau. of the Rt. Hon. Hugh, earl Fortescue, by his wife Hester, sister of George, late Marquis of Buckingham, mar. at Filleigh, co. Devon, Sep. 3, 1814.

EMMA, born Nov. 8, 1776. Feb. 23, 1783.

LOUISA, born July 1, 1786, died 1787.

ANNE, born 1791.

GEORGE FORTESCUE WILBRAHAM, son and heir apparent, born Aug. 4, 1815.

ONSTON.

THERE is no mention in Domesday of this township, which was granted out by Randle Blundeville to Randle le Roter his godson^d, "cum hominibus et nativis suis." He is styled in the grant, "filiolus suus, filius Petri Clerici."

From this Randle the manor descended with Thornton to the coheireses of the family of that name, and is to be traced in small shares among the representatives of those coheirs in most of the inquisitions mentioned under Kingsley, as containing the descent of part of Thornton's share of that lordship, which representatives held from the king as earl of Chester in capite. Onston does not appear in any ancient inquisition of the heirs of

Kingsley, that I have seen, where those heirs are not also representatives of Thornton.

It is most probable that, from the smallness of the shares, the manerial privileges of the descendants of Thornton fell gradually into disuse. It is now reputed part of the lordship of Kingsley, and is comprehended within the court leet of that fee, but was not originally any part of the Kingsley estates, which appears as well by the grant above-mentioned to Thornton, as by its omission in the enumeration of the estates of Ranulph de Kingsley by Richard Done, in his plea to a quo warranto, 31 Edw. I.

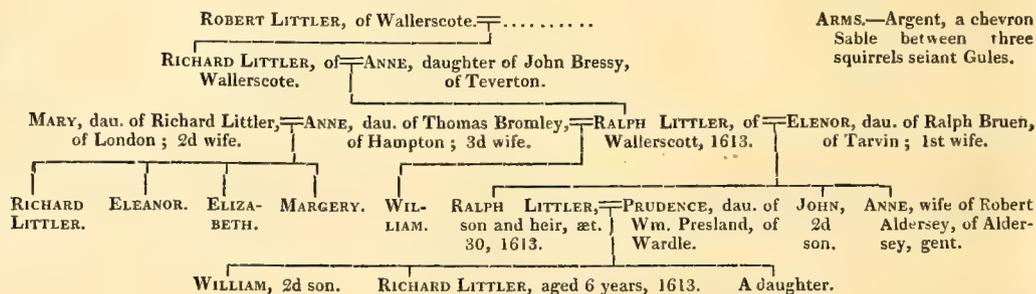
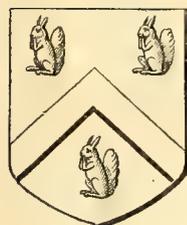
WALLERSCOTE.

THIS manor was given by Adam de Wringle to the nuns of Chester, who continued the capital lords to the dissolution^e. The township consists of a single house with the land annexed, and contains no road which is reputed a highway.

^fThe Littlers held this manor as mediate lords under the nuns, and after the dissolution became its possessors. Their name is local, from the hamlet of Little Over, and frequently occurs in early deeds, as "Lutelovre," in the Leger Book of Vale Royal.

LITTLER OF WALLERSCOTE.

From the Visitation of 1613.



^gRalph Littler the younger, and William and Richard his sons, 17 Ap. 12 Car. I. sold this place, called the manor of Wallerscote, to Hugh Cholmondeley, of Knights Grange, esq. second son of sir Hugh Cholmondeley the younger, and ancestor of earl Cholmondeley.

Robert lord Cholmondeley, of Kellis, son of Hugh Cholmondeley, esq. was possessed of the manor, 1671, and it was then held under him by Ralph Littler as

lessee^h. In the seventeenth century it was the property of a family of the name of Wade. Anneⁱ, daughter and heiress of Peter Wade, esq. brought it in marriage to the late Peter Legh, esq. of Booths, who died, aged eighty-two years, in 1804. Willoughby Legh, of Booths, esq. his eldest son, is the present proprietor.

Wallerscote Hall is an old timber mansion, now used as a farm-house.

^d Vernon's MSS. Harl. MSS. 2074. 169.

^h Vill. Cest. 1671. Harl. MSS. 2070.

^e Williamson's Villare Cest. p. 107.

^f Ibid. ⁱ Information of John Legh, esq.

^g Ibid.

^h Ibid.

NORLEY.

THE survey of Domesday does not take any notice of this township: it is included within the manor of Kingsley fee, and appears to have been antiently considered as a mediate manor, held from the lords of that fee. Mabilla de Moston^j, widow of Ranulph de Kingsley, held the manor of Norley in dower, 12 Hen. III.

Shortly after this period Norley gave name to a family, of whom Roger de Norley^k grants half an essart of land in Norley to Peter le Roter, temp. Edw. II. which he held under William, son of William Gerard, of Kingsley. About the same time William Gerard witnesses a deed of Richard, son of Ambrose de Norley. Amicia, widow of Richard de Norley, and John, son of Roger de Norley, occur 17 Edw. I. This family terminated in a heiress, Matilda, daughter of Adam de Norley, who brought lands in this township in marriage to Robert Leigh, of Adlington, esq.^l about the time of Edw. III. which descended in that family to the 16th century.

Norley contains 1448 acres, of which 129 are roads, waters, peat-bogs, and wastes, laid out for the use of the town under the inclosure act of 1777. It is partly in the parish of Frodsham, and partly in that of Weverham.

Of this space, 815 acres within this township form part of the estate of George Whitley, esq. by descent from the Halls, a family which have been settled here from very remote antiquity, but which have omitted to enter any pedigree in the Cheshire Visitations.

^mJohn de Aula de Kingsley occurs as witness to deeds of Henry de Glasshowse de Kingsley, temp. Hen. III. Richard del Hall had a lease of Onston millⁿ from the abbot of Vale Royal in 1337. Robertus de Aula was instituted to the vicarage of Weverham, 1307°. Robert del' Halle, prior of the abbey of Vale Royal, occurs, with abbot Thomas, in an appointment of deputies to procure a ratification of the appropriation of Lampadernvawr from pope Urban the fifth^p, 14 kal. Feb. 6, 1462.

The remains of a large house, traditionally said to have been erected about the beginning of the fifteenth century, and called the Old Hall, were taken down about forty-five years ago. Another house, in a better situation, was built, about the year 1500, by Thomas Hall; and, in 1697, John Hall made large additions, and built offices, part of which now remain, with his initials and dates.

In 1782, the whole of the house was taken down by the late proprietor, William Hall, esq. who erected the present mansion, and resided in it till his death in 1795, when it passed by his bequest to his sister's son, George Whitley, esq. the present proprietor of the estates of this family, and now resident at Norley Hall.

Another seat in this township, called Norley Bank, standing partly in Weverham parish, and partly in Frodsham, seated on an elevation which commands a delightful view of the country towards Frodsham, was built by the late James Croxton, esq. who purchased the estate from various hands, which passed by sale from his executors to the late John Nuttal, esq. of Bury, in Lancashire. Mr. Nuttal re-sold the estate in 1811, to the Rev. Rowland Egerton, seventh son of Philip Egerton, of Egerton, and Oulton, esq. and husband of Emma, sole daughter and heiress of the before-mentioned James Croxton, esq. by his wife Emma, youngest sister and coheiress of sir Peter Warburton, of Arley. Mr. R. Egerton assumed the name of Warburton, in addition, in 1813, on his eldest son's succeeding by bequest to the Arley estates.

The late James Croxton, of Norley, esq. was representative of a branch of the Croxton family, which settled at Croxton Green, in Cholmondeley, in the reign of Elizabeth, and retained that estate to the middle of the seventeenth century, residing, however, occasionally, at their other estate of Gonsley, in Wybunbury, from whence they removed to Chester. The identity of the Croxtons, of Croxton Green, and Gonsley, was conjectured, with singular felicity, by the late dean of Chester, from the correspondence of dates in the registers of the respective churches of Malpas and Wybunbury; and while these sheets were going through the press, the accuracy of the conjecture was established by the accidental discovery of a contemporary entry in the Harl. MSS. 2119, which describes Hugh Croxton and the two successive generations, as of Croxton Green, and also of Gonsley. It is observable that Ralph Croxton, with whom the annexed pedigree commences, and who was in all probability the first settler at Croxton Green, was contemporary with Ralph Croxton, a younger brother of the original house of Croxton and Ravenscroft. Their identity can only be established by the accidental disclosure of deeds, but it has strong probabilities in its favour. Under these circumstances, the coat of Croxton has been confirmed "debruised by two barrs engrailed, Or."

^j Harl. MSS. 2038. p. 55.

^k Ibid. p. 54.

^l Leigh of Ridge's MSS. Harl. MSS.

^m Harl. MSS. 2038. p. 55.

ⁿ Leger Book of Vale Royal, p. 240.

^o Lichfield Registers.

^p Leger Book of Vale Royal.

The modern information relative to this township has been obligingly communicated by the Rev. R. Egerton-Warburton, B. A. and George Whitley, esq.

CROXTON, AND EGERTON-WARBURTON, OF NORLEY.

Arms of Egerton-Warburton of Norley, as confirmed by patent, dated April 6, 1814.

Quarterly, 1 and 4, Argent, a chevron, Gules between three cormorants, Sable, in the centre point a cross crosslet, Sable, for Warburton.

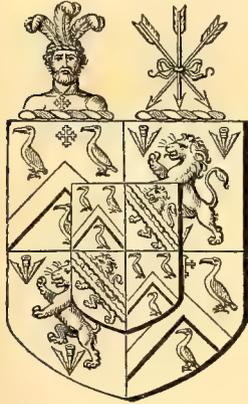
Crest. On a wreath a man's head affrontèe, couped at the shoulders, proper: round the temples a wreath, Argent and Gules, issuing therefrom, three ostrich feathers, Or; on the breast a cross crosslet, Sable.

2 and 3, Egerton. Crest, Egerton.

On an escutcheon of pretence:

1 and 4, Warburton, as before, without the cross crosslet, for difference.

2 and 3, Sable, a lion rampant, Argent, debruised of two bends engrailed, Or, for Croxton.



RALPH CROXTON, of Croxton Green, in Cholmondeley, buried at Malpas, Oct. 16, 1570.

MARGERY, dau. of ... buried at Malpas, March 9, 1563. = RANDLE CROXTON, of Croxton Green, in Cholmondeley. = ALICE, 2nd wife, buried at Malpas, April 4, 1584. RALPH CROXTON, of Croxton Green, in Cholmondeley, buried at Malpas, Oct. 2, 1592. ... dau. of ... buried at Malpas, Dec. 7, 1592. JAMES CROXTON, buried at Malpas, March 13, 1591.

HUGH CROXTON, of Croxton Green, in Cholmondeley, and of Gonsley, in Blackenhall, in the parish of Wybunbury, buried at Wybunbury, May 11, 1649. = ELEANOR, daughter of ... Merricke, married at Merbury, Oct. 9, 1609. A son, buried at Malpas, Dec. 21, 1592, aged 10 years.

JAMES CROXTON, of Croxton Green, and of Gonsley, in Blackenhall. = SARAH, daughter of ... Bromhall, of Sound. JAMES MARBURY, third son of Thomas Marbury, of Marbury, esq. baptized at Great Budworth, March 27, 1614. Entered a Commoner of Brasenose College, Oxon, May 17, 1631, instituted to the Rectory of Davenham, 1662, buried at Davenham, Nov. 20, 1678. = MARY, dau. of Geo. Spurstow, of Spurstow, co. Cest. esq. baptized at Bunbury, Feb. 7, 1635.

HANNAH and MARY CROXTON. REBECCA, wife of Robert Poole, of Blackenhall and Hatherton. SARAH, wife of John Onslow, of Onslow. HUGH CROXTON, 2nd son. HANNAH, daughter of Arthur Walley, alderman of Chester, ob. s. p. JAMES CROXTON, son and heir, baptized at Wybunbury, April 14, 1650, buried at St. Mary's, in Chester, July 25, 1707. JANE, dau. of John Gleave, of Chester and Pulford, buried at St. Mary's, 1700. ELIZABETH, died unmarried, July 1737. GEORGE, died in August 1716. MARGARET, daughter of ... Croxton, of the parish of St. John, in Chester, married Aug. 25, 1710. 2nd wife. JAMES MARY BURY, presented to the rectory of Davenham, 1681, died June 1725. ELIZABETH, dau. of ... Hough, married Dec. 4, 1683, died Sept. 1699. 1st wife.

DOROTHY, wife of James Gerrard, esq. of Wimbald's Trafford. JOHN, died an infant, 1681. JAMES CROXTON, son and heir, baptized 1685, buried 1755. ELIZABETH, daughter and coheir, born 1689. CATHERINE, born 1684, wife of Thomas Williams, of Stoke, esq. MARY, born June 1691, wife of ... Pledger. ELEANOR, born Feb. 1695, wife of Thomas Derbyshire, rector of Davenham.

JAMES CROXTON, ob. s. p. HUGH CROXTON, ob. s. p. GEORGE CROXTON, ob. s. p. JOHN CROXTON, esq. son and heir, baptized Aug. 7, 1712, buried anno 1766. MARY, daughter of Peter Hall, of Norley Hall, esq. JANE, wife of James Hayes, of Holyport, co. Berks, esq.

JOHN-JOSEPH CROXTON, second son, born 1759, died 1792, s. p. JAMES CROXTON, of Norley, esq. son and heir, born Sept. 9, 1751, died Aug. 7, 1792. EMMA, daughter of Sir Peter Warburton, of Warburton and Arley, bart. by Elizabeth, daughter of the right honourable Edward earl of Derby; sister and finally coheir of Sir Peter Warburton, bart. remarried and has male issue living, 1815. ELIZABETH, wife of George Fairclough.

EMMA, sole daughter and heiress of her father, wife of the Rev. Rowland Egerton, B. A. seventh son of Philip Egerton, of Egerton and Oulton, esq. who assumed the surname and arms of Warburton, in addition, by royal sign manual, on the death of Sir P. Warburton, 1813. Married, 1803.

ROWLAND-EYLES EGERTON-WARBURTON, son and heir apparent, born Sept. 14, 1804. 2. ENMA-ELIZABETH. 3. JAMES-FRANCIS. 4. HENRY-WILLIAM. 5. FRANCES-MARY. 6. MARIA-SYBILLA. 7. PETER.

Whitegate.

“BY a statute, 33 Hen. VIII. Whitegate was made a parish church (value 6l.) separate from Over, to have a vicar there in perpetual succession, &c. This church stood at the gate of the monastery of Vale Royal, and as it appears by a recital in the act, had been, time out of mind, before the dissolution of the monastery, made a parish church by authority of the pope, for the tenants of the monastery, and other persons dwelling upon its demesnes, and within its liberties, and for the other tenants of the monastery dwelling in Foxwist, Gaville (Galegreen), Salterswall, Over, Merton, the Brockhouses, and all other houses within the precincts of the parish of Over. By the same act it was ordered that it should hereafter be called the parish church of our blessed lady, the Virgin, of Whitegate, and that the vicar and his successors shall receive all tithes and other ecclesiastical dues, which, by custom of the realm, and laws ecclesiastical, ought to be paid by the aforesaid tenants and inhabitants, except only the tithe of corn, which is reserved to the king.”

36 Hen. VIII. The king granted to John Cokke, the rectory of Whitegate, and the advowson of the vicarage, which passed before 1597 to the Holcrofts, of Vale Royal, and from them to the Mainwarings, of Merton, who were patrons in 1625^s. The Cholmondeleys, of Vale Royal, obtained the same (most probably by purchase) before 1643, as appears by a presentation of that date. The impropriate rectory and the advowson are now vested in Thomas Cholmondeley, esq.

The living is an augmented vicarage, charged with tenths only. The value of augmentation, tithes, composition, and modus for tithes, Easter dues, and surplice fees, was returned in 1810, as amounting to 88l. 15s. 9d.

The parish comprehends Dernhall, Merton with Foxwist and Villaview, Hefferston Grange, (an insulated hamlet surrounded by Weverham parish,) and the lordship of the dissolved monastery of Vale Royal, with Gale, Salterwall, and Brockhouses. It is divided into two parts, Dernhall, and New-church; the first contains Dernhall, only; the second contains the rest of the parish before-mentioned with portions of the hamlets of Sandiway, and of Swanlow, the greater part of which hamlets are in Weverham and Over. In this parish are also the sites of Earnslow and Sutton Granges, and of the manors of Knights Grange, Conwardsley, and Bradford.

The antient church, dedicated to St. Mary, was composed of wood and plaister, and is described as being in a very ruinous condition in 1715, by bishop Gastrell.

The present church is a modern building, and does not contain any monuments or other matters worthy of notice.

The Registers commence in 1565.

VICARS OF WHITEGATE.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
.....	William Haywarde.	
1597, Sept. 21.	Hamo Perseval.	Thomas Holcrofte, esq.	Resig. of William Haywarde.
1643, Oct. 5.	Devereux Frogg.	Thomas Cholmondeley, esq.	
<p>^u “ Robert Markham, A. M. Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, (son of Rev. Ralph Markham, Rector of Tarporley,) afterwards D. D. and Rector of Whitechapel, succeeded the Rev. J. Eaton, as curate, in 1749. He held Whitegate, as curate, by licence, on the nomination of Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq. to the end of the year 1760, when he was succeeded by the Rev. Theophilus Meredith, on the nomination of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. aforesaid. He vacated it in 1770, when the Rev. Edmund Lally, the present incumbent, was also licensed to it, as curate, but in 1772, on the recommendation and by the advice of bishop Keene, was instituted as Vicar of Whitegate, on the presentation of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq.”</p>			

^q Gastrell, Notitia Cest.

^r Gastrell's Notitia Cest.

^r Harl. MSS. 2060.

^s Obligingly communicated by the Rev. Edmund Lally.

^s Webb's Itinerary.

THE MONASTERY
OF
St. Mary, of Vale Royal.

PRINCE Edward, eldest son of king Henry the Third, on his return from an expedition to the Holy Land, was on the point of suffering shipwreck in a dreadful storm, when he made a vow to the Virgin, that if she interposed her aid for the preservation of himself and his crew, he would found a convent on his return for a hundred monks of the order of the Cistercians. The vow, says the chronicle of Vale Royal, was instantaneously accepted, the vessel righted itself, and was miraculously brought safe into port: the sailors disembarked, and the prince landed last; on which the charm ceased, the vessel divided, and every fragment of the wreck vanished under the waters.

By the vicissitudes of war during the struggles with Simon de Montfort, prince Edward had become a prisoner to the rebellious barons at Hereford, in which he experienced a degree of kindness from the monks of Dore Abbey, which induced him to select them as the objects of his promised munificence. Accordingly, on the 5th of the ides of January, in 1273, a colony of them was removed to Dernhall, from whence, in eight years, they were again removed to Vale Royal, the site having been consecrated 9 kal. Aug. 1277, by Anianus, the second bishop of St. Asaph of that name. Its original name was Quettenne Halewes, and Munechene Wro; the new name had most probably a reference to that of the parent monastery, "Vallis Deaurata," as well as to the royal founder. The White Monks of Conway, who had been temporarily removed to Naenan, in Llanrwst, on the destruction of their monastery, in order to make room for the erection of the castle, were about this period incorporated with the monks of Vale Royal^u.

On the 2nd of August, 1277, Edward, now king of England, laid the first stone himself on the site of the high altar. An immense concourse of nobles, Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, Edmund, earl of Cornwall, John de Warren, earl of Surrey, William Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, Maurice de Croun, Otho de Grandison, John de Greyley, baron of Manchester, Robert Tiptoft, and Robert de Vere, laid stones after him, "in honour of Christ, the Virgin Mary, St. Nicholas, and St. Nicholas." Queen Eleanor laid two stones; one for herself, the other for her son Alphonso. Robert Burnet, bishop of Bath and Wells, and chancellor of England, joined the bishop of St. Asaph in the celebration of high mass.

At this important period of his history, the chronicler of Vale Royal cannot forbear asserting, that the exact site of the abbey had been foretold in its antient names, which he translates "sanctorum frumentum," and "monachorum silva:" that for ages before the building of the monastery, on the festivals of the Virgin, amidst the solitude that then reigned on its future

site, the shepherds had heard music and celestial voices, and had seen occasional radiance that changed the darkness to day: "nec in iis defuit sonitus campanarum!" He has also the hardiness to maintain, that old people, who had lived at the building of the fabric, had seen the holy pile, from turret to foundation stone, glittering in the night with a miraculous illumination, visible to the rest of the country at a surprising distance. This last instance of monkish fabling bears a strong resemblance to the traditionary stories connected with the chapel of Roslin.

The four earliest abbots resided in a temporary edifice near the sumptuous abbey which was erecting for their successors.

I. *John Chamneys* was first abbot, by whose perseverance and interest with the crown, the greatest part of the estates were gained to the abbey. He was succeeded by

II. *Walter de Hereford*, a man of noble deportment and high spirit, according to the chronicle of the abbey, which mentions his defeating a knight and his armed retainers who attempted to force a passage through the precincts of the abbey; and his appearance in the court of Chester, after some popular disturbances excited against the monks by the chief justice of Chester, where he pleaded his cause in person, after his attendants had fled, and obtained a favourable decision from the tribunal of his enemy. This abbot procured the exchange of Merton for the manor of Gayton, in the time of William Trussel, justice of Chester, 1301--1307.

III. *John de Hoo* was his successor, a man of infirm constitution, and hated by the inhabitants of the neighbourhood; which induced him to obtain a licence for resignation, which he effected accordingly, with permission of the visitor, the abbot of Dore.

IV. *Richard de Evesham*, fourth abbot, was an active servant of the monastery before his elevation to the abbacy, having once had his horse shot under him with arrows, when employed in the collection of tithes. The chronicler expatiates on his humility and his fastings, and illustrates his marvellous sanctity with stories of miracles, and apparitions of monks, that found their last shrift unavailing, and returned from the other world, to obtain a passport to bliss by confession before this holy abbot, whose benediction, in the blasphemous language of his encomiast, "ad cælum usque compulit evolare."

V. *Peter* was his successor, in 1327^x. Under this abbot, in the year 1330, the monks entered their new residence, on the feast of the Assumption, after the enormous expenditure of 32,000*l.* on the works of the abbey. Richard, abbot of Dore, celebrated the mass, at the jubilee held on this occasion. Peers, prelates,

^u Warrington's Wales. With the exception of the few authorities which are cited in the notes, this history of the abbey of Vale Royal is wholly compiled from the materials contained in the leger book of that abbey, of which an epitome is subjoined.

^x Communications of Browne Willis. Tanner's Notitia Monastica.

and all the neighbouring families were invited to a solemn feast, which was attended by so large a concourse of visitors that the abbey could scarcely contain them. This ceremony was followed by the consecration of the park of the abbey by Anthony Beck, bishop of Durham^y.

The hatred which had long been cherished against the abbey by its dependants now began to manifest itself in the most violent manner. In the leger book will be found at length instances of the height to which this rancour was carried as early as 1321, in which year it appears that the monks who ventured to pass their consecrated limits, were pursued by the Winningtons, Leghtons, and Bulkeleyes, and only saved their lives by flight; and in the same year, one still more atrocious instance occurs, by which it appears the Oldyntons murdered John Boddeworth, a monk of the abbey, and played at football with the head after the perpetration of the deed.

In 1329, the year before the completion of the abbey, the quarrels between Vale Royal and the natives of Dernhall were not settled without an appeal to arms, which ended in the submission of the offenders, with halters round their necks, and a severe amercement.

The year 1336, the tenth of Peter's abbacy, brought the disturbances to their head, and produced an exhibition of firmness and daring on the part of the poor distressed villains of the manor of Dernhall, scarcely credible, when the state of that race of men at the period we are speaking of is considered. The insurrection originated in the oppressive customs of the manor of Dernhall, of which an account will be found in that township. The leger book tells the proceeding with considerable inveteracy, and in a minute detail, of which the following is a faithful abstract.

At the time before-mentioned a crowd of the natives of Dernhall and Over fled to Hugh le Fren, justice of Chester, as he was travelling by Harebache Cross in the neighbourhood of the abbey, asserted themselves to be free tenants, and not vassals of the soil, and laid their complaints before him respecting the oppressions of the abbot. These proceedings terminated in the imprisonment of the ringleaders, by their lord, until a proper submission had been made. The spirit of the natives was not however lessened by the confinement; and under pretence of a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Thomas, at Hereford, they set out on an expedition to see the king in person; but this second attempt terminated likewise in imprisonment in the gaol of Nottingham, for some excesses which they had committed on the way.

A third attempt was more successful; and Adam Hyckyn, Henry Pymeson, John Christian, and Agnes his wife, succeeded in laying their grievances before the king in parliament in London, and obtained a command to Henry de Ferrars, justice of Chester, to enquire into the nature of their grievances and see justice done

to them. The abbot's charters were produced, and his claims substantiated, and he received directions to inflict such chastisement on his natives as might prevent any further trouble being given to the king in the business.

The justice of Chester had now become an object of their hatred, and the rustics succeeded in again laying an information before their sovereign at Windsor, that the justice was corrupted by a hundred pounds, which the abbot had raised by defrauding them, and a new precept was issued to prince Edward, duke of Cornwall and earl of Chester, to render his assistance in any possible way, to men labouring under such seemingly unjust oppression. Under this strong protection, thirty of the natives attended at Chester, and prevailed on lawyers to prefer their claims against the abbot, who likewise attended in person. Their success was the same as usual, and on losing their cause they fled with their families and goods, and threw themselves on the protection of queen Philippa, as the tenants of her son the duke of Cornwall. This application had the desired effect. The queen entered into their cause as a personal insult to her son, and addressed a letter to the abbot conceived in terms which compelled him to take an immediate opportunity of making his peace at the royal court, by the exhibition of the charters of his foundation, and the decisions of the justices of Chester.

The abbot was returning home through Rutlandshire, in the neighbourhood of Exton, when he perceived his way blocked up by his determined and exasperated tenantry, arranged under the command of sir William Venables of Bradwall, who had a personal quarrel with the abbot on his brother the baron of Kinderton's account. A skirmish immediately commenced, in which the attendant on the abbot's palfrey, William Fynche, was shot dead with an arrow, and the rustics maintained the contest with considerable success, until the rest of the abbot's attendants, under the direction of William Walensis and John Coton, rode up to his rescue, and effected it temporarily, but not without considerable bloodshed; the country, however, ("bestiales illi Rutlandiæ homines") was up in arms, and the abbot was dragged, "ignominiose satis," before the king, who was then at Stamford.

The decision against the natives was here confirmed for the last time, and John Waryng, John Parker, Henry Pym, Jack Blackden, Richard Blackden, Richard Bate, John Christian, jun. William Bate, John Christian of Ovre, Agnes his wife, Randle de Lutelovre, and William de Lutelovre, were indicted for the murder of William Fynche, before Geoffrey de Scrope, but were liberated with a forfeiture of all their goods to the abbot. The matter was here brought to its termination; the greater part submitted, and the rest were taken by Henry Done, forester of Delamere, at Hockenhull; all of them expiated their insurrection in the stocks and Weverham prison, and Henry Pym, the prime mover

^y A list of the presents made to the abbot for the feast, will be found in the Leger book, (cvi.)

Two dishes in this catalogue require some notice: the porpoises given by sir Peter Thornton, and the salmon presented by Richard Russel, of Chester. The first was reckoned a delicacy as late as the reign of Henry the Eighth, in whose household book it is directed, that "if the fish is too large for a horse-load, a further allowance must be made to the purveyor." *Archæologia*, III. 157. The second deserves notice from the price of the two fish, six shillings, where an ox is only rated at 13s. 4d. and the highest-priced buck at 4s. It has been said that this fish was so plentiful formerly at Chester, that restrictions were imposed upon the feeding apprentices improperly with it, in consequence of its cheapness. The tradition must be considerably weakened by this note of its price; and it appears that the fish was still dearer 28 Edw. I. when a man was sued for fishing in the king's part below the bridge, and the salmon taken averaged a mark each in value. *Harl. MSS.* 2020. 56.

The limits of this park are described as follows, in the leger book, p. 246:

"From a bar in the outer park called Wlgodre, along a deep trench, to the new grange of the convent, and a cross erected by the king on the original foundation, from thence to the Wever, and along the Wever to the park ditch, then along that ditch to the abbey mill, and upwards along the park fence to the bar aforesaid.

"All egress, except through the park gates, is strictly forbid; 'in contra venientes majoris excommunicationis sententiam solemniter fulminantur."

of the sedition, incurred a forfeiture of all his lands in Derahall, and was sentenced to offer up a wax taper, for the remainder of his life, in the church of Vale Royal, during the celebration of mass on the festival of the Assumption.

The next year, 1337, the abbot had to deal with malecontents of a higher stamp. Sir William Clifton^y, of Clifton and Westby, feeling himself aggrieved with the abbot's mode of gathering his tithes, forcibly obstructed his gatherers, overturned his wains, flogged his secretary through the streets of Preston, maimed the rector of Kirkham's hunting palfrey, and, to crown the whole, burst with his armed retainers into that church, and obstructed the celebration of the rite of baptism. In this quarrel the abbot also was triumphant, and the knight made atonement for his offences in a chapter of the order, before the abbot of Westminster.

The opposers of the abbey had no chroniclers, and the merits of the case rest altogether on the statement of their enemies. Of the character of the abbey about this period, one document remains in its own records, which is here printed entire^z. It is a precept to Richard Sutton and Urian de St. Pierre, in their office of serjeants of the peace^a, to arrest the abbot and several of his monks, who had been indicted for receiving and sheltering a gang of notorious burglars and banditti; and also to arrest one of the monks as a participator of their offences.

Upon this precept the serjeants report that the abbot and the other offenders keep within the limits, where they could not take them without an infringement on the liberties of the church; and the bailiff of Weverham appears at Chester, not to exculpate his master, but to produce the charter of Vale Royal as his security. An appeal is then made to the king, who directs the justiciary of Chester, Peter Tybtot^b, to observe that the privileges claimed by the abbot shall be respected. This confirmation doubtless procured the insertion of the infamous story in the registers.

It must, however, in justice to abbot Peter, be observed, that the event took place during the abbacy of Richard de Evesham, his predecessor, although this appeared the best place for its mention, as some excuse for sir W. Clifton and the poor vassals of Dernhall, and a proof that the monks were not "more sinned against than sinning."

VI. *Robert*, abbot of Vale Royal, 1342.^c

The year preceding this date he appears as receiver of the Cheshire rents of Roger, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, at Tarvin. Harl. MSS. 2072. 17.

VII. *Thomas*, abbot of Vale Royal, 1346,^d occurs, in the Leger Book, in 1364, as receiving the homage of John de Pole; and also, Aug. 1, 1366, as receiving the homage of Thomas Swettenham.^e

VIII. *Stephen*, incorrectly stated by Willis^f to be abbot in 1349. He occurs in the Leger Book, in 1373, as receiving the homage of Robert le Grosvenor^g, of Budworth, and survived to the year 1389, in which year he was a witness in the celebrated cause between Scroop and Grosvenor. In 1379 he was witness, along with the abbot of St. Werburgh, and the priors of Norton

and Birkenhead, to a grant of a chantry in the church of the hermit friars of the order of St. Augustin, in Warrington, to sir Thomas Dutton, made by William Eltonhead, prior of those friars.

IX. *Henry de Weryngton* occurs next, as abbot, in several fines, about the beginning of the reign of Hen. VI.

^hX. *William*, abbot of Vale Royal, received the homage of John Warde, for the manor of Woodford, Wednesday before the feast of St. Edm. 17 Hen. VI.

XI. *Thomas de Kirkham*, bishop of Sodor and Man. He occurs first in the Leger Book in 1440, 18 Hen. VI. and is again mentioned, 14 Kal. Feb. 1462, in an appointment of Richard de Winewyc, canon of Lincoln, Peter de Hakeness, and John de Kyrkby, as deputies sent to pope Urban V. to procure for the abbey of Vale Royal a ratification of the appropriation of the church of Lampadernvawr, in South Walesⁱ. 11th Dec. 30 Hen. VI. he received from the king a remission of a forfeiture of 20l. incurred for not appearing on his recognizance before the justiciary of Chester, being then travelling to the court of Rome^k. He died before 1475.

XII. *William Stratford*^l, his immediate successor, in the year last mentioned was joined in a commission with Elizabeth Rixton, prioress of the Chester nuns, and William Stanley, chamberlain of Chester, to settle a dispute respecting the tithes of Over.

XIII. *John Buckley*. He is called Butler by Willis, but his real name appears in a deposition relative to the tithes paid by Whitegate to the abbey, which recites the name of the three last abbots^m. This abbot commanded his tenantry in person, to the number of three hundred men, in the battle of Flodden, with the assistance of sir George Holford and John Bostock, esq.ⁿ

XIV. *John Harwood* succeeded to the abbacy in the hour of difficulty and danger, when the abbies were to receive the predicted "knocke of a kynge^o," and sink under the deadliness of the wound. He appears to have possessed parts and firmness that deserved a better fate, and would have been an aid to any cause where firmness could be effectual.

The process commenced with a visitation of the monasteries, by commissioners deputed by the king for that purpose, from one of whom, (Thomas Legh,) a letter is extant relative to the Cheshire abbies, complaining of the dissoluteness of the county, and of course referring it to the monastic institutions as the prime source of the evil, but no direct charge is brought against Vale Royal^p.

"That there lackythe nothyng but good and godly instruction of the rude and poor people, and reformation of the heddis in these p'tyes, for certeyn of the knights and gentilmen, and most com'only all, lyvythe so incontine'tly havng ther co'cubynes openly in ther houses, w^t v or vi of ther chyldren, putting from them ther wyfes, that all the contrey thereat be not a litill offendyd, and taketh evill example."

He mentions having been unable to attempt to reform many of them, the assizes having taken them from home, and applies for more instructions.

^y Vide Leger Book, xvii.

^a For an account of the nature of this office, vide the account of the Foresters of Delamere.

^b Justiciary of Chester, 1311.

^c Leger Book, lv. and lvii.

^d Leger Book, xcvi.

^e "My father, John Bostocke, esq. was at Floddyn Fyld, whear James Kynge of Skottes was slaine, and had a charge, with syr George Holforde, kt. under the abbot of the Vale Roial with 300 men. Harl. MSS. 139, 31.

^f Vision of Peirs Plowman.

^z In the abstract of the Leger Book, lxiv.

^g Willis in Tanner, Not. Mon.

^h Willis in Tanner, Not. Mon.

ⁱ Willis in Tanner, Not. Mon.

^k Enrollments.

^l Leger Book, xciv.

^m Leger Book, lviii.

ⁿ Ibid.

^o Ibid. xcv.

^p Harl. MSS. 2060, 208.

^q Original letter, Harl. MSS. 604. p. 56.

^aThis letter is dated the 22d of August, but no year is mentioned. It was followed by a demand from Cromwell of the cession of Darnhall, the chief support of the abbey, as their wheat land, to which the following answer was returned, stating the disposal of the lands of the monastery. It is obvious that the monks supposed Cromwell made the demand for his private enrichment, and they endeavour to propitiate him by a bribe less ruinous to the interests of the monastery.

“To the right honorable and my singulere good lord, my lord of the kinges most honorable prive sealle.

“Right honorable and my singulere good lord, in my most humble manere, that I can, I recomend me unto your good lordship, and pleseth it your good lordship, I have received your most honorable letters, dated at the Rolles the viiith day of March, whereby I do perseave it is your lordship’s pleasure to have the farm of Darnall, with the demeanes thereof, according to your former letters to me in that behalf directed, my answer thearunto made affoare time to your good lordship notwithstanding.

“And I do perseave by your laste letters, that your lordship is enforced, that I have in my hand the maner of Knighte, the maner of Bradford, the maner of Heffreston, the ferme of Conersley, besyde the demeasnes of my monastery, and also the personages of Frodsham, Weverham, Kirkham, and the tenth of Overe, and that they be sufficient to furnishe the monastery of corne and pasture.

“My lord, it is truth, the moast part of the grounds belonging Knighte, Bradford, and Conersley be let out to ferme for terme of yeares unto diveres of my tenants: and the foarsayd maner of Heffreston is let unto one person in farme; and as touching a great part of the tenths of Weverham and Frodsham, they are let out to sundry persons, for terme of yeares; and the whoale personage of Kirkham is let out to farm for many yeares; and I have not the tenthes of Overe, but in ferme of the prioress of the noones of Chestere at her will and pleasure; and moreover I have not in wheate, of the tyeth of the parish of Weverham and Frodsham yearly above xii bushels or thereabouts; and the most part of the demeasne ground of the abbey, is sound (sand) ground, and will bear no wheate.

“So that the substance of the finding of my house in wheate is gotten and had at the maner of Darnall; and without the said maner and demeanes I am not able to furnishe my house accordingly as I have written and advertysed your lordship by my other letters—wherefore, yf it might please your good lordship, that if thear be any other ground, that I have in my hande, that might please your good lordship to have, the same shall be at your pleasure during your lyffe, without any rent for the same, paying the premeses notwithstanding.

Now your good lordship knoweth the truth in the same, I am contented to accomplish your pleasure and commandement in the foaresayd maner and demeanes of Darnall, reserving the woode and waters, with the barne there to receive our sayd tythe of corn of Overe, and also all such ground, as is lett out by our convent sealle or otherwise, there, for terme of yeares to diveres persons.

“My lord, I most humbly beseech your good lordship, for the love of God and our blessed Lady, and for the mayntenance of good service, and pooare hospitaliteye to be kept in the house, which we are not able to do, as we do now, unless it may please your good lordship of your graciouse pettye to have good . . . elle and respect for us in the premesses—I am at your commandement and will in all thinges that I can do, to my lytell power; for in your good lordship is all my most single trust, and confydence under God, and the kyng our sovereign lord, as knowethe the Holly Goste, who evermore have your good lordship in his blessed keeping, with ogmentac’on and increase of honor.

“Scribled at Vale Royall, this xxi day of March,
by your humble, obedient and dayly oratour,
JOHN, Abbot of Vale Roial.

The compromise offered in this letter was rejected, and on the 7th of September, 30 Hen. VIII. a deed of surrender was completed, purporting to be signed by the abbot, Alexander Sedon the prior, and thirteen monks. In the Harl. MSS. is a fragment of an original letter, written by the abbot, from Lichfield, two days after, in which he roundly denies the authenticity of these signatures, and states himself to be coming to London as fast as his sickness would permit. It appears from this document that Holcroft, the subsequent grantee, was the principal agent in extorting or forging the deed of surrender. It is impossible to read the abbot’s simple and earnest protestations, without a high degree of compassion for the poor wretches on the brink of being turned out into a world they were so unfit to struggle with: and their rapine, their oppression, and their bigotry, are all lost for a moment in ideas that only turn in compassion to the hospitality, the alms, and the piety of Vale Royal.

^pThe letter most probably commenced with mentioning that Holcroft had shewn to — “me and my brethren, the kyng’s most graciouse as drad commysion, wherein his graciouse plesure was, that, for the gratuytye that his grace trusted in me and my brethren, that we wold clerelye of one consente surrendre into his graciouse honds o’ monast’ye, beyng of his most graciouse fundacion, and whereof your lordship is steuard. My good lord, the truthe is, I, nor my said brethren, have never consented to surrender our monast’y, nor yet doo, nor never will doo by our good willes, unles it shall please the kyng’s grace to giff to us commandement so to doo, which I can not p’ceve in the comission of maist’ Holcroft so to bee. And if any informacyon be giffon unto his magestye, or unto your good lordship, that we shulde consent to surrender as is above sayd, I assure your good lordship, upon my fideliteye and truthe, there was never non such consente made by me nor my brethren, nor no person nor persons had auctoriteye to do so in our names. Wherefore I humbly beseech your good lordship, in whom is my single trust under God and the Kyng’s mag’sstye, to be meane for us unto his grace, so that wee may continewe in our said monast’ye to pray for his most noble grace and your good lordship, which we shall dayly doo, according to our bounden duties, during our lyves. I assure your lordship I am cumyng upwards as fast as my sekenees will suffer me, to beseeche your lordship of charite to be good to our poor monastery. I send unto

^a The original is in the Bodleian Library, from which this copy was taken by Henry Latham, esq. B. A. of Brasenose College.

^p Harl. MSS. 604. 62.

your lordship the bill indented, made by me and my brethren, which, in presence of worshipfull men, I offered to m^r. Holcroft, which to take he refused. And thus o^r Lord God p^rserve your lordship in good helthe. Wrytten at Lychefylde the ix day of September,

By your pou^r bedeman,

JOHN, Abbot of Vale Royall."

"To the ryght honorable S^r Thomas Cromwell, Lord Cromwell, Lord pryve sealle, and chefe Secretarye to the Kynge's Hyghenes."

Harwood's journey, as might be expected, failed in attaining its object, but his resolution remained unshaken, and a capital indictment was the only resource of his enemies. The jurisdiction of the abbey court afforded an easy opportunity of gratifying their wishes, and lord Cromwell, the seneschall of the abbey, presided in person, at a court held at Vale Royal on the Monday after the feast of the Annunciation, 30th Hen. VIII. in which fourteen jurors found a bill against the late abbot and others for the following offences.

"That John Harwood, late abbot of the monastery of our Blessed Ladi of Vale Royal, consented to the slaying of Hughe Chaliner his monke, and that the day before the said monkes throat was cut, the saide monke saide unto a childe, being his brother's son, of xii yeares of age or thereabouts, that he, the said monke, would be with his brother at Chestore, before the Assumption of our Blessed Lady then next after, or else he said he should suffer death, if he tarried any longer in the said monasterie.

"And furthermore the sayde jury sayth that the sayde late abbot sayde unto Richard Nightingale, that if the sayde Richard Nightingale wolde go in the Kynge's warres, at the tyme of the insorectyon, that he should syt in no house of his, nor that he wold not take hym for hys tenant, nor do the kynge's grace service at his putting.

"And further the sayde jury sayth, that the tenant asked the sayd abbot who should be their captain at the said insorection, and he answered and said unto them, that it made no matter for them, for they shold do no service to the kynge his Grace, for no house of his nor at his bidding; and if that Peter Dutton, knight, and Hughe Starkey, esquier, had not byne, the sayde abbot woulde have caste certen of them into prison.

"Furthermore the sayde Jury sayth, that when there came a license to the vicker of Weram, for towe poore persons to marry together, from the officere of our most soverayne lord the kynge, supreme head, under God, of the Chorche of England, the sayd vicker sayd, at that time, that the sayd license was not lawful, and caste it away in despite, and over sayd that the kynge's grace was not lawfully married.

"Furthermore the sayde Jury sayth that Roger Harwood, brother to the late abbot, in the tyme of the insorection, asked of one William Robinson, of the lordship of Weram, and of others, what tydings? and the sayde Robinson and others sayde to him, none; and then the said Roger sayd to them, I can shewe to you good tydinge, for the commons be uppe; and sayd that the kynge's good grace did overpresse his poor commons.

"And the Jury sayd that Roger Bromfield, and others, his father's servants and partakers, tooke and led away out of the Haywoode, certein loade of woode and where John Cowper, baylyfe of Overe and Weram did arreste to the kynge's good graces use; and that Ralphe Bostocke is a common hontere within the libertyes."

The copy of the original inquisition from which this is transcribed⁴, is preserved in the Bodleian, and appears to have been written with a view of conveying to Thomas Holcroft the earliest intelligence of the final success of his machinations against the abbot; it is indorsed:

"To my brother, Thomas Holcrofte, be thes d'd with speede."

Cheshire tradition has given to the story the tragical catastrophe which might naturally be expected from the protracted resistance of the abbot, and these formidable preparations; and has grounded thereupon the fulfilment of one of the prophecies of Nixon. Willis states^r that the final consummation of his injuries was spared the poor abbot, who was allowed to retire on an inconsiderable annuity; but, from an examination of the pension roll of the reign of queen Mary, (from which the part relating to Vale Royal is subjoined to this article^s) the statement of Willis appears to be incorrect, as the name of the abbot is omitted in this document, and no notice whatsoever is taken of him or his convent in the earlier roll of the time of Hen. VIII.^t

The ruin of the house was now finally accomplished, and the distribution of its possessions quickly followed. Of its Cheshire estates, Darnall, with its appendages^v, was granted, 33 Hen. VIII. to sir Rowland Hill, knt. and merchant of the city of London. In the same year^u, March 7, the site of Vale Royal, with the granges of Conersley, Bradford, Ernesley, and Merton, Petty Poole Hill and Dam, and Bradford Mylne in the parish of Whitegate, Heffreston. Grange and Onston Mylne in Weverham, Ernesley house in Weverham and Whitegate, and the Pool of Oakmere, were granted to Thomas Holcroft, an esquire of the body, for the sum of 450l. 10s. 6d. subject to the reserved rent of 3l. 5s. 8d. payable to the court of augmentation of the king's revenue.

^wIn the 37th of the same reign, Aug. 1, the manors of Weverham and Over, with all their privileges, were granted to the same, now sir Thomas Holcroft, subject to the rent of 10l. 0s. 4d. in consideration of the sum of 464l. 10s. 10d. and the manor of Cartmell given in exchange by sir Thomas.

The impropriation and advowson of Frodsham were given to the dean and chapter of Christ Church, Oxon, and the impropriation and advowson of Weverham to the bishopric of Chester.

The revenues were valued, 38 Hen. VIII. at 548l. 4s. 11d. and in another special valuation, at 540l. 6s. 2d.

Thus fell the abbey of Vale Royal, the abbot of which, for nearly three centuries, had maintained a style of splendour equal to that of many powerful barons. Like them he had his seneschall and his under seneschal, the former of which offices was filled, as an office of honour, by Cromwell himself at the Reformation. The ordinary law of his court was administered by a coroner, and the bailiffs of Over and Weverham, in whom a capital jurisdiction was vested, with the

⁴ By H. Latham, esq. B. A. of Brasenose College.

^s Obligingly communicated by H. Ellis, esq. Sec. S. A.

^v Leicester MSS. 2060. Harl. MSS. 164. being copies of grants in the Augmentation Office.

^r Willis's Mitred Abbies.

^t From the information of John Catey, esq. F. S. A.

^u Ibid. 165

^w Ibid. 162.

powers of "Infangtheof and Outfangtheof," equally serviceable in screening his own vassals from whatever enormities they might commit, and of subjecting to the abbot's vengeance, without possibility of appeal, all trespassers on his privileges within the limits which the charter had assigned him. He had his page to attend upon him in the abbey, and his palfreyman to hold the reins of his horse on his journies, in which, from the account of the skirmish in Rutlandshire, he appears to have travelled with a powerful retinue, and to have been attended by considerable families of the county. The names of Coton and Walensis, or Hooton, appear in this instance, and, at another time, we find the families of Holford and Bostock, serving under his orders at the battle of Floddon.

The abbot of Dore was visitor, and on each visitation received xxxs. ivd. for his travelling expenses, a quarter of a mark for each of his chaplains, and 1s. for each of his other attendants.

There is nothing now remaining that can be referred with probability to the original abbey, but a few doorways in the offices, of a style anterior to the additions by the Holcrofts. Parts of the ancient walls and gates of the abbey were removed by the present proprietor. A name attached to one spot preserves the site of the high altar, and another, called the nun's grave, indicates a place where most probably some inmate of the Chester priory wished to be interred, from a confidence in its superior sanctity. The antient road from the abbey to Northwich, now disused, sweeps over some of the hollows near the monastery with a mound worthy of the workmanship of a Roman legion.

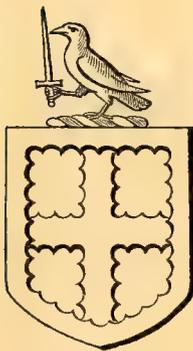
The situation is in every thing contrary to what it is described in Warton's elegy, who speaks of Edward diffusing "His crowded spires on the broad mountain's brow," and the illuminated windows "high o'er the trackless heath at midnight seen." It is, in fact, seated in a deep valley on the immediate banks of the Weever, now confined by artificial limits, but formerly spreading a wide surface over the ground, which presents a range of luxuriant meadows. The oak thrives well in the vicinity, being sheltered from the injuries of the sea breezes; and, at the period of the foundation, when the woods descended from the heights of the neighbouring forest in thickets of natural growth, there is no doubt, if the taste of the inhabitants bore any analogy to the rules of the order they professed, that the whole scene was as solemn and sequestered as any that could be selected for the residence of a Cistercian.

Sir Thomas Holcroft, the grantee of Vale Royal, was second son of John Holcroft, of Holcroft Hall, near Leigh, in Lancashire. He owed his fortunes to his situation as an esquire of the body to king Henry the Eighth, and was one of the Cheshire gentlemen who were knighted at Leith, in Scotland, in 1544. The Vale Royal estate continued in his family two generations, and was sold, A.D. 1616, 15 Jac. I. to Mary lady Cholmondeley, widow of Sir Hugh Cholmondeley of Cholmondeley, and daughter and sole heir of Christopher Holford, of Holford, esq. called by king James, who visited her here in 1617, "The Bold Ladie of Cheshire^x."

HOLCROFT OF VALE ROYAL.

From the Visitation of 1613, and the Whitegate Registers.

ARMS:—Arg. a cross engrailed Sable, within a border engrailed of the second. Crest, on a wreath a raven proper, the dexter claw raised, and brandishing a sword proper, pomelled Gules.



JOHN HOLCROFT, of Holcroft, co. Lancast. esq. — MARGARET, daughter and coheir of Hamlet Massey, of Rixton, co. Lanc. gent.

Sir JOHN HOLCROFT, of Holcroft, kt. son and heir, married Anne, daughter of Ralph Standish, of Standish, esq.; left issue.

Sir THOMAS HOLCROFT, kt. 2d son, grantee of the dissolved monastery of Vale Royal, 33 H.VIII. Marshall to Q. Mary. bur. at Weverham.

JULIANA, daughter and heiress of Nicholas Jennings, Ald. of London, died at V.R. 13 July 1595, bur. at Whitegate, Aug. 25, 1595.

WILLIAM HOLCROFT, clerk, presented to the vicarage of Weverham, of Poulton, Ap. 6, 1557.

JANE, wife of Henry Manley, of Poulton.

ISABEL LA. — EDWARD MANNERS, 3d Earl of Rutland, who died in London, 14 April 1597.

ELIZABETH, daughter of sir Edward Fitton, of Gawsworth, kt. ob. at Vale Royal, 15 Aug. 1595, bur. at Whitegate 26 Aug.

Sir THOMAS HOLCROFT, of Vale Royal, kt. son and heir, one of the privy chamber, living 1613.

ELIZABETH, daughter and sole heir of Sir William Reyner, kt. of Overton Longueville co. Hunts, died at Vale Royal, 28 Jan. 1611-12, bur. at Overton Longueville.

HENRY TALBOT, 4th son of George Talbot, sixth Earl of Shrewsbury.

ELIZABETH MANNERS, only daughter and heir, died 11th May, 1591, wife of William Lord Burleigh, first son of Thomas Cecil, first Earl of Essex, by whom she had issue William Lord Roos, only son, who died at Naples s. p. June 27th, 1618.

THOMAS HOLCROFT, esq. son and heir, living at the visitation of 1613.

MARY TALBOT, second daughter and co-heiress.

GERTRUDE, 1st daughter and co-heiress, wife of R. Perpoint, 1st E. of Kingston, son of Henry Perpoint, of Holme Perpoint, Notts.

By *Inq.* 1 Car. I. lady Cholmondeley died seized (*inter alia*) of the site of the late dissolved monastery of Vale Royal, with messuages, gardens, 2460 acres of land, free warren, goods and chattels of felons and fugitives, wayfes and strays in Vale Royal, Bradford, Conwarsley, Sutton, Weverham, Over, Merton, and Whitegate, and common of all kinds on Delamere; all of which, except a place called New Bottoms, she had given 16 Jan. 21 Jac. I. to Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. her fourth son, and his heirs male, held by the tenth part of a knight's fee.

From this period, the dissolved monastery of Vale Royal has lineally descended to Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. the present proprietor, who also inherits from Thomas

Cholmondeley, son of lady Cholmondeley, the manor of Over; and from Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. his father, the manor of Knights Grange; and has himself added to these estates, by a recent purchase, the estate of Merton Grange. By these successive acquisitions, nearly the whole property of Vale Royal Abbey, in the parishes of Over and Whitegate, with the exception of the granges of Darnall and Hefferston, is now vested in this branch of the family of Cholmondeley.

The present house of Vale Royal consists of a centre, with two projecting wings of red stone; the right wing is continued behind the centre. The first story of this continuation is composed of wood and plaister, and has been added by the Holcrofts; the basement of stone

^x A. D. 1617. The same daye, the 21st daye of Auguste, being Thursdaye, King James came to Vale Royall, and there kept his court untill Mondaye after. Whitegate Register.

seems, from the doors and windows, to be a fragment of the old abbey. It appears, from some old plans, to have been the intention of the Holcrofts to have extended the corresponding wing in a similar manner, thereby forming an enormous H, most probably in allusion to the name. With the exception of the part of one wing, before mentioned, all was rebuilt by the Holcrofts in the time of Elizabeth, if the style of the architecture may be relied on for the date. The original fabric was lighted by large bay windows, which, in the centre, projected on brackets: the length of front was broken by several towers; and a magnificent flight of steps ascended to the great hall, which occupied nearly the whole first floor of the centre. The present proprietor has removed the steps and towers, considerably shortened the wings, and opened large windows between the pilasters, which, in some previous alterations, had been affixed to the walls. By these alterations, every thing that bore the semblance of an abbey is completely removed; but, as it is approached through a well-timbered ground, it bursts upon the eye in a manner peculiarly striking, and borrows from the extent of front a dignity which compensates for the disproportionate lowness of the elevation, and the disadvantages of its flat situation.

The present entrance is by a large porch in the centre of the front, from which a long corridor leads to a flight of stairs ascending into an anti-room, hung round with antlers of various animals, and a variety of ancient weapons. The windows here, as in the corridor below, are filled with a profusion of stained glass, of coats of the Cheshire families, painted in the antient manner, on damasked grounds. This glass was formerly in Utkinton Hall, and afterwards in the rectory-house of Tarporley, and is copied in Cole's MSS. in the British Museum. From this room, a door opens to the eating-room; and a corresponding one leads through a long gallery, over the old wing, to the sleeping apartments. On the other side, is situated the great hall, beyond which are the library and drawing-rooms. This magnificent hall, now used as the principal living-room, is upwards of seventy feet in length, with a coved roof, supported by carved ribs of oak, in the style of the seventeenth century, and superior to most college halls. It is hung round with family portraits, of which the following list contains the principal ones that are to be found in this, and the other apartments.

In the dining-room, Thomas Cowper, of Overlegh, esq. king's counsel and recorder of Chester, by Gainsborough, and sir Willoughby Aston, of Aston.

In the passage leading to the sleeping rooms. King Charles, putting on his cap for execution, by Dunning, 1649; and an antient painting of two ladies, said to be born and married on the same day, represented with children in their arms, and long yellow hair. In one of the sleeping rooms Thomasin of Tarvin, the celebrated penman.

Great Hall. The first lord and lady Londonderry, of

the Pitt family, on each side the door. Over the door, the first lord viscount Savage. Miss Mainwaring, sister of Arthur Mainwaring, the poet, whose mother was a Cholmondeley. Sir Lionel Tollemache, bart. father of Jane, wife of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. and lady Tollemache. Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, the younger, in a dress of green silk, with a large worked ruff. Lady Mary Cholmondeley his wife, the Bold Ladie of Cheshire. Queen Elizabeth. Lord Roos, supposed to be poisoned at Naples: his mother, Elizabeth, lady Burleigh. Sir Richard Myddleton, of Chirk Castle. Francis Cholmondeley, esq. a younger son of the first Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal. Anne, sister of Henry lord viscount St. John, and second wife of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. aged 84: she died anno ætatis 92, 1742. Thomas Pitt, esq. governor of St. George, in the East Indies (commonly called Diamond Pitt,) with the diamond in his hat. Catherine Cholmondeley, countess of Leinster. John Minshull, of Minshull, and his lady. One of the Cholmondeleys, of Holford. Seymour Cholmondeley, esq. A duke of Somerset; by Rubens. James the Second; by sir Peter Lely: and Charles the Second, by the same.

The county of Chester first possessed the right of deputing two knights, as representatives of the shire, to the English parliament, in 1542. Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, the common ancestor of the houses of Cholmondeley and Vale Royal, was elected as representative in 1585, from which period to the present generation, each successive descent of his family has furnished a county member. Robert Cholmondeley, his eldest son, afterwards created earl of Leinster, was elected M. P. for the county in 1625.

Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. of Vale Royal, grandson of sir Hugh, filled the same office, on the death of Peter Venables, baron of Kinderton, in 1669, to which his son Charles Cholmondeley, esq. was elected in 1710; his grandson, Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. in 1756; and his great grandson, the present Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. in 1796; in which office he continued to the dissolution of the last parliament.

Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. fourth son of sir Hugh, and founder of the Vale Royal family, was distinguished as a loyalist^d, in the great rebellion; and after many privations, compounded for 450l. His eldest son Thomas, first of this line that represented the county, was sheriff at the restoration, and was continued in the office the year following, and was one of the gentlemen whose names were inscribed on the list of the intended knights of the order of the Royal Oak. In elections and all political matters, he was violently opposed by sir John Crewe, of Utkinton, the head of the opposite party in the county. Sir John, as will be further mentioned under Utkinton, was in the habit of writing in his diary the characters of his contemporaries, and the note subjoined, is a faithful copy of the character which he has given of his constant antagonist^d. From the insertion of his name in the list

^y The vignette at the end of this account of Vale Royal, copied from an antient drawing in the possession of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. represents it in its original state as a manor house. It was subsequently plundered by the Oliverians, in the civil war. A beautiful gold salver, with the arms of Lady Cholmondeley, enamelled, is the only piece of plate which escaped. On this occasion a white cow, with red ears, is said to have returned, from a considerable distance, after breaking from the plunderers; and, in that time of disturbance, to have been so useful to the inmates, that its descendants have ever since been carefully preserved. Whatever may be the truth of the tradition, it is certain that a race of the same kind exists, at Vale Royal, to the present day. They bear some resemblance to the wild cattle of Lyme Park in this county, and of Gisburne Park in Yorkshire.

^z Daughter and heir of Edward, third earl of Rutland, by Isabel, daughter of Sir Thomas Holcroft. It is supposed that these pictures were left by the Holcrofts.

^a The losses sustained by him from the parliament soldiers quartered at Vale Royal amounted to 348l. 2s. Harl. MSS. 2136. 209.

^b Transcribed by Dr. Cowper, of Overlegh, from the autograph of sir John Crewe, of Utkinton, and communicated by the late Dean of Chester.

^c Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. died at his seat, Vale Royal, on the 26th of February 1701-2, being about 74 years of age. He was a proper handsome gentleman, of a strong constitution, of good natural parts, and of a solid judgment; he was a kind husband, an indulgent parent, a



C. Heath, sculpt.

London, Feb. 1841. Published by W. Colburn, & Co.,

VALLEY HOUSE, &c.

Geo. D. Roberts, delin.



of benefactors to the library of Brasenose, that college has a fair claim to rank him among her members.

To the same college we may likewise refer, from an inscription on some college plate, his brother Francis Cholmondeley, esq. also a member of parliament in the time of king William, a friend of Addison, and other eminent literary characters of the day. He is stated by Oldmixon to have been committed to the Tower as a non-juring member of the House of Commons. During this confinement his studies took a religious turn, and the ardour with which he attended to his theological pursuits is attested by an extensive collection of divinity, still remaining in the library at Vale Royal, illustrated by him with laborious MS. notes and interlineations. In Dr. Madan's translation of Grotius de Veritate, from which these particulars are taken, may be found two interesting letters of Mr. Francis Cholmondeley respecting the attachment of that eminent and pious man to the principles and doctrines of the church of England.

Whilst these sheets were going through the press, it has become the melancholy duty of their author to add one other name to the bead-roll of departed worth, that of Hugh Cholmondeley, B. D. F. S. A. dean of Chester, fourth son of Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq. by his wife Dorothy, daughter and heiress of Edmund Cowper, of Overlegh, esq.

The Dean was born at Vale Royal, Dec. 18, 1772, and was educated, like his predecessors, at the college of Brasenose, where he was elected to a fellowship, on sir John Port's foundation, April 21, 1796. In five years following he was presented by the late Thomas Drake, esq. to the curacy of Harthill, and then conceived the idea of devoting his leisure to a history of his native county, having inherited from his maternal ancestors a strong taste for the study of antiquities, together with some very valuable local collections. In addition to these he procured the loan of many of the principal county documents, and made considerable progress in the examination of the neighbouring registers; but, much to the loss of the county, proceeded no farther with an undertaking for which he was peculiarly qualified by habits of minute accuracy, and by general knowledge as a genealogist, in which he was surpassed by few professional heralds. Of this the following pedigree, drawn up by himself, will furnish abundant evidence.

On July 13, 1804, Mr. H. Cholmondeley was instituted to the rectory of Barrow, near Chester, on the presentation of the present Marquis of Cholmondeley, thereby vacating his Brasenose fellowship; and on the 24th of February, 1806, he succeeded Dr. Cotton

in the deanery of Chester; a situation which, from local associations, had a value in his eyes which could, perhaps, only have been increased by the consideration that it was the gift of his near kinsman, the immortal Pitt.

In addition to these preferments, he received from his chapter, May 19, 1808, the rectory of Tarporley, which he held, with his other livings, to the time of his decease.

Between this place and Chester, he afterwards divided his residence, most usefully employed in the discharge of his own professional duties and those of an active and impartial magistrate. His bounty was extended to all the public charities of the city of Chester, to which he superadded those unremitting and constant exertions of care and personal superintendance which far exceed all pecuniary beneficence.

When he first succeeded to the deanery, many nuisances existed in the cathedral, from long indiscriminate access; the substantial parts were on the verge of decay, and many beautiful specimens of architecture, of a date as early as that of the original Norman foundation, were obscured by piles of rubbish; these nuisances were almost instantaneously done away with, the material parts of the fabric were restored as substantially as the slender funds of the chapter admitted; and many ornamental repairs and decorations were effected, which reflect the highest credit on his science and taste.

Such are a few of the more public points in the character of this lamented individual, drawn with a pen unequal to the task; but ill would a much more able one succeed in depicting those private traits which endeared him to his friends, and can only be duly appreciated by actual remembrance. Deeply, indeed, are they imprinted on the memory of him, who had hoped to have borne a grateful testimony to living merit, by acknowledging his exertions in behalf of a work, of which he himself had once meditated the performance, and to which, in humbler hands, he gave an aid, most valuable in its real importance, and rendered doubly gratifying by his ardent zeal and disinterested friendship.

The health of the dean sunk gradually under the attacks of consumption, and he expired at the rectory house of Tarporley, on the 25th of November, 1815, from whence he was removed for interment to the family vault at Church Minshull, where he requested a plain inscription, containing only the dates of his birth and death, and his successive preferments, might be erected to his memory.

loving and affectionate master; a cryed-up landlord, a constant and generous housekeeper; he got esteem without seeking it, and without pride; a good justice of the peace, patiently giving ear to all who came before him; a very faithful trustee, and careful in those matters in which he was employed, more than any one of his time; he was of a generous disposition, of an universal affability; a composer of differences, apt to do kindnesses to his countrymen, remarkable for his temperance, liberality, and hospitality.

"He was the first high sheriff king Charles the Second made after his restoration, and was continued in that great trust the space of two years; he was a knight of this shire in the seventeen years parliament till it ended; and was afterwards chosen again in king James's parliament, being all that time a deputy lieutenant and justice of the peace.

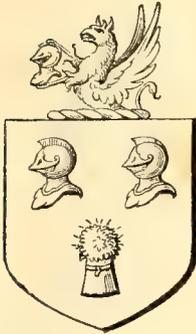
"His father was an immediate branch of the noble family of Cholmondeley, de Cholmondeley, being the third son of the last sir Hugh, whose eldest son Robert was created baron of Wich-Malbank (i. e. Namptwich), viscount Kelles, and earl of Leinster, in Ireland. Of this ancient house, another sir Hugh was, for his valour, knighted at Leith, in Scotland, which said sir Hugh Cholmondeley, was five times high sheriff of Cheshire, and sometime of Flintshire; one of the two only deputy lieutenants of Cheshire; also vice-president of the marches of Wales; and justly esteemed the father of his country for fifty years.

"The deceased Thomas Cholmondeley was no less in esteem of his country than was his ancestor sir Hugh aforesaid; and, had he not lived in times of difficulties and divisions, he had been the most popular commoner at home or abroad in his times.

JOHN CREWE."

CHOLMONDELEY OF VALE ROYAL.

Communicated by the Very Reverend HUGH CHOLMONDELEY, B. D. F. S. A. late Dean of Chester, and compiled by him from Parochial Registers.



ARMS.—Gules, 2 Esquires' helmets proper in chief, garnished Or. in base a garb Or.
CREST.—A demi-griphon rampant Sable, beaked, winged, and membered Or. grasping an Esquire's helmet, proper, garnished Or.

Sir HUGH CHOLMONDELEY, of Cholmondeley, born 1552, M. P. co. Cest. 1585, knighted on the Spanish Invasion 1588, sheriff of Chesh. 1589, died at Cholmondeley, July 23, buried at Malpas, August 18, 1601.
MARY, sole daughter and heiress of Christopher Holford, of Holford, esq. born at Holford, baptized at N. Peover, Jan. 20, 1562-3, died at Vale Royal, August 15, 1625, buried at Malpas, August 16, 1625.

ROBERT CHOLMONDELEY, of Cholmondeley, son and heir, born at Crouchend near Highgate, co. Middlesex, June 17, 1584, created a bart. June 29, 1611, sheriff co. Cest. 1620-1. M. P. co. Cest. 1625, created Viscount Cholmondeley of Kellis in Ireland, 1628, Baron Cholmondeley of Wich Malbank in England, Sept. 1, 1645, and Earl of Lemsster in Ireland, March 5, 1646, died at Cholmondeley, Oct. 8, 1659, bur. at Malpas, Oct. 8, 1660.	CATHERINE, dau. of John lord Stanhope, of Harrington, ob. Aug. 17, 1587, bapt. Aug. 28, 1587, bur. at Malpas, July 3, 1657. s. p.	HATTON CHOLMONDELEY, 2d son, born at Islington, Aug. 17, 1587, bapt. Aug. 28, 1587, died in London, s. p.	HUGH CHOLMONDELEY, of Knight's Grange, esq. 3d son, born at Holford, baptized at N. Peover, July 24, 1591, died at Bodville Castle, Sept. 11, 1655, buried at Malpas. Ancestor of the Marquis of Cholmondeley.	MARY, daughter of sir John Bodville, of Bodville Castle, knt. co. Caernarv.	FRANCIS, 5th son, died young.	THOMAS CHOLMONDELEY, of Vale Royal, esq. 4th son, born at Holford, March 2, 1594-5, sheriff co. Cest. 1638, died at Vale Royal, Jan. 3, 1652-3, buried at Minshull, Jan. 3, 1652-3.	ELIZABETH, sole dau. and heiress of John Minshull, esq., by Frances, dau. of John Egerton, of Egerton and Oulton, kt. died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, Sept. 25, 1661.	MARY, wife of sir George Calveley, of Lea, knt.	LETTICE, wife of sir Richard Grosvenor, of Eaton, 1st bart. buried at Eccleston, Jan. 20, 1611-12.	FRANCIS, wife of Peter Venables, esq. 1st baron of Kinclerton, ton.
THOMAS CHOLMONDELEY, of Holford, esq.										

HUGH, 1st son, died young.	JOHN, 2d son, born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, June 27, 1626, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Malpas, Sept. 18, 1627.	ROBERT, 4th son, born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, June 27, 1630, died at Vale Royal, Sept. 4, 1652, buried at Minshull, Sept. 9, 1658.	HUGH, 5th son, born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, Oct. 23, 1631, died at Vale Royal, Sept. 23, 1631, buried at Minshull, Jan. 29, 1635-6.	FRANCIS, 6th son, born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, Jan. 10, 1635-6, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, July 3, 1713, s. p. Brasenose Coll. Oxon.	RICHARD, 7th son, born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, Feb. 5, 1636-7, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, Oct. 6, 1648. 1st wife.	JANE, dau. of sir Lionel Talmache, of Helmingham, co. Suffolk, kt. died at Vale Royal, April 14, 1666, bur. at Minshull, Ap. 18, 1666.	THOMAS CHOLMONDELEY, of Vale Royal, esq. 3d son, born at Vale Royal, Sep. 15, bapt. at Whitegate, Sep. 23, 1627, sheriff of Chesh. 1660 and 1661, M. P. co. Cest. 1669, died at Vale Royal, Feb. 26, 1701-2, bur. at Minshull, Mar. 2, 1701-2.	ANNE, eldest dau. of sir Walter St. John, of Battersea, bart. born 1650, marr. in the Chart. House Chapel, May 20, 1684, died at Henbury, co. Cest. Dec. 1, bur. at Minshull, Dec. 1742. 2nd wife.	MARY, 1st dau. born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, Jan. 11, 1628-9, wife of sir Thos. Myddelton, of Chirk Castle, co. Denbigh, kt. are now extinct. s. p.	ELIZABETH, 2nd dau. born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, Jul. 7, 1633, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, Dec. 14, 1666. s. p.	KATHERINE, 3d dau. born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, marr. at Whitegate, Feb. 4, 1657-8, to Chas. Mainwaring, of Ightfield, esq. whose issue are now extinct.
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ROBERT CHOLMONDELEY, esq. son and heir apparent, born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, Oct. 22, 1651, bur. at Minshull, Dec. 16, 1679, marr. at Hodnet, co. Salop. Ap. 6, 1675, Elizabeth, dau. of sir Henry Vernon, of Hodnet, bart. by whom he had Elizabeth, sole dau. and heiress, bapt. at Whitegate, July 3, 1676, mar. there Ap. 4, 1700, to John Atherton, of Atherton, esq. Had issue.	THOMAS, 2nd son, born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, Aug. 31, 1658, bapt. at Whitegate, Jan. 29, 1660, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, Dec. 16, 1659.	JOHN, 3d son, born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, May 15, 1662, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, Feb. 6, 1660-1.	HUGH, 4th son, born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, May 13, 1662, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, Aug. 10, 1664.	FRANCIS, 5th son, born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, Aug. 23, 1663, marr. at Whitegate, Sept. 1, 1663, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, July 2, 1664.	ELIZABETH, 1st dau. born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, March 9, 1652-3, marr. at Whitegate, Sept. 9, 1675, to sir Thos. Vernon, of Hodnet, bart. buried at Minshull, June 19, 1676. s. p.	CATHERINE, 2nd dau. born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, Aug. 17, 1654, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, Aug. 6, 1655. s. p.	JANE, 3d dau. born at Vale Royal, Oct. 18, 1655, bapt. at Whitegate, Nov. 6, 1655, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, July 30, 1681. s. p.	MARY, 4th dau. born at Vale Royal, May 2, 1657, bapt. at Whitegate, May 12, 1657, wife of John Egerton, of Egerton and Oulton, esq. o. s. p.	ANNE, 6th dau. born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, Oct. 17, 1659, bur. at Minshull, Oct. 22, 1659. Had issue.	DIANA, 7th dau. born at Vale Royal, bapt. at Whitegate, Ap. 14, 1666, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, Ap. 18, 1666.	ARTHUR MAINWARING, born at Ightfield, Jul. 9, 1662, bapt. there July 23, died at St. Alban's, Nov. 13, and was buried at Chertsey, Nov. 18, 1712. See his life and works, published by John Oldmixon.
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SEYMOUR CHOLMONDELEY, 4th son, born at Vale Royal, May 10, and baptized at Whitegate, May 20, 1690, married Nov. 1728, JANE, eldest daughter of John 1st lord Ashburnham, widow of Rob. Cholmondeley, of Holford, esq. died at Astle, buried at Nether Peover, July 24, 1739, having had issue, Anne, who died an infant, buried at Nether Peover, Jan. 14, 1732.	3d son, still born, at Vale Royal, May 14, 1687, buried at Whitegate, May 15, 1687.	St. JOHN CHOLMONDELEY, born at Vale Royal, May 1, 1686, baptized at Whitegate, May 20, 1686, died at Vale Royal, bur. at Minshull, Feb. 5, 1686-7.	CHARLES CHOLMONDELEY, of Vale Royal, esq. born at Vale Royal, Jan. 12, 1684-5, baptized same day, at Whitegate, elected M. P. co. Cest. 1710, died March 30, 1756, buried at Minshull, April 16, following.	ESSEX, eldest daughter of Thomas Pitt, of St. Mary, Blandford, co. Dorset, esq. married at St. Clement Danes, London, July 22, 1714, died at Vale Royal, buried at Minshull, March 7, 1753-4.	JOANNA, only daughter, born at Battersea, co. Surrey, Oct. 23, 1692, baptized at Battersea, Oct. 28, 1692, married at Tarporley, May 27, 1718, to Amos, 1st son of sir William Meredith, of Henbury, bart. died at Henbury, bur. at Prestbury, co. Cest. Nov. 7, 1751, leaving issue.
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THOMAS CHOLMONDELEY, 1st son, born at Vale Royal, June 15, 1715, bapt. at Whitegate, July 22, 1715, died at Vale Royal, May 30, 1716, was buried at Minshull.	CHARLES, 2nd son, born at Vale Royal, Mar. 4, 1724-5, bapt. at Whitegate, Mar. 5, 1724-5, died at Chevening, Kent, May 23, 1726, bur. at Minshull, June 5, 1726.	ESSEX, 1st dau. born in Westminster, Aug. 24, 1716, bapt. at St. James's, Westmr. Sep. 7, died at Westminster March 21, 1728, bur. at Minshull.	JANE, 2d dau. born at Vale Royal, Nov. 26, 1717, bapt. at Whitegate, Dec. 15, marr. in the Fleet Chapel, Lond. 1732, to Richard, 4th son of Owen Meyrick, of Bodorgan, in the Isle of Anglesea, died in Lond. leaving issue, bur. at St. Margaret's, Westmr. Dec. 4, 1741, afterwards removed to Minshull.	MARY, 3d dau. born at Vale Royal, Jan. 12, bapt. at Whitegate, Jan. 25, 1718-19, marr. Aug. 8, 1753, to the Rev. Wm. Wannup, vicar of St. Paul's Walden, co. Herts. bur. at St. Paul's Walden, Dec. 23, 1761, her issue died young.	THOMAS CHOLMONDELEY, of Vale Royal, esq. 3d son, and heir, born at Chevening, Kent, June 24, bapt. there, Jul. 17, 1726, elected M. P. co. Cest. 1756, ob. June 2, 1779, bur. at Minshull, June 8, 1779.	DOROTHY, 2nd dau. and finally sole heir of Edmund Cowper, esq. of Overleigh, near Chester, born at Colne, co. Lanc. Feb. 14, bapt. there, Mar. 21, 1745-6, mar. at St. James's, Westminster, Oct. 29, 1764, died at the Hot Wells, Bristol, May 25, 1786, buried at Minshull, June 2, 1786.	ELIZABETH, 4th dau. born at Vale Royal, July 16, 1720, bapt. at Whitegate, July 17, 1720, died at Kennington, May 23, 1727, bur. at Minshull, June 3, 1727.	CHARLOTTE-ANNE, 5th dau. born at Vale Royal, Sept. 20, 1723, bapt. at Whitegate, Oct. 13, 1723, died at Vale Royal, Dec. 24, 1723, bur. at Minshull, Dec. 27, 1723.
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DOROTHY, 3d dau. born at Vale Royal, June 20, 1776, bapt. at Whitegate, Oct. 29, 1776, marr. at Stanmore, Sept. 14, 1795, to Thomas Parker, of Astle, co. Cest. esq. living s. p. 1815.	ESSEX, 2nd dau. born at Vale Royal, Oct. 8, 1771, bapt. at Whitegate, Oct. 29, 1771, living unmarried, 1815.	HESTER, eldest dau. born at Beckenham, Kent, July 9, 1766, bapt. at Beckenham, Aug. 10, 1766, marr. at Sundridge, Kent, June 11, 1789, to John Drummond, of Stanmore, co. Middlesex, esq. bur. at Stanmore, Sept. 30, 1802, leaving issue.	ROBERT, 6th son, born at Vale Royal, Feb. 9, 1778, bapt. at Whitegate, July 9, 1778.	FRANCIS, 5th son, born at Vale Royal, Nov. 30, 1773, bapt. at Whitegate, Feb. 14, 1775, died unmarr. at Midgerie, in the East Indies, Sept. 20, 1802, bur. Sept. 21.	HUGH CHOLMONDELEY, 4th son, born at Vale Royal, Dec. 18, 1772, bapt. at Whitegate, Jan. 7, 1773, B.D. and F.S.A. elected Fell. of Brasenose Coll. Oxon, Ap. 21, 1796, curate of Hart-hill, 1801, rector of Barrow, Jul. 13, 1804, Dean of Chester, Feb. 24, 1806, and rector of Tarporley, May 19, 1808, died unmarr. at Tarporley, Nov. 25, 1815, bur. at Minshull.	CHARLES CHOLMONDELEY, of Overlegh, esq. 3d son, born at Llanfoyst, June 6, 1770, bapt. there, Aug. 12, 1770, married at St. Mary-le-Bonne Church, London, Jan. 13, 1794, Caroline-Elizabeth, 3d dau. and coheiress of Nicholas Smythe, of Cubley, co. Salop, esq. born at Condover, co. Salop, May 15, 1773.	CHARLES CHOLMONDELEY, 2d son, born 13th, bapt. 17th, ob. 26th, Oct. 1768, bur. at Llanfoyst, co. Monmouth.	THOMAS CHOLMONDELEY, of Vale Royal, esq. eldest son and heir, born at Beckenham, Kent, Aug. 9, bapt. there Aug. 30, 1767, sher. of Chesh. co. Cest. 1796.	HENRIETTA-ELIZABETH, youngest dau. of sir Watkin Williams Wynn, of Wynnstay, co. Denbigh, bart. mar. at Ruabon, Dec. 17, 1810.
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CHARLES-COWPER, 1st son, born in Chester, Sept. 28, 1795, bapt. at St. Mary's Church, Chester, Nov. 3, 1795, a Gent. Com. of Brasenose College, Oxford.	HUGH, 2nd son, born in Chester, July 1, 1797, bapt. at Knutsford, Feb. 13, 1798.	THOMAS, 3d son, born at Knutsford, Sept. 9, 1801, bapt. at Knutsford, Dec. 23, 1801.	GEORGE-JAMES, 4th son, born at Knutsford, June 21, 1807, bapt. at Knutsford, Sept. 2, 1809.	CAROLINE-HESTER, born at Knutsford, June 16, 1798, bapt. there March 15, 1799, died in London Nov. 20, buried at Stanmore, Nov. 24, 1799.	CAROLINE-HENRIETTA, born at Knutsford, April 18, 1803, baptized there, Sept. 20, 1803.	GEORGIANA-CHARLOTTE, born at Knutsford, Dec. 9, 1804, baptized at Knutsford, June 2, 1806.	LETITIA-ELIZABETH, 4th dau. born at Knutsford, April 24, 1806, baptized there, May 4, 1806, died there, July 16, and was buried July 18, 1806.	HESTER-MARY, 5th dau. born at Knutsford, Nov. 1, 1808, bapt. at Knutsford, Sept. 2, 1809.	ANNA-MARIA-EMMA, 6th daughter, born at Knutsford, Jan. 13, 1810, bapt. at Goosetrey, July 11, 1814.	HUGH CHOLMONDELEY, born at Vale Royal, Oct. 3, 1811, baptized at Whitegate, Dec. 31, 1811.
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Vale Royal Manor House.

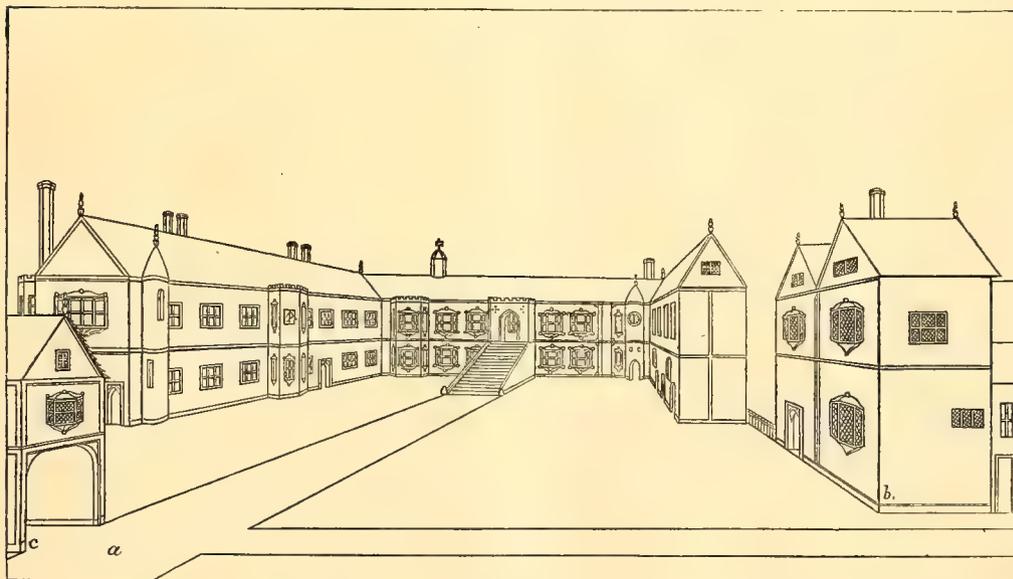
AS IT APPEARED 1616,

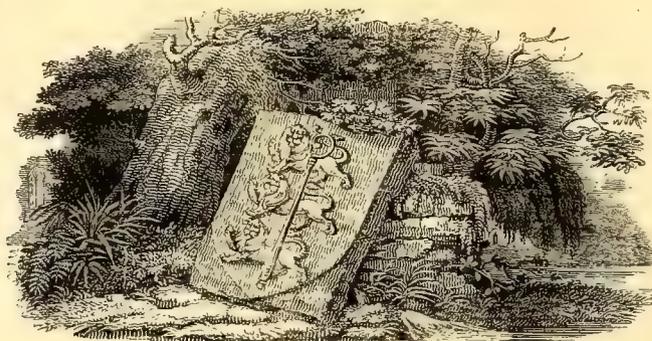
FROM AN ORIGINAL DRAWING, IN OUTLINE, IN THE POSSESSION OF
THOMAS CHOLMONDELEY, Esq.

a The way from the Gate-house to the Stayers.

b Good-wyf Hamlet's house.

c The Gate-house.





APPENDIX
TO THE ACCOUNT OF THE
Monastery of Vale Royal.

I.

THE titles of the several Documents contained in the Leger Book of the Abbey, (Harl. MSS. 2064.) with abstracts of some of the most important articles. The Roman numerals refer to the order of arrangement, the other figures to the pages of the Leger Book.

- I. Scriptum corrod. Joh'is de Trentham. 241.
Scriptum corrod. Jo. fil. Rob'ti le Fisher de Weaverham. 241.
- II. Placita clam. apud Cest. coram Ric. de Wylughby, Ric. de Stafford, et Jo. de Brunham juniorem justic. ad pl'ta forestar. de Mara et Mondrem assignatis. Anno pp. Edw. tertii post conquest. &c. xxxi°. 241.
- III. Nota de Taxato'e. redditus de Valle R. facta coram Inquisitoribus d'ni R. anno d'ni m° ccc° xxxvi°. 242.
- IV. Chronic. de fundatione abbacie de Valle Regali, et de placitis factis in maneriis et ecclesiis ad eam pertinentibus, et de privilegiis ordinis Cistercii concessis. 243.
- De Inicio ffundaco'is abbathie de Valle Regali, et de voto regis. 243.
- Quomodo d'nus rex assumpsit sibi conventum de monasterio de Dorâ, et de tempore quo venerat idem conventus apud Dernehale, et dehinc ad quandam parvam abb'iam juxta Vallem Regalem. 243.
- Quomodo d'nus rex posuit in novo op'e primum lapidem, et de hiis qui interfuerunt. 244.
- De parva abb'ia in qua monachi h'itabant pro tempore quatuor abbatum, et quomodo ad novum monasterium translati sunt. 244.
- Qualis erat locus abbathie ante ipsius fundac'oem. 244.
- De mutac'one no'is loci et modo abbathia sita est per regem facta. 245.
- De visione quam viderant pastores et alii in loco ubi nunc abbathia est. 245.
- De porc'one Ligni s'te crucis de terrâ s'c'a per regem adquisita et cum rebus aliis monasterio collatâ. 245.
- De ecclesiâ de Kyrkham, quomodo rex monasterio suo eam contulerat, et de pl'ito inter ipsum regem, et d'num Theobaldum de Botiler, et Otonem de Grandi sono. 245.
- De co'secrac'one loci ubi nunc abbathia sita est, et de pena ingredientium private quam per fores monasterii. 246.
- De quatuor p'mis abbatibus qui in eodem monasterio præfuerunt, et quomodo monasterium rexerunt, et de ipsorum conversac'oe. 246.
- V. Taxatio temporalium de Valle Regali, 68l. 17s. 1d. decima 6l. 17s. 8d.
Ecclesia de Frodesham, 36 marc. decima 48 solid.
Ecclesia de Weverham, 18 marc. decima 2 marc.
Ecclesia de Castelton, 18 marc. decima 14 solid.
Ecclesia de Kyrkham, $\frac{xxx}{iii}$ marc. decima 8 marc.
Ecclesia de Lampadernvaure, c marc. quo ad regem decima x marc. et ad o'ia alia singulis taxatur ad xxviii marc.
Sum'a totius decime 23l. 16s. 4d. ob. 249.
- VI. A lease of Onston mille, to Richard del Halle, 1337. 249.
- VII. Noi'a Xtianorum Angliæ regum a temp'e Sc'i Augustini Anglorum apl'i usque nunc. 249.
- VIII. Cess sunt le boundez dell manerr de Dernehale :
Avarde le Bykere, Baldewyn Sabyn, Elyot Emmesone, Wylle de Lytell, Huges Howell, Holle the fremon, Ric. temere Wyt, Joh'i fil. Emmesone, Huges Falke, Dony de Henull. 249.
- Ces son les cotyeres de Dernehale :
Gibbe Laveroc, Wilke Ackornedocke, Ric. Crowebryd, Will. the Rowede, Aubyn Fylleson. 249.
- IX. A note of the payment of xlv. iis. "de bosco subtrahendo de parco de Dernehale," and of xlv. iis. for ditching and paling the same park. 249.
- X. Memorandum of Roger le Har, chaplain, seized of the manor of Dutton, having done homage to the abbot for certain lands there, held of Weverham court. 250.
- XI. A charter of Peter abbot of Vale Royal enfranchizing Adam le Fox, a villein, together with his family, dated on the feast St. Gregory, 1329. 250.
- Similar enfranchisements of William Lycorys, Henry Hondekyn the cook, Honde son of Will'm de Mulleton, whose mother was a native, of Adam Cay brother of Hondekyn for 20l. of Hondekyn and Robt. sons of John de Wro, a native of Dernehale, and John de Weverham, for 40l. 250.
- Grants of corrodies by Peter, abbot of Vale Royal, to Richard son of Ralph de Bradeford, Ralph de Codinton, and Henry Mouss, paganus suus cognominatus Russel. 250.

A charter from Randle, earl of Chester, to Robert son of Thurstan de Wodeford, of one croft in Wodeford, which his father had held, with its appurtenances, subject to the annual rent of five shillings and one hog. Witnesses, Philip de Orreby, tunc justic. Cest. &c. 250.

XII. A memorandum of Philip de Egerton having done homage before the abbot of Vale Royal in Overcourt, and acknowledged that he held the manor of Wodeford from the abbot by homage and fealty, and the render of five shillings annual rent, and one hog on the feast of St. Martin, 1329. 250.

XIII. Memorandum of an agreement between the abbot of Dore, visitor of the abbey of Vale Royal, and the abbot of that convent, that as often as the abbot of Dore shall visit Vale Royal, he shall receive xxxs. iyd. for his travelling expences, iiii. iyd. for each of his chaplains, and is. for every other individual attending him. 251.

XIV. An account of disturbances between the abbot Peter, and his natives of Dernehale, in 1329, relative to their restriction to the mills there, which after an appeal to arms on the part of the natives, terminated in the greater part of them appearing with halters round their necks in the court of the abbot, to tender their submission. The chronicle states that ten of the most rebellious, Henry son of Roger Pynperpoint, John son of Richard Parker, John Christian, Robert Janecok, Waren Horne, William Horne, Gesse Dony, Adam Lycekyn, Richard Holden, and Robert his brother, suffered a forfeiture of all their goods and cattle, and that the abbot afterwards received the submission of the rest in a solemn assembly, in which were present Thomas de Erdeswyke his seneschall, Thomas de Oldynton, Randle his son and heir then serjeant of the peace; on which occasion the abbot, "misericordia motus," returned six pounds out of ten, which the poor wretches had collected to offer as an atonement. 251.

XV. A memorandum that Hondekyn son of Randle de Holden, who had fled, with his effects, from the seizure, was taken and imprisoned in the prison of Werherham, and that his sureties paid c shillings, of which the abbot received xls. 251.

XVI. A dispute between the prior of Lenton and the abbot of Vale Royal, relative to the tithes of Eydale, in the co. of Derby, part of the parish of Castleton. 251.

XVII. A narrative of proceedings in a dispute between the abbot of Vale Royal and sir Will'm de Clifton, knt. respecting the tithes of the manors of Clifton and Westby, in the parish of Kirkham, 1337, in the time of Peter's abbacy. The charges alleged against sir William Clifton state, that he had detained twenty marks due to the abbot, had forcibly obstructed the rector in the gathering of tithes within the manors of Clifton and Westby, seized his loaded wain, and maimed his hunting palfrey in a ridiculous manner: that he had also burst with his armed retainers into the parish church of Kirkham, and thereby deterred the clerks from the performance of divine service, had prevented the parishioners from resorting to the font for the rite of baptism, and that having seized on Thomas, the clerk of the abbot of Vale Royal, he had inflicted on him a public flagellation in the streets of Preston. After a complaint made to the abbot of Westminster (conservator jurium et privilegiorum ord's Cisterc.) sir Thomas Clifton, who had been cited before him, confessed his fault, and threw himself on the mercy of the abbot, who contented himself, after receiving a compensation for his rector's losses, with an oath from the refractory

knight that he would, in future, maintain and defend the privileges of the abbey, and would bind himself in forty shillings to offer no further violence to the unfortunate secretary of the abbot. 252.

This suit was settled by the arbitration of William de Baldreston, rector of St. Michael's, his brother Robert, and "d'nus Ricardus de Ewyas," monk of Deulacres, on the part of the abbot, and of William Lawrence, John de Croston, and sir Robert Mareys, on behalf of sir Thomas Clifton. 252.

XVIII. De gestis nativorum de Dernhale et Overe. 253 b.

Of this very interesting narrative, an abstract has been already given in the history of the abbey.

XIX. Commissio directa Rob'to Holland, p. d'num regem. Ebor. Jan. 23, anno 5^o regni Edw. 2ⁱ. 254. Authorizes the same to pay from the receipts of the earldom: to the abbot of St. Werburgh, cs. per annum, out of xvi. said to be due to him, and ivl. yearly in lieu of the tithes of Frodsham, which he had released to the abbot of Vale Royal, as directed by the king's father: also xxiv marks due, as antient alms, to the prioress and nuns of Chester; and ivl. xviii. allotted to the same by the king's father, in lieu of the tithes of Overe, which they had released to the abbot of Vale Royal, and cvs. and iyd. which the king's father had allotted to the same out of the rents of Middlewich, in lieu of the tithes of Bradford, Lytill, Over, Sutton, and Merton, which they had also released to the abbot of Vale Royal, and x shillings allotted to them in the same manner, as a compensation for four acres of land in Godesbach, which they had surrendered to the king's father. 254.

XX. A licence granted to the abbot of Vale Royal, releasing him from finding a judger, in consequence of his possession of three parts of the manor of Twemlowe. 254.

XXI. A complaint against Warin le Grosvenor, for enclosures within the manor of Dernehale. 254.

XXII. Petitio pro novo opere. 255.

A note of the incroachments on the abbot's privileges of Estovers within the forest of Delamere, by Oliver Ingham, justice of Chester, William de Legh, forester, and others, in the time of abbot Peter, 1328, followed by three several confirmations of the abbot's privileges by king Edward the Third, contained in a precept addressed to the same Oliver Ingham, dated at Northampton, 5 Maii, anno reg. 2^o. 255.

Transcripta petitionum diversarum tam auxilii, &c. ad novum opus quam diversorum gravaminum remed. habend. necnon et brevium pro eisdem negotiis venientium. 255.

XXIII. De libertatibus per cartam concessis, 1 E. I. 255.

XXIV. De pardonatione cujusdam amerciamenti, 17 E. I. 255.

XXV. De amerciamentis abbati solvendis, 17 E. I. 255.

XXVI. Exoneratio vicecom. Lancast. de quodam amerciamento pro abbate, 5 May, 18 E. I. 256.

XXVII. De serviciis et consuetudinibus quæ homines manerii de Darnhale facere deberent, inquirendis, 22 Oct. 3 E. I. 256.

XXVIII. De molendino Cestriæ novo operi assignato, 23 Jan. 7 E. I. 256.

XXIX. De divisio inter villas de Kirkham et Riggeby faciendis, 25 Jun. 15 E. I. 256.

XXX. De doliis vini, 16 E. I. 256.

XXXI. Pro fratre Johanne Lewis quondam Cellerario contra Rob'tum de Wenynnton, &c. pro transgress. 14 E. II. 256.

A commission addressed by Edward the Second to Robert Holland, justice of Chester, or his deputy, to enquire into the complaint of the abbot of Vale Royal, respecting an assault on friar John Lewis, a monk of his convent, who had been intercepted on his return from Chester, on the business of the convent, after he had passed through Tervyn, by Robert de Wenynnton, John de Wenynnton, William, Roger, and Laurence, his brothers, Hugh de Leghton, and Roger de Bulkelegh, of Northwich, and other malefactors and disturbers of the peace, who would have cut off the head of the same monk, if he had not fled to the house of one Simon Blaby, and continued threatening his life from day to day, and beat and wounded the other servants of the abbot. Dat. ap. London. 20 die Octob. anno reg. 14°. 256.

XXXII. Pro Joh'e de Boddeworth serviente abb'is occiso per fratres de Oldynnton, 14 E. II. 256.

Another commission, of the same date, to enquire into the murder of John Boddeworth, committed at Darnhale. The names of the murderers are not specified in the commission, but were most probably inserted in the above title after the enquiry. They are stated to have played at football with the head after the perpetration of the murder: "ad modum pilæ cum pedibus suis conculcaverunt."

XXXIII. Petitio pro declarac'oe presentis chartæ contra forestarios, &c. 256.

XXXIV. Petitio pro excambio terrarum cum Ran'ò fil. Ricardi de Merton. 257.

XXXV. Petitio pro amotione pilloriæ Cestr. 257.

This pillory was erected by the mayor and city of Chester, before the tenement of the abbey of Vale Royal, and is complained of as a nuisance to the same.

XXXVI. Petitio pro novo opere. 257.

XXXVII. Petitio pro eod. opere, viz. de den. de Ashford retractatis. 257.

XXXVIII. Petitio contra forestarios pro croppis et Ramis. 257.

XXXIX. Petitio pur passage pur leur brebis a la pasture q'est appellè Remersh (Frodsham Marsh). 257.

XL. Petitio pro novo opere de Kyngeschier. 257.

XLI. Petitio contra forestar. libertat. impediens. 257.

XLII. Petitio contra eosdem pro estoveriis et proprio bosco mortuo. 257.

XLIII. Petitio contra bedellos intrantes libertatem suam. 257.

XLIV. Littera d'ni com. missa camerar. pro vino deliberand. annuatim. 258.

XLV. Breve pro vino, 25 Jan. 4 E. III. 258.

XLVI. Breve ad allocandum Scotpeny et Tolnetum, 16 E. III. 258.

The privileges of the court of Weverham, and notes of homage for manors.

XLVII. A note of Robert Grosvenor, of Ruddethe, having done homage in Weverham court to the abbot of Vale Royal for his manor of Lostok, and made acknowledgment of holding the manor by the service of one knight's fee, and the payment of 17s. per annum, with ward, marriage, and relief, the render of two hogs yearly, and suit at Weverham court from fifteen to fifteen days, and finding, in time of war for Lostok, a moiety of the number of men provided by Weverham. 258.

XLVIII. Notes relative to the church of Weverham. 259.

XLIX. Notes of homage done to the abbot by Randle son of Thomas de Swettenham, for the manor of Swettenham, as held from Weverham, 1342. 259.

L. Notes of homage done to the abbot by William del Mere, vicar of Weverham, for the bailywick of the liberty of Weverham, with the lands attached, before Thomas, abbot of Vale Royal, Roger de Hopewell, seneschall of the abbot, Ric. Donne, forester, Randle le Roter, and others, 1351. 259.

LI. Notes of homage done by Adam de Wallerscote, for the same bailywick, before Thomas, abbot of Vale Royal, and others, 1354. 259.

LII. Notes of homage done by Hugh del Hethe, before the same, for 24 acres in Great Stanthurle, held by the payment of six shillings in every fourth year, and one yearly appearance at the court of Over on citation, 1353. 259.

LIII. Notes of homage done by John le Vernoun before the same, for the bailywick of Weverham, as aforesaid, May 8, 1356. 259.

LIV. Notes of homage done by William del Lowe, 1363. 259.

LV. Notes of homage done by Thomas de Swettenham, Aug. 1, 1366, before Thomas, abbot of Vale Royal, Jo. de Rodeburne, Walter de Lydebury, and William de Bispham, monks, William de Bostock, under seneschall, Thomas de Somerford, John de Swettenham, and others, in the abbot's chamber, who acknowledged that he held the manor of Swettenham from the manor of Weverham as the 4th part of a knight's fee, viz. by the service of finding xli foot soldiers in Wales, in time of war, for the manor of Weverham, with homage ward and relief, and also with suit at Weverham court, from fifteen to fifteen days, and payment of scutage for the same. 259.

LVI. Notes of the abbot of Vale Royal having presented to the church of Swettenham Jo. de Wodehull; 2ndly, John Clement, who exchanged with the aforesaid Wodehull; 3dly, John de Aschwell, brother of Symon the clerk, on the death of John Clement; 4thly, of David de Grafton, who exchanged with John de Aschwell; 5thly, of Robert de Wermyneham, who died rector; and 6thly, of Hugh de Eynesham, brother of William de Eynesham, monk of Vale Royal. 259.

LVII. A note of homage done by John de Pole for a moiety of the manor of Nether Pevere, before Thomas of Vale Royal, on the feast of St. Lucy the Virgin, 1364, held by the payment of xii shillings yearly on the feast of St. Michael, and a relief of iis. 260.

LVIII. A note of homage done by Robert le Grosvenor for the manor of Lostock, before Stephen, abbot of Vale Royal, Walter de Lydbury, David de Olton, William de Boydell, and others, on the feast of the conversion of St. Paul, 47 Edw. III. held as before-mentioned, p. 258. 260.

LIX. Extenta facta de o'ibus redditibus et possessionibus tam spiritualibus quam temporalibus abb'is de Vale Royal in Cestreshire existentibus, coram Reginaldo de Grey ex mandato regis. 260.

Extenta facta p. mandatu. d'ni r's apud Sutton die Lunæ pp. p. f'm S'c'i Barthol. a'o gra. m.cc. xc. 1º. et a'o r's Edw. vicesimo de terris et redditibus et possessionibus tam spiritualibus quam temporalibus, abb'is et conventus de Valle Regali in com. Cest. coram Reginaldo de Grey tunc justic. Cest. et Adamum de Wettental ad illam faciendam assignatis per subscriptos

juratos, viz. Hugonem de Dutton, Patricium de Heselwelle, Ric. de Sandbach, mil. Hugonem le Tyn, Ricardum de Cronach, Ricardum de Croxton, Henricum de Frodesham, Jo. de Cotton, Will'm de Hertford, qui dicunt sup. sacr'um suum, quod habet in Leitul Ovre unam carucatam terræ, et valet p. ann. 40s. et in Twemlowe unum messuagium et unam carucatam terræ cum quâdam particulâ bosci et pasturæ quæ valet p. annum 30s. et in Stanthurle unum messuagium et 15 acras terræ, quæ valent per annum 10s. et in Moresbarwe 1 messuag. et 2 car. terr. et 1 acr. prati, quæ valet p. ann. 4l. et in Lach 1 mess. et duas partes unius car. terræ, quæ valent p. ann. 30s. et in Bradford 1 et 3 car. terr. quæ valent per ann. 6l. et ibidem tres acras prati et valent per ann. 6l. dimid. marci, et boscum qui valet 30s. per ann. et piscar. qui valet 16d. per annum: et in Coneward 2 car. terr. quæ valent 1111 marc. per annum, et ibidem boscum et pasturam quæ valent per ann. 7s. 4d. et in Sutton unam carucat. terr. quæ valet p. annum 20s. et in Medio Wico duas salinas quæ valent dimid. marc. p. annum, et in Northwico tres salinas quæ valent per ann. duas marc.

Sum'a p'd'car. p'ticlar. xxiiii. xxd.

Et in man'io de Gayton unu. mesuag. octo bovat. terre. 2 acr. prati in dominico et piscar. q. valet p. ann. 8 marc. et 16 bovat. terr. in villenagio, q. valet 102s. s. quælibet bovat. 6s. et de libero reddit 3s. et boscum qui valet 8s.

Sum'a de Gayton xil. ixs. viiij.

Et in man'io de Weverham 1 mesuag. 2 caruc. terr. in dominico quæ valent p. ann. 4l. et 1 acr. prati quæ valet p. ann. 40d. et 26 bovat. terr. in villenagio, quæ valet p. ann. 9l. et 12d. s. quælibet bovat. 7s. et de libero redd. 63s. 2d. quendam boscum qui valet p. annum 2s. placit. et perquisit. 20s. pannag. 21s. et unum molend. aquat. quod valet p. ann. 10 marc.

Sum'a de Wev'ham xxvi. iiii. xd.

Et in man'io de Darnhale 1 mes'uag. et unum gardinum, q'd valet p. ann. 13s. 4d. et sex caruc. terr. in d'nico, qualibet caruc. terr. obtinente 30 acr. et valet p. ann. 10s. sc't quælibet caruc. 2 marc. et dimidi. et duas acras prati quæ valent p. ann. d. marc. et in Ovre 1 caruc. terr. in d'nico continente 30 acras, q. valet p. ann. 2 marc. et dimid. et 19 carucat. terr. in villenagio, quæ tenentur sc'dum majus et minus, et reddit. p. ann. 28l. 5s. 10d. et de libero redd. 47s. et tria molend. quæ valent p. ann. 11l. 13s. 4d. præter 20s. quos heredes Gilberti Salom. perceperint singulis annis de molendinis pro decimis et pasturis quæ valent 15s. et unum p'cum q. valet p. ann. c. solidos, placit. et perquisit. curiæ 4l. 10s. casus mortuorum 60s. piscar. in vivar. 10s. pannagium 46s. reddit. advocatium 2s. Weyfs. 2s.

Sum'a lxxii. ivs. vid.

Et in civitate Cestr. duo burgag. quæ valent p. ann. 1111 marc. placit. et perquis. in eadem civ. dimid. marc.

Sum'a iv marc. et dimid.

Ecclesia de Frodesham, lxx. marc.

Sum'a sum'arum civil. xiiis. od.

LX. De deliberatione denar. antiquitus factâ novo operi. 261.

Abbas de Valle Regali capiet p. ann. de rege ad construct'oem abb'ie p'd'ce d.ccc.xc. marc. de quibus recipiet in f'to o'ium s'corum c.l. et in primâ Ebdomada quadrag. cc marc. et in die ascenc. cc marc. et in f'to S'ci Petri ad vincula clx marc. item debet recipere idem abbas clxxx. marc. vidl't ad quelibet sc'orum terminorum xlv marc. et incipiet prima soluc'o

sua die ascens. px'm futura, et sic de cetero satisfaciet et de p'd'cis su'is ad p'd'cos terminos in formâ p'd'ca sup. breve de lib'tate, no'ie Magr. Will. de Seede, de quibus recept. in f'o o'ium s'corum c.l. per Garder. et c.l. post nativitat. d'ni, et ita deficiet de ter'io o'ium sc'orum xlv marc. et de ter'io prime ebdomade quadrag. lxxx. xv marc. quas recipiet de scaccario.

In parlamento regis apud Acton Burnell anno regni sui xi^o. ordinatu. fuit quod abbas de Valle Regali recipiet de Garder. ad occas'oem abb'ie sue annuatim inter f'm S'ci Michaelis et natal. c.l. et inter natal. et pasch. cc marc. inter pasch. et f'm S'ci Jo. Bapt. cc marc. inter f'm S'ci Jo. Bapt. et S'ci Michaelis, octoviginti marc. et præter hoc de exitibus com. Cest. p. manus justiciar. ibidem Sept. xxiv^o. viginti et decem marc.

Et in universo recipiet ad op'ac'oes p'd'cas annuatim mille lib.

Abb'i de Valle Regali sup. op'ac'oes eccl'ie sue de ter'io o'ium sc'orum, anno xi. c.l.

Eidem abb'i sup. eidem op'ac'oibus anno xii. tam per sc'cm per merc. de Lucâ, quam per Garder. dxxxvii. i. marc.

Eidem abb'i a^o. 13 per manus p'd'corum cccl.

Eidem abb'i a^o. 14 per manus p'd'corum dcccxxiiii. dimid. marc.

Eidem abb'i a^o. 15 per manus mercator. et p. sc'cm. cccclxiii. et dim. marc.

Eidem abb'i a^o. 16 p. sc'cm et per mercator. dxxvii. i marc.

Eidem abb'i a^o. 17 p. sc'cm et per mercator. dlxxl.

Eidem abb'i a^o. 18 p. sc'cm tam sup. br'ibus delib. Mag. Will. de Luda, cclxl.

Item eidem abb'i, eodem a^o. sup. ult'm bre' deliber. c.l.

Sum'a mli. mli. mli. cccc. lxxx lib.

Item Magr. W. de Luda solvit Ebor. Archi. pro primis fructibus eccl'ie de Kirkham, pro eodem abb'e c marc.

M^d. quod d'nus rex solvit per compot. Thesaurar. sui pro novo opere de Valle Regali triginta duo millia librar. sterling.

LXI. Statutum d'ni et illustris principis d'ni Edwardi regis anno reg. 33^o. editum pro religiosis, ne gravarentur a suis superioribus in articulis in eodem annotatis. 261.

LXII. Casus de ecclesiâ de Kyrkham. 262.

LXIII. Acta de officio coronatoris, . . E. II. 266.

Joh'es abbas de Valle Regali attach. fuit ad respond. d'no regi de eo quod cum non liceat alicui, catalla deodand. quæ ipsi d'no regi pertinent absque speciali warr. capere seu seisire; idem abbas quædam catalla deodand. quæ in fluvio aquâ de Wever invent. vidl't unum carr. ferro ligat. cum duobus equis et alia catalla ad valor. 4 librar. quæ Johannis servant. Will'i de Bric-hull infortunio submersi fuerunt in p'd'ca aqua, absq. aliquo warr. cepit, asportavit, detinuit in contempt. d'ni regis, &c.

Et abbas venit et defendit vim et injuriam et quicq. &c. et dicit quod d'nus Edw. R. pater regis nunc, fundavit abbathiam suam de Valle Regali, et Deo et B. M. et monachis ibidem Deo servantibus, et div'sas libertates et div'sas consuetudines, concessit et confirmavit, infra quas concessit eidem catall. deodand. infra domin. ipsius abb'is et lib'tat. su. emergentia, et quod p'd'c. infortunium infra lib'tat. su. emersit. Idem abbas pro concessione p'd'ca et confirmac'oe p'd'ca cattal. deodand. cessit, sicut ei licuit, et p'fert quandam cartam sub no'ie p'd'ci d'ni R. Edwardi p'ris

R. nunc, per quam clamat habere has libertates, &c. in hæc verba; et ex quo idem d'nus rex per p'd'cam confirmat, eisdem abbati et monachis situm abbatie p'd'cæ simul cum o'ibus maneriis, &c. cum o'ibus juribus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ad man'ia sua aliquo modo spectat'ibus, adeo libere integre et pacifice sicut idem d'nus Edwardus r'x illa man'ia melius et integrius unquam tenuit sine ullo retenemento. Et etiam siquis ho'ium seu tenentium p'd'ctorum abbatis et conventus pro delicto aliquo vitam vel membrum debent amittere, vel fugerit et iudicio stare noluerit, vel delictum aliud fecerit pro quo cattalla sua amittere debeat, cattalla ipsa sint ipsorum abb'is et monachorum et successorum suorum, una cum anno et vasto terr. et ten. p'dictorum qua ad d'num regem et heredes suos p'tinere deberent. Inde liquet manifeste per p'd'cta verba generalia, licet expresse in p'd'cta carta deodanda non exprimentur, quod ad p'd'ctos abb. et monachos et non ad d'num regem catt. deodand. p'tinere debeant, unde petit iudicium, &c.

Et Joh'es de Cotton coronator qui sequitur pro d'no rege dicit quod fluvius aquæ p'd'ctæ, in quo cattalla p'd'cta deodant inventa fuerint, simul cum corpore Joh. servient. &c. inventa fuerint, est extra libertates p'd'ctorum abb'is et monach. et sic d'no regi pertinere debeant et sic d'no regi pertinere debeat, et hoc confert verificari, &c. inde petit iudicium, &c. Postea Laurentius de Burwell tenens locum justiciarii, assumptis secum Joh'e de Cotton, &c. coronatore, &c. accessit ad locum ubi casus p'd'cti infortunii evasit, et ibi coram eo venire fecit XII inquirend. de præmissis.

Juratores dicunt sup. s'r'm; quod p'd'cta cattall. deodand. inventa fuerint infra lib'tates p'd'ctorum abbat. et monachorum, ideo p'd'cti abbas et monachi h'beant p'd'c'a cattall. quiete, &c. salvo jure d'ni regis. 266.

LXIV. Præceptum fuit Uriano de S'c'o Petro et Ric'o de Sutton servientibus pacis quod caperent abb'm de Valle Regali *indictatum de receptamento Rani Coyntrel, latron. et aliorum latronum*; Walterum de Childeston et Joh. de Brecham, monachos ipsius abb'is indict. de receptamento Rob'ti Shrap, Will. et Johann. filiorum Rob'ti de Wyninton; Ric. Fraunceys de Overe, Will. le Heywarde de Wev'ham, Hug. fil. Rob'ti de Wev'ham, Capellanus indictat. de burglario domus Jo. Capellani de Wev'ham et asportatione bonorum ejusdem Joh'is; Joh'em Fabrum, filium Adami de Weyerham indict. de recept. eorum Ric. Fraunceys, Will. le Heyward et Johan. Fabri, &c.; Yevan servient. abb'is de Valle Regali indict. de recept. Ran. Coyntrel latron.; Ric. le Celeresman de Dernall indict. de recept. . . . le Harecourt latron.; Ran. le Coyntrel de V. R. indictat. de furto unius tunicæ Symon. Saxi, et d'd Perme et aliorum diversorum ho'ium ad val. 40 solidorum, &c. Et p'd'c'i servientes . . . inde fecerunt, et mandant quod *p'd'ci abbas et omnes alii se tenent infra abb'iam p'd'cam et quod propter libertates ecclesiasticas eos capere non possunt.*

Et super hoc quidam venit Jacobus Ballivus de Weverham lib'tat. ejusdem abb'is, et dicit quod ad ipsum abb'em et ad Ballivos suos et non ad alium infra lib'tat. p'd'cam p'tinet hujus attach. facere; dicit etiam quod d'nus Edwardus rex, p'r regis nunc, p'd'co abb'i et conventui de Valle Regali p.cart. p'd'cam in o'ibus et singulis man'is p'dic. in p'd'c'a carta content. Infangenethefe, Outfengenethefe, Wythgulthefe, Murdrum, latrocinium, et forstal, et si quis ho'ium seu tenentium ipsorum abb'is

seu monachorum pro delicto aliquo vitam vel membrum debeat amittere, vel fugerit et iudicio stare noluerit, vel delictum aliud fecerit, pro quo cattalla sua perdere debeat, catt. illa per cart. et concessionem d'ni regis, eidem abb'i et monachis p'tinere debeant, una cum anno et vasto ten. p'd'co'um hominum seu tenentium suorum, &c.

Et super hæc idem d'nus rex dilecto et fideli suo P. Tybtot, Justic. Cest. a breve suum mandat in hæc verba: Edwardus Dei gratia, &c. Rex Angliæ, &c. dilecto et fideli suo P. Tybtot, Justic. Cest. salutem. Quia, abbas de Valle Regali clamat habere diversas libertates, per cartam progenitorum nostrorum quondam regum Angliæ, et concessionem n'ram, quibus ipse et prædecessores sui abbates ejusdem loci uti et gaudere consueverunt, vobis mandamus quod ipsum abb'em p'd'cis libertatibus uti et gaudere permittatis, sicut ipse et prædecessores sui uti et gaudere consueverunt temporibus retroactis. 266.

LXV. Notes of the abbot's coroners having executed their offices in Twemlowe and Swetenham, and of the tenants of the abbot guilty of felony and murder out of his precincts having been delivered up to the bailiffs by the courts of Mold and Gayton. 266.

LXVI. Appointment of Michael Sompnour to the office of coroner, by William, abbot of Vale Royal, placita de Bache Moos. 266.

LXVII. A grant to the prior and convent of Norton, by the abbot and convent of Vale Royal, of two bovates of land in Mid-Aston, formerly given to the rectors of Frodsham for the purpose of founding a chantry for the lords of Frodsham in that church, and a release of all the tithes, &c. which the abbey enjoyed in the manor of Middle Aston in right of this chantry, subject to a rent of 5l. yearly. 267.

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De yco'mo constituendo et p'te absolvendi fratres de com'issis ante introit. religionis.

De nihil dando pro b'ndco'e abba'm et de non installando eos per archidiac. et de forma p'fesso'is abb'm. 288.

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CVI. Hæc sunt exhennia missa domp'no Petro abb'i de Valle Regali contra festu' Assumc'o'is b'e Marie, a'no d'ni 1330.

	£.	s.	d.
D'no Hamone le Massy, 1 bukke, 6 cuniel. pr.	0	0	9
D'no Olivero de Ingham, Justic. Cestriae, 1 dol. vini	4	0	0
D'no Petro de Thornton, 2 cign. 3 purpays	0	12	0
D'no Abb'e de Deulacress, 2 vacc. 12 bidentes 1 hinnul'm	2	8	0
D'no Abb'e de Basingwerke, 12 bidentes			
Fr'e Ricardo de Ewys, monacho de Deulacress, 1 bukke	0	4	0
Fr'e Roberto de Stradel, 1 vitul'm, 6 porcell. 6 altil. 20 pull.	0	4	0
Fr'e Rogero de Waleford, auc. 6, capon 6, porcell. 3, pull. gallinar. 20, caseos 11.	0	2	0

Fr'e Philippo, 6 porc. 20 auc. 40 pull.	-	0	6	0		
Fr'e Rob'to Grymbald, 1 porc. 6 auc. 4 capon.	0	5	0			
D'no Rob'to, vicar. de Wew'ham, 1 bove. 1 vit'l'm, 1 bident. 5 porcell.	-	-	0	13	0	
D'no Will'o Cortays, capell. de Gosnar, 1 bove.	-	-	-	0	10	0
D'no Jo. de Venables, 2 bident.	-	-	-	0	2	0
Joh. de Wetenhale, 40 panes, 1 barell. 12 plenu. servic. ciph. albor. 12 discos. 12 salsar. 6 caseos	-	-	-	0	6	0
Jo. de Bredkyrch, 1 bove. 13 capon. 1 purpays	-	-	-	0	10	0
Comitate de Kyrkeham, 1 bove.	-	-	-	0	13	4
Comitate de Overe, 6 bidentes	-	-	-	0	6	0
Will. le Grosvenour de Budworthe, 2 bidentes	0	2	0			
Waltero de Tame. bidentes 1	-	-	-	0	1	0
Will. de Mulleton, 1 bidentes	-	-	-	0	1	0
Henr. fil. Galfridi de Wew'ham, 12 pull. gallinar.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Rob'to de Hertford de Swanlowe, 3 auc. 4 pull.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Rog. de Crowton, 5 auc. 1 bident. 7 pull.	-	0	3	0		
Ric'o Freysel, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
John Chyld, 2 bidentes, 12 pull.	-	-	-	0	2	0
Ric. Pescot. 1 bovie'l'm	-	-	-	0	1	0
Hen. fil. Ric. Pymme, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Joh'ne Alcock, vit'l'm 1	-	-	-	0	1	0
David vaccar. vit'l'm 1	-	-	-	0	1	0
Hug. de Sutton et Hug. de Fox, bident. 1	-	0	1	0		
John Christian, 3 auc. 3 pull.	-	-	-	0	0	6
Ric. Russel, Cestriae, 2 salmones	-	-	-	0	6	0
Ric. fil. Nich. de Onston, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Rob't Janecok, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Joh'e de Bradeford, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Hondykyn de Holden, 3 auc. 3 pull.	-	-	-	0	0	6
Will'o Snell, 3 pull.	-	-	-	0	0	3
Ric. le Brett de Daneham, 6 capon.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Will'm Judicatore, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
David de Bertumley, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Jo. le P'ker, 2 aucas, 2 gallin.	-	-	-	0	0	6
Ran'o le Fox et Steph. de Merton, 1 bident.	0	1	0			
Jo. le Coks, 3 aucas, 6 pull.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Galf. del -heth, 3 auc. 6 pull.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Will. fil. Gilbert, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Will. del -hethe de Blakedene, 1 bident.	-	0	1	0		
Will. Horn, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Joh'e Horn, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Tho. Horn, 5 auc.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Will. le Tynkere de Blakeden, 3 auc. 3 gallin.	0	1	0			
Will. fil. Dony, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Galf. Dony, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Ric. de Stockall, 1 bident.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Ada. fil. Ric'i cl'ici juxta ecclesie' 1 bident.	0	1	0			
Hugo. fil. Jo'is Capell. 12 pull.	-	-	-	0	0	6
Warino Horne, 3 aucas, 3 gallin. 3 anat.	-	0	1	0		
Hugo. le Twe, 8 capon.	-	-	-	0	1	0
Sum'e Totall	13	8	4			

CVII. Deeds relating to Swetenham, Weverham, and Kyrkham. 300 b.

"Here endeth the said Leger Book of Abbey of Vale Royal, containeing 116 leaves, but 88 were written. It now remaineth in the hands of sir William Mainwaring of Peover, bart. a^o 1662."

II.

De Fundatione Abbatiae de Valle Regali.^b

EDWARDUS illustris regis Angliæ primogenitus, archiepiscopus, &c. salutem. Sciatis nos pro salute animæ nostræ, et animarum omnium antecessorum et hæredum, concessisse et præsentī chartā nostrā confirmasse pro nobis et hæredibus et successoribus nostris universis, Deo et beatæ Mariæ, et monasterio ejusdem gloriosæ Virginis de Dernhall, Cisterciensis ordinis, quod ex voto nostro aliquando in periculo maris constituti Deo et beatæ Mariæ facto, fundavimus in comitatu nostro de Cestriâ, Coventr. et Lichf. Dioc. et abbati et monachis omnipoten. Deo et prædictæ dominæ nostræ ibidem servientibus et servituris, ipsum locum, in quo sita est dicta abbatia eorum, cum totis maneriis de Dernhall et Over, una cum parco, in bosco et plano, in hominibus et rebus aliis, seu libertatibus universis, et cum aliis ad dicta maneria pertinentibus sicut nos eadem plenius et liberius unquam tenuimus absq. ullo retinemento: Et præterea totam haiam de Langwyth in comitatu Eboracensi, cum solio, bruerâ, marisco, et cum omnibus aliis pertinentiis suis, adeo plenè liberè integrè et pacificè sicut dominus rex pater noster eam tenuit, et nobis dedit, cum advocationibus Ecclesiarum de Esseburn, de castro de Pecke, de Frodesham, et de Weeverham, cum capellis earum et aliis pertinentiis suis. Concedentes et desiderantes ut prædictæ ecclesiæ cum capellis suis in proprios usus eorundem monacho-

rum et successorum suorum ad sustentationem suam in divino servitio convertantur. Concessimus etiam eisdem monachis et confirmavimus omnes rationabiles donationes terrarum, hominum et eleemosynarum eis vel in præsentī a nobis collatas vel in futuro a quorumcunq. liberalitate conferendas, vel aliter adquisitas vel adquirendas tam in ecclesiis quam in rebus et possessionibus mundanis. Concessimus insuper hâc chartâ nostrâ, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, prædictis abbati et monachis de dono nostro, quod quodocunque contigerit, nos vel hæredes nostros dominica nostra communiter talliare, ipsi abbas et monachi et eorum successores in perpetuum talliare possint maneria sua, sine speciali præcepto nostro, vel hæredum nostrorum. Quare volumus, &c. Testibus venerabilibus patribus, Waltero Eboracen. archiepiscopo. N. Wynton, G. Wigorn, R. Coventr. episcopis, Edmundo fratre nostro clarissimo, Gilberto de Clare, comite Glouc. et Hertford, Johanne de Warena, com. Surr. Humfrido de Bohun, com. Herefordiæ et Essexiæ, Henrico de Alemannia, Philippo Basset, Rogero Mortuomari, Rogero de Clifford, Reginaldo de Grey, tunc justiciario Cestriæ, Jacobo de Audley, Roberto Walleraund, Roberto Burnell, magistro de Frem'gham, Johanne de London, et aliis. Dat. per manum nostram apud Wynton, secundo die Augusti, anno regni domini regis, patris nostri, 54.

III.

Literæ domini Regis Henrici tertii commendatoriæ pro libris eidem Abbatiae conferendis.^c

REX abbatibus, prioribus, et eorum conventibus per regnum Angliæ constitutis, cujuscumque ordinis vel religionis extiterint, salutem. Cum Edwardus primogenitus noster dilectus, ad ampliandum divini cultus honorem, novam de Ordine Cisterciensi jam inceperit abbatiam fundare in manerio suo de Dernhall, universitatem vestram attentè requirimus et rogamus, quatenus ad ejusdem abbatiae subsidium, monachos dicti loci de aliquibus libris theologicis assignandis gratiam

facere precum nostrarum contemplatione velitis. Et quid super his duxeritis faciendum singuli vestrum, nobis, per dilectum et fidelem nostrum Thomam de Boulton per vestras literas significare curetis, ut procurialitatis vestræ gratiâ ad precum nostrarum instantiam dicto primogenito nostro facta, vobis ad merita gratiarum condigna specialibus teneamur. T. Rege apud Westm. x die Januarii.

IV.

De Translatione ejusdem Abbatiae ad Vallem Regalem.^d

REX archiepiscopus, &c. salutem. Sciatis quod cum nos pro salute animæ nostræ, et pro salute animæ celebris memoriæ domini Henrici regis patris nostri, et animarum hæredum et antecessorum et successorum nostrorum, abbatiam de Dernehale ordinis Cisterciensis, quam ex voto, aliquo tempore in periculo maris constituti nuper fundavimus intra precinctum manerii de Dernehale qui Whetenehalewes et Munecheneswro vocabatur, quem iidem abbas et monachi possident sibi et successoribus suis in perpetuum ex concessione nostra, et quem locum Vallem Regalem fecimus nuncupari, jam de novo fundaverimus: nos ne conventui et abbati ejusdem abbatiae de Valle Regali, aut successoribus suis, super terris, rebus, possessionibus, ecclesiis, juribus aut libertatibus suis sibi dum abbatia prædicta sita fuit per nos concessis occasione transmutationis prædictæ, dampnum vel pericu-

lum, vel processum temporis possit imminere quoquo modo: volumus et concedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod prædicti abbas et monachi et eorum successores abbatiam illam in eodem loco de Valle Regali, de novo fundatam, cum maneriis terris et tenementis, boscis, pratis, pasturis, vivariis, piscariis, ecclesiis de Kyrkham, Frodesham, Weeverham, et castro de Pek, cum capellis membris et aliis eisdem ecclesiis pertinentibus, cum omnibus juribus, et libertatibus, et liberis consuetudinibus subscriptis, habeant et teneant liberè quietè plenariè bene et in pace sibi et successoribus suis ibidem Deo servituris in puram eleemosynam in perpetuum, sub hac formâ; videlicet totum manerium de Dernehale et Ovre, una cum prato, in bosco et plano, in hominibus et rebus aliis seu libertatibus universis, et cum omnibus aliis ad dicta maneria pertinenti-

^b Cart. 54 Hen. III. m. 2. per inspex.^c Pat. 55 Hen. III. m. 24.^d Cart. 27 Edw. I. n. 17. Vide Pat. 6 Hen. VI. part 2, m. 18.

bus, sicut nos eadem plenius et liberius unquam tenuimus absque ullo retenemento: et etiam advocaciones ecclesiarum de Frodesham et castro de Pek, cum capellis eorum et aliis pertinentiis suis.

Et etiam totum manerium de Weverham cum advocacione ecclesiæ ejusdem villæ, homagiis et serviciis libere tenentium ejusdem manerii, villenagiis, villanis, et eorum sequelâ, wardis, releviis, escætis, redditibus, boscis, pratis, pasturis, haiis, aquis, molendinis, stagnis, vivariis, et cum omnibus aliis libertatibus, liberis consuetudinibus ad idem manerium aliquo modo spectantibus, salvis nobis et hæredibus nostris homagiis, et serviitiis eorum qui de nobis tenent in dicto manerio per serjantiam aut servitium militare, adeo libere, integre et pacifice, sicut nos illud manerium melius et integrius unquam tenuimus et quod manerium dudum dedimus dilecto nostro Rogero de Clifford, qui illud postea nobis reddidit, et de se et heredibus suis in perpetuum quietum clamavit.

Et etiam totum manerium de Conewardsle cum pertinentiis quod olim dederamus Waltero de Vernoun, et quod idem Walterus per cartam suam merâ et spontaneâ voluntate sua nuper nobis reddidit, et de se et heredibus et assignatis suis, nobis et heredibus seu assignatis nostris in perpetuum quietum clamavit, cum homagiis, redditibus, dominicis, villenagiis, serviitiis libere tenentium et villanorum, villanis et eorum sequelis, wardis, releviis, escætis, boscis, pratis, pasturis, moris, turbariis, haiis, vivariis, stagnis, molendinis, et omnibus aliis aisiamentis, libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ad prædictum manerium aliquo modo spectantibus. Et etiam totum manerium de Gayton in Wyrhale in comitatu Cestriæ, cum pertinentiis quod dudum dedimus et concessimus Reginaldo de Tybermont de Normanniâ, et idem Reginaldus, prædictum manerium cum omnibus ad idem manerium spectantibus postmodum in manus nostras reddidit, et per cartam suam nobis et hæredibus nostris seu assignatis de se et hæredibus suis in perpetuum quietum clamavit. Et etiam totam terram cum pertinentiis suis in Moresbarewe quam per cartam nostram dederamus et concesseramus Jacobo le Vilur et quam terram idem Jacobus nobis postmodum in manus nostras reddidit et etiam nobis pro se et heredibus suis per cartam suam in perpetuum remisit et quietum clamavit. Et etiam totam terram in Nether-litel-Ovre, quæ fuit Hugonis de Merton fratris et heredis Ranulphi de Merton clerici; et totam terram Ranulphi filii Johannis de Litel-Ovre, et totam terram Nicholai Baret, filii Ricardi Baret in Nether-litel-Ovre. Et totam terram Hervici de Bradeford et etiam totam terram Ranulphi de Sutton, filii et heredis Ranulphi de Merton in Sutton: quas quidem terras, prædicti, Hugo, Ranulphus, Nicholaus, Hervicus, Robertus, et Ranulphus, cum omnibus libertatibus quas habuerunt, vel habere potuerunt, in boscis, communis, moris, pasturis, vastis et omnibus aliis pertinentiis suis, sine aliquo retenemento in manus nostras quietas de se et heredibus suis inperpetuum reddiderunt. Et etiam duas bovatas terræ, cum pertinentiis, quas habuimus de dono et concessione Rogeri Throstel de Macclesfield; et totam terram cum pertinentiis quam habuimus de dono et concessione Johannis de Cotun, filii Matildis de Lache, quæ fuit filia Gralami de Lostoke in manerio de Lache Malbanke. Et etiam totam terram de Twamelawe quam Willielmus de Hawardyn nuper vendidit cum omnibus suis pertinentiis absque ullo retenemento, in hominibus, redditibus, bosco et plano, semitis, viis, pratis, pasturis, moris, haiis, aquis,

stagnis, molendinis, vivariis et omnibus aliis aisiamentis, libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ad prædictam terram pertinentibus, et etiam moram et vivarium cum pertinentiis, quod vocatur Ocmare, in forestâ nostra de la Mare. Concedimus etiam et confirmavimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris eidem abbati et monachis et eorum successoribus omnes rationabiles donationes terrarum hominum et eleemosynarum eis vel in præsentia a nobis collatis seu in futuro a quorumcunque liberalitate conferendas, seu aliter acquisitas vel acquirendas, tam in ecclesiis, quam in rebus et possessionibus humanis, unâ cum subscriptis tenementis; videlicet totam terram quæ fuit Johannis de Wydynton in parva Over cum omnibus pertinentiis suis et libertatibus, ac juribus ad dictam terram spectantibus, quam habuimus ex dono et concessione dicti Johannis assensu et consensu Sibillæ filiæ et hæredis Ranulphi de Asshe, uxoris dicti Johannis; et totam terram quæ fuit Hugonis de Norwiche clerici, cum omnibus edificiis constructis, aisiamentis, commoditatibus, libertatibus et pertinentiis, quam quidem terram dictus Hugo nobis dedit et concessit, et per cartam suam confirmavit. Et unam salinam in Medio Wiche, quam habuimus de dono et concessione Willielmi filii Radulphi Selysawel, illam videlicet, quæ est juxta Newesed per divisas et metas quas Ricardus de Wodford, capellanus, eandem salinam aliquo habuit et tenuit, cum omnibus libertatibus et aisiamentis ad dictam salinam pertinentibus, et totam octavam partem totius bosci de Twamelawe, quam habuimus ex dono et concessione Thomæ Bathel, et totam illam partem totius bosci et vasti, et illam partem illius prati, quod vocatur le Toune medow, tam in exteriori bosco, quam in les Greves, quæ habuimus ex dono et concessione Thomæ filii Brun de eadem villâ cum omnibus pertinentiis et libertatibus suis.

Concedimus etiam et confirmavimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris, eidem abbati et conventui et successoribus suis totam terram de Wertcrofte in villâ de parva Stanthirle, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, quam habent de dono et concessione Radulphi de Vernon: et totam terram quam habent de Radulpho de Vernon, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis in eadem villâ, quam dictus Radulphus de Vernon emit de Henrico Dufeyn, et totam mussam quam dictus Ranulphus habuit de Henrico Dufeyn cum pertinentiis suis in eadem villa: et totum campum illum in magna Stanthirle, quem dictus Radulphus habuit de dono Hugonis le Royer, unâ cum tota parte moræ pertinente, prædictæ terræ dicti Radulphi cum omnibus pertinentiis suis: et totam terram in civitate nostrâ Cestriæ, quam Robertus le Bern dedit et concessit eidem abbati et monachis, quæ jacet inter terram Hospitalis S'ti Johannis Cestriæ, et domum Radulphi del Pillori, et etiam domum in qua Thomas de Newenawe aliquando mansit, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis; et unam sallam quam Ricardus apothecarius, aliquando tenuit, et sellam quam Christiana mater uxoris dicti Roberti le Bern quandoque tenuit, et undecim sellas quæ vocantur sellæ sutorum in Brugge street, quas Alexander Hurel aliquando tenuit, cum omnibus pertinentiis et libertatibus suis; et totam terram illam in vico orientali civitatis Cestriæ, jacentem inter terram quæ fuit Mathei clerici, et terram quæ fuit Johannis filii Hulkel, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis et libertatibus; et etiam placeam illam terræ quæ fuit dicti Roberti camerarii, jacentem inter terram dicti Roberti et terram abbatis de Valle Regali in Brugge street in civitate Cestriæ, quæ quidem placea terræ continet in latitudine decem et novem pedes, et in

longitudine extendit se a terrâ quæ fuit Ricardi le Mercer, usque ad terram domus dicti abbatis de Valle Regali, et continet in longitudine triginta et duos pedes; una cum omnibus pertinentiis suis et libertatibus; et etiam unam salinam in villa de Norwicheo, quam habent ex dono et concessione Hugonis de Wynnton et Matildidis uxoris suæ, et ex dono et concessione Radulphi Swetbrond, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis et libertatibus: et etiam illam bovatom terræ in Lache apud Rudhethæ quam habent in escambio a priorissâ et monialibus Cestriæ cum omnibus pertinentiis et libertatibus suis.

Volumus etiam et concedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quod predicti abbas et conventus et successores sui, habeant pasturam et rationabilia estoveria sua, cum aliis aisiamentis in forestis nostris in comitatu Cestriæ, et etiam quarreram et alia quæ necessaria fuerint ad edificia intra abbatiam nostram prædictam construenda et sustentanda, et pro vitro faciendo: et quod homines et tenentes prædictorum abbatis et conventus habeant pasturam et rationabilia estoveria sua, sicut tempore comitis Ranulphi, et aliorum quondam dominorum comitatûs Cestriæ, habere consueverint. Volumus etiam et concedimus, et præsentî chartâ confirmavimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, Deo et beatâ Mariæ et prædictis abbati et monachis de Valle Regali, ac eorum successoribus, quod habeant et teneant omnia maneria, terras, et tenementa prædicta in liberam puram et perpetuam eleemosynam in perpetuum, cum homagiis, redditibus dominicis, villenagiis, servitiis libere tenentium et villanorum, et eorum sequelis, wardis, releviis, escætis, boscis, planis, pratis, pasturis, viis, semitis, moris, turbariis, hæiis, aquis, vivariis, stagnis, piscariis, molendinis, in grangiis, virgultis, infra burgum et extra, et in omnibus aliis locis, cum omnibus aisiamentis, libertatibus, et liberis consuetudinibus, ad prædicta maneria, terras et tenementa aliquo modo spectantibus. Concedimus etiam pro nobis et heredibus nostris, præfatis abbati et monachis et eorum successoribus, quod quandocunque nos vel heredes nostros dominica nostra talliare contigerit, quod ipsi abbas et monachi et eorum successores in perpetuum, homines et tenentes suos de Dernhale, Weverham, et Conewardsle talliare, sine licentiâ, vel mandato nostro speciali vel hæredum nostrorum, et tallagia illa per se vel ministros suos, ad opus suum levare possint vel habere. Concedimus etiam pro nobis et heredibus nostris, eisdem abbati et monachis et eorum successoribus, quod ipsi sint quieti de omnibus misericordiis in perpetuum; et quod habeant in maneriis prædictis socam et sacram, toll et team, infangthefe, utfangthefe, wysgilthefe, hamsokam, wayf, grythebruche, blodewyte, fightwyte, ferdewyte, frythewyte, hengwyte, leyrwyte, flemenswyte, flemensferthe, murdrum, latrocinium, forstall, ordelf, orest, et emendas panis et cervisiæ, et etiam amerciamenta hominum suorum, ubicunque et qualitercunque fuerint amerciati in curiâ nostra, vel heredum nostrorum, coram nobis et heredibus nostris, vel iusticiariis seu ballivis nostris, aut ministris nostris quibuscunque. Et etiam si aliquis hominum suorum sit amerciatus erga nos vel ballivos nostros, pro quacunque causâ vel debito seu forisfacto, mercia et amerciamenta prædictis monachis reddantur.

Concedimus etiam pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quod prædicti abbas et monachi et eorum successores, et eorum successorum homines, liberi sint ab omni scotto et geldo, et omnibus auxiliis regum, vicecomitum et omnium ministerialium suorum, et de hidagio, carucagio, danegeldo, hornegeldo, et scutagiis, tallagiis,

lestagiis, stallagiis, et shyriis, hundredis, wapentachiis, placitis et querelis, wardis, wardepeni, haverpeny, hundredpeny, scotpeny, boredhalpeny, botelpeny, tyngipeny, et de operibus castellorum, parcorum, pontium, et de clausuris, et de omni carriagio, muragio, summagio, navigio, et domorum regalium edificatione, et omnimoda operatione. Et prohibemus ne bosci eorum, vel hominum suorum seu tenentium, ad prædicta opera, vel ad aliqua alia, aliquo modo capiuntur sine eorum licentiâ et voluntate: et similiter ne bladum eorum vel hominum seu tenentium suorum prædictorum, aut aliqua alia bona sua, ad castella munienda capiantur.

Concedimus etiam pro nobis et heredibus nostris, eisdem abbati et monachis et eorum successoribus, quod omnes terræ et tenementa sua et tenentium ac hominum suorum in maneriis et locis prædictis tam in bosco, quam in plano existentia, sint deafforesta, et extra omnem potestatem forestariorum, viridariorum, regardatorum, agistatorum, et aliorum omnium ballivorum et ministrorum forestæ nostræ, et quod possint de boscis suis, de maneriis prædictis, pro voluntate sua quotiescunque et quandocunque voluerint, et sibi viderint expedire, commodum suum facere, et boscos illos assartare et in culturam redigere, et eos in culturam redactos, sibi et successoribus suis in perpetuum tenere, sine impedimento nostro, et hæredum nostrorum, forestariorum, et viridariorum, et quorumcunque aliorum ballivorum seu ministrorum forestæ nostræ vel aliorum. Prohibentes ne quis forestariorum, viridariorum, agistatorum, regardatorum, vel omnium aliorum ministrorum forestæ nostræ, vel heredum nostrorum, terras et tenementa ad abbatiam prædictam spectantia ingrediantur ad distinctiones aliquas faciendas, seu namia in eisdem capienda, vel aliqua alia facienda quæ ad forestarium, seu ministrum forestæ pertinent.

Concessimus insuper pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod prædicti abbas et monachi, et eorum successores, ac homines et tenentes sui prædicti, in perpetuum sint quieti ab omni theoloneo præstando pro rebus et mercandiciis suis propriis, quas vendiderint, vel ad usus proprios emerint, in omni foro et in omnibus nundinis, et in omni transitu pontium, viarum, et maris, per totam terram et potestatem nostram, et in omnibus aliis locis, in quibus eis libertates dare possumus et concedere: et omnia mercata sua et hominum suorum sint similiter in prædictis locis ab omni theoloneo quieti. Et quod naves eorundem monachorum liberum transitum per omnem potestatem nostram habeant absque omni exactione et consuetudine.

Concedimus etiam pro nobis et hæredibus nostris, præfatis abbati et monachis, quod si quis hominum seu tenentium suorum prædictorum pro delicto aliquo vitam aut membrum debeat amittere, vel fugerit, et iudicio stare noluerit, vel delictum aliud fecerit, pro quo catalla sua perdere debeat, catalla ipsa sint abbatis et monachorum prædictorum et successorum suorum una cum anno et vasto terrarum et tenementorum prædictorum, quæ ad nos vel hæredes nostros de terris et tenementis illis pertinere deberent. Præterea cum sanctissimi patres in Xto, domini Honorius papa quartus, et Nicholaus papa quartus, Dei ducti ducatu et ad nostram instantiam, ecclesias de Kyrkham in comitatu Lancastre, et castri de Pek in comitatu Derbiæ, et Frodesham et Weverham in comitatu Cestriæ, quarum advocaciones præfatis abbati et monachis de Valle Regali, et eorum successoribus per cartas nostras concesseramus prædictis abbati et conventui, et eorum successoribus, in proprios usus concesserint; nos concessionem et appro-

priationem hujusmodi ratas habentes et gratas, eisdem pro nobis et heredibus nostris, regium præbemus assensum. Unde licet prædicti abbas et conventus ante appropriationem eis ut præmisimus factam, seu in Romana Curiâ impetratam nullos personas ad ipsas ecclesias de Kyrkham, castro de Pek, et Frodesham et Weverham prædictas præsentaverint; nihilominus tamen volumus et concedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quod prædicti abbas et conventus et eorum successores, memoratas ecclesias sic appropriatas eisdem, in perpetuum habeant et teneant in pace omnimoda et quiete, ita quod nec nos, nec heredes nostri

aliquod jus, vel clamium, seu aliquam actionem, per breve de ultimâ presentatione, vel sine brevi, seu per aliud breve quodcunque, aut etiam ratione statuti nostri nuper editi de terris aut tenementis aliquibus ad manum mortuam non ponendis versus prædictos abbatem et conventum vel eorum successores habere poterimus vel movere, nec aliquod jus vel clamium in advocacionibus prædictarum ecclesiarum in perpetuum vendicare. Quare volumus, &c.

Dat. per manum nostram apud Stevenheth xv die Maii. Per ipsum Regem.

V.

Carta de deditioe Abbatia de Valle Regali. Augm. Off.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos præsens charta pervenerit, Johannes permissione divina abbas monasterii de Valle Regali, in comitatu Cestriensi, et ejusdem loci conventus, salutem. Sciatis nos præfatum abbatem et conventum certis de causis et considerationibus nos ad presens spiritualiter moventibus unanimi assensu et consensu nostro dedisse concessisse et hac presenti cartâ nostra confirmasse, excellentissimo et metuendissimo principi et domino nostro, Domino Henrico Octavo, Dei gratiâ, Angliæ et Franciæ Regi, Fidei Defensori, et in terra Supremo Capiti Anglicanæ Ecclesiæ, totam abbatiam sive monasterium nostrum de Valle Regali, cum suis pertinentiis universis in comitatu prædicto, ac omnia maneria, rectorias, vicarias, ecclesias, cantarias, capellas, hospitalia, messuagia, terras, tenementa, molendina, tolmeta, prata, pascua, pasturas, boscos, feoda militum, wardarum, maritagia, escætas, relevia, curias letas, et visus franci plegii, ferias, marcatas, nundinas, pensiones, portiones, decimas, oblationes, obventiones, emolumenta, advocaciones, donationes, presentationes, et jura rectoriarum, vicariarum, ecclesiarum, capellarum, cantariarum, hospitalium, et aliorum beneficiorum ecclesiasticorum quorumcunque, libertates et franchises, jurisdictiones, privilegia ac alia jura, possessiones, et hereditamenta nostra quæcumque tam spiritualia quam temporalia cujuscunque sint generis, naturæ, vel speciei, seu quibuscunque nominibus censeantur vel cognoscantur, vel quæ in jure abbatia sive monasterii prædicti habemus, tenemus, gaudemus, vel habere, tenere, gaudere debeamus, quovis modo situata, jacentia sive existentia, in villis, campis, parochiis, seu hamlettis de Darnhall, Merton, Conwarsley, Gruesby, Bradford, Knyghtts, Weverham, Overe, Moresbury cum Parme, Mediowico, Northwico, Merton, Dutton, Acton, Berterton, Legh, Weverham, Manley, Weverham Alba, Wythyngton, Milton, Allostock, Swettenham, Capesthorn, Netherpeover, Stanthorne, Frodesham, Cestriâ, Londonâ in comitatu Middlesex, Kirkeham in comitatu Lancastriensi, Castleton in comitatu Derbiensi, Llanpadernevaur in South Walliâ, seu alibi ubicunque infra

regnum Angliæ ac in Walliâ et marchiis eorundem: necnon omnia et singula ornamenta ecclesiæ, jocalia, bona, catalla, debita, et jura nostra quæcumque, cujuscunque sint generis naturæ vel speciei, quæ in jure abbatia sive monasterii prædicti habemus seu habere debeamus quoquo modo. Habenda, tenenda, et gaudenda, omnia et singula prædicta, abbatiam sive monasterium, maneria, messuagia, terras, tenementa, bona, catalla, et cetera omnia, et singula premissa, superius expressa et specificata, cum suis pertinentiis, præfato domino nostro Regi heredibus et successoribus suis, ad usum perpetuum ipsius domini Regis, heredum et successorum suorum in perpetuum: In cujus rei testimonium huic præsentis cartæ sigillum nostrum commune apposimus. Datum in domo nostra capitulari septimo die Septembris, anno regni dicti domini regis nunc Henrici Octavi tricesimo:



Per me Johannem, abbatem de Valle Regali.
 Per me Alexandrum Sedon, priorem ibidem.
 Per me Willielmum Brenek Harrysun.
 Per me Thomam Bawdon, coquinarium.
 Per me Thomam Hecker, cellerarium.
 Per me Rogerum Gardener.
 Per me Nicholaum Lauranson.
 Per me Will'm. Clarke.
 Per me Johannem Bayon.
 Per me Radulphum Benett.
 Per me Johannem Dey.
 Per me Willielmum Wryght.
 Per me Johannem Melton.
 Per me Nicholaum Brouchair.
 Per me Ricardum Vernon.

VALORES ECCLESIASTICI.

VI.

Taxatio Ecclesiastica P. Nicholai.

Taxatio bonor' temporaliu' Abb'is de Valle Regali in Archid' Cestr'.	Et h'et ib'm de pl'it' et p'quis' p' annu' -	3 15 0
Abbas de Valle Regali h'et apud Moresborwe in Dec' medii Wychi duas caruc. terr' et val' car' p' annu' - - - - -	Item h'et ib'm in Dec' de Frodesham apud Wew'ham duas caruc' terr' et val' car' p' annu' - - - - -	0 12 0
Et de bosco p' annu' - - - - -	Et h'et ib'm de redd' assis' p' annu' -	3 3 2
Item h'et apud Tuamlawe in eodem Dec' sex bovat' terr' et val' p' annu' - - - - -	Et h'et ib'm de pl'it' et p'quis' p' annu' -	1 0 0
Item h'et apud Lache duas partes unius caruc' terr' et val' p' annu' - - - - -	Item h'et apud Conwardle duas car' terr' et val' car' p' annu' - - - - -	0 10 0
Et h'et apud Stanyorl quindecim acr' terr' et val' p' annu' - - - - -	Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' staur' p' annu' -	3 0 0
Et h'et apud Bradeford tres caruc' terr' et val' caruc' p' annu' - - - - -	Item h'et apud Geyton in Dec' Cestr' redd' assis' p' annu' - - - - -	8 0 0
Et h'et apud Dernehale sex caruc' terr' et val' caruc' p' annu' - - - - -	Et h'et ib'm de pl'it' et p'quis' p' annu' -	1 0 0
Et h'et ib'm de redd' assis' p' annu' -	Item h'et in civitate Cestr' unum burgag' cum p'tin' quod valet p' annu' - - - - -	0 13 4
Et h'et ib'm de pannag' bosci p' annu' -	Et h'et ubiq' p' tota man'ia sua de p'fic' staur'	2 5 0
	Et de molend' omn' p'dcor' man'ior' p' annu'	3 0 0
	Summa -	68 16 10
	Inde decima	6 17 8 $\frac{2}{3}$

VII.

Valor Ecclesiasticus Monasterii de Valle Regali. Augm. Off.^a C. M. 32 Hen. VIII.

Valleregal'.	P'quis. cur' - - - - -	7 0 10
Firm. terr. d'nical. - - - - -	Re ^t . for. - - - - -	55 12 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Firm. terr. dimis. - - - - -	Balli'a Graung. et R'coriar.	
Vendic. bosci. - - - - -	Firm. Graung. et R'coriar. -	273 5 0
Over Stanthorne, Capisshethorne.	Vendic. bosci - - - - -	nulla.
Firm. terr. - - - - -	P'quis. curiar. - - - - -	nulla.
P'quis. cur. - - - - -	Twemlowe et Allostok.	
Vendic. bosci. - - - - -	Redd. assis. - - - - -	1 1 6
Man'riu. de Wyvh'm.	Firm. terr. - - - - -	14 7 0
Redd. assis. - - - - -	Summa -	548 4 11
Firm. terrar. - - - - -		
Vendic. bosci - - - - -		

VIII.

Extent. om' et sing'lor. maner. terr. et posses. nup. dissolut' monaster' de Valle Regali in Com. Cestr' capt. a^o 36 Hen. VIII. per Petrum Dutton, et Jo. Holford, milit. Jo. Carrington, et Wm. Glasier, m. Commiss. assignat. et limitat'.

Monasterium de Valle Regali, dioc. Lichfeld, et decanat. de Frodesham, valet in temporalibus in Com. Cestr.	Grang' de Ernesley val' in Redd' assis' p' ann' - - - - -	2 8 4
	Redd' moss et panag' co'ibus annis	2 0 0
Manerium de Darnall valet in		4 8 4
Reddit' ter' d'nical. p' an' - - - - -	Grang' de Bradeford val' in	
Redd' assis' p' an' - - - - -	Redd' assis' p' ann' - - - - -	10 3 4
Redd' bosci et aquæ p' ann' - - - - -	Redd' bosci aquæ panag' co'ibus annis	2 10 0
Redd' panag' co'ibus annis - - - - -		12 13 4
Tot' p' ann' -	Grang' de Knights val' in	
Manerium de Merton valet in	Redd' assis' p' ann' - - - - -	7 11 8
Redd' ter' d'nical. p' ann' - - - - -	Lib' reddit' p' ann' - - - - -	2 0 0
Redd' custum' ten't. p' ann' - - - - -		9 11 8
P'quis' cur' halm' co'is ann' - - - - -	Grang' de Efferston val' in	
	Redd' assis' p' ann' - - - - -	4 0 0
	Lib' redd' p' ann' - - - - -	0 14 0
Grang' de Con'sley val' in		4 14 0
Redd' assis' p. ann. - - - - -		

^a Obligingly communicated by John Caley, esq. F. S. A.^b Harl. MSS. 2060. 212. The document is in the hand-writing of Sir Peter Leyeester.

GRANGES AND SITES OF MANORS ANTIENTLY ATTACHED TO THE ABBEY OF VALE ROYAL.

THE GRANGES OF DERNHALL and MERTON are noticed in their respective townships.

EARNLSLOW GRANGE, in Sandiway, partly in Weverham and partly in Whitegate, stands on the south side of the road leading from Chester to Northwich, at the distance of about three miles from the former place. It was granted to sir Thomas Holcroft, along with the site of Vale Royal, by charter 33 Hen. VIII. and has descended with it to the present proprietor.

CONWARDSLEY GRANGE has also descended in a similar manner. It was granted to Dernhall abbey, 4 Edw. I. by royal charter, as the manor of Conwardsley, together with the part given previously to Walter Vernon, which he had restored of his own free will.

BRADFORD GRANGE, or the manor of Bradford, also the property of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. was included in the same charter to sir Thomas Holcroft, together with Bradford Mylne. In the reign of Edward the First it was the property of a family who had assumed the name of the estate some generations preceding, and was ceded by Hervicus de Bradford and Robert^a his son to the king, for the purpose of conferring it on the abbey, by whose command Reginald de Gray, justice of Chester, gave them in exchange the serjeancy of the East Gate of Chester, and the estate of Brueres Halgh. It is situated on the banks of the Weever, about half-way between Winsford and Northwich.

KNIGHT'S GRANGE was granted at the dissolution to Hugh Starkie, esq. of Oulton Lowe^b, for 150l. By Inq. 2 and 3 Phil. et Mar. it appears that James Starkie held the manor of Knight's Grange of the queen by the rent of 12s. being then valued at 24l. 38 Eliz. John Starkie and Alice his wife, and Hugh his son and heir, passed it over among other manors by fine, to Sir Randle Brereton for 1000l.^c Shortly afterwards it was purchased by Lady Mary Cholmondeley, who (as appears by *Inq. p. m.* 1 Car. I.) settled the capital tenements called K'ts, or Knight's Grange, on her third son Hugh Cholmondeley, remainder to Thomas, remainder to Robert Viscount Cholmondeley, remainder to Francis Cholmondeley. Hugh Cholmondeley, esq. brother of Robert Earl of Leinster, and ancestor of the present Earl Cholmondeley, resided at Knight's Grange, of which place he is described in a conveyance of the manor of Wallerscote, 12 Car. I. and some of his children were born here and baptized at Over. From him the manor descended to the late Earl Cholmondeley, by whom it was sold about the year 1770, to the late Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. of Vale Royal, father of the present proprietor.

HEFFERSTON GRANGE lies west of the town of Weverham, by which parish it is completely separated from the rest of Whitegate; the present house is a large and handsome brick mansion, situated in well timbered grounds, and the property of Nicholas Ashton, of Woolton Hall, in the county of Lancaster, esq.

The Grange of Hefferston, which was valued at the dissolution of Vale Royal abbey at 4l. 14s. per annum, was granted 7th March 33 Hen. VIII. along with the site of that abbey, to ^dThomas Holcroft, esq. and was conveyed by Sir Thomas Holcroft, of Vale Royal, knight, and his son Thomas Holcroft, esq. 17 Jac. I. together with lands in Weverham, to Peter Warburton, esq. third son of Sir Peter Warburton, of Arley, knight ^e.

Peter Warburton, of Grange, esq. grandson of the first proprietor of this family, was Chief Justice of Chester: on the decease of his grandson, Peter Warburton, esq. s. p. in 1727, the Grange estate devolved to Mary, sister of Peter last mentioned, and the wife of the Rev. Matthew Henry, of Broad Oak, eldest son of Philip Henry, (an eminent non-conformist) by his wife Catherine, only daughter and heir of Daniel Matthews, gent. of Broad Oak, in Flintshire. His grandfather John Henry, was gentleman to the earl of Pembroke, by whose interest he was made keeper of the orchard, and afterwards page of the backstairs, at Whitehall. He continued at Whitehall during the civil wars, though his employment had ceased, and when the king passed his door on his way to the water before trial, under a guard, he stopped a few moments to enquire for, and converse with, his old servant.^f

Matthew Henry, the husband of Mary Warburton, died thirteen years before her succession to the Grange estate. He was an eminent dissenting teacher, and an author of numerous works, including an Exposition of the Bible, in five volumes folio. By his wife Mary, he left issue several daughters and one son, who succeeded to his mother's estates, and died issueless.

After the death of this son, Philip Henry, esq. who assumed in addition, the name of Warburton, and was elected M. P. for Chester in 1747, the Grange estate passed to his sister Elizabeth, wife of John Philpot, of the city of Chester, esq. by whom she had an only daughter Elizabeth, who brought it in marriage to Nicholas Ashton, esq. of Woolton Hall, the present proprietor, descended paternally from the Ashtons of Ashton, in Makerfield, in the county of Lancaster, a collateral line of the family of Assheton of Middleton in the same county.^g

The house of Grange is now occupied by Thomas Brooke, of Minshull, esq. who served the office of high sheriff of Cheshire in 1810.

^a Harl. MSS. 2074. 201-6.

^b Records in the Augm. Office, and Sir P. L.'s MSS. Harl. MSS. 2060.

^c Williamson's Collections.

^d Records in Augm. Office, and Harl. MSS. 2060.

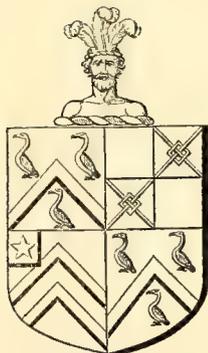
^e Obligingly communicated by the Rev. Ellis Ashton, M. A.

^f Wordsworth's Ecclesiastical Biography.

^g Grants Coll. Arm. and Dugdale's Visitat. Lancast.

WARBURTON, HENRY, AND ASHTON, OF HEFFERSTON GRANGE.

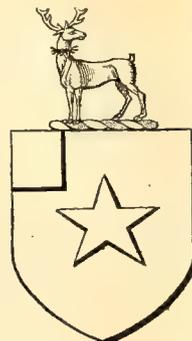
From documents furnished by the family, (including a genealogical memoir by Judge Warburton) the collections of Ralph Bigland, esq. Norroy King at Arms, and William Radclyffe, esq. Rouge Croix, and the parochial Registers of Weverham.



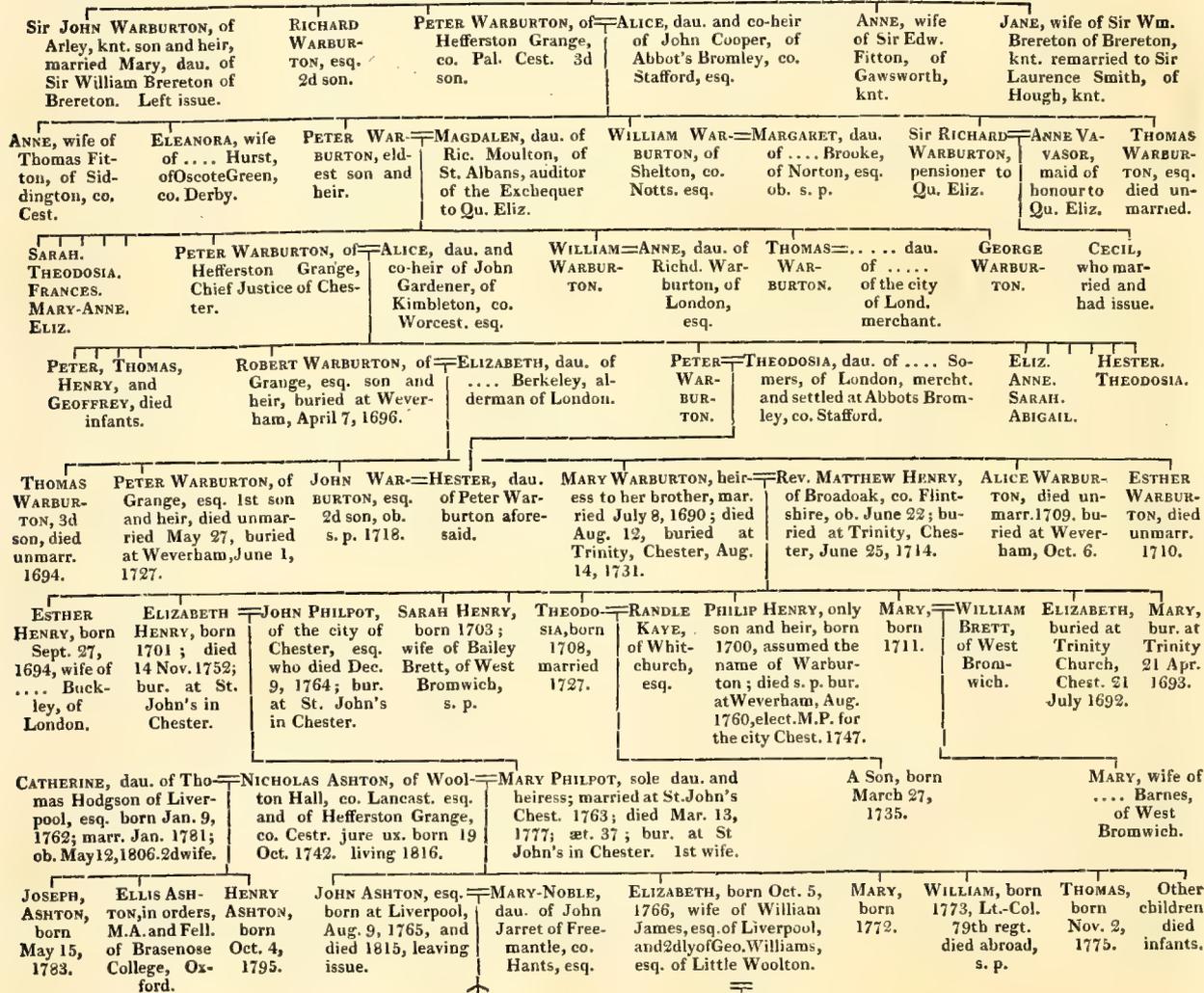
Arms of Warburton, as Warburton of Arley, with filial distinction

Arms of Ashton.—Argent, a mullet Sable, for difference a canton, Gules, (confirmed in the visitation of 1664) and for further filial distinction an annulet Sable.

Crest, on a wreath a stag at gaze, Argent, collared with a wreath of leaves, Vert, attired and unguled, Or.



Sir PETER WARBURTON of Arley, knt. — ELIZABETH, dau. and heir of Sir Richard ob. 5 July, 4 Edw. VI. — Winnington of Winnington, kt.



MERTON.

At the close of the twelfth century, Randle Blundeville, earl of Chester, granted, or rather confirmed, Merton, to Randle, son of Randle, "his faithful forrester," in the following charter, witnessed by his mother Bertred, and Ralph Mainwaring, justice of Chester.

* From this deed it appears that Randle had previously held Merton from Hugh Cyvelioc by the service of

keeping one of his horses, and that he held with it the office of usher of the earl's palace, for which his fee consisted of two oxen and three horses given him yearly at the charge of the earl; and that, before sealing the charter, the earl received a present of two greyhounds, called Lym and Lybekar.

Ranulphus comes Cestriae constabulariis, baronibus, vicecomitibus, ministris, ballivis, et omnibus, &c. Sciatis

me concessisse Ranulpho de Merton filio Ranulphi, forestario fideli meo, Mertonam cum boscis et cum aliis omnibus pertinentiis ad Mertonam pertinentibus, habendam et tenendam illa tenurâ, de me et heredibus meis, in feodo et hereditate liberè et quietè, &c. pro servicio quod fecit mihi et patri meo, &c.; ad nutriendum unum caballum mihi et heredibus meis, singulis annis, quibus sibi fuit missus, pro omnibus servitiis, salaribus, placitis, querelis; et demandis, ita quod nullus eum implaceat inde, nec implacari eum permittat.

Præterea concessi et confirmavi pro me et heredibus meis, eidem Ranulpho, et heredibus suis, officium suum, in domo meo esse hostiarium, cum duobus bobis et tribus caballis per annum, sibi et valecto, super custum meum proprium, &c. Pro hoc, ante concessum et confirmationem idem Ran' dedit mihi duos leporarios nomine Lym et Lybekar.

His testibus dominâ Beretr comitissa, Radulpho Meingarin, justic. Cest. &c.

Next in succession after Randle, and most probably his son, occurs the name of Stephen de Merton, who appears in the records of the pleas of the forests of Mara and Mondrem, 55 Hen. III. before Reginald Grey, justice of Chester, at which he was fined ten pounds, "pro mala custodiâ ballivæ suæ et destructione nemoris."^b This Stephen, in Booth's Collections and most of the Cheshire books of pedigrees, is placed at the head of a descent, of which every step is contradicted by charters and inquisitions. He was most probably father, and certainly predecessor in name and estates, to Randle de Merton, father of Randle de Merton, called Randle de Sutton in the charter of the abbey of Vale Royal, 27 Edw. I. from his lands in Sutton, adjacent to Merton, which he quitclaimed to king Edward for the purpose of their being granted to that abbey. From this double appellation, the Gleggs have been stated to marry the heiress of Sutton, and of Merton also, and to have received Caldey hundred in marriage with Sutton, but it will appear from the following evidences, that they were one and the same person, and that the Gleggs acquired Caldey, and Gayton, also in marriage with the heiress of Merton.

The manor of Gayton in Wirral, which had been granted to the monks of Vale Royal by charter 8 Edw. I. was inconveniently situated with reference to its distance from the abbey, and they soon began to cast a longing eye towards the contiguous domain of Merton. On their translation from Dernhall^c, they petitioned for an exchange, and had a licence^d granted them by prince Edward, as earl of Chester, for that purpose. In pursuance of this licence, Walter, abbot of Vale Royal, to whom Randle de Merton, under that name had granted the manor of Merton^e, transferred to him in exchange the manors of Gayton in Wirral and Lache on Rudheathe, by a charter^f witnessed by William Trussel, justice of Chester, and consequently made between 1301 and 1307. The compliance of Randle de Merton was rewarded by his sovereign by a grant by patent of the Earl's Eye near Chester, and the bailiwick of Caldey hundred, then valued at five marks per annum, both of which possessions continue vested in his descendant, John Baskerville Glegg, of Gayton, esq. In this patent, 13 Edw. III. he is styled Ranulphus de Sutton.

The manor of Merton being thus ceded to Vale Royal, the future account of the family belongs properly to Gayton, but will be clearer by being given here. It remains only to say of Randle de Merton, that his complaisance to the monks was not always carried to the same extent. The Red-Book of St. Werburgh^g contains the copy of a royal mandate to Reginald de Grey, (11 Sept. 13 Edw. I. dat. ap. Wynton) ordering him to compel Randle de Merton, who had cut asunder the abbot's pipes leading water from Christleton to the abbey, to repair the same and make compensation, the land through which the same passed having been granted him after the royal charter had permitted the monks to carry the pipes through any intervening estates, and even to take down a part of the city walls for their construction.

Stephen de Merton is styled son of Randle de Merton, in a deed with William de Baggilegh^h respecting the manor of Gayton, 6 Edw. II. By *Inq. p. m.* 26 Edw. III. it appears that he held in demesne as of fee from the earl of Chester in capite, the manor of Gayton in Wirhall, and Lache on Ruddeheathe, and certain meadows in the island called Erléseye, by the render of one penny at the chapel of Chester Castle. Val. tot. cs. Stephen son and heir.

This last mentioned Stephen had license, 6 Aug. 33 Edw. III. from Edward prince of Wales, to settle his estates of Lache and Caldey on his son John, and his heirs by his wife Elena, daughter of John, son of William de Stanley, remainder to the daughters of Stephen by Margery his wife, successively, Johanna, Agnes, Elizabeth, Ellen, and Agatha.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Stephen de Merton held for the term of his life, of the grant of John de Denneston, chaplain, and John de Strangways, the manor of Gayton in Wirhall and the profits of the hundred of Caldey, in socage, from the earl of Chester in capite. Val. p. annum, xxxviii. vii. d. Johanna daughter and heiress.

With Johanna de Merton, Gayton and Caldey hundred, as will be more fully mentioned in Wirral, passed in marriage to Gilbert Glegg, whose immediate representative, William Glegg, esq. dying without issue about the latter end of the reign of Henry VIII. his uncle Arthur, ancestor of the Gleggs of Gayton, succeeded to the inheritance; but, by a singular coincidence, the representation of the Mertons passed to the Manwarings of Merton, by the marriage of his sister Margaret with Robert Manwaring, esq. then seated in the old estate of her ancestors, by a purchase of Merton Grange from sir Thomas Holcroft, grantee at the dissolution of Vale Royal abbey. This Robert Manwaring had previously leased the same from John, abbot of Vale Royal, by lease for 54 yearsⁱ dated 30 Hen. VIII.

In this family the Grange of Merton, called Merton Sands, descended until the middle of the 17th century, when it was sold by Charles Manwaring, esq. to Thomas Fleetwood, ancestor of sir Thomas Fleetwood, bart. from whose widow, the countess de Front, it has recently passed by sale to Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. of Vale Royal, to whose encircling domains it formed as desirable an acquisition, as the original exchange for Gayton could ever have been to abbot Walter.

^b Leicester Collections, Harl. MSS. 2060. p. 78.

^f Printed at the end of the account of Merton.

ⁱ Harl. MSS. 2060. 173. Leicester MSS.

^c Leger Book of Vale Royal.

^g Harl. MSS. 2071. 75.

^d Harl. MSS. 2074. 170. b

^h Harl. MSS. 2079. 137.

^e Ibid.

The manor of Merton is a component part of the lordship of Over, and passed^k with that manor to sir Thomas Holcroft in the original grant, and also in the subsequent alienations^l from him to Edmunds and Pershall, and from them to Thomas Cholmondeley, esq.^m son of sir Hugh Cholmondeley, from whom it has descended to the present proprietor, Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. of Vale Royal.

Merton Grange, commonly called Merton Sands, is situated about a mile north-west of Over, in a deep sandy

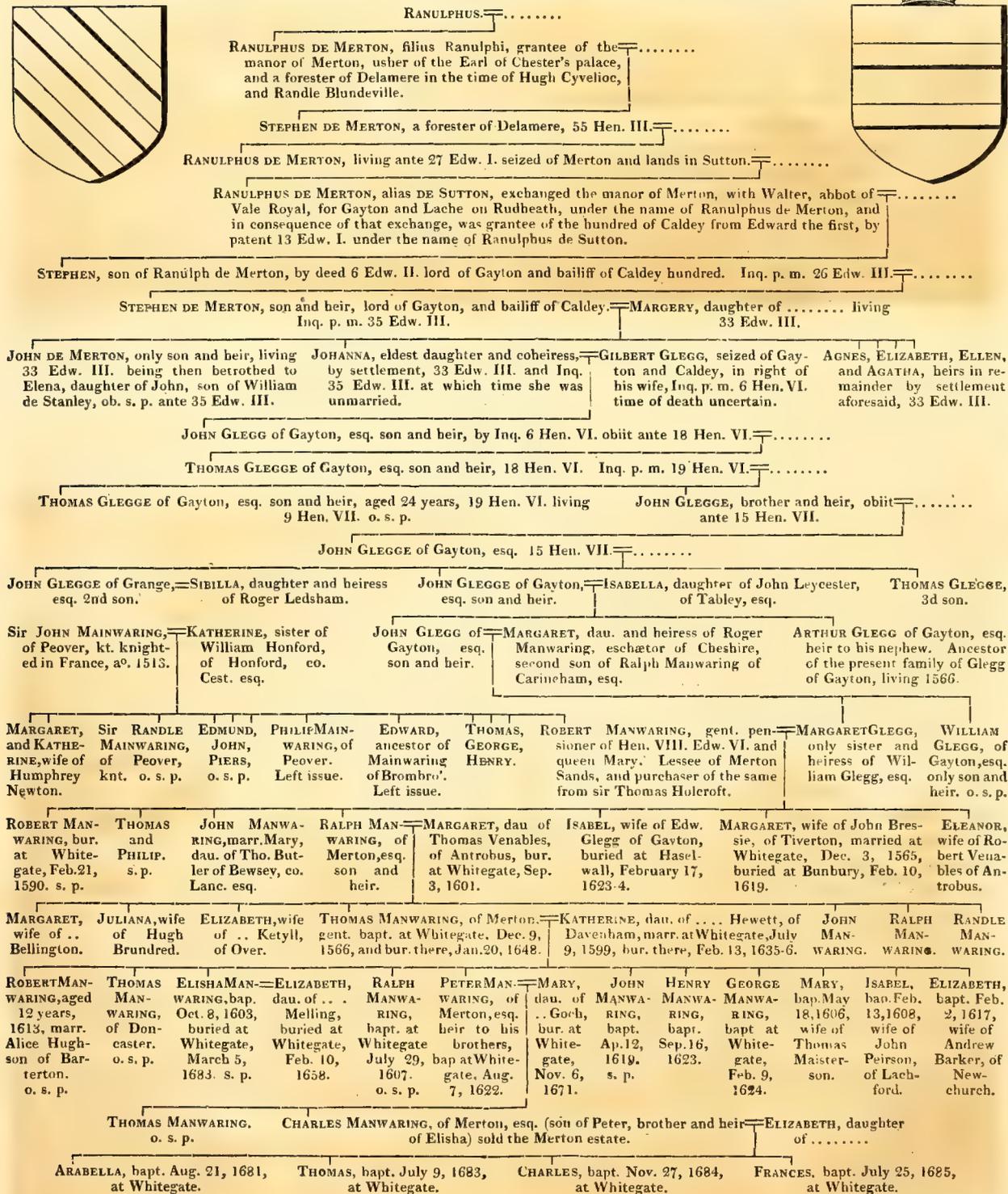
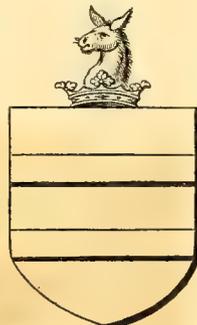
lane, from which it is approached by an avenue of tall sycamores. It is built with wood and plaister; the front consists of a retiring centre and projecting wings, all of which terminate in sharp gables; it is surrounded by a moat, and presents a good specimen of the style of domestic edifices in Cheshire in the early part of the seventeenth century. The annexed engraving will give a better idea of it than any description can, but it must be added that its architecture is displayed to every advantage by its excellent state of repair, and universal neatness.

MERTON OF MERTON, AND MANWARING OF MERTON.

The former from Charters and Inquisitions; the latter from Harl. MSS. 2119, and the Parochial Registers.

ARMS of MERTON, Azure, 3 bends Argent.

ARMS and CREST of MANWARING of Merton, as Mainwaring of Over Peover, with filial distinction.



^k Records in the Augmentation Office.

^l Leicester MSS. Harl. MSS. 2060.

^m Information of Mr. Okell, steward of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq.



J. Calveley delin^t

London, Pub. April 10 1816 by Lockington & Co

C. Heath sculp^t

VALE ROYAL 1773.



Geo. Urmerod F.S.A. delin^t

London, Pub. April 10 1816 by Lockington & Co

C. Heath sculp^t

MERTON GRANGE.



CHARTERS RELATING TO THE EXCHANGE OF MERTON FOR GAYTON, LACHE ON RUDHETHE,
THE HUNDRED OF CALDEY, AND THE EARLS EYE.

Vernon's MSS. Harl. MSS. 2074.

SCIANT, &c. quod nos frater Walterus, abbas de Valle Regali, et ejusdem loci conventus concess. dedimus, &c. dilecto nobis in Christo Ran'o de Mertoun manerium n'rum de Gayton in Wyrhall et de Lache sup. Rudhetha cum omnibus pertinentiis suis ut in dominicis, terris, edificiis, pratis, pascuis, pasturis, boscis, aquis, stagnis, molendinis, una cum reversione tenementorum quæ tenentur in dote vel aliter ad terminum vitæ vel per feodum talliatum infra maneria prædicta, piscariis, homagiis, wardis, releviis, escætis, villanis et eorum sequelis, herietis, gersuinis, mercatis, tallagiis, et omnibus aliis, ad prædicta maneria quoquo modo spectantibus, sine ullo retenemento in escambio pro manerio de Merton cum pertinentiis, (ex licentia et voluntate domini Edwardi, illustris regis Angliæ filii, principis Walliæ, et comitis Cestriæ), nobis per eundem Ranulphum collato, et nobis et successoribus nostris in perpetuum possidendo; prout pateat per cartam dicti Ranulphi nobis inde confecti, habend. et tenend. p'd'ca maneria de Gayton in afforestatu et de Lache extra forestam cum pertinentiis, sicut prædictum est ex voluntate dicti domini Edwardi, com. Cest. dicto Ran'o et heredibus suis in perpetuum, de dicto domino Edwardo, principe Walliæ et com. Cest. capitali domino feodi illius, et heredibus suis regibus Angliæ, per eadem servicia et easdem consuetudines, per quas idem Ranulphus et antecessores sui tenuerunt prædictum manerium de Merton de com. Cest. ante istud excambium factum, adeo libere quiete, &c. In cuius rei testimonium, &c. Hiis testibus: Will'mo Trussellum justic. Cest. Hamone de Masey, Rad'o de Vernon, Hugone de Venables, Ricardo de Masey, Jo. de Arderne, Patricio de Hasilwell milite, Will'mo de Stanley, Alex° Bamville, Fulco° de Meoles, Will'mo de Leighton, et aliis. Harl. MSS. 2074. 172. b.

Concessio manerii de Merton, Waltero abb'i de Valle Regali et ejusdem loci conventui, per Ran'um de Merton. Harl. MSS. 2074. 170. b.

Licentia d'ni Edwardi principis, et com. Cest. pro excambio manerii prædicti. Harl. MSS. 2074. 170. b.

Edwardus D. g. rex Angliæ, d'nus Hiberniæ, et dux Aquitaniæ, archiep. epi's, abbat. prior. comit. baron. justic. vic. p'po'itis, salutem, &c. Sciatis quod nos in recompensac'o'e unius messuagii 56 acrarum terræ 26 acr.

vasti et bosci, piscarii, communis pasturæ et aliorum aisiamentorum, quæ Ran'us de Merton h'uit in Merton infra de la Mara, et quæ piscarium communis pasturæ et aisiamenta ad quatuor marcas et duos solidos extenduntur, et quas terras et tenementa, piscaria, communem pasturam, cum aisiamentis et omnibus aliis pertinentiis sine aliquo retenemento, in manus nostras idem Ranulphus pro se et heredibus suis quiete tradidit; dedimus concessimus et hac præsentî carta nostrâ confirmamus eidem Ran'o placeas nostras in Cestr. in quibus cragel et bov'ia n'ra sita fuerint, et 24 et 2 acr. terr. et 3 acr. prati de d'nicis terr. castri nostri de Cestria infra insulam quæ vocatur Erls Eye et metas et divisas subscriptas, scilicet, a ponte Cestriæ super aquam de Dee versus Boughton, et in circuitu de Dee usque ad Claverton ford, et de Claverton ford usque ad fossatum de Newbold, et sic per fossatum illud usque Honebrugge, et de Honebrugge usque ad pontem Cestriæ, una cum communi pastura in Saltney, cum libero introitu et exitu, quibus ibi uti consuevimus, quamdiu terræ et tenementa p'd'ca in manu nostrâ extiterint; et ballivam et exitus hundredi n'ri de Calday, quæ extend. ad 5 marcas per annum. Habend. et tenend. &c. reddendo inde nobis ad scaccarium Cest. unum denarium per annum pro omni servitio, secta curiæ et comitatus, et omni alia exactione consuetudine et demanda. Concessi etiam eidem Ranulpho et heredibus suis pro nobis et heredibus nostris pro gratiâ nostra speciali, housebold et haybold in foresta n'ra de la Mara et d'nicis, porcos suos in eadem foresta tempore pessionis quietos de pannagio, et d'nicum bladum suum ad molend. nostr. Cestriæ molend. quiet. de pannagio et præstatione theolonei, per totum comitatum Cestriæ, et cervisiæ quæ vocatur Tolcester dando castro nostro Cestr. in perpetuum sint quiet. Testibus venerabilibus patribus R. Bathon. et Well. A. Dunelm. epis. Edmundo fr'e n'ro Will'mo de Valenc. avunculo meo Edmundo comite Cornub. Gilberto de Clare, com. Glocest. et Hereford, Henrico de Lacy, com. Lincoln, Rogero de Bigod, com. Norfolk et mariscall. Angliæ, Humf. de Bohun, com. de Hereford et Essex, Will'mo de Bello Campo, com. Warren, Jo. de Vesey, Ric'o de Brus, et aliis. Dat. apud Bristoliam, 20 die Januarii, a° regni n'ri 13°. Harl. MSS. 2074. 197.

DERNHALL.

DERNHALL, which is unnoticed in Domesday, at the period of that survey was most probably united to the lands of the Earldom. The Earls occasionally resided here, in a mansion, where John Scot died of poison administered by his wife in 1237. Sir Peter Leycester inadvertently says, that he died at the *abbey* of Dernihall, which was not founded until 1273, and, most probably quoting from memory, is inaccurate also,

in the passage which he gives from Matthew Paris, whose words are, "circa illos dies comes Cestriæ Johannes cognomento Scotus, circa Pentecosten, uxore suâ filiâ Leolini machinante, potionatus, diem clausit extremum."

54 Hen. III. Prince Edward, earl of Chester, granted this manor in his foundation charter, to the abbey which he founded here, and removed eight years

afterwards to Vale Royal, to which this manor was confirmed by the charter of translation.

The convent of Vale Royal after this removal continued to possess here a grange and park^a, and relied on this township for their principal supply of wheat for the uses of the abbey^b. The natives of Dernhall were the causes of no little trouble to the abbots, and perpetually manifested successive symptoms of resistance to the authority of their new lords. The most remarkable of these disturbances will be found described in the history of the abbey, and arose from the oppressive customs of the manor, of which the following account is abstracted from a long article in the leger book "de consuetudinibus manerii de Dernhall^c."

In this document it is maintained, "that the natives owe suit to the court indefinitely at the will of the lord or his bailiff, and if warned over night must attend in the morning; that if lands are transferred by tenants to their sons during their lives, that the sons must perform the suit due to the abbot, or redeem it at his will; that they must resort to the abbey mills, and pay pannage for their hogs; that they must purchase from the abbot, at his own price, a power of marrying their daughters out of the manor; and pay their leywyte if they "went astray carnally."

That when any native died, the abbot became entitled to his pigs and capons, his horses at grass, his domestic horse, his bees, his pork, his linen and woollen cloth, his money in gold and silver, and his brazen vessels; but that by a concession of abbot John, the wife might have the metal, the abbot having the option of purchasing the vessels. The abbot to have in addition the best good for a heriot, and the church the next; all other animals to be equally divided between the lord, the wife, and the children, and^d if no children, between the lord and the wife.

That if any corn was standing, the wife should chuse, between that and the corn gathered, and divide with the abbot the corn she chuses; the other to be the abbot's entirely.

That no native should make a will without licence from the lord.

That before this division there should be payment of the expences of the wake and funeral of the deceased; and that in the division heifers should be shared in the same manner as the other animals; and that the sheep were antiently divided in the same manner before Warin Grosvenor brought the practice into disuse, when bailiff, from dislike to the abbot.

That the lord may purchase a hen or a duck for 2d. and a duckling in Lent for 1½d. from any of the natives.

That the land of the deceased shall remain in the hand of the lord, until a heir shall be found, who must pay fine at the lord's will.

That the natives in time of war shall keep watch for a time unlimited at Dernhall Court, if watch is then kept at Chester Castle, or purchase a release from service from the abbot.

That the natives shall not sell hay or corn, if the lord wishes to purchase it; that the fines shall be levied once a fortnight, rent paid quarterly, and no goods of the deceased sold for debts, expences of funeral-wake, or burial, without the licence of the bailiff.

That the natives shall keep the lord's pigs and horses, have the care of his park, and feed his hounds.

At the dissolution the manor of Dernhall was valued by the special commissioners at 44l. 6s. 8d.^d and was granted 10 May, 33 Hen. VIII. for 682l. to Rowland Hill, citizen and merchant of the city of London "as the manor, farm, and grange of Dernhall, with its appurtenances in Whitegate and Dernhall, the court leet, view of frank pledge, &c." and was charged with a yearly rent of 3l. 8s. 4d. payable to the Court of Augmentation of the King's Revenue.

^e 9 Eliz. By an exemplification of a fine, it appears that Sir Rowland Hill, knight, citizen and alderman of London, before the death of Sir Reginald Corbet, levied a fine of the manor of Darnhall, 2d Dec. 3 Eliz. to the use of himself for life, remainder to Alice Needham his kinswoman for life, remainder to the use of Reginald Corbet and Alice his wife in special tail, remainder in fee to the said Alice.

This Sir Reginald Corbet, who was appointed a justice of the Common Pleas, 16th Oct. 1 Eliz.^f married Alice, daughter and co-heir of John Gratewood, by Johanna sister of Sir Rowland Hill before-mentioned, and left issue Richard Corbet, esq. his heir.

Peter Corbet, esq. sold the manor of Dernhall to Robert Bamfield, esq. who re-sold the same to Thomas Lee^g, esq. son of Henry Lee, esq. of Lee Hall in Nantwich Hundred. From John Lee, esq. of Wincham and Dernhall the manor again was transferred by sale to the family of Corbet, about the beginning of the last century, and is now the property of William Thompson Corbet, esq.

Dernhall Grange is a handsome modern brick mansion, built near the verge of the Ashbrook, the course of which produces some little variation from the otherwise unbroken and monotonous flat which the township presents. In some points, however, the forest breaks in upon the eye with advantage, and Beeston and the Broxton Hills enliven the more distant prospect.

^a In the Leger Book, ix, is a charge of xivl. iis. for ditching and hedging the park of Dernhall, and a similar charge for drawing away wood from the same.

^b Vide letter of the abbot to Cromwell in the account of Vale Royal.

^d Records in the Augmentation Office.

^e Records in Chester Castle.

^c Leger Book, lxvii.

^f Dugdale Orig. Juridiciales, and Harl. MSS. 2060.

^g For the pedigree of Lee, see Lee and Wincham.

Over.

IN this parish are only comprehended three townships, Over with the hamlets of Swanlow and Winsford, Oulton Lowe, and Wetenhall. The parish of Little Budworth was antiently deemed a chapelry of Over, and the entire parish of Whitegate was taken out of it by statute 33 Hen. VIII.

OVER.

THE township of Over is thus described in Domesday, in Dudestan Hundred:

“Ipse comes tenet Ovre, quatuor liberi homines tenuerunt pro quatuor maneriis; ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est quinque carucarum; ibi unus Radman, cum una carucâ. Silva ibi dimidia leuvâ longitudine, et tantundem latitudine. Valebat sex solidos, modo quinque solidos.”

The manor of Over continued united to the earldom until 54 Hen. III. when it was bestowed by prince Edward, earl of Chester, on his abbey of Dernhall by his foundation charter, and was afterwards confirmed to the monks of the same by the charter of translation to Vale Royal. The abbot and convent had their bailiff of Over, who held here their courts for the manors of Over and Dernhall, in a manner and with privileges similar to those which have been before mentioned in the account of Weverham.

After the dissolution of Vale Royal, the manors of Over and Weverham were granted 1 Aug. 37 Hen. VIII. to Sir Thomas Holcroft^a, knight, in consideration of the sum of 466l. 10s. 10d. and in exchange for the manor of Cartmel, subject also to a reserved rent of 10l. 0s. 4d.

From the Holcrofts the manor passed by sale to Edmund Pershall, eldest son of Edmund Pershall, of London, merchant, by his wife Mary, daughter of Randle Bathurst. The Pershalls were descended from a Staffordshire family, and bore for their arms, Argent, a cross fleury, Sable, on a canton, Vert, a wolf's head erased, Argent, for difference a trefoil, Argent^b.

Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. fourth son of Lady Mary Cholmondeley, purchased the manor from this family in the time of Charles the Second, from which period it has descended^c with the Vale Royal estate, and is now vested in Thomas Cholmondeley, esq.

The court of Over is a court leet and court baron; and by charter 10 Edw. I. a market and fair here were granted to the abbot and convent of Vale Royal and

their successors^d: the market to be held on Wednesday, and the fair on the feast of the exaltation of the cross, with the days preceding and following.

Over is a borough by prescription, and governed by a mayor, whose jurisdiction extends also over the township of Merton, and the hamlet of Swanlow. He is chosen annually in the court of the lord of Over, in which two juries are impanelled, one for Over called the grand jury, and the other for Merton and Swanlow, called the county jury. The grand jury return twelve names, out of whom the lord of the manor nominates. This appointment takes place at Michaelmas, after which the mayor is sworn in by the clerk of the court, and also at the Christmas Quarter Sessions. Leavelookers are appointed at the same time.

The mayor is elected without going through any previous steps. He holds a court for small debts, and has all the powers of a magistrate within his liberties. The county magistrates, acting for the Hundred of Edisbury, nominate all the officers of the townships within the borough, and have the same powers here as in any other township, with the exception of the granting of licences, in which their jurisdiction is only concurrent, the licence being signed by the mayor and one magistrate of the county.

Over in point of extent may rate as the third town of the Hundred, after Frodsham and Tarporley. It consists of a street nearly a mile long on the road from Middlewich to Chester, in which are the steps of several large crosses, most probably erected by the monks of Vale Royal. The township is terminated at Winsford Bridge by the Weever, at the distance of about one mile east from the town; but the intervening space, from the great increase of population in consequence of the salt-works, forms nearly an uninterrupted street. On the south, at about twice this distance, the other hamlet of Over Swanlow is terminated by the Ashbrook; this part presents the appearance of an irregular village of

^a Records of the Augmentation Office, and Harl. MSS. 2060. 164.

^c Vernon's Collections. Harl. MSS. 2074. 202.

^d Harl. MSS. 2010.

^b Dugdale Vis. Cest. 1664.

^e Vale Royal Leger Book, xi.

^f Ibid. xii.

farm-houses, scattered on the sides of sandy lanes. The greatest part of the whole is the property of Thos. Cholmondeley, esq. under whom are farmed the long succession of salt works, extending along the Weever from Winsford towards Vale Royal. Where this line commences, every natural beauty of course gives way before the smoke, the machinery, and the various nuisances inseparable from a manufacturing population. The face of the country is otherwise pleasing, and after leaving the bank of the Weever, the views towards Beeston, the Broxton hills, and the fertile and well wooded district intervening, are particularly interesting.

In this township is the estate of Woodford, which was confirmed by Randle Blundeville, earl of Chester, to Thurstan de Wodeford, as appears from an entry in the leger book of Vale Royal, which recites also that his father had held the same, being one croft with its appurtenances, subject to the annual render of v shillings and one hog^e.

1329. On the feast of St. Martin, Philip de Egerton did homage to the abbot of Vale Royal in Over Court^f, and acknowledged that he held his manor by the above services, and homage and fealty.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VI. William Egerton of Bulkeley, held, inter alia, one toft, 20 acres of land, and one acre of meadow from the abbot of Vale Royal, by military service, and the render of vi shillings per ann. Val. xxs. per annum.

17 Hen. VI. John Warde did homage before the abbot in Over Court for the manor of Wodeforte, on the Wednesday before the feast of St. Edmund, held as above-mentioned, and by one appearance at the court of Over^g.

Inq. p. m. 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary. Hugh Starkie of Oulton held, inter alia, lands and tenements in Woodfort, in the lordship of Over, from Sir Thomas Holcroft, by mil. serv. and xiiis. rent. Val. xxiiis. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary. James Starkye, esq. of Oulton held lands in Woodfort from Sir Thomas Holcroft, knight, as of the dissolved monastery of Vale Royal, in socage, by the rent of vis. per annum. Val. xliiis. viiijd. per annum.

Inq. p. m. Jac. 9, and 45 Scotiæ, Nov. 9. Hugh Starkye, esq. held the messuage or mansion called Woodford, with appurtenances, from Sir Thomas Holcroft as aforesaid, by rent before-mentioned. Val. 46s. viiijd. per annum.

Shortly after this Inquisition, Woodford was sold to the Maistersons of Nantwich, ^hand was resold before 1671, to Sir John Booth, knight, youngest son of Sir Geo. Booth, bart. of Dunham Massey, who died in 1678, having married to his second wife in 1659, Anne, daughter of John Gobert of Bosworth, co. Lincoln, widow of Thomas Legh of Adlington, esq. who died issueless. By his first wife Dorothy, daughter of Sir Anthony St. John, knight, brother of Oliver earl of Bolingbroke, he was father of George son and heir; and of Sir John Booth of Chester, knight, who married Alice, daughter of Roger Owen of Cundover, esq. by whom he had John, Thomas, and Elizabethⁱ.

George Booth, esq. son and heir, died aged 84, in 1719, and was buried at St. Oswald's in Chester. He was prothonotary of Chester, translator of Diodorus

Siculus, and author of a treatise on the nature and practice of real actions. His issue were Elizabeth, wife of George Tyndale, esq. of Bathford, co. Somerset, and Catherine, who died in 1765, wife of James Howard of Boughton, esq.^j. eldest son of Philip, sixth son of Thomas Howard first earl of Berkshire. He was born March 21, 1678, in the palace at St. James's, died June 1722, and was buried in the cathedral church of St. Werburgh, at Chester.

Catherine Howard had issue William, James, and Thomas, who died young, also two daughters, of whom Martha Maria married Charles fifth son of John first earl of Bristol; from these daughters the Woodford estate passed by sale to Sir George Prescott, baronet, who resold the same to Mr. Richard Dutton of Waverton, the present proprietor^k.

To this township tradition has assigned the honour of being the birth place of *William or Robert Nixon*, an illiterate idiot, said to be author of certain prophecies, which have been printed in all parts of the kingdom, and to which the lower orders in the North, and many better-informed persons, have given credence. They were a subject of general curiosity about the time of the Rebellion of 1745, to such a degree that Fielding has introduced them through the mouth of Partridge^l, among the current superstitions then popularly connected with the attempts of the Adventurer.

The birth of this individual has been assigned to the time of Edward the Fourth; but a second story also exists, which refers him to the time of James the First; a date palpably false, as many of the supposed prophecies were to be fulfilled at an antecedent period.

He is said to have attracted the royal notice by foretelling, in Cheshire, the result of the battle of Bosworth, on recovering from sudden stupor with which he was seized while the battle was fighting in Leicestershire, and to have been sent for to court shortly afterwards, where he was starved to death through forgetfulness, in a manner which he had himself predicted.

The silence of registers respecting him is of course accounted for by the time he lived in: that of the Harleian MSS. is more singular; but it must be remembered that those enormous Cheshire collections are mostly copies of deeds, and that the very few original narratives they contain, relate mostly to contemporary events. Webb, in his Itinerary, may possibly allude to him, as the author of "old prophecies," in the account of Delamere, but obviously rejects the story if he does allude to it. It is, however, not impossible that the fiction may be of some antiquity, for among all the prose vulgarly printed as his prophecies, and referring, in modern language, to places and families unknown at his time, will be found some prophecies of a more general nature, running in metre which varies little from the poetry of the day.

Many instances of the fulfilment of his trivial predictions are maintained in Cheshire, such as the meeting of the abbies of Norton and Vale Royal in the building of Acton bridge; the removal of a mill to Luddington hill by sir John Crewe, and the draining of Ridley pool: but by far the most important is that alluded to by Oldmixon, who says, in an edition of these prophecies, that, in pursuance of the prediction,

^e Vale Royal Leger Book, xi.

^f Ibid. xii.

^g Ibid. xcv.

^h Villare Cest. 1671, Harl. MSS. 2010.

ⁱ Le Neve's MS. Baronet's Pedigrees, 1. 9. b.

^j Collins's Peerage.

^k Information of Mr. Okell, of Vale Royal.

^l "All the prophecies that I ever read, speak of a deal of blood to be spilt in the quarrel; and the miller with three thumbs, who is now alive, is to hold the horses of three kings up to his knees in blood." TOM JONES, Book VIII. Cap. 9.

that an eagle should visit Vale Royal when the heir of that house was to be born, an eagle did come, remained near the house three days, and was seen by thousands of people, and, among others, by the sister, and Mr. St. John, the brother, of Mrs. Cholmondeley, who were brought to the window by the acclamations of the people. Oldmixon states the story on the authority of lady Cowper, who had the story from Patrick, bishop of Ely, chaplain to sir Walter St. John, Mrs. Cholmondeley's father, and also from her sister.

If this could be established, Nixon might be referred to the list of certain individuals, among whom may be classed Henry VI. who are said to have possessed a gift of this kind, united with general weakness of understanding. Oldmixon states that snow was on the ground, which may accord with the birth of the person referred to, Charles, eldest son of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. by Anne St. John, on the 12th Jan. 1684-5; and he was also born heir of Vale Royal, his last surviving brother, by the first marriage, having died in 1679: but it must be remembered that he died as late as 1756,

and was only the grandfather of the present generation, and that this fulfilment of a prophecy said to have been looked to for generations by the county, and to have drawn thousands to Vale Royal, is not in two subsequent generations supported by the slightest memorandum, or even a single tradition preserved in a family it so much concerned. Under these circumstances, the fact itself, and the very material circumstance of the prophecy being in circulation before the fact, must rest entirely on the credibility given to Oldmixon. In the compilation of this work there has not occurred any direct or collateral confirmation of the story, or the previous prophecy, in any authentic document whatsoever.

A portrait, with the name of Nixon, was engraved by Harding from a picture in the possession of Owen Brereton, esq. which he picked up accidentally in a very tattered state from some children in Cheshire, who used it as a play-thing; but its connection with the person it is reported to be the likeness of, is altogether imaginary.

VICARS OF OVER.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1307, prid. kal. Ap.	D'nus Thomas de Dutton, cap.	Priorissa et convent. B.V.M. Cest.	
1349, 5 Non. Jul.	Jo. de Newnham, cap.	Edw. f. Reg. Ang. p'mog. hac vice.	P. m. d'ni Thomæ, ult. Rect.
1379, 16 kal. Jun.	Jo. de Corona, pr'b'r.	Priorissa Cest.	
1379, . . . Jun.	Rob'tus de Rosingreve.	Priorissa Cest.	P. m. Jo. de Corona.
1387.	Ricardus de Swanlo.	Priorissa Cest.	
1411, 15 Dec.	Jo. de Bostock, cap.	Priorissa Cest.	
1432.	Thomas Woolley, pr'b'r.		
1433.	Ricardus Asthull.	Priorissa et Moniales Cest.	
1475, 16 Oct.	Edw's Barker, pr'b'r. Robert Pandrey.	Priorissa Monialium Cest.	
1572, May 3.	Robert Forster. Ralph Kettle.	The Bishop of Chester.	Resig. of Rob. Pandrey.
1613, Ap. 9.	William Case.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of R. Kettle.
1615, Ap. 20.	Arthur Barker. Ford.	The Bishop of Chester.	Resig. of W. Case.
1672, Sep. 17.	Litler Shene.	The Bishop of Chester.	
1678, Oct. 15.	Thomas Faulkner.	Charles Rex.	
1684, Jan. 8.	Robert Griffiths.		
1695, May 28.	Richard Weaver, A. B.	The Bishop of Chester.	
1706, Nov. 14.	Josiah Leese.	The Bishop of Chester.	Cess. of Rich. Weaver.
1753, July 14.	Edward Moore, LL. B.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of J. Leese.
1756, March 15.	John Gleave.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of Edw. Moore.
1801, Dec. 5.	Thomas Crane.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of John Gleave.

The first vicar on this list was second son of sir Thomas Dutton, of Dutton.

Richard de Swanlo was also vicar of Frodsham, to which he was presented in 1374, and which he most probably resigned on being presented to Over, another appointment being made in 1387.

. *Ford* is inserted on the authority of Walker, who states him to have been "harassed and threatened out of" his vicarage.

Richard Weaver is further noticed in the list of rectors of Barrow.

The present vicar is author of a History of Eccleston, and other literary works.

THE CHURCH.

Tax Eccl. P. Nicholai, 9l. 6s. 8d. Certif. Val.
18l. 16s. a discharged living.

The impropriation of this church was given by Randle Gernons, earl of Chester, to the Benedictine nunnery there: it does not appear from Domesday to have been in existence at the Conquest.

At the foundation of Vale Royal abbey, the tithes of part of this parish, consisting of those of Bradford, Little Over, Sutton, and Merton, were released to that abbey, for which the nuns received the sum of cvs. ijd. out of the rents of Middlewich, (as mentioned in a commission directed to Robert Holland by the king,

Jan. 23, 5 Edw. II.) and the said nuns received¹, also, from the rent of the earldom, *ivl. xviii.* in lieu of the tithes of Over which they had re-leased to the same monastery. If this grant relates to the tithe of the whole parish, it was afterwards resumed by the nuns, as it appears from the abbot's letter to Cromwell, printed in the account of Vale Royal, that the tithes of Over were held under the nunnery by the Convent on lease. A final award of what lands were to pay tithe to Vale Royal, was made by the abbot and prioress, William Stratford and Elizabeth Rixton, and sir William Stanley^m, chamberlain of Chester, in 1475, the particulars of which are entered in the Leger Book of Vale Royal, which also notesⁿ that Emma Vernon, prioress, had lost all her rights of common in Brendewood, by the sale of the rectory-house of Over.

After the dissolution, the rectory of Over and advowson of the vicarage were granted to John Bird, bishop of Chester, and his successors, by letters patent dated 38 Hen. VIII. The great tithes are now held on lease, under the bishop, by Charles Cholmondeley, esq. of Overlegh.

The church of Over, dedicated to St. Chad, is situated in a retired glen near the bank of the Weever, about two fields distance from the highway leading from Nantwich to Over, from which the road to the church turns off at about half a mile distance from the latter place, at the steps of an antient cross. The general style of the building is that of the time of Henry VIII. when it was rebuilt by Hugh Starkey, esq. in 1543.^o The tower is of four stories embattled, the buttresses ending in finials, now broken, and a rich gothic frieze runs round, under the battlements. On the south side of the tower is a niche, with an inscription too much mutilated to be legible.

Under an obtuse arch, ornamented with crockets, attached to the north wall, is an altar tomb, containing the remains of the rebuilder of the church, with his effigy in brass, and this inscription in black letter :

Of your charite pray for the soule of Hugh Starkey of Olton esquier, gentilmⁿ Usher to King Henry the VIII. and son to Hugh Starkey of Olton esquier : which Hugh

the son decessyd the yere of our Lord God *m.cccccc . . .* on his soule Jhū have mcy.

Another altar-tomb, before the steps of the chancel, contains the father of Hugh Starkey interred under the preceding tomb, and his wife Margaret Egerton. The inscription is now obliterated, but is preserved by Cole : "Hic jacent corpora Hugonis Starkey de Olton arm'i, et Margaretæ uxoris ejus." There were two figures carved on brasses ; and part of the Egerton's coat in the impalement was remaining.

The East window contained some fine tabernacle work in painted glass, now much broken. In the windows in the south aisle are the arms of Starkey and Olton quarterly, and impaled with the coats of Done and Needham.

In the same aisle are two figures, in stained glass, of John Starkey, of Olton, esq. and his wife Agnes, sister of sir John Needham of Shavington, as appears by the armorial shields attached. Both figures are kneeling before desks ; the man is in plate armour, the female figure much mutilated. The mullions and tracery in many of the windows are injudiciously cut away.

The south porch is of two stories embattled. In the entrance is a water bason, under a fine crocketed arch, projecting from the wall so as to exhibit three sides of an octagon ornamented with gothic niches.

The Registers commence in 1558, the baptisms are imperfect from 1564 to 1590, the burials from 1567 to 1590.

The vicarage was augmented in 1755, and in 1758 lands were purchased to the value of 400*l.* of which 200*l.* was given by the executors of William Stratford, LL. D. ; the rest by the trustees of Queen Anne's bounty.

At a short distance from the ancient cross, at the point where the road turns off to the church, is a school, which has been removed from the township of Dernhall into this parish. The founder was Thomas Lee, of Dernhall, esq. who was sheriff of Cheshire in 1698, who endowed it with lands then of the value of 20*l.* per annum, and limited its uses to the inhabitants of the parishes of Over and Whitegate, and of the township of Weever in the parish of Middlewich.

OULTON LOWE.

THE name of this township occurs twice in Domesday, as Altetone and Oltetone, once in the Hundred of Dudestan, as the property of the earl, along with the contiguous towns of Over and Little Budworth ; and afterwards noticed in Riseton Hundred, as the property of Nigell, baron of Halton. This second notice most probably refers to the neighbouring hamlet of Oulton, in Little Budworth.

"Ipse comes tenet Altetone. Stein tenuit, liber homo fuit ; ibi una hida geldabilis : terra est ii carucarum. Wasta est."

"Nigellus tenet de Hugone comite Oltetone. Dunning tenuit et liber homo fuit ; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis : terra est una caruca : reddit de firmâ v solidos et quatuor denarios, tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos. Wasta invenitur."

From the earls of Chester, who according to the first of these statements possessed Oulton at the Conquest, this manor most probably passed by grant to the Kingsleys ; as Dr. Williamson, in the Villare Cestriense, states, that Godfrey de la Lowe, son of John, possessed a moiety of this place by gift of Randle de Kingsley. It appears from the Cheshire pedigrees that this Godfrey was father of John, Randle, and Henry, of whom Randle had Richard, eldest son, and Ralph de Oldeton, the eldest of whom, Richard (according to Dr. Williamson), succeeded to his father's lands in Oulton, and Randle, ancestor of the Oultons of Oulton, the second son, possessed the manor of the same, by gift from his uncle John.

^a This Richard was living 34 Edw. I. in which year Nicholas son to John de Wettetal, obtained from him 1 mess. and 10 acres of land in Oldinton. His issue

¹ Leger Book, XIX.

^m Ibid. xciv.

ⁿ Ibid. LXXXVI.

^o Gastrell Not. Cest.

^p Williamson's Collection of Deeds, p. 4.

became extinct in the third generation. In deeds he is called indifferently de la Lowe, and de Oldinton.

Randle de Oldinton, lord of Oldinton, by gift of his uncle, and younger brother of Richard, had issue Richard father of John de Oldinton, who married the daughter and co-heiress of William lord of Leighton, by whom he was father of Randle and John, and who enfeoffed William le Ferne chaplain, with 43 mess. 1 mill, and 720 acres of land in Oulton and Minshull Vernon, to the use of his two sons successively, 15 Edw. II.^b This William Ferne, 15 Edw. III. obtained the same lands from the same John, to the use of John for life, remainder to Randle his son, remainder successively to Richard, Thomas, and John, sons of John de Oldinton.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Randle, son of John de Olton, held a moiety of Minshull Vernon, and was also seized of the manor of Olton, in demesne as of fee, held from Sir Peter Thornton in socage, value 1111l. per annum; also of the Vill of Lowe, held in the same manner from Thomas de Leigh in capite, val. vjl. per annum. John de Olton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 20 Ric. II. John de Olton held the manors of Erdswick and Wrenbury, and lands in Church Minshull, and also was seized of the manor of Olton, held from the heirs of Sir Peter Thornton in socage, by the rent of 1111s. value xx marks per annum. Ellen, Joan, and Margaret, daughters and coheirs.

Peterina his wife held lands in Erdeswick, Church Minshull, and Olton in dower, *Inq. p. m.* 13 Hen. VI.

The manor of Olton passed in marriage with Johanna, the second of these co-heirs, to Peter Starkey, second son of Thomas Starkey of the Nether Hall, in Stretton, whose descendants continued in possession of this manor until the close of the seventeenth century.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VI. Peter Starkey of Olton held for life, by law of England, the manor of Olton, from the heirs of Sir Peter Thornton, in socage, by the render of 1111s. per annum. Val. xx marks; also lands in Worleston. Hugh son and heir.

This Hugh died 17 Hen. VI. (*Inq. p. m.*) leaving his son and heir, John Starkie, esq. of Oulton, who is portrayed in the painted glass of Over church, with his wife, Agnes Needham, by whom he was father of Hugh Starkey, esq. who was found heir to him by *Inq.* 1 Edw. IV.

Inq. p. m. 18 Hen. VIII. Hugh Starkey, esq. held the manor of Olton, also Olton Lowe, from the heirs of Randle de Kingsley, in socage, val. xxl. per annum; also a third part of the manor of Erdeswick, and of lands in Church Mynshull and Worleston, val. tot. xx1vl. xi1js. viid. Obiit penult. Julij A° p'd'to. Hugh Starkey, son and heir, aged 29 years.

Hugh Starkey, last-mentioned, rebuilt the church of Over in 1543, where he is interred under the founders arch, near another altar tomb erected to the memory of his father. He was gentleman usher to king Henry the Eighth, and had a natural son, Oliver Starkey, a Knight of Malta, and afterwards grand prior of the Order. On his decease without legitimate issue, his estates passed to his brother James Starkey, consisting of the manor of Olton, held as above, val. xxl. per annum, the manor of Knights Grange, a third of the manor of Erdswick, and lands in Church Mynshull, Mynshull Vernon, Worleston, Woodford, Eytton, Rushton, Tarporley, Finnywood

in Budworth and Surlach. *Inq. p. m.* 2 and 3 Phil. and Mary.

Inq. p. m. 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary. James Starkey, esq. died seized of the before-mentioned estates, and of lands in Northwich, Tarvin, Backford, Stoke, and Runcorn. Obiit 28 Nov. A° p'd'to. John Starkey, esq. son and heir. Oulton in this *Inq.* valued at x111l. viis. vii11d. Val. tot. 80l. 19s. 4d.

Inq. p. m. 7 Oct. 11 Jac. I. John Starkey, esq. late of Darley, held the manors of Olton and Lowe, the first from the heirs of Randle de Kingsley, and the second from John Leigh of Booths, esq. Val. vi1. vii11s. 1vd. also lands in Eytton, Rushton, Budworth, Tarvin, and Tarporley. Val. tot. 12l. 18s. 8d.

Dorothy and Margaret, daughters of Hugh Starkey, next heirs, aged severally ten and eight years, on the 28th February and 10th June preceding the date of the Inquisition.

Either by litigation or the decease of the co-heirs, the manors passed successively to Ralph and Henry Starkey, their uncles, and to John Starkey, eldest son of Henry, who died in 1684, at Darley Hall, leaving issue. The manor of Oulton was alienated afterwards to the Egertons of Oulton Park, most probably by the issue of this John; it is now vested in Sir John Grey Egerton, of Oulton Park and of Egerton, baronet.

This township lies at the back of Oulton Park, in a flat unpleasant part of the county. Darley Hall, the seat of the Starkeys, now taken down, was surrounded by a moat still remaining, the interior of which is a parallelogram of about a statute acre. No court is held or claimed for the manor.

In addition to the grand prior of the knights of Malta before-mentioned, this family produced^r Sir Humphrey Starkey, constituted chief baron of the exchequer by patents, dated at Westminster 15 June 1 Edw. V. and 26 June 1 Ric. III.; and also Ralph Starkey, an antiquary, a statesman, and a poet, as Dr. Gower observes^s, who has strangely confused his account of him. According to this authority, there were two Ralph Starkeys contemporaries, one of the house of Stretton, but of which hall therein, he does not mention; the other Ralph Starkey of Darley in Oulton, and of London, merchant. Dr. Gower is not supported in this statement by the Stretton pedigrees, and the circumstance of the papers now preserved in the British Museum, which certainly belonged to the Ralph whom he refers to the house of Stretton, containing the document^t undermentioned, relative to the law proceedings by which Ralph Starkey succeeded to the estate of Oulton Lowe, is almost conclusive in proving the identity of the two Ralphs, and that the compiler of those papers was Ralph Starkey of Darley Hall in Oulton.

A very neat collection of Cheshire pedigrees, with tricks of arms and seals, by this Ralph Starkey, is now in the possession of William Radclyffe, esq. Rouge Croix. His poem, written under the name of Infortunio, from which an extract is given by Dr. Gower, is in the British Museum, (No. 558, Harl. MSS.) consisting of 581 stanzas, in the manner of Spenser, feigning an apparition of king Edward the Second, who is made to relate the transactions of his reign. His other MSS. preserved in the same collection, are, No. 81, Acts of the Privy Council, 20—24 Hen. VI. No. 90. Contenta Rot. Pa-

^a Williamson's Collection of Deeds, p. 13.

^r Dugdale's Orig. Juridic. p. 72.

^s Prospectus of a History of Cheshire.

^t A Copie of a summons to Mr. Henry Starkey of Darley, to appear before a Committee of Lords upon the commitment of the Bill, for establishing of the lands in Ralph Starkey his eldest son. Harl. MSS. 165.

tent. Reg. Edw. III. No. 253. Documents relating to ships and ship-building, temp. Eliz. No. 286. A large collection of original letters of considerable persons on public and domestic subjects; and No. 353. A miscellaneous collection of letters and state papers.

In No. 97, Harl. MSS. is a copy of covenants between Arthur Barnardiston, esq. and Sir Simon D'Ewes, with Ambrose Scudamore and Nicholas Bragge, respecting Mr. Ralph Starkey's books, dated 24th Oct. 1628. From this document it is evident that the seizure of his papers by James the First, was not extended to the whole of them, and it does not appear that any of his heraldic collections were destroyed, as Dr. Gower asserts. The following copy of the warrant for this seizure, makes it probable that it only extended to some political documents of which he had improperly possessed himself in his avidity for collecting :

Copia Vera. Harl. MSS. 286. page 286.

"Whereas we are informed that one Rafe Starky, gentleman, and others, have gotten into his and their hands divers papers and matters of State, which belong unto his Ma'ty, as namely, those which in tymes paste were in the custody of Mr. Secretary Davison, which he

and they have collected and gathered up in divers places and doe detain them to their private use. These are to will and require you presently upon the receipt hereof, to repaire unto the lodgings of the said Rafe Starky, and such others as you shall know to have any of the said papers, and to secure into your hands all such papers of any quality whatsoever, which either ought to belong unto his Ma'ty, or may otherwise conduce to his service; and to bring the same into the office of his Ma'tie's papers for businesse of State, to be kept and conserved for his Ma'tie's service. And this shall be your warrant for the same. Given at his Ma'ties Pallace of Whythall, the 10th day of Aug. 1619.

" G. CANT. E. WORCESTER.

" ROBT. NAUNTON. JUL. CÆSAR.

"To our lovinge friende Tho. Willson, knight, clarke or keeper of his Ma'tie's Papers or Records on business of State.

"By vertu' of the warra't of Comissio' whereof this is the copie, I have received to his Ma'tie's use a sackfull of papers to the n'b'r of 45 paquetts, wh'ch were Mr. Secretary Davison's, and wh'ch Mr. Starky sayth he had from Mr. W. Duncome.

" THO. WILSON."

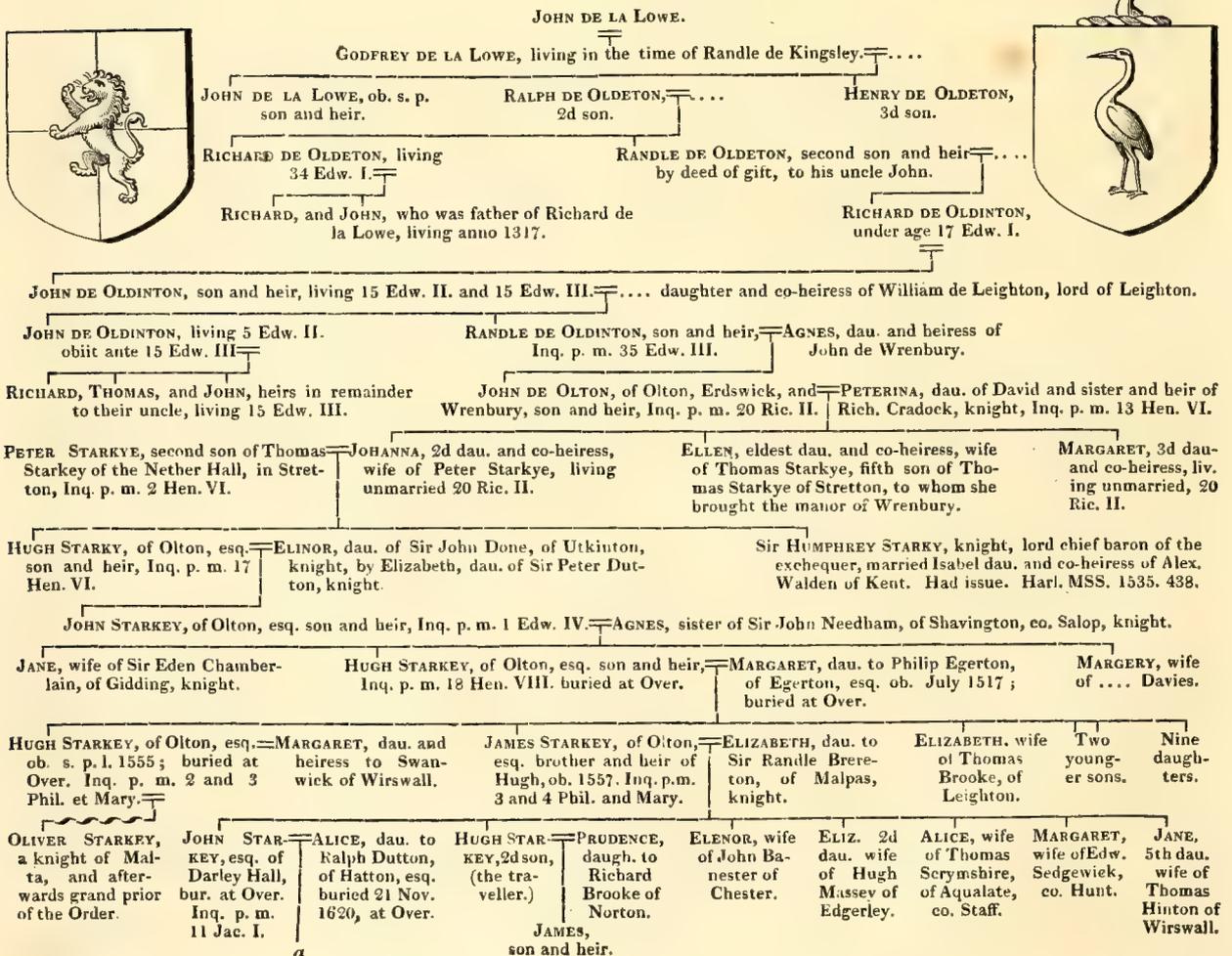
OULTON OF OULTON, AND STARKEY OF OULTON.

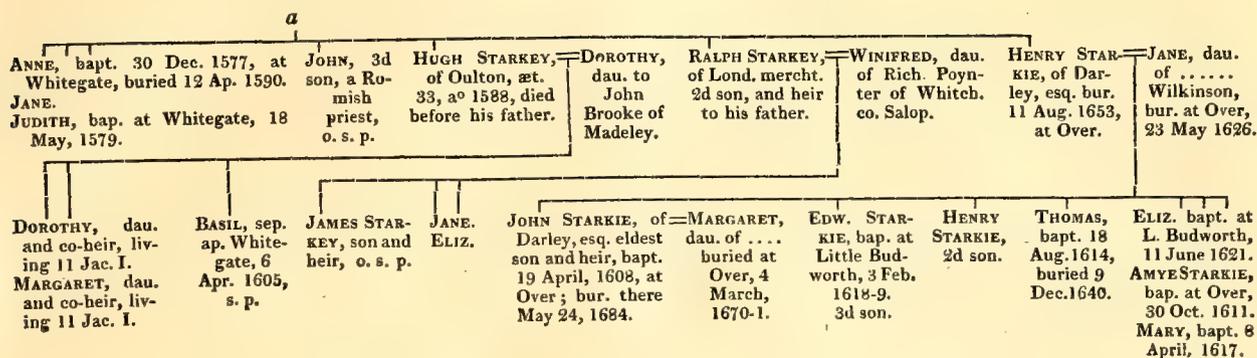
From the Visitations and Inquisitions, collated with Charters and the Parochial Registers of Over.

Arms of Oulton of Oulton, quarterly, Azure and Gules, a Lion rampant, Argent.

Arms of Starkey of Oulton, Argent, a Stork proper, beak and legs, Gules.

Crest, on a wreath party per pale, Argent, and Sable, a Stork head and neck couped, beaked, Gules. In the beak a Snake, Vert.





WETTENHALL.

GILBERT le Venables, baron of Kinderton, at the time of the Domesday Survey, was lord of this place, which is included in the list of the townships forming parts of that barony; but is nevertheless uniformly stated in the Inquisitions to be held by the Manleys and Bostocks, not from the barons of Kinderton, but from the earl in capite.

“Isdem Gislebertus tenuit Watenhale. Gleuvinus tenuit et liber homo fuit; ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est II carucarum; ibi unus Radman cum uno villano, et II Bordarii habent unam carucam; ibi II acrae prati. Silva unâ leuvâ et dimidia longa. Valuit et valet v solidos: wasta invenitur.”

Wettenhall gave name to a family as early as the reign of king Henry the First, as appears by the charter of Randle the First to the abbey of St. Werburg, in which Swein de Watenhale is stated to have given two bovates of land here to that abbey, with the consent of his sons. Gilbert de Wetenhale, according to Dugdale^a, was grandfather to John de Wetenhale, who was Lord of Wetenhale, 43 and 53 Hen. III. and had a son John, who married Agnes, daughter of Sir John Arderne of Alvanley and Aldford, knight. This John de Wetenhale, senior, and Agnes his wife, obtained the manor of Wetenhale, by fine, from Margery, daughter to John de Arderne, 11 Edw. II.^b

John de Wetenhale, junior, son of John and Agnes, had six daughters and coheirresses, as mentioned in the pedigree subjoined, of whom two died issueless, two divided their father's share of the barony of Wich Malbank, which the Wetenhales purchased from the Littleburies; and the remaining two, Margaret wife of Sir Adam Bostock, and Elizabeth, wife of Sir Richard de Manley, brought to their husbands the manor of Wettenhall in moiety.

^c *Manley Share of Wettenhall.*—*Inq. p. m.* 2 Hen. V. Richard de Manley held (inter alia) for the term of his life, by the courtesy, half the manor of Wettenhall, after the death of his wife Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of John de Wettenhall, held from the king, in capite, by mil. serv. Val. per annum xl. John son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VI. John Manley held in demesne as of fee, lands and woods in Wetenhale, with the mill there, from the king by military service. Val. per ann. xii. xiii. xd. Thomas son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 12 Hen. VII. Thomas Manley held in demesne, as of fee tail, the site of the manor of Wettenhale, with lands and buildings therein, from the prince as earl of Chester, in capite. Val. xixl. 11d.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VII. John Manley held in demesne, as of fee tail, the site of the manor of Wettenhall, with lands and buildings therein, from the prince as earl of Chester, in capite. Val. xixl. 11d.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VIII. James Manley, esq. held lands in Wettenhall, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, by military service. Val. xii. per annum.

^d In the 4th year of Elizabeth's reign, William Manley, esq. and Thomas his son, passed over their right in the share of this manor, by fine, to John Brereton, esq. of Eccleston, the second son of Randle Brereton of Eccleston, a bastard son of Sir Randle Brereton of Malpas. This fine was most probably only for assurance of title, Randle Brereton having died seized of the same 16 June 28 Hen. VIII. leaving Thomas Brereton, his son and heir, aged 23 years, on whose death^e, s. p. this share of Wettenhall devolved to his brother John Brereton, before-mentioned.

Inq. p. m. 10 Eliz. John Brereton, esq. held the manor of Wettenhall, from the queen in capite, by military service, val. per annum xxviii. xs.; also lands in Chester, val. viii. per annum. Obiit 20th August 10th Eliz. Richard son and heir, aged upwards of xix years.

Inq. p. m. 5 Car. I. Richard Brereton, esq. died seized of half the manor of Wettenhall, with 1620 acres of land and messuages, held of the king as earl of Chester, as the fourth part of a knight's fee. With messuages in Chester, and the advowson of the church of St. Mary on the Hill. John Brereton son and heir, aged 46 years.

^f By this John Brereton the manor of Wettenhall was alienated to Roger Wilbraham of Dorfold, esq. from whose descendants it passed by sale, about the middle of the last century, together with Dorfold, Croxton, and other estates of the Wilbrahams, to Henry Tomkinson, esq. in whose family it is now vested.

Of the *Bostock Share* there is mention in the following Inquisitions:

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. V. Adam de Bostocke held in demesne, as of fee, a moiety of the manor of Wettenhall, with appurtenances in the forest of Mondrem, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite. Val. xxi.

^a Vis. Cest. 1644. Coll. Arm.

^c For the other possessions and pedigree of the family, vide Inquisitions in Manley.

^e Leicester's Pedigrees, 117.

^b Williamson's Cheshire Evidences, p. 12.

^d Williamson's Cheshire Evidences, 91.

^f Vill. Cest. p. 115.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. V. Sir Ralph de Bostocke, held, inter alia, a moiety of the manor of Wettenhall.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VIII. Elizabeth, wife of Ralph Bostock, held, inter alia, lands &c. in Wettenhall, as the xvth part of a knight's fee. Val. ixl. per annum. Sir John Savage, jun. knight, next of kin and heir, as son of Anne, sister of William, son of Ralph Bostock aforesaid, and aged 23 years.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VIII. Sir John Savage, knight, held, among very numerous estates, lands in Wettenhall, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, as the xvth part of a knight's fee. Val. xxxs. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 41 Eliz. Sir John Savage, knight, died 5th Dec. 40th Eliz. seized of the manor of Wettenhall, among very numerous estates, valued altogether at 383l. iiij s. vijd. per annum.

44 Eliz. Richard Wilbraham, gent. obtained by fine, from Sir John Savage, knt. Sir Thomas Savage, knt. his son, and Edward Savage, gent. the manors of Wettenhall and Church Minshull^g. From this period to the present this moiety has continued united to the preceding one, the whole being now vested in Henry Tomkinson, esq. of Dorfold Hall.

Wettenhall is a flat unpleasant township. The hall is

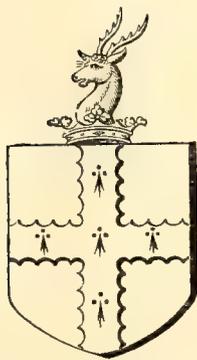
of brick, built in 1630, as appears by a date over the door. The front terminates in three gables, curiously scalloped and indented; from this two bows project, with bay windows, two stories high, terminating in a fanciful battlement of open work in stone. On the whole it is a good specimen of the architecture of the day, and well preserved. It stands at a few fields distance to the left of the road leading from Over to Bunbury.

The Wettenhalls of Wettenhall were superior lords of the manor of Alraham, holding it from the barony of Kinderton, and having under them, as mesne lords, a family who bore the local name at a very early period. By a singular inversion, the tenants of the manor of Wettenhall are now subject to the leet of Alraham.

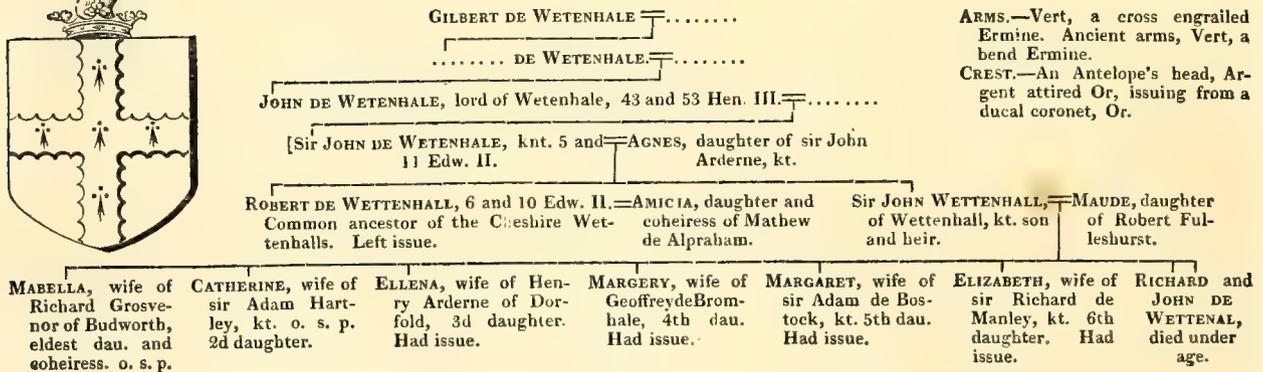
In this township is a Chapel of Ease to Over (the minister of which is appointed by the vicar of that parish) augmented by queen Anne's Bounty in 1719, towards which 50l.^h was contributed by the archbishop of York. It is a small modern building of brick, standing on a green near Calveley, and contains neither monuments or any thing else worthy of notice. The salary arising from augmentations, interest of a legacy, &c. was returned in 1810, as amounting to 105l. 5s. 11d.

WETTENHALL OF WETTENHALL.

Dugdale Visitat. Cest. 1664.

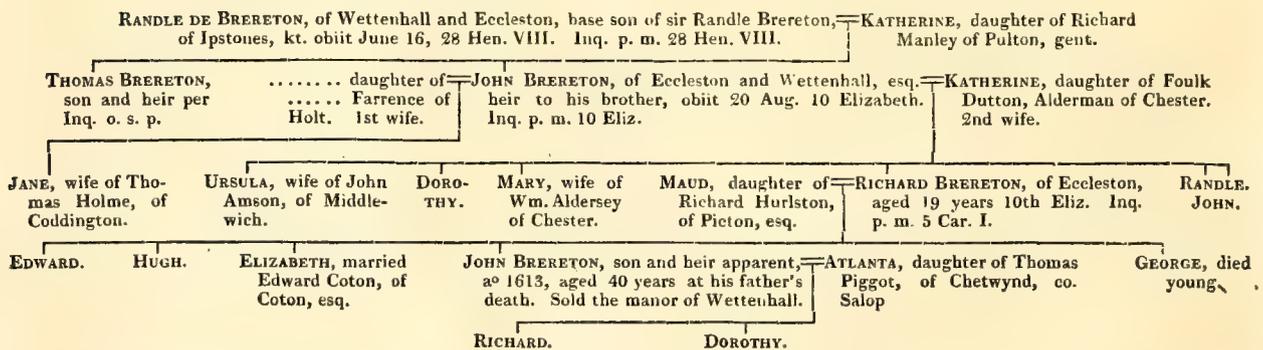


ARMS.—Vert, a cross engrailed Ermine. Ancient arms, Vert, a bend Ermine.
CREST.—An Antelope's head, Argent attired Or, issuing from a ducal coronet, Or.



BRERETON OF WETTENHALL AND ECCLESTON.

From Booth's Chesh. Pedigrees, collated with the Visitation of 1613, and the Inquisitions.



The pedigrees of Manley of Manley, Bostock of Bostock, and Wilbraham of Dorfold, the other proprietors of Wettenhall, will be found in the account of their respective townships.

^g Williamson's Collections.

^h Gastrel. Not. Cest.

Great Sudworth.

THREE of the component townships of this great parish, Castle Northwich, Hartford, and Winnington, forming a part of Witton chapelry, extend into the hundred of Edisbury. They are separated from the rest of the parish, on the side the hundreds of Bucklow and Northwich, by the river Weever, and are bounded on the Edisbury side by the parishes of Weverham and Whitegate.

CASTLE NORTHWICH.

CASTLE NORWICH, called Castleton, and le Castelle juxta Northwych in old records, derives its name from the site of an antient fortress, commanding the junction of the Dane and the Weever, and the point where the latter stream was forded by the Watling Street.

After passing Northwich bridge, the road to Chester, here called the Hollow Way, ascends a steep hill, to the right of which is the site of this fortress, in a triangular field of about three acres, bounded on the other side by a small brook. Its present remains consist of two high mounts of unequal height; the highest is nearly circular and about thirty yards in diameter, the lower is of an irregular form, about seventeen yards in diameter. There are no remains of walls or indications of other earthworks.

These mounts are thus noticed by Erdeswick^a: "At Northwich stood sometime a very stronge castell, on the top of a verie high hill, called the castell of Northwich, and a certaine circuit about that place is still called the Castle town of Northwich, and is a thinge distinct and several from the town of Northwich: only the name and great trenches give any shew or evidence thereof."

The time of its erection is uncertain: it does not appear to have ever been more than a small military work to guard the points before-mentioned. From the following charter (which, from the names, is of the time of Richard I.) it is most probable that it was ruined before that period, no military uses being mentioned, or particular services reserved. It is also obvious that it had been some time in the family of the grantor, his father having assumed a local name from it; and, from this circumstance, its erection may be referred with tolerable safety to a date before the Conquest, as it is not likely that the obscure family in question would be entrusted with the possession of a castle, in an important situation, if it had been in a defensible state near that period.

^b "Hionus filius Ricardi de Castello, dedi, &c. Lidulpho de Twamlowe totam terram Castelli de Norwico, habendam, &c. reddendo mihi, &c. quatuor denarios, ad festum s'c'i Jo'is Baptistæ, et omne servitium quod mihi pertinet, salvo forinseco, serviendo. Test. Gilberto

Diacono de Medio Wico, Ricardo de Vernon, Ricardo de Bradwall, et aliis."

The estate in Castle Northwich, thus granted to Lidulph de Twamlowe, passed to the descendants of his second son Robert de Winnington, and is described in the Inq. p. m. Ric'i de Wynnington, 36 Edw. III. as "quædam placea terræ vocata le Castell juxta Northwych," held from William de Wilbraham by the render of 11s. yearly, and valued at 6*vis.* viii*d.* It occurs also in the Inquisitions, p. m. of Richard Wynnington, 10 Hen. VII. Richard Wynnington, 19 Hen. VII. Johanna Wynnington, 1 Hen. VIII. Katherine Wynnington, 6 Hen. VIII. Elizabeth Warburton, daughter and heiress of Richard Wynnington, 1 Eliz. and Sir John Warburton of Arley, 18 Eliz. In the last Inq. it is called a third part of the manor of Castle Northwich, held in socage under Thomas Wilbraham. Val. x*ls.* per annum.



From an antient deed still existing among the charters of Mobberley priory, (in the possession of William Hamper, esq. who has obligingly communicated a copy of the charters, with drawings of the seals), it appears that the family who assumed their name from this castle, retained it for at least two generations after the before-mentioned alienation to Lidulph de Twamlowe. By this deed Henry^c, son of William de Castello, grants all the lands in Stainilliscroft, which he held from the house of Modburley, to Peter, son of Alfric, and his heirs, for three marks of silver, subject to 11*d.* rent. Witnesses, Richard Bernard, Warin de Croxton, Robert de Decanis, Roger de Tofte, Randle de Hortone, Robert de Wininton, &c. A representation of the appendant seal is annexed. Stainilliscroft, or Stey-

^a Harl. MSS. 473. p. 5.

^b Harl. MSS. 2074. 189.

^c Fil' Will' m' in the deed, but fr' Wil' m. in the seal.

nulvescroft, had been granted to the priory of Mobberley by Robert de Wininton, one of the witnesses to this charter.

Castle Northwich is not noticed in Domesday, but the manor then, or shortly afterwards, was possessed by the barons of Kinderton.

^c Hugh de Venables, baron of Kinderton, by deed, temp. Hen. III. witnessed by Alan de Tatton, William Venables the younger, Hugh de Calveley, and Robert the Clerk, son of William Venables, grants to Roger his son, the whole land of the vill of Castle Northwich, for his homage and the customary services, and the yearly render of a pair of white gloves on the feast of St. John the Baptist.

^d William de Venables, brother of Hugh, by deed, witnessed by John, constable of Chester, Warin Vernon, and others, grants to Adam, son of Ralph de Stapleford, "terram de Lai et Castello," which Agnes, mother of Ralph, had her dower secured upon, and which she had surrendered to William Venables.

^e This grant was afterwards resumed, as the manor of Castle Northwich passed with other manors in marriage with Letitia, daughter and coheir of this sir William Venables, to sir Richard Wilbraham, kt. ancestor of the Wilbrahams of Woodhey.

Inq. p. m. 11 Ric. II. Ralph Wilbraham (grandson of sir Richard Wilbraham) held, inter alia, terras et tenementa in Castello juxta Norwicum.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VII. Thomas Wilbraham (great grandson of the preceding) held, inter alia, lands in Castleton.

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VIII. Wm. Wilbraham, esq. son of the preceding, held, inter alia, mess. in Castleton.

Inq. p. m. 1 Eliz. Thomas Wilbraham, son of the preceding, held, inter alia, lands in Castleton.

Inq. p. m. 1 Eliz. Richard Wilbraham, esq. brother of the preceding, held, inter alia, lands in Castleton.

Inq. p. m. 10 Jac. I. Thomas Wilbraham, of Woodhey, esq. son of the preceding, held as before mentioned.

The manor of Castle Northwich is now claimed by the earl of Dysert, who inherits it, with his other Cheshire estates, from his ancestress, Grace, daughter and coheir of sir Thomas Wilbraham, of Woodhey, bart. wife of Lionel Talmach, earl of Dysert.

Castle Northwich is now completely a suburb of the town of Northwich, to which it is joined by a stone bridge of one arch over the Wever. Adjacent to the bridge is a large brick building, in which the quarter sessions were formerly held for the county.

HARTFORD.

THIS manor was antiently subdivided, as appears by old writings, into the manor of Hertford, and of Horton in Hertford, and is surveyed in Domesday as parcel of the barony of Kinderton held by Gilbert de Venables.

Isdem Gislebertus tenet Herford. Dodo tenuit pro 11 maneriis, sicut liber homo; ibi 11 hidæ geldabiles. Terra est 11 carucarum; ibi sunt 14 villani et 11 bordarii, et faber, habentes unam carucam.

In Wich una salina reddit 11 solidos, et alia dimidia salina wasta; ibi una acra prati.

De hâc terra tenet unus miles dimidiam hidam, et ibi habet unam carucam et 11 bovarios, et 111 bordarios. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos, modo x solidos.

Under the Barons of Kinderton, Hertford was held at an early period by a family to which it gave name, of whom Simon de Hertford, and William his son, surrendered their lands^f to Hugh, son of Hugh Venables, who re-granted the same, 35 Edw. III. to William de Horton^g.

^h 4 Ric. II. John del Redmore, chaplain, grants to this William (son of Ranulph de Horton) and Alisonia, his wife, and his heirs male, other lands in Horton in Hertford, being the lands held by Adam del Wode de Hassal, remainder to Roger, Thomas, and John de Horton. 16 Ric. II. the same William was grantee of lands in Hertford from Ranulph le Vernon de Hertford, Cecilia his sister, and Thomas de Venables.

ⁱ 6 Hen. V. It appears by an award respecting some

differences between the Winningtons and the heirs of Horton, that Maud de Horton brought this estate in marriage to her husband William Massey of Rixton and Horton, by whom she had two daughters and coheirresses, Ellen, wife of Hamlet Massey of Rixton, and Margaret, wife of Piers Massey his brother^k. Margaret, daughter and coheir of Hamlet Massey, married John Holcroft, of Holcroft in Lancashire, by whom she had sir John Holcroft, of Holcroft, kt. and sir Thomas Holcroft, kt. grantee of Vale Royal.

This family of Massey of Horton and Rixton, and the Hortons of Horton, sealed occasionally with a "squirrel seiant," which has been given among the quarterings of Holcroft as the coat of Horton. It appears from the deeds from which this account was taken, and a profusion of seals, that the squirrel was the bearing of the family of del Wode, or de Bosco, of Hassal, whose grant of lands in Hertford to the Hortons has been before mentioned, and that the proper seal of Horton was a stag, trippant, pierced in the side with an arrow.

To return to the descent of property, sir John Holcroft gave to his second son, Hamnet Holcroft, his lands in Horton, Hertford, and Northwich, to have the same during his life^l.

^m 26 Eliz. Hamnet Holcroft sold the same to Thomas Holcroft of Vale Royal for 900l. being previously mortgaged to Gilbert Sherington of Wardley, in Lancashire.

^c Harl. MSS. 2074. 189.

^f Vill. Cest. p. 29.

^l Harl. MSS. 2037. 143.

^d Ibid.

^g Harl. MSS. 2037. 143.

^m Harl. MSS. 2037. 143. Horton and Hertford deeds.

^e Leicester's MS collections, in pedigree of Venables.

^h Ibid.

ⁱ Ibid.

^k Cheshire pedigrees in Holcroft.

ⁿ 1615. Thomas, son of Sir Thomas Holcroft, sold the same to Thomas Merbury of Merbury, esq. the elder (then attending on lord chancellor Ellesmere) and Thomas Merbury the younger.

^o 12 Car. I. William Merbury of Merbury, esq. eldest son of the first-mentioned Thomas, and Thomas, John, and James Merbury, his brothers, sold the same to Robert Davies of Ashton, esq. for the sum of 3000l. This Robert Davies, who was a great speculator in lands, by his first wife was ancestor of the Davieses of Manley, and by his second wife^p Susanna, daughter of Henry Bunbury of Stanney, esq. had, among other children, Henry Davies of Doddleston, who succeeded him in this manor, from whom the estate has descended, down to the sale of the manor in parcels, in the manner specified by the following account, communicated by Thomas Marshall of Hertford, esq.

“By indentures of lease and release, dated 11th and 12th July, 1694, Henry Davies of Doddleston, in the county of Chester, esq. William Jones, of the city of London, gent. and Ann Jollyffe of Clapham, in the county of Surrey, widow, conveyed to John Lowe, then of Winnington, in the said county of Chester, gent. and Jeffrey Houghton, then of Northwich, in the said county, yeoman, and their heirs and assigns, the manor or reputed manor or lordship of Hartford, alias Hertford, in the said county of Chester, with its rights, members, and appurtenances; and also all the messuages, cottages, tenements, and hereditaments, with their appurtenances, of them the said Henry Davies, William Jones, and Ann Jollyffe, situate and being in Hartford aforesaid.

“Previous to the above-mentioned conveyances to John Lowe and Jeffrey Houghton, Henry Davies had covenanted to sell all the estates within the said manor to the said Lowe and Houghton, and to several other persons, then tenants of the said estates: but the whole of the said manor and estates were by the above-mentioned deeds granted and conveyed to the said Lowe and Houghton, who re-conveyed the same to the different purchasers thereof, reserving to themselves the manor, which they also sold at several times afterwards, in shares to different persons who had estates within the manor, until the same ultimately became divided into eleven shares: and the consideration for each share was at that time one guinea. There is a court baron incident to this manor, which was alternately held by turns by the said eleven lords thereof; these shares have by descent, purchase, or otherwise, become vested in fewer hands, some of the lords now having two, and some three shares each. The manerial privileges are the right of holding the court baron, and appointing a game-keeper by the person whose turn it is to be the

lord. All the waste lands within the said manor were inclosed in or about the year 1795, on which the profits arising therefrom to the lords in manner before stated ceased, and in lieu thereof they had an allotment of one tenth of the waste lands.

“Sir John Fleming Leicester, baronet, is entitled to the court leet of the said manor, together with the courts leet of the manors of Marston and Witton, which formerly belonged to the barony of Kinderton), and which he holds in the said manor of Witton, where the constables of Hartford annually attend, to be sworn into their office.

“The manor and township of Hartford are co-extensive, and contain 1000 statute acres of land, or thereabouts; and the annual value thereof, as taken in the year 1797, amounted to the sum of 2627l.; but which at this time (Jan. 1815.) may fairly be estimated at 4000l.”

The principal land proprietors are Sir John Chetwode, baronet, of Oakley Park, co. Stafford, Thomas Marshall, esq. John Marshall, esq. Mr. John Hunt, and the representatives of the Roes, formerly of Hartford Hall. The shares of the manor are in the same hands, and are valued at from 40l. to 50l. each.

The connection of the Chetwodes with Hartford originated in the marriage of Philip Touchet, eldest son of Sir John Chetwode, baronet, with Elizabeth, sole daughter of George Venables, of Agdeu, esq. in 1727, which George was heir male of Thomas, third son of Hugh Venables, baron of Kinderton, who died 3 Ric. II. This branch of Venables, of which a pedigree will be found under Agden, resided at Hertford for eight generations, until the death of William Venables, about the latter end of the reign of Elizabeth. After the termination of the male line of the elder branch, they became the lineal representatives of the first baron, and Hugh Venables of Hertford, in the reign of Philip and Mary, sued for the barony and had two successive recoveries^q. These rights were sold by William Venables of Hertford, his great grandson, to the female representatives of the elder line. Of this family, Hugh Venables, who died 5 and 6 Philip and Mary (*Inq. p. m.* 1 Eliz.) held, inter alia, lands in Horton and Hertford in socage, from the heirs of Randle de Horton by fealty, and the render of one pair of white gloves and one penny. Val. ivl. xiiii. ivd. And John Venables his son, held the same by the same tenure, at his death 15 Sept. 1 Eliz.

Hartford is situated at the distance of one mile from Northwich on the road to Chester. It has many natural advantages of situation, and in several points the view northwards to the Vale of the Weever opens with considerable beauty.

Part of Hartford is in the parish of Weverham.

ⁿ Harl. MSS. 2037, 143. Horton and Hertford deeds.

^o Ibid.

^p Vide Tarvin Monuments.

^q Leicester's MS. Pedigrees, under Venables.

WINNINGTON.

IN the time of Edward the Confessor, Winnington was divided into moieties, of equal extent and value. One of these moieties, at the Domesday survey, was held by Ranulphus, the supposed ancestor of the Mainwarings; the other was in the possession of Osbern Fitz Tezzon, the ancestor of the Boydells.

“Ranulfus tenet Wenitone. Levenot tenuit et liber homo fuit; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis; terra est dimidia caruca; ibi est unus radman et unus villanus. Valet duos solidos.

“Osbernus tenet Wenitone. Hunding tenuit et liber homo fuit; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis; terra est dimidia caruca; ibi est unus radman cum uno villano. Valet duos solidos.”

William le Boidele of Doddleston, fourth in descent from Osbern Fitz Tezzon, conferred his share of this manor, by the charter annexed, on Lidulph de Twemlowe, son of Wulfric de Croxton, which Wulfric was lord of Croxton and Lache in the time of king Henry the Second, and common ancestor of numerous Cheshire families, who varied their names according to their estates, to an extent equalled only in this county by the descendants of the house of Malpas.

“Ego Willielmus le Boidele concessi, &c. Lidulpho de Twamlawe pro homagio et servitio suo, medietatem de Wyninton, illam scilicet quæ est de feodo meo, illi et hæredibus suis, habendum de me et heredibus meis in feodo et hereditate, libere et quiete, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis in bosco, in plano, &c. faciendo mihi servitium quod ante fieri consueverit pro omnibus servitiis et exactionibus quibuscunq. videlicet sextæ partis unius feodi militis, &c. Testibus, Adamo de Dutton, Hugone fratre suo, Willielmo de Tabbelle, &c.”

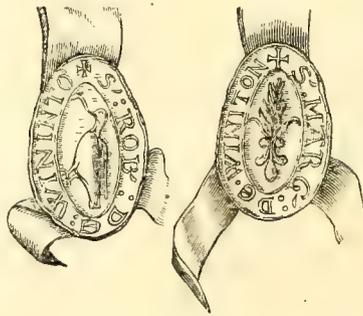
From a very elaborate pedigree, drawn up by John Booth of Twemlowe, and illustrated with a profusion of charters, it appears that this Lidulph, surnamed of Twemlowe, and grantee of Winnington from William Boidele, inherited from his father Twemlowe, Croxton, Cranach, and Goosetrey. He alienated one fourth of Cranach to his younger brother Ranulph, who assumed his name therefrom, and was male ancestor of the families of Le Brun, Twemlowe, Cranach, and Hermitage. This Lidulph was sheriff of Cheshire in the time of Richard the First and king John, and had issue, besides his second son Robert, Warin son and heir, surnamed of Croxton, and Nicholas, third son, who assumed the name of his town of Goosetrey^a.

^b Robert de Wyninton, second son, obtained from his father the moiety of Wynington, by the following charter: “Sciant, &c. quod ego Liulphus d'nus de Twemlowe dedi et concessi Roberto filio mei et sponsæ meæ, totam terram meam quam habui in villâ de Wynintona, scilicet medietatem de Wynintona, tenendam de me et heredibus meis, reddendo mihi annuatim duas sagittas barbatas, pro omnibus servitiis salvo forinseco serviendis. Test. Rico. de Sonbach, Petro de Swettenham,

Thomâ Persona de Sonbach, Joh'e de Aculmston, Henrico de Cranach, Roberto Fr'e suo.”

This Robert de Winnington afterwards became possessed of the entire lordship of Winnington, of one half by this gift of his father, and of the other moiety in right of his first wife Margery, daughter and sole heir of Robert, son of William de Wyninton, who was found to be seized thereof 56 Hen. III. by a former gift of Robert de Wibbenbury, s. d.

Robert de Wyninton and Margery his wife, by deed, s. d. grant to the priory of St. Wilfrid at Mobberley one moiety of Steynulvescroft, being the lands held by Robert Leyk. Witnesses, Sir William de Venables, Richard Starky, William de Brereton, William de Hardin, Eydrop de Mulenton, &c. To this deed are attached two seals of brown wax, of which a representation is annexed, consisting merely of the fanciful ornaments, which were in use before the general adoption of armorial seals. Robert de Wyninton is however stated by the respectable authority of Booth, to have used the present arms of Winnington; and the same authority assigns to his wife's family, as a more antient bearing, a bend between six lozenges.



By this wife Robert de Wyninton was father of Robert, his heir, aged 30, 21 Edw. I.; Richard, a chaplain; and John, a witness to deeds in the time of Oliver Ingham, justice of Chester. By his second wife Matilda, daughter of Richard de Wilburham, and co-heir of his mother Margery, daughter and co-heir of Warin Vernon, baron of Shipbrook, he was also father of Richard, who assumed the name of Leftwich^d, on succeeding to his mother's estate in that township, as appears by the following *Inq. p. m.* 23 Edw. I.^e

“Com'tum fuit coram fr'e Roberto de Valle Regali, esch'e Cestreshyriæ, quod Robertus de Wynintona tenuit medietatem villæ de Wynintona de abb'e Cestriæ, pro servicio sextæ partis unius feodi militaris, et tenuit aliam medietatem ejusdem villæ, per legem Angliæ, post mortem Margeriæ, uxoris ejus; et post mortem p'd'tæ Margeriæ, duxit in uxorem, Matildam filiam Ricardi de Wilbram milit. et illam supervixit; et ex eâ genuit Ricardum filium et hæredem dictæ Matildæ; et quod Robertus filius dicti Roberti est hæres ejus de manerio de Wynintona, et quod est ætatis 30 a'orum, et quod Ricardus est heres dictæ Matildæ de terris suis, viz. Leftwich, &c.”

^f This Robert, son of Robert, had three sons; Robert, lord of Wyninton, temp. Edw. II. Nicholas, ancestor of Wynington of Birches, and Roger, ancestor of Wy-

^a Harl. MSS. 2119. 157.

^b Ibid.

^c Ibid.

^d Ibid.

^e Ibid.

^f Booth and Leicester's Pedigrees.

nington of Hermitage and Northwich. Robert, eldest son was father of Richard, and of John de Wyninton.

Inq. p. m. 36 Edw. III. Richard de Wyninton, ch'vr. held in demesne, as of fee one moiety of the manor of Wyninton, in joint feoffment with Agnes his wife, from Sir William Trussel, lord of Warmincham, by military service, val. xl. per annum; also another moiety of the same, in joint feoffment with the same as follows: two-thirds from the abbot of Chester, in socage, val. xxviii. and the third part from the lord of Dodleston by the render of ijd. per annum, val. xiiii. vid.; also lands in Castell Northwich, Northwich, and Marthall.

The first of these moieties is obviously that which was held by Ranulf at the Conquest, the paramount lordship of which had descended to the Trussels, by marriage of the heiress of Mainwaring; the second continued partly dependant on the Boydells of Doddleston, the original lords of this moiety. The superior royalty of the remainder of this share had been alienated to the abbot of Chester, per cart. s. d. by Richard de Massey, to whom it had been granted by John de Boidell^g.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VII. Richard Wyninton, esq. held the lands mentioned in the preceding inquisition in the same manner; to which is added "et p'd'tus Wynyngton debuit esse p'pr' p'sona sua ad quemlibet com. Cest. ad redd. judic. p' manerio de Wynyngton." Richard, son and heir. Richard Wyninton was joined with Hugh Done, Sir Hugh Calveley, and John Manley, in a writ, directing them to muster the king's tenants, and to select 40 men, to make part of an army of 6000 men to go to Bretayne; which writ was enrolled at Chester, 14 Jan. 4 Hen. VII.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VII. Richard Wynyngton held the lands in the township before-mentioned, with the manor and advowson of Pulford, and lands in Chester, Newton, Twembroke, Allostock, Peover and Nether Peover. Elizabeth and Katherine, daughters and co-heirs. These additional lands had mostly accrued to him in right of his mother, Catherine, daughter and co-heir of Robert Grosvenor of Hulme, esq. on a partition between the co-heirs of that family, made a^o 5 Edw. IV. 1466^h. Johanna his widow held the manor of Wynyngton, and the manor and advowson of Pulford in dower, and died 17 Sept. 24 Hen. VII.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. Eliz. her daughter was found heir to these manors, aged nine years. Joanna re-married Philip Egerton, who had the wardship of the daughters of Richard Wynynton, granted jointly to him and his wife, by patent, enrolled 14 July 21 Hen. VII.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VIII. Catherine, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Richard de Wynyngton, held a moiety of Wynyngton, the manor and advowson of Pulford, and lands in Northwich, Castle Northwich, Chester, Newton, Twembrooke, Marthall, Pulford, Over, and

Nether Peover, and Allostock. Obiit 8 March 23 Hen. VII. Elizabeth, wife of Peter Warburton of Arley, sister and heir.

Inq. p. m. 1 Eliz. Eliz. Warburton, daughter and heiress of Richard Wynnington of Wynnington, and widow of Sir Peter Warburton, knight, held the manors of Wynnington, Marthall, and Pulford with advowson, the lands recited in the preceding inquisition, and lands in Cleycrofte, Broxton, Elton, and Catesbach; obiit 28th July 6 Mary. John Warburton son and heir.

The Warburtons of Arley continued to retain possession of Winnington, until the latter end of the seventeenth century, when it was alienated by Sir George Warburton of Arley, baronet, to his third son, Thomas Warburton, esq. who married Anne, second daughter of Sir Robert Williams of Penrhyn, co. Caernarvon, co-heir to her brothers. By this lady he was father of Hugh Warburton of Winnington, esq.; Jane, maid of honour to queen Anne, and queen Caroline, and wife of John Campbell Duke of Argyle and Greenwich; Mary wife of Thomas Swetenham, esq. and several other sons and daughters.

Hugh Warburton, esq. who was a general in the army, married Martha, daughter and co-heir of Edward Norreys of Speyke, in the county of Lancaster, esq. by whom he had one daughter, Anne Susanna, wife of Richard Pennant, esq. (created Lord Penrhyn, of the kingdom of Ireland) by whom the manor of Winnington was sold after the decease of her husband, to Sir John Thomas Stanley of Alderley, baronet, the present proprietor. Lady Penrhyn died without issue, Jan. 1, 1816.

Winnington Hall is situated about one mile distant from Northwich, on the banks of the Weever, and is used as a residence by Sir John Stanley. Its first restoration to the rank of a family mansion was effected by the late general Warburton; and considerable further additions to the house and improvements in the grounds were made about forty years ago by Lord Penrhyn. At a short distance from the gate is Winnington Bridge, where Sir George Booth and his Cheshire forces sustained a defeat from General Lambert, on the 19th of August 1659ⁱ. Sir George was acting under a commission from Charles the Second, and was attended by a numerous assemblage of Cheshire and Lancashire gentry, and a body of Lancashire and Welsh royalists, under the command of colonel Holland and Sir Thomas Middleton. The battle was short, and produced little bloodshed, but many prisoners were taken. Captain Morgan of Golden Grove, a gallant royalist, was slain in a charge made by Lambert's horse, while Booth's troops were entangled in the difficulties of the narrow passes to the bridge. Sir George Booth himself was shortly afterwards apprehended, and committed a prisoner to the Tower.

^g Harl. MS. 2074.

^h Leicester's Antiquities, 359.

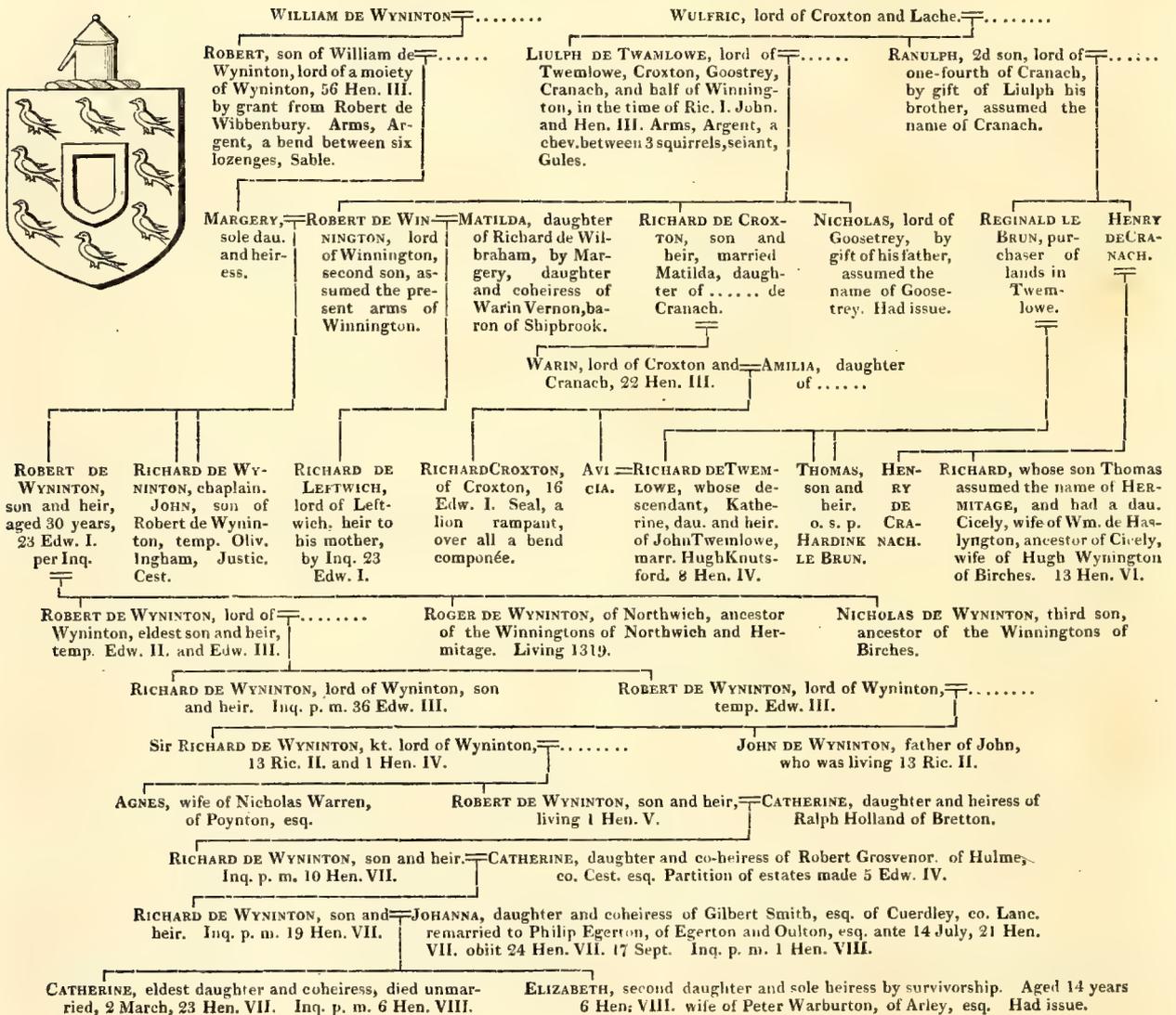
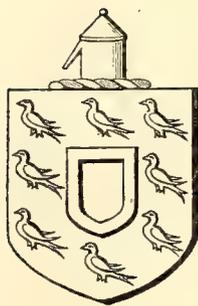
ⁱ Burghall's Providence improved, 926. edit. 1778.

WINNINGTON OF WINNINGTON.

From a pedigree compiled by John Booth, of Twemlowe, esq. and approved by St. George Norroy. Harl. MSS. 2119.

Arms.—Argent in an escocheon Sable, voided of the field, within an orle of 8 martlets Sable.

Crest.—On a wreath, a Still Argent.



Middlewich.

WEEVER.

BETWEEN the parish of Over and the river Weever, a single township of Middlewich parish, Weever, extends into this hundred. It is twice noticed in Domesday, first, in Mildestvic hundred, in these terms: "In Wevre dimidia acra prati et quarta pars silvæ quæ habet unam leuvam longitudine, et tantundem latitudine." Afterwards, in the same hundred, it occurs more at length among the possessions of Bigot: "Idem Bigot tenet Wevre. Stenulf tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi una virgata terræ geldabilis: terra est dimidia caruca: ibi est cum una Radman, et uno villano, et xi bordariis. Silva una, longa una quarentenâ et tantundem lata et ibi Haia. Valuit ii solidos, modo iii solidos."

Like the other possessions of Bigot, this township became a component part of the fee of Aldford, and was held under the Ardernes, as lords of Aldford, by a family to which it gave name; of whom the first that occurs, is,

Henry de Wever, a forester of Mondrem, who was fined five pounds by Reginald de Grey^a, justiciary of Chester, 55 Hen. III. "pro mala custodia ballivæ suæ, et destructione nemoris."

Richard de Wever, son or grandson of the preceding, claimed and was allowed a moiety of the forestership of Mondrem, 31 Edw. I. at the pleas of the forests of Mara and Mondrem, before sir Richard Willoughby and sir Richard Stafford, kts.^b

^c *Inq. p. m.* 5 Edw. II. Henry de Wever held Wever from the lord of Aldford, by finding two men to guard his castle in time of war for forty days, according to the custom of the country. Thomas de Wever son and heir, aged 12 years.

^d 16 Edw. III. Thomas, son of Henry de Wever, obtained from David de Calveleg and Mabilla his wife, the third part of two salt-works, two parts of the manor of Wever, and 6l. rent, cum pert. in Middlewich, Curtishulme, and Clive. This Thomas married Alicia, daughter of Michael de Munsull, and also Mabell, who survived him, and had issue Richard de Wever, son and heir, and Henry, as stated in the pedigree^e. After his death, . . . Edw. III. Peter Arderne, of Alderley, purchased the marriage of Richard, son and heir of Thomas de Wever, from John Arderne of Aldford, for 40 marks, payable at Aldford. The copy of this deed is dated 8 Edw. III. but there must be an error in this date if the preceding one is rightly given by Williamson. The seals

affixed are that of John Arderne of Aldford, a chief and three cross crosslets fitchées, and that of Peter Arderne, the same, with a bend fusillé over all, circumscribed "Sigillum Petri de Arderne."^f Sir John Arderne, by another deed without date, grants to this Peter two parts of the manor of Wever, until Richard, son and heir of Thomas de Wever, shall come of age, paying to him 1xl. viiis. vd. and four pounds yearly for dower to Mabella, widow of Thomas de Wever. Witnesses, Jordan de Macclesfield, John de Fitton, and others^g.

Richard de Wever, son of Thomas, after the death of his brother-in-law Peter de Arderne, and his sister-in-law Christiana, wife of John Fitton of Bollin, who died without issue, succeeded to the estates of Peter de Arderne in right of Margaret his wife, in conjunction with whom, 41 Edw. III. he gave to Robert de Fulleshurst, the marriage of his son and heir Thomas de Wever^h, who married him to his daughter Isabella.

Inq. p. m. 23 Ric. II. Thomas de Weever held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Weever from the king, as earl of Chester, in capite, by grand serjeancy, val. xvii. xs.; also lands in Rushton, Over Alderlegh, Nether Alderlegh, Middlewich, Clyve, and Bredbury, the last in joint feoffment with Isabella his wife. Edward de Weever son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 13 Hen. VI. Edward de Weever, chr. held the manor of Weever as aforesaid, val. xiii. per annum; also lands in Rushton, Clyve, Newton, Middlewich, and (defaced). Thomas de Weever, eldest son and heir. This Edward was also father of Margaret, wife of John Vernon of Haslington, who received 40l. for her marriage portion from Thomas Wever her brother. Marriage contract dated 4 Jan. 22 Hen. VI. Harl. MSS. 2077. p. 87.

Thomas de Weever married Elizabeth, daughter of By her he had issue Elizabeth, daughter and heiress, wife of sir John Stanley, a younger son of Thomas, the first lord Stanleyⁱ, to whom king Henry VI. a^o 24, gave the disposal of her in marriage as his ward; she remarried sir John Done of Utkinton.

Elizabeth, widow of this Thomas de Weever, and also of her second husband Hugh Emlowe, died seized of a third part of the manor of Weever, in dower, and of Woodlegh in Bredbury. Val. tot. vii. xiiii. iiii. Elizabeth, wife of John Done, daughter and heiress. *Inq. p. m.* 1 Hen. VII.

^a Harl. MSS. 2060. p. 76.

^b *Ibid.* 2115. 232.

^c Villare Cest. 110.

^d Williamson's Collections, p. 22.

^e Harl. MSS. 2037, 194, and 506. 204.

^f *Ibid.* 506. 204.

^g Harl. MSS. 2037. 194.

^h *Ibid.*

ⁱ Wilbraham's Villare Cest.

Elizabeth Weever had survived both her husbands, 13 Hen. VII. as appears by a deed of that date, Harl. MSS. 2077. 43. b. whereby it is covenanted "between dame Elizabeth Done, late wife of sir John Done, kt. and John Hawerden of Grayes Inne, that Jane, daughter of the said Elizabeth, and of John Stanley, her late husband, brother to the earl of Darbie, should marrie the said John Hawerden."

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VIII. The lady Elizabeth, late wife of sir John Done, knt. held the manor of Weever from the king as earl of Chester in capite by grand serjeancy, val. xii. l.; also lands in Rushton, Newton, Clyve, Middlewich, Manley, Barretspoole, Alderley, Over Alderley, Bredbury, and Upton. Obiit die Jovis, prima Sep^a in quadragesima a^o p^do: quis filius et hæres juratores ignorant.

Thomas Stanley, eldest son of sir John Stanley by Elizabeth Weever, was succeeded by his eldest son Thomas Stanley, of Weever and Alderley, esq. who died seized of Weever manor, held of the king as before by grand serjeancy. Val. xii. l. and of other estates which will be noticed under Alderley, *Inq. p. m.* 2 and 3 Phil. et Mar. Thomas Stanley son and heir.

This Thomas, "son and heir of Thomas Stanley of Weever," esq. had livery of his father's lands, Dec. 1, 19 Hen. VIII.

Inq. p. m. 33 Eliz. Thomas Stanley, of Weever, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Wever as before-mentioned, obiit Aug. 1, 33 Eliz. Randle Stanley son and heir, aged upwards of thirty years.

Inq. p. m. Ap. 23, 4 Jac. I. Sir Thomas Stanley, kt. (son of Randle) held, inter alia, the manor of Weever as before-mentioned; obiit Nov. 21, a^o p^dto. Thomas son and heir, aged eight years on the 30th day of May preceding. This sir Thomas Stanley, 43 Eliz. passed over the manors of Poulton Lancelyn, Weever, and Over Alderley, and half the manor of Clive, to his father-in-law Peter Warburton, one of the justices of the court of King's Bench^k.

^lThe Stanleys continued to be lords of Weever in 1710: shortly after that period the manor passed by sale to the Wilbrahams of Townsend, in whose repre-

sentative, George Wilbraham, esq. of Townsend and Delamere Lodge, it is now vested.

Among the papers^m of the Wilbraham family, obligingly communicated by E. B. Wilbraham, esq. is the following memorandum: "On Sunday the 3d of August, 1713, about 8 o'clock in the morning, in the gate place leading to the barns belonging to Weever Hall, the ground suddenly fell in to the breadth of two yards diameter, with a rumbling noise, and continued until Tuesday. The hole could not be fathomed by a pole of twelve feet, but the earth tumbling in from the sides, the chasm became nine yards in diameter, yet not so many feet deep, and full of salt water."

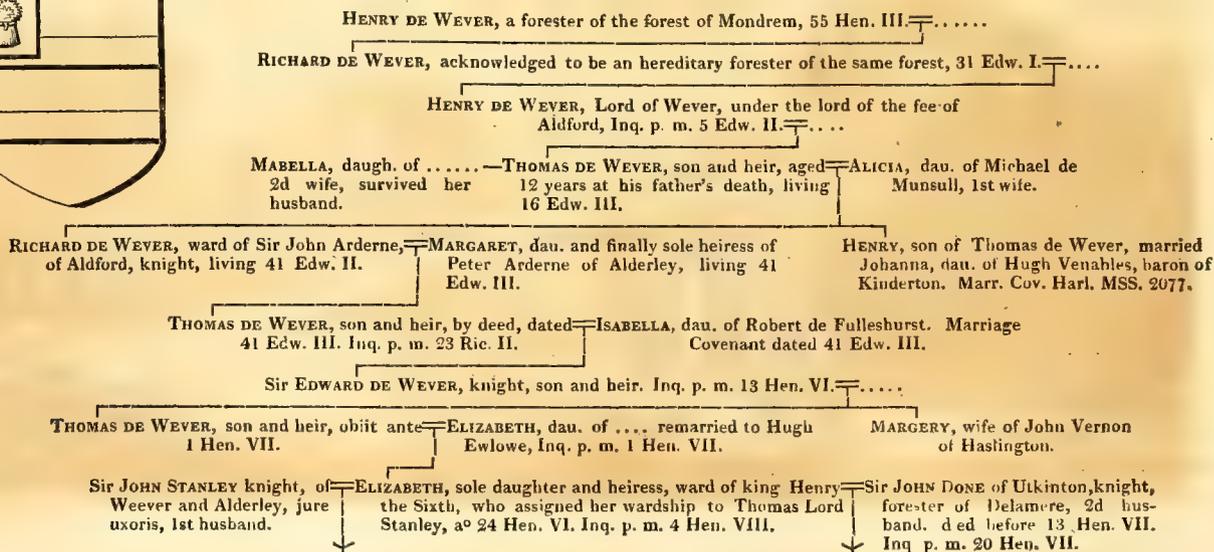
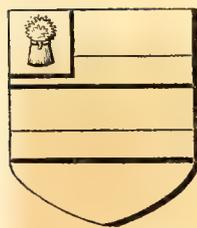
Of Weever Hall only one wing is standing. It was the residence of the Weevers and of several generations of their representatives the Stanleys, down to the time of their elevation to a baronetcy in 1660. From the style of its architecture it is most probably of the time of James I. and is composed of brick, and partly of timber and plaister, with large bay windows, gables, battlements, and tall chimneys. Its proportions are much loftier than those of Cheshire halls in general, and derive an additional appearance of height from the elevation on which it stands; some indications of the earthworks of the former hall are visible in the ground adjoining.

The township is pleasantly situated on the bank of the Weever, to which the ground slopes in rapid and verdant declivities. The vicinity of the stream occasions likewise a variety in the timber, which relieves the eye after the unbroken monotony of the stunted oak in the neighbouring hedge-rows.

It remains to give the descent of Weever, founded on the evidences before recited, to which, in the present instance, it will not be safe to add any thing from the Cheshire pedigrees. This family has been singularly unfortunate in the treatment it has experienced from the compilers of these genealogies, a single page in Booth presenting five distinct pedigrees of it, all of which are contradictory to each other, and irreconcilable with deeds and inquisitions.

WEEVER OF WEEVER.

Arms.—Sable, 2 bars, Argent, on a canton of the first a garb of the second.



^k Williamson's Collections, p. 87.

^l Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^m P. 78.



Geo. Ormerod F.S.A. delin^t

Lond. Pub. April 10th 1816 by Laskington & C^o

C. Heath fecit^t

THE ABBOT'S HALL, INCE.



Geo. Ormerod F.S.A. delin^t

Lond. Pub. April 10th 1816 by Laskington & C^o

C. Heath fecit^t

WEEVER HALL.



Budworth le Frith, alias Little Budworth.

IN this parish, or parochial chapelry, is comprised one township only, Little Budworth with Oulton. It antiently formed part of the parish of Over, and is described as being situated within that parish in the charter for the endowment of the bishopric of Chester. Pat. 38 Hen. VIII. pt. 8.

BUDWORTH.

THE manor of Budworth, in the Hundred of Dudes-tan, was retained by the Earl of Chester at the Conquest. "Ipse comes tenet Bodevrde, Dedol liber homo tenuit; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis, terra est 11 carucarum. Wasta est. Silva una leuva longitudine, et dimidia latitudine."

Hugh Kevelioc, earl of Chester, granted this manor, with one moiety of the forestership of Mara^a, by the charter subjoined, to Robert le Grosvenor, between 1153, the period when Earl Hugh succeeded to the earldom, and 1160, the time of the death of Richard^b, son of the earl of Gloucester, one of the witnesses. Of the extent of this share of the forestership, an account will be found in the plea of Sir William Troutbeck, in the township of Dunham, and the other particulars are mentioned under the head of Delamere.

"Hug' Com' Cestr' constabular' et dapifero suo justic' Vicecom' Baro'ib' ministris ballivis et om'ib' ho'ib' suis ta' franc' q' angl' salt'. Notu' sit o'ib' me dedisse et co'cessisse et h'c mea carta co'firmasse Rob'to Grosvenur, et he'dib' suis pro homagio et suo servic'o, tota' villam de Buddeworth cu' suis p'tine'cijs ad colend' et h'itand' et ad alia bona sua facienda, inf'a divisas suas illi' ville, in bosco in plano i' aq's et i' o'ib' alijs locis. Pr'ea dedi et co'cessi illi et he'dib' suis medietate' venerie mee i' foresta de Mara, et medietate' custodie canu' meo' sup' custu' meu', lib'e et i' feodo et he'ditate tenend' pro o'i servic'o d'ce ville et d'ce venerie p'tin'ti, et sup' hoc clamavi q'etos de me et he'dib' meis illi et suis he'dib', Acelina' uxore' Andree et ej' successores et Walt'um et Gamel fr'es Andree et Warneru' q' sunt i' t'ra Rand' de Chingeslee et Galfrid' et Afward, q's om's ho'ies mei juraver't ad meum dominicu'. Isti s't testes, Ric' fili' com' Glocest' Will' pacric, Rad' fil' Warneri, Rand' sac'dos de boneburi, Gamel Peverel, Will's Malbanc, et m'ltis alijs apud Cestriam."

(Seal gone.) By an indorsement on the back of this charter it appears that it was enrolled among the records in the Exchequer at Chester in Michaelmas term, 6 Edw. III. and again on Michaelmas day 4 Hen. V.

This Robert le Grosvenor was father of Robert le Grosvenor, and of Randle his brother, who was the possessor of Budworth, in which he was succeeded by his

son Robert le Grosvenor, as appears by a precept of Randle earl of Chester, enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday, respecting the dower of Alicia, widow of the first-mentioned Robert; summoning her and William de Stretton her husband, to appear and answer to a complaint of Robert Grosvenor, grandson of the first Robert, respecting his claim of dower on Budworth, said to be made contrary to an agreement between Randle Grosvenor of Budworth, his father, and Robert, son of Robert le Grosvenor, brother of Randle.

Robert le Grosvenor, son of Randle, was father, according to the Cheshire pedigrees, of Richard le Grosvenor, who held the manor of Budworth en le Frith from the king, as earl of Chester, in capite, by military service, as one knight's fee, 1295, 23 Edw. I.^c

Richard le Grosvenor, son and heir of this Richard, (by Inq. of this year^d) claimed and recovered from Richard Done, a moiety of the forestership of the forest of Mara, 31 Edw. I.^e

Warin Grosvenor, son or brother of Richard, was bailiff to the abbot of Vale Royal for his manor of Over^f; the Leger Book of which abbey charges him with undue lenity to the tenants of Darnhall. This Warin had a younger son, Thomas Grosvenor, to whom, as appears by Inq. 39 Edw. III. he had alienated, without licence, one mess. 40 acres of land in Budworth, which Thomas had again alienated without licence to his son John Grosvenor, who had alienated them to Mabell, wife of Thomas Budworth.

Warin, son of Warin le Grosvenor, succeeded his father before 35 Edw. I. in which year his share of the forest rights was valued at six shillings per annum^g. He was succeeded 3 Edw. II.^h by his son Robert le Grosvenor, then aged 21 years, who was succeeded on his decease without male issue, by his brother Richard le Grosvenorⁱ.

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. Richard le Grosvenor held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Budworth, with its appurtenances, by the services of the fourth part of a knight's fee. Val. ultra repris. nihil; also lands and the mill there. Val. ivl. viis. iid. and also by charter from the earls of Chester, a certain bailywick in the forest of Mara. Richard le Grosvenor son and heir.

^a From the original in the possession of the earl of Shrewsbury, 1806, obligingly communicated by W. Hamper, esq. Birmingham.

^b Vincent's Discoverie of Errours, 216.

^c Lib. Rub. Seacc. quoted by Collins, v. 213. edit. Brydges. Collins conjectures this Richard to be son of Richard Grosvenor of Holme, but it is obvious from the account here given that the connection of the two families was much earlier.

^d Grosvenor MSS. No. 15. Case xxi.

^e Vide Delamere.

^f Customs of the Manor of Darnhal, Leger Book, p. 276.

^g Harl. MSS. 2079, 123.

^h Vill. Cest. p. 24.

ⁱ Harl. MSS. 1988, 128.

Inq. p. m. 43 Edw. III. Richard le Grosvenor held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Budworth, with the ponds and fisheries, and all its appurtenances, except the mill, from the earl of Chester, in capite, by military service, val. xl. per annum; also a certain bailywick in the forest of Mara, val. xiiii. s. i. d. per annum. Cecilia sole daughter and heiress.

This Cecilia married two husbands, of the families of Bromley and Mere, by the second of whom she had issue, and afterwards married John Bradburne, whom she survived, and died a widow, 10 Hen. VI.

6 Hen. VI. Henry Sartrude, chaplain, obtained of John Bradburne and Cicely his wife, the manor of Budworth in le Frith^h, and settled it on them for the life of Cicely, remainder to Thomas del Mere and his heirs, (incorrectly written for William?) remainder to Margaret his sister, remainder to right heirs of Cicely.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VI. Cecilia, widow of John Bradburne, held for life the manor of Budworth in le Fryth, from the king, as earl of Chester. Val. xx marks per annum. William del Mere son and heir.

William del Mere was succeeded in this manor by his sister Margaret, wife of Walter Twyford, by whom the manor was jointly sold in the same year, 10 Hen. VI.¹ together with the fourth^m part of Little Neston and Hargreve to William Trowtbeck, esq. for 1000 marks.

Certain portions of land in Budworth, which did not pass with the manor to Richard Grosvenor the elder, remained vested for several generations in the female issue of his brother Robert.

William Venables of Bradwall, husband of Katherine, daughter and co-heiress of this Robert, died per *Inq.* 36 Edw. III, seized, among other estates, of lands in Budworth, held from the king, as earl of Chester, in capite, val. v marks per annum, leaving three daughters and co-heirs, Jane, wife of Thomas Berington, Ellen, wife of Robert de Knipersley, and Katherine, wife of William Bechintonⁿ.

Thomas de Venables of Alvanley, in right of his wife Alice, another daughter and co-heir of Robert le Grosvenor, by *Inq.* 1 Ric. II. held an estate in Budworth, called Finney, from the earl of Chester, in capite, val. xviii. s. per annum. Robert, son of Robert de Leigh, Katherine, wife of John Boydell, and Isabella wife of Hugh Wrottesley of Wrottesley, next of kin and heirs.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. IV. Isabella, widow of Hugh de Wrottesley, held lands in Budworth, from the earl of Chester, in capite, with lands in Tyreford and Kelsal. John de Wrottesley son and heir.

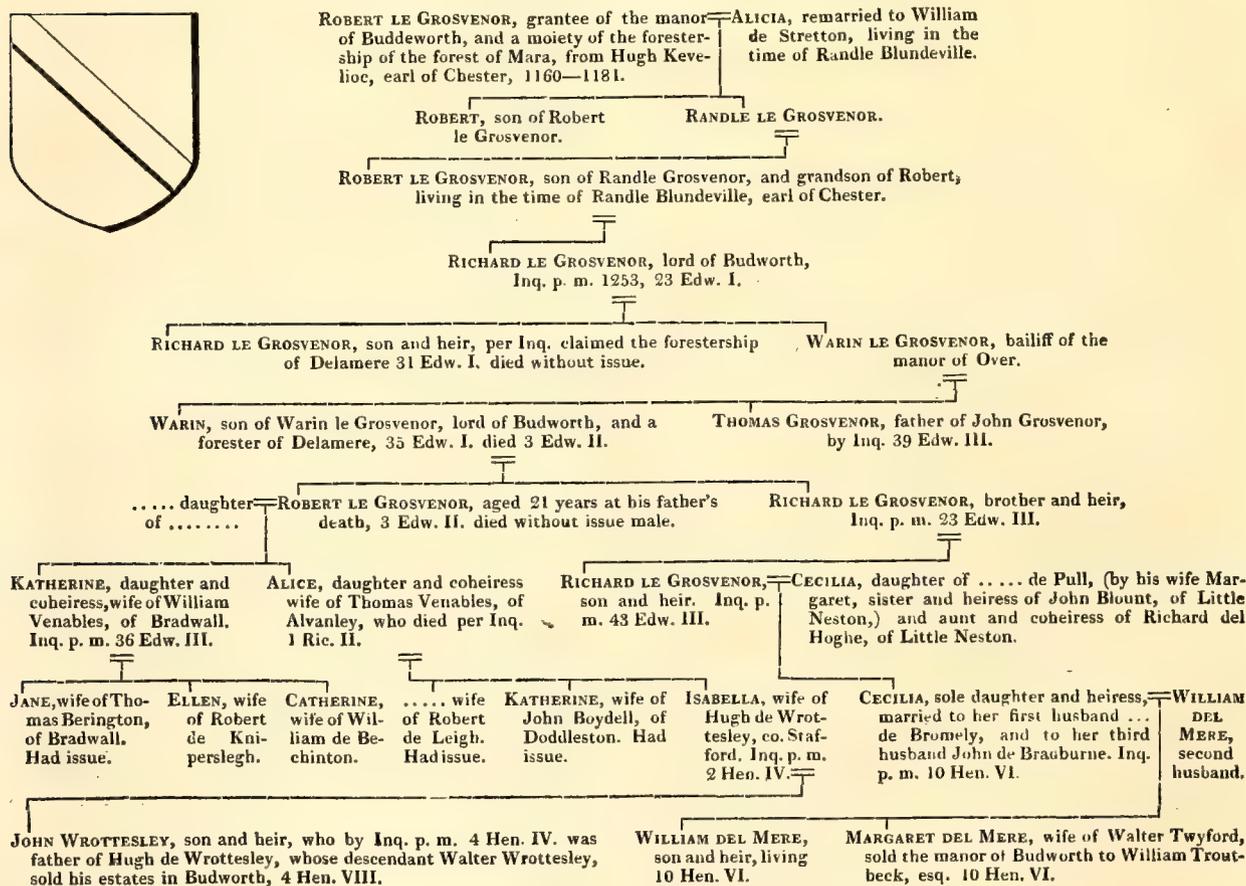
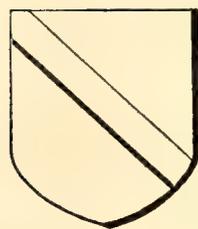
Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. IV. John son of Hugh de Wrottesley held the same lands. Hugh de Wrottesley son and heir.

4 Hen. VIII. John Petchford, chaplain, obtained of Walter de Wrottesley and Isabella his wife, 3 mess. and 170 acres of land, in Budworth, Tyreford, and Kelsal, for 100l.^o

From these evidences the pedigree of Grosvenor of Budworth, will be as follows: the arms usually assigned to them, are, Azure, a bend Or, being the antient coat of Grosvenor of Holme, from which this family separated many generations before that bearing was challenged by sir Richard le Scroop.

GROSVENOR, OF LITTLE BUDWORTH.

From Charters and Inquisitions.



¹ Williamson's Evidences, p. 39.

^m Ibid. p. 40.

ⁿ Richard le Grosvenor obtained these in marriage with Cecilia, aunt and co-heiress of Richard del Hoghe, *Inq. p. m.* 43 Edw. III. Vide Leighton in Wirral and Harl. MSS. 1535. 402.

^o Williamson's Evidences.

The following notices of the manor of Little Budworth, after the purchase of William Troutbeck from Margaret del Mere, occur in the Inquisitions :

Inq. p. m. 36 Hen. VI. William Troutbecke, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Budworth en le Fryth, of the feoffment of John del Dodwoode and Richard Bolde, valued with one fourth of Little Neston at cs. John Troutbecke son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. John Troutbeck, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Budworth.

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. IV. Sir William Troutbeck, knt. held in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Budworth le Fryth, value xx marks, from Henry the Sixth (non de jure) king of England, in capite, as half a knight's fee. William, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VIII. Sir William Troutbeck, knt. held, inter alia, the manor of Chester, as before, value xiiii. vis. viiij. Margery, wife of John Talbot, esq. daughter and heiress.

Inq. p. 23 Hen. VIII. Margery Talbot, widow, held as before, inter alia, the manor of Budworth en le Fryth, value xxi. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. VI. Sir John Talbot, knt. held, as

before, inter alia, the manor of Budworth en le Fryth, with two water mills, value 21l. 10s. 2d. John Talbot, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 and 3 Phil. and Mar. Sir John Talbot, knt. held, inter alia, as before, the manor of Budworth en le Fryth, value xxi. per annum. John Talbot, esq. son and heir.

From this period the manor of Budworth le Frith has descended with the other Cheshire estates of the Talbots, and is now vested in the earl of Shrewsbury. The share^s of the forestership was alienated in the reign of Henry the Eighth to the Dones of Utkinton.

A court leet and court baron are regularly held for this manor.

The boundaries of the manors of Over and Little Budworth, were a fruitful source of contention between the convent of Vale Royal and the Grosvenors of Budworth. These differences were compromised and the boundaries fixed by an agreement, between the abbot and sir William Troutbeck, in the 15th year of Henry VII. still extant among the muniments of the earl of Shrewsbury^t.

OULTON,

THE Domesday survey of this hamlet has been noticed under Oulton Lowe^u. It has been in the possession of the Egertons of Egerton, since the reign of Richard the Third, and was held by them under the successors of the Grosvenors of Little Budworth, to which manor it now owes suit and service.

It is first noticed as a distinct property in the reign of Edward the Fourth, when Dr. Williamson^x states it to have been sold by Matthew de Becheton and Catherine his wife to Hugh Done, second son of sir John Done, of Utkinton. The Bechetons most probably acquired it by the marriage of William de Bechinton with Catherine daughter and coheir of William Venables, of Bradwall, who married temp. Edw. III. Catherine daughter and coheir of Robert Grosvenor, lord of Budworth, with whom, as appears by *Inq. p. m.* 36 Edw. III. he had four messuages and lands adjacent in the manor of Budworth, value v marks per annum.

This Hugh Done by his wife Anne, daughter of James Touchet lord Audley, who was slain at Blore Heath, was father of one daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, wife of John Egerton, of Egerton, esq. who inherited from her father, one capital messuage, and 100 acres of land in Oulton^y. John Egerton, esq. as appears by *Inq.* 1 Ric. III. left Philip his son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 26 Hen. VIII. Philip Egerton held, inter alia, lands in Olton, Budworth, Clayes, and Woodhull, from sir John Talbot, knt. as of his manor of Little Budworth, by render of a pair of white gloves, or one penny per annum. Value, per annum, vii. xiiii. iiii. Philip Egerton, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 6 Eliz. Sir Philip Egerton, knt. held, inter alia, the manor of Olton, and lands in Budworth, from the heirs of sir John Talbot, knt. in socage, by the

render aforesaid, (value, per annum, iiii.) having settled the messuage and demesne lands of Olton on his wife Eleanor for jointure, remainder to sir John Egerton, son of his son and heir apparent John Egerton, esq. and the heirs male of his body.

Sir Rowland Egerton, of Egerton, and Oulton, bart. son of this sir John Egerton, settled the estates of Egerton and Oulton on his second son, sir Philip Egerton, knt. from whom they have passed to the present proprietor, sir John Grey Egerton, bart. to whom the baronetcy descended on the decease of the earl of Wilton, the representative of the elder line, in 1814.

The Inquisitions and deeds on which the pedigree of this most antient family are founded, are so closely connected with the history of the township of Egerton, that it is necessary to reserve the greater part of the pedigree for that township, subjoining here the descent of the proprietors of Egerton and Oulton since their separation from the parent stock, and their acquisition of these manors by the settlement before-mentioned. Suffice it then here to state, that they derive their origin from the marriage of William Belward with Mabilla daughter and coheir of Robert Fitz-Hugh, baron of Malpas, about the reign of Henry I. the direct male line of which William terminated in the reign of Edward III. in David de Egerton, who left two sisters and co-heirs, of whom Ellen wife of sir William Brereton, of Brereton, alone had issue; whose descendants recovered a moiety of the barony of Malpas, and in whose representative, the wife of Abraham Bracebridge of Brereton, esq. the representation of the coheir of the baron of Malpas is now vested.

The male line of Egerton was, however, preserved in the person of Urian, uncle of David de Egerton,

^s Vide Delamere: and for the account of the Troutbecks and the other lands noticed in these Inquisitions, vide Dunham on the Hill, in Thornton Parish.

^t Communicated by William Hamper, esq.

^u This Oulton is distinct from the manor of Oulton Lowe adjoining, in Over parish, which passed to the Starkies from the Oultons, and by sale to the Egertons, of Oulton.

^x Williamson, Vill. Cest. p. 74.

^y Ibid.

and was continued in direct descent by the Egertons of Heaton, in Lancashire, until the decease of the late Thomas Egerton, earl of Wilton, in 1814, who left only one daughter and heiress, Eleanor, wife of Robert earl Grosvenor.

In this lady is necessarily vested the representation of the heirs and coheirs of the several families with whom the Egertons of Egerton have allied themselves previous to the separation of the Heaton and Oulton branches, including such right in the barony of Grey de Wilton, as may have been vested in Bridget Grey, wife of sir Rowland Egerton, and youngest daughter and finally coheir of Arthur, lord Grey de Wilton.

With these exceptions, the blood and honours of the house of Egerton now centre in the present proprietor of Oulton, who thus becomes heir male of William Belward, the founder of this "antient and knightly family," which has been ennobled in two of its branches, and has the most undoubted evidence for having continued its uninterrupted male descent from a period to which few families in this or any other county can trace themselves, however elevated their rank, or extended their possessions.

Camden has inadvertently omitted the elder line of Egerton, bestowing, however, on the Ridley branch, which he probably mistook for them, the well-deserved epithet of "familia clara et vetusta," and to these he incorrectly attributes the foundation of Bunbury College. Leland is more exact: "the auintientis of the Egertons dwellith now at Oldeton, and Egerton buildeth ther now." "The first house of the Egertons is at Egerton, in Malpas parochie; he hath also the manor of Oldeton."²

The builder of this house was of course Philip Egerton, who died 26 Hen. VIII. His fabric early in the last century gave place to a large and stately mansion said to be erected from the designs of sir John Vanbrugh, and bearing a strong resemblance to the style of his other works, which would however be much increased if the house were cased with stone or stucco, and a turret, originally erected in the centre, had been suffered to remain, and break the length of front, which is somewhat disproportionate to the height of the building.

A flight of steps in the principal front leads to the

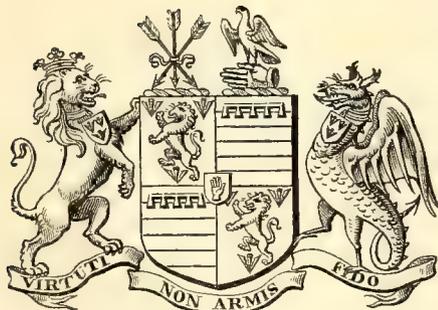
great hall, a noble room of the same height with the building, paved with black and white marble, and ornamented with pilasters of the Corinthian order. The living rooms occupy the other side of the mansion, and contain many family pictures, mostly of modern date. Among the other paintings are good portraits of lord Strafford, sir Thomas More, archbishop Laud, and bishop Juxon, who holds in his hand a miniature of Charles, undressed for the block, lifting up his hands and eyes with a look of most extreme horror. The head in this last picture has been painted on a separate piece of canvass, and fixed to the figure.

The park is inclosed by a wall, and contains 315 acres, which maintain 300 head of deer and other cattle: it adjoins to the southern side of the forest of Delamere, and like that possesses some undulation of surface, gradually subsiding into the flat part of Cheshire on the South. The grounds were laid out by Eames, and Webb as his pupil. In a shady recess, near a grotto on the south side, are deposited two large fragments of the very antient cross of Sandbach, and a Roman altar, found near the Watergate of Chester, inscribed "Fortunæ reduci, Esculap. et Saluti," of which more will be said in their respective places. The fragments of the cross were brought by sir John Crewe from Sandbach, and placed by him in a field in front of the hall of Utkinton. After the conversion of that hall to a farm, Mr. Allen had leave to remove them to the rectory of Tarporley, from whence, after his death, they were brought to Oulton, where they are safe from injury; but it is to be lamented that so interesting a specimen of Cheshire antiquity, capable of restoration at a trivial expence, should be suffered longer to remain in a state of mutilation. Several fragments scattered about the streets of Sandbach were destroyed in the last year.

The village of Little Budworth extends about half a mile eastwards from the gate of Oulton Park, along a sandy lane, and consists altogether of farm houses and cottages, interspersed with trees and gardens. Oulton is exclusively the property of sir John Grey Egerton, and is nearly co-extensive with the park. The rest of Little Budworth, with very few exceptions, is the property of the earl of Shrewsbury, under whom it is mostly tenanted on leases for lives.

GREY-EGERTON, OF EGERTON, AND OULTON.

From the Records of the College of Arms, and the Parochial Registers.



Arms. Quarterly, 1 and 4, Argent, a lion rampant, Gules, between 3 pheons, Sable. Egerton. 2 and 3, Barry of 6 pieces, Argent and Azure, in chief, a label of 5 points, Gules. Grey.

Crest. On a wreath three arrows, two in saltire, and one in pale, Or, headed and feathered Sable, bound with a ribbon, Gules, for Egerton. And for Grey, on a wreath, a falcon, Or, rising from a dexter glove, Argent.

Supporters. A lion, Argent, ducally crowned, Or, and a wyvern, Or, each collared, Azure, and appendant thereto a shield, Gules, charged with 3 pheons, Argent, granted for life to Sir John Grey-Egerton, bart. by sign manual, 1815.

Sir PHILIP EGERTON, knight, possessed of Egerton and Oulton, by bequest of his father: third son of Sir Rowland Egerton, of Egerton, and Oulton, baronet, died at Oulton, Aug. 15, 1698, buried at Little Budworth, in the county of Cheshire, will dated July 6, 1685.

CATHERINE, daughter and sole heir of Piers Conway of Hendre, in the county of Flint, esq. buried at Little Budworth, Jan. 9, 1706-7.

JOHN EGERTON, died an infant.
PHILIP EGERTON, died an infant, bapt. at Little Budworth, 23 June 1659.

JOHN EGERTON, of Egerton, and Oulton, esq. born 8th May 1656, died s. p. buried at Little Budworth, Jan. 2, 1732.

MARY, dau. of Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq. 2dly, Elizabeth, dau. of Robert Lord Visc. Cholmondeley. 3dly, Catherine, dau. of William Upton of Upton, co. Cest. gent. married June 1731, and living 1741.

BRIDGET, bapt. 1660, buried Nov. 10, 1667, at Little Budworth.
SIBILLA, born 1657, bur. at Little Budworth, March 1659.
JANE, bapt. 1665, buried at Little Budworth, April 3, 1665.

PHILIP EGERTON, D. D. rector of Astbury, bapt. at Little Budw. 26 June, 1662, bur. there Mar. 6, 1726.

FRANCES, da. of John Offley, esq. buried at Little Budworth, Dec. 1, 1738.

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² Leland, vol. VII. p. 42.

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PHILIP EGER—ELIZABETH, dau. of Oulton, esq. eldest son, born 21 July, bap. at Little Budworth, Aug. 11, 1694, buried there, Oct. 1766, ob. s. p.	JOHN EGERTON, of Broxton, co. Cest. esq. bap. at Little Budworth, 16 Mar. 1697, ob. 1770, buried at Little Budworth.	ELIZABETH, dau. and heiress of Wm. Brock of Upton, esq. buried at L. Budw. July 23, 1756.	ROWLAND EGERTON, married the widow of Thos. Bourne, 2d son of William Bourne of Chell, co. Stafford.	BRIDGET, wife of Edward Downes of Shrigley, co. Cest. bap. at Little Bud. Nov. 9, 1695.	ELIZ. KATHARINE, o.s.p. bur. at Little Budw.	MARY, w. of Rich. Puleston, of Havod. y. wern, co. Denb. married at Little Budw. Jan. 17, 1739.	SIBILLA, bap. at Astbury, December 1, 1711, wife of Francis Eyles, of Moor Park, esq. eldest son of Sir John Eyles, bart. M. P. who took the additional names of Haskin Styles, and succeeded his father as a Baronet 1744, died at Naples.							
ELIZ. EGERTON, unmar. buried at L. Budworth, 18 March 1810.	ANNE EGERTON, eldest daugh. wife of Roger Barnston, Prebend. of Chest. bap. at Malpas, Sept. 7, 1725.	MARY, wife of Philip Puleston, esq. bap. Mar. 9, 1726, buried at Worthenbury, co. Flint, a ^o et. 45.	JOHN EGERTON of Oulton, esq. eldest son and heir, died a ^o et. 43, buried at Budworth, June 11, 1762. o. s. p.	SARAH, dau. of Hughes, of Halkin, esq.	PHILIP EGERTON of Oulton, esq. ob. 1786, aged 54, buried at Little Budworth, May 15, bap. at Harthill.	MARY, dau. of Sir F.H. Eyles Styles, bart. sister and sole heiress to her brother Sir J. Haskin Styles, bart. living 1816.	SIBILLA HASKIN STYLES, obit 1742, aged 6 weeks.	Sir JOHN HASKIN STYLES, bt. only son and heir, o. s. p. 1768.						
1. Sir JOHN GREY-EGERTON, of Egerton and Oulton, bart. M. P. for the city of Chester, born at Broxton, July 14, 1766, succeeded to the baronetcy 1814, married at Backford, Ap. 9, 1795, to Maria, dau. of Thos. Scott Jackson, of London, esq. remarried June 1795, by special licence, at Serjeant Adair's in Lincoln's Inn, she being under age, and her mother having remarried. s. p.	2. PHILIP EGERTON, Clerk, M. A. rector of Tarporey and of the Higher Mediety of Malpas, born at Broxton, July 6, 1767.	REBECCA, daughter of James Duprè, of Whilton park, co. Bucks, esq. married Sept. 14, 1804.	3. WILLIAM EGERTON, esq. born at Oulton, Feb. 2, and bap. April 18, 1770; accountant-general at Calcutta, 1814; marr. 1807, Sibilla, dau. of Boswell, esq. by whom he has issue Sibilla.	4. CHARLES BULKELEY EGERTON, of Severn Hill, co. Salop, a major-general in the army, born at Oulton, June 5, 1774, married 1809, Charlotte, only dau. of admiral sir Thos. Troubridge, bart. by whom he has issue Charles-Troubridge, Thos.-Graham, Francis-Philip, and Charlotte-Sibylla.	5. FRANCIS EGERTON, born at Oulton, Sept. 2, 1775, a lieutenant in the royal navy; died unmarried in the West Indies, July 18, 1799.	6. THOMAS EGERTON, born at Oulton, Feb. 3, 1777, a major in the 29th reg. of foot, died at Bognor, Jan. 29, 1812.	7. ROWLAND EGERTON, Cler. B. A. of Brasenose Coll. Oxon, born at Oulton, March 9, 1778; marr. 1803, Emma, dau. and sole heiress of James Croxton, of Norley Bank, co. Cest. esq. niece of sir Peter Warburton, of Arley, bart. whose name he assumed in addition, on his decease in 1813, by sign manual. For issue, vide Warburton pedigree.	8. DAVID DE MALPAS ROBERT EGERTON, esq. born at Oulton, July 10, 1782, died unmarried Sept. 11, 1809.	9. RICHARD EGERTON, esq. born at Oulton, Oct. 7, 1783, a major in the army, and aid-de-camp to the right hon. Rowland lord Hill; marr. at Acton, co. Cest. Dec. 1, 1814, to Arabella, youngest daughter of Henry Tomkinson, of Dorfold, esq.	1. SIBILLA-ANNE, died an infant, 1768.	2. ELIZABETH, baptized at Little Budworth, wife of sir John Delves Broughton, bart. of Duddington, married at Little Budworth 1792; living s. p. 1815.	3. MARY, wife of Charles, third son of sir P. Leicester, bart. born May 23, 1772, marr. Jan. 24, 1792, buried at Little Budworth, April 1797.	4. FRANCES, wife of Thomas eldest son and heir apparent of Thomas Tarleton, of Bolesworth, esq. married at Backford, April 23, 1805. For issue vide Tarleton pedigree.	5. SIBILLA, second wife of Randle Wilbraham, of Role in the county of Chester, esq. marr. at Backford, Feb. 9, 1808. For issue vide Wilbraham pedigree.
PHILIP DE MALPAS EGERTON, eldest son and heir apparent, born Nov. 13, 1806.	MARY-ANNE-ELIZABETH.	CHARLES-DUPRE.	JOHN-FRANCIS.	WILLIAM-HENRY.	MADELINA, deceased, Feb. 20, 1813, bur. at Malpas.	RICHARD-CALEDON.								

CHURCH OF LITTLE BUDWORTH.

Certified value, 2l.

*The living of Little Budworth is an augmented curacy, not charged. The bishop of Chester is patron and impropiator by charter (Pat. 38 Hen. VIII.) but the lessee of the great tithes is obliged to find a curate, who is approved by the bishop. It belonged before the dissolution to the nunnery of St. Mary's in Chester, and was called the free chapel of Budworth le Frith, within the parish of Over, the church of which also belonged to the same nunnery. The present lessee is Peploe Birch, esq. The church is dedicated to St. Mary and All Saints. The augmentation, stipend, Easter offering, seat rents, and surplice fees, amounted to 45l. 18s. 6d. as returned in 1810.

This church was visited by Cole in 1757, Aug. 5, who describes the former fabric as a neat building of red stone, having a tower at the west end, with two side aisles, supported by wooden pillars. It consisted of a nave, chancel, and north chancel, used wholly as a pew for the family of Egerton of Olton, raised very high on four or five steps.

In the east window of the chancel were the coats of Done, of Oulton; Egerton, of Oulton; and Talbot, with seven quarterings; and in a window of the south aisle, antient shields of Starkey of Olton and Darley :

in the Egerton chancel was another pane, emblazoned with Egerton impaling Brereton.

On an altar tomb of brass at the east end of the south aisle in the church yard, was fixed a brass plate, containing the figures of a man and woman in winding sheets; with this inscription :

"Under this stone lyeth buried the bodies of Randall Dod, of this parish, and Elizabeth his wife, who lived together in holy wedlock about 60 years, and at the time of their several deceases were about the age of 90 years.

"Randolphus Dod filius p'dict. Civis et Pello Lond. posuit 22^o die Julii, a^o D'ni 1634."

Here followed some verses, unworthy of transcription.

Of this fabric, the stone tower alone is remaining, the body of the church and the chancel having been rebuilt with stone, in consequence of the bequest of one thousand pounds for that purpose in 1798, by Mr. Ralph Kirkham, an opulent merchant of Manchester. This gentleman was son of a farmer who lived on a leasehold estate under the earl of Shrewsbury, in Budworth, and was educated at lady Egerton's school in this parish. The expence of the erection exceeded the amount of the bequest, and the surplus was defrayed by his brother's widow.

The church contains the following monumental inscriptions.

On the south side of the communion table is a monument of white and grey marble,

“In memory of William Kirkham, esq. of Little Budworth, Cheshire, who died of Thursday, March 31, 1803, aged 72 years.”

At the side of this, outside of the rails, is a similar monument, with this inscription ;

“Near this place
are interred the remains of
Ralph Kirkham, esq.

Merchant, of Manchester, whose unaffected, humane, and amiable conduct through life, endeared him to all his acquaintances.

His strict attention to every duty enjoined by the Gospel, justly entitled him to the exalted character of a truly good Christian.

Out of his ample property, which he acquired by honest and honourable dealing, he bequeathed one thousand pounds to the poor of this parish ; and one thousand pounds to rebuild this church ; and five thousand more to other charitable uses.

He died on Tuesday the 5th of June, 1798, aged 63 years.

Near this a memorial of a family of the name of Houlbrooke.

On a stone tablet over the vestry door :

“This church is augmented with 200 pounds by lot, by proposal of twenty pounds a year out of the rectory, by Samuel lord bishop of Chester, in conjunction with 200 pounds from the governors of the bounty. The 400 pounds in money is laid out in a purchase of lands at Thornton, in this county.”

In the east window are the arms of Done of Oulton, in painted glass, and also those of Talbot, with seven

quarterings. In a window in the Egerton pew are also some fragments of stained glass, with this mutilated inscription :

“Egerton . . . fieri fecit . . . fecerunt . . . qui . . . m.cccccc.”

The following memorial, destroyed in rebuilding the church, is copied from Harl. MSS. 2150. 120.

“Orate pro anima Ricardi Starkey de Stretton et Aliciæ uxoris ejus. Cujus Ricardi obitus erat 13 Feb. A. D. 1461, et dictæ Aliciæ ultimo diè Sept. a° d’ni 1452, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus. Amen.”

In 1722, lady Isabella Dod, relict of sir Samuel Dod, lord chief baron of the Exchequer, by will bequeathed the sum of 2500l. to charitable purposes, the interest to be divided between twelve poor people of Little Budworth, and eight of another town in Bucks. The objects of this charity are lodged in an alms-house in Budworth, and have a weekly allowance and a yearly distribution of money, pursuant to the directions of lady Dod’s will.

Adjacent to the park wall of Oulton is a school house, built in 1706, at the expence of Catherine, daughter and heiress of Piers Conway, of Hendre, in the county of Flint, esq. and wife of sir Philip Egerton, of Oulton, kt. Lady Egerton endowed the school with 21l. per annum for the education of eight children, who are nominated by sir John Grey-Egerton, bart.

By the will of Mr. Kirkham, who, as before-mentioned, was educated at this school, 10l. per annum (part of the interest of 1000l. the rest being distributed in clothes and money) is directed to be paid to the master of this school for the education of twelve additional children, to be selected out of the parish of Little Budworth. The rest of Mr. Kirkham’s charitable bequests were chiefly in aid of the Infirmary and other institutions of the town of Manchester.

Tarporley.

IMMEDIATELY west of Little Budworth, lies the parish of Tarporley, partly situated in the low ground which intervenes between the Gowy and the forest of Delamere, and partly among the inequalities and undulations of the lower range of the forest hills. It consists of four townships, containing 5867 acres, 2 roods, and 15 perches, all inclosed land, an Act of Parliament having been obtained for that purpose in 1806. Tarporley township consists of 1108 acres, 16 perches. Utkinton of 1779 acres, 2 roods, 15 perches. Eaton of 1262 acres, 2 roods, 35 perches; and Rushton of 1717 acres, 2 roods, 25 perches^a.

TARPORLEY.

PREVIOUS to the Domesday Survey the barons of Kinderton were grantees of this town, which was contiguous to several of the Cheshire manors, notwithstanding its distance from the head of the barony.

“Isdem Gislebertus tenet Torpelei, Ulviet tenuit et liber homo fuit; ibi 11 hidæ geldabiles. Terra est 14 carucarum. In dominio est 1 et 11 servi, et 14 villani, et 11 bordarii cum 1 carucâ. Silva 1 leuva longa, et 1 lata, et 1 acra prati. Tempore R. Edwardi, valebat xx solidos, modo x solidos, wasa invenitur.”

The first mediate lords of Tarporley that have occurred, were a family that assumed the name of the place. ^b Hugh de Thorpley, 10 Edw. I. 1281, had a grant of a market on Wednesdays, at his manor of Torporley, and of an annual fair of three days, at the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, and the day preceding and following. These privileges were transferred by the said Hugh, 22 Edw. I. 1293^c, to Reginald de Grey, for ten marks, with the reservation of half the perquisites of the fair and markets.

This Reginald de Grey, baron of Wilton and Ruthin, was son and heir of John de Grey, who held the office of Justiciary of Chester, in 1246, and was a powerful baron and steady adherent of Henry III. He had a grant of Ruthin Castle from the Crown, as a remuneration for his manifold services, 10 Edw. I. and obtained his castle of Wilton in marriage with Maud, daughter and heiress of Henry de Longchamp. He had also a grant of part of the honour of Monmouth, was sheriff of the counties of Derby and Nottingham, and governor of the castles of Nottingham and Northampton. He discharged the office of Justiciary of Chester, from 54 Hen. III. to 2 Edw. I. and again from the 10th to the 28th of the same reign. In 25 Edw. I. he was associated among others with prince Edward, in a commission for the government of the realm during the king's absence; and in the same year on the king's confirmation

of the Magna Charta, and the Carta de Foresta, was surety, on the part of the crown, for the indemnity of Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford, constable of England, and Roger Bigod, earl of Norfolk and Marshall, through whom the confirmation of those memorable charters was chiefly obtained^d.

Reginald de Grey dying 1 Edw. II. left issue John de Grey, a powerful baron and distinguished warrior, who was father of Henry de Grey, ancestor of the barons of Wilton, and of a younger son Roger, from whom descended the barons of Ruthin. Roger le Grey married Elizabeth, daughter of John Lord Hastings of Bergavenny, and died 27 Edw. III. leaving Reginald his son and heir, aged 26 years^e.

Inq. p. m. 12 Ric. II. Reginald de Grey of Ruthin, held in demesne, as of fee, a moiety of Tarporley, value vii. also the advowson of the church, and of a chapel, called the Hermits, near the town, held together with the manors of Eyton and Rushton, from the king, as earl of Chester, in capite, and valued at xxxl. Reginald son and heir.

Reginald de Grey, found heir in the last *Inq.*, was plaintiff in a celebrated cause in the court of chivalry, with Sir Edward de Hastings, respecting the bearing of the unabated coat of that family, and obtained a sentence in his favour, 11 Edw. IV.; Sir Edward de Hastings being prohibited from using the same, and ordered to pay such costs as should be awarded by the court. He was also distinguished, independently of his regular warfare, by a feud with Owen Glendower, respecting some disputed land, in which he was made prisoner by that intrepid warrior, and compelled to purchase his liberty by a ransom of 10,000 marks.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VI. Reginald de Grey of Ruthin, died seized, inter alia, of the manors of Rushton and Eyton, held in demesne, as of fee tail, from the king, as earl of Chester, by the service of two parts of a knight's

^a Communicated by the late dean of Chester, rector of Tarporley.

^b Harl. MSS. 2074. 202. This Hugh occurs afterwards as lord of half of Tarporley, in a covenant with the abbot of St. Werburgh, respecting the bounds of Idenshaw, preserved in the Chartulary of that abbey. Richard Doun in the same deed is called “D'nus de Torporleye;” but as the Dones do not appear connected with Tarporley until the 16th century, it is most probable, that “Richard Doun” of Utkinton, was only trustee of the paramount lord, the baron of Kinderton. Harl. MSS. 1967. 36.

^c Williamson's deeds, p. 2.

^d Dugdale's Baronage, 713.

^e Ibid. p. 716.

^f Harl. MSS. 2074. 202.

fee, and also half the manor of Tarporley, and the advowson of the church, and of the Hermits chapel, attached to that moiety, value x marks per annum. Sir Edmund Grey, knight, (his grandson) next of kin and heir, afterwards created earl of Kent, in 1465.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VII. Edmund, late earl of Kent, held in demesne, as of fee, the manors of Rushton and Eyton, from the prince as earl of Chester, by military service, as two parts of a knight's fee, value xxxl. per annum; also half the manor of Tarporley, and the advowson of the church, and of the Hermits chapel belonging to that moiety, from the prince as earl of Chester. Value x marks per annum. George, earl of Kent, son and heir.

23 Hen. VII. Hugh Dennys, &c. obtained from Richard Grey, earl of Kent (son of George earl of Kent last mentioned), and Elizabeth his countess, the manors of Eyton, Rushton, and Tarporley, 100 mess. 1000 acres of land, 200 of meadow, 2000 of pasture, 200 of turbary, 200 of heath, and 100 of gorse, with the passage and mercate of Rushton, Eyton, and Tarporley^b.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VIII. Hugh Dennis, esq. held the manors of Rushton, Eyton, and Tarporley, from the king, as earl of Chester, by the service of two parts of a knight's fee, val. per annum xxi. also the advowson of the church of Tarporley from Thomas Venables of Kinderton, esq. as the fourth part of a knight's fee, val. xl. per annum: obiit die Mart. xx ante fest. circumcissionis. Christopher Matthew next heir, aged 30 years.

1 Edw. VI. William Hinton obtained from Sir Giles Capell (ancestor of the earl of Essex), Sir Henry Capell, (his son), and Anne his wife (sister of Thomas Manners earl of Rutland), the manors of Tarporley, Ayton, and Rushton, with 100 mess. 200 tofts, 100 acres of land, 700 of meadow, 1000 of pasture, 400 of wood, 400 of gorse, and 20l. rent cum pert. in Ayton, Rushton, and Tarporley, for 100 marks^c.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. VI. William Hynton, gent. held the manor of Tarporley, cum pert. as the 4th part of a knight's fee, from Thomas Venables, as part of his manor of Kinderton, val. xli. viiis. viiij. also the manors of Eyton and Rushton, from the king, as earl of Chester, val. per annum lxi. xiiis. viij. John Hinton, brother and heir, who died before entry, and Griffith Hinton his son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 1 Mary. Griffith Hinton, gent. held (inter alia) the third part of the manor of Tarporley, from Thomas Venables, baron of Kinderton, from Sir Thomas Venables, knight, val. lii. xvii. iij. with lands, val. viii. xiiis. iij. and a third of the manors of Eyton and Rushton, held under the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, val. per annum, lxi. xiiis. iij. John Hinton son and heir.

Before this *Inq.* by which it appears that only a third of the three manors now remained to the Hinton, a moiety of Eaton and Rushton had been alienated to William Yardley of Caldecote, who married Margaret^k, daughter of Griffith Hinton before mentioned, of which moiety Sir John Egerton of Egerton, knight, died seized in 1614, in consequence of a recent purchase from the said William and Margaret Yardley, as per *Inq. p. m.* 21 Jac. I. This moiety of Eaton and Rushton, passing to his younger grandson, Sir Philip Egerton, with the

other Cheshire estates, has descended to Sir John Grey Egerton, bart. the present possessor.

The remaining sixth, alienated before the *Inq.* of Griffith Hinton, which was sold to the Maddockes, (as per *Inq. p. m.* Richard Maddocke, 12 Eliz.) together with the third part vested in Griffith Hinton's heir, John Hinton, and the moiety of Tarporley, not sold to Yardley, forming altogether the whole manor of Tarporley, and the half of Rushton and Eaton, passed by various purchases to the Dones of Flaxyards; the first of them before the year 1586, when Ralph Done, esq. rebuilt the manor house of Tarporley. The advowson, and a considerable share of the lands were sold by the Hinton to the Starkeys of Oulton, the first of which, after being noticed as their property in the *Inq. p. m.* 2 and 3 Philip and Mary, and 3 and 4 Philip and Mary, severally after the deaths of Hugh and James Starkey of Oulton, esquires, was sold by John Starkey of Oulton, esq. 12th Eliz. to Ralph Done of Utkinton and Flaxyards, esq.

From that time, the moiety of the manors of Rushton and Eaton has descended, with the forestership of Delamere, through the Crewes to the Ardernes, and is now vested in John Arden, esq. joint lord with sir John Egerton, bart.^l The manor of Tarporley has passed, agreeably to Mrs. Jane Done's will, in the same manner with Utkinton, being divided, after the death of Mrs. Knightley, in 1715, and the subsequent decree of Chancery, between Richard Arderne, esq. (two shares) and John, Ralph, and James Arderne, and the Dean and Chapter of Chester.

These shares are retained by the eldest line, represented by John Arden, esq. by the second represented by Mrs. Clegg, and by the Dean and Chapter of Chester. The share of Ralph Arderne has passed, with his share of Utkinton, to sir John Egerton of Oulton, and the share of James was sold by the son of the eldest grand-daughter of James Arderne, to Mr. John Shaw of Idenshaw, by whom it was bequeathed to his fourth son, Henry Arden Shaw. The manerial rights are exercised in a rotation, which was determined by lot.

The manor-house of Tarporley, a respectable timber building, now stuccoed over, stands at the south end of the town, near the church, and in the division of the property was allotted to the Dean and Chapter, to whom it now belongs. On a large carved beam, reaching the whole length of the upper part of the west wing, is the following inscription, in two lines, in black letter:

Ralph Done Esquyer, the lorde of this place,
Was an eade to this buldyng in every case.

The corresponding part of the beam, at the East end, is occupied with the words: John Wytter, 1586. The whole of the intermediate part has been cut away; but on a carved ledge, underneath this part, is the following inscription, in one line:

Feneys quoth Jhon Newsome hathe kept hys promes
just, in buldyng of thys howse in Awgust, anno 1585.

In the centre of this wing of the house, over the beam above described, is a large and richly ornamented shield, divided into four quarters. The first contains the Done crest, two sheaves of arrows crossed saltierways: the second contains the arms of Davenport, a chevron be-

^g Williamson's deeds, p. 2.

^h Ibid. p. 53.

ⁱ Ibid. p. 68.

^k Harl. MSS. 1535 546.

^l The shares of sir John Egerton and John Arden, esq. are here called moieties, in reference to the Inquisition after the death of sir John Egerton, 1614, before mentioned; since which time it does not appear that any part of the manor has been alienated by the Egertons. But the shares are at present reputed to be in different proportions; and in an Act for inclosing the waste grounds of Tarporley, in 1806, Mr. Arderne is stated to be possessed of two thirds of the manor, and sir John Egerton of only one third. Communicated by the Dean of Chester.

tween three cross crosslets fitchée: the third contains the crest of Cholmondeley, a demi griffin segreant, holding a helmet: the 4th contains the crest of Wilbraham: a wolf's head erased; in the corners are four cyphers, corresponding with the quarters, RD, WD, HC, and TW.

The first is that of the builder, Ralph Done of Flaxyards; the second, that of his father-in-law, William Davenport, of Bramhall; the third, that of Sir Hugh Cholmondeley of Cholmondeley, knt. between whose family and the Dones there does not appear to have been any connection at that time, except that Frances, daughter of Sir Hugh, was then wife of Thomas Wilbraham, of Woodhey, esq. whose crest and cypher occupy the fourth quarter of the shield, and who was a kinsman of Ralph Done, being grandson of William Wilbraham of Woodhey, esq. whose daughter Ellen married Ralph Done of Flaxyard, and was grandmother of the builder.

The *arms* of Davenport are probably introduced intentionally, from a preference of them to the *crest* of that family, a felon's head, with the halter round the neck, being allusive to the office of serjeant of the peace for the hundred of Macclesfield, held antiently by the Davenports.

The town of Tarporley was antiently governed by a mayor. Richard Francis occurs as mayor 1297, in the time of Reginald de Grey, justice of Chester, and of William Praers, sheriff; William de Hulgreve in 1348, and Richard de Chalenor 12 Ric. II.^m At what period these privileges were disused, is uncertain; but its government, within memory, has been vested in two constables only, as in other townships. Sir John Crewe procured a grant of fairs to the town, and rebuilt the market-house. Among the Harl. MSS. 2115, is a plea to a quo warranto, by the earl of Kent, stating the rights of the manor, varying little from those of the barons of Malpas, exclusive of their capital jurisdiction.

The township is chiefly situated on a gentle swell, commanding a prospect of the Welsh mountains and the vale of Chester, and an exceedingly beautiful near view of the castle and rock of Beeston, and the Broxton hills. Tarporley town consists chiefly of one long street, a considerable thoroughfare on the London road, broad, cleanly, and well paved, with respectable buildings, and is by far the most sightly of the towns of the western hundreds. On the north the ground rises gently towards the forest, in a series of well-timbered inclosures.

There are some indistinct traces of entrenchments in the meadows adjacent to the church, which most probably have reference to a skirmish between the royalists and the parliamentarians in 1642, in which the latter were defeated.

CHURCH.

Taxat. Eccl. P. Nicholai. 5l. Valor. Eccl. 20l. 3s. 4d.

The living of Tarporley is a rectory. The rector has the corn-tithe of the whole parish, and the hay-tithe of the township of Tarporley. The other townships claim a modus for hay of 12d. per statute acre for meadow-land; that is, land which was never ploughed; and 8d. per statute acre for upland, commonly called butt-land. The small tithes are much the same as in other parishes, and either taken in kind, or small payments in lieu thereof.

The advowson of the church, as appears by inqui-

sitions recited in the descent of the manor, and by the list of patrons, descended, with the manor, through the families of Grey, Capel, and Dennys, to the Hintons, by whom it was sold to the Starkeys of Oulton, and is noticed in the Inquisition after the death of Hugh Starkey, 2 and 3 Phil. and Mary, and of James Starkey, 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary, and having been sold by John Starkey, of Oulton, esq. to Ralph Done of Utkinton and Flaxyards, esq. became reunited to the manor in his descendants.

Under the settlement of Mrs. Jane Done, mentioned more at large in the account of the manors of Utkinton and Tarporley, the advowson, after passing through the Crewes, vested in the Ardernes, in the same manner as the manerial estate; viz. two shares in the Ardernes of Harden, and one share each, in John, James, and Ralph Arderne, and the Dean and Chapter of Chester. Of these, John Arden of Harden, esq. now possesses four shares; viz. the two originally allotted, and the shares of John and James Arderne, which were sold to the Ardernes of Harden for 100l. each, on the determination of the Chancery suit with the dean and chapter, being the amount of their law charges, the share of Ralph Arderne passed, with his other property, to the Egertons of Oulton, and is now possessed by sir J. Grey Egerton, bart.: the remaining one belongs to the dean and chapter. These parties present in turns. Sir John Grey Egerton presented last, and the four next presentations will belong to the Arden family.

The church of Tarporley is an ancient building of red stone, much altered, in various styles, by successive repairs, and consisting of a tower containing five bells, a body, chancel, and side aisles. The patron saint is St. Helen. The east end of each aisle is inclosed as a chancel, and appropriated to the representatives of the several branches of the Arderne family, the heirs of the Dones of Utkinton and Flaxyards, to the former of whom the north chancel belonged, the other being the property of the Flaxyards family. The ceiling of the Flaxyards chancel is painted rudely, with the pedigree and armorial bearings of the Dones, with those of their numerous alliances.

Among the arms noticed by sir William Dugdale in the Cheshire churches, in 1663, there occur, as existing in the painted glass of Tarporley,

Argent, 3 chevrons Gules; Or, 3 chevrons Gules; Argent, 3 chevrons Gules; impaling, paly of 6, Argent and Vert, on a bend Gules, three escallops Or; Argent, 2 piles Sable; and, in the east window of the Utkinton chancel, Done with five quarterings: 1. Done; 2. Kingsley; 3. The Kingsley Horn; usually borne on an inescoccheon over Kingsley; 4. Legh of East Hall, in High Legh; 5. Somerville; 6. Weever. Two crests. A buck's head erased, and the forester of Delamere's Horn, each on a wreath. Supporters, 2 talbots; the dexter Argent, the sinister Sable. This last coat is remaining, in a mutilated state.

Against the north wall of the chancel, and within the rails, is erected a very handsome mural and altar monument, which reaches quite to the top of the church, of black and white marble: on the altar part lies the full figure of Sir John Crewe, knt. in white marble, and a large wig, with a loose and thin robe flung carelessly about him, his hands closed, and his eyes looking up to heaven. Two boys sit weeping at his head and his feet; above an arch supported by two fluted pil-

lars, adorned with cherubs and drapery, are his arms, ranged paleways between those of his wives as follows; 1. Argent, 2 bendlets, engrailed Sable; in the sinister chief an escallop Argent, Wagstaffe. 2. Azure, a lion rampant Argent, Crewe. 3. Party per chevron, Sable and Argent, Aston. Crest, a lion's gamb erect, Argent, issuing from a ducal coronet. On the table, below the figure, is this inscription:

"Here lyeth (in hopes of a joyfull resurrection) the body of sir John Crewe, of Utkinton, in the county palatine of Chester, knt. son of John Crewe, esq. grandson of sir Randle Crewe, knt. lord chief justice of the King's Bench, descended from ye ancient family of ye Crewes, of Crewe, in ye s^d county, and from w^{ch} (by a younger son) was descended ye 1st lord Crewe, baron of Steane, in ye county of Northampton.

He was a lover of y^e constitution, both in Church & State, & consequently an enemy to popery and arbitrary government: steadfast to y^e establisht religion, but charitable to such as dissented from it, who he thought were to be won over rather by mildness than severity, by y^e force of reason yⁿ persecution. He was exemplary in his devotions, & carefull to have his family joyn with him twice a day therein. His loyalty was unshaken, & conformable to y^e laws of his country. He strenuously maintain'd the Revolution principles, & rejoyet in y^e happy prospect w^{ch} was y^e natural effect of them, y^e establishm^t of y^e present royal family, & therein y^e preservation of y^e British liberties & ye security of y^e Protestant Religion.

He was open, free, & obliging in conversation, a lover of learning & learned men, delighted in a country life, bearing no office but y^t of chief forester of ye forest of Delamere, in this county, w^{ch} he held by inheritance. He was a dutifull son, an affectionate husband, a kind relation, & a faithful friend; good to his servants, generous to his tenants (whose posterity will enjoy y^e effects of his bounty), charitable to y^e poor, universally belov'd and esteem'd while he liv'd, & as generally regretted at his death. He married, 1st, Mary, daughter of Thomas Wagstaffe, of Tachbrook, in ye county of Warwick, esq. a lady of admirable endowments for piety, charity, & steadiness in friendship. His second wife (by whom this monument is erected, in obedience to his will,) was Mary, daughter of S^r Wilughby Aston, of Aston, in y^e county of Chester, bt. He died May y^e 19th, 1711, in y^e 71st year of his age."

Close by this monument, within the rails, lies a black marble slab, with this inscription:

"Here lieth interr'd the body of dame Mary Crew, relict of S^r Jn^e Crew, of Utkinton, knt. She departed this life the 8th of April, in the 67th year of her age, anno Dom. 1734.

After the death of her first husband, this lady re-married Dr. Chamberlain."

In the north-east corner, by the altar, is erected, from the ground, a very elegant white marble mural monument, on which, in an oval medallion, is a highly-finished half-length figure of Sir John Done, of Utkinton, in a ruff, and the dress of king James the First's time, having his left hand on the hilt of a sword.

On the top are the arms of Done. 1st and 6th, Done of Utkinton; 2d, Kingsley of Kingsley; 3d, Legh, of East Hall, in High Legh; 4th, Somerville; 5th, Weaver; over all, on an escocheon of pretence, Argent, a bugle strung Sable, the ensign of the forestership, impaling Argent, 3 bends wavy Azure, for Wilbraham of Woodhey. Crest, a buck's head coupéd Or. The arms are supported by two talbots; the dexter Sable,

the sinister Argent. Motto, Omnia mei Dona Dei. On a black marble tablet beneath is written:

Hic juxta situs est

Joannes Done de

Utkinton in Com. Palat. Cestriæ eques auratus,
Forrestæ de Delamere jure hæreditario Præpositus,
A Rege Jacobo 1^{mo} Utkintoniæ

Equestri dignitate ornatus.

Vir omni virtutum genere eximio præditus.

Uxorem duxit Dorotheam

Thomæ Wilbraham de Woodhey

in comitatu dicto armigeri filiam.

Obiit die XIV^o Aprilis an^o Dom. MDCXXIX.

D. Joannes Crewe de Utkinton, eques auratus,

Avo optime merito posuit.

Answering to this medallion, in the south-east corner by the altar, is another medallion, exhibiting a profile of John Crewe of Utkinton, esq. Over his head a coat of arms, containing, 1st and 4th, Azure, a lion rampant Argent, for Crewe; 2nd, quarterly, Argent and Sable, over all a bend Gules, charged with three mullets of the first, Clippesby; 3d, Gules fretty Or, in in each square a quatrefoil of the second, Ramsey. On an escocheon of pretence the coat of Done. On a black marble tablet below is the following inscription:

Hanc juxta parietem jacet Johannes Crewe
de Utkinton in comitatu Cestriæ Armiger.
Filius Ranulphi Crewe de Crewe in eodem
Comitatu Militis natu minor, qui duxit
Mariam Johannis Done de Utkinton pr'dicti
Militis, Filiam secundamⁿ et obiit
Duodecimo die Maii Anno Christi 1670.

This monument, originally placed against the wall under the second window in the north side of the north chancel of this church, was removed to this situation August 1811.

Immediately opposite the monument of sir John Crewe, is a sumptuous altar-monument of white marble, which has been removed to this situation from its original position in the north chapel. On the slab are the recumbent figures of two females in white marble; at the feet of the first stands an infant, holding a garland of flowers in her hands, habited in the fashion of the times. The female at whose feet she stands is dressed in widow's weeds, and recumbent on her right arm. The other lady reposes her head on a cushion, and holds a book in her left hand. These figures represent Mrs. Jane Done, Mrs. Mary Crewe, and Mary Knightley of Fawsley, her grand-daughter.

In front of the tomb are two large shields, of which one contains the six quarterings of Done, as mentioned on sir John Done's monument: the other contains six quarterings of Crewe, 1st and 6th, Azure, a lion rampant Argent, for Crewe. 2nd, Argent, a chevron checquy Gules and Or, between three bugles Sable. 3d, Argent, a lion rampant Sable and a chief, Gules. 4th, quarterly Argent and Sable on a bend Gules, three mullets Argent, Clippesby. 5th, quarterly, 1st and 4th, Ermine, 2nd and 3d, Paly, of six Gules and Or, within a bordure Sable for Knightley. With these coats are impaled the six quarterings of Done. A small shield in a lozenge also stands by the figure of Mary Knightley, with her paternal coat. On this tomb is engraved the following long inscription:

Near this place lieth ye body of Jane Done, eldest daughter of sir John Done, late of Utkinton in this county palatine of Chester, knight, and one of y^e co-heirs of John Done, his son, esq. She was baptized

Nov. 14, 1600, and in a virgin state and great reputation, liv'd remarkably eminent for parts & prudence, affability & generosity, charity & piety. Besides her daily alms-giving & good deeds, she gave twenty pounds (charg'd upon certain lands in Torporley) to be yearly paid to y^e school adjac't for ever, and two hundred pounds, now charged upon lands in Tattenhall, for y^e binding poor children in Torporley & Utkinton apprentice. She was a most tender lover of her no less affectionate sister, Mary Crewe, upon whom, and her heirs, she settled her proportion of y^e estate, and from whom she never parted till the day of her death, March 2nd, 1662.

Here also, by her dear sister Jane Done, lieth the body of Mary Crewe, second daughter of s^r John Done, & another of y^e coheirs of John Done, esq. wife & relict of John Crewe, esq. (second son of s^r Randle Crewe, of Crewe in this county). She was born at Utkinton, July 12th, 1604, married at Stockport church, December 1636, & had 4 children: viz. a daughter born at Harden, Oct. 3^d, 1637, & buried in y^e chapell at Stockport belonging to Ralph Arderne of Harden, esq. who married Eleanor, youngest daughter of s^r John Done, & one of y^e three coheirs of John Done her brother. Mary, born at Utkinton Dec. 23, 1639, bur. at Richmond in Surrey, May 12, 1645. John, born at Utkinton, bapt. in this church Mar. 31, 1641, who married Mary, y^e daughter of Thos. Wagstaff, of Tachbrook in the county of Warwick, esq. w^{ch} Mary was interr'd in a vault in Tachbrook church amongst her dear relations, June 10, 1696. Elizabeth, born at Westminster, & married to Devereux Knightley, of Fawsley in the county of Northampton, esq. by who' she had Mary, born at Fawsley, and bapt. July 9, 1673, who dying at Utkinton Aug. 13, 1674, was buried by her a^{nt} and grandmother near y^e place of this monument, in w^{ch} her memory also (as appears by y^e figure at y^e feet) has a deserved share, for of such is the kingdom of God.

The said Elizabeth had also a son, Devereux, born at Fawsley Apr. 14, bapt. 25, 1676, who being a youth of great hopes and rare endowments both of body and mind, (as his father was) highly valued in his country, chang'd the expectations of nuptiall solemnity into funerall exequies in the place of his birth, August 31, 1695.

The aforesaid Mary Crewe, a wife chaste and affectionate, a parent prudent & kind, a mistris tender and condescending, a friend wishing and doing well to all, in constant and free housekeeping not inferior to any of her quality & time: a blessed peace-maker, even by authority amongst her tenants where counsell could not prevail: full of good works & alms deeds, which she did both to the bodys and souls of many, having liv'd a rare example of piety, justice, & mercy, in a good old age, honoured and lamented by all, departed this life at Utkinton, July the 6, and was interr'd the 8, 1690. She also gave two hundred pounds charg'd by her upon lands in Torporley, for the binding apprentice the eldest sons or daughters of cottagers, her tenants, in such places as were not provided for by her sister's benefaction.

To the memory of which two sisters, alike in their characters and affections, matchless in their endearments, inseparable in their lives, by death scarcely

divided; and here at last resting together awaiting y^e dawning of y^e resurrection, this monument was erected, in duty and honour, by s^r John Crewe, of Utkinton, (nephew to y^e one, son to y^e other, & heir of both) in the year of our Lord M.DC.XCVIII.

Mr. Devereux Knightley, alluded to in the inscription, was on the point of matrimony with Frances, daughter of sir Thomas Wagstaffe of Tachbrook, who was afterwards wife of sir Edward Bagot of Blithefield, where he was taken ill and died.

Above this monument is another mural monument of white marble, the sides of which are ornamented with pillars, and the top with the arms of Wagstaffe and of Crewe impaling Wagstaffe and Combe (Ermine, three lions passant gardant Gules) quarterly. A black marble tablet between the pillars contains this inscription in gold letters:

In y^e chancell of the church of Tachbrook, in y^e county of Warwick, lyeth the body of Thomas Wagstaffe, esq. eldest son of Timothy Wagstaffe, of Tachbrook, esq. by his wife Elizabeth, one of y^e daughters of Nicholas Fulwer, of Chamber House in the county of Berks, esq. w^{ch} Thos. married Mary, the eldest daughter of William Combe, of Stratford upon Avon, esq. & one of his coheirs by Katherine, a daughter of Edward and sister of s^r William Boughton, of Lawford, baronett. By y^e said Mary he had one son; viz. sir Comb Wagstaff, kt. who deceas'd unmarried, and one daughter, Mary, who married s^r John Crewe, of Utkinton in y^e county palatine of Chester, knt. Within y^e vault of y^e aforesaid chancell of Tachbrook, lye y^e bodies of John Rouse, esq. younger son of s^r John Rouse, of Rouse Lench in y^e county of Worcester, kt. & also of Mary his wife, y^e relict of Thomas Wagstaffe aforesaid.

He died without issue, No^{ber} VI. M.DC.LXXX.

She departed this life, Mar. III. MDCLXXXVI.

Beati qui moriuntur in Domino.

Here lyeth y^e body of _____ who departed this life

This monument, erected by s^r John Crewe, and designed for the church of Tachbrook, is here placed because Mr. Wagstaffe, (to whom that church belongs as a peculiar) after a xii months expectation from y^e time y^e monument was ready to be set up, denyed any thing to be done there to y^e memory of Mr. Rouse; tho' by the said Mr. Rouse his joining with sir Comb Wagstaff to cut off y^e entail, he now possesses his estate at Tachbrook.

This angry inscription is not altogether correct. The granting permission for the erection of a monument in Fawsley was not in the power of Mr. Wagstaff, as it was a peculiar belonging to the church of Lichfield. The circumstance was stated in a letter to sir John Crewe by Mr. Trebelle, the then vicar of Fawsley, in which the most handsome mention is made of Mr. Rouse. Subsequently an application was made to the dean of Lichfield in a visitation, and, by his permission, another monument was erected to Mr. Rouse in the north aisle of Fawsley by Lady Crewe, who was intended to have been commemorated in the blank parts of the inscription given above.^a

Against the south wall of the church, in the south chancel, is a painting in oil colours, representing a monument erected in Westminster Abbey for the

^a Thomas's Warwicksh. vol. I. 485. Cole's MSS. vol. XXIX. p. 23.

lady of sir Clippesby Crewe, with the following inscription :

Dominae Janæ Crewe,
 Pietate Formâ Pudicitâ
 inter paucas egregiæ,
 filiæ et cohæredi
 D. Joha'nis Poultney
 de Misterton Poultney
 in comit. Leicestr. Militis, Nepti
 D. Johan. Fortescu de Solden
 in comit. Bucking. militis
 ex Margeriâ Filiâ,
 Matri
 Johannis, Annæ, Ranulphi Crewe
 superstitum
 et Franciscæ Crewe
 prima infantia præmortuæ et consepultæ ;
 Optimæ uxori,
 Amore et admiratione virtutum
 mœrens maritus
 Clippesbey Crewe miles
 hoc monumentum posuit.
 Obiit ætatis suæ anno trigesimo
 secundo die mensis
 Decembris
 1639.

Having now gone through the monuments of the patrons, it would be unpardonable to omit the following one to a most worthy incumbent, of whom a similar character is quoted by Cole from the diary of sir John Crewe. It is a neat small mural monument of white marble, decorated with the arms of Sherrard impaling Davenport fixed above the monument. Sherrard, Argent, a chevron Gules between three torteauxes, for difference a crescent. Below it, a shield with the arms of Sherrard paly with those of both his wives, which are now defaced.

Near this place lieth the body of Rowland Sherrard, Rector of this Church near 34 years. He was the surviving son of Robert Sherrard, of Corbey in Lincolnshire, esq. by Mary his wife, daughter of John Davenport, of Woodford in this county, esq. His family was a branch of the lords Sherrard, of Stapleford, Leicestershire. He was a countryman & favourite of the famous Doctor Saunderson, & for many years Fellow (as he was) of Lincoln College in Oxford, & therein a most eminent tutor. He took episcopal orders from Robert Skinner, then bishop of Oxford, in those days when it was a bar from all preferment, with a penalty, to own the church of England, of which he was a steady member to his dyeing day. He was modest, affable, and courteous to all in his behaviour, faithfull to his friends, helpfull to his neighbours, loving to all he knew, strictly temperate, frankly hospitable; constant and painfull in his office; in learning, piety, & generosity, he exceeded most, & was not in any of these exceeded by any of his time. He had two wives, but left no issue, and died the 17th day of March, 1694.

On a blue marble stone in the chancel is an inscription for his last wife, the daughter of Edward Davies, esq. of Carrickfergus in the kingdom of Ireland, who died the 19th of July, 1722, a^o ætat. 61.

Close to this, on the south, was a stone ornamented with a brass plate, on which is engraved the coat of Lancaster; Argent, two barrs Gules, on a canton of the second a lion passant Or, impaling, Or, a lion rampant, Gules, for Leigh of West Hall, with this inscription :

Elizabeth, wife of Nathaniel
 Lancaster, Rector of this
 Church, daughter of Peter
 Leigh, of High Leigh in this
 county, esq. dyed Septemb.
 the 26th, & was buried y^e 28th of
 the same moneth anno Dom. 1658.

On another stone, with the arms of Lancaster only, with a crescent in chief, is inscribed,

Nathaniel Lancaster, son of
 Gabriel Lancaster of Rain-
 hill in the county of Lan-
 caster, esq. batchloure in
 Divinity, & rector of this
 church, died the 9th day of
 Jan. Anno Dom. 1660.

These plates had been removed, but are now to be restored to their original situation. (Aug. 1815.)

Another sepulchral memorial is erected to the memory of Peter Jones, of Utkinton, gent. who lived at Utkinton sixty-one years, under sir John Done and his family, "a faithful servant, an industrious solicitor, a careful and generous friend to that family," obiit Nov. xvii, M.DC.LXXXVII.

In the south chancel is a splendid achievement for sir John Crewe, with upward of fifty quarterings splendidly emblazoned, but very inaccurately arranged. The pedigree of the Dones is painted in water colours on the ceiling of the aisle.

The three following inscriptions to rectors are cut on blue flag-stones, the first of which is nearly covered by the rectory pew.

H. S. S. Maii 3. 1732.

Reliquiæ

Radulphi Markham, A. M.
 hujus Ecclesiæ per annos
 17. Rectoris.

Dilectæ ejus uxoris Elizabethæ
 ex antiquâ de Aldersey familia
 oriundæ

Postremo Dec. 26. 1761.

Filiis illorum maximè nati

Radulphi, de Minshull aliquando Vicarii.

Charissim: parentum ac fratris
 M.S.

Hoc marmor posuit mœrens

Robertus Markham

S. T. P.

Ecclesiæ S. Mariæ de Whitechapel, Rector
 et Reg. Majest. Geo. III.
 a Sacris.

Obiit Sept. 25, anno ætatis 58,

Humanæ salutis 1786.

Conduuntur ossa apud suos

Londinenses.

Aliis non sibi vixit.

On another blue flag-stone, in the centre of the chancel :

Here lie the remains

of

Edward Beresford, B. D.

Sen. Fellow of St. John's College in
 Cambridge,

and

Rector of this Parish xx years.

He departed this life May 1v,

A. D. M.DCC.LII. A. Æ. LIV.

Close to the former, on the south side of it, is the following, composed by lord Alvanley :

Here

lieth the body of

Crewe Arden, M. A. of

Trinity College, Cambridge, and Rector of this Parish.

He was inducted on the 28th of

February, 1778, and departed

this life at his Parsonage House

on the 25th day of August,

1787, aged 37 years.

During his possession of this living he made

his Parish his almost constant residence,

and the welfare of his Parishioners, his

principal delight and care.

He was a generous, charitable,

and truly religious man.

His death was a most severe affliction

to his family and numerous friends,

and his funeral was attended with the general

lamentations of his Parishioners,

by whom his memory will be long revered.

On a neat painted stone tablet, fixed against the south wall of the south aisle.

Near to this place

are deposited the remains of

Henry Arderne of Tarpoley,

who departed this life the 27th of

September, 1775, in the fiftieth

year of his age. Also the remains of

Catherine Arderne, Relict

of the above Henry Arderne,

who departed this life the 19th of

June, 1777, in the fifty-second

year of her age.

Likewise the remains of

John Arderne, son of the

above-mentioned Henry and

Catherine Arderne,

who departed this life the 30th of

July 1779, in the nineteenth year of his age.

On a wooden memorial, hanging over the pew of

Mrs. Clegg, representative of the Richardsons of Booth-

hurst, are painted two armorial shields, most probably

meant for Richardson and Wood: the first, Argent, on

a chief Gules three leopard's heads erased Argent; in

the centre a bird Sable. (for difference?) The second,

Argent, a wolf rampant Sable, langued and armed

Gules, for difference a crescent Gules. The inscrip-

tion is,

Near unto this place lyeth interred

the bodies of Thomas Richardson of

Rushton, in the County Palatyne of

Chester, son and heir of William Richardson

of Utkyngton in the same county,

gentleman, who died the 18th of September,

1670, aged 70 years;

and also of Mary his wife, daughter

to Henry Wood, of Cannock in the coun-

ty of Stafford, gentleman, who died

Aug. 20, 1670, aged 70 years.

They had issue 5 sons and 5 daughters,

(besides three abortive) of which only

7 survived them, viz. William,

Thomas, Joseph, John, Elizabeth,

Mary, and Anne.

Near this is hung a carved and painted representa-

tion of the Kingsley horn, with the initials J. D. and a

date, 1662, more modern than the rest. It is rudely

executed, and by no means a faithful representation.

RECTORS OF TARPORLEY.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1298.	Willielmus de Falebroun, subdiaconus.	Reginaldus de Grey.	
	D'nus Robertus de Blechley.		
1319, 10 kal. Xber.	Nicholas de Handoell.	D'nus Jo. de Grey, miles.	P. m. d'ni Rob'ti de Blechley.
1328, 2nd° Julii.	Nicholaus Godding, apud Ware.	Nob. Vir Reg. de Grey.	
	Robertus de la Leye.		
1339, 9 kal. Maii.	Ph'us de Weston.	P. resig. Rob'ti de la Leye.
1339.	Willielmus de Abberbury, Cl'us.	D'nus Reg. de Grey, miles.	P. resig. Ph'i de Weston.
1362.	Joh'es de Podington, pr'b'r.	Reginaldus de Grey, miles.	
1374.	Thomas Alblaster.	D'nus Reg. de Grey, miles.	Causâ permutat. cum Jo. de Podington.
1386.	Joh'es Aubyn, pr'b'r.	D'nus Reg. de Grey, d'nus de Ruthyn.	P. m. Tho. Alblaster, ult. rect.
1399, 17 Mart.	Joh'es Elleslow, Cl'us.	D'nus Reg. de Grey.	
1405, 11 Jan.	Tho's ap Llewellyn.	D'nus Reg. de Grey, D'nus de Ruthyn et de Weyford.	P. resig. Jo. de Elleslow.
1406, 26 Apr.	Edwardus filius Willielmi, cap's.	P. nob. Vir Reg. de Grey, D'nus de Weyford et de Ruthyn.	
	Willielmus Meles.		
1421.	Edway Groyllen.	D'nus Rogerus de Grey, D'nus de Hastings, Weyford et de Ruthyn.	P. resig. W. de Meles.
1446, 12 Maii.	Willielmus Asser, Cl'us.	P. nob. Vir D'nus Reg. de Grey, D'nus le Grey de Ruthyn.	
1481, 8 Xber.	Eustachius Barnard, cap's.	Edm's Grey, comes Cant. et D'nus de Hastings et Weyford.	P. m. Willielmi Asser.
1499.	Willielmus Wittur, Cl'us.	D'nus Geo. Grey, co. Cant.	P. resig. Eustachii Barnard.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1543.	Ranulph Armount.	Philip Egerton, of Egerton, esq. hac vice.	
1556, 31 Oct.	John Wymmesley. Alan Chorleton, LL.B.	Sir Richard Mainwaring, and W. Chorlton, hac vice.	Death of John Wymmesley, 1556.
Ante 1574.	Robert Comaundre.		
1613, 1 Sept.	Robert Whittel.	Robert Fletcher, and William Whittel, hac vice.	Death of Robert Comaundre, 1613.
1638, 18 Sept.	Nathaniel Lancaster, B. D.	Evan Edwards, esq.	Death of Robert Whittel, 16 Sept. 1638.
1660-1, 20 Jan.	Rowland Sherrard, A. M.	Jane Done, spinster.	Death of Nathaniel Lancaster, 9 Jan. 1660-1.
1695, 12 Oct.	Peter Lancaster, A. M.	Sir John Crewe, knt.	Death of Rowland Sherrard, 17 March, 1694-5.
1709, 19 Sept.	John Ward, A. M.	John Crewe, esq.	Death of P. Lancaster, 1709.
1715.	Legh Brooke, A. M.	Richard Arderne, esq. and others.	Death of J. Ward, 12 April, 1715.
1716-17, 25 Feb.	Ralph Markham, A. M.	Richard Arderne, esq.	Resig. of Legh Brooke, 9 Oct. 1716.
1732, 6 July.	Edward Beresford, B. D.	Richard Arderne, esq.	Death of Ralph Markham, 3 May, 1732.
1752, 1 Aug.	John Allen, B. D.	Richard Arderne, esq.	Death of Edward Beresford, 4 May, 1752.
1778, 25 Feb.	Crewe Arden, A. M.	John Arden, esq.	Death of J. Allen, Jan. 1778.
1787, 6 Sept.	Simon Jacson, A. M.	John Arden, esq.	Death of Crewe Arden, 25 Aug. 1787.
1808, 19 May.	Hugh Cholmondeley, B. D.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Simon Jacson, 15 April, 1808.
1816, 3 Feb.	Philip Egerton, M. A.	Sir John Grey-Egerton, bart.	Death of Hugh Cholmon- deley, 23 Nov. 1815.

The following notices of some of the incumbents, are chiefly extracted from Cole's MSS. to whom they were communicated by the Rev. John Allen, formerly rector of Tarporley.

William Wytur, who survived to 1546, was most probably displaced at the Reformation.

John Wymmesley, was natural son of George Savage, rector of Davenham, in Cheshire, who was natural son of Sir George Savage, K. B. and natural brother of Edm. Bonner, bishop of London, who gave him the prebend of Sneating, in the church of St. Paul, on the 22d of March, 1541. On the cession of Dr. Henry Cole, in 1543, Bonner collated him on the 29th of October to the archdeaconry of London, which he resigned in April 1554, and had the archdeaconry of Middlesex conferred on him the 11th of the same month. He was likewise presented on the 2nd of the same month to the fourth stall in the cathedral of Chester, which with his archdeaconry and this rectory he held to the day of his death in 1556.

He was removed from the archdeaconry of London from his want of activity in the restoration of the Popish establishment, and was succeeded by John Harpsfield. In 1553, he spoke an Oration, (afterwards published) in the convocation of the clergy. He was educated in Broadgateshall, Oxford, and created LL. D. 1533.

Robert Comaundre was a busy fanatic in the parish, and was most probably succeeded by another minister of the same turn, as appears by the addition "Minister of God's word" appended to the name of Robert Whittle, in the Register, a title which the puritanical clergy generally, though not exclusively, arrogated to themselves.

Nathaniel Lancaster, B. D. son of Gabriel Lancaster of Rainhill, co. Lanc. esq. married in 1655 a daughter of Samuel Clarke, rector of Leighton Beaudesert, in

Bedfordshire, and was related to the Done family. That he was of the puritan set is evident from the following extract from the Journals of the House of Commons, vol. iv. p. 433. "A^o 1645. 4 Nov. A letter from Denbigh, 1 Nov. 1645, with a letter inclosed from thence of same date, from Mr. Nathaniel Lancaster, minister, relating the success of the Parliamentary forces under colonel Mitton, against the king's forces under Sir William Vaughan: Resolved, that the minister who brought these, and the good news of the routing of the king's forces, shall have 50l. bestowed on him for his pains." He married Elizabeth daughter of Peter Leigh of West Hall in High Leigh, esq. to his 2d wife.

Rowland Sherrard, his successor, is noticed among the monumental inscriptions.

Peter Lancaster, removed from St. John's College, Cambridge, to Baliol College, Oxford, where he took his degree of B. A. 1684, and M. A. 1686. He translated the discourse on Envy and Hatred^a, in the first volume of Plutarch's *Morals*^b, and was author of a tract on the rights of the clergy to exemption from road rates^c. He was also rector of Nantwich, and was collated, May 2, 1694, to a prebend in Chester cathedral, where he was buried.

Ralph Markham was father of Ralph Markham of Peter House, Cambridge, vicar of Minshull, author of a small volume of Poems; and also of Robert Markham, Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, by which college he was presented to the rectory of Whitechapel. There is a small engraved portrait of the latter of his sons.

John Allen, B. D. senior fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, was a man of considerable acquirements as a herald and antiquary, and universally beloved in the counties of Chester and Cambridge, between which he divided his residence. He made considerable collections

^a Fasti Oxon. vol. ii. p. 225. 228.

^b Edit. Lond. 1610. 8vo.

^c Lansdowne Catalogue.

for a History of Staffordshire, which he gave to his friend Dr. Wilkes of Wolverhampton, with a view to publication. The income which he received for the first three years from his preferment was entirely expended on the repairs of the parsonage. The following inscription is on his tombstone in St. John's church-yard, Chester, written by himself, with a singularly easy turn of thought.

Deus propitius esto mihi
 Joanni Allen peccatori,
 Rectori de Tarporley,
 et socio maxime seniori
 Trin. Coll. Cantab.
 Nato apud Uttoxeter,
 Jan. 14, 1699.
 Sepulto Jan. 23, 1778.
 Quod quisque vestrum
 Mihi piè optaverit,
 Illi feliciter eveniat
 vivo et mortuo.
 Amen.

CHANTRIES.

In this parish were antiently two oratories or chantries, the Chapel of the Rood, and the Hermit's Chapel. The following presentations to the first of these occur in the Lichfield Episcopal Registers.

CANTARISTÆ CAPELLÆ DE RODE, JUXTA TORPLEGH.

1301. 6 kal. Feb. Adam de Bonebury, chaplain, on the presentation of Reginald de Grey.

1317. Gilbert de Kingsted, on the presentation of John de Grey.

1364. Robert de Thurstanston, chaplain, on the presentation of Reginald de Grey.

1380. 11 kal. Maii. Ralph Hulfeld, priest, on the presentation of Reginald de Grey.

William Crosier.

Robert de Staunford, on the resignation of W. Crosier.

1387. Roger Grey, clerk, on the resignation of Robert de Staunford.

The chapel of the Hermit is noticed as attached to the manor of Tarporley, in the Inquisitions after the deaths of Reginald de Grey, 12 Ric. II. Reginald de Grey, 19 Hen. VI. and Edmund earl of Kent, 10 Hen. VII. Reginald de Grey presented to this chapel in 1385, and again in 1397, John Achworth, priest. The chapel in the last presentation is denominated in the Lichfield Register, *Lib'a capella s'ci Leonardi, sive le Hermitage juxta Torplegh.*"

Accident disclosed the site of this chantry, whilst these sheets were transcribing for the press. In ploughing up a field, called the Hermitage Field, about half a mile North West of the church, the labourers laid bare the foundations of a small cell, built with red ashlar, but which were so slight that the plan could not be traced. Near this was found a stone coffin, containing the remains of a human skeleton; the thigh bones and skull tolerably perfect. The hermit had chosen for his retirement a delightful knoll, which commands the Broxton hills and the Vale of Chester.

The parsonage of Tarporley is an antient but commodious building, the house and grounds of which have undergone considerable improvements during the occupancy of the late incumbent. The gardens are laid out in an old-fashioned taste, with terraces, and steps brought from the ruins of Utkinton Hall by Mr. Allen.

Cole, the Cambridgeshire antiquary, was confined here some time from the consequences of a fractured leg, occasioned by an accident in the forest, and employed his time in copying the painted glass, brought from Utkinton Hall, then fixed in these windows, and removed afterwards to Vale Royal, which drawings are now among his MSS. in the British Museum.

CHARITIES.

Abstracted from an account communicated by the late Dean of Chester, Rector of Tarporley.

In the church-yard is a School-house, over the door of which are the arms of Done impaling Wilbraham, with the date of 1636, but there does not appear to have been any original endowment.

By deed, 23 Jan. 1662-3, Mrs. Jane Done charged lands in Tarporley with an annuity of twenty pounds to be paid to the master and his successors in the office, appointed by her heirs. The salary is paid by the dean and chapter, in whom these lands are vested in consequence of the decree of chancery of 1725; but the master has no duties to perform for it, the scholars paying for their instruction. The master is appointed by John Arden, esq. and the school kept in repair at the expence of the same.

By deed, dated 19 Aug. 1668, John Crewe, esq. charged lands in Tattenhall, with the payment of a rent charge of 12l. per annum, to be appropriated to the apprenticing the children of the poor inhabitants of Utkinton and Tarporley. This deed was renewed by Sir John Crewe, 1 July, 1701. Two apprentices are annually put out under this charity, nominated by John Arden, esq. on the recommendation of the rector and churchwardens.

By deed, dated 14 March 1685, Mrs. Mary Crewe settled upon Rowland Sherrard, rector, and his successors, a rent charge of 13l. on lands in Tarporley, to be laid out in apprenticing one of the sons, or in default of sons, one of the daughters of the tenants of herself and her heirs, in Clotton, Eaton, Rushton, Alraham, Kelsal, or elsewhere, except Tarporley and Utkinton. This rent charge was removed to lands in Eaton, by deed between Sir John Crewe, knight, and Peter Lancaster, rector, dated 2 January 1702-3. The charity is managed by the agent of John Arden, esq.

By deed, dated 18 Oct. 1704. Sir John Crewe, knight, at the request of Dame Mary Crewe, charged lands in Eaton, with a rent charge of 6l. per annum, to be paid in equal portions to four poor women, to be placed in certain Alms Houses, recently erected by him. Such women to be selected by the heirs of Sir John Done, from the tenants of Utkinton Hall, of the townships of Utkinton, Tarporley, Eaton, and Rushton, those of Utkinton to be preferred, and next those of Tarporley. This charity is managed by Mr. Arden's agent; two women of Utkinton, and two of Tarporley being always appointed.

In 1722, the sum of 507l. 12s. 0d. arising from gifts and legacies to the poor, was expended in purchasing an estate in Davenham, of about 33 acres, then worth about 30l. per annum. It is now let for 90l. per annum, of which one-third is distributed yearly amongst the poor of Tarporley, another third amongst those of Utkinton, and another amongst those of Eaton and Rushton, by the rector and churchwardens.

By will, dated 24 Nov. 1741, the rev. Thomas Gardiner left among other charities, 100l. the interest

to be appropriated to the instruction of poor children of the townships of Utkinton, Eaton, and Rushton. This is managed by the rector.

The rev. Crewe Arden, rector, having died in Aug. 1787, of a fever on the brain, his brother Sir R. P. Arden, knight, Attorney-General, and Chief Justice of

Chester, believing it to have been his intention if he had not died so suddenly, to have given something to the parish, ordered 100*l.* to be given, which is put out to interest, and under the management of the rector, being known by the name of the Rev. Crewe Arden's legacy.

RUSHTON AND EATON.

THESE manors have passed uniformly by the same title. Eaton is not noticed in Domesday, being antiently considered as a dependency of Rushton, which was retained by the earl at the time of the Domesday survey. *Ipsè comes tenet Rusitone. Chepin tenuit ut liber homo; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est duarum carucarum. Wasta est.*

The first alienation was made by John Scot, last of the local earls of Chester, who granted the manor of Rushton with the vills of Great and Little Eaton, to Hugh Phitun, by deeds without date; with an acquittance from all pleas of the forest of Mara for himself and tenants (*nisi quando cum venatione in eadem forestâ capti fuerint*), from piture of serjeants and foresters, attendance on shires, hundreds, and Weverham court, and all assizes and summonses whatsoever; Witnesses, William, bishop of Chester, Thomas de Furnival, Gerard his brother, Henry de Audithlegh, Walkelyn de Arderne, &c.

To this deed was appended a great seal of green wax, by a crimson lace, with an equestrian figure of the earl. On the left arm a shield with his device, three piles, in the right hand a naked sword, circumscribed ☒ *Sigill Jo'is Huntingdoniæ* At the back, a small armorial shield, circumscribed, *Sigillo S'c'o Regio.* Harl. MSS. 139. 18.

This Hugh de Phitun was son of Richard de Phitun, justiciary of Chester, and ancestor of the knightly family of Fitton of Gawsworth. Having incurred the guilt of felony, his manors of Rushton and Eaton^a were seized on by the earl, John Scot; and passing afterwards, with the earldom, to the crown, were granted by letters patent, 48 Hen. III. to John de Grey, to whose son, Reginald, possession was confirmed by deed, without date, by Edmund, son of Hugh Phitun the original grantee.

^b John de Grey, son of Reginald and baron of Wilton, settled these manors by fine on his younger son, Roger, 4 Edw. II.

The descent of these manors after this period, from Reginald de Grey, son and heir of Roger, through the families of Grey of Ruthin, Capell, Dennys, and Hyn-ton, to the present joint lords, sir John Egerton, of Oulton, bart. and John Arden, esq. has been given in the account of the manor of Tarporley, which passed through the same families.

In these townships were the seats of the Dones of Flaxyards, the Hintons of Rushton Hall, the Welds of Eaton, and the Richardsons of Boothurst.

Flaxyards is merely a farm-house. The Dones of this place branched out from the parent house, in the time of Henry the Sixth, in the person of Robert Done, a second son of John Done, esq. of Utkinton; and after much litigation, became possessed of the Utkinton estate, as heirs male, in the reign of Elizabeth, by settlement of sir John Done, who died without issue himself, his brother leaving only a daughter, who eventually married the heir of the successful claimant of the Utkinton estate. This suit is alluded to by Camden, who speaks of the differences of the two houses; and these differences have been magnified successively by Pennant and others, until they have assumed the appearance of a border feud. The pedigree of this line is incorporated with that of the elder branch. The following notices of the family occur in the Inquisitions^c.

Inq. p. m. 24 Hen. VII. John Done of Flaxyards, (son and heir of Robert Done of Flaxyards,) died seized of two mess. called Flaxyards and Boulton Howse, and lands in Eyton, held from Hugh Denys, esq. in socage, val. xv*vs.* per^m annum; also the manor of Kelsall, and lands in Clotton, Hulfield, Duddon, Crowton, Hertford, Ayton, Rushton, Cotton, and Kelsall. Ralph son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 1 and 2 Phil. and Mary. Ralph Done, esq. died seized of the capital messuage called Flaxyards with the mill and lands in Rushton, Eyton, and Tarporley, held as before, val. iiii*l.* per annum; also the manor of Kelsall, and lands in Clotton, Hulfield, Duddon, Crowton, Hertford, and Tarporley. Obiit Aug. 8. Ralph, son of Richard Done, grandson and heir.

This Ralph succeeding to Utkinton, the Inquisition after his death, and the account of his descendants, will be found in that township.

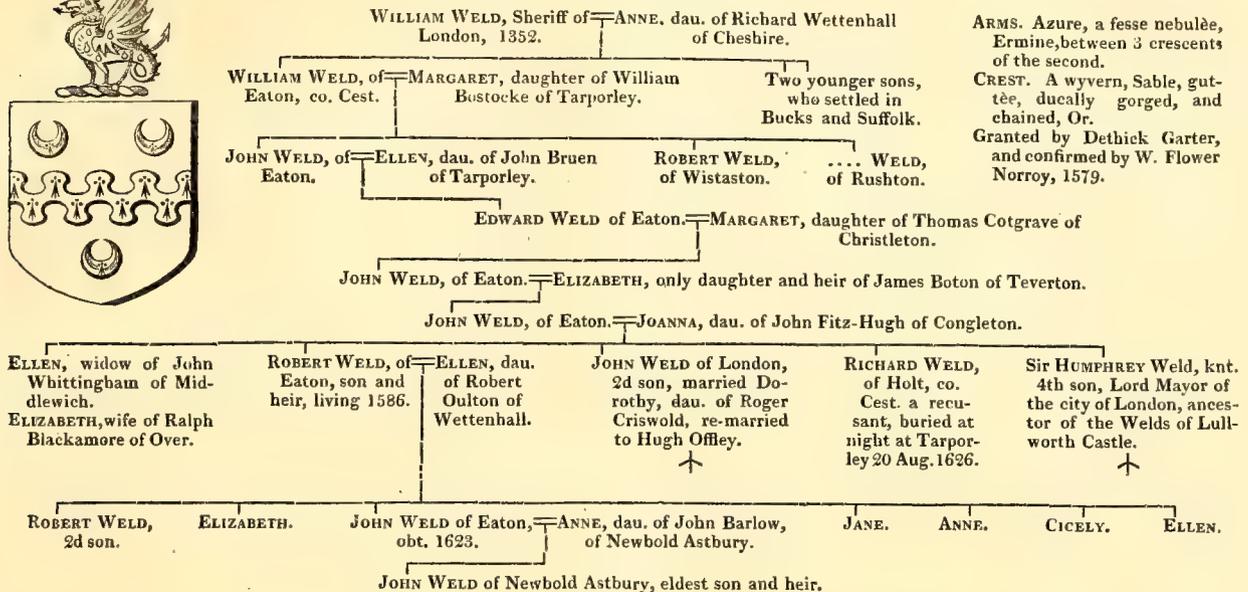
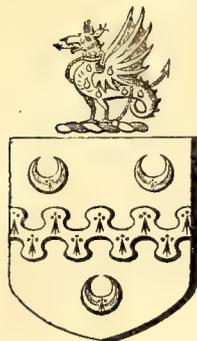
The Welds resided in Eaton from the reign of Henry the Third to that of Charles the Second, when they removed to Newbold Astbury. Sir Humphrey Weld, Lord Mayor of the city of London, and ancestor of the Welds of Lullworth in Dorsetshire, was a younger brother of this family.

^a Williamson's Collections, p. 28.

^b *Ibid.* p. 2.

^c Harl. MSS. 2161.

WELD OF EATON.



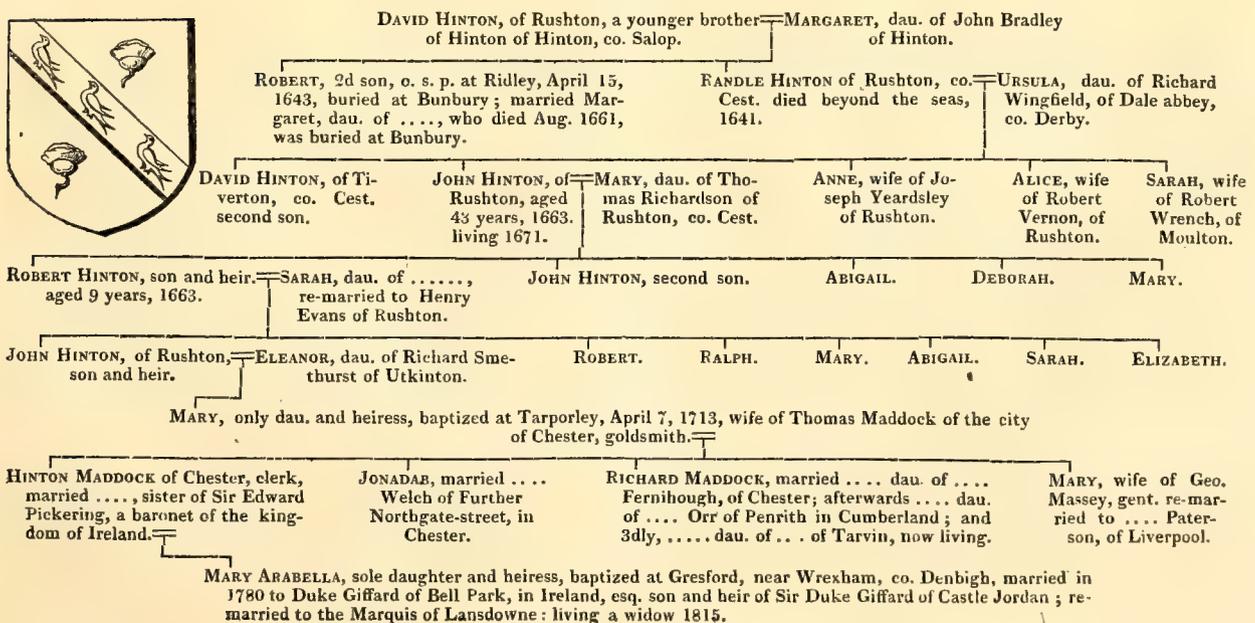
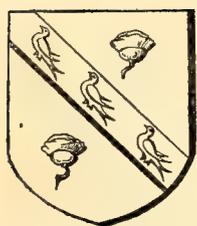
The Boothurst estate in Rushton passed in marriage to John Arderne, second son of Ralph Arderne, esq. and Eleanor Done, with Rachel, daughter and heiress of William Richardson, eldest son of Thomas Richardson of Boothurst, gent. of whose family a further account is given among the monumental inscriptions of Tarporley. This estate descended to the father of Mrs. Clegg, together with the share of the manors of Utkinton, Tarporley, and Willington, according to the descent given in the account of those townships, and was sold by him to Mr. Thomas Hough.

Rushton Hall became, early in the seventeenth century, the residence of a younger branch of the Hintons

of Hinton in Shropshire. The Hintons, lords of Rushton and Eaton, had become extinct in the male line before this period, according to Webb's Itinerary. The following pedigree of the later family of Hinton, partly compiled from Dugdale's Visitation of 1663, and partly from deeds, the Tarporley registers, and the information of individuals who had personal knowledge of the parties, brings down the descent to the present marchioness dowager of Lansdowne, daughter of the late Hinton Maddock, of Chester, clerk, who sold her Cheshire estates to her uncle, Mr. Richard Maddock of Caernarvon, by whom this property was again sold to Mr. John Siddorn.

HINTON OF RUSHTON.

ARMS. Argent, on a bend, Sable, between two poppies, Gules, stalked Vert, 3 Martlets, Argent.



UTKINTON.

THIS township is not noticed, under its present name, in Domesday; but it was, without doubt, shortly after that survey allotted to the barons of Kinderton, from whose ample fee it was held at the earliest period to which records extend. It is however very probable that it is described in the following survey of a place now unknown, which was situated in the Earl's Forest, held before the Conquest by Ulviet, most of whose possessions were allotted to Gilbert Venables, and unquestionably the place whence the mesne lords of Utkinton assumed their local designation. "Ipse comes tenet Done. Ulviet tenuit ut liber homo. Ibi ii hidæ geldabiles. Terra est ii carucarum. Wasta fuit et est, modo in foresta comitis. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x solidos."

The first of the Dones who possessed Utkinton, under the barons of Kinderton, was Richard Done, living in the reign of king John. The precise period of the grant from this family to the Dones is unknown; but the arms of Done give tolerably decisive evidence as to the connexion between the mediate and superior lords of Utkinton, being the baronial coat of Venables, varied with a bend, the difference adopted by the acknowledged younger branches of the house of Kinderton, and by a further addition of three arrows, in allusion to their office of forester, which was obtained in marriage with Joanna de Kingsley, by Henry, son of Richard Done, before mentioned.

This Henry Done was father of Richard, whose son Richard was father of a third Richard Done, who states his pedigree in a plea to a quo warranto 31 Edw. I. which has been given in the account of Delamere. This Richard Done^a, by *Inq. p. m.* 6 E. II. died seized of this manor in fee, held from William, son of Hugh Venables, then ward of the earl of Chester, as half a knight's fee, by doing service at the Court of Kinderton from 15 to 15 days.

Henry Done, of Utkinton, son of this Richard, finally succeeded to his father's estates, but had an elder brother, Richard^b, as appears by a fine, 3 Edw. III. when Robert de Huxley and Isabella his wife obtained from Thomas, son of Stephen Dod, the manor of Utkinton for their lives, remainder to Richard, son of Richard Done and Joanna his wife. This Henry Done left issue, by Mary his wife, who was a daughter and coheir of Sir Peter le Roter de Thornton, John Done, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VI. John Done held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Utkinton, from Hugh de Venables, baron of Kinderton, value x marks per annum; two parts of the manor of Alpram, half the manor of Clotton, a fourth part of Kingsley fee, with lands in Newton, Bradley, Barnton, Northwich, and Frodsham. John Done, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI.^c Sir John Done, knt. died seized of lands and messuages in Eaton, Rushton, and Tarporley. John Done son and heir. This John Done married Elizabeth, daughter of Piers Dutton, of Dutton; marriage covenant dated 16th Nov. 12 H. IV. Her portion was 200l. and jointure 10l. per annum. Harl. MSS. 2077, 184.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VII. Sir John Done, of Utkinton, knt. held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Utkinton, from the lord of Kinderton, value x marks per annum; also lands in Tarporley, Ayton, Rushton, Barton, North-

wich, Bradley, Frodsham, Acton, Kelsall, Chester, and Newton, three parts of the manor of Alpraham, half of Clotton, and a fourth part of the fee of Kingsley. Richard Done, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VIII. Elizabeth, widow of Sir John Done preceding. This *Inq. p. m.* relates solely to her own estates, as heiress of Weever. q. v.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VIII. Richard Done, of Utkinton, esq. held the manor and mill of Utkinton from the lord of Kinderton, as of his manor of Kinderton, value, per annum, xii. also the lands and shares of manor precisely as enumerated in the Inquisition on his father's death. Value, total, 38l. 17s. 4d. John Done, son and heir, aged 15 years.

Inq. p. m. 4 Eliz. Sir John Done, knt. held the manor of Utkinton from the lord of Kinderton, as of the manor of Kinderton, value, per annum, vii. xiiii. ijd. with the other estates as before-mentioned, and the office of Forester of Delamere, (not before particularized), held from the queen, as the fourth part of a knight's fee, and value per annum, xxs. Obiit 6 Nov. 4 Eliz. Ellena, daughter of his brother James Done, next of kin and heir.

Previous to the decease of Sir John Done, he had settled the estate on his kinsman Ralph Done of Flaxyards, passing over his brother's daughter, by whom the settlement was contested; but the differences arising from the contest were finally composed by the marriage of the son of Ralph Done with the heiress of Utkinton. This alliance took place before the 27th Elizabeth, in which year Ralph Done, esq.^d (together^d with his son John, and Ellena his wife,) passed over the manor of Utkinton and other estates. Ralph Done died Jan. 2, 34 Eliz. seized of the manor of Utkinton, held of the barony of Kinderton by military service, then valued at vi. per annum, and of the estates before enumerated, and also of lands in Clotton, Duddon, and Hulfield, and the manor of Kelsall, which were his paternal estates as representative of the Flaxyards family. Value total, 58l. 0s. 12d. John Done, son and heir, aged 40 years.

In this son, Sir John Done, the male line of Utkinton again terminated, in 1629; and the succession of his daughters and co-heiresses was contested by Sir Ralph Done of Duddon, descended from a younger branch of the Flaxyards family, and now heir male; but his suit failed of success, and the entire property was divided between Jane Done the eldest sister, Mary, wife of John Crewe, esq. and Eleanor, wife of Ralph Arderne, esq.; Frances, wife of Thomas Maisteron, esq. the only other sister that came to years of maturity having died a few days after her father, and her children having only survived a few years. The share of Mrs. Jane Done consisted of the manors of Utkinton, Millington, and Tarporley, with the advowson of the latter, which she settled on her sister Mary Crewe, and the heirs of her body, with remainder to the five surviving sons of her sister Eleanor Arderne. The account of these sub-divisions will be more clearly understood by taking the branches separately, and first giving the pedigree of Done, to its termination in the co-heiresses, and to the subsequent extinction of the descendants of the eldest married co-heiress, Mary Crewe.

^a Cole's MS. 20, 192.^b Williamson's Collections of Deeds, p. 18.^c Grosvenor MSS.^d Harl. MSS. 2155. 26.

DONE OF UTKINTON, FLAXYARDS, AND DUDDON.

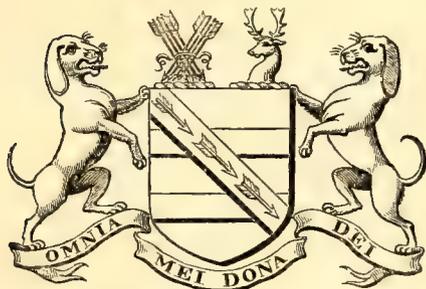
From Inquisitions post mortem, the Parochial Registers, and the Visitations of 1580 and 1604.

ARMS.—Azure, two barrs Argent, over all, on a bend Gules, three arrows Argent.

CREST.—1st, on a wreath eight Arrows Or, crossed in saltier, with the points downwards, feathered Sable, banded Gules; 2d, on a wreath, a Buck's Head erased proper, attired Or.

SUPPORTERS.—Two Talbots, the dexter Argent, the sinister Sable.

Note. These supporters were adopted by Lord Alvanley on his elevation to the Peerage, and are preserved in antient painted glass in the Utkinton chancel at Tarporley: but in the Visitation of 1580 two lions gardant are given as supporters of the Done arms: "Ex sigillo perantiquo penes Radulphum Done, Arm."



RICHARD DONE of Utkinton, in the time of king John.
 HENRY DONE of Utkinton, forester of the forests of Mara and Mondrem in right of his wife. JOHANNA, fourth daughter of Richard de Kingsley, sister and coheirress of Randle de Kingsley. temp. Hen. III.
 RICHARD DONE of Utkinton, son and heir. dau. of HENRY DONE of Crowton, ancestor of the Dones of Crowton.
 RICHARD DONE of Utkinton, son and heir. ELIZABETH, daughter of sir Hugh Venables, kt. baron of Kinderton.
 ISABELLA, 2d wife, remarried to Robert de Huxley, living 3 Edw. III. RICHARD DONE of Utkinton, son and heir, as appears by a plea to a writ of quo warranto, 31 Edw. I. Inq. p.m. 6 Edw. II. ELLEN, dau. of sir Thomas de Swinerton, co. Staff.

RICHARD DONE, eldest son and heir, living 3 Edw. III. married to Joanna, daughter of
 HENRY DONE of Utkinton, second son, and heir by survivorship. MARY, daughter and coheirress of sir Peter le Roter, kt. lord of Thornton, widow of William de Golburne.

JOHN DONE, of Utkinton, esq. only son and heir. Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VI. ANNE, daughter of Richard Heiton, of Heiton, co. Lanc. esq.
 MARGARET, wife of John Davenport, of Davenport, esq. second brother and heir of sir Thomas Davenport, kt. remarried to sir William Brereton, of Brereton, kt.

Sir JOHN DONE, of Utkinton, kt. eldest son and heir, slain at the battle of Blore Heath. Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. ELIZABETH, dau. of sir Peter Dutton, of Dutton, kt. marr. covenant dated Nov. 16, 12 Hen. IV.
 HUGH DONE of Oulton, third son, married Anne, dau. of James lord Audley, relict of sir Thomas Dutton of Dutton, by whom he had issue Elizabeth, dau. and sole heirress, wife of John Egerton, of Egerton, esq. had issue.
 ROBERT DONE, of Flaxyards, second son. ALISONIA, dau. of sir Peter Dutton, of Dutton, kt.

ROBERT DONE, esq. eldest son and heir apparent, had issue one dau. wife of Wm. Bostock of Stapleford. Died before his father. Sir JOHN DONE, of Utkinton, kt. 2d son and heir by survivorship. died before 13 Hen. VII. Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VII.
 ELIZABETH, dau. and sole heirress of Thomas Wever, of Wever, esq. relict of sir John Stanley, kt. Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VIII.
 ELEANOR, wife of Hugh Starkey, of Oulton, esq. ELIZABETH, wife of Thomas Salusbury, of Llewenny, esq.
 MARY, wife of Thomas Manley, of Manley, esq. Inq. p. m. 12 Hen. VIII.
 JOHN DONE, of Flaxyards, esq. only son and heir. Inq. p. m. 24 Hen. VII. ELLEN, dau. of Richard Aston, of Aston, co. Cest. esq.
 JONETTE, wife of John Hockebull, of Hockebull, esq.
 CICELY, wife of . . . Thelwall of Delamere.
 JANE, wife of John Griffin, of Barterton, esq.

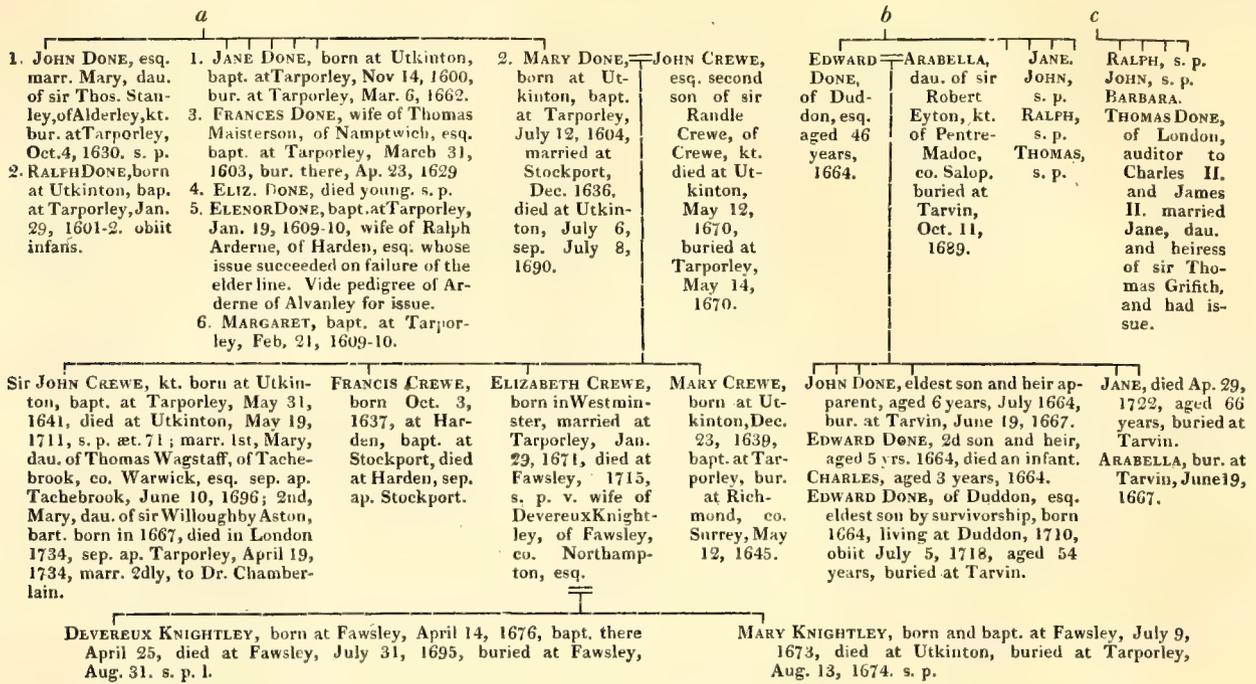
ELLENA, wife of David Middleton of Denbigh, remarried to Piers Holland of Conway, and to Urian Brereton of Honford. RICHARD DONE, of Utkinton, esq. son and heir. Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VIII.
 JOAN, dau. of sir Peter Gerard, of Bryn, kt.
 MARY, wife of Richard Bruen, of Stapleford, esq. JOANNA, wife of Tchet Beeston, of Beeston, esq. CICELY, wife of Hugh Davenport, of Calveley, esq.
 SUSANNA, dau. of sir John Draycott of Painsly, kt.
 RALPH DONE, of Flaxyards, esq. son and heir. Inq. p. m. 1 and 2 Phil. et Mar. obiit Oct. 8.
 ELLENA, dau. of William Wilbraham of Woodhay, esq.
 wife of Friman of London. ELLEN, wife of William Arderne, 2d son of John Arderne of Timperley.

Sir JOHN DONE, of Utkinton, kt. son and heir, aged five years 8 Hen. VIII. bur. at Tarporley, Nov. 9, 1561. Inq. p. m. 4 Eliz. o. s. p. settled his estates on Ralph Done of Flaxyards. Marr. Jane, dau. of Randle Mainwaring, of Peover, esq. bur. at Tarporley, Dec. 25, 1562.
 JAMES DONE, of Utkinton, esq. second son, died before 4 Eliz.
 ELIZABETH, daughter of sir Edmund Trafford, of Trafford, co. Lanc. kt.
 JOANNA, wife of John Bruen, of Stapleford, esq.
 RICHARD DONE, of Flaxyards, esq. eldest son and heir apparent, died before his father.
 CATHERINE, daughter and coheirress of Randle Legh, of the East Hall in High Legh, esq.
 MARGERY, wife of Thomas Rich, of Mars-ton, co. Bedford, esq. ELIZABETH, wife of Richard Cartwright of Smethwick.
 JOHN DONE, second son, married Katherine, base dau. of Laurence Dutton, of Dutton, and had issue Ralph, who died without issue, and Richard Done of Chester.

CHRISTIANA, dau. of John Carew, of Hacombe, co. Devon, relict of Richard Brooke of Norton. 2d wife. RALPH DONE, of Flaxyards, esq. and afterwards of Utkinton, heir to his grandfather. Inq. p. m. 34 Eliz.
 ELEANOR, dau. of William Davenport, of Bramhall. 1st wife.
 ANNE, wife of Roger Dod, of Broxton, esq. SUSANNA, wife of . . . Wyat, of co. Notts, esq.
 ELLEN, wife of John Whitmore, of Thurstanston, esq. BRIDGET, wife of John Yardley of Caldecote.

ELLENA DONE, sole dau. of James, and heir general of sir John Done, per Inq. 4 Eliz. marr. before 27 Eliz. died August 23, 1590.
 JOHN DONE, of Utkinton and Flaxyards, esq. son and heir, died March 24, 1600, bur. at Tarporley, Ap. 7, 1601.
 JOANNA, dau. and coheirress of George Massey, of Podington, esq. relict of John Hurlston, of Picton, esq. obiit Dec. 7, 1618, buried at Plemondstall, without issue by John Done.
 WILLIAM, s. p. PHILIP, s. p. HUGH DONE, a captain in the army. o. s. p.
 JANE, wife of Thomas Couney, of Weston-Couney, co. Staff. esq. ANNE.
 DOROTHY, wife of William Chauntrell, of Bache, co. Cest. esq. AMICIA.
 JANE, dau. of Edward Minsbull of Nantwich.
 THOMAS DONE, of Duddon, co. Cest. esq. second son.

Sir JOHN DONE, of Utkinton and Flaxyards, kt. aged 3 years, 1580, bur. at Tarporley, Ap. 14, 1629. Knighted by James I. at Utkinton Hall, 1617.
 DOROTHY, dau. of Thos. Wilbraham, of Woodhey, esq. bur. at Tarporley, Feb. 11, 1635-6.
 THOMAS DONE, esq. 2d son, o. s. p. bur. at Tarporley, April 7, 1652, died unmarried.
 JAMES DONE, o. s. p. SAVAGE DONE, o. s. p. bur. at Tarvin.
 MARY, wife of Jarvis, son of sir Bryan Lascelles, kt.
 JULIANA. ELIZABETH. ELEANOR.
 ANNE, dau. of sir Valentine Browne, of Croft Hall, co. Lincoln, kt. 1st wife.
 Sir RALPH DONE, of Duddon, kt. son and heir, mar. 3d, Bridget, dau. of . . . Doughty, of Bristol, merchant; obiit Jan. 1660. bur. Jan. 14, 1660.
 ELIZABETH, dau. of sir John Savage, of Clifton, kt. died at Woodhey, bur. at Whitegate, Dec. 24, 1614.



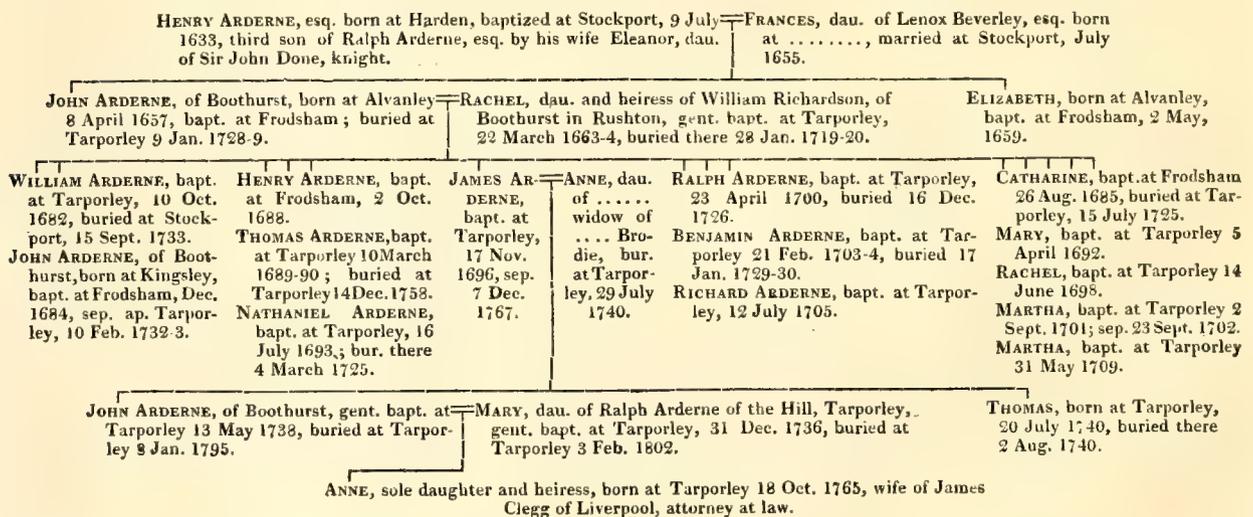
On the demise of Mrs. Knightley, in 1715, a litigation ensued respecting the further provisions of the will of Mrs. Jane Done, which directed the whole of her property to be divided into six shares, in the event of Mrs. Arderne's issue succeeding to her estates, of which the eldest son, or his representative, was to have two shares, and the other sons one each. The dean of Chester, one of these sons, had died intermediately unmarried, and had bequeathed his property to the dean and chapter of Chester; who claimed his share in this reversion. The other parties were Richard, eldest surviving brother of sir John Arderne, the eldest son of Elenor Arderne; John Arderne, of Boothurst, eldest son of Henry, the second son of Mrs. Arderne; Ralph Arderne, of Clayton Bridge, eldest surviving son of Ralph, third son of Mrs. Arderne; and James Arderne, of the Oak, in Sutton, only son of Philip, youngest son of Mrs. Arderne.

By an award of Chancery, in 1725, the estates were

divided into six shares, each valued at an average of 4,200l. of which shares each of the above parties (including the dean and chapter of Chester as representatives of James Arderne), received one, distributed by lot; the eldest branch receiving in addition the first lot, which contained the Hall of Utkinton, then valued at 400l. "The royalties courts and perquisites of courts to go annually alternately, and each party to have the nomination of a steward and other officers in their own years." The advowson of Tarporley was subsequently divided into the same number of shares, each proprietor to present in rotation^a.

The two first shares have descended to John Arden, esq. agreeably to the pedigree of that family under "Alvanley."

The third share, as far as concerns Utkinton and Tarporley, has descended to Mrs. Clegg, its present proprietor, according to the pedigree annexed, comprehending the Shaw Farm estate in that township.



The fourth share of the manors of Willington, Utkinton, and Tarporley, with the advowson, which was allotted to Ralph Arderne, eldest surviving son of Ralph Arderne, esq. of Clayton Bridge, was conveyed by him by indentures of lease and release bearing date

11th and 12th March 1727, to Edward Warren, merchant, for the sum of 1000l. by whom it was conveyed by indentures of lease and release bearing date 19th and 20th June 1728, for the sum of 1762l. 13s. Od. to sir Nathaniel Duckenfield, of Duckenfield, bart. and

^a From the original award, communicated by Ralph Arderne, of Utkinton, esq.

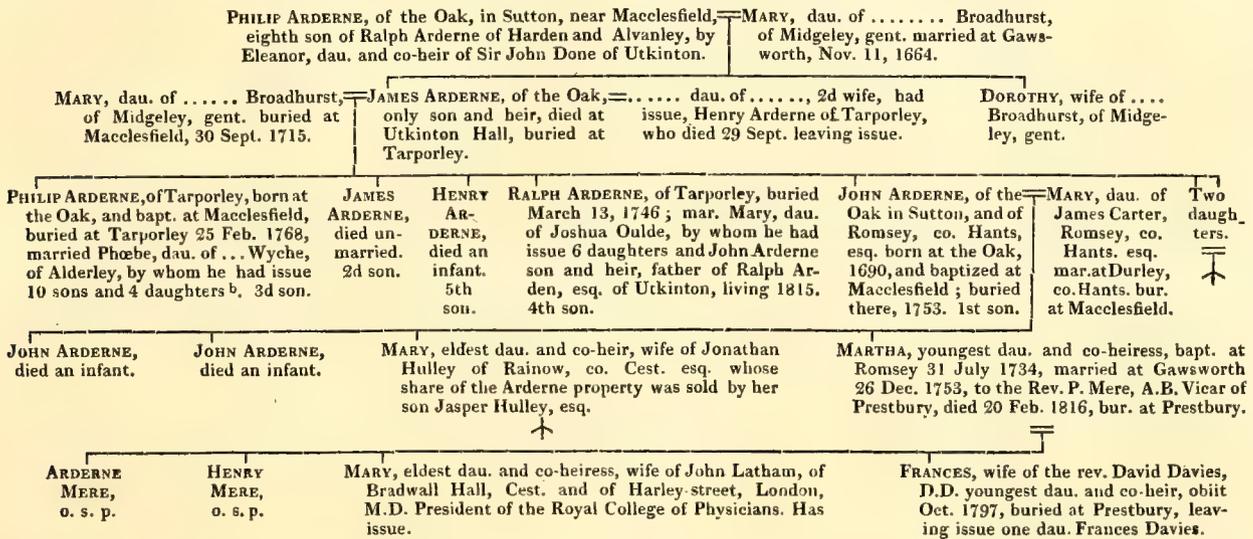
re-sold by the same to Philip Egerton, of Egerton and Oulton, esq. father of sir John Egerton, bart. the present proprietor. This line became extinct in Ralph Arderne, before-mentioned.

The fifth share continues vested in the dean and chapter.

The sixth share was allotted to James Arderne, of the Oak, only son of Philip, the youngest son of Ralph Arderne and Eleanor Done. The turn of the advowson was sold almost immediately to Richard Arderne, of Harden, esq. his cousin. The rest of his property de-

scended to the daughters and coheirs of his son John Arderne. Mary, the eldest coheiress, had the share of the manors of Utkinton and Tarporley, the first of which was sold by her son Jasper Hulley, esq. to John Arden, of Harden, esq.; the second, to Mr. John Shaw. Martha, the second coheiress, had the Oak and other estates, together with a rent charge on Willington, given in exchange for the share of that manor, which are now vested undivided in her heirs general.

The following short pedigree brings down this branch of Arderne to the present period.



The house of Utkinton stands in a warm valley, sheltered with hills and old timber on every side except the South West, where there is a delightful prospect of the Welsh Hills and the Vale of Chester; but from this prospect the windows are turned, to look upon an assemblage of barns and outbuildings with which the hall is environed. The old part of the present building is formed of timber externally, and of stone to the interior of the former court, and was erected about the time of Elizabeth. The buildings adjoining were new cased with brick by sir John Crewe, and formed a wing of the principal front, the centre and corresponding wing of which are destroyed. In one of the rooms is an immense octagonal pillar of oak, which goes through all the stories and supports the roof. A profusion of ancient painted glass was removed about fifty years ago, and is now preserved at Vale Royal, where it has been already described.

The chapel, which is now used as a cheese-room, was consecrated by bishop Bridgeman in 1635. The first sermon was preached in it in 1700, by Mr. Harvey.^a

The library, with all the family pictures, have been removed, except a small oval of sir John Crewe. In 1755, it consisted of a large collection of books of puritanical divinity, and tracts connected with the disturbances of the seventeenth century; with these was deposited the bugle horn, the gift of earl Randle to the first forester of Delamere^d, already described, and a most curious roll representing the procession of the spiritual and temporal peers to parliament in the third year of Henry the Eighth^e.

Utkinton Hall was plundered by the Royalists of plate, jewels, and writings, in 1644, under the direction of col. Werden, and col. Marrow, the governor of Chester. The plunder was ordered to be restored by a resolution of the House of Commons, Oct. 2, 1648^f; but it appeared that the principal part had been carried off by Mrs. Marrow and the colonel's chaplain, and col. Werden states, that "he entrusted the jewels to the care of a man who was slain at Nantwich fight, having only himself a silver dish, a silver bell, and a rock tankard, formerly the earl of Shrewsbury's."

Of the more antient mansion of this powerful family, the residence of the earlier foresters, who possessed a power little inferior to that of the barons themselves, and exercised through their serjeants a capital jurisdiction over fifty townships, not a single vestige is to be traced. The pleas of the forest in several instances notice its dungeons; and it doubtless raised a front as proudly turreted and embattled as any of those of the gentry of the day. Its chiefs too, if the leger book of Vale Royal may be credited, had as turbulent a tide of Norman blood in their veins, as any other branch of the house of Venables.

From this family king Richard selected one of the commanders of his faithful Cheshire guard in his Irish expedition, the writs for the levying of which are still extant in the exchequer of the Palatinate^g. "He landed in Wales, havng attendynge upon him at the same tyme seaven valiant and generous esquiers, of the countie of Chester, by name John de Leigh del Boothes, Tho. Cholmeley, Ralph Davenporte, Adam Bostoke,

^b Of whom Philip only had issue, who was father of Henry, Ralph, James, Philip, William, and Thomas, and four daughters, all of whom have numerous issue, and among whom the heir male of the Ardernes of Alvanley must be found, if the male issue of the late Lord Alvanley should fail.

^c Sir John Crewe's MS. Diary.

^d See Delamere, p. 55.

^e The king and his nobles were depicted walking, each in his proper parliamentary habit, with a shield of arms over his head, and a label or scroll over that, with his name and title at length. The abbots preceded the bishops, followed by the archbishop of Canterbury; after them came king Henry, preceded by the duke of Buckingham, as high constable of England, the temporal peers following according to rank. The whole is minutely described, with illuminations of the arms, in Cole's MSS. vol. 30. A similar roll is described in Leland's Collectanea, and another of the gift of Mr. Allen, of Tarporley, is now preserved in Trinity College, Cambridge.

^f Cole's MSS. V. 20.

^g Enrollments, 22 Ric. II.

John Downe, Thomas Becston, and Thomas Holforde; and everie one of these had the command of severall companies, especiallie chosen out, for the keepinge of the kinges p'son in safetie^g."

Shortly after this there occurs a mandate among the Cheshire inrollments to raise archers in the hundred of Edisbury, 1 July, 1 Hen. IV. to join in their best array at Newcastle, against the Scots. It may be presumed that in this levy the bowmen of Delamere would not be forgotten; but it can hardly be supposed that their chief had transferred at so early a period his allegiance to the Rose of Lancaster, the house for which his son afterwards fought and fell in the battle of Blore Heath. Few families suffered more on that fatal day to Cheshire than the Dones of Utkinton. Drayton notices them among the families arranged under each banner, ("a Done doth kill a Done;") but it appears that almost every connexion of the family fought on the side of king Henry, and the carnage included with sir John Done, of Utkinton, his kinsman Richard Done, of Crowton, his brother-in-law sir Thomas Dutton, and the father-in-law of his brother Hugh Done, the lord Audley, commander in chief of the Lancastrians. His son, sir John Done, kept long in concealment, as appears by a mandate, 19 Edw. IV. enrolled in the Chester exchequer, for sir John Downe to appear before "his highnesse the kynge" wheresoever he should be in his realm, within 21 days, on pain of being considered a rebel and an outlaw. He then made his peace, and two years after was included in a writ to return the number of effective men in Edisbury between the ages of sixteen and sixty^h.

The relative importance of the Dones in the scale of Cheshire families in the time of Henry the Eighth, may be gathered from a curious circumstance in the indictment of sir Piers Dutton, a man of high family and fortune, who had fattened in court favour and the spoils of the monasteries. The indictment which terminated in his outlawry was brought forward at the suit of sir John Done, and specifies, among other charges, that he had suborned the testimonies of George Holford, Ralph Mainwaring, and William Glasier, against Pyers Bruen "a trewe gentelman," who is nevertheless bluntly denominated "one of the servantes of the said sir John Doneⁱ."

In the troubles of the seventeenth century, the family adopted the cause of the Parliament. The last sir John Done, of Utkinton, and his lady, who died on the eve of the rebellion, were bred up under the direction of their kinsman John Bruen; of Stapleford, and imbibed of course his presbyterian tenets, but imbibed along with them a spirit of benevolence, which, in themselves, as well as in their celebrated tutor, softened down all the asperities of the sect. Tradition still speaks of the hospitalities and charities of Utkinton Hall, during the occupancy of this^k, the last possessor of its antient line. His lady was the daughter of Thomas Wilbraham, esq. to whose private worth Webb has given several beautiful testimonies in the Vale Royal, where his affection to his "dear master, the renowned last deceased owner of Woodhey," carries him beyond the usual

quaintness of his style. To the merits of his daughter the following testimony appears in sir John Crewe's MS. journal. "Sunday, July 6, 1690, This day died my mother, the best parent, the truest friend, the best mistress, the greatest housekeeper of her rank, and the most pious Christian of her time." Having once before quoted tradition, it will be better not to produce its testimonies again in aid of this excellent character, but to confirm it with the words of Pennant^l, "when a Cheshire man would express excellency in the fair sex, he will say, 'there is a lady Done for you'."

The political principles of the Crewes were the same as those of their predecessors, the Dones. John Crewe, esq. the husband of Mary Done, was committed early in the course of the civil disturbances^m, which is one of the grievances complained of in the declarations of the Lords and Commons in 1647. He was afterwards one of the Parliament Commissioners in the treaty at Uxbridge, in which, according to Clarendon, he displayed considerable bitterness and sourness towards the King's Commissioners, having always before "been of the greatest moderation in his counsels, and most solicitous for peace." After the breaking up of the treaty, he took a leading part in the debates in the Commons with St. John, Pierrepont, and Whitelock^o.

His son sir John Crewe, was zealously attached to the principles of the Revolution, and the leader of the whig interest in Cheshire. His character is delineated at length, and with much justice, on his monument at Tarporley. It is observable, that the political tenets of the branch of the family which succeeded the Crewes, were diametrically opposite: dean Arderne, as mentioned in Alvanley, owing his preferment to the favour of James, losing a bishopric by his abdication, and at last being supposed to die of mingled grief for the misfortunes of his master, and the indignities which he received from the people of Chester, in consequence of his attachment to that sovereign.

In a pamphlet entitled "Newes out of Cheshire of the Newe found Welle, (Imprinted at London, by F. Kingston, for T. Mann, 1600,) is mentioned a medicinal spring then recently discovered, which is alluded to in Webb's Itinerary. It is stated to have attracted notice by an accidental cure of a John Greenway, and three of his sons, then sick of ague, by bathing, and said to have been celebrated at a remote period under the name of St. Stephen's Well, in Delamere Forest. The spring is the head of a small brook, which rises in this township, flows north, and then bending southwards, descends to the mill pool at Little Budworth. Baths were formed by clay dams, and more than 2000 people in a day are said to have resorted to it, which occasioning great inconvenience in the neighbourhood, and disturbance to the deer, Mr. Done appointed provisions to be regularly carried, and servants placed to take care that no money was exacted by the keepers for the use of the waters. About forty cases of various complaints are specified, within the knowledge of the writer "G. W." The water was of an aluminous nature.

^g Harl. MSS. 1989, 402. MS. Chronicle from Bostock's Collections.

ⁱ Original bill of indictment. Harl. MSS. 283, p. 17.

^k Sir John Done entertained king James at Utkinton, 1617. The following account of his yearly expenditure at Utkinton, is from sir John Crewe's MS. Diary. Cole's MSS. 35. 183.

"Beasts 34, whereof 12 were oxen, and two stall-fed, one at Easter, the other at Whitsuntide; 60 sheep; 18 hogs; 2 brawns. A bull and old wethers in harvest; 10 measures a week for household bread (3 pecks rye, one peck wheat,) 3 measures a week besides for the poor."

^l Chester to London, page 11. edit. 1811.

^m Clarendon, vol. I. 547.

^h Chester Enrollments, 21 Edw. IV.

ⁿ Ibid. vol. II. 575.

^o Ibid. 607.

Bunbury.

THIS extensive parish, the most interesting and beautiful district of Edisbury, occupies the south angle of that hundred, and extends into Broxton, in which division one of its townships, Burwardsley, is situated. The other townships are eleven in number: Bunbury, Beeston, Teverton, Tilston Tearnal, Alraham, Calveley, Wardhull, Haughton, Spurstow, Ridley and Peckforton.

BUNBURY.

THE township of Bunbury was granted at the Conquest to Robert Fitz-Hugh, the first, or rather, the only baron of Malpas, and is thus described in Domesday.

Isdem Robertus tenet Boliberie. Dedol tenuit et liber homo fuit, ibi i hida geldabilis. Terra est ii carucarum. In dominio est una, et presbyter cum ii vilanis, habent i carucam. Silva i leuvâ longa, et i acrå lata, valebat iiii solidos, modo xiiii solidos.

On the partition of the barony of Malpas, Bunbury became the property of the Patricks, according to the most probable account, in marriage with Letitia, eldest daughter and coheir of Robert Fitz Hugh. The paramount lordship continued vested in her descendants the Patricks and Suttons, from whose heirs this manor is uniformly stated to be held in the successive Inquisitions.

The mediate manor, was the property of Henry de Bonebury, in the time of king Stephen^a, who is said to have been the representative of a younger branch of the family of St. Pierre, the arms of which house were antiently borne without difference by the Bunburys.

In the reign of Richard the First, William de Bunbury was lord of the town, and patron of the church, whose son Humphrey dying without issue, his property passed to *Almeria and Joan*, his sisters, minors, and wards of Robert Patrick, lord of a moiety of Malpas,^b and the same was shared between them, on their coming of age.

The share of *Almeria* either escheated, or passed by settlement, to the superior lords, the Patricks barons of Malpas, who were nearly allied to the Bunburys. William Patrick terms Humphrey de Bunbury, before-mentioned, "cognatus suus," on the occasion of confirming his exchange of Stanney Mill and Alrithesholme, with the monks of St. Werburgh, for the manor of Peckforton^c.

After the marriage of Isabella, daughter and heiress

of William Patrick, with sir Philip Burnel^d, the said sir Philip enfeoffed with her moiety John de St. Pierre, who was cousin to Isabella, being son and heir of Urian de St. Pierre and Idonea his wife, one of the daughters and coheirs of David de Malpas, the bastard, and aunt to the before-mentioned Isabella Burnel^e.

The share of *Joanna*^f passed to Alexander de Bunbury, as heir male, being son and heir of Patrick de Bunbury^g, and great grandson of David, the younger brother of Henry de Bunbury, before-mentioned^h.

Of the *first of these moieties* the following notices occurⁱ:

Pat. 12 Edw. I. Urian de St. Pierre (son of the grantee) had charter of free warren in Bunbury, Beeston, and other adjacent townships.^k

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. IV. Walter Cokesay, knt. son of Walter de Cokesay, (and Isabella his wife, daughter and heiress of Urian de St. Pierre, grandson of Urian, before-mentioned) held, inter alia, in demesne, as of fee, a moiety of the manor of Bunbury, cum pert. from sir John Sutton, knt. value, per annum, vii marks. Hugh Cokesay, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. sir Hugh Cokesay, knt. and Alice his wife, held divers manors, parcel of the barony of Malpas. Jocosa, wife of Leonard Stapulton, sister and heir.

Inq. p. m. 13 Edw. IV. Jocosa, widow of Leonard Stapulton held, inter alia, in demesne, as of fee, half the manor of Bunbury, from sir John Sutton, knt. by military service, as the 20th part of a knight's fee, value, per annum, xxxiiii. i. vd. John Gryvell, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 20 Edw. IV. Sir John Gryvell, knt. held, inter alia, a moiety of the manor of Bunbury from sir John Sutton, knt. value, per annum, xls. Thomas Cokesay, son and heir.

This last-mentioned Thomas Cokesay died issueless, and Roger Horton, descended from David de St. Pierre, a younger son of John de St. Pierre, the before-mentioned grantee of half of Bunbury from Isabella Burnell,

^a Wotton's Baronetage, vol. II. p. 688. From deeds communicated by Sir Henry Bunbury, bart.

^c Chartulary of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1967. 21.

^e Vide Egerton pedigree.

^f Vill. Cest.

^d Wotton's Baronetage, vol. II. p. 688.

^g Wotton's Baronetage, vol. II. p. 688.

^h For the pedigree and general evidences of the Bunbury family, see Stanney, in Wirral Hundred.

ⁱ The pedigree and general deeds of the St. Pierres will be found in the account of Malpas.

^k Vide the account of the descent of the barony of Malpas.

^b Ibid.

was found heir, by Inquisition, 6 Hen. VII., but by another Inquisition, 22 Hen. VII. the real heir was determined to be John Younge, Somerset Herald.

In what manner this moiety passed to the Wilbrahams, does not appear. Anno 41 Eliz. Thomas Wilbraham, esq. obtained from sir Thomas Egerton, keeper of the great seal, and his son Thomas Egerton^k, 20 messuages, and 640 acres of land, &c. in Bunbury and Alpraham, which estate is noticed in the Inquisitions after the death of Richard Wilbraham, esq. 6^o Mar. and of Thomas Wilbraham, esq. 11^o Jac. but is not described as possessing manerial privileges.

^lSir Thomas Wilbraham, bart. great grandson of this Thomas Wilbraham, is noticed as lord of the court of Bunbury, in 1671. These rights passed in marriage with Grace Wilbraham, his daughter and coheir, to Lionel Talmash, earl of Dysert, from whom they have passed to the present earl of Dysert by lineal descent.

The second moiety passed by descent^m from Alexander de Bunbury to David de Bunbury, who settled the advowsonⁿ of the church of Bunbury and the manor of Stanney, on William de Bunbury his son, by fine, anno 17 Edw. III.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VI. Richard Bunbury held, inter alia, in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Bunbury, from the heirs of Richard de Sutton, in socage, by fealty.

Inq. p. m. 9 Edw. IV. John Bunbury held the same, inter alia, in demesne, as of fee, from the heirs of Richard Sutton, in socage. Value, per annum, viii marks.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. John Bunbury held the same, as aforesaid.

Inq. p. m. 32 Hen. VIII. Richard Bunbury, esq. held, inter alia, the same as aforesaid. Value, per annum, viii. liii. iij.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VIII. Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, held, inter alia, lands in Bunbury, as aforesaid. Value, per annum, viii.

Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz. Thomas Bunbury, esq. held lands and messuages in Bunbury, from sir William Brereton, knt. as aforesaid. Value, per annum, xls.

From this Thomas Bunbury an estate in Bunbury descended to the late sir William Bunbury, bart. who claimed in right thereof a moiety of the manor; but on the matter being put to reference^o, a decision was given in favour of the earl of Dysert's right to the whole. The present earl holds a court leet and court baron for this manor, along with his court for the adjacent township of Tilston Tearnall. The last^p court was held at Bunbury, March 22, 1814.

The principal land owners are, the earl of Dysert, sir Thomas Mostyn, bart. sir Thomas Charles Bunbury, bart. and Samuel Aldersey, of Aldersey, esq.

The town of Bunbury is situated about two miles distant from the turnpike road from Chester to Nantwich, and about twelve miles south-east of the former place. It is divided into the upper and lower town by the stream of the Gowy, which is here a very inconsiderable brook. The soil is a dry sand, and the general aspect of the place cleanly and pleasing.

Near the town is a large heath, generally covered with booths at the annual celebration of Bunbury wake,

which is one of the most noted of those Cheshire festivals. It is, perhaps, unnecessary to mention, that the wake, or *vigil*, is generally celebrated in the Cheshire towns, the Sunday before the feast of the patron saint, who is here St. Boniface. Riot and dissipation are always the order of the day on these occasions, more or less so in general, as the scene of the wake lies near or otherwise to the manufacturing districts, or is under the controul of active magistrates, or the more considerable landholders.

Bunbury Heath is supposed to be the place described in the Antient English Wake of Jerningham, but it is most probable that the scene of that poem is as ideal as the story, and it may certainly be referred to the neighbourhood of any of the castles of the third earl Randle. No poet could have overlooked such prominent objects as the Castle Rock of Beeston, or the wooded hills of Peckforton, or would have expatiated on the "modest fane" and "plain and lowly altar," when contemplating the sumptuous collegiate pile, which succeeded to the revenues of the fabric he was describing.

PRESTLAND GREEN, adjacent to Bunbury Heath, called Prestland Greaves in the enrollments in Chester Exchequer, was the property of the Bulkeley, of Bulkeley, at a very early period. Felicia, Leuca, Letitia, and Emma de Bulkileh, quitclaimed lands here to William de Bulkileh, their brother, for one mark of silver^q, in 1233.

Richard Bulkeley, fourth son of William, and great grandson of William de Bulkileh before-mentioned, inherited this estate from his father, and assumed the local name^r. His family continued settled here for four generations, when Richard de Prestland, his great grandson, removed their residence to the township of Wardhull^s.

Inq. p. m. 5 Edw. VI. Richard Prestland, of Wordhull, esq. held, inter alia, lands and tenements in Prestland from John Holford, esq.^t in socage by the rent of xs. and fealty. Val. ivs. per annum. Randle Prestland son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Eliz. Randle Prestland, of Wordhull, esq. held, inter alia, lands in Prestland, from Christopher Holford, esq. in socage, by rent of xs. and fealty. Val. as before.

This Randle Prestland dying without male issue, his estate passed to William Prestland, esq. his brother, who sold the same in 1603 to Thomas Wilbraham^u, esq. of Woodhey, the ancestor of the earl of Dysert, for the sum of 500l.

The prior of the order of St. John of Jerusalem had lands in Bunbury and Prestland, as appears by the inquests after the death of Thomas Holford, of Holford, esq. 12 Eliz. and of sir George Calveley, of Lea, knt. 27 Eliz.

In this township, about 1650, was born *Charles Roderic*, successively head-master and provost of Eton College, provost of King's College, and dean of Ely. He was buried in the library vestry on the south side of King's College Chapel, with the underwritten epitaph on a mural monument of white marble:

Hic situs est Carolus Roderick, S. T. P. Etonæ gym-

^k Williamson's Evidences.

^l Harl. MSS. 2010.

^m Vide Bunbury pedigree in Stanney Township, and also Beeston Township, for a deed of Henry de Beeston, confirming the intermediate descents between this Alexander and David de Bunbury.

ⁿ Williamson's Evidences.

^o Cole's MSS. Brit. Mus. 29. 12.

^p Information procured by the Rev. John Egerton, anno 1814.

^q Inrollment in the Cheshire Domesday. Grosvenor MSS. xxi. 5. p. 101.

^r Booth's Pedigrees, and Harl. MSS. 1535.

^s Booth's Pedigrees. For the Prestland pedigree, &c. vide Wardhull.

^t The Holfords inherited their interest in Prestland from their ancestress, Anne, sole daughter and heir of William Bulkeley, esq. the eldest brother of the first Richard de Prestland.

^u Williamson's Collections, p. 30.

nasiarchus 1682, quem discipuli peramanter observaverant; jam socii non immemores beneficiorum, liberi, nec cujusdam dominationi parentes, præpositum uno suffragio elegerant anno 1689: Anna Regina ad remunerandum promptissima, Decanum Eliensem constituit 1708. Scholam quam invenit florentem cumulate auxit; in Philologis versatissimus edocuit pueros; viriles animos, præceptis, doctrinâ, exemplis, leniter formavit. Collegium hoc multis nominibus celebrandum, nemini non acceptissimum administravit; de proventu illius, de dignitate, de concordia, probitate, et literaturâ, plurimum sollicitus. Ecclesiam æmulo conatu fovit et honestavit, commodis ejus et famæ impensius consuluit, dissidii causas nativo candore et prudentiâ pacificus sopivit, cuicumque fortunæ par et æqualis fuit. Integritate vitæ, suavissimis moribus, singulari humanitate et eruditione, feliciter instructus. Natus est Bunburie in Com. Cestriæ. Obiit Mar. 25, 1712.

Robert Brassy, D. D. also provost of King's College, was born at Bunbury according to Dr. Fuller, who ranges him under the list of the "Publick Benefactors" which this county has produced, from his well deserving of Cambridge: adding "that when many doctors therein, whose purblind souls either could not or would not look far forward to posterity, had resolved to sell their rights in Sturbridge fair, for a trifle, to the townsmen (which if done, the Vice-Chancellor might even have held the stirrup for the mayor) *he only* opposed it and dashed the design." Dr. Brassy died in 1558, and was buried on the south side of King's College Chapel.

CHURCH.

Ded. to St. Boniface. Tax. Eccl. 20l. Val. Eccl. 48l. 2s. 8d.

From the mention of a priest in Domesday, it may be inferred that a church was in existence here at that period, the advowson of which, as previously mentioned, was vested in the manorial lord in the reign of Richard the First. On the division of the manor between the coheirs of Humphrey de Bunbury, the patronage of the church was divided between the families of Bunbury and St. Pierre, who appear to have exercised an alternate right of presentation.

John de St. Pierre, subdeacon, was presented by Urian de St. Pierre, 1304.

David, son of *David de Bunburie*, clerk, was presented by David Bunburie, 13 kal. Junii 1337, after the death of John de St. Pierre.

William Walshum, last rector of Bunbury, is noticed in the presentation of Thomas de Thorneton, the first master, by sir Hugh Calveley in 1389.

Sir Hugh Calveley became the possessor of both these moieties by purchase.

LICENTIA REGIA HUGONI DE CALVELEY CHV'R CONCESSA, PRO FUNDATIONE CANTARIÆ COLLEGII DE BONEBIRIE.

Rex omnibus ad quos, &c. salutem. Sciatis quod cum dilectus et fidelis noster Hugo de Calveley, chevalier, quandam cantariam et collegium, septem capellanorum, viz. unius magistri et aliorum sex capellanorum

^yThe Bunbury share was sold by William, son of David de Bunbury; and sir Walter Cokesay, knight, and Isabella his wife, passed over the other moiety^z, together with one acre of land, in Bunbury, to the said sir Hugh and his heirs for ever, a^o 9 Ric. II.

By the king's letters patent, dated at Westminster March 12, 10 Ric. II. sir Hugh Calveley had licence, as follows, to found here a college or chantry, for one master and six chaplains, to celebrate mass for the souls of the king, of sir Hugh Calveley, and of their ancestors, and to endow the same with the advowson of the rectory, and two acres of land to which the advowson was appendant, which rectory the master and chaplains were directed to appropriate for the benefit of themselves and their successors.

The first warden was *Thomas de Thornetone*, collated 1389, on the presentation of sir Hugh Calveley the founder, to the office of "Magister vel custos cantariæ collegii Sancti Bonifacii, ecclesiæ de Bonebirie."^a

Walter Bullock, utriusq. juris Bacc. was collated in 1398, being presented most probably under a deed of trust, by sir John Calveley, knight, keeper of Shotwick Castle^b, and great nephew of the founder.

^c 1409. 18 Feb. "*Rad'us Powell*, consocius eccl. colleg. s'ci Bonifacii de Boneburie."

^d 1433. ult. Sep. *Henry Willaby*, was presented by Henry VI. in right of the earldom of Chester, the real patron, Hugh, son of sir Hugh Calveley, of Lea, knight, being then a minor and ward of the earl. He died in 1445, when he was succeeded by

^e *William de Arderne*, on the presentation of the before-mentioned Hugh Calveley of Lea, esq.

^f 1452. "*Ricardus Woodward*, capellanus," was collated to the wardenship, and

^g 1478. "*D'nus Ricardus de Woodward*," was collated to the same office, and died or vacated before 1483.

^h *James Calveley*, most probably a younger brother of the house of Lea, occurs as warden of Bunbury in a trust deed of Katherine de Halghton, in 22 Hen. VII. He was succeeded in 1512, by

ⁱ *John Calveley*, presented by Hugh Calveley of Lea, esq. after whom came *John Woodward*, the last warden, aged 62 years at the dissolution, at which period the college consisted of a warden, six chaplains, and two choristers, and sir Ralph Egerton's chantry was supplied by two priests, all of whom were living on pensions in the year 1556, with the exception of two of the chaplains, James Brooke and Robert Calken. The clear value of the college was estimated at 49l. 10s. 8d., and the chantry at 12l. 2s.

The following documents contain the licence granted to sir Hugh Calveley for the foundation, a copy of the valuation of the college and chantry by the royal commissioners, from the Records of the Augmentation Office^k, and a list of pensions of the warden and inferior members of the college^l.

^y Villare Cest. p. 26.

^a Abstract of Lichfield Registers. Harl. MSS. 2062, 184.

^e Ibid. 189.

^f Ibid. 190.

^g Ibid. 193, b.

^k Communicated by John Calcy, esq. F. S. A.

^z Williamson's Collections, p. 30.

^b Ibid. 185.

^c Ibid. 185, b.

^d Ibid. 188.

^h Ibid. 194.

ⁱ Chester Episcopal Registers.

^l Communicated by Henry Ellis, esq. Sec. S. A.

torum nostrorum, et antecessorum prædicti Hugonis, ac omnium fidelium defunctorum, mediante licentiâ nostra facere intendit et fundare; nos sanam intentionem, ac piam devotionem præfati Hugonis in hac parte merito commendantes; capientesq. hujusmodi laudabile propositum, quatenus ad nos attinet (prout reputamus multum fore Deo gratum), ex regia benignitate fœliciter promovere; de gratiâ nostra speciali, et pro quadraginta libris quas idem Hugo nobis solvit, concessimus et licentiam dedimus pro nobis et hæredibus nostris, quantum in nobis est, eidem Hugoni, quod ipse hujusmodi cantariam et collegium unius magistri et sex aliorum capellanorum, in dicta ecclesiâ de Bunbury de novo facere et fundare possit, divina in eadem singulis diebus pro statu et animabus prædictis celebratorum in perpetuum juxta effectum ordinationem et regulam per ipsum Hugonem et loci ordinarium super dictis magistro et aliis capellanis et successoribus suis in hac parte faciendum et statuendum. Et quod idem magister et capellani inter alia per ipsum Hugonem et loci ordinarium in hac parte statuenda et ordinanda possint habere quoddam sigillum commune in cantariâ et collegio supradictis. Et insuper concessimus et licentiam dedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est eidem Hugoni, quod ipse postquam cantariam et collegium prædicta, ut prædictum est, fecerit et fundaverit, dare possit et assignare præfatis magistro et capellanis duas acras terras cum pertinentiis in Bunbury

et advocacionem dictæ ecclesiæ de Bunbury quæ dictis duabus acris terræ appendet, (quæ quidem terra et advocatio de nobis non tenentur in capite ut dicitur,) habenda et tenenda eidem magistro et capellanis, et successoribus suis magistro et capellanis, divina singulis diebus in ecclesiâ prædicta, pro statu et animabus prædictis, juxta effectum ordinationem et regulam prædicta celebraturis de præfato Hugone et hæredibus suis, in puram et perpetuam eleemosynam in perpetuum, et eidem magistro et capellanis, quod ipsi dictas duas acras terræ cum pertinentiis, ac advocacionem prædictam a præfato Hugone in forma prædicta recipere, et ecclesiam illam appropriare, et ecclesiam illam sic appropriatam in proprios usus tenere possint, eidem magistro et capellanis et successoribus suis divina in eadem ecclesia singulis diebus in forma prædicta celebraturis, de præfato Hugone et hæredibus suis in puram et perpetuam eleemosynam in perpetuum, sicut prædictum est; tenere præsentium, similiter licentiam dedimus specialem, statuto de terris et tenementis ad manum mortuam non ponendis edito, non obstante: nolentes quod prædictus Hugo vel hæredes sui, aut præfati magister et capellani, seu successores sui, ratione statuti prædicti per nos vel hæredes nostros, seu ministros nostros quoscunq. inde occasionentur molestentur in aliquo seu graventur. In cujus, &c. T. Rege apud Westm. xij^o die Martii.

Pat. 10 Ric. II. Part. II. m. 2. ^m

CESTR'.

“THE CERTIFICATE of Hughe Cholmeley, Will'm Brereton, knyght, John Arscote, James Starkey, George Browne, Thomas Carne, esquyers, John Okething, Thom's Fletewoode, and Will'm Laton, gent. comyssyon's of o'r soveraign lorde the kings ma^{tie}, appointed for the survey of all colleges, ch'unt'ies, frechapells, fraternytes, brotherhodes, gyldes, and stypendary prests, w'in the sayd shyre, made in the moneth of Marche, annò R. R. Edwardi Sexti primo by vertew of the kings maiests comyssyon to them in that half dyrected, beryng date the ^a daye of ^a in the second yere of the reing of o' sov'ainge lorde Edwarde the Sext, by the grace of God of England, Fraunce, and Ireland kinge, defendor of the faythe, and in earth of the Church of England, and also of Ireland the supreme hede.

“BUNBURY.

“The Colledge of Bunbury, wth the r'c'orye or p'sonage belonginge to the same, having m^l hoslyng people wthin the same, and hath a vicar and oon assistaunt appointed to s'Ve the cure there.

“John Woodwarde, of the age of LXII yeres, warden there, besydes XVIII. in other places viii. xiiis. ijd.

Rawf Barnston of th'age of LXXVIII yers, Jam's Brooke, Ric. Prestland, John Capper, John Bushell, and Rob'te Calken, brethren, having yerely a pece LXXVIS. viiid. Rawf Broke, and Thom's Symonds, conducts, having yerely a pece XXVIS. viiid.

“The yerely valewe of the same,
viz. the temp'al possess', LXXIIS. } LI. viiis. viiid.
viid. and for the sp'ualties, }
XLVIII. xvij. - - -

Repris' yerely, xxxviiiis.

The clere remayne, XLIX. xs. viiid.

Plate and jewels, none.

Goodes and ornam'ts, cs. viid.

Leade and bells, none.

THE CHAUNTRYE OF BUNBURYE.

Nicholas Hancockson, of th'age of XLVI yeres, and Will'm Burgall of th'age LX yeares, incumbents.

The yerely valewe, XIII. iis.

Plate and jewels, XXXI oz. di.

Goodes and ornam'ts, vis.

Leade and bells, none.

PENCIONES DECANI ET CONFRATRUM CANTARIÆ COLLEGII DE BUNBURIE, 1556.

[Pencio] Johannis Woodwarde, decani nuper collegii de Bunburie, per annum, vil.

Rad'hi Barnestone, unius confr'm dicti nuper colleg', per annu', lxxvis. viiid.

Ric'i Prestelande, unius confr'm d'ci nuper collegii, per annum, lxxvis. viiid.

Joh'is Busshell, unius confr'm d'ci nuper colleg', per annum, lxxvis. viiid.

Joh'is Capper, unius confr'm d'ci nuper collegii, per annum, lxxvis. viiid.

Nich'i Hancocksonne, nuper unius incumben' cant. de Bunburie, per annum, iiijl. xvij.

Rad'h'i Broke, unius ministrorum in nuper collegii de Bunburie, per annum, xls.

Thome Simounde, unius ministrorum eiusdem nuper colleg', per annum, xls.

Will'm Burghall, unius incumben' nup' cant' de Bunburie, per annu', iiijl. xvij.

^m Dugdale, Mon. Angl. vol. III. p. 107.

ⁿ Left blank in the certificate.



C. Heath del.

London, Published by Jackson & Co.

BEAUFORT COUNTY, CANTON, C.H.

W. J. Johnson sculp.



*The college of Bunbury being dissolved in pursuance of the statute 1 Edw. VI. its revenues became vested in the Crown. The tithes were in lease for a long term at the rent of 27l. 18s. from which 20l. was allowed for the maintenance of two ministers, in which situation the church continued to the 18th year of the reign of Elizabeth, when the rectory was purchased from the crown by Thomas Aldersey, citizen and haberdasher of the city of London, a younger brother of John Aldersey, of Aldersey and Spurstow, esq. This gentleman added to the stipend of the ministers during the continuance of the lease, and, on its termination, (a^o 35 Eliz.) he leased the tithes of Ridley to Ralph Egerton, esq.^b for the term of two thousand years, from 1593, at the rent of 8l. per annum, and the tithes of all the other townships to his own family, for five hundred years, at the rent of 122l. per annum.

^cFrom this sum, amounting to 130l. he directed the sum of "20l. per annum, one house^d, and some land to be given to a schoolmaster; and 10l. per annum and a house and some land to an usher, and a hundred marks per annum, and the best of the houses^e, with about twenty marks per annum in land, to a preacher, and 20l. per annum to an assistant or curate, and 10l. per annum to the poor; all these to have continuance for ever: and granted the reversion of the rectory and tithes, and the rest of the rent, to the master and four wardens of the Haberdashers of London, and appointed them to have the placing and displacing of the schoolmaster, usher, preacher, and curate."

For the foundation of this school and the ecclesiastical establishment, he had letters patent granted him by the queen under the great seal of England, dated Jan. 2, 36th Eliz. and he also had permission to frame a set of statutes for the better regulation of his charities^f, in which he determines that any of the persons enjoying his benefaction may be displaced by the Haberdashers, for unfitness, for the acceptance of any additional charge, for absence without their approval (the master and curate thirty days, the preacher forty days, the usher ten days), or for being detected in, accused, or strongly suspected of incontinency.

The school to be visited by the preacher, who must necessarily have taken the degree of M. A. in an English university.

The annual distribution of 10l. to be made by the preacher, the schoolmaster, and the parishioners of the name of Aldersey.

The surplus of the charities 3l. 6s. 8d. to be given to the Haberdashers.

No girls above nine years of age to be suffered in the school, and as few of those under that age as possible. From other regulations Aldersey appears to have imagined it was likely to become a school of classical celebrity.

The amount of these stipends, from the injudicious system of fixing their amount in money, instead of giving an endowment in land, remains unaltered to the present day, and is of course very inadequate to the benevolent intentions of the founder.

The ministers are admitted on their nomination by the Haberdashers' company without any other presentation or institution, and enter on their stipend without payment of tenths or first-fruits, but are subject to the bishop's jurisdiction in the same manner as the other clergy of the diocese.^g

The living is an augmented curacy, not charged: the income from augmentation, stipend, and surplice fees, returned in 1810, as amounting to only 47l.

No remains of the college founded by sir Hugh Calveley are now in existence. The moat may be traced in a field about two hundred yards north-west of the church, and the situation of the buildings and walls may also be traced by the inequalities of the surface^h.

The church, dedicated to St. Boniface, is a fine fabric of red stone, consisting of a tower containing six bells, a nave, chancel, side aisles terminating in private chancels appropriated to the manerial lords of Calveley, and of Spurstow, and a large oratory, built by sir Ralph Egerton of Ridley.

The belfry tower is situated at the west end of the church, and is ascended by a small octagonal turret. The side aisles being produced as far as the western face of the tower, its basement story opens by three pointed arches to the nave and side aisles.

The side aisles are lighted by eight windows on each side of unequal width, divided by mullions, and obtusely pointed, and are divided from the nave by six arches of the same kind, sprung from slender clustered pillars, the two supernumerary windows being opposite to the arches of the tower. Over the arches of the nave originally was a series of clerestory windows corresponding with the style of the other parts; but the height being reduced, their place is supplied by smaller ones of meaner construction and appearance.

The Davenport chancel terminates the west end of the north aisle, which is finished on the outside with a range of open battlements.

The Spurstow chancel terminates the south aisle in a similar manner, from which it is separated by a carved screen of oak. In this chancel is an achievement with the arms and crest of Spurstow impaling Corbett of Adderley, with eight other quarterings, and the following inscription:

Here lyeth the body of George Spurstow, of Spurstow in the co. of Chester, esquire, who married Susanna, dau. of sir John Corbett of Adderley, co. Salop, bart. He died July 20, 1669.

ⁱThe right of the Spurstows to this oratory was confirmed in 1609.

^a Tanner's Notitia Monastica.

^b From the information of the Rev. J. Egerton.

^c From a tablet suspended in the chancel of Bunbury.

^d The house called the Chantry House, most probably the one directed to be built in sir R. Egerton's will.

^e "Lately purchased from Thomas Bunbury, esq." probably once the seat of the family.

^f A copy of which has been communicated by the late Peter Broster, esq.

^g The Parish Registers contain accounts of some ludicrous contests between the ministers and the lessees of the rectory respecting their several rights. One article signed John Swanne, 1630, is full of abuse directed partly against lord Cholmondeley, and partly against Mr. Aldersey, for dividing the herse of lady Calveley with the parish clerk, to which the minister asserts his right, on the authority of "Mr. Holme, herald of the diocese of Chester." Mr. Aldersey, as it appears, watched an opportunity of seizing the key on the Sunday afternoon, and divided the spoils on Monday morning with the clerk, *clausis foribus*, poor Mr. Swanne vociferating against them on the outside.

In 1649 the herse of sir Hugh Calveley afforded a fresh temptation, and the minister again enters a bitter complaint against this invader of his rights, whom he states to be merely the farmer of the tithes. Mr. Aldersey subjoins a concise note: "Mr. Swanne is mistaken. He is neither preceptor, vicar, or curate, but a stipendiary; all he can claime is his twenty pounds. THOMAS ALDERSEY."

^h The site of the college, with twelve messuages, was sold by Thomas Colley to Richard Colley, for 400l. a^o 24^o Eliz. and resold in the same year to Thomas Egerton, esq. and Elizabeth his wife, for 700l. Williamson's Coll. p. 88.

ⁱ Gastrell, Not. Cest. with a reference to Reg. B. 2. p. 302.

All these parts of the church appear to have been built shortly after the dissolution. The chancel appears from its general detail of architecture, particularly the form of the sharp-pointed windows, and the elegant and flowing lines of the tracery, to be part of the original building erected by sir Hugh Calveley in 1386. One circumstance must not be omitted, which appears to refer it to a somewhat earlier period. Bishop Gastrell in his *Notitia* quotes the following inscription, as existing in one of the windows, in old English letters, in the time of the Randle Holmes: "S'tus Bonifacius intercedat ad Deum pro Davide de Bonebury, qui in ejus honorem hanc fenestram composuit in vitâ a° M.CCC.XL.V." It is, however, most probable that the beauty of the glass, or respect for the donor, induced sir Hugh Calveley to preserve this fragment of the old church in the windows of his new college.

The chancel is lighted on the north side by two windows, and on the south by one window and the arches which open to the Ridley chapel. The east window, full of rich tracery, is closed from regard to the preservation of the ivy which spreads a most luxuriant foliage over this part of the building. Under one of the windows, on the north side, is a large and low obtuse arch sunk in the wall, under which most probably some of the recumbent figures now thrown into the church-yard originally were placed. On the opposite side are three stone stalls, and near them, in the south-east angle, was formerly a sculptured niche containing a female figure, whose place is now occupied by a very tasteless monument.

In the centre of the chancel stands the beautiful altar-tomb of the founder, composed of alabaster, and formerly adorned with a profusion of colours and gilding. The hands of the recumbent hero are clasped in prayer, his feet rest on a lion, and his head is supported by the Calveley crest, a calf's head, coupé, issuing from a ducal coronet. The helmet is of a conical form, richly ornamented with a trefoil border and a broad band carved in imitation of precious stones. The armour is plate, with the exception of the skirt and gorget, which are of mail. Over this is the armorial surcoat, emblazoned with the family arms, and a sword and dagger depend from the belt. The sculptor has not forgotten the spurs of knighthood.

The tomb on which the figure reposes is ornamented on each of the two sides by thirteen niches, separated by elegantly carved buttresses, on which are a row of small shields, now defaced, but which have been painted alternately with the family arms and another coat, emblazoned, Argent, a chevron Gules. It appears from church notes among the collections of Randle Holme, (Harl. MSS. 2151.) that the chevron was originally charged with three roses Argent, but in what manner this coat was connected with sir Hugh Calveley, or to whom it belonged, is altogether uncertain. A memoir of the warrior interred beneath this monument will be found in the account of Lea.

In the MS. of Randle Holme, before-mentioned, is preserved a rude drawing of the brasses of the younger sir Hugh Calveley, and Christiana his wife, now removed.

A tablet is suspended against the north wall, opposite to the monument of sir Hugh, recording a bequest by dame Mary Calveley, of 100l. the interest to be given to poor people frequenting the church, on the condition of their cleaning the monument and chancel.

Near this are two achievements of the families of Aldersey of Spurstow and Davenport of Calveley, and a small mural monument of white marble, inscribed,

Marmor hoc exiguum
parentibus suis
de se optime meritis
sorori etiam castæ et dilectæ
grati animi publicum
at tenue quoddam et exile
monumentum
posuit filius
S. Aldersey
de Aldersey.

On the same side, in the north-east angle of the chancel, is a sumptuous monument to the memory of sir George Beeston, of Beeston, kt. distinguished for his valour in the siege of Boulogne, the battle of Musselborrow, and the defeat of the Spanish Armada. For his exertions in this last engagement, at the age of eighty-nine years, he received the honour of knighthood from the queen.

The figure of sir George is represented recumbent under a pointed arch, in plate armour, with his hands clasped in the attitude of prayer. The spandrels of the arch are filled up with two shields emblazoned with the Beeston quarterings; the altar tomb, on which the figure reposes, is divided into three compartments, on each of which is a shield. On each side of the monument is a pillar in the mixed style of Gothic which prevailed early in the seventeenth century, and over the arch, between the pillars, a tablet within a border composed of military trophies. The tablet is inscribed thus:

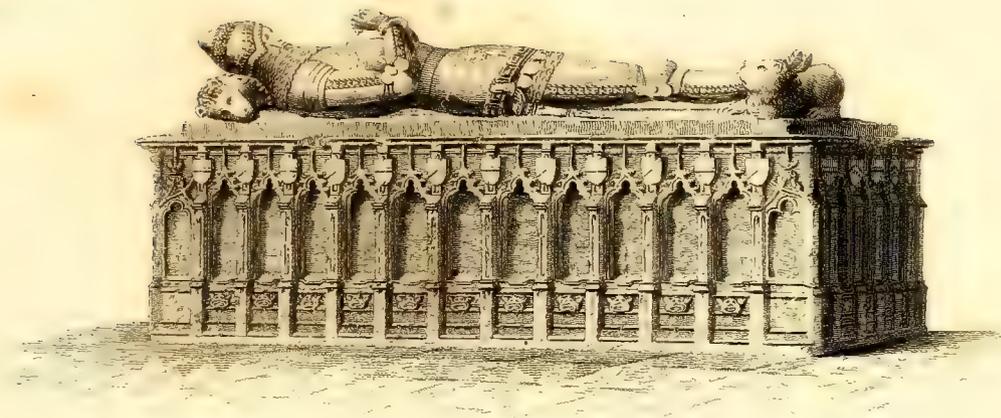
"Hic situs est Georgius Beeston, Eques Auratus, virtutis et veritatis cultor, a juventute bellicis artibus innutritus, ab invictissimo Rege Henrico VIII. cum obsideret Boloniam in cohortem Pensionarior: cooptatus; meruit sub Edwardo VI. in prælio contra Scotos apud Muskelborrow, postea sub eodem Rege, Mariâ, et Elizabethâ, bellis navalibus, vel ut classis præfectus, vel ut subpræfectus. A quâ, postea proffigatam potentissimam illam classem, 1588, Equestri dignitate ornatus est: jamque ingravescente ætate, cum fidem principibus, fortitudinem hostibus egregie probasset, Deo gratus, bonisq. charus, Christum diu expectans, in Christo, anno 1601, ætatis suæ 102, obdormivit, ut in ipso lætus resurgat.

"Unaque cum illo requiescit charissima conjux, Alicia, filia — Davenport de Henbury, armigeri, matrona sanctissima, pudicissima, et erga pauperes liberalis, quæ cum sancto matrimonio 66 annos vixisset, veroque tres filios, Joannem, Hugonem, et Hugonem, totidemque filias, Annam, Janam, et Dorotheam peperisset, anno 1591, ætatis suæ 86, cœlestem patriam migravit, cum Christo æternum victura.

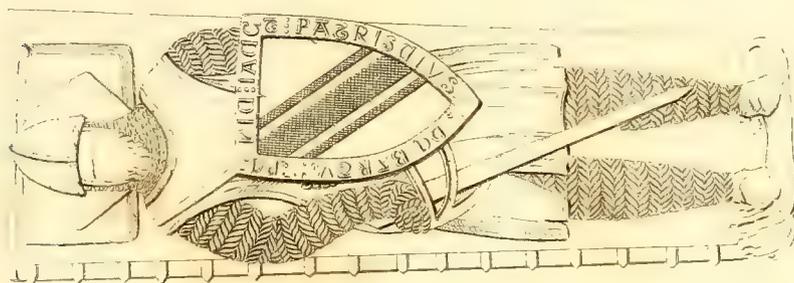
"Parentibus optimis et charissimis, pietas filii Hugonis Beeston, junioris, Armigeri, receptoris generalis omnium reventuum coronæ tam in comitatu palatino Cestriæ, quam in comitatibus North-Wallæ, hoc monumentum posuit."

Over this inscription is a medallion ornamented with the Beeston quarterings, and on each side a pyramid resting on a scull, supporting similar shields of quarterings.

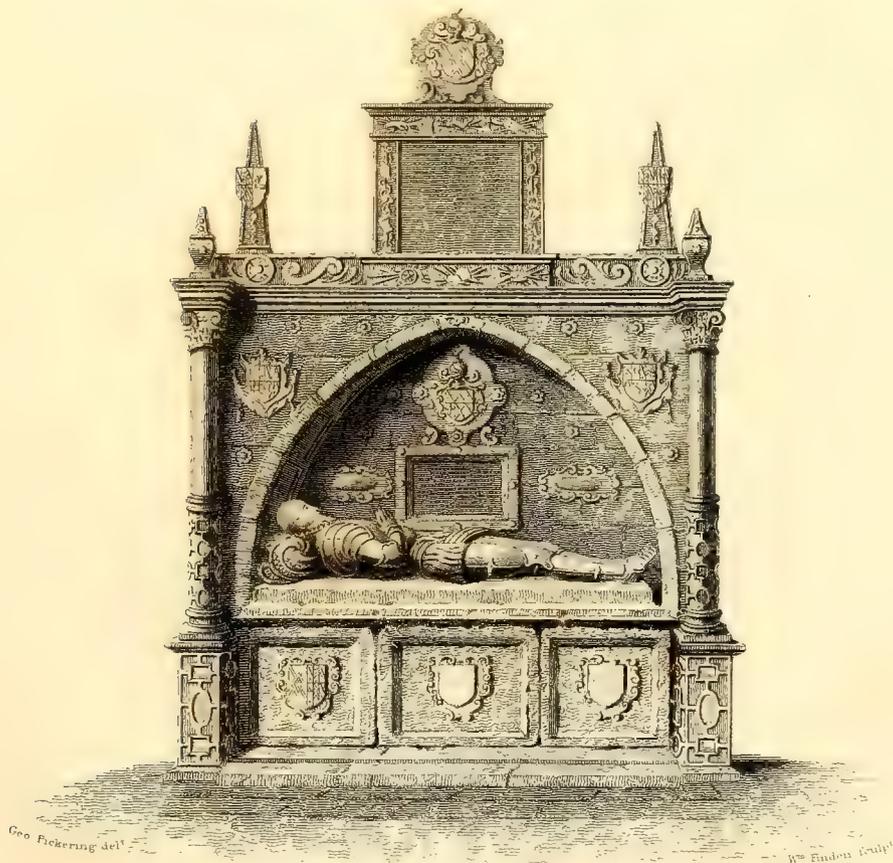
Under the arch is a second tablet, at the sides of which is inscribed,



MONUMENT OF SIR HUGH CALVELEY, BINBURY.



MONUMENT OF SIR PATRICK BARTON, FARNDON.



MONUMENT OF SIR GEORGE BEESTON, BUNBURY.

London: Pub. April 10, 1856 by Leighton & Co.



Quorum memoria — in benedictionibus.

Memoriæ sacrum.

Hugo Beeston Eques Auratus, Georgii Beeston Equitis Aurati Filius, Mortalitatís memor, et spe certa in Christo resurgendi, hoc, parentibus, sibi, et Georgio Beeston filio unico itidem Equestri juveni, immatura morte, proh dolor! prærepto, monumentum posuit.

Obiit Hugo Pater, Anno Salutis, M.DC.

Georgius autem filius M.DC.XI.

Quod satis est vixi: fessum vocat altera vita.

Quæ fugit, oh, valeat! quæ vocat, oh, veniat!

Vita trahit mortem, certa mors pallida vitam

Restituet, requiem vita secunda dabit.

Mors transitus ad vitam.

The windows of the chancel contain some fragments of rich stained glass, too much mutilated for the original design to be traced.

The Ridley oratory is separated from the chancel by three arches, sprung from light clustered columns. It is lighted by three windows opposite to these arches, and of corresponding form and dimensions, besides a large east window and a smaller one at the west end, half of which projects from the south side of the church, the other half opening by a pointed arch to the Spurstow chancel.

The arches are filled with a light gothic screen, each division of which is divided by mullions into nine compartments, terminating in cinquefoil arches, the spandrels of which are filled with small shields and fragments of the arms of Egerton. Along the cornice is this inscription in old English letters:

“This chapel was made at the cost and charge of Sir Rauffe Egerton, knight, in the yere of owre Lord God A. D. M.CCCC.XXVII.”

Near the centre of the chapel formerly stood the tomb of the founder, now removed, of which a rude drawing is extant, in the collection of the Randle Holmes, before mentioned. The brasses represented the figure of sir Ralph, in plate armour, with an armorial surcoat, and that of his wife beside him, with hands clasped as praying. The coat of Egerton was engraved between their heads, and round the corners of the tomb, and the sides were ornamented with the arms of Egerton, Basset, and numerous quarterings; the inscription was,

“Of your charitye pray for the soules of Raphe Egerton, kt. and Dame Margaret hys wife, which Sir Raphe was late standard bearer to our Sovraine Lord King Henry the VIIIth, and also treasurer of the Household of the Lady Princes his daughter, and the saide Sir Raphe died the 9th day of March M.CCCC.XXVIII.; and the said Dame Margaret died the day of in the yere of our Lord God M.CCCC----. on whose soules Jesus have mercy.”

Another plate commemorating sir Ralph Egerton was also attached to the wall of the chapel, where its marks are still visible.

Collins has given an abstract of the will of Sir Ralph Egerton, dated March 26, 1525, and proved May 26, 20 Hen. VIII. containing his directions for the completion of this chapel and the monuments¹. “He thereby orders his body to be buried in the chapel at Bunbury, and twelve torches to be borne by twelve men in black gowns the day of his burial, and twenty-four tapers burning about his body the same day. And that his executors distribute 10l. sterling not only to beggars,

but also to such poor men and women as they shall think convenient. He likewise orders his executors to finish at his proper cost and charges, the said chapel covered with lead, ceiled, and drawn with knots, gilded, and the panes painted; also two images for either side of the altar, within the chapel and the chancel. And to provide all manner of ornaments, as one chalice gilt, another double gilt, three suits of vestments, one coarse for workdays, another for Sundays and lowe holidays, the third a good suit for solemn and high festival days; and that his green velvet gown, lined with green sarsnet, guarded with cloth of gold, also his gown of velvet on velvet, perld with gold, be taken for the performance of the same, also his jacket of cloth of silver, and of blue and russet velvet, to make crosses and other ornaments for the saide chapel, which he orders to have paved with square asheler, or other tyle, or stone, as his executors think convenient. And that they erect a tomb for him with a large marble stone, his name and arms to be engraven thereon, with this addition, ‘*The King’s Standard Bearer, and Treasurer to the Lady Princes;*’ also a gilt plate fastened on the wall, with his name and arms and addition as aforesaid; also that they cause a house to be built at Bunbury, basted with free stone, and covered with Welsh slate, (on such ground as his brother William will appoint, for two chauntry preests to pray for his soul, his father and mother’s souls, with all other souls of his kin, and all Christian souls for ever; with priests to attend on holidays, &c. and perform divine service in the quire. And if they neglect duty according to such articles as his executors shall appoint, in a table to be hung up in the said chapel, that then they be removed; and that his cozin Philip Egerton, and the heirs male of his body, put in such preest or preests as he shall think virtuous and honest. And in default of the said Philip and his heirs, the said priests to be nominated by . . . Wylbram, and the heirs male of his body. Which chauntry house shall contain two chambers, one parlour, a buttery, and a kitchen, and the said preests to be maintained out of his mills at Nantwich, and Wychehouse and other lands, at the discretion of the executors also, for the maintenance of the said chapel at Bunbury with ornaments and reparations. He bequeaths to his son Richard, all his apparel not bequeathed, and one-third part of his estate; also one-third to his wife mother of the said Richard, and the other third to his executors for the performance of his will, desiring them to make suit to the king’s grace to buy the ward of his son’s marriage.”

Some tombstones now placed on the south side have most probably been removed from the church. Seven of these appear to have been memorials for ecclesiastics, and are ornamented with crosses, some plain, and others varied with fanciful knots, circles, and flowers. Four others are slabs, with recumbent figures, which have been torn from altar tombs; one near the dial is too much mutilated for any thing of its original form to be ascertained; another represents a lady in a hood, with long flowing drapery, clasping between her hands what resembles a large book. The two others represent a knight and his lady, and are placed near the S. E. angle of the church-yard. The knight is much mutilated, but his belt, surcoat, dagger and sword are apparent, and on his shield, which is slung by a thong, may

^k 1626; the date is left blank in the monument.

¹ Collins, vol. II. p. 357. ed. 1778, referring to Reg. Porth. 9. 33. Cur. Prærog. Cant.

be traced a bend between two stars, a difference which varies so little from the early bearings of the Bunburies, that it may with great probability be referred to that family. The projection of the charge from the shield is so much worn, that it can only be seen under a strong western sun, but it may easily be felt by the hand. Randle Holme erroneously describes it, a bend with a label. The lady is habited in long drapery, with a girdle and tassel at the waist. The head (now destroyed) reposed on a lozenge formed cushion, under which is a rude carving of some animal. Round the tomb is an inscription in longobardic capitals, too much mutilated to be decyphered.

The registers are in good preservation, with the exception of a chasm from 1706 to 1725.

The burials and marriages commence in 1559, the baptisms in 1598.

The school founded by Mr. Aldersey as before-mentioned is situated at a short distance from the church, on the opposite bank of the Gowy. It has been lately re-built. At the upper end is a good painting on board of the founder, dressed in a black gown with a large ruff, a glove in the right hand, and a ring on his first finger, date 1588. a^o atat. 66.

In addition to his benefactions to the church and school, Mr. Aldersey gave 300l. to the Haberdashers' company in trust, of the interest whereof 8l. was to be distributed annually to eight poor haberdashers or their widows, and the other 20l. to be given to the clerk of the company^m.

ⁿ Other benefactions, amounting to 418l. 10s. were distributed in Bishop Gastrell's time to the poor yearly; of this sum 58l. was given by sir Thomas Wilbraham, 100l. by lady Calveley, 67l. by sir Thomas Bunbury, and 60l. by Thomas Stanley, the rest in small sums. 200l. was left by sir Hugh Beeston of Beeston, kt. to the poor of Bunbury, but the will was defeated by Thomas Savage of Beeston, esq.^o

In 1750 Mr. Thomas Gardener gave the sum of 200l. to trustees, for the purpose of founding a school for the children of poor parishioners, not inhabiting the township of Bunbury^p. The sum of 60l. being part of this benefaction, was laid out (Oct. 11, 1751,) by the trustees, in purchasing the lease of a moiety of a tenement in Fulk Stapleford for three lives, which lease determined the 26th of Dec. 1808, on the death of Samuel Lea, the surviving life.

BEESTON.

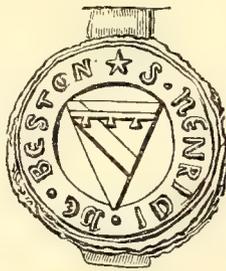
IMMEDIATELY adjacent to Bunbury on the North-west, lies Beeston; diversified in its scenery with water and wood, and every variety of surface, from bold and verdant undulations to the lofty and rugged precipice; honoured for many centuries with the residence of one of the more considerable families of the county, and still retaining on its rocky eminence the relics of the towers and ramparts, with which it was crowned by the third earl Randle.

Beeston at the Conquest formed part of the possessions of Robert Fitz Hugh, baron of Malpas, under whose successors the Beestons held this manor.

"Isdem Robertus tenet Buistane: Ulvoi tenuit et liber homo fuit; ibi i hida geldabilis; terra ii carucarum et dimidia: in dominio est una, cum ii bovariis: tempore regis Edwardi valebat x solidos, modo v solidos. Wastum invenit."

The Bunburies, who settled in the adjacent township of Bunbury in the reign of king Stephen, were the common ancestors of the families of Beeston and Bunbury. 33 Hen. III. Henry son of Alexander de Bunbury, and Margery daughter of William de Beeston, his wife, grant their lands in Beeston, most probably in trust, to Richard, son of William de Bonbury. This Henry died seized of a moiety of Beeston, which he held in right of Margery his wife, daughter of William Beeston, as per Inq. p. m. 11 Edw. I.^q at which time he had assumed the local name.

David de Beeston occurs in the Cheshire pedigrees as his son and heir, and as father of Henry de Beeston, to whom we must necessarily, on a comparison of dates, assign as wife, Matilda, one of the daughters and co-heirs of sir Piers le Roter of Thornton, who was living at the time of sir John Done's claim in Eyre, respecting the forest of Delamere, 31 Edw. I. but who has been given in the Cheshire pedigrees to Henry Beeston his son.



This second Henry de Beeston, whose wife Ellena was living, 9 Edw. II.^r and who seals with a bend and label over all, 34 Edw. III. was father of Thomas de Beeston, son and heir, and of William de Beeston, from whose grand-daughter Elizabeth, the Astons of Aston inherited their estates in Hulgreve and Tiverton, as by Inquisition p. m. in the 7th year of Hen. V.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VI. William, son of Thomas de Beeston, held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Beeston, from John, son of John Sutton baron of Malpas, val. per annum xx marks; also a seventh part of a fourth part of Kingsley fee, (viz. of the Thornton share) in Stoke, Picton, Onston, Cuddington, Norlegh, Acton, Elton, Pulton Launcelyn, Newton, Arowe, and Chester; also half the manor of Hellsbie, and lands in Teverton, Huxlegh, Burwardsley, Alpram, and Bradelegh. Thomas Beeston son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 16 Edw. IV. Thomas Beeston held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Beeston, and the mills of Horseley and Colbrooke, from sir John Sutton, knight, baron of Malpas, val. viiil. vis. viiil. also part of the Thornton share of Kingsley fee, and the lands of Teverton, Huxley, Burwardsley, and Bradeley in Malpas. John Beeston son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 13 Hen. VII. John Beeston held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Beeston, with certain exceptions, from Edward Sutton, baron of Malpas, val. per annum ixl. also lands in Teverton; and in joint feoffment with Elizabeth his wife, held half the manor of Hellsbie; and had given to his son Tochet Beeston, and Joanna his wife, daughter of sir John Done, knight,

^m Copy of Aldersey's Regulations for his Charities, communicated by Peter Broster, esq.

^p Information procured and communicated by the Rev. J. Egerton.

ⁿ Bishop Gastrell's Not. Cest.

^q Harl. MSS. 2038. 56. 6.

^o Ibid.

^r Ibid.

lands in Kingsley, Stoke, Picton, Onston, Norley, and Newton. Tochet Beeston son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VII. Elizabeth Beeston held in demesne, as of frank tenement, half the manor of Hellesbie, and lands in Onston. Tochet Beeston son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. VIII. Tochet Beeston, esq. held the manor of Beeston from Ed. Sutton, baron of Malpas, value per annum vi. and lands therein, val. xiiii. vis. viii. also the manor of Hellesbie, and lands in Teverton, Stoke juxta Picton, Newton juxta Frodsham, Southley, Kingsley, Norley, Onston, Picton, and Alpram, val. tot. 32l. 10s. 8d. Obiit xix Oct. a° p'd'o. John Beeston son and heir, aged upwards of 40 years.

Inq. p. m. 33 Hen. VIII. Johanna Beeston widow, held half of Hellesbie in dower. John Beeston son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 34 Hen. VIII. John Beeston, esq. held the manor of Beeston from William Brereton of Brereton, esq. as of his barony of Malpas, val. per annum, xxvi. also half the manor of Hellesbie, and lands in the township named in the last Inquisition, val. tot. xliiii. xiiis. Obiit 26 April a° p'd'o. George Beeston son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 21 Jan. 44 Eliz. Sir George Beeston, knt. held in demesne, as of fee tail (to himself and the heirs male of his body) the manor of Beeston, from sir William Brereton of Brereton, knight, as of his barony of Malpas, val. per annum xii. xiiis. also half the manor of Hellesbie, and lands in Teverton, Newton, Alpram, Onston, Kingsley, and Norley, val. total 27l. Died in

September a° p'd'o. Hugh Beeston, esq. son and heir, aged upwards of 56 years.

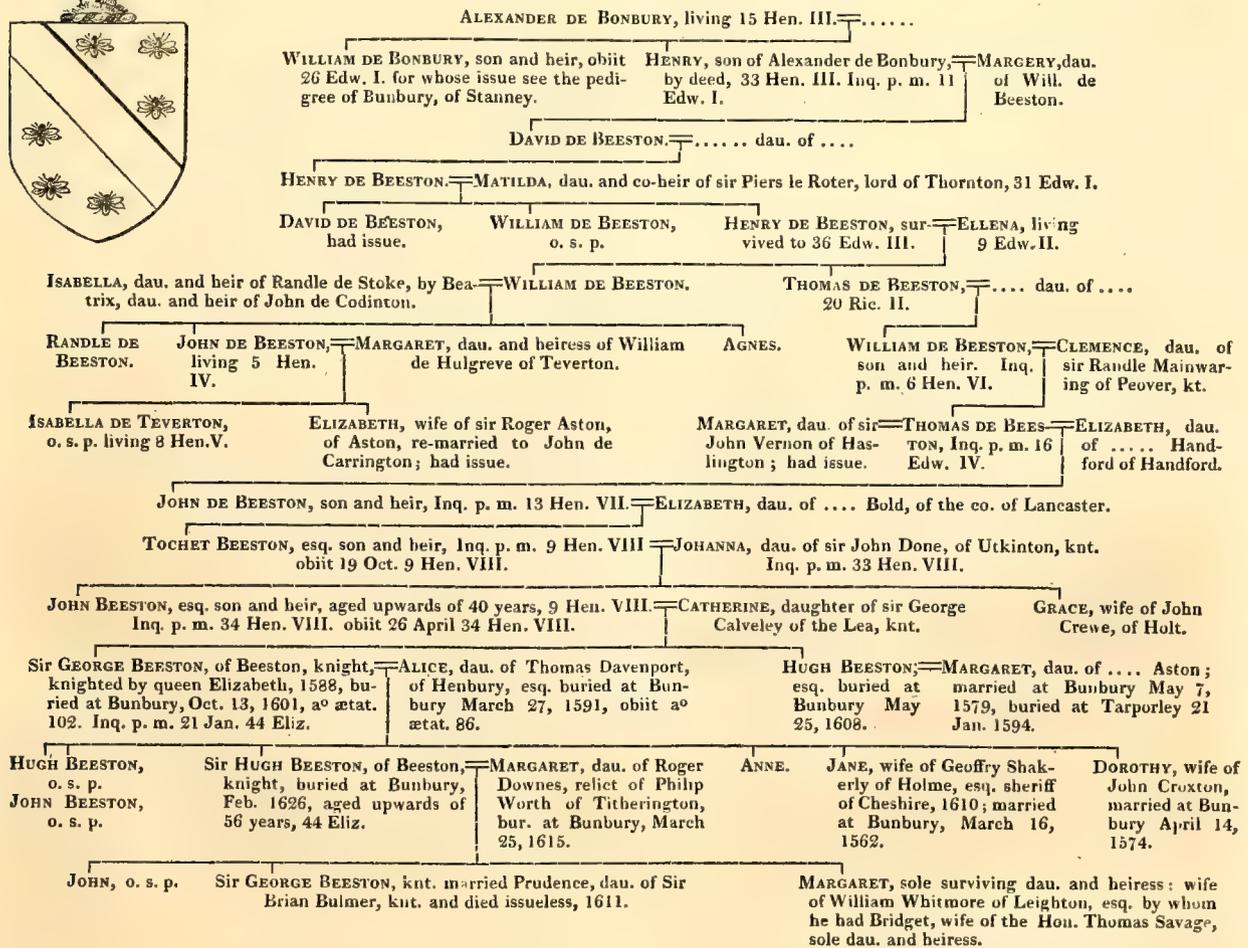
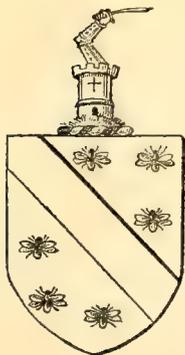
Sir George Beeston, to whom this last Inquisition refers, was the veteran whose monument has been already described in the church of Bunbury. Distinguished at the siege of Boulogne and the battle of Musselborough, and knighted by Elizabeth for his achievement against the Spanish armada at the age of eighty-nine, he closed his life of honour at the age of one hundred and two years. His son, sir Hugh Beeston, receiver-general for the crown in Cheshire and North Wales, also surviving to an age far beyond the common life of man, outlived his sons, John and sir George Beeston, and left one daughter and heiress, Margaret, who brought her family estates in marriage to William Whitmore of Leighton, esq. the representative of a younger branch of the antient family of Whitmore of Thurstanton.

Bridget, daughter and finally sole heiress of William Whitmore and Margaret Beeston, married to her first husband sir Edward Somerset, Knight of the Bath, eighth son of Edward fourth earl of Somerset[†]; and after his death re-married Thomas, second son of Thomas first viscount Savage^a, by whom she had issue Darcie Savage, of Beeston and Leighton, esq. whose daughter and heiress Bridget Savage^b, brought the estates of the Beestons and Whitmores in marriage to sir Thomas Mostyn of Mostyn, baronet, from whom the present manerial lord of Beeston, sir Thomas Mostyn of Mostyn, bart. is lineally descended.

BEESTON OF BEESTON.

From the Visitation of 1580, and Vincent's Cheshire MSS. collated with the Inquisitions p. m. and Registers of Bunbury.

Arms. Argent, a bend, Sable, between 6 bees of the second. — Crest: on a wreath, a castle, Or, on a mount Vert issuing therefrom an arm embowed, armed proper, garnished Or, brandishing a sword proper, hilted Or.



^a Leicester, p. 235.

[†] Collins's Peerage, edit. 1812. I. p. 230.

^u Leicester, p. 235.

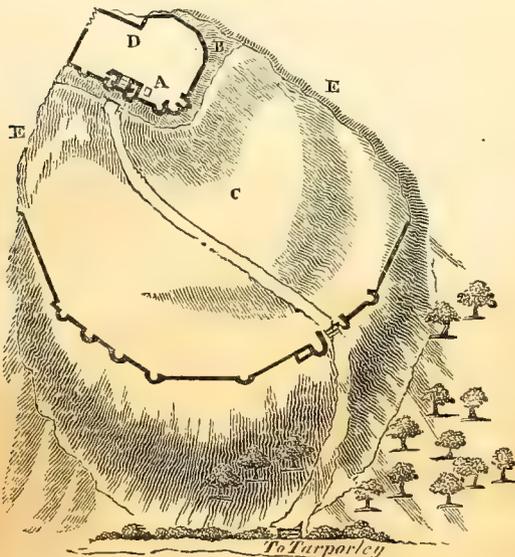
^{*} Kimber's Baronetage, vol. II. 84.

The present Hall of Beeston has been long occupied by farmers. The antient hall was surrounded by a moat, and suffered severely during the siege of the neighbouring castle, being fired by prince Rupert's ^y soldiers, March 19, 1644-5^z. The estate, with the manor of Peckforton^a, were offered for sale about 1745, at the price of 9000*l.* and in 1756, at the price of 11,000*l.*; but no purchasers accepted the terms. In 1801, the timber alone on these estates was worth 30,000*l.* most of which grew on the eminences occupied during the siege.

The village is scattered round the foot of the hill, at the side where it declines to the south-east, and consists of a number of straggling picturesque cottages, chiefly aged, ruinous, and formed with timber, built on each side the road, among orchards, and luxuriant foliage, with a sandy lane winding among them, and the lower line of the fortifications here and there peeping through the trees.

Immediately above the village rises the bold insulated mass of rock, which forms so striking an object to Cheshire, and the adjacent counties. It is perfectly detached, and nearly pentagonal in form, sloping like the Forest and Broxton hills, toward one extremity, and presenting at the other a front of precipitous and overhanging rocks, which are continued at the sides for a short space, and then gradually mix with the slope, with which the rest of the hill declines towards the village.

Such elevations are not of unfrequent occurrence in Scotland; but the castles on their summits have been exposed to considerable inconvenience from the deficiency of water; a want which here was provided against by two wells, dug to the level of Beeston Brook; one of which in Webb's time, although partly filled up, was 275 feet in depth, and the other 240 feet. The importance of the place, as commanding one of the three avenues to Chester, in an early period of history, has been noticed in the introduction to this Hundred, and it is most probable that some kind of fortress was then erected on the summit, for the protection of the pass.



A Draw Well.
B Castle Ditch.
C Outer Court.
D Inner Court.
EE Precipitous sides of the rock, where the wall is discontinued.

The first line of works commences about half way up the ascent, consisting of a wall flanked with eight towers, at irregular distances, in the style introduced by the crusaders in the 13th century, in imitation of the fortresses of the Holy Land: a perfect specimen of this style is still existing in the walls of Conway, and its resemblance to its original may be traced by reference to elegant delineations of the walls of Constantinople by the pencil of Dallaway^b. These works inclose a court which is entered through a gateway defended by a square tower. The ground rises rapidly, and the sides of the hill commence their precipitous and broken form, immediately above the line of fortifications, which have been therefore only thrown across the hill from side to side, in an irregular semicircle, and have never been continued at the sides, though so represented in a small plate published in the Vale Royal, and very unnecessarily copied by Boydell in 1747, on a scale which gains it the credit of a more accurate delineation.

The higher ballium contains about a statute acre. The steep approach into the outer court would barely give access to a carriage: the entrance to the inner one never could have admitted it. It is approached by a ruinous platform, on which the drawbridge formerly fell, and is ascended, after crossing the intervening chasm, by a flight of steep steps: the arches from which the portcullis descended are acutely pointed, and on each side is a massy round tower. Several other towers project from the wall, which extends along two entire sides of this court. Few apartments can now be traced, and those only on the first story. On the outside of these two fronts of the higher ballium, is an immense moat, hewn in the solid rock, which mingles at unequal heights with the stones of the ramparts and towers above, so that the whole, both on a distant and near view, seems more like an excrescence from the rock, than the work of human hands, so singularly are the crags and the hewn ashlar intermingled, and the whole mass coated over with lichens, ivy, and evergreens.

One of the wells mentioned by Webb remains in this court. The two sides which are not defended by the moat and towers, are partly inclosed by a low wall, and partly open to the precipice, which in one of the angles terminates in huge crags, jutting frightfully out from the rock, at the height of three hundred and sixty-six feet, as described in a very faithful, though coarse manner, in Buck's engraving. The view from the summit is very extensive and magnificent; but the most interesting points are the adjacent Broxton hills, and the estuaries of the Dee and the Mersey, down both of which the eye looks in a direct line to the Irish sea.

The erection of this fortress was commenced in 1220, by Randle Blundeville, sixth earl of Chester, "who, after he was come from the Holie Land, began to build the castels of Chartleie and Beeston, and after he also builded the abbeie of Dieu Penresse, toward the charges susteined about the building of which castels and abbeie, he took toll throughout all his lordships of all such persons as passed by the same, with any cattel, chaffre, or merchandize^c."

On the death of John Scot, the last of the local earls, in 1237, 21 Hen. III. the king, previous to the assumption of the earldom into his hands, seized on the castles

^y "There is a tradition that he dined that day with the lady of the house: after dinner he told her, that he was sorry to make so bad a return to her hospitality; advised her to secure any valuable effects she had, for he must order the house to be burned that night, lest it should be garrisoned by the enemy." Pennant's *Chester* to London, p. 9. For a further account of this lady, vide Leighton, Wirral Hundred, and Pennant's *Whiteford and Holywell*, 110.

^b *Archæologia*, XIV. 232.

^z *Burghall's Diary*, p. 942.

^a MS. Collections for Bunbury, by the late P. Broster, esq.

^c *Ranulph Higden*, quoted by *Holinshed*, II. 350.



Geo Ormerod FSA delin^t

Lon^d Pub. Aug 10 1816 by Lockington & C^o

C Beath fecit^t

GATEWAY OF BEESTON CASTLE.



Geo Ormerod FSA delin^t

Lon^d Pub. Aug 10 1816 by Lockington & C^o

C Beath fecit^t

BEESTON CASTLE.

of Chester and Beeston. The commissioners appointed for this purpose were Hugh le Despenser, Stephen de Segrave, and Henry de Aldithley^d.

In 1256, 40 Hen. III. prince Edward (to whom his father^e had two years previously assigned the principality of Wales) made his first progress into Cheshire, to visit his lands and castles^f; and, entering Chester on the day of St. Kenelm, received the homage of the nobles and gentry of Cheshire and Wales. In this year Fulco de Orreby, justice of Chester, received the charge of the castle of Beeston, with those of Chester, Dissard, Schotewyke, and Vaenor^g.

By the vicissitudes of the struggle with Simon de Montfort, the earldom and its appendages were wrested from prince Edward, by a forced surrender, in 1264, and Beeston was garrisoned by the partizans of that rebellious noble. On the news of prince Edward's escape from Hereford, in 1265, his Cheshire adherents took up arms, and, under the command of James de Audley and Urian de St. Pierre, possessed themselves of this important strong-hold, on the behalf of their sovereign. This event took place on the Sunday after the prince's escape; and the battle of Evesham being fought on the 11th of the nones of May following, Edward instantly marched to Beeston, with Humphrey de Bohun, Henry de Hastings, and Guy de Montfort, as captives, where his enemies, Lucas de Taney, justice of Chester, and Simon, abbot of St. Werburgh, surrendered and threw themselves on his mercy, on the vigil of the feast of the Assumption^h.

5 Edw. II. Robert de Holand, son of John, son of Ingram de Holand, of Holland, in Lancashire, who was now rising into notice, from his appointment of secretary to Thomas duke of Lancaster, was appointed governor of Beeston; which appears, as Dugdale says, to be the first office of public trust given to that great familyⁱ.

Nov. 28, 32 Edw. III. Edward, earl of Chester, grants to Robert de Houghton the office of constable of Beeston castle, and receiver of the lands and tenements of John de St. Pierre, durante placito. Salary, 4l. per annum^k.

According to Stow^l and a MS chronicler^m, Richard the Second selected Beeston for the custody of his treasure and jewels, to the immense amount of 200,000 marks, trusting, most probably, to the tried faith of his favourite county, as well as to the strength of the situation: A hundred men at arms were placed in the garrison, but abandoned the place, without a contest, to the duke of Lancaster, on the fear of an assault.

In 1460, the principality of Wales and earldom of Chester being granted to Richard duke of Yorkⁿ, on his being declared heir to king Henry the Sixth, Beeston castle is included in the recital of manors and castles considered as appendages to the earldom.

This is the last notice of Beeston, as a regular fortress; and, in the course of eighty years afterwards, it is described by Leland as shattered and ruinous^o, in the close of his Genethliacon Eadverdi Principis, where he alludes to Edward the Sixth as the person foretold, in ancient prophecies, as the restorer of its former consequence:

This restoration of its military importance was destined to be effected under far different auspices. In the troubles of the seventeenth century, when almost every considerable mansion in Cheshire was garrisoned for king or parliament, and subjected to the approaches of regular siege, Beeston was too important a station to be overlooked. Accordingly, on the night of February 21, 1642-3, it was taken possession of by three hundred of the parliament forces, and was put into a state of military repair.

The following passages relating to the further proceedings connected with Beeston Castle are abstracted from the Diary of Edward Burghall, schoolmaster of Bunbury, and afterwards vicar of Aston, an eye-witness of many of the events he describes:

"Dec. 13. A little before day, captain Sandford (a zealous royalist) who came out of Ireland with eight of his firelocks, crept up the steep hill of Beeston castle and got into the upper ward, and took possession there. It must be done by treachery, for the place was most impregnable. Capt. Steel, who kept it for the parliament, was accused and suffered for it; but it was verily thought he had not betrayed it wilfully; but some of his men proving false, he had not courage enough to withstand Sandford, to try it out with him. What made much against Steel was, he took Sandford down into his chamber, where they dined together, and much beer was sent up to Sandford's men; and the castle, after a short parley, was delivered up: Steel and his men having leave to march, with their arms and colours, to Nantwich; but, as soon as he was come into the town, the soldiers were so enraged against him, that they would have pulled him in pieces, had he not been immediately clapped in prison^p. There were much wealth and goods in the castle, belonging to gentlemen and neighbours, who had brought it thither for safety, besides ammunition and provisions for half a year at least; all which the enemy got."

The royalists were suffered to maintain the possession of the castle, with little molestation, to the 20th October 1644, when "the council of war at Nantwich, hearing that the enemy at Beeston were in want of fuel and other necessaries, layed strong siege to it." This siege continued to the 17th of March following, when prince Maurice and prince Rupert came, with a great force, and relieved the castle, and the day after plundered Bunbury parish, and burnt Beeston Hall.

1645, April. The parliament again placed forces round Beeston castle, where they began to raise a brave

^d Collins's Peerage, vol. I. 348, edit. 1768.

^e Dugdale's Baronage, II. 57.

^k Records in the Exchequer of Chester.

^o Explicuit dehinc Fama suas perneciter alas,
.....
..... ocellos
Sidereos figens Bisduni in mœnia Castri
Qui locus excelso consurgit vertice rupis,
Unde licet, velut e speculâ, quoscunque jacenteis
Circum monticulos, vallesque videre feraces.
Huc se præcipitem celeri dedit illa volatu,
Atque tenens arcis fastigia summa superbæ
Concussit pennas alacri fervore strepenteis,

^p "Monday, Jan. 23, 1643-4, Steel, late governor of Beeston, was shot to death, in Tinker's Croft, by two soldiers, according to judgment against him. He was put into a coffin, and buried in the church-yard. He confessed all his sins, and prayed a great while, and, to the judgment of charity, died penitently." Burghall's Diary, 931.

^c Leicester, page 154.

^b Chronicle of St. Werburgh.

^l Annals, 321.

^f MS Chronicle of the Abbey of St. Werburgh.

ⁱ Baronage, vol. II. p. 73.

^m Harl. MSS. 2111, 98.

ⁿ Rot. Pat. V. 320.

Oraque deinde sono tali facunda resolvit;
"Assyrio redeuns Victor Ranulphus ab orbe
Hoc posuit castrum, terrorem gentibus olim
Vicinis, patriæque suæ memorabile vallum.
Nunc licet indignas patiatur fracta ruinas,
Tempus erit quando rursus caput exeret altum,
Vatibus antiquis si fas sit mihi credere vati
Forsan et Eadverdus precium feret omne laboris."

GENETHLIACON EADVERDI. Londini, 1548.

mount, with a strong ditch about it, and had placed great buildings thereon, which were scarce finished, but news came that the king and both the princes, with a strong army, were coming towards Chester. The parliament army marched towards Nantwich, leaving the country to the spoils of the forces in Chester and Beeston Castle." The garrison, thus relieved, sallied out on the 4th of June, and assaulted Ridley Hall, but was defeated with loss.

The royal forces being defeated, in September, at Rowton Heath, the siege was resumed: and, on "Nov. 16th, Beeston Castle, that had been besieged almost a year, was delivered up by capt. Valet, the Governor, to sir William Brereton: there were in it 56 soldiers, who by agreement had liberty to depart with their arms, colours flying, and drums beating, with two cart-loads of goods, and to be conveyed to Denbigh: but 20 of the soldiers laid down their arms, and craved liberty to go to their own homes, which was granted. There was neither meat nor drink found in the castle, but only a

piece of a turkey-pie, and a live peacock and a peahen."

Early in the next year Beeston Castle was demolished, and the ruins have since been gradually sinking to their present state of extreme, but picturesque decay. The site was alienated from the earldom of Chester in the reign of Elizabeth, and becoming again attached to the manor from which it was originally severed, has descended from the Beestons, through the Whitmores, Savages, and Mostyns, to the present manerial lord, who takes every precaution to preserve the wreck of this venerable fortress from wanton demolition.

Sir Thomas Mostyn¹ is the exclusive land-owner of the township, with the exception of about 150 acres, in the hands of three proprietors. A court leet and court baron are held for the manor.

A mineral spring has been recently discovered in this township, the account of which, subjoined in a note, was laid before the Philosophical Society of Chester by Mr. Whittel, March 8, 1816, together with an analysis of other springs in Spurstow and Peckforton².

TEVERTON.

ADJACENT to Beeston, on the North-east, lies the township of Teverton, the boundary of Bunbury parish, towards Tarporley; the situation is low, the surface flat, and the roads deep and sandy, but the neighbouring rock of Beeston somewhat relieves its uninteresting aspect.

Robert Fitz Hugh, the Norman baron of Malpas, included this place within the circuit of his extensive domains at the Conquest.

"*Isdem Robertus tenet Teveretone. Dedol et Hundulf tenuerunt pro II maneriis, et liberi homines fuerunt: ibi II hidæ geldabiles. Terra est II carucarum, ibi II radmans et III bordarii habent unam carucam. Silva ibi una leuvâ et dimidia longa, et dimidia leuvâ lata, et una acra prati. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat XVI solidos, modo sex solidos, wasta invenitur.*"

The heirs of the barony of Malpas do not occur subsequently in the inquisitions or deeds as superior lords of Teverton, from which, as well as other circumstances, it is probable that the grant of the township was resumed by the earls of Chester, and bestowed on the barons of Shipbrook: the Vernons, and the lords Audley, who descended through a female line from

these barons, being uniformly recognized as capital lords.

The mesne manor vested at an early period in a branch of this house, which assumed the name of Verdun, as appears by the following charter of R. de Verdun, dean of St. John's, in Chester, then one of the three cathedrals of the diocese of Lichfield. The order of the attesting names is observable, the justiciary, the three barons, and the sheriff, being followed by "magister Alexander," who precedes Bertram de Verdun, the chamberlain of the earldom. This master Alexander was Alexander de Storeton, tutor of Randle Blundeville, sixth earl of Chester. Bertram had been Sheriff in 1187.

"*Omnibus, &c. R. de Verdun, decanus Cestr. Sciatis me dedisse Lucie de Verdun sorori meæ pro fidelitate, &c. 4 bovatæ terræ in Teverton, reddendo mihi annuatim, unum par calcarum vel 4d. &c. Test. Ph'o de Horreby tunc Just. Cest. Warino de Vernun, Hamone de Mascy, Will'mo de Venables, Liulfo Vicecom', Mag'ro Alexandro, Bertramo Camerario, &c. &c.*"³

Seal, a bend, on a heater shield: inscription defaced.

¹ Information of the Rev. John Egerton.

² "It rises about a quarter of a mile from the Horseley spring, and about three from that of Spurstow, from under one of the strata forming the base of Beeston Castle Hill. It is not the surface spring, but pushes up through a very porous red sandstone. There are altogether about ten places where this water rises, in a narrow lane, at the top of which stands a farm-house, and a blacksmith's shop; but the situation is at present so concealed, that a person would experience some difficulty in finding it. When fresh, this water is beautifully clear and pellucid, sparkling with great brightness; its smell is very slight, but it has a strong and sensibly chalybeate taste. When drank in the quantity of half a pint or more, it proved highly refreshing, probably owing to the carbonic acid it contained, causing it in some degree to resemble the artificial soda water. It deposits, on exposure to the air, a ferruginous sediment. It exhibits the following appearances on the addition of tests. Tincture of galls gives an immediate and intense brown or blackish tinge; prussiate of pot-ash is precipitated of a bluish green; lime water is largely precipitated; barytic salts are precipitated: salts of silver yield a whitish precipitate, quickly changing to a chocolate colour; oxalate of ammonia is considerably affected. These experiments were made on the spot, in an intense light; it is therefore difficult to ascertain and describe the exact shade of colour, but the effects of all the tests were strong and decisive; they indicate the following ingredients:—iron, lime, carbonic acid, muriatic acid, sulphuric acid; but are not adapted to ascertain the presence of a salt with base of alkali, or with base of alumine; or the presence of a silicious earth, or that of any other gas than the carbonic acid. A pint of this water during evaporation, gave out a considerable quantity of fixed air, and deposited an ochery brown powder, which, when the water was about half boiled away, was collected, and weighed half a grain. The boiling being continued till the water was entirely evaporated, a further quantity of the powder of a lighter colour was obtained, weighing exactly a grain. The solid contents are therefore one and a half to a pint or twelve grains to the gallon. From these few and imperfect experiments, the water is shewn to resemble the noted waters of Tunbridge, but considerably stronger, as the solid contents of a gallon of Tunbridge water is only five grains." Communicated by Mr. Whittel.

³ Harl. MSS. 2038. 65.

Henry de Verdon^t, shortly afterwards, in the time of king John, or Henry the Third, granted by deeds without date, to Matthew son of Matthew de Hulgreve, an estate in Teverton, with the homages and services thereunto annexed, in free marriage with Alice de Verdon, his daughter; which grant was confirmed by Roger de Verdon, her brother, in 1232. Henry de Verdon sealed with two lions indorsed.

This Matthew de Hulgreve^u, the representative of a younger branch of the Vernon family, resided at Hulgreve, near Minshull, where his family continued until the extinction of the male line, in the person of Henry de Hulgreve, anno 13 Ric. II.

Inq. p. m. 13 Ric. II. Henry de Hulgreve, son of William, held, inter alia, in demesne, as of fee, a third part of the manor of Teverton, from sir John Vernon, in socage. Value, per annum, x marks. Margaret and Ellen, sisters and coheirs.

Margaret, the eldest of these coheirs, married John Beeston, of Beeston, and had a suit with her mother Alice, (15 Ric. II.) then widow of William de Moston, respecting eight messuages, four tofts, and two hundred and thirty-three acres in Teverton^x. Alice, the mother, died, per Inquisition, 18 Ric. II. seized of another third of the manor of Teverton, leaving Margaret Beeston sole daughter and heir.

John de Beeston and Margaret his wife had two daughters and coheirs; Isabella, surnamed of Teverton^y, who died without issue, and Elizabeth, wife of sir Robert Aston, of Aston, knt. remarried to John de Carrington.

Inq. p. m. 24 Hen. VI. Isabella widow of John de Carrington, held, inter alia, in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Teverton, from James lord Audley, in socage. Value, per annum, ivl. Richard Aston, son of Isabella by sir Robert Aston, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VII. Sir Richard Aston, knt. held, inter alia, the manor of Teverton, as in the last Inquisition, value xls.

Inq. p. m. 26 Hen. VIII. Richard Aston, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Teverton, as in the last Inquisition, from the heirs of James lord Audley.

Inq. p. m. 16 Eliz. John Aston, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Teverton, from the lord of Audley, in socage, by fealty only, value, per annum, vl. xiiis. iiii. Thomas Aston, son and heir.

Before the year 1671^z, Teverton had passed to the Wilbrahams, of Woodhey, most probably by purchase from the Astons, about the beginning of the seventeenth century, at which time they rounded their estate of Tilston Fearnall by considerable purchases in the adjacent townships, and acquired another estate in this township, the descent of which can be brought down without interruption.

This estate^a, last-mentioned, was given by Randle Blundeville, earl of Chester, to Robert, son of Salmon, with freedom from puture, and the jurisdiction of the

hundred court, together with a rent charge of 20s. on Dernhall mill, in exchange for lands in Normandy. Mary daughter and heiress of Gilbert Salmon, of Lower Withington, brought it in marriage to Richard de Bromhall, whose daughter Ellen brought it to Matthew del Mere her husband, second son of William Mere, of Mere, esq.^b

Matthew del Mere was made eschætor^c of Cheshire 4 Hen. IV. and constituted a judge^d of Chester the year following, hac vice, along with John Mainwaring, of Peover, and Thomas Meyshawe. He died without issue, having settled his estates in Teverton, by fine, 13 Ric. II. on Randle Mainwaring^e, of Peover, which estate consisted of fourteen messuages and four hundred and thirty-four acres.

This settlement was opposed by the Davenports, of Bramhall, and gave rise to very long suits^f: but it was finally agreed, 16 Hen. VII. that William Davenport, of Bramhall, should possess the Teverton estate, and that John Mainwaring should have the estates of the Salmons in Lower Withington.

William Davenport, of Bramhall, esq. and William his son and heir apparent, sold their lands here to sir Richard Wilbraham, of Woodhey, anno 22 Jac. I.

The Teverton estates, thus vested in the Wilbrahams, passed in marriage with Grace daughter and coheiress of sir Thomas Wilbraham, bart. to Lionel, earl of Dysart, from whom they have descended to the present peer, his lineal representative.

BRESSIE GREEN, in this township, was the seat of the Bressies, a younger branch of the family of that name, who resided at Wilcott's Heath, in the township of Wistaston. Thomas Bressy^g, of that place, settled in Teverton, before 8 Hen. IV. on the marriage of Alicia, daughter and heiress of David de Hulgreve, descended from the manerial lords of Teverton. This family continued settled here in the male line to the middle of the last century. The daughter of the last Bressie, married a Mr. Garnett^h, and was resident in the old family mansion in 1804. The arms of this family were, quarterly, Sable and Argent, indented per fess, in the first quarter a mallard, Argent. Crest, on a wreath, a mallard proper.

In a diary by Edward Burghall, vicar of Acton, is mention of a skirmish on Teverton Heath, on the night of the 21st of February, 1642-3. "Three hundred of the parliament men had taken Beeston Castle, whb coming down to assist the military, were met by the horse of the array, on Te'erton Townfield: where one of colonel Mainwaring's officers was slain on the parliament side, and a few others of the king's, who were buried at Tarporley." The common which was the scene of this action is now inclosed, with the exception of a small quantity of marshy ground.

A court baron is held by the earl of Dysart for his manor of Teverton.

^t Harl. MSS. 2038. p. 74.

^x Harl. MSS. 2038, p. 74.

^b Leicester's Pedigrees.

^e Williamson's Collections, p. 30.

^h From the information of the late Peter Broster, esq.

^u The Hulgreve pedigree will be found in the account of Hulgreve.

^y Ibid. 1535.

^c Leicester, p. 186.

^f Villare Cest.

^z Ibid. 2010.

^a Villare Cest.

^d Ibid. p. 333.

^g Cheshire Pedigrees. Harl. MSS. 1535.

TILSTON-FEARNALL.

TILSTON is noticed in Domesday, as part of the possessions of the baron of Malpas.

"Isdem Robertus tenet Tidulstane, et Willielmus de eo. Stenulphus tenuit, et liber homo fuit: ibi 11 hidæ geldabiles. Terra est 11 carucarum: in dominio est una cum uno bordario: ibi modicum silva: tempore regis Edwardi valebat VI solidos et VIII denarios, modo quatuor solidos. Wasta invenitur."

The manor shortly afterwards passed to the abbey of St. Werburgh, and was confirmed to abbot Robert and his convent, in the bull obtained from pope Clement, under the name of Tidelvestan.

The following deeds relating to lands in Tilston, are recorded in the abbey chartulary. A grant of lands and the fourth part of the vill and mill by John son of Briccius de Panton; a quit claim of the vill by Andrew Batayle. Other grants by Richard son of Simon de Tidulstan, by William de Aulâ de Tidulstan, and an agreement relating to Tilston Heath, between Thomas abbot of St. Werburgh, and Matthew lord of Alprahamⁱ.

William de Burmyincham also gives all his lands in Tidulstan, to sustain a chaplain in the monastery of St. Werburgh, to pray for his soul, that of Margery his wife, and all the faithful^k.

After the dissolution, the manor of Tilston Fearnall formed part of the endowment of the dean and chapter of Chester, but fell afterwards into the hands of sir Richard Cotton, and was confirmed to his son George Cotton, among the other fee farmers, by patent, 19 Dec. 22 Eliz.

The Wilbrahams held lands here under sir Richard Cotton before the accession of Elizabeth.

Inq. p. m. 1 Eliz. Thomas Wilbraham, esq. held, inter alia, one messuage and twelve acres of land from the heirs of sir Richard Cotton, knt. in socage, by the render of 3s. per annum. Value, per annum, VIII^s. Obiit 3 July, 1 Eliz. Richard Wilbraham, brother and heir, then deceased, leaving Thomas his son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 1 Eliz. Richard Wilbraham, esq. held, inter alia, one messuage, as before, value VIII^s. and also lands in Tilston Fearnall. Thomas Wilbraham, son and heir.

The manor subsequently became united to this estate, most probably by purchase from George Cotton.

In the Villare of 1671^l, sir Thomas Wilbraham is stated to hold a court leet for this manor. The jurisdiction of the leet extends over the township of Bunbury, where the court is occasionally held by the earl of Dysart, to whom the manor has descended with the other Wilbraham estates, from his ancestress Grace, wife of Lionel, earl of Dysart, and daughter and co-heir of sir Thomas Wilbraham, bart.

The township is thirteen miles distant from Chester, on the London road, and lies in a flat, sandy, and unpleasant situation. The residence of the Wilbrahams is destroyed.

The services of Robert, viscount Cholmondeley of Kellis, of the kingdom of Ireland, in a skirmish on Tilston heath, during the great rebellion, are mentioned in his patent of the English barony of Cholmondeley, dated at Oxford, Sept. 1, 21 Car. I.

ALPRAHAM.

THIS township, which formed part of the possessions of Edwin, the Saxon earl of Mercia, was made a component part of the fee of Kinderton at the Conquest. At a very early period Wettenhall and Alpraham were alienated by the lords of that barony to a family who assumed the name of the former township. Another subinfeudation took place in Alpraham, the mediate lords of which are described in all the Inquisitions as holding from the lord of Wettenhall. The connection still continues, but is altogether inverted, the tenants of the manor of Wettenhall being now subject to the leet of Alpraham.

Alpraham is thus described in Domesday:

"Isdem Gislebertus tenet Alburgham: Edvinus comes tenuit: ibi 11 hidæ geldabiles. Terra est 1111 carucarum; ibi 111 villani cum VI bordariis habent unam carucam. Silva ibi 11 leuis longa, et una lata, et 11 acræ prati. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat XX solidos, modo VIII solidos."

Matthew, son of Walter de Somerville, held this manor under the Wettens, in the reign of Edward the First, and assumed the local name. He appears, in a deed without date, confirming possession of the vill of Calveley^m to Richard, son to Hugh de Calvelegh, to which deed is appended his armorial sealⁿ, blazoned simply Ermine. The coat usually assigned to him is Azure, crusuly Or, three eaglets displayed of the field.

This Matthew de Alpraham had issue by Eva, or Elena, his wife, who survived him, and was daughter of Matthew, son of Warin de Vernon, seven daughters and coheirs; 1. Alice, wife of Thomas de Bulkeley, remarried to Thomas de Sladehurst; 2. Sibilla, wife of William de Wettenhall; 3. Amelia, wife of Robert Wettenhall; 4. Joan, wife of John, son of Hugh de Legh; 5. Wervill, wife of Robert de Troghford; 6.

ⁱ Harl. MSS. 1965, 17 b. and 24 b.

^k Ibid. 24 b.

^l Harl. MSS. 2010.

^m After a grant and confirmation by the Vernons, of Shipbrook. Matthew de Alpraham appears in other deeds connected with the estates of the Vernons, of Shipbrook, which he probably held during a minority. About 1270 he released William de Aketon from attendance at his court of Alpraham, directing him to appear at his court of Davenham. *Leycester*, p. 202.

ⁿ Vernon's Collections. Harl. MSS. 2074. 169.

Catherine, wife of William de Clotton; and, 7. Ellen, wife of another Robert de Wetenhall; among whom the manor and estates were divided.

1st Share. Alice^o, wife of Thomas de Bulkeley, had issue William, who obtained seventy acres of various kind of lands, the sixth part of a mill, and the seventh part of one hundred acres in Alpraham, against his mother and her second husband Thomas de Sladehurst. 10 Edw. II. all the other coheirs, above recited, put in a claim.

Inq. p. m. 4 Ric. II. Thomas de Bulkeley, son of William, held, in fee tail, the seventh part of the manor of Alpraham, from the heirs of John de Wetenhall, by military service, value III. IIIS. IVD. William, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 6 Ric. II. William, son of Thomas de Bulkeley, of Alpram, held in demesne, as of fee, the seventh part of the vill of Alpram, from the heirs of John Wetenhall, by military service, value XXS. Cecilia, wife of Hugh de Wardhull, and Johanna, her sister, next of kin, and heirs.

2nd Share. 30 Edw. III. Richard^p, son of William Troghford, obtained from William de Wetenhall and Sibill his wife, four messuages and seventy acres of land in Alpraham, for their lives; remainder to Nicholas their son and Rose his wife, and their heirs; then to Roger, Joan, Margery, Mary, and Margaret, brothers and sisters of Nicholas.

No deeds have occurred relative to the *third share*.

4th Share. John son of John, son of Hugh de Legh, obtained from the said John son of Hugh de Legh and Joan his wife, three messuages and sixty-four acres in Alpraham, 3 Edw. III.

This share descended to the Leghs, of Northwood, afterwards of High Legh, and was possessed by that family in 1701^q. The Northwood family recovered the same, together with a moiety of the manor of High Legh in the reign of Hen. VII. from the coheirs of the elder line, by virtue of three successive entails, made by the Leghs of High Legh, 2 Ric. II. 16 Hen. VI. and 3 Edw. IV. which will be found in the account of that township.

The *5th Share* descended with the manor of Bridge Trafford to 3 Hen. VI. when James Brown Chaplain^r obtained of James Holt and Eleanor his wife half the manor of Bridge Trafford, and a sixth of the manor of Alpraham, which he settled on them and their heirs.

No notices have occurred of the remaining shares of William de Clotton and Robert de Wetenhale.

The present principal land proprietors of Alpraham are, the earl of Dysart, sir Thomas Mostyn, bart. and John Arden, esq. whose several interests in the township are of no modern date; but no means have

occurred of connecting the descent of their property, with that of any of the shares of the seven coheireses of Matthew de Alpraham^s.

The earl of Dysart inherits, from his ancestress Grace, daughter and coheir of sir Thomas Wilbraham, of Woodhey, bart. who is described as lord of this manor^t in 1671, and whose ancestor, Thomas Wilbraham, esq. purchased an estate in Bunbury and Alpraham from sir Thomas Egerton^v, knt. anno 41 Eliz. Lord Dysart holds a court leet and court baron for the manor of Alpraham, and the leet extends over the townships of Calveley, Wetenhall, and Wardle.

Sir Thomas Mostyn derives his interest in Alpraham, or a part thereof, from his ancestors the Beestons, of Beeston, whose estates here, in the Inquisition after the death of John Beeston, esq. 34 Hen. VIII. are valued at XIXS. and XXVIIIIS. per annum: and stated to be held severally from John Done, of Utkinton, esq. and the Prior of the order of St. John of Jerusalem: and in the Inq. after the death of sir George Beeston, 44 Eliz. are said to be held from the same, and valued at XLIIIS. VIIIID.

The estates of John Arden, esq. in this township, have descended to him from the Dones, of Utkinton, who most probably bought the shares of several of the coheirs about the time of Henry the Sixth, when their property in this township is first noticed in the Inquisitions, as follows.

Inq. p. m. 13 Hen. VI. John Done, of Utkinton, esq. held, in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, two parts of the manor of Alpraham, from Adam de Bostock, and Thomas, son and heir of John de Manley, as of their manor of Wetenhall, in socage, by the render of a rose for all services. Value, per annum, VIII marks.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VII. John Done, of Utkinton, esq. held, as before, three parts of the manor of Alpraham, from James Manley, and sir John Savage, as of their manor of Wetenhall, value VIII marks.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VIII. Richard Done, of Utkinton, esq. held three parts of the manor of the same, from sir John Savage, jun. and James Manley, as of their manor of Wetenhall, value VI. VIS. VIIIID.

Inq. p. m. 4 Eliz. Sir John Done, knt. held three parts of the manor of the same from John Brereton and sir John Savage, knt. as of the manor of Wetenhall, as before, value VI. VIS. VIIIID.

No manerial rights are now claimed by Mr. Arden, in right of his estate in Alpraham.

A farm house, called the moat-house, from a large moat with which it is surrounded, and probably occupying the site of the old mansion of the Alprahams, is situated in this township, at a short distance from Calveley Hall.

CALVELEY.

THE survey of Domesday passes over this township in silence; but there can be little doubt of its being then included in the dependencies of the barony of Shipbrook, from the following grant made by Richard de Vernon, in the beginning of the thirteenth century,

to Hugh de Calvelegh, and from the tenure of the manor, by the Davenportes, under the Vernons, of Shipbrook, and their successors the Savages, as specified in the Inquisitions post mortem.

“ Ricardus de Vernon ” omnibus hominibus presenti-

^o Williamson's Collections, p. 11.

^p Williamson's Deeds, p. 24.

^q Vill. Cest.

^r Williamson's Deeds, p. 39.

^s The Ardens represent, through the Dones and Leghs, the 4th coheir; but do not appear to inherit lands from her, as the Legh share was recovered from the coheirs by the Leghs of Northwood.

^t Villare. Harl. MSS. 2010.

^v Williamson's Evidences.

^u Vernon's MSS. Harl. MSS. 2074.

bus et futuris, &c. Sciatis me concessisse, &c. Hugoni de Calvylegh, pro homagio et servicio suo, totam terram de Calvylegh per istas divisas, &c. habendam et tenendam illi et heredibus suis de me et heredibus meis in feodo et hereditate, quietè et liberè, plenè et pacificè cum omnibus libertatibus et pertinentiis suis; faciundo mihi et heredibus meis de se et heredibus suis servitium sextæ partis feodi unius militis, et quintam partem et sextam partem unius bovatae terræ, quarum viginti novem faciunt feodum unius militis, et si heria ostiorum inveniantur in nemore de Calvylegh, inter me et prædictum Hugonem et hæredes equaliter dividuntur. Præterea reddet mihi et heredibus meis, de eodem Hugone et heredibus suis, sex denarios ad Vincla Petri, pro omnibus serviciis et demandis præfatæ villæ de Calvylegh pertinentibus: et ego, &c. contra omnes homines warrantizabo, &c. His testibus, Guarino de Vernon, Lidulpho de Twamlawe, &c.”

Richard de Calvelegh^w, son of the grantee, received a confirmation of this grant from Elena daughter of Matthew de Vernon, in her widowhood; and another confirmation from Matthew, son of Walter de Somerville, alias de Alpraham. This Richard, by Leuca his wife, sister of William Barnard, had issue, Hugh de Calvelegh, his successor; William, father of Alicia de Calvelegh, living 1339; and Robert, father of Richard de Calvelegh^x.

Hugh de Calvelegh had an acquittance from his mother, of the right which her brother William Barnard possessed to lands in Calvelegh, by deeds without date, witnessed by Roger Grey, just. Cest. and Robert Grosvenor, sheriff. He had issue by Alicia his wife, John de Calvelegh, Peter de Calvelegh (to whom his father grants lands in Calvelegh, anno 1 Edw. III.) Richard, William, David, Alicia (grantee of lands from her brother John, 3 Edw. III.) and Kenric de Calveley, son and heir, by deed without date^y, witnessed by Jo. de St. Pierre, Roger Dumville, and Patrick de Haselwall, knts. and Wm. Praers, sheriff, whereby his father settles on him the reversion of his lands.

Kenric de Calveley married Matilda daughter of . . . from whom Robert son of Matthew de Becheton, 3 Edw. III. obtained twenty acres of land in Calvelegh for 20 marks. By this wife he had issue Robert de Calvelegh, son and heir, and David de Calvelegh, ancestor of the Calveleys, of Lea, and father of the celebrated sir Hugh Calveley, of Lea, knt. the founder of Bunbury College. Of this line we shall speak in Broxton Hundred, but on account of the intricacy of the connecting link of the families, a few descents of the Calveleys, of Lea, have been subjoined, in the following pedigree, with references to the Inquisitions.

Robert de Calveley married Eliza, one of the daughters and coheirs of Ralph, son of David de Haselwall, who was a widow in 1350, when the Black Prince presented in her stead to the church of Haselwall, in consequence of an alienation made without his licence. By this wife Robert de Calveley had issue . . . de Calveley, who married Elena daughter of . . . as appears by *Inq. p. m.* 35 Edw. III. in which she was described as *widow of the son of Robert de Calveley,*

holding in demesne, as of fee, a third part of Calvelegh, value xiiis. ivd. and a third of Haselwall, value ixs. Katherine, widow of Thomas de Beston, being next heir. The original Inquisition has been interlined with the words “soror p’d’tæ Elenæ,” which is manifestly wrong, as Katherine could only succeed to the joint estates of Calvelegh and Haselwall, as sister and heir of this son of Robert de Calvelegh, and would consequently be sister-in-law of Ellena, in whose husband the male line thus terminated.

Katherine de Calvelegh, who thus became heiress, brought the manor of Calvelegh, and a moiety of Haselwall, in marriage to her husband Arthur Davenport, who presented, in her right, to the church of Haselwall in 1369 and 1394, and after whose death, Katherine presented, as a widow, in 1405. The said Arthur and Katherine Davenport had a release from puture for their lands in Wirral Forest, from William, son of William, son of John Stanley^z; and the marriage is further proved, by an *Inq. p. m.* 17 Ric. II. in which Hugh Calveley, of Lea, is stated to hold lands in Calveley from Arthur Davenport and Katherine his wife, in right of the said Katherine. This Arthur Davenport, as appears by a very elaborate pedigree, drawn up from original deeds^a, was sixth son of sir John Davenport, of Davenport^b, knt. by Margery, daughter of sir William Brereton. He was one of the Cheshire gentlemen who were zealously attached to king Richard the Second, and was slain on the part of the Percies, at the battle of Shrewsbury. According to Holinshed, two hundred Cheshire esquires and gentlemen fell on that bloody day.

Henry Davenport, son of Arthur, had issue by Isabella, his wife, Arthur Davenport, who died before his father, leaving issue Hugh, grandson and heir of Henry, as by

Inq. p. m. 31 Hen. VI. by which it appears that the said Henry held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Haselwall, and also the manor of Calvelegh, the latter of which was held from Richard Vernon, by fealty, value, per annum, vi marks.

Inq. p. m. 11 Edw. IV. Hugh Davenport, of Calveley, held, in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Calveley, from the heirs of sir Richard Vernon, by military service, value, per annum, iiii*l.* Also lands in Haselwall. Ralph Davenport, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VIII. Ralph Davenport, of Calveley, held the manor of Calveley from the heirs of sir Richard Vernon, by services unknown, value, per annum, xl. Also the advowson of Haselwall, and lands in Haselwall, Wythington, Somerford, and Macclesfield, total value 17*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* Died on Whitsunday, 14 Hen. VIII. Hugh Davenport, son and heir, aged upwards of forty years.

Inq. p. m. 9 Eliz. John Davenport, of Calveley, held the manor of Calveley from the heirs of Richard Vernon, in socage, value, per annum, xl. with the advowson and lands before-mentioned. Obiit 20th Oct. 9th Eliz. Hugh Davenport, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 May, 9 Jac. I. Hugh Davenport, esq. held the manor of Calveley, and lands and tenements

^w Vernon's MSS. Harl. MSS. 2074. p. 169.

^y Harl. MSS. 2074. 170.

^z Ibid. 2079. 147.

^x Deeds. Harl. MSS. 2074. 1535. and Woodnoth's Collections.

^a Ibid. 2119. 224.

^b According to other authorities son of Ralph Davenport and Margery Done. This Ralph was brother of Arthur; and Margery Done married another brother, John Davenport. The two successive Ralphs, in this part of the pedigree, married, Joyce, who re-married sir William Legh, of Bagulegh, and Johanna, daughter of Robert Legh, of Adlington. Abstract of Davenport Evidences. Harl. MSS. 2719.

therein, from sir John Savage, knt. by military service, by the services of the sixth part of a knight's fee, and the sixth part of the 29th part of a knight's fee, value, per annum, xl. Also a moiety of the advowson of Haselwall, and lands in Haselwall, Somerford, Wythington, Swettenham, and Ranowe; total value 23l. 11s. 8d. Obiit 20 Nov. 1 Jac. I. Arthur Davenport, esq. son and heir, aged upwards of forty-six years.

Arthur Davenport dying without issue male in 1625, the estate passed to his younger brother by a second marriage, George Davenport, esq. from whom the manor of Calveley descended according to the pedigree annexed, to Richard Davenport, of Calveley, esq. This gentleman was also of Davenport, by a purchase from sir Matthew Deane, bart. the possessor of the same in right of his wife Salisbury, daughter and sole heiress of Robert Davies, of Manley, who was the representative of the Davenports, of Davenport, in the female line.

Richard Davenport, heir male of this antient family in consequence of the failure of the elder line, and possessed of the original seat of his ancestors by this fortunate purchase, died without male issue in 1771, leaving two daughters and coheiresses, Bridget, wife of John Bromley, of Baginton, in the county of Warwick, esq. and Phœbe, wife of Davies Davenport, of Capesthorne, esq. the representative of the Davenports, of Woodford, in the hundred of Macclesfield.

On the death of John Bromley, esq. without issue, who possessed the manor and hall of Calveley in right of his wife, the same passed to Davies Davenport, esq. only son of the second coheiress, who is the present proprietor, and has been knight of the shire for the county of Chester in three successive parliaments.

A portion of the manor of Calveley passed in marriage with Alicia, daughter and heiress of William de Calveleg, to Nicholas de Wetenal, 21 Edw. III. who had issue by her, Joan, daughter and heiress, wife of William Smethwick, of Smethwick^c. Maud, daughter and heiress of Thomas Smethwick, about the time of Elizabeth, brought the Calveley estate of the Smethwicks in marriage to Thomas Mainwaring^d, second son of Randle Mainwaring, of Carincham, whose descendants were in possession of the same at the commencement of the last century^e.

Another estate in Calveley, which was inherited from the elder line by sir Hugh Calveley, is noticed in the successive Inquisitions of the Lea branch of this family.

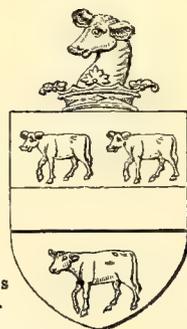
The whole township is now the property of Mr. Davenport, with the exception of about 250 acres, and is within the jurisdiction of the court leet held by lord Dysart for the manor of Alpraham. No other court is held for the manor.

The antient hall of Calveley was pulled down between twenty and thirty years ago. The rooms were large and lofty, and the whole was surrounded by a brick wall with loop holes. There was no appearance of any moat at the time of its demolition. The inclosure contained about two statute acres. The present house is an old timber building, now cased with brick, and enlarged from very small beginnings. There are no family paintings.

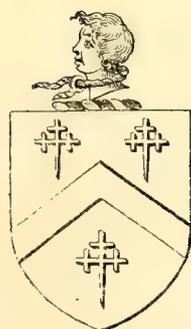
The park and paddock adjacent to the house contain sixty-three acres, in which were lately kept seventy head of deer, which were reduced in 1813 to twenty-three. The township lies at the distance of fourteen miles from Chester, on the left side of the London road. The situation is flat and uninteresting.

CALVELEY AND DAVENPORT, OF CALVELEY.

Arms of Calveley. Argent, a fesse Gules between three Calves trippant Sable.
Crest. A Calf's head proper, issuing from a ducal coronet Or.



Arms of Davenport. Argent, a chevron Sable, between three cross crosslets fitchee of the second.
Crest. On a wreath a Felon's head, coup'd at the neck proper, round the neck a halter Or.



HUGH DE CALVELEY, lord of Calveley in the reign of king John, by grant from Richard de Vernon.

RICHARD DE CALVELEY, confirmed in possession of the same by Elena, dau. of Matthew de Vernon, and Matthew de Alpraham, by deeds without date. LEUCA, sister and heiress of William de Barnard.

WILLIAM DE CALVELEGH, younger son of Richard de Calveleg. ROBERT DE CALVELEGH, father of Richard, who releases lands to Richard de Calveleg, by deed without date. HUGH DE CALVELEGH, son and heir, by deeds of Leuca de Calveleg, without date. ALICIA, dau. of William de Barnard.

ALICIA, daughter and heiress, 14 Edw. III. wife of Nicholas de Wetenal, 21 Edw. III. KENRIC DE CALVELEGH, son and heir, by deed without date. MATILDA, daughter of ... living as wife of Kenric de Calveleg, 3 Edw. III. JOHN DE CALVELEGH, 16 Edw. II. 9 & 11 Edw. III. PETER DE CALVELEGH, 1 Edw. III. RICHARD WILLIAM DAVID. ALICIA, grantee of lands from her brother John, 3 Edw. III.

ROBERT DE CALVELEGH, son and heir, by deeds without date. Obiit ante 1350. ELIZA, daughter and coheiress of Ralph, son of David de Haselwall. A widow in 1350. JOHANNA, daughter of ... mother of Hugh, son of David de Calveleg, by deed 29 Edw. III. First wife. DAVID DE CALVELEGH, 2d son, of Lea in the hundred of Broxton, as by Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. MABELLA, dau. of ... Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III.

ARTHUR DAVENPORT, 6th son of sir John Davenport, of Davenport, kt. by Margery, daughter of sir W. Brereton, kt. slain at the battle of Shrewsbury, 1403. KATHERINE, sister and heiress of the son of Robert de Calveleg, marr. an^e 1363, living a widow 1405, marr. first to Robert de Beston, who died before 35 Edw. III. ... "filius Roberti de Calveleg," obit ante 35 Edw. III. s. p. married Ellena, daughter of ... who survived her husband. Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Sir HUGH CALVELEY, of Lea, kt. son and heir, founder of the College of Bunbury: died seized of the manor of Lea, on the feast of St. George, 1394. Inq. p. m. 17 Ric. II. s. p. DAVID DE CALVELEY, second son, died before his brother, releases lands in Calveley to Thomas Minshull, 1361. Seal without the fesse. AGNES, dau. and heiress of ... Mottram, held one third of Edw. III. RICHARD CALVELEY, drew in dower, as per Inq. 17 Ric. II. RICHARD CALVELEY, 4th son, 49 Edw. III.

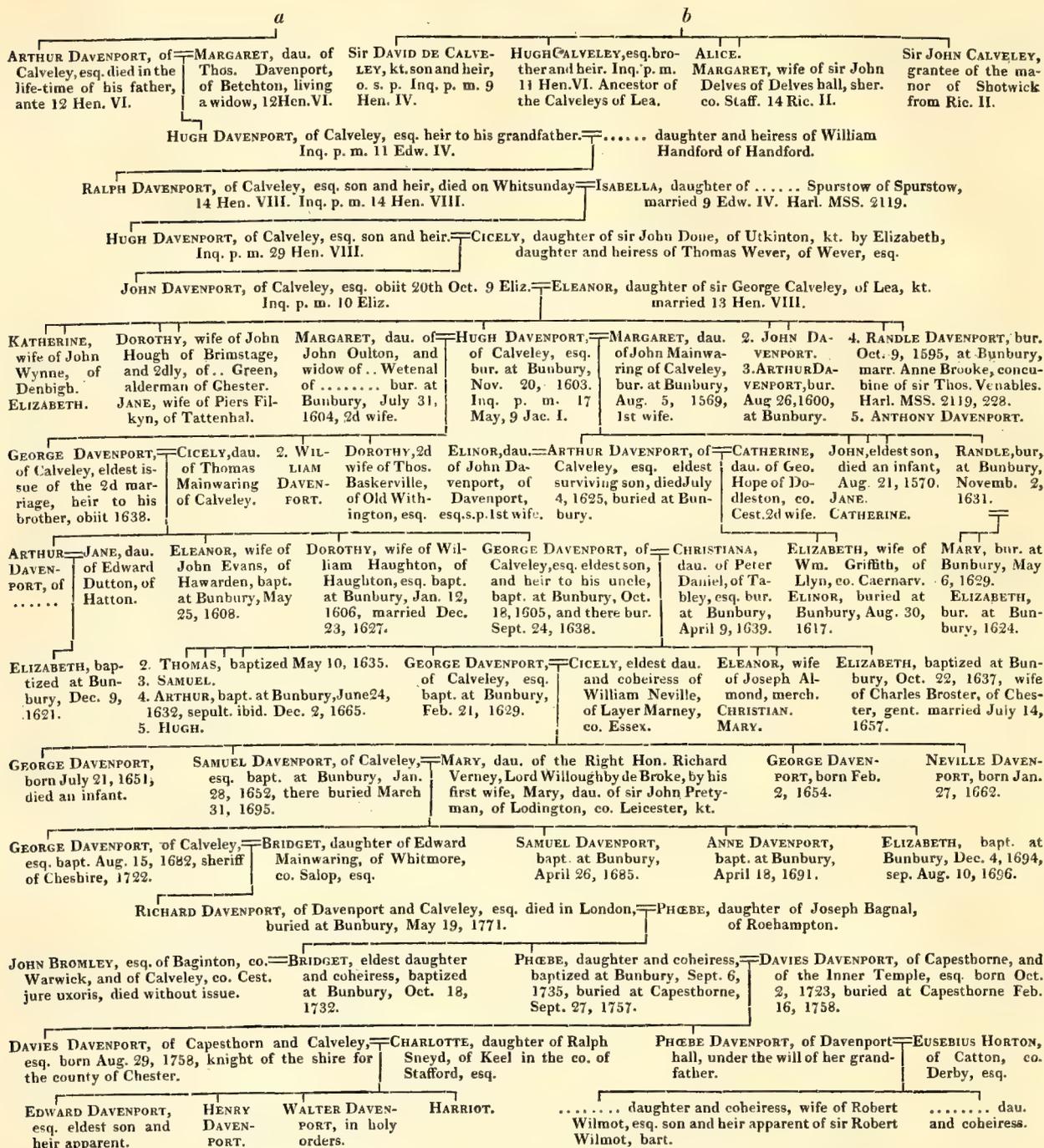
HENRY DAVENPORT, of Calveley, esq. son and heir. Inq. p. m. 31 Hen. VI. ISABELLA, daughter of ... living 18 Ric. II. ... daughter and heiress of ... Handford of Handford. Sir HUGH CALVELEY, the younger, kt. of Lea and Mottram, died on Monday after the feast of Pope St. Leo. Inq. p. m. 17 Ric. II.

^c Vernon's Collections. Williamson's Vill. Cest. p. 31. and Harl. MSS. 2119.

^d Sir Francis Leycester. Tabley Pedigrees.

^e Williamson's Villare Cest. p. 31.

^f The following notices are from the obliging information of the Rev. John Egerton, M. A. of Bunbury.



WARDLE, OR WARDHULL.

HUGO de Mara, occurs as follows in the Domesday Survey, as the Norman lord of Wardle:

"Isdem Hugo tenet Warhelle. Alwold tenuit ut liber homo, ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est una caruca. Ibi unus villanus habet dimidiam carucam. Silva ibi dimidia leuâ longa et una acra lata: valuit et valet III solidos."

How long Wardle continued in this family does not appear. Its immediate lords at an early period bore the local name. Catherine de Wrenbury, by deed without date, gave to Philip, son of David de Egerton, in frank marriage with Margaret her daughter, all her lands in Wrenbury². These lands were called

Wordel Park and le Breres, and by Inquisitions 4 Hen. VI. 2 Ric. III. and 22 Hen. VII. after the death of three successive William Brereton, were found to be held from the heirs of the Grosvenors of Holme. The Brereton inherited them from the Egertons by the same title with their moiety of the barony of Malpas.

The lands held from the heirs of the Wardles do not occur before the reign of Hen. VII. when they were the property of Richard de Prestland. This family descended from Richard de Prestland, fourth son of William Bulkeley of Bulkeley, and assumed their name, agreeably to the usage of the times, from the estate of Prestland in the township of Bunbury, which

they inherited from the elder line of their house. At the time of their removal to Wardhull the estates of the family had become very considerable.

Inq. p. m. 5 Edw. VI. Richard Prestland, esq. held lands and tenements in Wordhull from the heirs of William Wordhull in socage by fealty, and the render of one pound of pepper. Value xl. per annum. Also lands in Sounde, Alraham, Prestland, Beeston, Haughton, Chorley, Alvanston, Norbury, Woodcot, and Bromehall. Obiit die natali B. V. M. 27 Hen. VIII. Randle Prestland son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Eliz. Randle Prestland held the capital mess. in Wordhull as in the last *Inq.* val. xl. per annum, and lands in the townships there recited. Obiit Sept. 7, 1567. Jane, Anne, Margery, Eleanor, and Mary, daughters and coheirresses.

A° 1 Eliz. John Prestland passed over, by fine, to Randle Prestland and his heirs, the manor of Wordle, with 20 mess. 2 cott. 4280 acres of various kinds of land, and 26s. rent in the townships mentioned in the preceding Inquisitions. He was most probably younger brother and trustee of Randle Prestland¹, but is erroneously described as son and heir of Richard Prestland, and father of the coheirs, in the Cheshire pedigrees.

^kWilliam Prestland, another brother of Randle, succeeded to the estates of Randle Prestland before-mentioned, on his decease without male issue, or to a considerable portion thereof, and sold the manor of Wordhull, with messuages, gardens, and 1990 acres of land in Wordhull, Alraham, Prestland, &c. for 500l. to Thomas Wilbraham of Woodhey, esq. A° 44 Eliz.

It appears by *Inq.* after the death of this Thomas Wilbraham, esq. 11 Jac. I. that he died seized of one capital messuage and two other houses, and 185 acres of land in Wordhull, held from the heirs of William Wordhull in socage by fealty, and the render of one pound of pepper, (being the Prestland estate) and also of a close called Wordhullfield, held from sir William Brereton, kt. Value of the whole LIII*s.* ivd. This latter tenement appears to be the Brereton estate before-mentioned, antiently called Wordel park.

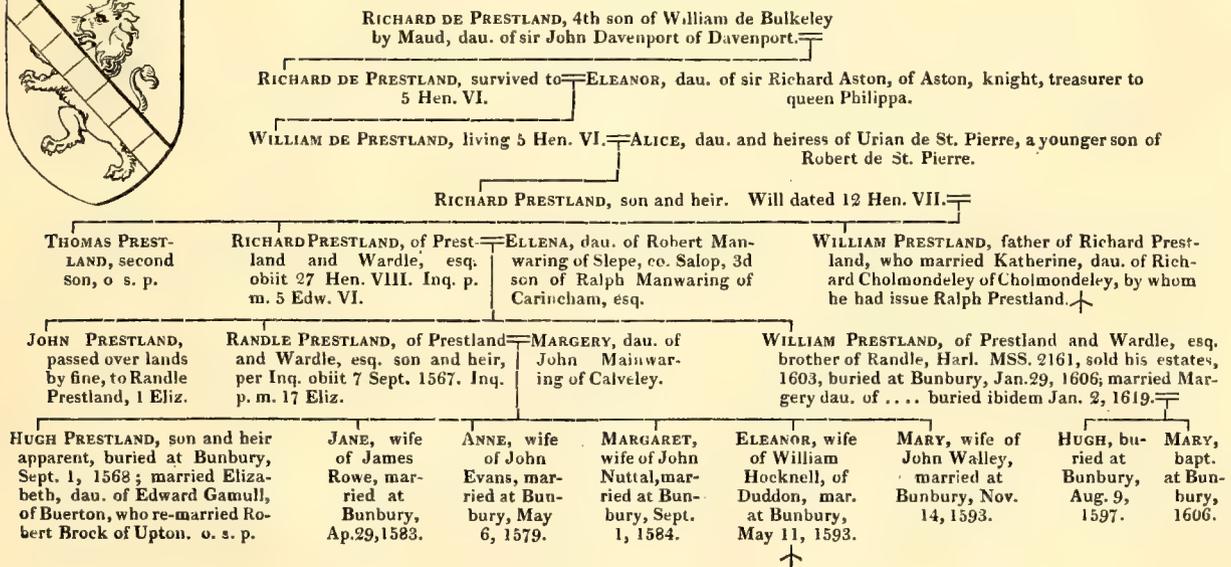
From the Wilbrahams the estate has descended to the present earl of Dysert, from the marriage of his ancestor Lionel earl of Dysert, with Grace, daughter and coheirress of sir Thomas Wilbraham, of Woodhey, bart. The hall is used as a farm-house. The township is within the earl of Dysert's court-leet of Alraham.

PRESTLAND OF PRESTLAND AND WARDLE.

From Booth's Pedigrees, corrected by the Inquisitions p. m. and Registers of Bunbury.

Arms. Sable, a Lion rampant Argent, debruised by a bend componè Or and Gules.

Antient Arms. Argent, a chevron between 3 bulls' heads cabossed, Sable.



HALGHTON OR HAUGHTON.

HALGHTON was possessed from a very early period by a family which assumed the local name, and held their estate under the heir of the barony of Malpas, from which it is most probable that it formed a part of lands granted at the Conquest to Robert Fitz-Hugh, the Norman baron of that place, although all mention is omitted in Domesday.

¹The first of the family that can be ascertained is Robert de Halton, father of John, surnamed Molendina-

rius de Halghton, and of William, who 4 Edw. II. confirms lands to Richard son of Robert de Brundelegh and Agnes his wife, and occurs 5 Edw. II. in an Inquisition, when the jurors found that this vill performed but one suit to Edisbury Hundred, which the said William performed, as his ancestors had done, time out of mind^m.

John de Halghton, finally heir, had issue Thomas, of whom hereafter, John who married Ancharat, daughter

¹ Williamson's Cheshire Evidences, p. 91. and Harl. MSS. 2161.

¹ The descent of this manor is taken from a series of deeds preserved in Harl. MSS. 2038. 127.

^k Ibid. p. 88.

^m Vill. Cest. p. 126.

of, who appears in a deed with her husband and his brother, 4 Edw. II. and Ranulph grantee of two sections of land from his brother John, by deed without date.

Thomas de Halghton, son of John, by deed, dated at Halghton, on Monday after the feast of St. Simon and St. Jude, 1313, settles all his lands in Halghton on his son Henry, and his wife Amelia, daughter of Richard de Brundeleg, and the heirs of their bodies.

Henry de Halghton, 1336, had a release from sir John Sutton, knight, baron of Malpas, of all services, &c. due to him from the township of Halghton. This Henry had issue, Robert de Halghton son and heir, and William (son of Henry de Halghton, 41 Edw. III.) whose representative Thomas Halghton, afterwards obtained possession of the township by marriage with Catherine, heiress of the elder line.

Robert de Halghton, by indenture in French, 40 Edw. III. grants the marriage of John his son and heir, to Eva, daughter of Hamon de Halghton, to marry him to Ysot, daughter of William Alcock of Halghton, by Eva aforesaid. This Robert de Halghton has been noticed as constable of Beeston castle, under the name of Houghton, 32 Edw. III.

John, son and heir of Robert de Halghton, exchanges lands in Spurstow with Richard de Spurstow, 48 Edw. III. and by Ysot before-mentioned, was father of

Robert de Halghton, living 8 Hen. VI. and then married to Elena, daughter of John de Suckley (as appears by writ of præcipe addressed to the sheriff of Cheshire of that date), by whom he had William son and heir, Thomas, living 25 Hen. VI. and a daughter married to John Ketell of Edgerley.

Henry, son and heir of William de Halghton, is so described in a grant of lands from Randle Dod of Halghton, and Isabel his wife, 30 Nov. 6 Edw. IV. and in another grant from the said Isabel, widow of Randle Dod, 17 Edw. IV. He had issue Catherine, sole daughter and heiress, wife of Thomas Halghton, her kinsman, whom she survived, and vested her lands in Richard Cholmondeley of Cholmondeley, esq. James Calveley, warden of Bunbury College, Thomas Prestland of Wardle, esq. and Thomas Tattenhall of Buckley, as trustees for the purposes hereafter-mentioned, by deed dated at Halghton, Sept. 6, 22 Hen. VII.

This Thomas de Halghton was representative of William de Halghton before-mentioned, who had issue by Maud, widow of William Hancockeson, Hugh son and heir, to whom his mother grants lands by deed, 4 Ric. II. Hugh was father of John, whose son John was sued by Margery Eddesley for a contract, 18 Hen. VI. and afterwards marrying her, had issue John de Halghton, who settles lands in Halghton on Johanna his wife, 18 Edw. IV. by whom he had the aforesaid Thomas de Halghton, who died before the date of the before-mentioned deed of trust, 22 Hen. VII. and subsequent to 18 Hen. VII. when he had the misfortune to kill Urian Buckley in an affray.

Katherine Halghton his widow, by the before-mentioned deed, in which she describes herself as daughter

and heir of Henry de Halghton, and widow of Thomas de Halghton, settles her lands on the trustees there mentioned, to her use for life, remainder to James Halghton her son, and his heirs, remainder to her daughters Maud and Elizabeth, with other remainders over.

This James Haughton was living at the visitation of 1566, and had issue Thomas Haughton, who by Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. died seized of 4 mess. &c. in Haughton, held from William Brereton, esq. as of his manor of Malpas, by fealty, and the render of a barbed arrow, val. per annum, vl. also of lands in Bulkeleg, Fadilegh, and Brindley, obiit 8 Jan. 22 Eliz. John Haughton son and heir.

In this family the manor continued to the middle of the last century, when the daughters and co-heirs of Haughton, gent. sold the same to Comberbach, esq. who re-sold it in or about the year 1790 to the present proprietor, Thomas Garnett, of Nantwich, esq. who holds a court baron for the manor.

THE BULKELEYS of Haughton, whose seat here is noticed in Webb's Itinerary, descended from William de Halghton, a younger brother of the manorial lords of this township, who by Inq. p. m. 39 Edw. III. died seized of lands in Halghton and Tarporley, leaving Nichola, daughter of Thomas le Boyd^o, and wife of Peter de Bulkeley, next of kin and heir. This Peter de Bulkeley appears, from a careful comparison of the jarring evidences relative to the connection of the Berds and Bulkeleys, to have been the third son of Robert Bulkeley of Davenham, a second son of William de Bulkeley lord of the manor of Bulkeley in 1322^p.

At an inquest taken before William Molyneux, coroner, at Tarporley, 19 Hen. VII. on the body of Urian Bulkeley of Halghton, lately slain; the jurors presented that the said Urian Bulkeley, on Wednesday the eve of St. Laurence, assaulted Thomas Halghton of Halghton, who fled until he was stopped by a fosse called Wister Long, on which in his own defence he slew the said Urian Bulkeley^q.

This family have long ago left the township. The antient timber house which they inhabited was taken down by Mr. Comberbach, and the materials used in the repairs of Haughton Hall. It was then called the ash house, from the number of venerable old ash trees which it was surrounded with. The hall was a fine room, originally open to the roof; but an intermediate story had been added, a few years before its demolition.^r

The township contains about a thousand statute acres, of which Mr. Garnett possesses about 200, the earl of Dysart 200, Mr. John Billington 100, Mr. Charles Salmon 100, the trustees of Mottram School 60, Mr. Richard Owen 55, the heirs of Mr. Peter Broster 40, Mr. Court 70, Mr. R. Crewe 37, Mr. Wicksted 30.^s

It remains to add the pedigree of the Haughtons; who usurped the coat of the knightly family of Hoghton, of Hoghton, in the co. of Lancaster, which either by the connivance or mistake of the heralds, was confirmed to them in the visitations of 1566 and 1613.

ⁿ Harl. MSS. 2038. 128.

^o Ibid.

^p Ibid.

^q Ibid.

^r MS. collections for Bunbury by Peter Broster, esq.

^s Information of the Rev. John Egerton.

Bunbury, and a fourth part of Burwardsley. Richard Spurstowe son and heir.

Richard de Stafford is noticed in this Inquisition as superior lord of Spurstow, from having purchased the manors of Shocklach and Malpas, with their dependencies, from Richard de Duddelegh and Isabella his wife. A licence not having been obtained for that alienation, he received a pardon from the earl, 35 Edw. III. with liberty to grant the same manors and estates, to John de Sutton and his heirs.⁴

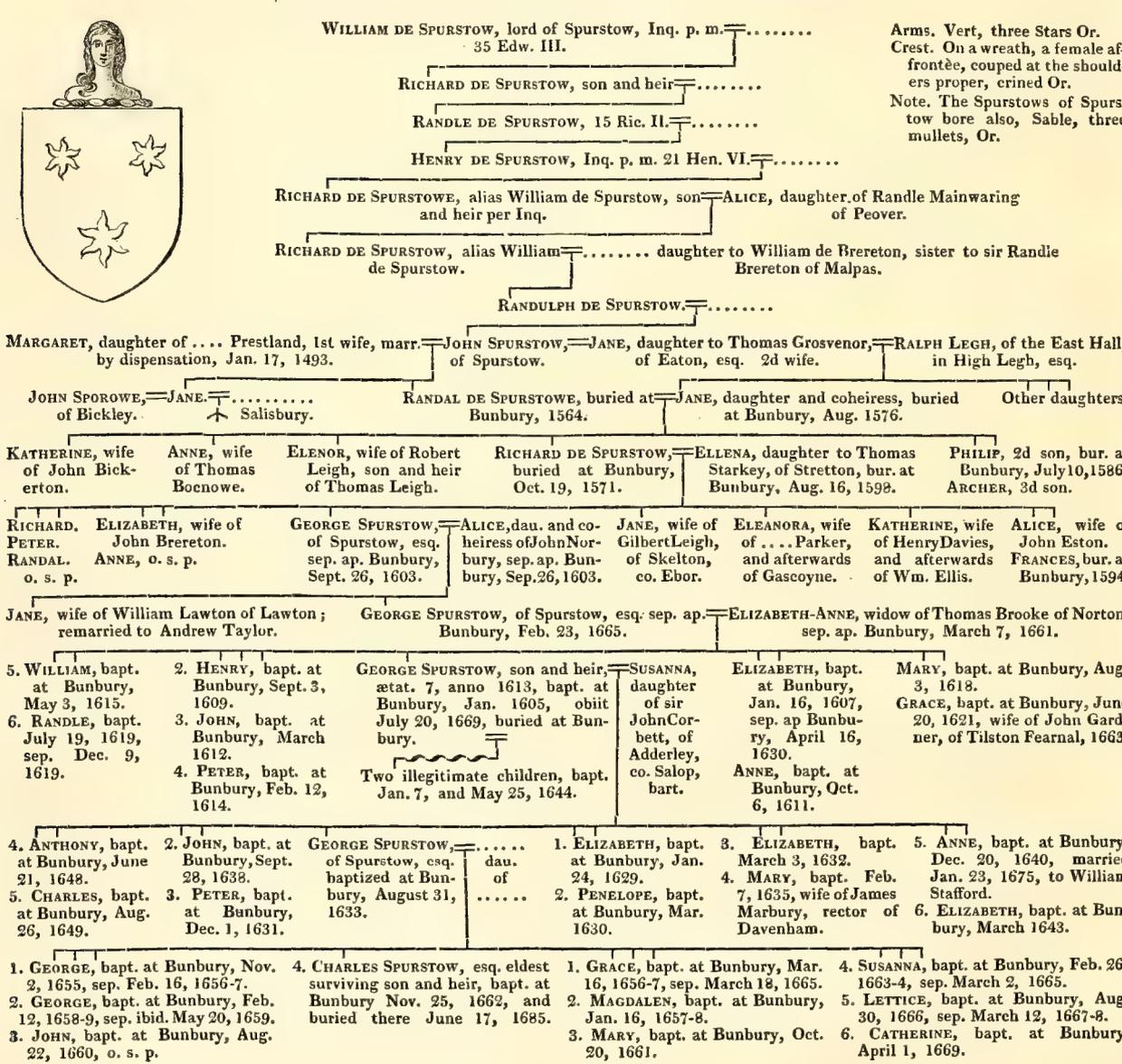
Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VI. Henry de Spurstowe held in demesne, as of fee tail, the manor of Spurstowe, from

sir John Sutton, knight, by the services of the fifth part of a knight's fee, val. per annum xx marks; also lands in Bunbury, and a fourth part of Burwardslegh. Richard de Spurstowe son and heir.

From this Richard, the descent of the manor of Spurstow is traced, in the annexed pedigree, to Charles Spurstow, esq. who died in 1685. The estate was sold by the said Charles Spurstow, or by his sisters and coheirs, to sir John Crewe of Utkinton, under whose will it passed to the Crewes of Crewe, and is now vested in the right honourable John lord Crewe, their representative.

SPURSTOW, OF SPURSTOW.

Collated with the Visitation of 1613, and continued from the Bunbury Registers.



The jurisdiction of the manor extends over the Lower Spurstow Hall estate, the owner of which pays one penny^r annually in lieu of his attendance at Spurstow court. The court has not been held of late years.

Lower Spurstow became vested in the family of Aldersey of Aldersey, in the reign of Hen. VI. by the marriage of William Aldersey, esq. with Margaret, daughter and heiress of John Stalker^s of Lower Spurstow, from whom the estate has passed in lineal descent to its

present proprietor^t, Samuel Aldersey, of Aldersey and Spurstow, esq.

The hall of Lower Spurstow stands beneath a ridge of high ground which stretches from Bunbury to Ridley. It is surrounded with good timber, and with its assemblage of farm buildings, occupies a large extent of ground. It is, however, at present only about two-thirds of its original size, one of the wings being pulled down nearly sixty years ago, previous to which it

⁴ Inrolments in the Exchequer of Chester. ^r Information communicated by the Rev. John Egerton. ^s Harl. MSS. 2119.
^t The pedigree of Aldersey will be found under the township of that name in Broxton hundred.

was an antient timber house in the form of a half H. The entrance was a large hall, supported by principals, generally called *couples*, springing from the sill of the ground, and open to the roof, with a gallery at the end: the principal lower rooms were wainscotted with oak. This building was the residence of the Alderseys for many generations, and the birth place of Thomas Aldersey, whose charities have been noticed under Bunbury.

Spurstow is of considerable extent, and the freeholders are numerous. Like the neighbouring townships, it possesses a fruitful soil and respectable timber, but is situated in a very sequestered district of the county. The note subjoined contains an analysis of the waters of a mineral spring in this township, which enjoyed considerable reputation for its medical virtues at a distant period^u.

RIDLEY.

THE situation of this township is extremely beautiful and sequestered, in a woody dingle, on the south east side of the Peckforton hills. It is omitted in Domesday; but was most probably allotted at that period to the baron of Malpas, portions of the manor being subsequently held under the St. Pierres. In the reign of Edward III. the manor was held partly from the St. Pierres, and partly from the knights of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, by a family which assumed the local name of Rydleigh or Rodeleigh, and bore an allusive coat, Argent, in a field or legh, Vert, a bull statant, Gules. The coat is extant in some very old glass, formerly fixed up in Utkinton Hall, and now removed to Vale Royal.

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. Robert de Rydglegh held four acres of land, being the site of the manor house of Rydgleigh, from St. John of Jerusalem, in capite, by the customs and services thence due; and the residue of the whole manor, with lands in Spurstow and Halghton, in capite, from John de St. Pierre, knight, by the service of one knight's fee; also lands in Christleton, Farndon, and Rode, val. tot. xli. John son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 39 Edw. III. Margaret, widow of Robert de Ridleigh, held the manor of Ridleigh in joint feoffment with Robert her husband, from the prince of Aquitain and Wales, in capite, by military service, val. per annum, xii. William, son of Robert de Ridleigh, son and heir.

^x 32 Edw. III. William, son of Robert de Ridleigh, and Katherine, daughter of Richard de Cholmondeleigh, obtained from Robert de Ridleigh, and Margery his wife, three messuages, 60 acres, and xii. rent in Ridleigh to them and their heirs.

^y *Inq. p. m.* 11 Hen. VI. Robert Danyel died seized of this manor, by descent, after the death of his mother

Alice, which manor, at the time of the Inquisition, was possessed by William, son of William Venables, but by what right the jurors knew not.

This Alice was second wife of sir John Danyel of Gropenhall; her maiden name is not stated in the pedigrees; but she was in all probability the heiress of the Ridleghs, whose arms were quartered by Danyel.

An abstract of a fine on the manor of Ridley, 32 Hen. VI. intervenes between the possession of this Robert Danyel and that of sir William Stanley^z; but the parties on the one side, William Manwaring of Peover, and Margaret his wife, who from another fine, 37 Hen. VI. is shewn to be widow of . . . Cholmondeleigh, and the other parties, Henry, son of John Mascy of Hale, and Hugh, son of Nicholas Bostock of Modburleigh, were most probably only nominal possessors. The obscurity of the transfer receives a shade of another description from the mysterious hint of Leland. "Ridle longid to Danyel that was servant to syr W. Standle, and few men know what becam of this D . . ."^a

Whatever the title was, Ridley became a favourite residence, and according to the same authority, was "made of a poore hold place the fairest gentleman's howse of al Chestreshyre, by syr Wylliam Stondley, helper to king Henry VII."

This celebrated and unfortunate possessor requires some notice at his seat of Ridley. It is perhaps unnecessary to say that he was second son to the first lord Stanley, and brother of Thomas first earl of Derby.

The Latham branch of the house of Stanley had enjoyed high favours from the house of Lancaster, which the patronage of the rival Rose was unable to efface from their memory. Sir William Stanley was made chamberlain of Cheshire in 1461, by king Edward the Fourth; in 1483, he was appointed Judge of North

^u Spurstow Spa Water, is an abundant spring, on the estate of sir Thomas Mostyn, not far from the village of Spurstow, about three miles from Beeston Castle, two from Bunbury, and about five from Tarpoley. It appears in a field forming part of the rising ground behind the Peckforton Hills. The stratum, out of which it immediately comes, is a red and white clay, which has been penetrated into, to the depth of about nine feet. There was formerly a considerable pit or hollow, at the rise of the spring, for the convenience of bathing, but through neglect it was filled up, and formed a sort of little bog, out of which the water forced its way with difficulty. About sixty or eighty years ago, this water was in considerable repute for the cure of various disorders, and was used both internally, and as a bath; and, till lately crutches and other memoranda of its cures were deposited in the farm-house belonging to the estate.—The water, as it first rises, is not clear and pellucid as ordinary water is, but has a slight opaque or opaline appearance, as if a few drops of milk had been mixed with it. On standing some time it deposits this cloudiness, and then appears remarkably clear and bright. If the water be suffered to remain long in contact with the air, and with vegetable matter, it exhales the smell of sulphuretted hydrogen gas, and a pellicle of sulphur is formed on its surface. Even when fresh drawn it has a slightly sulphurous taste and smell, yet possesses a faint but peculiar flavour. It is exceedingly hard, and curdles soap. With tests it gives the following appearances: with lime water a precipitate, with barytic water a copious one, with salts of silver a precipitate changing colour, on exposure to a strong light, with the oxalates a very copious precipitate, with acetate of lead a precipitate of a light colour nearly permanent. These experiments, and a partial analysis, shew the ingredients contained in a gallon of the water, to be about 190 grains of dried solid matter, besides carbonic acid, and perhaps other gases. Of this solid matter about 50 grains appear to be purgative salts, containing a few grains of the muriate of lime. The remaining 140 grains are composed of sulphate and carbonate of lime, the latter constituting about 20 grains of it.—The water hitherto obtained, has not been in so pure a state as to warrant a decision upon the exact proportions of the above analysis. More numerous experiments may also detect other ingredients in the water, the presence of which it has been hitherto impossible to ascertain. These may be very small portions of the salts of allumina, of carbonate of iron, and of silicious earth; the gases appear to be in small proportion. It does not appear that any of the mineral waters now in use are similarly constituted with Spurstow Spa Water.—Communicated by Mr. B. Whittell of Chester.

^x Williamson's Collections, p. 26.

^y Williamson's Villare, p. 81.

^z Williamson's Deeds, p. 42, 43.

^a Itinerary, VII. 42.

Wales by his successor Richard the Third; his brother was made knight of the garter, and appointed constable of England for life; but old faith and family alliance preponderated against every other feeling, and it is almost needless to repeat the well-known tale of the aid of the Stanleys at the head of their Northern followers in the Field of Bosworth, or that sir William Stanley in person, followed by three thousand of his men^b, rescued Henry when actually within the reach of his enemy's sword, after Richard had slain sir Charles Brandon the standard-bearer, and overthrown sir John Chenie in single combat.

^c Sir William Stanley obtained to himself all the riches and treasure which Richard had brought to Bosworth, and, presuming on his opulence and his deserts, solicited the earldom of Chester^d. The disgust which the demand and the consequent refusal inspired, was mutual. On the surrender of sir Robert Clifford in 1494, sir William Stanley, then chief chamberlain, privy counsellor, and knight of the garter, was accused of favouring the designs of Perkin Warbeck, and was instantly imprisoned in the Tower.

The extent of Stanley's offence, according to the best authorities, is, that he said, "if he knew certainly that the young man was the undoubted heir of king Edward the Fourth, he would never fight or bear armour against him." Henry is stated to have paused for a time from fear of the Stanley interest; but jealousy of sir William's power, or more probably a longing for the forfeiture, got the better, and his "chiefest helper" lost his head for this charge of a supposed accomplice, on Tower Hill, February 16, 1495. In the same year the unfeeling "king Henrie did take his progresse into Lancashire, the 25th daie of June, there to make merrie with his moother the countesse of Derby, which then laie at Lathome in the countrie^e."

"This," says Holinshed, "was the end of sir William Stanleie, the chiefest helper of king Henrie to the crowne at Bosworth Field, against king Richard the Third, and who set the same crowne first upon the king's head, when it was found in the field trampled under feet. He was a man, while he lived, of great power in hys countrie, and also of great wealth, inso-much that the common fame ran, that there was in his castle of Holt, found in readie coin, plate and jewels, to the value of 40,000 markes or more, and his lands and fees extended to three thousand pounds by yeare^f."

The manor of Ridley, which became forfeited to the crown by this attainter of sir William Stanley, was granted by king Henry the Eighth, as a reward for taking the French standard at Tournay^g, to sir Robert Egerton of Ridley, second son of Philip Egerton of Egerton, esq. the founder of a family, whose existence in the county was confined to a few generations, but whose splendour during that period has never been rivalled by any other branch of that antient stock.

Sir Ralph Egerton, grantee of Ridley, was made joint eschætor of Cheshire with Roger Mainwaring, July 7, 1 Hen. VIII. and ranger of Delamere forest, 6 Hen. VIII. being then one of the gentlemen ushers of the king's chamber. He received the honour of knighthood from king Henry, in 1513, for his conduct at the battle of the Spurs, and the sieges of Terouenne and Tournay: and in the following January he had the grant of the office of standard-bearer of England for

life, with the salary of 100l. per annum^h. At this period, if an old ballad (Harl. MSS. 293 and 367) may be credited, he was serving under the earl of Derby; and the last mentioned office (called there that of Marshall,) was granted him, among the favours lavished on the Lancashire and Cheshire followers of the earl, in his sovereign's extacy of joy, on receiving the news of their countrymen's achievements in the battle of Floddenⁱ.

Lancashire and Chesshire, said the messenger,

They have done the deede with their hande^k:

Had not the earl of Derby been to the true,

In great adventure had been all England.

Then bespake our prynce with a highe worde;

Sir Rauphe Egerton, my marshall I make thee! &c.

In the 14th year of Hen. VIII. sir Ralph attended his royal master to Canterbury on his way to meet the emperor Maximilian. He died the 9th of March, 1527, and was interred in the splendid oratory at Bunbury, which he had founded and endowed as before mentioned^l; leaving issue by his wife Margaret, daughter of Richard Basset of Blore, one son, sir Richard Egerton, kt. his successor

Richard Egerton, esq. son and heir of sir Ralph, afterwards knighted, had livery of his lands 23 Hen. VIII. and married Mary, daughter of sir Richard Grosvenor, of Eaton, kt. widow of Thomas Legh, of Adlington, esq. By *Inq. p. m.* 21 Eliz. he died seized of the manor of Ridley, and lands in Chorley, Bickerton, Row Christleton, Frodsham, Farndon, Northwich, Waverton, Upton, Lawton, Nantwich, Dillorne, Egerton, Haghton, Christleton, and Weekstall. He died Jan. 6, 21 Eliz. leaving issue Ralph Egerton, son and heir, and another son, precluded by birth from deriving honour from an illustrious ancestry, but reflecting on them, his descendants, and his county, the lustre of a name, brighter than any other which its annals can boast—THOMAS, LORD VISCOUNT BRACKLEY, chancellor of England, whose descendants have obtained the highest honours of the peerage.

The statutes of Elizabeth against the papists were put in force with rigorous severity in the parishes of Bunbury, Tarporley, and Tarvin, the great theatre of Cheshire puritanism in the succeeding century. The bodies of the recusants were carried to the grave in the darkness of the night, without the attendance of friends or the observance of rites, like the bodies of wretches infected with the plague; and the stigma of "papist and excommunicate," is generally attached to the names in the parish register. Several of the Egertons of Ridley are marked as being interred in this manner, and the widow of sir Richard Egerton occupies a prominent situation in the list of the persecuted, from the honourable testimony of many illustrious characters of the day, brought forwards to elicit a mitigation of her suffering, and prompted, in all probability, by the interest of the illegitimate son of her husband.

Among other similar documents in the "Desiderata Curiosa," is a letter from sir George Bromley to sir Henry Stanley and bishop Chadderton, May 7, 1582, desiring them to respite for three months the appearance of lady Egerton of Ridley, then indicted as a recusant: stating that he had lately conferred with her, and finds "good hope of conformitie in her," and that she is content to confer with such as are well affected in religion, and are able to persuade her: dated at Wrexham.

^b Holinshed, III. 444.

^c Ibid. 509.

^d Ibid.

^e Ibid. 510.

^f Ibid. and Bacon's History of Hen. VII.

^g MSS. communicated by archdeacon Churton.

^h Rymer's Fœdera, XIII. 378.

ⁱ Reprint of Flodden Field by Weber, 387.

^k Alluding to the achievements of the earl's vassals under sir Edward Stanley, afterwards lord Monteagle.

^l Vide p. 143.

Another letter, to the same, from sir Thomas Bromley, lord chancellor, dated at Charinge Crosse, 1st July, 1582, says, "I have been acquainted with her longe, and have alwaies known her in other respects to be very well given, and, in regard thereof, do pitie her the more. I would be glad that, by gentle means, and by conference with some grave and learned men, she maie be perswaded and wonne (yf it maie be) whereof I have some good hope."

Sir Christopher Hatton (Windsor, Jan. 10, 1582-3) prays a respite of proceeding to Michaelmas, albeit she hath not conformed herself to her majesty's wishes, "upon a certain precision of conscience incident to her sex. Yet in other respects she hath always shewn herself very dutiful, and of good behaviour so farre forth, as she continually entertaineth a chaplain in her house, who usually saies the service both for her household and neighbours, according to her majesties laws." On these grounds, knowing her to be *very aged*, and in a *very weak disposition of health, troubled with sundrie infirmities*, he prays that her health may not be *endangered with imprisonment*, but that she may be reduced by gentle means.

Ralph Egerton, eldest son of sir Richard Egerton by this lady, married twice: first, Barbara, daughter and heiress of Stephen Holford, of Allerton in Yorkshire, esq. third son of George Holford, a younger brother of . . . Holford of Newborough: and secondly, Elizabeth, daughter and coheiress of Peter Warburton, of Arley, esq. He had issue by both wives as stated in the pedigree, and was succeeded by his eldest son, by the first marriage, sir Richard Egerton, of Ridley, kt.

Sir Richard Egerton, son of Ralph, increased his splendid fortune by the marriage of one of the richest heiresses of the day, Mary, daughter of sir Randle Brereton of Malpas and Shocklach, with whom he had manors and estates in forty-one townships. Sir Randle Brereton is stated by a vulgar tradition, in this case nearly confirmed by the Inquisitions, to have been able to have ridden from Malpas to Chester without once passing over the lands of any other proprietor.

Richard Egerton, the eldest issue of this marriage, was born, according to Leycester¹, to estates of five thousand pounds per annum, which he dissipated by gaming. On the death of his son Richard without issue, the remnant of the unsold property passed to his younger brother, Thomas Egerton of Allerton in Yorkshire, in whose descendants, if any exist, the representatives of this family must now be found.

In the dispersion of the family estates, Ridley passed

by sale to Orlando Bridgeman^m, second son of sir Orlando Bridgeman, bart. lord keeper of the great seal to James the First. This Orlando was likewise created a baronet, 25 Car. II. which title is now extinct. The family do not appear, from the parish registers, ever to have made Ridley hall their residence.

From the Bridgemans the manor passed by sale to the Pepys family early in the seventeenth century, and is now vested by descent in sir William Weller Pepys, late one of the masters in the high court of Chancery, who was created a baronet June 23, 1801.

A court-leet and court-baron are held every four or five years for the manor of Ridley. The jurisdiction of the leet in small debts, trespasses, &c. extends over the townships of Ridley, Haughton, and Peckforton in this parish, and Bickerton and Broxton in the parish of Malpas.

Ridley hall remains to be noticed. It stands in a lonely dell, under the gentle southern slope of the Peckforton hills, surrounded with good timber, far removed from the bustle of the world, and equally removed from its society or comforts, retaining still a quadrangular form, and approached under a massy gateway, over which are the arms of Egerton with numerous quarterings.

This part was obviously rebuilt or added by the family whose cognizances it bears. The gateway sustained the brunt of the assault of the royalists on the 4th of June, 1643, when they sallied from Beeston on the temporary relief given by the approach of the king. The assailants were defeated by the garrison, consisting of sixteen soldiers, and left five of their men dead on the groundⁿ, and two of the parliamentarians are traditionally said to have been shot at the window.

Entering the gateway, the only antient part which meets the eye is a timber building now used as a cow-house, which is called the star chamber from a series of open lozenges running round the upper part of the building, the interior of which is carved and jagged so as to give a resemblance of stars. It was antiently the court-house of Ridley.

The rest of sir William Stanley's fabric was consumed in 1700, from a servant accidentally setting fire to a chest of flax^o.

Ridley Mere has long been drained and brought into cultivation, as is said to have been prophesied by Nixon. Whoever was the author of the prophecy, it is very likely to have been current before the time of the draining, and to have given a hint which produced its own fulfilment.

¹ Tabley MSS. in Ped. of Egerton of Ridley.

^m Kimber's Baronetage, II. 5. and Collins' Peerage, edit. Brydges, VIII. 372. Dr. Williamson says it was sold to the earls of Bridgewater, who resold it to sir Orlando, sed quære.

ⁿ Burghall's Diary.

^o Mr. Broster's Bunbury Collections.

EGERTON, OF RIDLEY.



From the Tabley Collections of sir Peter Leycester, bart. collated with the Registers of Malpas, Bunbury, and Shocklach.

Arms. Argent, a lion rampant, Gules, between three pheons, Sable.

Crest. On a wreath, a lion's gamb erased, Gules, brandishing a sword proper, hilted, Or.

Motto. SAINT GEORGE TO BOROWE.

Sir RALPH EGERTON, of Ridley, kt. second son of Philip Egerton, of Egerton, — MARGARET, daughter and heiress of esq. obiit March 4, 1528, buried at Bunbury. — Ralph Basset of Blore.

MARY, daughter of sir Richard Grosvenor, — Sir RICHARD EGERTON, of Ridley, kt. son and heir, — ALICE, daughter of . . . Sparke of Bickerton, of Eaton, kt. widow of Thomas Legh, of buried at Bunbury, June 11, 1579. Obiit Jan. 6, sister of Margaret Sparke, wife of Ralph Adlington, esq. 21 Eliz. Inq. p. m. 21 Eliz. Cathedral, of Broxton, gent.

WILLIAM EGERTON, buried at Bunbury, Ap. 9, 1576. DOROTHY, wife of Rich. Brereton, of Tatton, esq. marr. Ap. 28, 1572. ELIZABETH, dau. and coheir of Peter Warburton, of Arley, esq. 2d wife. RALPH EGERTON, of Ridley and of Stoke, co. Salop, esq. son and heir, buried at Bunbury, Nov. 18, 1619. BARBARA, dau. and heiress of Stephen Holford of Allerton, co. Ebor. 3d son of George Holford, esq. marr. at Bunbury, Feb. 7, 1563, and buried there July 6, 1587. THOMAS, lord viscount BRACKLEY, chancellor of England, ancestor of Earls and Dukes of Bridgewater.

FRANCES, wife of Owen Brereton of Burros. ANNE. MARY. PETER EGERTON, mar. Elizabeth, dau. and heir. of Leonard Ashaw, of Ashaw, co. Lanc. Had issue. HUGH EGERTON. JOHN EGERTON. Sir RICHARD EGERTON, of Ridley, kt. died at Bunbury, Feb. 24, 1627. MARY, dau. and sole heiress of sir Randle Brereton, of Malpas and Shocklach, kt. bapt. at Malpas, Jan. 9, 1576. RALPH EGERTON, of Blackpark, esq. 2d son. THOMAS EGERTON, 3d son. ELIZABETH, wife of Piers Holland, esq. married at Shocklach, June 26, 1604. MARIA, bur. at Bunbury, Dec. 22, 1610. MARY, buried at Bunbury, July 14, 1575. JOANNA, bur. at Bunbury, June 30, 1583.

ELIZABETH, wife of Peter Warburton, of the Lodge, esq. mar. at Shocklach, June 10, 1621. BARBARA. ALICE, bur. at Shocklach, Oct. 9, 1618. MARY, bapt. at Shocklach, May 28, 1611, wife of sir William Blakiston, of Newton, co. Dunelm. FRANCES, bapt. at Shocklach, Oct. 30, 1608, died May 24, 1648, bur. at Aston near Sutton. JANE, wife of George Booth, of Al-larton, co. Ebor. esq. RICHARD EGERTON, esq. eldest son and heir, bapt. at Shocklach, Feb. 16, 1603, living 1651, sold the Ridley estates. DOROTHY, dau. of sir William Brereton, of Honford, bart. by his wife Frances, dau. of sir Robert Throgmorton. 2. THOMAS EGERTON, of Allerton, co. Ebor. esq. 1665, aged 58 years, inherited the unsold estates, marr. Katherine, dau. of . . . Dodson, of . . . in the Isle of Wight, widow of Michael Barbour, citizen of London. 3. JOHN, born Nov. 19, bapt. at Shocklach, Dec. 19, 1609. o. s. p. 1652, bur. at Aston. 4. ROBERT, bapt. at Shocklach, Nov. 3, 1612.

ELENOR, born at Shocklach, July 14, bapt. there Aug. 11, 1622. PETER EGERTON, eldest son and heir apparent, born Sept. 14, bapt. at Shocklach, Oct. 2, 1624, died an infant. RICHARD EGERTON, esq. second son and heir, bapt. at Shocklach, Oct. 31, 1624, living 1655, o. s. p. RALPH, aged 4 years, Aug. 29, 1665.

PECKFORTON.

THE mountainous boundary which separated the vale of Chester from the rest of the county, after being interrupted by the chasm in which the castle rock of Beeston is situated, recommences in this township with great magnificence, descending to the vale in ledges of broken rocks, and declining on the other side to the lower grounds, not in a heathy slope like the forest hills, but in a gentle descent covered with groves of rich timber, under which the whin and the cranberry grow with extraordinary luxuriance.

Peckforton was included in the grant of lands to Robert Fitz-Hugh, the Norman baron of Malpas.

"Ipse Robertus tenet Pevretone. Uluric liber homo tenuit: ibi una hida geldabilis; terra est duarum carucarum: ibi est unus villanus cum una carucâ. Valebat octo solidos, modo xx solidos reddit."

Shortly afterwards, in 1093, the foundation charter of St. Werburgh recites, that "Billeheld, uxor Baldrici, dedit Pecfortunam; teste Normanno de Arreto multisque aliis."

^p This grant is recorded by the chartulary of St. Werburgh to have been exchanged by the monks with Humphrey, kinsman of William Patrick, for Stanney

mill and Alrithesholme, and all that belonged to them, in marsh or meadow, on one side against Stanney, and on the other side against Mersey, giving them the whole meadow, marsh, and water, as it runs into the Mersey.

^q Dr. Williamson, after citing this charter, goes on, very incorrectly, to say that Humphrey dying without issue, this place escheated to Patrick, as baron of Malpas: which Patrick forfeiting the barony, earl Randle conferred a moiety of it, including this manor, on David le Clerk, with whose descendant's coheir, Idonea, it passed in marriage to Urian St. Pierre.

The forfeiture to which Dr. Williamson alludes, as will be further noticed under Malpas, took place anterior to the time of Humphrey de Bonebury here meant, if it ever took place, but it is altogether more than suspicious: and the descent of the present manor may be much more probably accounted for, by supposing that, after escheating to the Patricks as superior lords, (as the moiety of Bunbury did, from this Humphrey's sister) it descended with that moiety to Isabella, wife of sir Philip Burnel, and that he enfeoffed John de St. Pierre, son of Urian and Idonea, with the same, whom he cer-

^p Chartulary of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965. p. 21. vide Stanney.

^q Williamson's Vill. Cest. as given in Bassano's copy. In Stones's copy the account is given as here printed, being apparently corrected by the transcriber.

tainly enfeoffed with the moiety of Bunbury before-mentioned.

Peckforton passed in marriage with Isabella, daughter and heiress of Urian de St. Pierre, among the other estates of her family, to sir Walter de Cokesy, kt.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. IV. Walter de Cokesy, chv'r, held by law of England, after the death of Isabella his wife, as of the inheritance of Isabella, inter alia, the manor of Peckforton, held from the king as earl of Chester in capite by military service, with reversion to Walter his son and heir. Val. xxxi xl. xis. vd. ob.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. IV. Walter, son of Walter de Cokesy, kt. held in demesne as of fee, "inter alia," the manor of Peckforton from the prince as earl of Chester in capite. Val. per ann. xvii. xiv. i. vd. ob. Hugh son and heir.

March 11, 24 Hen. VI. Mandate to the eschætor to deliver to Alisia, widow of sir Hugh Cokesay, the manor of Peckforton and other manors, of which he died seized in special tail with Alisia his wife, &c.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Sir Hugh Cokesay, kt. and Alisia his wife, held in demesne, as of fee, by gift and feoffment of John Throckmorton and others (20 Oct. 20 Hen. VI. vide Malpas) among other manors, the manor of Peckforton, held from the king in Chester in capite. Val. xx marks. Joyce, sister of Hugh Cokesy, and wife of Leonard Stepulton, next heir.

Inq. p. m. 13 Edw. IV. Joyce, wife of Leonard Stepulton, held in demesne, as of fee, among other manors, the manor of Peckforton, &c. John Gryvell son and heir.

Aug. 26, 13 Edw. IV. Mandate to deliver the lands of Joyce to the said John Gryvell.

Inq. p. m. 20 Edw. IV. Sir John Gryvell, kt. held in demesne, as of fee, among other manors, the manor of Peckforton, &c. Thomas Cokesy son and heir.

Sept. 13, 20 Edw. IV. Mandate to deliver sir John Gryvell's lands to the said Thomas Cokesy, esq.

^r By *Inq.* 16 Hen. VII. Roger Horton was found next heir to this Thomas Cokesay, and by another *Inq.* 22 Hen. VII. John Yonge, Somerset Herald, was also found heir, from which contending heirs, as will be mentioned more fully under the account of Malpas barony, a share of that barony, Peckforton, and other manors, were purchased by Edmund Dudley, esq. 23 Hen. VII. and were passed over by fine, 28 Hen. VIII. by sir John Dudley, kt. and Jane his wife, to Rowland Hill, merchant.

The said estates, or the greater part of them, having passed to Alice, niece of sir Rowland Hill, and wife of sir Reginald Corbett, kt. a justice of the common pleas, by virtue of a settlement by fine made by sir Rowland Hill, Dec. 2, 3 Eliz.; a portion thereof, containing the manor of Peckforton, was settled on Peter Corbett, esq. Sept. 1, 25 Eliz.^s by the said lady Corbett, and released by her to him Dec. 20, 35 Eliz.

From the Corbetts this manor passed, shortly afterwards, by sale to the Beestons: sir Hugh Beeston, kt. was lord in 1626, from whom the manor has descended

through the Whitmores and Savages to the Mostyns, together with the manor of Beeston, and the other estates of that family, and it is now vested by descent in their representative sir Thomas Mostyn, of Mostyn, bart. together with the lands of the whole township except about three hundred acres.

^t Sir Thomas Mostyn holds a court leet and court baron for his manor of Peckforton, which is co-extensive with the township. His tenants owe suit and service to Ridley court, and formerly the constables were sworn in there, which custom has been disused only a few years.

Peckforton Hall estate was antiently the property and residence of a family which bore the local name, and was sold^u by George Peckforton, of Peckforton, gent. about the latter end of the seventeenth century, to sir John Crewe of Utkinton, knt. from whom it passed to the Crewes of Crewe, and is now vested in the right honourable John lord Crewe, their representative.

On this estate is the site of an antient house, which is the only place in the township to which the situation of the seat of the Calveleys of Peckforton, mentioned by Webb, can be referred with any probability. A part of the highway going to and past Peckforton Hall^x, for more than a mile, is within two gates, and the intervening space still retains the name of Calveley's Lane.

In a very romantic valley, at the northern edge of the Peckforton Hills, is a small bath, called Horsely Bath, now little used, but about twenty years ago of considerable local celebrity for its virtues in rheumatic and other chronic complaints. The water is beautifully clear, and of an extreme coldness, but never freezes in the severest winter. It bursts very copiously through the red rock, and, after filling a bath, forms a small brook, which discharges itself into the Chester Canal. Over the spring is the following inscription carved on the rock.

SANITATI SACRUM.

Obstructum reserat, durum terit, humida siccat,
Debile fortificat, si tamen arte bibis.

Daniel Jackson, 1724.

From a recent chemical analysis of the medicinal springs of this parish, this water is found to mix with a solution of soap, uniformly and without curdling, and to affect salts of silver, barytic salts, and oxalate of ammonia, very slightly, but lime water considerably. A pint of the water, during evaporation, yielded much air, and left a solid deposit, which weighed one fourth of a grain. It dissolved, with a slight effervescence, in distilled water, and a few drops of muriatic acid; yielding the same indications, with tests, as the water itself, with, perhaps, an extremely minute trace of iron. These experiments prove the water to be nearly equal in purity to distilled water, (except that it contains much carbonic acid gas,) and to resemble that of the Malvern Wells^y.

^r The fines and Inqs. here alluded to are mentioned more fully in Malpas, with a reference to the exemplifications in the Exchequer of Chester.

^s Enrolled at Chester, Sept. 6, 41 Eliz.

^t Information obligingly communicated by the Rev. John Egerton.

^u Additions to the Villare of 1671. Harl. MSS. 2010.

^y Communicated by Mr. Whittell, of Chester.

^x Information of the Rev. John Egerton.

IDENSHAW,

A DETACHED TOWNSHIP OF THE PARISH OF ST. OSWALD.

IDENSHAW, before the Conquest, was the property of the secular canons of St. Werburgh, who retained it at the time of the Domesday Survey. "Ipsa Ecclesia tenet Etinghalle, et tenuit tempore R. Edwardi: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est unius carucæ: in dominio est dimidium carucæ et unus servus, ibi silva dimidiâ levâ longitudine, et una acrå latitudine: tempore R. Edwardi valebat VIII solidos, modo v solidos.

Two-thirds of the manor had become the property of the Earl before 1093, in which year Hugh Lupus confirmed one-third of Edenchale to the monastery of St. Werburgh, in the foundation charter of that abbey: the remainder was given to a family who bore the local name, and afterwards alienated their part also to the monastery. Robert, son of Richard de Idineshale, gave to John, his brother, all his lands in Idineshale, which John quit-claims to the abbot of Chester, and Robert, son of Richard, afterwards confirmed his brother's donation^a. The bounds of the manor were afterwards established and recognized by Richard Done^b, lord of Tarporley, and Hugh, lord of half of Tarporley.

After the Dissolution, the manor of Idenshaw was given to the dean and chapter of Chester, in their first charter, and was extorted from dean Cliff by sir Richard Cotton, Nov. 20, 1550, who sold the same to Richard Hurleston, esq. John Hurleston, esq. of Picton, his son, afterwards strengthened his title to this and other dean and chapter estates, by buying the title of Bostock and Hitchcock, who had purchased Gray's grant of con-

cealed lands from Elizabeth. 6 Eliz. Richard Hurleston, of Picton, settled by fine, on Richard Birkenhead, and his brothers Randle and Hugh Hurleston^b, the manors of Idenshall, alias Idenshaw, and lands in Wymbalds Trafford and Newton.

Inq. p. m. 36 Eliz. John, son of Richard Hurleston, esq. died seized, inter alia, of one messuage, one dove-cote, and 1000 acres of various kinds of land in Idenshaw. John, son and heir, aged two years.

John Hurleston, esq. last mentioned, sold the manor of Idenshaw to his brother-in-law, sir Peter Pindar, bart. collector of the Chester customs, and son of Reginald Pindar, of Southwell, in the county of Northampton, whose titles became extinct in his grandson, Sir Paul Pindar. The arms assumed by this family: Argent, a chevron between 3 lions' heads Sable, crowned Or, with a lion's head Argent, crowned Or, for crest, were disallowed in the visitation of 1663, by Sir William Dugdale.

The manor has descended, by female heirs, through the families of Williams, and Hyde of Cattenhall, to the Giffords of Nerquis, in the heiress of the latter of which it is now vested, subject to a rent payable to the dean and chapter of Chester.

This township is situated pleasantly on the turnpike-road leading from Chester to Tarporley, at the distance of eight miles from the former place. The present hall is a large farm-house.

^a Chartulary of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965. 36. b.

^b *Ibid.*

Tarvin.

BY a recent measurement, this parish is found to contain 10,000 statute acres. It contains eleven townships, one of which, Fulke Stapleford, is in the hundred of Broxton; the others are, Tarvin cum Oscroft, Hockenhull, Bruen Stapleford, Burton, Clotton, Duddon, Ashton, Kelsall, Great Mouldsworth, and Horton cum Peele. The township of Willington, which is extra-parochial, pays corn tithe to this parish. The boundaries of the parish are formed on the Broxton side, with the exception of Fulke Stapleford, by the course of the river Gowy; and on the Edisbury side, by the contiguous parishes of Barrow, Frodsham, Delamere, St. Oswalds (viz. the detached township of Idenshaw), Tarporley, and Bunbury.

TARVIN.

TARVIN is one of the few Cheshire manors which experienced no change in its proprietor at the Conquest, being the property of the Bishop of the diocese, who retained his former possessions after that event. From the devastation of the place noticed in Domesday, and the importance of the position, it is probable that some stand was made at this point against the advance of the Normans upon Chester.

“Idem Episcopus tenet Terve et tenuit: ibi vi hidæ geldabiles. Terra est xxii carucarum. In dominio sunt iii carucæ, et vi bovarii et iii radmans et vii villani et vii bordarii cum vi carucis. Silva unius leuæ in longitudine, et dimidii in latitudine.

“De hac terra hujus manerii tenet Willielmus ii hidas de episcopo, et ibi habet dimidium carucæ, et iii villani, et iii bordarii, cum iii carucis et dimidio.

“Totum tempore regis Edwardi valebat viii libras, modo iii libras et x solidos. Wastatum fuit.”

The manor of Tarvin occurs as the property of the Bishops of Lichfield and Coventry, in the following Inquisitions. In 1342, Roger, bishop of this diocese, appointed Robert, abbot of Vale Royal^a, receiver of his Cheshire rents at Tarvin.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VI. Reginald, late bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, held in demesne, as of fee, as in right of his churches, (inter alia,) the manor, town, and demesne, of Tervin cum pert. value, per annum, xxiiii.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VII. John, late bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, held the manor of Tervin cum pert. value, per annum, xxiiii.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VII. William, by Divine permission, late bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, held from the Prince, as earl of Chester, the manor of Tervin, in right of his church, cum pert. value, per annum, vii. xixs. viid.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VIII. Geoffry, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, held the manor of Tervin cum pert. value xxiiii.

10 April, 4 Edw. VI. 1550, Richard, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, granted this manor^b to sir John Savage, knt. reserving the yearly rent of 31l.

By Inquisition after the death of sir John Savage, 40th Eliz. it appears that among his other numerous manors and estates, he held the manor of Tarvin with other premises, in Tarvin, Hockenhull, and Stapleford, cum pert. from the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, by military service, as half a knight's fee, value, beyond reprisals, cs. per annum.

From the Savages this manor passed to the present marquis of Cholmondeley, in the same manner as the manors of Frodsham and Barrow^c, and was sold by him to Mr. Thomas, who resold the same to the father of Mr. William Cotgreave, the present proprietor^d, who holds a court leet and court baron for the same. The market, the charter of which was procured by sir John Savage, is disused. Two fairs are held, on the 20th of April, and 2d of December.

The jurisdiction of the bishops of Coventry and Lichfield, in right of this manor, extended over the townships of Kelsal and Hockenhull^e, which, in consequence of the ecclesiastical privileges, were exempted from the controul of the foresters of Delamere. These manors are not now reputed subject to the leet of Tarvin.

“Placita com. Cest. ap. Cest. die Mart. p'x. p. f'tum Paschæ a'o Edw. III. vicesimo 2do.”

Roger, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, in plea to a writ of quo warranto, appeared by John de Heywod, his attorney, and claimed, in right of his churches of Coventry, Lichfield, and Chester, and his other churches, that the tenants of all his lands and manors should be

^a Harl. MSS. 2072. 17.

^b Leicester's Chesh. Antiq. 234.

^c As stated in the account of Frodsham.

^d Information of the Rev. John Oldershaw.

^e Harl. MSS. 2115. p. 79.

free from all indictments for murders and robberies, shires and hundreds, and suit to the same, repairs of ways and castles, and pleas and complaints concerning soc and sac, tol and them, infangtheof and outfangtheof; and that the said privileges, granted by Richard I. and confirmed by Henry III. had been reconfirmed on inspection by Edward I. grandfather of the reigning king, and great-grandfather of Edward, then earl of Chester.

And claimed to have the return of all the king's writs in his manors, within the county of Chester, and all goods of felons and fugitives, and fines and ameracements of his tenants, by virtue of a confirmatory charter of king Edward aforesaid.

And claimed to have a weekly market at his manor of Burton, in Wirral, and a yearly fair of three days on the vigil, the feast, and the day after the feast of St. James the Apostle, by charter of the same.

And claimed to have view of frankpledge, in his manor of Tervine, twice in the year, of all residents in the said manor, at his manor house of Tervine, by prescriptive usage beyond the memory of man.

To which claims, John de Delves, prosecutor on behalf of the crown, objected that the grants were void, as it was not proved that Richard and Henry were earls of Chester at the time of the grants; and objected also that the bishop had no right of gallows, pillory, or tumbrell, or of punishing delinquent bakers or brewers by corporal punishment after two ameracements: in which the bishop's attorney acquiesced, after several hearings, a verdict being given by a jury in favour of his privileges, with these reservations^f.

Priors Heys, in this township, within the hamlet of Oscroft, lies east of Tarvin, and has passed with the other property of the Bruens, of Stapleford, to the Wilbrahams, of Rode. The estate is extra-parochial. It was held under the bishops of Coventry and Lichfield as lords of Tarvin, and is valued at XVIIIIS. VID. per annum in the Inquisition after the death of John

Bruen, esq. 23 Hen. VIII. and at the same sum after the death of John Bruen, esq. 29th Eliz.

Holme Street Hall, in this township, which is an antient brick building, with bay windows and gables, adjoining the turnpike road at the distance of four miles from Chester, passed to the Savages with the manor of Tarvin, by whom it was sold to the Starkies, of Darley, and resold to Robert Sproston^g, of Chester, and from him to Richard Barker, of London, merchant. From this purchase it passed by sale to a Mr. Symkin, and from his heirs female to the Vawdreys, who resold it to Thomas Brock, of Chester, esq. with whose estate of Hockenhull it has passed subsequently.

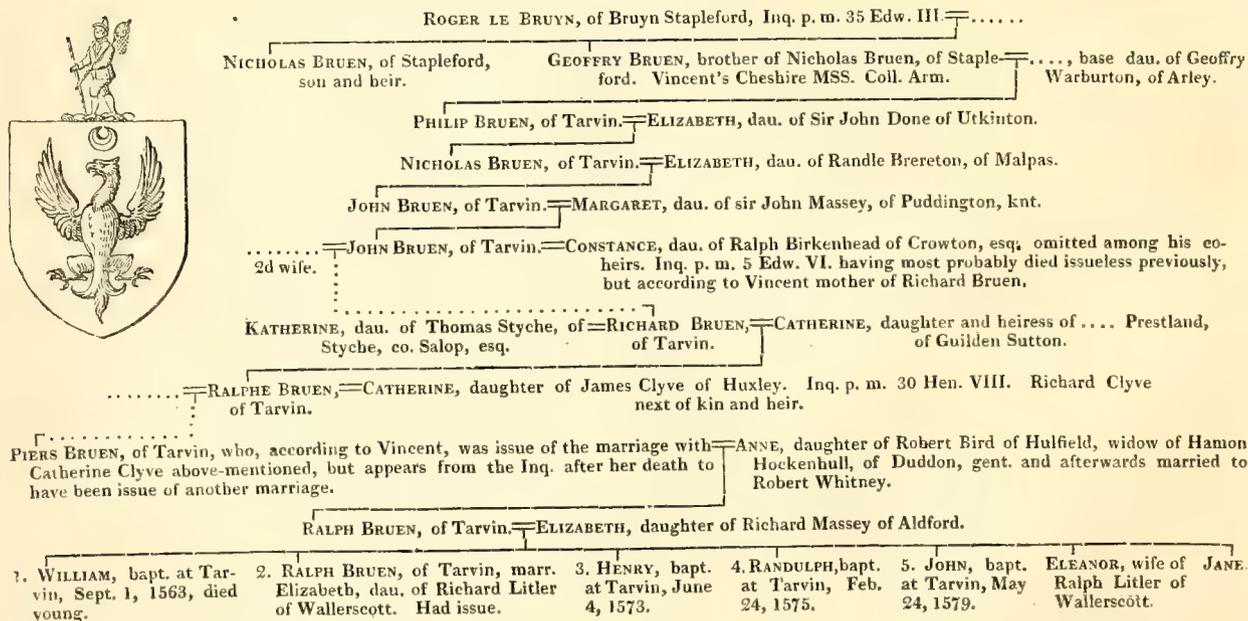
A family, who bore the name of the township, were settled at Tarvin at an early period. 9 Edw. II. Walter, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, gave to William, son of Philip de Tervin, for half the mill there, two messuages, two bovates and a half of land, and two acres of pasture, cum pert. in Tervin and Onscroft. 15 Edw. II. William de Coton obtained from the same William, and Alice his wife, certain lands here, with the homages and services of Walter le Verdun and Joanna his wife^h.

A branch of the antient family of Bruen, of Stapleford, settled in Tarvin in the reign of Richard the Second, and continued resident here to the end of the seventeenth century, when their name disappears in the registers. Webb speaks of their seat, as ruined, in 1625, and as being then in the possession of a younger branch of the Brocks, of Upton. It was probably shortly afterwards rebuilt, as the old hall of Tarvin, which perished, with nearly the whole town, in an accidental fire in 1752, was a wood and plaister building, with gables, constructed in the style of the early part of the seventeenth century.

The following pedigree of the Bruens, taken from Vincent's Cheshire Collections, has some small additions from the Inquisitions and the Tarvin Registers.

BRUEN, OF TARVIN.

Arms and Crest as BRUEN of STAPLEFORD, for difference a Crescent Sable.



^f The pleadings are given at length, Harl. MSS. 2115.

^h Williamson's Cheshire Evidences, p. 10 and 13.

^g Vill. Cest. 1662. Harl. MSS. 2010.

Tarvin, from its vicinity to Chester, was garrisoned by the parliament forces during the civil war in the seventeenth century, of which the following notices occur in Burghall's "Providence improved".^h

P. 923. "1643, Sunday, Nov. 12. Chester forces issued out towards Tarvin, a garrison kept by capt. Gerard for the parliament, but they were fought with at Stanford Bridge, and kept from passing it. They skirmished all the afternoon; but then some soldiers came from Cholmondeley to assist Gerard, and they drove the forces back, following them to Boughton, where the Gorse Stacks are, and killed some of them, without any loss to themselves except one man hurt."

P. 931. "January. Some parliament forces being billeted in and about Tarvin, were set upon by the Chester forces, and some wounded and others taken prisoners, but a company of parliament dragoons making haste, overtook and rescued them; killed a captain and some others, wounded many, and sent eight prisoners to Nantwich."

P. 936. "Sunday, August 18. Col. Marrow took fifteen prisoners from the garrison of Northwich, and was shot at Sandiway." "Tuesday after, the Nantwich men, with the assistance of sir William Brereton's horse, and some from Halton castle, set upon the enemy at Tarvin, in their quarters" (it was now occupied by king's troops), "and for the fifteen prisoners they had lost, brought back forty-five, killed fifteen, and between two and three hundred common soldiers, with the loss of only one man."

P. 937. "Friday, Sep. 5. All the forces (royalists at Chester) marched out again, except col. Croxton, and the town company, came to Tarvin and fortified it with strong works, put a garrison in it, another at Huxley hall, and another near Little Budworth."

P. 942. "1645, May 18. The parliament army marched out of Wales and other garrisons, except

Tarvin (now reoccupied by them), leaving the country to the spoils of the forces in Chester and Beeston castle." This movement was occasioned by a report of the king's approach.

P. 943. "June 9. The enemy marched out of Chester, and six companies of foot and three of horse, and took capt. Glegg, and all his troop of horse in their quarters, but they were quickly rescued by the Tarvin forces, and in pursuit of the enemy in Eaton and Rush-ton, and about the Forest, they took two captains, and other officers, and two hundred and ten common soldiers, and slew twelve, with the loss of three men. They took also one barrel and many bags of powder and three hundred arms."

The garrison of Tarvin does not appear to have been again disturbed: Chester surrendered the April following.

"On Monday, the last day of April, 1752, about noon, a fire broke out, near the west end of the north side of Tarvin, and as it was a very high wind, the fire was thereby communicated to several parts of the town, so that in about two hours' time the far greater part of the place was burned down to the ground. The city of Chester, by a collection from house to house, contributed about 300*l.* towards the relief of the unhappy sufferers."ⁱ

In consequence of this accident, the buildings are chiefly modern, and the streets being wide and cut out of a dry rock, Tarvin has an air of greater comfort and cleanliness than most of the other neighbouring villages. It is distant five miles east of Chester, at the point of the division of the London and Northwich roads, and on the verge of the Hundred, but from the irregular form of Edisbury, is nevertheless considered as one of its most central points, and is therefore selected as the place of meeting by the magistrates acting for that district.

PREBENDS AND VICARS OF TARVIN.

PREBENDS, PATRONS.	VICARS.	DATE OF INSTITUTION.	VACANCY.
William de Sarden, 1303.	Nicholas de Blaston.	1307.	
Walter de Keypeston, 1303.	Richard de Pollesworth,	14 kal. Apr. 1319.	
Geoffrey de Blaston.	cap. Robertus.		
John la Zouch.	John de Morton, cap.	1349.	
Baldwin de Parys.	Ric. de Tarvin, pr'b'r.	6 kal. Novembr. 1349.	
Peter de Griseburgh, 1350.	Robert Cook.	24 Edw. III. Mouldsworth Deeds.	
William de Wrifelle, 1357.	Thomas de Minshull.	1356. Presented by David de Calveley, Firmar. hac vice.	
Nicholas Heath, 1376.	Thomas Munshull.	1382. Presented by Rob. Bp. of Cov. & Lichf.	
Idem.	Richard de Ins.	1383. Presented by sir Laurence Dutton, knt. hac vice. And again presented by Nicholas Heath, prebend of Tarvin, 1384.	D. of Thomas Munshull.
Thomas Haxey, 1389.	Thomas de Tervyn.		
Idem.	Jo. Bellesfield, cap.	18 Feb. 1408-9.	D. of Thomas Tervyn.
Thomas Chesterfield, 1424.	Thomas Alby.		
Idem.	Randle Wright, pr'b'r.	9 Maii, 1438, admitted by the prior of Stone.	D. of Thomas Alby.
Ralph Byrom, collated 24 Aug. 1452.			
Laurence Booth, Bp. of Durham, 1457, Archbp. of York, 1476.			

^h The references are made to the Chester edition of 1778.

ⁱ Cowper's MSS. vol. I. p. 325.

PREBENDS, PATRONS.	VICARS.	DATE OF INSTITUTION.	VACANCY.
Vincent Clément, S.T.P. 1457.			
John Whelpdale, 1458.	Richard Flecher.	Ante 1480. Harl. MSS. 2161.	
Humphrey Hawarden, 1489.	Henry Hawarden.		
George Westeneys, 1521.			
Geoffrey Blithe, 1521.			
Henry Sudall, A. M. canon of Christ Church, 1547.			
James Huntbache.	Edmund Bagshaw.	1557.	Death of H. Hawarden.
Thomas Chapman, 1570.			
Valentine Overton, 1572.	Saboth Clarke.	14 Sept. 1621.	
Richard Hunt, S.T.P. 1639.			
John Hutchinson, rector of Astbury, co. Cest. 1662.	Joseph Gerard ^k , A. B.	June 7, 1680.	
Edward Tennison, 1704, bishop of Ossory, 1730.	Richard Marshall ^l , A. M.	8 Feb. 1708.	Death of Joseph Gerard.
George Fage, vicar of Hunton, 1709.	William Edwards ^m , A. M.	17 Nov. 1724.	Death of Ric. Marshall.
Benjamin Marsham, A. M. 1720.	Thomas Dickenson ⁿ , A. M.	24 Oct. 1746.	Death of W. Edwards.
Samuel Smallbrooke, D.D. rector of Wem, 1749.	John Oldershaw, LL. B.	5 Aug. 1796.	Death of T. Dickenson.

CHURCH.

Val. Eccl. 19l. 11s. 0½d.

The church of Tarvin antiently belonged to the bishops of Lichfield, as the manerial lords. In 1226, Alexander de Savensby, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, founded a prebend in his cathedral, ° which he endowed with the appropriation and the advowson of the vicarage of Tarvin. Previous to this endowment, the same bishop had bestowed the church of Tarvin on the P Hospital of St. Andrew, at Denwall, in Wirral, to which he annexed the Rectory of Burton, in 1238, as a compensation for this resumption^q. From this it has been erroneously supposed that there was antiently an hospital dedicated to St. Andrew, at Tarvin.

The stall of Tarvin, by act of Parliament in the reign of queen Anne, was united to that of Stotfold, as one of the four improved prebends, called the canonries on the new foundation. It was afterwards, together with Stotfold, vested by act of Parliament, in 1796, in the dean and chapter of Lichfield, by which act the advowson of the vicarage was separated from the prebend, and vested in the bishop and his successors, together with the advowsons of Colwich, Bishops Itchington, Tachbrook, and High Offley, in lieu of the prebends, which were previously in his patronage^r.

The impropiator of the rectory of Tarvin has the corn-tithes of part of the extra-parochial township of Willington^s, which were the property of the dissolved abbey of Whalley, but it does not pay small tithes, or church levies.

The church of Tarvin, dedicated to St. Andrew, has been a fine specimen of the enriched Gothic of the fifteenth century, and such of the battlements, friezes, and corbels, as have remained unaltered, exhibit a profusion of carved ornaments. One entrance is by a south porch, the doorway of which appears to be of an earlier date than the rest of the fabric. The other is by an arch with an ogee canopy under the tower, between two highly decorated niches.

The tower is of four stories embattled. The body of the church is separated from the side aisles by six arches, one of which, attached to the east end of the south aisle, is considerably narrower than the others. The pillars have foliated capitals. At the end of the nave is a chancel; and a smaller chancel or oratory (built by the Bruens of Bruen Stapleford, and^t confirmed to the Bruens by Thomas Kingsley, LL. B. and Richard Strete, commissioners of the dean and chapter of Lichfield, at a visitation 1 Hen. VIII.) is situated at the east end of the south aisle, and separated from the aisle by a carved screen.

In this chapel are painted memorials of "John Bruen, esq. co. Cest. who dyed Jan. 28, 1625," and another of "Mary, dau'r and coh. of John Tilston of Huxley, esq. wife to Jonathan Bruen of Bruen Stapleford, esq. ob. 15 May, 1651."

On a brass plate affixed to the east end of the chancel, is inscribed in black letter,

"Henry Hardware here interred is, that Alderman was of late
In the City of Chester, where he was a most grave Magistrate,
Within that Citye the sworde before him twice had borne.
He ruled with prudente policye, as Citizens grave can well informe,
and so deceased the v. of March 1584."

The other memorials worthy of notice are :

A small painted tablet with the arms of Done, inscribed : "Mrs. Jane Done (of Duddon) obiit Ap. 29, 1722, a^o ætat. 66."

A brass plate in the chancel, inscribed :

"Underneath lieth interred the body
of Edward Done, Esq. of Duddon,
who departed this life July 5,
1718, aged 54 years of
his age."

Another brass plate near the preceding one, inscribed :

"Hic jacet corpus
Josephi Gerrard,
hujus Ecclesiæ nuper pastòris,
obiit Jan. 8, 1708, æt. 53."

^k Obiit Jan. 8, sep. ap. Tarvin, Jan. 12, 1708-9.

^m Obiit 26 Aug. 1746, sep. ap. Tarvin.

^o Harwood's Lichfield, 251. and Gastrell Notit. Cest.

^p Ang. Sacra, I. 446. " Ipsam Ecclesiam de Tervyn, hospitale fecit, et hospitium naufragantibus."

^r Harwood's Lichfield.

^s Information of the Rev. John Oldershaw.

^l Obiit Oct. 17, 1724, sep. ap. Tarvin.

ⁿ Obiit 12 June, 1796, sep. ap. Tarvin, June 17.

^q Vide Burton in Wirral.

^t Harl. MSS. 2022. 52. Bruen deeds.

The following inscriptions are in various parts of the church.

"HERE sleep the remains of the Reverend Thomas Dickenson, A. M. 50 years resident Vicar, who died 12th June 1796, in the 82d year of his age."

"HERE lie the remains of Charlotte Dickenson, Relict of the Rev^d. Thomas Dickenson, A. M. who died the 10th of March 1815, in the 78th year of her age."

"ELIZABETH, wife of John Angel of Crowhurst, in Surrey, died at Peele Hall, 16 March 1661."

"HERE lyeth interred John Hardware of Molesworth, Esq. who dyed 17 Feb. 1661, having been twice married, first to Mary the dau'r of Thomas Gardiner of Salop, Esq. by whom he had issue one son, that died young; she died 1 Feb. 1652. Afterwards he married Mary, daughter of John Angel of Crowhurst, Esq. and left issue one son Henry, a quarter of a year old at his father's death." Arms. Sable, a chevron, Argent, between three hands, coupéd at the wrist, of the second, for Hardware, with two quarterings. Crest. A cubit arm, vested Azure, turned down Argent, issuing from a ducal coronet, Or, and grasping an oak branch proper, the acorns, Or."

"HERE lyeth interred the body of Thomas Walley of Holme Street, in the County of Chester, gent. who dyed 8 November 1658, aged 76."

On a large flag stone, fixed against the outside of the south wall of the Bruen chapel, is the following memorial of Thomasen, master of Tarvin school, a celebrated penman, of whom a portrait is preserved in the collection at Vale Royal:

"Near to this place lie the remains of *John Thomasen*, for thirty-six years master of the grammar school, in that capacity approved and eminent, but highly excelling in all the varieties of writing, and wonderfully so in the Greek character. Specimens of his ingenuity are treasured up, not only in the cabinets of the curious, but in the public libraries throughout the kingdom. He had the honour to transcribe for her majesty, queen Anne, the Icon Basilike of her royal grandfather: invaluable copies also of Pindar, Anacreon, Theocritus, Epictetus, Hippocrates's Aphorisms, and that finished piece the Shield of Achilles (as described by Homer) are among the productions of his valuable pen.

"As his incomparable performances acquired him the esteem and friendship of the great and learned, so his affability and humanity gained him the goodwill of all his acquaintance, and the decease of so much private worth was regretted as a public loss. Obiit Jan. 25, 1740, a^o æt. 54.

"Dum mortale perit, littera scripta manet."

The church of Tarvin was formerly rich in painted glass, which fell a sacrifice to the puritanical prejudices of that excellent man John Bruen of Stapleford. All that now remains of it is a very antient shield of Cholmondeley in the north aisle, placed there most probably with reference to their estate of Peele, in this parish.

^tIn 1580, one of the windows of the north aisle contained, in distinct compartments, four sets of kneeling figures, over which were severally the following coats: Argent, an eagle displayed, Sable, collared, Argent, Bruen of Stapleford. Argent, a tiger passant, Sable, Grimdsich. Argent, on a fesse, Sable, between 3 wolves heads erased of the second, 3 mullets Or, Clive of Huxley, and Sable, 3 garbs Or, Stiche of Stiche. Underneath "Orate pro animabus Jacobi Clyve, et Hugonis Grymesdich, et Ri-

cardi Bryne, et Catherinæ uxoris ejus, qui hanc fenestram fieri fecerunt, A. D. 1530."

In another window on the north side, was also a series of kneeling figures, with the arms and crest of Bruyn; and a similar request of orisons in behalf of the donor John Bruyn; the date broken.

In the east window of the same aisle, beneath the arms and crest of Dutton, "Orate pro bono statu Laurentii Dutton, et Johannæ uxoris ejus, A. D. 1500."

In the west window a very singular and unappropriated coat, "Argent, a tree proper with three branches, on the dexter and sinister branches a goat, Argent."

In the south window of the choir, Argent, on a chevron, Sable, between 3 tigers heads of the first, three mullets, Sable, Duddon, sometimes borne by Hockenhull of Duddon. Underneath, "Orate pro animabus Rand. Hockenhull de Duddon, et pro bono statu Ricardi Hockenhull, et Margaretæ uxoris ejus."

In the north window of the same, beneath two kneeling figures: "Orate pro bono statu Roberti Bryde, et Katherinæ uxoris ejus, qui hanc fenestram fieri fecerunt Anno..."

The church then also contained the following memorials of the family of Davis of Ashton and Manley, afterwards of Davenport. Arms. Gules, on a bend, Argent, between 2 crescents Or, a lion passant, Sable.

"Here lyeth interred the body of Robert Davis, late of Ashton, gent. purchaser and possessor of the said manor, also purchaser and possessor of the manors of Horton, Hartford, and Manley, in the co. of Chester, as likewise of divers other lands in the said county, and in the co. of Lancaster. He married Elizabeth, dau'r and coheir to Thomas Lancaster, of Boughton, niece and heire to William Lancaster, of Newton near Chester, by whom he had several lands in Boughton, Newton, Tattenhall, Newton and Mollington, in the co. of Chester, and by her he had issue 6 sons and 4 dau'rs, of whom is now living only two sons and dau'rs. He died 13th March 1658, being aged 85 years."

"Here lyeth interred the body of William Davis, of Doddleston, in the co. of Chester, gent. son and heir of Robert Davis, of Ashton, in the said county, gent. who took to his first wife, Elizabeth, dau'r and coh. to Christopher Blease, of the city of Chester, Alderman, by whom he had two sons and 3 dau'rs, whereof are now living Robert and Mary. And afterwards he married Susanna, dau'r to Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, in the county aforesaid, Esq. by whom he had issue, Henry, William, Susanna, and Elizabeth. The said William died 26th August 1658, aged 56; and Susanna his dau'r died 27th Jan. after, and was buried by her father."

"Here lyeth the body of Thomas Davis, of Mouldsworth, second son of Robert Davies, of Ashton, gent. who married Mary, dau'r of John Cooke, sheriff of Chester 1616; obiit 8th of Nov. 1668, aged yeares."

The registers of this parish, commencing in 1563, and imperfect from 1682 to 1687, are contained in five large folio volumes, exclusive of those under the new act; the entries are incorporated with the respective pedigrees, but the following may deserve separate notice; it is to be observed that the first is not the only one which provoked the poetical talents of the parish clerk.

"Burials. 25 Jan. 1623. John Bruen, of Stapleford, Esquier. Nulli pietate secundus.

"An Israelite in whom no guyle

Or Fraud was ever found;

A Phœnix rare,

Whose virtues fair

Through all our coasts do sound."

^t Harl. MSS. 2151. p. 26.

"1638. April. Eliz. dau'r of John Harvey of Tarvin. Slayne with Mrs. Alice Arderne's darte."

This most probably alludes to some accidental misfortune on the forest, although previous to the succession of the Ardernes to the office of bow-bearer.

1654. May 10, 16, 18. William Gaskin, Thomas Gaskin, Ellen Gaskin, Thomas Gaskin, junr. and Anne Gaskin of Tarvin, died of the plague. There are no further notices of the spreading of the contagion.

1659. An order to suppress the custom of distributing money at funerals, and recommending the giving the sum to the churchwardens. It appears that the custom had been productive of great irregularities, and that numbers injured their families by leaving the certain produce of their regular employ, to join in the scramble on these occasions.

In this township is a school founded by John Pickering, merchant, of which Thomasen was once master.

Mr. Pickering gave 200l. to it for the teaching of 20 poor children; other contributions raised the sum to 479l. 8s. 1d. of which in the time of bishop Gastrell 246l. 8s. 1d. was lost, 233l. remaining. "

The present endowment consists of a house in which the master resides, and a house and land in the township of Tattenhall, now let at 15l. per annum, also a money payment of 3l. per annum. *The school is under the direction of twelve trustees, and agreeably to the foundation by Mr. Pickering, is open to twenty children, six of which are selected from the township of Tarvin, and the remainder from the other townships of the parish. The other charities consist of a few inconsiderable legacies, the interest of which is distributed to the parish poor. A school on the Madras system has been recently established, at which 150 children are educated.

HOCKENHULL.

The manor of this township was dependent on the Bishop of Lichfield's manor of Tarvin, under whom it was held, from a very early period, by a family who were the common ancestors of the Hockenhulls and Huxleys, and mediate lords of both the townships from which those names were derived.

About the reign of Henry the Third occurs William de Hockenhull, son of Dunniger, and brother of Richard, to whom he gives, with certain reservations, half the township of Huxley, with which entire township the abbot and convent of Chester had enfeoffed him, reserving certain estovers, namely, the nests of hawks in Huxley wood, with housebote, haybote, and pannage of swine, and a rent of four shillings issuing from that part of Huxley held formerly by Swanus, and Dunniger, his son.

This Richard, brother of William, and generally styled de Huxley, under the name of Richard de Okenhull, gives to the Abbey of Pulton, in the time of Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester, two bovates of land adjoining to the grange of the said monks in Churton, as contained in the charter of Loarch de Chirton, which gift was confirmed by his nephew Robert, son of William de Hokenhull^a.

1279. By an agreement enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday, made between Simon abbot of Chester on the one part, and Robert de Hockenhull, William son of his brother Hugh, and Adam son of the abovesaid Richard de Huxley, on the other part, the abbot's estovers in Huxley were exchanged for a rent of 40s. in addition to the 4s. before mentioned, to be levied by distress on the manors of Huxley, or Shotwick, of the latter of which, this Robert de Hockenhull was now mediate lord under Chester Abbey, having married Alice, daughter and heiress of de Shotwick.

William, son of this Robert de Hockenhull, occurs as witness to a grant of lands in Bruen Stapleford, without date (Harl. MSS. 2022. Bruen deeds) after whom appears Thomas de Hockenhull, ^bwho, in 1308, settles lands in Hockenhull on his younger son, Hugh de Hockenhull, witnessed by Robert de Holand, &c.

The three following generations are inserted on the authority of a very elaborate pedigree of the Huxleys and Hockenhulls, drawn by Mr. Tilston from his

Huxley deeds, and inserted in most of the Cheshire pedigrees.

Next occurs John de Hockenhull, living 2 Edw. IV. who pleads to a quo warranto, relative to his manor of Shotwick, 15 Hen. VII. and by *Inq. p. m.* 16 H. VII. is ascertained to have held the manor of Hockenhull from John bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, as of his manor of Tervin, value per ann. vii. l.; also XIX messuages in Church Shotwick and Rogh Shotwick, from the abbot of Chester, by the render of XXXIIIS. IID. value xl. per annum. John Hockenhull, son and heir.

The Visitation of 1580 brings down the descent of this last John to his grandson, John Hockenhull, father of a John living then without male issue, and of James Hockenhull, who became heir by survivorship.

From this period to the time of John Hockenhull, who died issueless in 1687, the descent has been continued by an entry made in 1684, by the fourth Randle Holme, in Harl. MSS. 2161, which has been abundantly confirmed by the coincidence of registers.

This John Hockenhull, by will dated Feb. 2, 1687, after certain arrangements for the payment of his debts, bequeaths his estates to his uncle Joseph Hockenhull, remainder to his cousin James Hockenhull and his heirs male, remainder to his brother William Hockenhull and his heirs male, remainder to the testator's sister Anne and her right heirs for ever.

Joseph Hockenhull died issueless, whereupon James Hockenhull, being in possession and married, and his wife being pregnant, but having no male issue born, enfeoffed the fee, Aug. 3, 1704; whereupon William his brother entered, and having no male issue born, enfeoffed the fee, July 30, 1705; on which Anne, in whom the final remainder vested, entered, and having levied a fine, conveyed the fee with James and William in mortgage, and afterwards joined in conveying the fee absolute, with James, to Hugh Wishaw, of Chester, gent.

After the sale of Hockenhull, the family of its antient proprietors retired to Shotwick, where the immediate male line became extinct in three generations. The annexed pedigree is brought down to this point, and contains also the collateral line of Hockenhull of Duddon. The Prenton branch will be found in the account of that township.

^a Gastrell. Not. Cest.

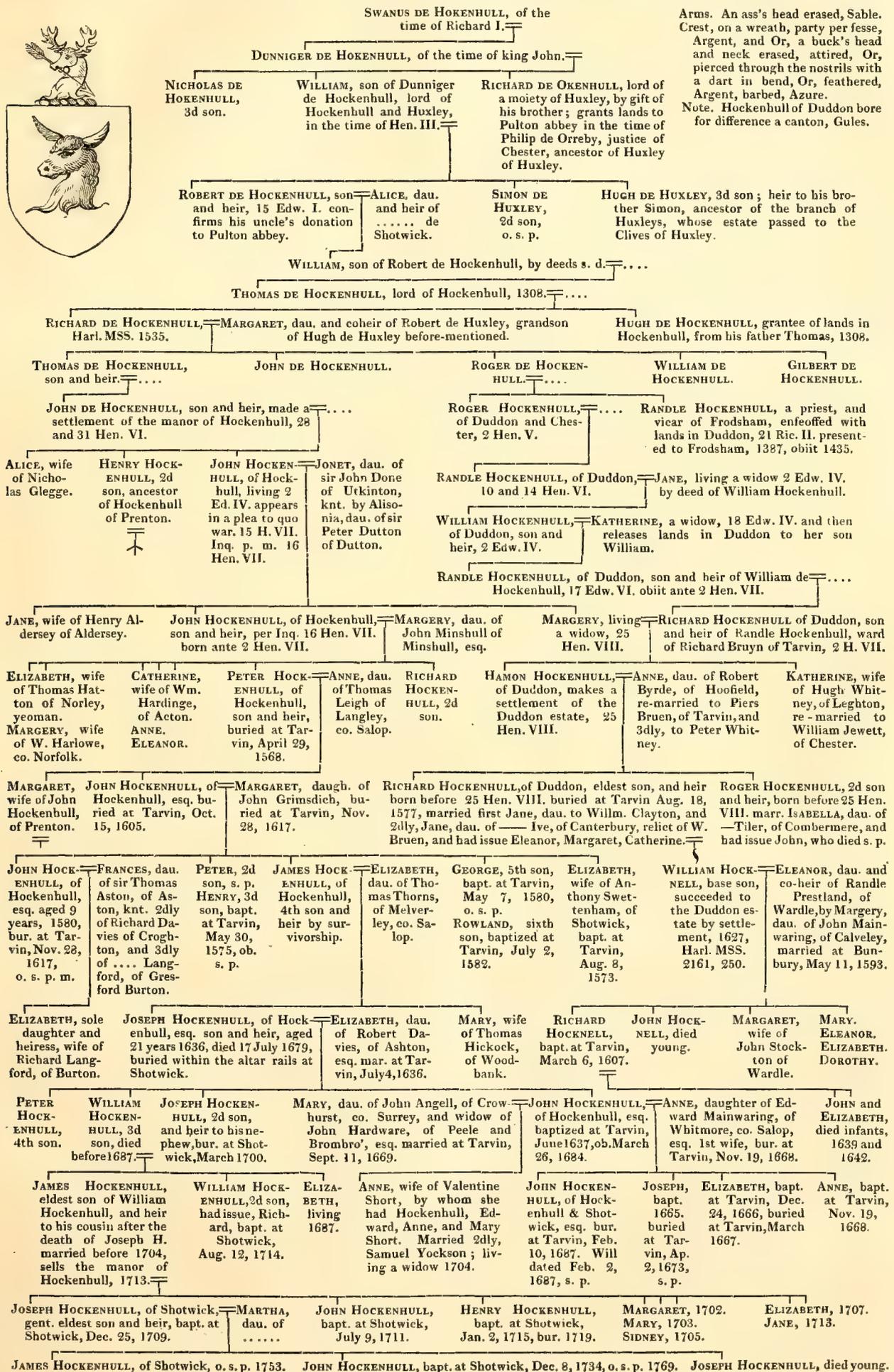
^b Chartulary of Pulton Abbey, Harl. MSS. 2060.

* Information of the rev. John Oldershaw.

^b Harl. MSS. 2161, p. 252.

HOCKENHULL, OF HOCKENHULL AND SHOTWICK.

From the Visitation of 1580, the Inquisitions, the Tarvin, Bunbury, and Shotwick Registers, a Collection of Deeds relative to the Manor of Huxley, Harl. MSS. 2077. 216. and a Pedigree by the fourth Randle Holme, Harl. MSS. 2161.



The descent of the manor since the alienation is as follows :

25 and 26 Feb. 1761. Richard Wishaw, son and heir of the purchaser, and Francis his eldest son, joined in conveying the manor and estate of Hockenhull to John Walsh, esq. M. P. for Worcester, for 7600l.

In 1771, Hockenhull was sold by the said John Walsh to Thomas Brock, esq. attorney at law, purchaser of the neighbouring manors of Saughton Fee, Christleton, and the two Cottons, under whose will, Hockenhull, Cotton Edmunds, Cotton Abbots, and Holme Street, passed to Richard Yates, his younger nephew, for life, remainder to his male issue successively, remainder to his right heirs. The said Richard died an infant; whereupon William Brock, rector of Davenham, brother of Thomas the purchaser, and heir in tail by his will, de-

vised those estates in reversion to the eldest son of his eldest niece, wife of Thomas Clutton of Kinnersley, esq. co. Hereford, whose eldest son Thomas Clutton, esq. is the present proprietor, and has assumed the name of Brock by royal sign manual.

The tenants of the manor of Hockenhull being too few for a distinct court, attend at Mr. Brock's court leet for the township of Cotton Edmunds and Cotton Abbots.

Hockenhull Hall is a large fabric of brick, with ponderous roof, heavy stone casings to the windows, and pilasters and cornice in the style of the reign of William the Third. It is occupied by a farmer, and fast verging to decay; but, being situated on rising ground, and environed with old fir-trees, it has a most respectable appearance. Another farm-house and two cottages compose the whole township.

BRUEN STAPLEFORD.

THE Domesday survey takes no notice of this township, unless Stapleford, surveyed under the hundred of Dudestane, and the property of Radulfus Venator, may be supposed to include this township as well as Fulk Stapleford. At a very early period it became the property of one of the few families who did not adopt the local name, but, contrary to the general practice in this part of England, communicated their name to the township.

Robert le Brun, first of this family, occurs in a grant of lands bearing date 1230, with the annexed seal, and in another deed dated 1260, mentioning his daughter Eva and her husband Philip de Stretun. The first of these is in possession of William Hamper, esq. the second in a long series of family deeds preserved in the Harl. MSS. 2022, abstracted from the papers of John Bruen, of Stapleford, esq. 1652. A third deed of the same period, by which Thomas, son of this Robert, receives a grant of lands from John^a, son



of Hugh, son of Hamo de Brune Stapleford, proves that the name of the township had received, at that early period, its present addition.

Robert le Brun, son of Robert, by deed dated 1262, grants, by another deed without date, lands in Stapleford^b to Thomas, son of his sister Eva. Witness Robert de Hockenhull and William his son, &c.

^c Roger le Bruen, 32 Edw. I. grants lands in Bruen Stapleford to William de Cotgreve; his son Robert is called son and heir of Emma, daughter and heiress of Robert le Brun before-mentioned.

Robert, son of Roger le Bruyn, 9 Edw. II. ^d appoints Richard de Leftwich attorney for his lands in Burton, Wymbalds Trafford, and Great Sutton. 11 Edw. II. the same Robert le Bruyn^e obtained against John de Burton, chaplain, 32 mess. 32 bovates, 20 acres of meadow, and the same quantity of wood and mere, in Bruyn Stapleford, Guylden Sutton, and Wymbalds Trafford, for his life, remainder to Roger, son of this Robert, and to his wife Katherine, daughter of John de

Leigh, and the heirs of their bodies. This Robert had also a second son, Robert, who commanded a company of archers in France, 30 Edw. III. and granted lands to Hugh Bruyn of Picmere, 33 Edw. III. In Harl. MSS. 2074. 229, is a mandate under the privy seal from Edward the Black Prince, dated Leyborne, March 6, 30 Edw. III. addressed to sir John Delves, justice of Chester, and John de Brunham, chamberlain, shewing that many Cheshire archers had fled disloyally into England, and ordering their goods and chattels to be seized and their persons secured. In Robert Bruyn's company were John de Overton, Robert de Ridleigh, David de Boydell, Richard de Acton, Richard de Weverham, Randle de Kelsal.

^f 27 Edw. III. Roger, son of Robert le Bruyn (the elder) grants to Ranulph le Bruyn lands in Chilton which belonged to Roger, son of Robert le Bruyn, and grandfather of Roger aforesaid. (Seal of Ranulph, a chevron between three quatrefoils). This Roger le Bruyn was ^g appointed seneschal to sir John de Orreby, and surveyor of his Cheshire estates, by deed dated at Bradwall, the first Sunday after Trinity, 21 Edw. III. and by *Inq. p. m.* 35 Edw. III. died seized in demesne as of fee of the vill of Bruyne Stapleford, value x marks per annum, the vill of Burton, and ix selions of land in Guylden Sutton, all held by military service under the bishop of Chester^h, also of an estate in Wymbalds Troghford, held in joint feoffment with Lucy his wife under the earl of Arundel. Nicholas le Bruyn son and heir.

Nicholas le Bruyn had livery of his father's lands from Adam de Kingsleyⁱ, eschætor of Cheshire, 36 Edw. III.; and Elena his wife occurs in a deed of the same date. The *Inq.* after the death of this Nicholas, finds that he was tenant by courtesy, after the death of this Elena, daughter of Roger Praers, of one fourth of Clotton, half of Duddon, and other lands^j. Roger, his son and heir, aged thirty-two years.

The marriage of Roger le Bruyn was granted by Nicholas his father, 6 Ric. II. to Geoffrey de Osbaldeston, to the intent that he would marry him to Katherine, daughter of sir John Norreys. By *Inq.* after his death, 4 Hen. VI. it appears that he held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Bruen Stapleford from the bishop of Coventry and Lichfield by military service,

^a Harl. MSS. 2022. p. 41.

^b Ibid.

^c Ibid. Vide Bruen deeds in Wimbalds Trafford.

^d Ibid.

^e Williamson's Cheshire Evidences.

^f Harl. MSS. 2022.

^g Vide Done's claim in Eyre in Delamere.

^h Harl. MSS. 2022.

ⁱ Ibid.

value per annum viii marks, with lands in Clotton, Wymbalds Trafford, Oscroft, Tervin, Childer Christleton, Guilden Sutton, Burton, Sutton, Huxley, Hargreave, and Chester. Thomas le Bruyn son and heir.

^k Thomas le Bruen had issue by Alice his wife, in addition to his eldest son James, Robert Bruen, and John Bruen, father of Alisionia, as appears by deed 4 Hen. VI. By license from the earl of Chester of the same date, Roger le Bruen, father of Thomas, was permitted to settle lands on this John, and his issue by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of John Dedwode. ^l Thomas le Bruen enfeoffed John Done of Utkinton, and John Bruen of Tarvin, with a portion of his lands, 8 Hen. VI. and died 22 Hen. VI. seized in demesne as of fee of the manor of Clotton, Whatlee in Fulke Stapleford, and lands in Hargreave. James Bruyn son and heir, *Inq. p. m.* 22 Hen. VI.

^m James Bruen, son and heir of Thomas, in his plea to a quo warranto, . . . Hen. VI. claims a court-leet and court-baron for his manor of Bruen Stapleford, and died, 23 Hen. VI. (per *Inq.* 25 Hen. VI.) seized in demesne as of fee of lands in Fulke Stapleford and Hargreave, and a fourth part of the manor of Clotton. John Bruyn son and heir, aged two years.

17 Edw. IV. John Bruyn of Stapleford covenants with Sibilla, wife of Geoffrey Starkie, that James Bruyn his brother shall marry Anne, daughter of Geoffry Starkie, and, by another deed of the same year, he ⁿ enfeoffs his brother James, husband of Anne Starkie, with his lands in Bruen Stapleford, Burton, Wymbalds Trafford, &c.

1 Ric. III. Feb. 21, a royal pardon was granted to this John Bruen, then one of the bailiffs of Flint, and late in arms against Richard the Third, for all murders, rapes, rebellions, insurrections, felonies, conspiracies, confederacies, riots, routs, secret meetings, illicit embraceries, concealments, negligences, extortions, misprisions, ignorances, contempts, forfeits, and frauds practised up to that date.

24 Hen. VII. James Bruyn has livery of the lands of his brother John, as brother and heir after the death of Margaret his wife, who was sister of Richard Done of Utkinton. By *Inq. p. m.* 5 Hen. VIII. this James died seized of the manor of Bruen Stapleford which he held under Geoffrey, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, also of a moiety of the manor of Duddon, a fourth of Clotton, and lands in Fulk Stapleford, Burton, Church Christleton, Wimbalds Trafford, Huxley, Cowlane, Wollaton, Clotton, Guilden Sutton, and Oscroft. Obiit die Lunæ xx post fest. pentecostæ. Val. tot. xxxiiii. i. vs. viii. John Bruyn son and heir, aged twenty-eight years.

This John Bruyn married Mary, daughter of Otley; marriage covenant dated 22 Hen. VII. and died on Thursday, the xxth day after the feast of Trinity, 23 Hen. VIII. seized of the lands recited in the preceding Inquisition, and of the manor of Fulk Stapleford lately exchanged with sir Andrew Brereton; value 53l. per annum. John Bruyn son and heir aged twenty-three years.

^o John Bruyn, son and heir of John, had a pardon under the great seal of England 1st Mary. He died the 14th of May, 29 Eliz. seized of the lands recited in the *Inq.* after the death of James Bruyn his grandfather,

with the addition of lands in Tervin and Chester. John Bruen son and heir.

With this John Bruen the series of deeds may conclude, the entries in the successive visitations, and the registers of Tarvin, bringing the descent of the family in a sufficiently clear manner to the termination of their interest in this township. On the decease of John Bruen, esq. in 1696, without surviving issue, the estate passed to his uncle Jonathan Bruen, who died in 1715, and left one daughter and sole heiress, Margaret, wife of John White, esq. who had by her only one daughter who survived to maturity, after whose death, in the middle of the last century, the manor was sold in chancery to Randle Wilbraham, esq. second son of Randle Wilbraham, esq. of Townsend, and is now vested in his grandson, Randle Wilbraham, esq. of Rode, a younger brother of Edward Bootle Wilbraham, esq. M. P.

The township is about seven miles distant from Chester to the right of the road of Tarporley. The hall is destroyed. No court is held or claimed for the manor.

John Bruen, of Bruen Stapleford, esq. the representative of this family in the sixteenth century, is one of the few individuals whose private virtues alone, in the rank of a country gentleman, have obtained a place in the annals of biography. His tenets were those of the Calvinistic puritans, but his goodness of heart would have reflected honour on any rank and any religion.

Mr. Bruen was the second son and (by survivorship) the heir, of John Bruen, esq. by his second wife, Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Holford, esq. of Holford in the hundred of Bucklow, and born in the year 1560. His earlier years were passed in private education at Dutton, after which his father sent him to Oxford, in which University he resided as gentleman commoner of Alban Hall from 1574 to 1580. Having married at this period the daughter of Henry Hardware, of Chester, esq. he returned to his father's seat at Bruen Stapleford, and entered into all the amusements to which his youth and fortune prompted him.

This career of pleasure, which, notwithstanding the animadversions of his biographer, appears to have been a very moderate one, terminated with the life of his father in 1587, who, "together with his lands, left him charged with the portions of twelve children." To relieve himself from these incumbrances, the park of Bruen Stapleford, "well furnished with deer," was immediately disparked, the hawks and hounds and every unnecessary expense was cut off, and the whole mind of the new proprietor turned to the forming within his family a pattern of religious economy, which was certainly eccentric, but appears to have originated solely in the unaffected piety of its master.

In speaking of these domestic arrangements, we must not omit giving, in the words of our author, an expedient resorted to by one of his old servants, Robert Pasfield, to assist him in reciting to his master the long sermons in which he so peculiarly delighted, as it bears a strong resemblance to the revived systems of technical memory, which have lately attracted considerable attention. This Robert, "a man utterly unlearned, for the help of his memory invented and framed a girdle of leather, long and large, which went twice about him: this he divided into several parts, allotting every book

^k Harl. MSS. 2022.

^l Ibid.

^m Ibid. p. 51.

ⁿ Harl. MSS. 2022.

^o Transcribed at length in Harl. MSS. 2022. 57.

of the Bible in order to one of these divisions; then for the chapters he affixed points or thongs of leather to the several divisions, and made knots by fives or tens to distinguish the chapters of that book; and by other points divided the chapters into their particular contents or verses as occasion required. This he used instead of pen and ink in hearing sermons; and coming home, he was able by it to repeat the sermon and quote the texts, &c. "which girdle master Bruen kept after his death, hung it up in his study, and would merrily call it the girdle of verity."

Unfortunately his well-meant zeal was not confined to his own walls. For, finding in the church of Tarvin and his own ancient chapel, "many superstitious images in the windows, which, by their painted coats, darkened the light of the church, and obscured the brightness of the gospel," he caused all those painted puppets to be pulled down, and, at his own cost, glazed the windows again." Such was the ill-fated prejudice of zeal against a species of decoration which peculiarly displayed the taste and munificence of our ancestors, and which, by its glorious mixture of splendour and obscurity, threw a still and solemn air over their religious fabrics, which particularly adapted the mind to the feelings of devotion.

To return to the subject of our narrative. The benevolence and piety of Mr. Bruen had rendered him such an object of respect in the county, that many of the most distinguished families were among the constant inmates of his house, and begged that their children might be brought up under his direction; among these were the lady Egerton, daughter-in-law of the chancellor; Thomas Dutton of Dutton, esq. with his family, including the lady Gerard; and the heir of Utkinton with his lady, the daughter of Thomas Wilbraham, esq. of Woodhey, whose virtues and accomplishments, still proverbial in Cheshire, reflect ample credit on the lessons of her instructor. His charity to the lower orders kept equal pace with this hospitality, which had formed a kind of little college of twenty-one constant boarders within his house. The expenditure, however, which was occasioned by this generous profusion was more than his income could afford, and he retired after the decease of his second wife, for five years and a half to Chester, to repair his fortune by a greater attention to economy.

After his return home he married a third wife, and resumed his former course of charitable munificence. The fleeces of his flock were consumed in clothing the poor of his parish, who were all maintained at his expense, to which purpose all the profits of his two mills were appropriated. An equal liberality was extended to the poor of Chester, who attended weekly to receive it at the gates of Stapleford Hall. His house, as his biographer states, was a common inn. "Many that passed betwixt Ireland and England, and came to Chester, would take up his house for their lodging place, that they might rejoice their hearts in seeing his face, hear-

ing his voice, and conferring and advising with him. His ordinary table was bountiful, and for the furtherance of it, he had a great flight of pigeons, a warren of conies, delicate fish-ponds, beside other ordinary provision about his house: his cellar was open and free to all, within the bounds of moderation; in the dear years he made provision for multitudes out of his own and other parishes, almost every day in the week; and would sometimes serve them himself, to see their necessities."

To this fine picture of charity must be added one stroke of his biographer's pencil, which shews the pure and unaffected piety of Bruen's mind, and could scarcely have found entrance into a puritanical narrative of that period, if it had not been copied from the life. Speaking of his private devotions, he adds, "about his house he had divers places which he interchangeably used for this purpose, not frequenting one lest he should be suspected of hypocrisy. Within doors he had variety of closets, chambers, and convenient rooms; and when he was abroad, he had his gardens, orchards, arbours, groves, woods and fields, walks and shades, where he delighted to speak and commune with his best friend, and to seek the face and favour, help and succour, of his heavenly Father."

It is recorded, that on a complaint made against this excellent man, from some injury done by the water-course to his mills, the judge, in open court, begged the proceedings might be stayed, adding, "I cannot but think that you wrong Mr. Bruen; I will undertake for him, make him but sensible of any wrong that he hath done, and he shall willingly acknowledge it, and make double amends for it."

Mr. Bruen closed his career of active goodness, by a death, in every respect conformable to it, in January 1625, in the sixty-fifth year of his age. The particulars of his marriages and connections will be found in the pedigree annexed; his portrait is preserved in the biographical collection from which this sketch is taken^p, together with that of his sister Katherine, a lady of equal piety, the wife of William Brettargh, esq. of Brettargh Holt, in the county of Lancaster.

John Bruen is represented in a close dress, with a pointed beard, mustachios and ruff; his sister in a large ruff and close cap, with a high crowned, broad brimmed hat. The portrait of Bruen has been re-engraved by Richardson.

No. 6607, Harl. MSS. a 4to MS. is entituled, "A godly profitable collection of divers sentences out of Holy Scripture, and variety of matter out of several divine authors. By John Bruen:" commonly called his *cards*, being 52 in number.

No. 165. 11. in the same collection contains the petition of his son Calvin Bruen, of Chester, mercer, to the House of Commons, respecting his usage by the High Commissioners for ecclesiastical causes, on visiting Mr. Prynne, when conveyed through Chester to the castle of Caernarvon.

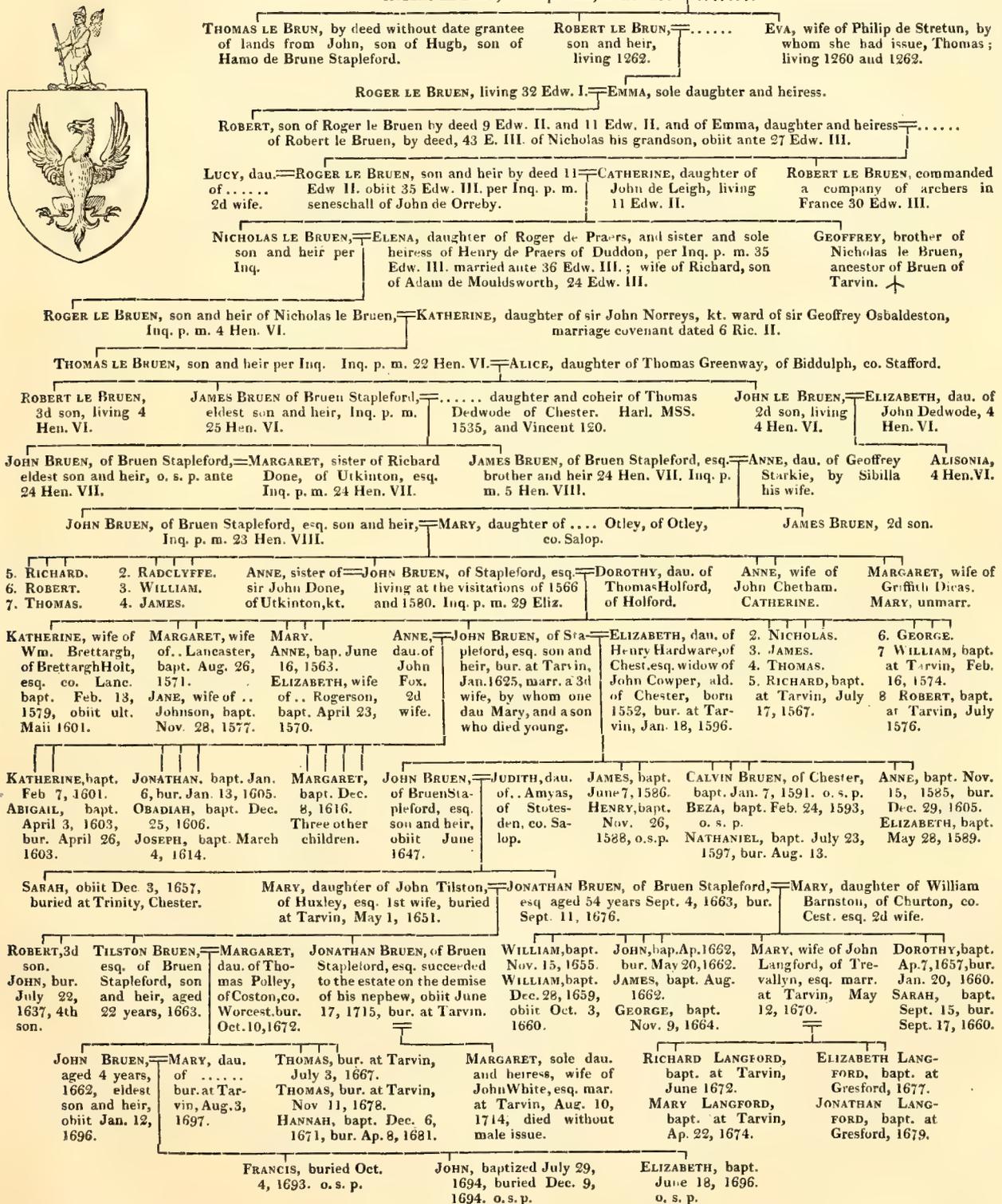
^p Clarke's Marrow of Ecclesiastical History, Part II. p. 80. folio 1675. This is principally abstracted from "A faithful remonstrance on the holy life and happy death of John Bruen, of Bruen Stapleford, in the co. of Chester, Esq. Brother to that Mirror of Piety, Mistris Kath. Brettergh, &c. By the late Rev. W. Hinde, sometimes Fellow of Queen's College, in Oxford, and Preacher of God's word at Bunbury in Cheshire. London, printed for Philemon Stephens, by R. B. 1641," 12mo. Previous to this was published "A brief Discourse of the Christian life and death of Mistris Katherine Brettergh," usually bound up with "Death's advantage little regarded, &c. in two Funeral Sermons preached at Childwall, at the burial of Mistris K. Brettergh. By William Harrison, one of the preachers for Lancashire, and by William Leygh, B. D. Pastor of Standish; London, 1605," 18mo. Lives of both occur in Christopher Morton's "Monument of the Fathers and Reformers," Lond. 1706, 8vo.

BRUEN, OF BRUEN STAPLEFORD.

Arms.—Argent, an eagle displayed Sable.

Crest.—On a wreath a fisherman, party per pale, Argent and Sable, each several article of dress counterchanged; in the right hand a fisherman's staff, and in the left a landing net thrown over the shoulder, Or.

From Original Deeds, the Inquisitions, the Visitations of 1566, 1580, 1613, 1663, and the Registers of Tarvin.



CLOTTON CUM HULFIELD.

ILBERT, lord of Waverton and of Eaton, possessed this township also, soon after the Conquest.

"Isdem Ilbertus tenet Clotone. Stenulf tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi III hidæ geldabiles: terra est VI carucarum: ibi sunt VI villani et II bordarii et IV radmans, habentes V carucas. Valuit et valet, XII solidos."

Richard de Rullos, most probably son of Ilbert, gave the church of Waverton, the tenths of Waverton, Hoton (Eaton?) and Clotton, with Clotton mill to the abbey of St. Werburgh, "as mentioned in Hugh Lupus's charter to that abbey 1093.

^b Gilbert de Pichot succeeded as capital lord of Waverton and Clotton, by the marriage of Margaret daughter of Richard de Rullos before-mentioned.

^c These townships were held under the Pichots by the Wavertons, as appears by a deed of William son of Robert de Pichot, temp. Edw. I. who transferred to Simon, abbot of Chester, the homage and service due to him in the former township from Hugh de Waverton.

Agnes de Waverton, widow of Hugh de Waverton, had three daughters and co-heirs, the wives of Roger de Clotton, William de Huxley, and John de Messington^d, who brought to their husbands in several shares the manor of Clotton, which together with Dutton and Hulfield, was rated as one knight's fee.

Of the first Share there appear the following notices:

29 Hen. III. The king grants to Fulk de Orreby the ward and marriage of the children of Richard de Clotton for 30 marks^e.

Inq. p. m. 25 Edw. I. Petronilla, wife of Robert de Clotton, had the 4th of Clotton, Hulfield, and Duddon, in dower as the 4th of a knight's fee. William Clotton son and heir.

^f 26 Edw. I. Randle, son of Randle de Hulfield, obtained of William de Clotton, 16 messuages, 1 carucate, 16 bovates, and 90 acres of wood in Clotton, Hulfield, and Duddon, and the 4th part of Clotton mill, with the services of Ralph de Vernon in Hatton, for which the said Randle gave to William de Clotton and his heirs 2 messuages and 4 bovates of land in Clotton to be held by the yearly render of a rose; remainder to Randle and his heirs for ever.

19 Edw. II. Roger de Clotton and Ellen his wife obtained from Richard de Burton, chaplain, 19 messuages, 4 bovates, and 60 acres of land, 4 of meadow, 100 of wood, and 20 of pasture, cum pert. in Clotton, to them and their heirs^g, remainder to Henry son of William de Clotton, then to David his brother, then to Henry son of David de Beeston and Ellen his wife, then to Robert son of Richard de Overton, and to Hova and William his brothers. William Fox, of Duddon, and Agnes his wife (to whom this Roger passed over lands, 35 Edw. I.) and Robert de Huxley put in a claim.

By this settlement this share of Clotton passed to the Overtons. Roger, son of Robert de Overton (*Inquisition p. m.* 7 Hen. VI.) held in demesne, as of fee, messuages and lands in Clotton and Hulfield, from the king as earl of Chester, as the 12th part of a knight's fee, val.

VI marks per annum, with lands in Broxton, Little Leigh, and Shocklach Oviat. Alice sister and heir.

Alice married Thomas de Swetenham, who had issue by her, one daughter Margaret, sole heiress to her mother, and wife of Thomas Wilbraham, esq. of Woodhey. She was aged 36 years, 22 Hen. VI. and died March 3, 1523^h. Her estates in Clotton and Hulfield, occur in the Inquisitions after the death of her son William Wilbraham, esq. 28 Hen. VIII. of her grandson Thomas Wilbraham, esq. dated 1st Eliz. and of his younger brother and heir Richard Wilbraham, esq. dated 6th Mary. In these Inquisitions this estate is stated to be held from the heirs of sir Philip Butler in socage, and is valued altogether at LXXXIIII. IIII. It passed subsequently to Lionel earl of Dysart, in marriage with Grace, daughter and co-heiress of sir Thomas Wilbraham of Woodhey, bart. and is now vested in his representative, the present earl of Dysart.

The second Share passed in marriage with Ellen, daughter and heiress of David de Huxley, to Roger le Praers, who died seized of a fourth part of the manor of Clotton and rents there, val. IV marks per annum, *Inq. p. m.* 23 Edw. III. Henry Praers son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Henry son of Roger Praers died seized of lands in Hulme Walfield, and of half of Duddon, held in fee tail, from the earl of Chester; Elena sister and heiress.

Clotton does not occur in this Inquisition; but it appears by the Inquisition after the death of Nicholas Bruen of Stapleford, husband of this Elena, that in her right he was tenant by courtesy of one-fourth of Clotton, with the before-mentioned half of Duddon and other lands.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VI. Roger le Bruen held in demesne, as of fee, (inter alia) 4 tofts and 100 acres of land from the king in capite, by military service, val. IIII marks per annum.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VI. Thomas, son of Roger le Bruen, held as before (inter alia) the manor of Clotton, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, val. per annum XLS.

Inq. p. m. 25 Hen. VI. James Bruen held as before (inter alia) a fourth-part of the manor of Clotton, from the king as earl of Chester, by military service, val. per annum, XLS.

Inq. p. m. 24 Hen. VII. Margaret, widow of John Bruen, held in dower a fourth-part of the manor of Clotton, from the king as earl of Chester, as the fourth part of a knight's fee, val. per annum, III. XS.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. James Bruen, esq. held a fourth part of the manor of Clotton, from the king as earl of Chester, as the sixth part of a knight's fee, val. per annum, III. XS.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VIII. John Bruen, esq. held a fourth part of the manor of Clotton, from the king as earl of Chester, as the fourth part of a knight's fee, val. per annum, VII. VS.

Inq. p. m. 29 Eliz. John Bruen, esq. held a fourth part

^a Leycester, 110.

^c Ibid. 42 and 109; in the former of which places Dr. Williamson confounds the Wavertons and Pichots. ^d Ibid. ^e Williamson's Evidences, p. 1.

^f Ibid, p. 3. ^g Ibid. p. 13. ^h Pedigree of Wilbraham by Brooke, Somerset herald, and Wilbraham MSS. penes E. B. Wilbraham, esq. M. P.

the manor of Clotton, from the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, as the sixth part of a knight's fee, val. per annum, viil. vs.

In the middle of the last century, this share passed with the other Bruen estates, by sale, to Randle Wilbraham, esq. of Rode, and is now vested in Mr. James Hassal, by purchase from that family.

The Share of the third co-heiress of Hugh de Waverton, the wife of John de Messington, is stated summarily by Dr. Williamson, to have passed to the Dones of Utkinton, but how or where, he does not mention. It occurs in the following instances, among numerous other estates, in the Inquisitions of that family.

Inq. p. m. 13 Hen. VI. John Done, senior, held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Clotton, from the king as earl of Chester, by the service of half a knight's fee. Value, per annum, viii marks.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VI. John Done held in demesne, as of fee, half the manor of Clotton from the king as earl of Chester, by the service of half a knight's fee. Value, per annum, viii marks.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VII. Sir John Done knight, held the same as before, and by the same tenure. Value viii marks.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VIII. Richard Done held the same, as before, and by the same tenure. Val. per annum, vii.

Inq. p. m. 4 Eliz. Sir John Done, knight, held the same, as before, by the same tenure. Value, per annum, vi. vis. viiil.

Inq. p. m. 33 Eliz. Ralph Done, esq. held the third part of the manor of Clotton, from the queen as of her earldom of Chester, by the service of half a knight's fee. Value, per annum, vii.

This share of the manor of Clotton passed, on the termination of the male line of Done, to the Crewes, and from thence to the Ardernes, in the same manner with the lordship of Utkinton. It is now vested in their representative, John Arden, esq.

The last Inquisition referred to is the only one which speaks of the share of one of the representatives of Waverton, as a *third* of the manor, which is the present proportion. It appears that they were each originally a fourth, and that the Clottons had two of these shares, one of which passed to the Hulfields, in the alienation of the estates to Randle de Hulfield from William de Clotton, 26 Edw. I. already mentioned. This share is now unknown; but it appears by the undermentioned Inquisitions, that the Hulfields held it as a fourth of the manor, at a time when the representatives of the coheirs of Waverton possessed their shares also.

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. John de Holfeld held in demesne, as of fee, one fourth of the vill of Clotton, and a fourth of Duddon, as the fourth part of a knight's fee. Valet. Also certain lands and rents in Clotton. Henry de Hulfield son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 22 Ric. II. Roger de Hulfield held in demesne, as of fee, a fourth part of Clotton and a fourth part of Duddon, from the king as earl of Chester, as the fourth part of a knight's fee. Value, per ann. cs. Mabilla, wife of Randle de Huxley, Carpenter, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. V. Mabilla, widow of Randle de Huxley, held the same, in the same manner, from the same. Value, per annum, cs. John de Huxley son and heir.

Particulars of this share have not occurred at a more recent period.

No courts are held or claimed for this manor. The freeholders are numerous. Clotton village is situated on the turnpike road from Chester to Tarporley, at the distance of eight miles from the former place. The houses are all farm houses, as is generally the case in this district, and composed of beams and plaister: each has its little garden before it, and the buildings are pleasantly interspersed with trees. On the whole it may boast an air of cleanliness and comfort, which the villages in the immediate neighbourhood of Chester are in general very far from possessing.

D U D D O N.

Dr. Williamson, as mentioned in the preceding township, states this place, which is not noticed in Domesday, to have formed one knight's fee together with Hulfield and Clotton, and gives as his authority an Inquisition 25 Edw. I. by which it appears that the widow of Robert de Clotton held a fourth of it in dower with Hulfield and Clotton. The interest of the Clottons, or their successors in Hulfield and Duddon, the Hulfields and Huxleys, is not to be traced any further than the Inquisition 6 Hen. V. after the death of Mabell de Huxley, already mentioned under Clotton. The manor of Duddon or a share thereof, has been long vested in the representatives of the second of the coheirs of Waverton, from whom it has descended, in the same manner with a third of Clotton, to the Wilbrahams of Rode, who now claim the whole. An estate in this township, for which no manerial rights are exercised, has descended from the third coheir to the Ardernes of Alvanley, nearly in the same manner with their share of the manor of Clotton.

Of these two estates, are the following notices in the

Inquisitions. The other share, that of the Clottons, has been noticed in Hulfield.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Henry son of Roger le Praers held in fee-tail, half of the manor of Duddon, from the earl of Chester, by knight's service.

Inq. p. m. 24 Hen. VII. Margaret Bruen, widow, held half of the manor of Duddon, from the same, in capite, as the fifth part of a knight's fee. Val. iiii. per ann.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. James Bruen, esq. held half of the manor of Duddon, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, as the fifth part of a knight's fee. Val. per annum, iiii.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VIII. John Bruen, esq. held half of the manor of Duddon, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, as a fifth part of a knight's fee. Val. per annum, vii. xis.

Inq. p. m. 29 Eliz. John Bruen, esq. held half of the manor of Duddon, from the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, by the services of the fifth part of a knight's fee. Val. per annum, vii. xis.

The interest of the Ardernes in this township de-

scended to them, through the Flaxyards branch of Done, which separated from the Utkinton line in the person of Robert Done, in the reign of Henry the Sixth, whose son and heir, John Done, died 24 Hen. VII. seized, *inter alia*, of lands in Duddon, held in demesne, as of fee tail, from the king as earl of Chester, by the eighth part of a knight's fee. Val. per ann. l. 1s.

Inq. p. m. 1 and 2 Philip and Mary. Ralph Done, of Flaxyards, esq. held the same from the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, as the eighth part of a knight's fee. Val. l. 1s. per annum. Ralph Done, esq. grandson and heir.

The Utkinton and Flaxyards families becoming shortly afterwards united by marriage, the Duddon estate descended to the Ardernes, from this period in the same manner with the share of Clotton, in the preceding

township, and the other more important estates of the family.

Branches of the families of Done and Hockenhull, settled in this township, the pedigrees of which will be found incorporated with those of Done of Utkinton, and Hockenhull of Hockenhull.

No court is held for this manor. The township is seven miles distant from Chester, on the Tarporley road, which passes over gentle inequalities of surface, commanding fine views of Beeston Castle, the Peckforton Hills, and a rich vale under the forest, sprinkled with fine timber. There is also here, as in Clotton, something pleasing in the old timber farm houses, surrounded with groups of trees, which are less injured here by the sea breezes, than the trees on the neighbouring elevations.

BURTON.

THE bishop of the diocese was possessed of this town as part of his Tarvin estates before the Conquest, and retained it at the Domesday survey.

“*Ipsē episcopus tenet Burtone, et tenuit tempore regis Edwardi; ibi iiii hidæ geldabiles. Terra est vii carucarum. In dominio sunt ii carucæ et vii villani, et iv bordarii et presbyter, et unus radman cum tribus carucis: ibi una acra prati. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat xl solidos, modo tantundem. Quando recepit xv solidos.*”

^aIn the thirteenth century Burton gave name to its mesne lords under the bishop. Of this family, Christiana, daughter of Alan de Burton, occurs temp. Hen. III. and Richard, son of William, son of Hugh de Burton, temp. Edw. I. in grants to the Bruens of Stapleford. Roger, son of Robert, son of William de Burton, 6 Edw. II. remitted to Robert Bruen of Stapleford, the eighth part of the manor of Burton, with the liberty of grinding toll-free at his mill in Stapleford^b.

Burton appears, 9 Edw. II. among the estates, of which Robert le Bruen appoints Richard de Leftwich his attorney^c.

The following notices occur relative to this manor among the Inquisitions of the Bruens of Stapleford, the general contents of which are given in that township:

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Roger le Bruen held the vill of Burton from the bishop of Chester, in capite, by military service. Val. xls.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VI. Roger le Bruen held free rents issuing from lands in Burton. Val. vs.

17 Edw. IV. James Bruen enfeoffs his brother John with his lands in Burton^d.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. James Bruen, esq. held two messuages, and 2s. rents, in Burton from the bishop of Lichfield. Val. xlii. s. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VIII. John Bruen, esq. held lands in Burton, from Geoffrey, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, by services unknown. Val. iiii. xv. s.

Inq. p. m. 29 Eliz. John Bruen held the manor of Burton from the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, by services unknown. Val. per annum, iiii. xv. s.

After the failure of the male line of the Bruens, Burton was sold in Chancery in the middle of the last century, along with Stapleford and their other estates, to Randle Wilbraham, esq. of Rode, and is now the property of his grandson, Randle Wilbraham, of Rode, esq. No court is held or claimed for the manor.

The Burton Hall estate, which was the property of John Werden, at the time when Webb wrote his Itinerary, descended to Robert Werden, esq. an active royalist, and colonel^e of horse under Charles the First, and afterwards promoted to the rank of major-general of horse under James the Second. This officer, as Sir John Crewe's Diary informs us, plundered Utkinton Hall of its plate and valuables, in conjunction with colonel Marrow, another of the royal officers. Sir John Werden his son, created a baronet, Nov. 28, 1672, was chief baron of the Exchequer of Chester, and had issue two daughters, married on the same day to the two sons of Charles duke of St. Alban's. On the death of George fourth duke of St. Alban's, in 1787, Burton Hall, and the other estates of the Werdens, passed to his sister Charlotte Beauclerk, wife of Andrew Drummond, esq. a younger brother of lord Strathallan, who fell at the battle of Culloden. It is now vested in his grandson, George Harley Drummond, esq. of Stanmore, in the county of Middlesex.

Burton Hall, “the fair and fine conceitedly built house of brick” mentioned by Webb, is in the village of Burton, down a deep sandy lane, about half a mile West of the seventh mile stone, on the road to Tarporley from Chester. It is a square building, with bay windows, and stone mullions: each side rises into one large gable, which gives it a singular appearance. The whole is mantled over with ivy.

^a Harl. MSS. 2022. 16.

^b Harl. MSS. 2022. 62. b. and Williamson's Vill. Cest. p. 27.

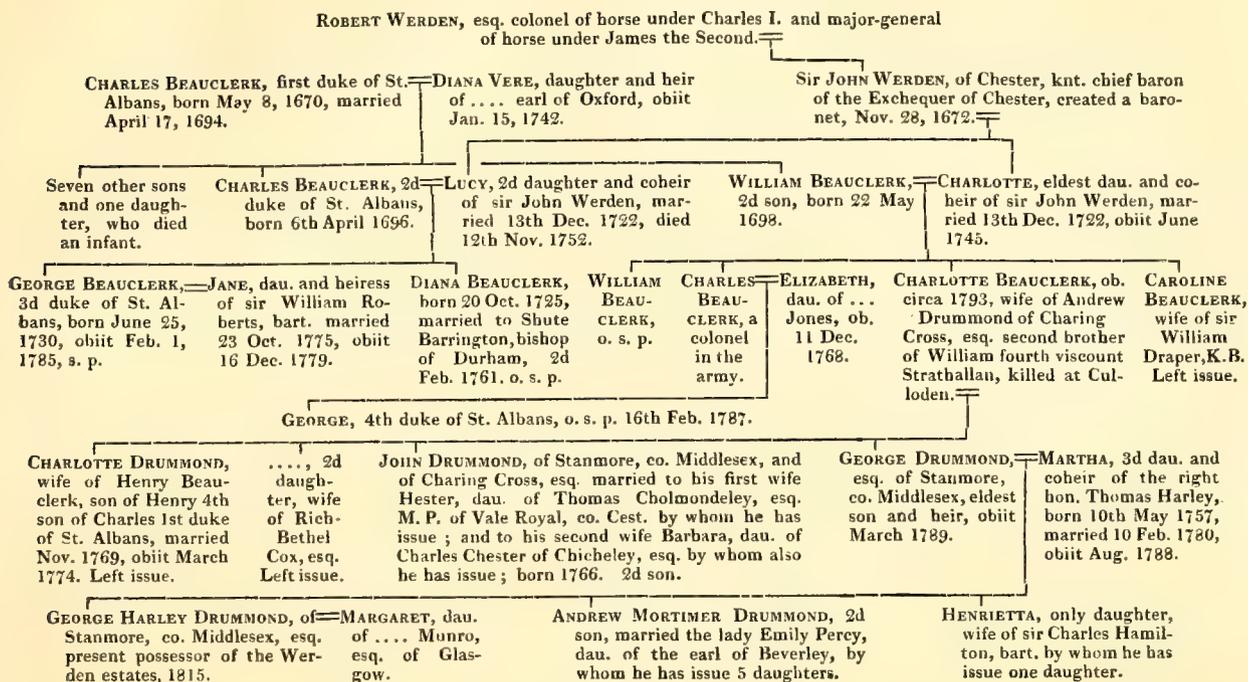
^c Harl. MSS. 2022.

^d Harl. MSS. 2122.

^e Blome's Academie of Armourie.

PEDIGREE OF WERDEN.

Communicated by the Very Reverend Hugh Cholmondeley, B. D. late Dean of Chester.



GREAT MOULDSWORTH.

No notice is taken of this township in Domesday. The capital manor was vested in the Savages, under whom it was held by the Manleys of Manley, 5 Hen. VI. It is enumerated among the possessions of sir John Savage, sen. in an *Inq. p. m.* 19 Hen. VIII. and was passed over by sir John Savage^a along with his other manors, 42 Eliz. and held under the same family as un-dermentioned, 10 Jac. I.

The mediate manor was held by a family to whom it gave name. William de Mouldsworth and Lucy his wife, 1 Edw. III. obtained it from William de Faleys, chaplain, with rents in Horton juxta Molesworth. This family bore, Argent, on a bend Sable, three pheons of the second. Shortly afterwards the manor was vested in the Manleys of Manley.

By *Inq. p. m.* 5 Hen. VI. it appears that John Manley of Manley had enfeoffed John Frodsham and others with his manor of Mouldsworth, which was held, together with Horton juxta Mouldsworth, from sir John Savage, kt.

This estate, which continues to occur in the subsequent Inquisitions of the Manleys as lands in Great and Little Mouldsworth, is again recognized as half the manor of Great Mouldsworth in the *Inq.* after the death of James Manley, esq. 14 Hen. VIII.

From the Manleys this estate passed, together with the manor of Manley, by sale to the Birkenheads; and 36 Eliz. Richard Birkenhead, of Manley, esq. passed

over the manors of Great and Little Mouldsworth^b, with forty messuages.

A considerable estate in Mouldsworth, for some time after that period, followed the changes of proprietors of the manor of Manley, and was the property of John Davies, esq. of Manley, in 1671, but the manerial rights appear to have been alienated long before the date last mentioned, and passed to the Hardwares of Peel and Brombroro. ^c Henry Hardware, esq. of Peel and Brombroro, *Inq. p. m.* 10 Jac. I. died seized of the manor of Mouldsworth with its appurtenances, six cottages, one mill, and two hundred and fifty acres of land, held of sir John Savage, kt. and bart. by fealty in socage. Samuel Hardware^d, esq. his nephew, was lord of Mouldsworth in 1671.

Shortly afterwards, but at what exact period does not appear, the manor was vested in the Tilstons, and, by bequest from the heir female of that family, Mrs. Mary Tilston, ^e passed to Mrs. Elizabeth Lightbody, after whose decease it was sold to Dr. Haygarth of Bath, in whom it is now vested. It was offered for sale, with Dr. Haygarth's other Cheshire estates in 1813, but only a few acres in the township of Tarvin were disposed of.

An estate in this township, which descended to lord Plymouth from the Whitleys by the same title as the Peel Hall estate in Little Mouldsworth, has been purchased from him, together with that estate, by Booth

^a Williamson, p. 87.^b *Ibid.* p. 86.^c *Ibid.* p. 98.^d Vill. Cest. Harl. MSS. 2010.^e Information of her daughter, Mrs. Gregg.

Grey, of Ashton Heys, esq. On this estate is an old stone building, sometime used as a residence by younger branches of the Davieses of Manley, and "repaired by John Davies of Manley, 1674,"^f which has a singular appearance from its small size, and inconsiderable height, contrasted with its projecting gables, bay windows, and other details of architecture suited to a building of much larger proportions.

The township occupies high ground, commanded by the superior elevation of the Forest Hills, but considerably raised above Little Mouldsworth, from which it is separated by Ashton brook, which descends from the swamps between the two Pales, on the forest of Delamere, and falls into the Gowy at Plemondstall.

LITTLE MOULDSWORTH,

ADJACENT to Great Mouldsworth, is, like that township, unnoticed in Domesday. The great families of Dutton of Dutton, Vernon of Shipbrook, Cholmondeley of Cholmondeley, and Savage of Clifton, had estates in this township; in right of which the Inquisitions of all these families contain claims to the manor, from the time of Henry VI. to that of Elizabeth, which it would be useless to particularize, for it is impossible to reconcile them. But it is to be observed, that the mediate manor of Great Mouldsworth, held by William Mouldsworth 1 Edw. III. is stated to be connected with Horton, a part of this township, and that the Manleys who succeeded the Mouldsworths held lands in both townships, ^a which were passed over as the manor of Great and Little Mouldsworth by Richard Birkenhead of Manley, esq. 36 Eliz.

The township consists of two estates, Horton and Peel; the proprietors of each of which have at various times claimed the manor of Little Mouldsworth, but no manerial rights are at present exercised.

Horton Hall is a large old farm-house of brick, on the bank of a small brook which separates this township from Tarvin, containing nothing of any interest. The estate is the property of Mr. Richard Maddock, by purchase from his niece the dowager marchioness of Lansdowne, relict also of sir Duke Giffard, and only daughter of the Rev. Hinton Maddock of Chester. Webb mentions the estate as an antient seat of the Trevices.

The Peel Hall estate was the property of the Hardwares, who were also of Brombroro, ^b and in the first instance held this place under the Cholmondeleys of Cholmondeley.

Henry Hardware, esq. mayor of Chester 1599, was the first of this family that resided here, and his descendants continued in possession for two generations. They were succeeded by Roger Wilbraham, esq. of Dorfold, who sold the estate to Henry Brooke, by whom it was resold to col. Roger Whitley, a zealous royalist, who accompanied king Charles into exile, and was deputed by that monarch to carry his orders into Cheshire on the rising of the Cheshire forces under lord Dela-

mere, at the eve of the Restoration. The pure constitutional principles of col. Whitley did not assort with the subsequent policy of the court, and he was returned a member for Chester on the Whig interest in 1681, and again in 1688, and succeeded the earl of Warrington as mayor of Chester in 1692, in which office he was continued for four years successively. He had the honour of entertaining king William at Peel Hall on his way to Ireland.

Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Thomas Whitley, esq. brought this and other estates of her family, in marriage to Other Windsor, second earl of Plymouth, about the year 1706. Having descended with that title to the present period, Peel Hall, with other adjoining estates of the Plymouth family, was sold in 1813 to Booth Grey, of Ashton Heys, esq. the present possessor.

Peel Hall was preceded by a mansion, which, as its name imports, was, most probably, either formed out of the remains of a building erected for defence against the ravages of the Welsh, or occupied its site. This earlier building is supposed to have stood within a circular moat in the garden, and to have furnished at its demolition the materials for the barns and out-buildings of the fabric which succeeded to it, and which is now also destroyed.

The later house which was erected near this site, was built with stone in 1637, and if an opinion could be formed from the wing which remained until its demolition by the present proprietor, it did but ill deserve the eulogiums which have been bestowed upon it, being but an indifferent specimen of the taste which prevailed on the restoration of Italian architecture in this country. The whole, however, as a mass, might have an effect which the relics were incapable of giving. The gardens were large, and the old brick wall which surrounded them fancifully arranged in escallops and semicircles.

The township is in a low and dull situation, but seated in the rich valley between Barrow and the Forest, on the banks of the small rivulet descending from Ashton to the Gowy.

^f Inscription over the door.

^a Williamson's Evidences, 17, 86.

^b Webb's Itinerary.

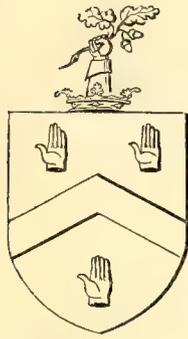
HARDWARE, OF PEELE AND BROMBOROUGH.

From the Wilbraham and Glegg MSS. and the Tarvin Registers.

ARMS. Sable, a chevron Argent, between three hands erect, coupé at the wrist of the second.

CREST. Issuing from a ducal coronet Or, a cubit Arm Azure, cuffed Argent, Hand proper holding an oak branch proper, with Acorns, Or

Granted to Henry Hardware, of Peel, esq. June 28, 1608, by sir Richard St. George Norroy.



WILLIAM ELCOCKE, alias HARDWARE, — ALICE, daughter of John, second son of sir John Ratcliffe, of Ordsball, kt.

JOHN HARDWARE, of Astmore in Halton fee, in the county of Chester. 34 Hen. VIII.

HENRY HARDWARE, of the city of Chester, mayor 1559 and 1576, obiit March 5, 1584, bur. at Tarvin.

AMEY, daughter and finally coheirress of Henry Gee of the city of Chester, born 1536, married 1560.

ELIZA, born 1572, wife of John Cowper, alderman of the city of Chester, who died without issue, and 2dly of John Bruyn of Stapleford, by whom she had issue; buried at Tarvin, Jan. 18, 1596.

JANE, born 1568, wife of Thomas Harbottle, of Newbold, sheriff of Chester, 1588. Had issue.

ANNE, wife of William Chantell, of Bache, born 1562. s. p.

HENRY HARDWARE, of Bromborough and Peele in the county of Chester, esq. born 1561, mayor of Chester, 1599.

ELIZA, dau. to Robert Aldcroft, of Molesworth.

MARGARET, born 1576, died 1626, wife of Edw. Dutton, mayor of Chester 1604.

ELEANOR, born 1575, wife of Gerard Massy, D.D. rector of Wigan.

JOHN, WILLIAM, RICHARD, JAMES, ANNE, DOROTHY, and ALICE, died infants.

MARGARET, died in London unmarried.

ANNE, bapt. at Tarvin, Nov. 9, 1523, obiit s. p. 1612, bur. at St. Peter's in London.

ELIZABETH, bapt. at Tarvin, July 13, 1586, died in Chester, s. p.

HENRY HARDWARE, of Bromborough and Peele, esq. bapt. Jan. 23, 1587, obiit 1613, leaving issue Henry, only child, who, by Jane his wife, dau. of Robert Ravenscroft, of Bretton, esq. had issue one son, Thomas, who died an infant, 1639, three months after his father's death.

MARGARET, dau. of Ralph Wilbraham of Dorfold, born Jan. 5, 1586, married Dec. 7, 1607, obiit June 11, 1611. Wilb. MSS.

JOHN HARDWARE, of Bromborough, and of Peele, esq. heir to his nephew, living 1639.

ANNE, dau. and coheirress of Thomas Hanley, of Boughton, esq.

GEORGE, bapt. at Tarvin, March 29, 1584, obiit s. p. THEODORE, bapt. at Tarvin, March 9, 1593, buried Oct. 28, 1594.

HENRY, o. s. p. JONATHAN, o. s. p. ELIZABETH, o. s. p.

MARY, daughter of John Gardner, of Shrewsbury, esq. 1st wife, obiit Feb. 1, 1652.

JOHN HARDWARE, of Bromborough and Peele, esq. a capt. in the army, ob. Feb. 17, 1661, bur. at Tarvin.

MARY, daughter of John Angell, of Crowhurst, in the county of Surrey, esq. remarried at Tarvin, Sept. 13, 1669, to John Hockenhull, of Hockenhull, esq.

SAMUEL HARDWARE, born 1625, heir to his brother, possessed of Bromborough court, 1668. Harl. MSS. 2010.

ELIZABETH, dau. of . . . Hodgkinson, of Preston in Amounderness.

HANNAH, eldest daughter, wife of Randle Greene, of Poulton, esq. Had issue.

JOHN HARDWARE, died young. 1st son.

HENRY, 2d son, died young, aged three-quarters of a year at his father's death.

SAMUEL, died an infant.

JOHN HARDWARE, of Bromborough, esq. son and heir, born a^o 1664.

FRANCES, eldest dau. of Boreatten, esq. by his 2d wife, Frances, dau. of Wm. lord Paget, baron of Beaudesert.

KATHERINE, born 1664, wife of Matthew, son and heir of Philip Henry, of Broad Oak in Flintshire.

SARAH, MARTHA, HANNAH, LETTICE, KATHERINE, and ROWLAND, died young.

JANE, born 1703, wife of . . . Pierce, co. Gloucester, by whom she had . . . Pierce, D. D. rector of West Kirkby. 1790.

MARY, ANNE, ELIZABETH, LETTICE, o. s. p.

JOHN HARDWARE, of London, born 1629, obiit 1721.

JOANNA, eldest dau. of Benj. Bradley, of London, mercht.

SAMUEL, born 1686, obiit 1701, bur. at Ince.

FRANCES, born 1684, wife of the 2d son of Sam. Bagsbawe, esq. of Ford, co. Derby.

BRIAN, born 1688, obiit 1692.

BENJAMIN, died unmarried in London, 1752.

HENRY HARDWARE, esq. eldest son and heir, born Jan. 1718, obiit 1802.

MARY, second daughter of Richard Millington, of Manchester, esq. married 1739, obiit Jan. 1789.

ELIZABETH, died an infant.

RICHARD, died an infant. HENRY, o. s. p. 1776. HENRY, died an infant.

JOHN HARDWARE, eldest son, born 1741, living in the island of Jamaica, 1789, obiit 1793.

DOROTHY, dau. of Richard Millington, first cousin to her husband, remarried to John Dod, eldest son of Robert Dod, of Rowton, gent. obiit 1801.

MARY, wife of Thomas second son of Sylvester Richmond, clerk, rector of Walton near Liverpool, marr. 1768, obiit 1799, had issue Sylvester, Henry, Maria, and Eliza.

MARYON, only daughter, wife of Robert Grier, of the island of Jamaica, married 1787.

ASHTON JUXTA TARVIN.

Was held soon after the Conquest by the Mainwaring's of Warmincham under the barons of Shipbrook, to whom it was granted before the Domesday survey.

Ricardus de Vernon tenet Estone, Toret tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi iv hidæ geldabiles. Terra est v carucarum. In dominio est una, et ii servi, et v villani, et ii radmans, et iii bordarii cum ii carucis. Ibi silva dimidia leuâ longa, et una acrå lata. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xvi solidos, modo xx solidos. Wasta inventur.

Inq. p. m. 17 Edw. I. Warin Mainwaring, kt. died seized of this manor, which he held by a military service from Ralph Vernon, baron of Shipbrook, who held the same from the king in capite. Value x marks per annum.

Maud, daughter and heiress of the said Warin Mainwaring, brought her father's estates in marriage to b William Trussel, of Cubbleston, co. Staff. the younger, 1 Edw. II.

c 27 Edw. III. William Trussel claimed common of

a Villare Cest.

b Leicester's MSS. p. 147.

c Vill. Cest.

pasture on Delamere forest in right of his manor of Ashton.

Inq. p. m. 3 Ric. II. William Trussel, of Cubbleston, chv'r, held, inter alia, the manor of Ashton from sir Ralph Vernon, kt. by military service. Elizabeth, daughter of his son Alured, next heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. IV. Margaret, wife of Fulco de Penbrugg, next of kin and heir to sir William Trussel of Cubblestone, held the manor of Ashton juxta Kelsall, from Richard de Vernon, as parcel of the barony of Shipbrook. Val. per ann. xx marks, exclusive of a pension of v marks paid to sir John Massy. William, son of Laurence Trussel, next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. IV. Sir William Trussel, kt. held the manor of Ashton juxta Kelsall, except a certain portion, being a twenty-fourth part, in the hands of the king, by military service. Val. xxl. Sir Thomas Trussel son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 21 Edw. IV. Sir William Trussel, kt. held in demesne as of fee the manor of the same, except as before, by military service, as one knight's fee, from the prince as earl of Chester. Val. per ann. 20l. Edward Trussel son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VII. Edward Trussel, ward of the king, held the manor of the same, except as before, from the prince as one knight's fee. John Trussel son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 15 Hen. VII. John Trussel, ward of the king, died seized, inter alia, of the manor of Ashton, held from the king as one knight's fee, val. per ann. 24l. The Inquisition relating to his Cheshire property, states his estates to be in the hands of the king, but that which relates to his property within the city of Chester, finds his sister Elizabeth his heir.

^dThis Elizabeth married John de Vere, fifth earl of Oxford of that name, whose grandson, Edward Vere, seventh earl, sold Ashton to sir Christopher Hatton, by whom it was resold to ^esir Randolph Crew, chief justice of the Common Pleas; by whom, and by Juliana his wife, it was again sold, 16 Jac. I. to Robert Davies of Manley.

^fHenry Davies, grandson of Robert, in 1696, con-

veyed the manor of Ashton to col. Roger Whitley of Peele, whose grandson, Roger Whitley, was lord in 1701. After an intermediate alienation to the family of Grantham, another sale conveyed it to Cornelius Hignett, of Darland, gent. whose daughters and coheirs, Mary and Margaret, became severally the wives of Thomas Aldersey, M. D. who died without issue, and of Samuel Aldersey, of Aldersey, esq. his brother. Samuel Aldersey, of Aldersey, esq. grandson of the before-mentioned ^gSamuel Aldersey and Margaret Hignett, is the present proprietor.

No court is held for the manor of Ashton.

The principal freeholders of Ashton are Samuel Aldersey, esq. Booth Grey, esq. Mr. George Speakman, and Mr. Bolland.

Ashton Hall, the property of Mr. Speakman, is an antient stone house, with large bay windows, adjacent to the village of Ashton, about two fields distant from the turnpike road.

Ashton Heys is the seat of Booth Grey, esq. eldest son of the hon. Booth Grey, the third son of the right hon. Harry, fourth earl of Stamford. This estate was antiently the seat of the Smiths of Hough. Sir Thomas Smith (*Inq. p. m.* 30 Hen. VIII.) held it under John Vere, earl of Oxford, by fealty, valued then at vs. per annum; and sir Laurence Smith (*Inq. p. m.* 25 Eliz.) held the same under sir Christopher Hatton, then lord of Ashton.

The present mansion was erected by Worthington, esq. from whose son the estate was purchased by Booth Grey, esq. in 1809; and by subsequent purchases of the same proprietor from the earl of Plymouth and others, it has now become the head of an extensive domain. The buildings which occupied its former site, were erected at various periods, and were used solely for farming purposes. Its situation is exposed, but eminently beautiful, being seated high among the forest hills, and commanding a view of the rich vale of Chester, bounded by the Broxton hills and Welsh mountains, the estuary of the Mersey, and the opposite shore of Lancashire.

KELSAL.

“BALDRICUS tenet de Hugone comite Cocle. Ulfac tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est una caruca: ibi est ipsa in dominio, et unus servus: tempore R. Edwardi valebat xl solidos, modo similiter. Wasta inventur.”

Sir Peter Leycester applies this account of “Cocle” to Coghall in Broxton hundred, but expresses a doubt whether it does not apply to Kelsal, as the Domesday survey places “Cocle” in Riseton hundred. The probability is certainly much more in favour of the latter place, which is situated in the centre of that hundred, than of Coghall, which is completely detached from it. The possession of Baldric, who had no other estate, was of short duration, and the manor of Kelsal passed

to the bishop of Chester at a very early period, under whom the baron of Dunham Massey held the same as mesne lord.

8 Edw. II. Hamon Massy, sixth baron of Dunham Massey, with Alice Beauchamp, his wife, ^aobtained the manors of Kelsal and Backford from Adam de Macclesfield, remainder to Richard, son of Robert de Massy.

19 Edw. III. Henry, duke of Lancaster, (the purchaser of the rights of the coheirs of Massey, vide Leycester, in Dunham Massey) obtained this manor, among the other component parts of that barony, ^bfrom Thomas de Hanchesford and Catherine his wife, Cicely, widow of John Fitton of Bollin, Thomas le Strange, of

^d Vincent's Discoverie of Erroures.

^e Information communicated by S. Aldersey, esq.

^c Villare Cest.

^a Williamson's Deeds, p. 9.

^f Ibid.

^b Ibid. p. 23.

Knockin, and Lucy his wife, Randle de Dutton and Margery his wife, Richard de Bradshaw and Cicely his wife, and Alice, sister of the said Cicely.

Inq. p. m. 6 Ric. II. Roger le Strange, of Knockin, chv'r, (lord of Dunham by gift from Henry duke of Lancaster, vide Leycester) held in demesne as of fee the manor of Kelsal from the bishop of Chester. Val. per ann. cs. John le Strange son and heir.

In what manner Kelsal passed to the Dones does not appear, but it became vested in the Flaxyards branch of that family, before the time of Edward IV.

Inq. p. m. 9 Edw. IV. John Done of Flaxyards held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Kelsal with its appurtenances, from the bishop of Chester^c. Val. per ann. cs.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VII. John Done of Flaxyards, noticed, under whom sir John Done of Utkinton held lands in Kelsal.

Inq. p. m. 1 and 2 Ph. et Mar. Ralph Done, of Flaxyards, esq. held the manor of Kelsal from sir John Savage, kt. Value 12l. 3s. 9d. From this *Inq.* it would appear that the capital lordship had passed by sale to the Savages from the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, together with the manor of Tarvin, but the bishop occurs afterwards as superior lord.

Inq. p. m. 4 Eliz. Ralph Done of Flaxyards, noticed, under whom sir John Done held lands in Kelsal. Ellena, niece and heiress of sir John Done.

Inq. p. m. 34 Eliz. Ralph Done, esq. (now of Utkinton by the failure of the male line of the elder house) held the manor of Kelsal from the bishop of Coventry and Lichfield.

The houses of Utkinton and Flaxyards were now united by the marriage of John, son and heir of this Ralph, with Ellena Done, the heiress mentioned in the preceding Inquisition, but the male line again failing in sir John Done, the issue of this marriage, Kelsal fell to the share of his younger daughter and coheiress, Eleanor, wife of Ralph Arderne, of Harden and Alvanley, esq. whose eldest son, sir John Arderne, kt. was lord in 1671^d, and was the great-grandfather of John Arden, esq. in whom one moiety of the manor of Kelsal is now vested, the other moiety being claimed by Booth Grey, esq. of Ashton Heys, by virtue of a recent purchase from the earl of Plymouth, in whom the Whitley estates in Ashton, Mouldsworth, and Kelsal, were vested, by descent, from the second earl of Plymouth, and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Whitley, esq.

A family of the name of Kelsall resided here in the reign of Edward the Second. * Thomas de Bulkelegh, 11 Edw. II. obtained from Adam de Kelsall and Eva his wife, six messuages and forty acres of land in Kelsale. Another estate was the property of the Moulds-

worths, which Adam de Mouldsworth and Cicely his wife, settled on their son Richard, and Ellen his wife, daughter of Roger Praers, 24 Edw. III. A third estate has been noticed under Budworth le frith, among the Inquisitions of Venables and Wrottesley. Lands also descended from the family of Baret to Alicia, wife of William Wilme of Oughtrington, (*Inq. p. m.* 21 Ric. II.) and other lands were held here by Ellen, widow of Robert Legh, of Adlington, esq. (*Inq. p. m.* 20 Hen. VII.) the last of which were held under the abbot of Vale Royal in socage.

The village of Kelsal, although a mere collection of huts, is in point of situation, one of the most picturesque in the county. The wooded hedge rows, and rich meadows around it, form a striking contrast to the timber stunted by the sea breezes, in the plain nearer Chester; and as the road ascends to the forest, it is overshadowed with fine elms, among which the cottages are scattered with considerable beauty of grouping. The circumstances of their being chiefly white, and the rapid descent enabling the rain to prevent lodgements of filth, give it a cleanliness to which the villages in this part of Cheshire are in general strangers.

On clearing the summit, the view opens with extraordinary magnificence. The Vale of Chester and the Welsh Hills of course present themselves, and to the north a fine view towards Lancashire; but the most striking features of the landscape are to the south west, where the range of the Peckforton and Broxton Hills, with Beeston Castle, assume a most picturesque form. The bold promontory of Willington Wood, clothed with luxuriant foliage, shoots out immediately under the eye, from below the camp of Kelsborrow, as if to join them; and the interstices give an almost unbounded view. The bare crags of the forest rising above are an advantageous set off to the picture.

On the summit of the hill is a single tree, visible from Staffordshire, and the Wirral coast opposite Liverpool.

Near the line of the present road the antient Watling Street, debouched into the plain below. The pass within the memory of man, was by an almost impassable defile, which remains unaltered, at one field's distance north of the present road, only varying a little in appearance from the neighbouring ditches by a few feet of breadth. A toll was antiently collected twice a year, "ad nundinas Sc'i Johannis et Michaelis," by the St. Pierres at this point, and also at the pass of Broxton, to which this bears a considerable resemblance, as well in its general features as in its commanding situation with respect to Chester, and in having been protected like that by a British fortress^f. The toll was abolished in consequence of abuse, but in what year is not mentioned^g.

^c The antient designation of the bishop of Lichfield, in documents relating to this county.

^e Williamson, p. 12.

^f The fortress of Maiden castle on Bickerton hill.

^d Harl. MSS. 2010. Vill. Cest.

^g Harl. MSS. 2072. 48.

WILLINGTON, OR WILLATON.

Most probably the "Winfletone" of Domesday, allotted to Walter de Vernon.

"Walterus de Vernon tenet de Hugone comite Winfletone; Ernet tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis; terra est 11 carucarum: ibi 11 villani habent unam carucam: silva ibi dimidia leuyâ longa, et una acrå lata. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat viii solidos, modo x solidos. Wasta inuenitur."

This township, with other lauds of Walter le Vernon, was afterwards resumed by the earls of Chester, under whom it was held in moieties by the families of Stapleford and D'espenser.

^aBeatrix, daughter of Robert de Mesnilwarin, and widow of Adam de Stapleford, released in full court at Chester, her lands in Weylaton, on which she had her dower, to Henry le Despenser; and Ranulph earl of Chester confirmed to the same ^bHenry Despenser, the whole vill of Weylaton, including that part which William, son of Henry, lord of Stapleford, had given him.

^cHenry Despenser, thus possessed of the whole of Weylaton, gave it to the abbey and convent of Stanlaw, subject to a rent of 10l. to be paid at Chester, on the feast of St. John the Baptist, in exchange for a carucate of land in Bamford (in Lancashire), and for the mill of Swyneford in Barue, which his brother Thomas Despenser had given them. Witnesses, Philip de Orreby justice of Chester; Roger of Mohaut, seneschall, &c.

^dBy another deed, witnessed by Robert de Holland, justice of Chester, Richard de Aston and others, Urian St. Pierre, son of John de St. Pierre, and serjeant of the Peace of the county of Chester in fee, released the tenants of the abbot of Whalley (formerly of Stanlaw), in Weylaton, from distress and puture for himself and his serjeants, by permission of Ranulph earl of Chester. This is not the only instance which has occurred of the serjeants of the peace acting within the jurisdiction of the earl's foresters ^e.

The manor of Willaton, or Willington, as it is now corruptly called, continued vested in the abbot and convent of Whalley to the dissolution, and is valued in two several rentals^f of that abbey in 1478 and 1521, at the yearly rent LIIIS. 1vd.

Shortly after the dissolution this manor was vested in the Leghs of Booths. 2 and 3 Phil. and Mary, Sir John Done and sir John Warburton, obtained of sir John Legh the manor of Northbury Booths, Willington, and numerous other estates, to him and his heirs male, remainder to the Leghs of Baggulegh, Isal, Adlington, and Lyme successively. It is not probable that any possessor intervened between the possession of the abbey, and of the Leghs of Booth, as this singular settlement bears a date only two years subsequent to the grant of the site of the dissolved abbey itself, to Richard Assheton, esq. in 1553.

The acquisition of Willington by the Dones (most probably by purchase from the Leghs of Booths) took place between 1593, in which year it is omitted in the Inquisition after the death of Ralph Done, of Utkinton and Flaxyards, esq. and 1629, in which year it descended to Mrs. Jane Done, in the division of her father's property, and it has passed subsequently in six shares in the same manner as Utkinton, except that the share of the Ardernes of the Oak, was exchanged for a rent charge on Willington Wood, now vested in undivided moieties, in the heirs general of the late Martha Mere, younger daughter and coheir of John Arderne, of Sutton and Romsey, esq.

The township is extra-parochial; but part pays corn tithes to the adjoining parish of Tarvin.

Willington Wood, a beautiful wooded promontory of rock, shoots out from the forest near Kelsal Hill, and is a conspicuous object, commanding an extensive prospect.

^a Chartulary of the abbey of Stanlaw. Harl. MSS. 2060, 150.

^b Ibid.

^c Ibid.

^d Ibid.

^e Vide Delamere.

^f Dr. Whitaker's Whalley, p. 80, and Harl. MSS. 2062; but the above deeds correct a slight error of that very learned historian, in asserting Willington to be part of the *original* endowment of Stanlaw.

^g Vide the pedigree of this branch of Arderne in Utkinton.

Barrow.

ONE township only is comprehended within this parish, consisting of the hamlets and manors of Great Barrow and Little Barrow^a. The greatest part of the parish consists of a ridge of land running parallel with the course of the river Gowy, to which it inclines by a gentle slope on the western side, and on the eastern, by a similar descent, towards the feet of the forest hills. At the northern extremity is the village of Little Barrow, and at the other the village of Great Barrow, and the parish church, situated about one mile north of the fourth mile stone on the Northwich road from Chester. The whole parish contains 3000 statute acres.

At the Domesday Survey, Barrow was the property of William Fitz Nigell, the second baron of Halton. "Isdem Willelmus tenet Bero, Toreth tenuit, et liber homo fuit; ibi III hidæ geldabiles; terra est VIII carucarum: ibi est una in dominio, et II bovarii et II villani, et IV bordarii, et II francigenæ. Inter eos est una caruca, ibi II molina de x solidis; et una acra prati. Silva una leuvâ longa et dimidia lata. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat III solidos, modo tantundem. Wasta invenitur."

Randle de Blundeville, earl of Chester,^b granted to Thomas Despenser, a charter of free warren in Barrow, disafforesting the same, and exempting it from puture and all other forest services, which charter was confirmed 5 Edw. VI. to sir John Savage.

In the reign of Edward the First, Hugh le Despenser earl of Winchester, obtained the manor of Little Barrow, with 20 acres of land in Great Barrow from Richard Chamberlain, 17 Edw. I. and obtained at the same time for 20l. the interest therein of Robert le Chamberlain, senr. and Beatrice his wife, and also for the same sum, the interest of John, son of Robert Chamberlain.

After the attainder of Hugh le Despenser earl of Winchester, king Edward the Third gave all his estates in the counties of Stafford and Chester, to sir Roger Swynerton to support the state of a banneret^c, confirming the manor of Great Barrow to him by charter, dated at Nottingham, 16 July, 8 Edw. III. and the manor of Little Barrow, by charter, dated at Westminster, 8th September, in the same year.

Robert Swynerton, kinsman and heir of this sir Roger, had a confirmation of these manors: ^dand died 12 Edw. III. leaving Robert Swynerton, clerk, his kinsman and heir, who was succeeded, June, 23 Edw. III. by sir Thomas Swynerton, knight, his brother and heir, who died December, 25 Edw. III. leaving sir Robert de Swynerton son and heir.

^e 38 Edw. III. Robert de Swynerton granted two parts of the manor of Barowe, and of the advowson of the chapel of that manor, and the reversion of the third part then held in dower by Matildis de Swynerton,

to John Beck, rector of Checkley, and John Heycok, chaplain, who in the same year re-granted the same to the said sir Robert Swynerton and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of sir Nicholas Beck, knight, and their lawful issue.

Maud, daughter and sole heiress of this sir Robert Swynerton, brought these estates in marriage to her husband sir John Savage, of Clifton, before the 7th of Hen. IV.

Barrow is thus noticed in the successive Inquisitions of the Savages of Clifton, who held it under the barony of Halton, the lords of which, as has been previously noticed, were the original grantees at the Conquest.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VII. Sir John Savage knight, held in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Great and Little Barrow, cum pert. together with the advowson of the free chapel there, from the king, as of his lordship of Halton, as one knight's fee. Value, per ann. 60l.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VIII. Sir John Savage, senr. knight, held, inter alia, in the same manner, the manors of Great and Little Barrow, as half a knight's fee. Value, per annum, xxxxl. iiii. iid.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VIII. Sir John Savage, knight, held in the same manner, inter alia, lands in Great and Little Barrow, and the advowson of the free chapel there. No value.

Inq. p. m. 40 Eliz. Sir John Savage, knight, held inter alia, the manors of Great and Little Barrow, cum pert. in Morley and Broomhill, and the advowson of the free chapel, as half a knight's fee. Value, per annum, ultr. repr'. xxxvii. xiiii. viid.

After the death of Richard Savage earl Rivers, this manor, under an act of Parliament, 7 Geo. III. became vested, in the manner more fully related under Frodsham, in lady Penelope Barry, daughter of James earl of Barrymore, by his wife lady Elizabeth Savage, daughter and sole heiress of the before-mentioned earl Rivers, with power to dock the remainders by fine or recovery. Lady Penelope married James, second son of George, the second earl of Cholmondeley, and on her decease in 1786, this manor, with others, passed to her husband's great nephew, George James marquis of Cholmondeley, the present proprietor.

The marquis of Cholmondeley is the principal landowner, under whom the tenements are mostly held on lease for lives; some have been alienated by him in fee. There are four halls in the township, Great and Little Barrow, Morley, and Park Hall, all of which are now merely farm houses.

John Savage of Barrow, a natural son of sir John Savage of Clifton, settled in this place in the reign of Elizabeth, and was father of John Savage, who had a numerous issue, as appears by the parochial registers, between 1608 and 1620.

^a The officers of the township act separately for the two hamlets, but the rates are equalized at the end of the year.

^b Harl. MSS. 2074, 240. Vernon's Collections, where the charter is given at large.

^c Leicester's Antiquities, 231.

^d Ibid.

^e Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5. p. 9.

RECTORS OF BARROW.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1313, Id. Maii.	Osbertus Gyfford, Acolytus.	D'nus Hugo le Despenser.	
1328.	Thomas de Blaston, Prb'r.	Rex.	P. resig. Osb. Gyfford.
1334, 17 kal. Sept.	Rob'tus de Taunton, Prb'r.	Rogerus de Swynerton, miles.	P. resig. Tho. de Blaston.
1335.	Rob'tus de Swynerton, Diac.	D. Rog. de Swynerton, miles.	P. m. Rob. de Taunton.
1349, 17 kal. Sept.	Nich. de Swynerton, Cap's.	D. Rob. de Swynerton.	
1357, Id. Mar.	Ricardus Johnson, Cl'us.	D. Tho. de Swynerton, miles.	P. m. Nich. de Swynerton.
	D'nus Johannes de Sutton.		
1395, 29 Junii.	M'r. Tho. Darby, Prb'r.	Walterus Episcopus.	P. resig. Jo. de Sutton.
	Johannes de Macclesfield.		
1411, 6 Junii.	Hugo de Rossindale, Cap's.	Jo. Savage, D'nus de Barwe.	P. resig. Jo. de Macclesfield.
	Petrus Domville, Cl'us.		
1462, 16 Aug.	W's Savage, Cl'us.	Oliverus Legh, R. Ecc. de Davenham, Hen. Byrom, Rob. More, Jacob. Harbroton, ex feoffamento Jo. Savage, mil.	P. m. Petri Domville. Cler.
1473, Nov. . . .	Edward Savage, Cl'us.	Jo. Savage, miles.	P. resig. W. Savage.
1488, Dec. 19.	W's Savage, Cl'us.		P. resig. Edw. Savage, prop. accep. D'næ Agn. Hastings in uxorem.
	Ralph Savage.		Death of Ralph Savage.
1546.	Henry Syddal.	Thomas Derbyshire.	
1593, Nov. 29.	Roger Parker.		Resig. of Roger Parker.
1597, Feb. 7.	Robert Hamson.	John Savage.	Cession of Rob. Hamson.
1602, Nov. 20.	William Forster, A. M.	The Queen.	Death of William Forster.
1639, Dec. 16.	Henry Bridgeman.		Death of Hen. Bridgeman.
1682, May 25.	Josiah Whittell.	Thomas, lord Rivers.	
	Richard Radley.		
1691, Oct. 10.	Edmund Entwistle.	Thomas, lord Rivers.	Death of Richard Radley.
1707, Dec. 20.	Richard Weever.	Lord Rivers.	Death of Edm. Entwistle.
1737, Jan. 15.	John Henshall, A. B.	Philip Egerton (hac vice.)	Death of Richard Weever.
1754, April 18.	Samuel Williamson, A. M.	Thomas Salusbury, alias Brereton, esq. (hac vice.)	Death of John Henshall.
		Earl of Cholmondeley.	Death of S. Williamson.
1785, July 12.	John Burrel Blount, A. M.	Earl of Cholmondeley.	Resig. of J. B. Blount.
1804, July 13.	Hugh Cholmondeley, A. M.	Marquis of Cholmondeley.	Death of Hugh Cholmondeley, B. D.
1816, Feb. 10.	John Clarke, A. M.		

William Forster, will be farther noticed in the list of Prebendaries of Chester; *Henry Bridgeman*, in that of the Deans; *Edmund Entwistle*, among the Archdeacons of Chester; and *Richard Weever* in the account of rectors of Wistaston.

A brief memoir of the late much lamented incumbent, will be found annexed to the account of the Cholmondeleys of Vale Royal, in the preceding part of this volume.

CHURCH.

Taxat. Eccl. P. Nicholai, 6l. 13s. 4d.
Val. Eccl. 19l. 6s. 5½d.

† Roger de Bachepuz, in the reign of Henry the Second, gave the church of Barrow to the knights hospitallers, who established a preceptory here, which together with Yeveley in Derbyshire, was valued 26 Hen. VIII. at 93l. 3s. 4d. according to Dugdale, and 107l. 3s. 8d. according to Speed.

On the presentation of Osbert Gyfford, acolyte, to this church in 1313, it is called, in the Episcopal Registers of the diocese of Lichfield, the free chapel of Barwe within the prebend of Tarvin. From that period to the present, the right of presentation has continued annexed to the manor.

‡ The rector has the corn tithes of the whole parish. In lieu of hay tithe there is a payment of one shilling

the statute acre for meadow land, and nine-pence per statute acre for upland. The occupier of the farm called Barrow Hall, pays 7s. 6d. annually in lieu of hay tithe.

The church, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, is a small low building, with a north aisle, separated from the body by a range of very obtuse arches; a chancel was added in 1671, by Henry Bridgeman, rector, whilst bishop of Sodor and Man, and dean of Chester. In 1744, a new tower was strongly built with stone, but in a style incongruous with the rest of the fabric.

The registers commence in 1572, and are imperfect between 1668 and 1681.

In the church is a monument in memory of George Fryer, of Barrow, gent. and in the chancel is suspended a board containing the benefactions to the parish by gift and legacy, the sum total amounting to 121l. 10s.

§ When the tower of the church was rebuilt, with part of the south side, this sum then in the custody of the churchwardens, was laid out wholly in aid of those expences, and the church rate was charged with the payment of 6l. 6s. interest, which has until lately been applied to the instruction of poor children, and will again be appropriated to that purpose, on the completion of a school, now erecting by parish subscription.

¶ A sum of twenty shillings, called the widow's money, bequeathed by Mr. John Brereton, of Chester, is paid annually by the corporation of Chester, in May, and distributed among poor widows.

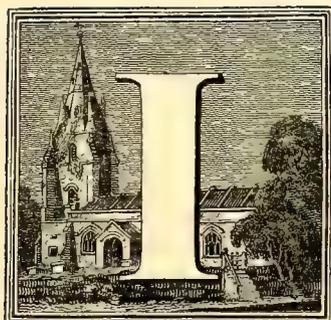
† Monasticon Ang. Tom. I. 1039, and II. 547. Tanner, Not. Monast.

‡ Communicated by the late Hugh Cholmondeley, B. D. dean of Chester, rector of Barrow.

History of Cheshire.

Hundred of Wirral.

INTRODUCTION.



IN the animated description of the Cheshire rivers, given by Drayton, in his *Polyolbion*, he particularly notices the singular situation of the long and narrow peninsula of Wirral, interposing itself between the powerful streams of the Dee

and the Mersey, where they seem to be rushing to confluence, and diverting the broad current of the latter river towards the Irish sea, forming thereby a sharp angle with its former course, which bore direct upon the side of this Hundred.

“Where Mersey for more state,
Assuming broader banks, himself so proudly bears;
That at his stern approach extended Wirral fears,
That what betwixt his floods of Mersey, and of Dee,
In very little time devoured he might be.”^a

These estuaries form the majestic boundaries of the Hundred of Wirral on two sides; the waters of the Irish sea complete the line on the third side; and on the fourth its limits are defined by a deep valley, which runs across it in an irregular direction from the Mersey, by Stoke, Croughton, Chorlton, Backford, and the two Mollingtons, to the Dee, and divides Wirral from the Hundred of Broxton.

It will here be necessary to overstep the limits of the Hundred, and to observe that the raised terrace formed by Wirral, between the waters of the two estuaries, after being broken by the deep valley before-mentioned, continues its course onwards, in a south-east direction, towards the feet of the Broxton Hills, still retaining on its sides two deep and broad vales, each of which is a continuation of the line of the respective estuaries. The vale on the North-east is traversed during its whole length by the waters of the Gowy. The vale on the South-west forms in its upper part the bed of the Dee, which, however, instead of proceeding down the rest of the vale to the estuary in a straight line, is diverted to the walls of Chester by a deep channel^b, formed in the elevated line

before-mentioned, which carries the river past Chester in a direction nearly semicircular, till it joins the estuary and the line of the great vale again, near Blacon point.

That the waters, before the retiring of the sea from the western coast of Britain, occupied the line of these vales, will be doubted by no one who has looked down on the general level of the country, either from the forest hills, or from the ridge of the great natural terrace before mentioned, near Aldford or Churton. A tide a very few yards higher than usual, would now cover them to a considerable extent.

Having thus shewn that vestiges exist, in the general face of the country, manifesting that the waters occupied a wider range than the present height of the tides allows, it remains to mention that a tide much lower than would suffice to cover these levels would fill the before-mentioned smaller valley, which intervenes between Wirral and Broxton, and render the former Hundred a complete island, as the country tradition still maintains it to have been at a distant period. The variation of level is indeed so inconsiderable, that it was once proposed to take the Dee through this line into the Mersey, instead of forming its present artificial channel by embankments, and it was in consequence of this suggestion that Mr. Pennant made a series of observations, which led to the connection of the two rivers by the present canal.

At the point where this valley joins the Mersey, we have the township of Ince (Inys, or the Island), a place which could only obtain its name by an elevation of the waters to the height supposed; and near the other end, but three miles farther from the sea than the termination of this valley in the Dee, as late as the 31st of Edw. III. we find the abbot of St. Werburgh, in his plea to a Quo Warranto, claiming among other manerial privileges “*Wrecum maris*,” in his manors of Boughton, Huntington, and Cheveley.

As a last proof, whether the inferences drawn from these circumstances are correct, the soil has been examined in Chorlton, Coghall, and other parts of the valley; and about a yard below the surface it has been uniformly found to be composed of the same grey sea sand, as the ground which has been recovered from the

^a *Polyolbion*, Song XI.

^b This channel is supposed to be in a great measure artificial, and is stated in some antient pleadings relative to the Dee mills, to have been made by Hugh Lupus. Harl. MSS. 2084. 157.

Dee by embankments. A very considerable quantity of sea shells is also deposited in the gravel, which occasionally is found in the sides of the valley; and roads which have been covered with it, appear plentifully bestrewed with sea shells, and their fragments, after the surface has been washed by a shower.

Assuming then, that the estuaries of the Mersey and the Dee have met in the valley between Wirral and Broxton in confluence, this theory will raise the tide in a similar manner in a creek which parts Bromborough and Bebington, and carry it up the course of a deep valley, which is crossed by an antient road below Poulton Lancelyn. It is observable that the fields on each side of this pass, which is now nearly disused, retain the name of the Marfords; as the other antient points of crossing the valleys, which we have supposed were formerly subject to the tides, are marked by the names of Stanford, Trafford, and Backford.

An important inference remains to be stated. At the extremity of the Hundred on the shore of the Irish Sea, is a long level plain, protected only from the ravages of the sea by a line of sand hills, and opening to the Dee by a deep rocky vale near Thurstanton, and to the Mersey by another valley which extends between Birkenhead and Wallesey to the bay called Wallesey Pool. The tide which would insulate Wirral, and divert the present road by Bromborough mill to the higher point at the Marfords, would also fill these valleys, and cover the low range protected by the sand hills on the edge of the Irish sea; in which case *the Dee and the Mersey would present only one large mouth common to both rivers*, from which would rise two rocky islands, the parishes of West Kirkby and Kirkby in Walley, or Wallesey, in the antient name of which (*Walleia*) we yet find an allusion to its insular situation.

By the admission of this, difficulties of great importance in the antient geography of Britain are reconciled at once. It will be necessary to mention that the *Seteia Portus*, and the *Moricambe* of Ptolemy are universally acknowledged to be the mouths of the Dee and the Ken, and that the same geographer having inserted between them only two rivers, *Segantiorum Portus* and *Belisama Æstuarium*, it has been a subject of dispute whether the Mersey, the Ribble, or the Lune, which now intervene, must be considered the river omitted. Mr. Whitaker has contended that the Ribble was overlooked, and the later learned antiquary of the same name has abundantly proved that the Mersey, and not the Ribble, is the river undescribed, which he accounts for, by its having no celebrated port on its banks, and consequently not attracting the notice of the mariners, from whom Ptolemy had his observations. As the mouths

and not the rivers are described, if the theory which has been advanced is allowed to have been proved, the difficulty will vanish. The arguments which have been stated in favour of the Ribble being intended by the *Belisama*, will remain unshaken, and as the two rivers mingling through the channels of Thurstanton and Wallesey, would present conjointly one mouth broken only by two inconsiderable islands, they would together form the *Seteia Portus*, and leave no impeachment in this point, on the accuracy of the informants of Ptolemy^b.

The Hundred of Wirral, thus bounded by the sea, the Dee, the Mersey, and a modern canal, forms nearly an oblong parallelogram, of eighteen miles in length by six in breadth. Its present name occurs as *Wirheal* in the Saxon chronicle. Domesday notices it under the name of *Wilaveston Hundred*; and it is described under this name in law proceedings as late as the reign of Edward III.^c

The original Norman Hundred comprehended the present Wirral Hundred, and four townships of Broxton, namely, Upton, Wervin, Picton, and Trafford, and Edelave and Samreford, now unknown.

Every Saxon land proprietor in the Hundred was ejected at the Conquest, with the exception of the bishop, who retained half of Great Sutton, and the secular canons of St. Werburgh, who retained two thirds of Wervin, Croughton, Little Sutton, Great Saughall, Shotwick, and one third of Neston, and half of Raby. The earl had Eastham (now Brombro', which included the present Eastham), Trafford, Edelave, Upton near Chester, and Stanney. Wirral also contained a large portion of an extensive barony, founded in favour of Robert de Rodelent, which comprehended on this side of the Dee the two Mollingtons, Leighton, Thornton Mayow, Gayton, Haselwall, Thurstanton, Caldey, the two Meolses, and Wallesey. This barony was broken up on the death of Robert shortly afterwards. Of the other barons, Hamo de Masci had Puddington; Robert Fitzhugh had half of Great Sutton; Walter Vernon had Nesse, Ledsham, and Prenton; William Fitz Nigell had one third of Neston, half of Raby, and Capenhurst, and Barnston; William Malbedeng had a third of Wervin, and Poole, Little Saughall, Upton near Bidston, Thingwall, and Knoctorum. There were only three minor grantees: Hugh de Mara had Caldey; Ranulphus, ancestor of the Mainwarings, Blacon; and Robert, the cook, a third part of Neston and Hargreve.

The entire Hundred was formed into a forest by Randle Meschines, third earl of Chester, the master forestership whereof was granted to Alan Sylvester, in fee, with the manors of Storeton and Puddington, to

^b Some other points remain to be noticed. If the reader turns to any old map of Cheshire, he will find a stream carried through from river to river between Wirral and Broxton, in the line which is here supposed to have been an antient branch of the Mersey, and be surprised at the pains which have been here taken to prove an established point; but the fact is, that the designers of the maps have been misled by a brook rising near the middle of the valley, one branch of which joined the stagnant waters of the Gowy, near Thornton, the other flowed to the Dee, connecting the rivers indeed by a line of natural water, but not bringing them into confluence at so recent a period. This stream is mostly absorbed in the present canal.

A writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, (LXVI. p. 549) though apparently ignorant of the difficulties, as to the Mersey being overlooked by Ptolemy, has suggested from natural appearances that it had antiently no mouth below Liverpool. He argues from the yielding nature of the soil at the present mouth, the similar strata of the two sides, and the remains of the roots of a pine forest, visible at low water on the Cheshire and Lancashire shore, which he presumes to have been overwhelmed by the same irruption of the sea, which opened the mouth of the Mersey. This *very bold* theory would leave the valley below Chorlton, and the passage between Birkenhead and Wallesey, the *only* passages by which the Mersey could possibly have reached the sea. It must be mentioned that great apprehensions are entertained of the sea regaining the latter passage; a small brook rises in the flat near the sea almost level with it, and flows landwards to meet the Mersey under Wallesey and Seacomb, and falls into Wallesey Pool opposite Liverpool. If the sea breaks through to this channel, it is apprehended that the sand washed in, would infallibly ruin the port of Liverpool.

Traces of former operations of the sea, are yet distinguishable, to which Wirral most probably owes its original formation, in the revolutions occasioned by the general deluge. It consists mostly of clay, marl, or sand. The substratum is rock, sometimes at a great depth, sometimes rising above the surface, and worked into the walls of the cottages, as in Sutton. Whatever the depth is, this rock is found covered by gravel, and by fragments of the rock worn into round balls by the action of the water. The sand is usually found in large patches, and not in regular veins, and is occasionally mingled with broken shells and sea gravel.

^c Quo Warranto of the Prior of Birkenhead.

hold by cornage, or in the words of the quo warranto, "cum quodam cornu nomine tituli ballivæ prædictæ^d."

The master forestership passed together with the manor of Storeton^e, through the families of Storeton and Bamville, to the Stanleys, of Stanley, in Staffordshire. The privileges of the master forester, which closely resemble those of the Dones, given in the account of Delamere, will be found detailed in William Stanley's plea to a quo warranto, an exemplification of which is appended to this Introduction, together with the lists of townships within the forest jurisdiction, which was co-extensive with the present Hundred. In this plea William Stanley admits of no exemptions from the forest laws, excepting the four manors of the abbot of St. Werburgh, or rather the townships comprized within the jurisdiction of those manors. It however appears that exemptions of different natures were claimed by the monasteries of Birkenhead and Stanlaw, by charter from the earls; by the tenants of the manor of Burton, in right of the ecclesiastical privileges of the bishop, their manerial lord; and by the tenants of Haselwall^f, and other manors, by virtue of concessions made by the master foresters themselves.

The early period at which Wirral was disafforested, destroys the possibility of deriving any information respecting it from the records of the Exchequer of Chester. A mandate to Reginald de Grey, dated 15 Sept. 12 Edw. I. is preserved in the red book of Chester Abbey, directing him to give a stag yearly to the abbey, on the feast of St. Werburgh, out of the forest of Wyrall, and also the tenth of the venison of the said forest, in aid of the great work in the building of the church, as was done in the forest of Delamere.

Wirral was disafforested in the reign of Edward III. and twenty marks per annum were allowed to the Stanleys in lieu of the profits of their office. This stipend being irregularly paid, a petition was presented by William Stanley (grandson of William at whose suit the plea to the quo warranto was exemplified 12 Ric. II.) for the continuance of the said stipend, which was granted accordingly.^g

NEXT after the forest jurisdiction was the power of the church in Wirral. Only two advowsons, those of Woodchurch and Haselwall, were in the hands of the laity: every other church was in the hands of some monastic foundation.

The abbot of St. Werburgh alone had sixteen manors, independent of manerial rights exercised over his tenants in lands lying within other manors. The following rights claimed by him in this Hundred, are stated in a plea to a quo warranto 31 Edw. III.

In this plea he claims by prescription infangtheof, wayf, stray, and chattels of fugitives and felons, in his manors of Irreby, Grevesby, Woodchurch, Knoctorum, Bromburgh, Estham, Great and Little Sutton, Whitby, Overpulle, Childer Thornton, Chorleton juxta Bacford,

Crogheton, and Lea, as also in his fee of Shotwyk and Salghall. To have view of frank pledge between Michaelmas and Christmas, at his manor house of Irreby, for Irreby, Grevesby, Woodchurch, and Knoctorum: at Bromburgh, for Bromburgh and Estham: at Little Sutton, for Great and Little Sutton, Whitby, Overpulle, and Childer Thornton: at Salghall, for the fee of Huxley, Salghall, and Shotwick: at Chorleton, for Chorleton: at Upton, for Lea, among other townships not in this Hundred: at St. Thomas's Court, for his tenants in Raby.

He claimed also market and fair in Bromburgh; wreckage in Bromburgh, Estham, Whitby, Salghall, and Shotwick; and wayf, stray, and infangtheof, in his lands of Frankeby, Nesse, Neston, Bebynton, Pulton, Hargreve, Podynton, and Little Meoles.^h

To this must be added the influence of Stanlaw and of Birkenhead, and the minor foundations of Hilbree, Poulton, and Denwall.

A Hundred, thus circumstanced, was not likely to be a favourite place of residence. Accordingly, although many manors were possessed here, by considerable houses, a smaller proportion were resident than in the other Hundreds. Of these families, the Stanleys, Pooles, and Bunburies, have inherited estates in the male line from a very early period. The possession of the other manerial proprietors, or rather of those resident, is comparatively modern, with the exception of the Gleggs, of Gayton, a house of high antiquity, and connected with most of the great names of the county, who are representatives of the antient family of that name, but inherit through a female.

The Greenses, of Poulton, are descended, through a female line, from the Lancelyns and Greenses, by the bequest of whose heiress they possess their name and estates.

Only two good specimens of antient domestic architecture are remaining in Wirral, the Halls of Poole and Brunstath. Fragments of what is usually deemed Saxon architecture, exist in the churches of Bebington, Bromborough, Stoke, and Shotwick; and a part of the chapter house of Birkenhead Priory appears to bear a nearer resemblance to the style of this period, than that of the foundation of the monastery. The rest of those ruins and the chancel of Bebington are fine specimens of the pointed Gothic. Stanlaw monastery and the cell of Hillbree, have long been destroyed. Shotwick castle is to be traced in the earthworks. The vestiges of the castle of the Lancelyns at Poulton are yet visible to an eye well practised in the observation of such remains.

The general appearance of the Hundred is a bare uninteresting flat; but exceptions may be found in the Valley which separates Wirral from Broxton, and in a beautiful and sequestered dingle below Poulton Lancelyn. Many noble sea-views occur, particularly those

^d The horn is now preserved at Hooton; it is slightly curved, and tipped with brass at the smaller end; the colour varies from yellow to light brown, and is spotted in shades of blue and black. It is nine inches and a half in circumference at the broad end, seven inches in the middle, and two and a quarter at the brass tip. The extreme length is sixteen inches and three-quarters, and the length across the curve thirteen and three-quarters. A representation is given in p. 196.

^e Vide Storeton.

^f Pleas of the Cheshire Forests, Harl. MSS.

^g "Meekly besecheth Will'm of Stanlegh the elder, that whereas Will'm of Stanlegh (besaiell to the saide Will'm whose heire hee is), and his auncestors, have been seased of the office of m'r fforestership of the fforeste of Wyrall, within the countie of Chester, which in the tyme of the full noble kyng your progenitour Edward the 3d. after the Conquest, was disaforest, and thereby the said Will'm, and his heires, of the said office, and the profits thereof, which were yearly worth 40l. disherit, which considerit by Richard late kyng of England, your progenitour, second after Conquest, therefore by his several P'res patentes severally made and graunted to the said Will'm, besaiell, and after his death to Will'm of Stanlegh, his son, ayell to your said besecher, 20 markes yearly, as in the said P'res appeareth. That, if it like you to consider the premisses, and to graunt to yo'r saide besecher 20 markes, &c."—Grosvenor MSS. xxi. 5.

^h Remaining in the Exchequer of Chester, and printed in the account of St. Werburgh's abbey.

from Bebington, Burton, and Brombrorough. A rocky valley, north of Thurstanston, possesses a considerable degree of picturesque effect and savage wildness.

From the confined limits of the Hundred there is only one stream which obtains a name, the Birkin, which rises in Newton Carr, runs along a level tract of uninclosed pasture ground called the leasowe, situated on the shore of the Irish Sea, and at Wallesey, turns northwards from the sea, and falls into the Mersey near Birkenhead.

The communications by roads are excellent, as far as respects the turnpike roads, which are all reduced under one act. The others, where no spirited proprietor has exerted himself, are proportionably bad, and indeed must necessarily be so, from the manner in which the farm-houses are grouped in villages, and the cattle driven along the lanes, which are rarely composed of any material but the natural clay. No higher praise

can be given to the hovels, or the appearance of the lower orders, which are in general extremely squalid. This class of the population from its contiguity to the Principality, is mostly Welsh, or of immediate Welsh origin; and the patronymics of that country have nearly superseded the Cheshire names. If the old saying be correct:

“ From Blacon point to Hilbree,
A squirrel may leap from tree to tree,”

Wirral has lamentably fallen off in its timber: it has however equally improved in its productiveness of corn, of which, in Camden's time, it was proverbially barren.

The Hundred is an entire deanery. The monthly meetings of magistrates are held at Neston. The court of the Hundred, which has nearly fallen into disuse, is farmed under the crown by Birkenhead Glegg, esq. of Backford.

I.

Exemplification of the CLAIM of Sir WILLIAM STANLEY, as Forester of Wirral, 10 Ric. II.

Ricardus Dei gra' Angliæ et Franciæ rex et d'nus Hiberniæ, omnibus ad quos p'ntes Præ pervenerint, salutem. Inspex' quoddam recordum cujusdam pl'iti, in pleno com. Cestr. in hæc verba. Pl'ita com. Cestr. coram Bartholomeo de Burghersshe, Justic. d'ni com. Cestr. die Martis prox. post festum Epiphaniæ D'ni, anno r'i Edvardi 3. Tricesimo quinto. Cestr'.

D'nus comes misit hic has Pras suas sub privato sigillo suo in hæc verba.

Edward eisnez filz au noble roy d'Angleterre, prince de Galles, duc de Cornwall, et comite de Cestre, a n're ch'vr et foyall Mons. Barth. de Burghersshe, Justice de Chestre, ou a Johan de Delves son lieutenant, et a maistre Johan de Brunham illeoquez salus. Porceoq; par un record retournee devant n're conseil a Londres, sous le seal de n're Eschequer de Cestre a la seute de William filz et heire de William de Stanley, suemes duement enformeuz q'en l'eire de la Foreste de Wyræ, tenuent devant S'r Jerdun de Macclesfeld et ses compagnons, justices du dict eire, William le Stanley, le pere, claima le Baillie de la Forestarie de Wyrhale, oue certaines franchizes et profitz a ce appurtenantz, en les paroles que s'ensuent. Will'mus de Stanley forestarius Forestæ de Wyrhale, clamat habere sibi et heredibus suis balli'am forestæ prædictæ, et rac'oe balli'æ p'd'tæ clamat venari cum leporariis ad lepores et vulpes omni tempore anni. Item d'ctus Will'mus clamat habere sibi et heredibus suis rac'oe balli'æ p'd'tæ sex servientes pedites, ad custod. balli'am suam qui pascentur per totam Wyrhale, exceptis quatuor maneriis abb'is Cestriæ, viz. Estham, Bromburgh, Irby, et Sutton. Item d'ctus Will'mus clamat habere sibi et heredibus suis, rac'oe balli'æ p'd'tæ, in tempore feonationis circa f'm Sc'i Joh'is Baptistæ, escapur. cujuslibet av'ii capti in aliquo bosco infra dc'um tempus, videlicet pro quolibet av'io capto duos denarios. Item dc'us Will'mus clamat habere dextram scapulam cujuslibet bestię capt. in balli'a sua quolibet tempore anni. Item dc'us Will'mus clamat habere, si aliquam bestiam in balli'a sua vulnerat et mortuam invenerit, quod duo latera et forchas d'cæ bestię, per ip'm Forestar. cum av'iis d'cæ villæ in

qua inventa fuerit, apud Castrum Cestr'. mitti fac. et c'trum d'cæ bestię cum omnibus escætis, exceptis d'cis lateribus et forchis, idem Will'mus habebit. Item d'cus Will'mus clamat habere, quod si scrutatus fuerit in domo alicujus in balli'a sua, infra Forestam de Wirhal, pro suspectu transgress. venationis, et invenerit venaco'em in dc'a domo per scrutato'em sic f'cam, quod ipse tunc habeat omnia bona et catalla quæ vocantur pelf in eadem domo inventa.

Et prædcus Will'mus quæsitus per justic. quo warranto clamat d'cam balli'am forestæ de Wyrhale cum libertatibus et proficuis prædcis, habere precipere et tenere, dicit, quod quidam Ranulphus primus, quondam comes Cestriæ, dedit cuidam Alano Sylvestri manerium de Stourton et Pu'ckan, sibi et heredibus suis, et etiam balli'am Forestæ de Wyrhale, sibi et heredibus suis in perpetuum simul cum libertatibus et proficuis, eidem balli'æ spectantibus, cum quodam cornu nomine tit'li balli'æ prædcæ. Qui quidem Alanus genuit quendam Radulphum filium et hæredem ipsius Alani, cui post mortem ipsius Alani prædcæ manerium et balli'a tanquam filio et hæredi descenderunt, post mortem cujus Radulphi præfata manerium et balli'a cuidam Alexandro filio et hæredi ipsius Radulphi descenderunt; post mortem cujus Alexandri prædcæ manerium et balli'a Johannæ et Agneti filiabus et hæredibus descenderunt, inter quas prædcæ manerium et balli'a partita fuerunt et æquanimiter allocata. Quæ quidem Johanna obiit sine hærede de corpore suo procreato; ratione cujus mortis, prædcæ manerium et balli'a præfata manerium et balli'a præfata Agneti tanquam sorori et hæredi ipsius Johannæ devenerunt; quam quidem Agnetem Thomas de Baumville ch'vr desponsavit, et ex ea quendam filium nomine Philippum de Baumville procreavit, cui Philippo tanquam filio et h. dictorum Thomæ et Agnetis, præfata manerium et balli'a, post mortem Thomæ et Agnetis, descenderunt. Qui quidem Philippus genuit tres filias, viz. Johannam, Elenam, et Agnetem, quibus vero filiabus et heredibus ejus Philippi post mortem ipsius Philippi, qui dc'a manerium et balli'am habuit et tenuit, et in eisdem ut in dominico suo, ut de feodo obiit seizitus, par-

tita fuerunt et allocata : viz. præd'ca balli'a cum puturâ et aliis proficuis de'æ balli'æ spectantibus, et etiam quædam parcella de'or. manerior. præfata Johannæ in p'tem suam p'tit. fuerunt et allocata et cæteræ parcellæ de'orum manerior. præfat. Elenæ et Agneti in partes suas partit. et allocat. extiterunt. Quam quidem Johannam Will'mus de Stanlegh desponsavit, ex quâ quendam Johannem de Stanlegh in prolem suscitavit, cui post mortem ipsorum Willi. et Johannæ tanquam filio et hæredi eorundem præd'ca balli'a cum puturâ et aliis proficuis prænotatis et etiam parcellâ manerior. præd'corum descenderunt, qui quidem Joh'es quendam Will'm de Stanley (qui dcu' ballivum simul cum verte puturâ et aliis proficuis prenotat. ac etiam parcellam manerior pd'cm tenet, percipit, et habet, in propartem suam ut præmittitur,) procreavit. Et præd'ca Elena et Agnes, parcellas manerior. præd'cor. habent et tenent in partem suam.

Et quia præd'cus Will'mus de Stanlegh, filius et hæres ipsius Johannis de Stanlegh tenet balli'am forestæ præd'cæ cum puturâ et aliis proficuis de'æ balli'æ spectantibus, per tit'lum præd'cum et etiam parcellam manerior. prædictor. in proparte sua sibi allocata. Et præfata Agnes et Willi'us de Lakene, filius et hæres Willi'i de Lakene et Elenæ uxoris suæ, unius sororum et hæredum præfati Philippi de Baumville, tenent propartes suas in parcenar. suorum maneriorum, sine quibus non debet nec potest ad ea quæ in clam. sunt contenta respondere.

Ideo petit auxilium de prædic'is Will'o de Lakene et Agnete parcenar. suis, quod veniant et cum ipso respondeant ad clam' præd' declarand. et terminand. et concessum est ei. Super quo mandat. est bre. Vic. Cestr. quod distr. præfat. Agnetem et Will'm de Lakene per omnes terras et catall. quæ habent in balli'a sua; Ita quod habeat corpora eorum Justic. Cestr. die instanti Lunæ, prox. post festum Sc'æ Katherinæ virginis, prox.

futur. ad respondend. coram eisdem Justic. simul cum eodem Will'mo quo warranto clam. libertates et proficua p'pm suarum in man'iis supradic'is simul cum ipso Will'mo percipere et habere in eâdem. Qui quidem Agnes et Will'mus de Lakene, dicto die Lunæ in cur. venerunt, et super præmissis examinati licentiam petierunt ut se cum consilio suo consulere possent, super clam. suprad'co. quibus datus erat dies usque ad diem Mercurii prox. post f'm Sc'æ Katherinæ Virginis, tunc prox. sequent. Ad quem diem præfatus Will'mus de Lakene et Agnes venerunt, et breviter concesserunt quod respondere debeant cum præd'co Will'mo ad declarac'o'em clam. suprad'ci.

Et super hoc datus est dies præfatis Will'mo, Will'mo et Agneti die Veneris prox. ante festum Invenç'onis Sc'æ Crucis prox. futur. ad audiend. Inquisic'o'em super declarac'o'e clam. suprad'ci, &c.

Et auxi le dit William de Stanley le filz nous ad fait entendre, qu'en le darrein eire de la foreste tenu devant Messrs. Richard de Wilughby et ses compagnons le dit William son pere claimâ a dius fois la dicte baillie, &c.

Ideo idem Will'mus, filius Will'mi de Stanlegh, et hæredes sui de cetero habeant, et gaudeant sumâ denarior. p'dcor. in forma prædicâ.

Nos recordum pl'iti præd'ci affirmantes et ratificantes, recordum pl'iti præd'ci ad prosecutionem præd'ci Willi. filii Willi. de Stanlegh, tenore præsentium duximus exemplificand. In cujus rei testimonium has literas nostros fieri fecimus patentes, Sigillo Scaccarii nostri Cest' signat. T. Carissimo Avunculo nostro, Duce Ebor. Justiciario n'ro Cestr. apud Cestriam 12mo die Januarii, anno regni nostri decimo.

Seal of Richard II. as earl of Chester, appendant: Quarterly, 1 and 4, France, semee; 2 and 3, England, over all a label of three points within a heater shield. Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5. p. 16.

II.

TOWNSHIPS within the limits of the Forest of Wirral. Harl. MSS. 2115.

Blakey.	Pulton en Wealey.	Lytel Bebynton.	Pensbee.
Magna Salghall.	Lysenark.	Childer Thornton.	Chorleton.
P'va Salghall.	Claghton.	Brumburgh.	Bakford.
Shotewik.	Budeston.	Estham.	Lee.
Podynton.	Moreton.	Hoton.	Croghton.
Burton.	Salghall Massy.	Overpulle.	Thyngewall.
Nesse.	Newton.	Raby.	Mollington Banestre.
P'va Neston.	Upton.	Landecan.	Mollington Torond.
Leghton.	Frankby.	Halle Sutton.	Crabe Whal.
Gayton.	Grevesby.	Arrow.	Capenhurst.
Haswall.	Woodechurch.	Nether Pulle.	Brunstath.
Thurstanston.	Tranmulle.	Signeby.	Prenton.
Calday.	Ledsham.	Stanay.	Great Neston.
West Kyrkby.	Barneston.	Stoke.	Calday p'va.
Lytel Meles.	Mickel Sutton.	Thornton Mayow.	Wodebank.
Mickel Meles.	Oxton.	Irbee.	Church Shotewik.
Kyrkby en Wealey.	Mickel Bebynton.		

POPULATION TABLE

Of the Hundred of Wirral, abstracted from the Returns to Parliament A° 51 Geo. III.

LOWER DIVISION.

TOWNSHIPS.	HOUSES.				OCCUPATIONS.			PERSONS. ¹⁰		
	Inhabited Houses.	Families.	Houses building.	Uninhabited.	Families employed in Agriculture.	Families employed in Trade.	Families not comprized in these Classes.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
BEBINGTON. P.										
Bebington, Higher	32	33	—	1	17	11	5	93	98	191
Bebington, Lower.....	58	58	1	—	24	22	12	125	154	279
Poulton cum Spital.....	17	17	—	1	16	—	1	38	45	83
Storeton.....	32	32	—	—	22	5	5	98	81	179
Tranmere.....	90	94	—	3	29	31	34	208	266	474
BIDSTON. P.										
Bidston cum Ford.....	28	36	2	3	30	6	0	101	97	198
Cloughton.....	12	14	—	1	12	2	—	43	45	88
Moreton.....	40	40	—	—	37	3	—	105	125	230
Saughal Massey.....	20	21	—	2	19	—	2	58	59	117
Birkenhead.....	17	18	—	—	4	7	7	52	53	105
Part of BROMBOROUGH. P.										
Brimstage.....	26	26	—	—	21	5	—	68	55	123
HASELWALL. P.										
Gayton.....	16	19	—	—	41	4	1	60	55	115
Haselwall cum Oldfield....	59	59	—	—	59	—	—	166	157	323
THURSTANSTON. P.										
Thurstanston.....	10	15	—	—	14	—	1	28	35	63
OVERCHURCH. P.										
Upton.....	26	26	—	—	15	6	5	80	83	163
WALLASEY. P.										
Liscard.....	51	54	4	4	40	7	7	171	118	289
Poulton cum Seacomb.....	38	42	4	—	15	4	23	105	109	214
Wallasey.....	68	94	8	6	65	16	13	174	266	440
WEST KIRKBY. P.										
Caldey, Great and Little....	15	15	—	—	14	1	—	51	47	98
Frankby.....	16	18	1	1	18	—	—	44	49	93
Grange.....	14	14	—	—	14	—	—	47	46	93
Greaseby.....	22	22	—	—	18	4	—	56	57	113
Hoose.....	20	20	—	—	1	16	3	52	48	100
Meols, Great.....	27	28	—	—	22	2	4	71	77	148
Meols, Little.....	24	25	—	1	25	—	—	50	35	85
Newton cum Larton.....	7	7	—	1	7	—	—	28	22	50
West Kirkby.....	28	32	1	1	28	3	1	59	82	141
WOODCHURCH. P.										
Arrow.....	14	14	—	1	13	1	—	45	37	82
Barnston.....	23	23	—	—	23	—	—	54	56	110
Irby.....	21	21	—	1	19	2	—	54	56	110
Landican.....	6	6	—	—	5	1	—	20	27	47
Noctorum.....	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	6	8	14
Oxton.....	27	27	—	1	22	5	—	70	58	128
Pensby.....	4	4	—	—	4	—	—	10	17	27
Prenton.....	16	19	—	2	13	—	6	42	42	84
Thingwell.....	13	13	—	1	12	1	—	36	39	75
Woodchurch.....	11	13	—	—	7	6	—	42	34	76
	950	1021	20	31	720	171	130	2610	2738	5348

POPULATION TABLE.

HIGHER DIVISION.

TOWNSHIPS.	HOUSES.				OCCUPATIONS.			PERSONS.		
	Inhabited Houses.	Families.	Houses building.	Uninhabited.	Families employed in Agriculture.	Families employed in Trade.	Families not comprized in these Classes.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
BACKFORD. P.										
Backford	31	31	—	—	26	3	2	76	70	146
Chorlton	12	12	—	—	10	—	2	26	27	53
Lea	12	13	—	—	11	2	0	51	39	90
Mollington, Great	20	21	—	—	21	—	—	48	65	113
BROMBOROUGH. P.										
Bromborough	44	44	—	—	28	7	9	114	105	219
BURTON. P.										
Burton	58	58	0	1	44	9	5	149	151	300
Puddington	23	23	—	—	19	2	2	75	72	147
EASTHAM. P.										
Eastham	66	71	—	2	61	9	1	156	169	325
Hooton	20	20	0	1	16	2	2	58	51	109
Poole Nether	1	2	—	—	1	—	1	15	14	29
Poole Over	15	16	—	—	10	3	3	37	34	71
Sutton, Great	22	27	1	0	25	2	0	88	78	166
Sutton, Little	44	44	—	—	36	8	—	103	116	219
Thornton Childer	21	23	0	2	8	13	2	43	53	96
Whitby	32	32	—	3	30	2	0	—	—	—
OSWALD AND TRINITY. P.										
Blacon cum Crabhall	6	6	—	—	6	—	—	30	24	54
ST. MARY'S. P.										
Mollington, Little	3	3	—	—	3	—	—	13	13	26
NESTON. P.										
Ledsham	14	14	—	—	13	1	—	41	34	75
Leighton	57	57	—	3	30	15	12	104	183	287
Nesse	52	52	—	1	49	2	1	293	169	462
Neston, Great	325	329	—	13	20	200	109	609	723	1332
Neston, Little	56	56	—	2	56	—	—	117	126	243
Raby	24	24	—	—	22	—	2	83	67	150
Thornton Mayhew	36	36	1	1	25	4	7	87	92	179
Willaston	39	41	—	2	41	—	—	89	92	181
ST. OSWALD'S. P.										
Croughton	3	3	—	—	3	—	—	17	13	30
SHOTWICK. P.										
Capenhurst	27	27	—	—	25	1	1	70	95	165
Saughall, Great	52	57	—	—	47	9	1	155	149	304
Saughall, Little	9	9	—	—	4	1	4	32	32	64
Shotwick	17	17	—	2	17	—	—	44	37	81
Rough Shotwick	9	9	—	—	6	3	—	25	18	43
EXTRA PAROCHIAL.										
Shotwick Park	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	13	11	24
Stanlaw	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	7	5	12
Stanney, Great	2	3	—	—	3	—	—	10	6	16
STOKE. P.										
Stanney, Little	33	39	—	1	21	7	11	95	134	229
Stoke	22	22	1	1	18	1	3	51	65	116
	1210	1244	3	35	758	306	180	3062	3169	6231

ITINERARY OF WIRRAL HUNDRED.

BY WILLIAM WEBB, M. A.

Reprinted from KING'S VALE ROYAL.

I have laboured to cast the Hundred of Werral by the dimensions thereof into some resemblance, and though, geometrically considered, it comes nearest to the figure of a long square, or rather a rhomboides, yet because the long sides are not straight lines, nor the opposite ends equal in their distance, we must take it as it is irregular, and the nearest resemblance that I can give it, is the sole of a lady's left-foot pantofle, for the farthest north-west end, compassed with the sea, falls somewhat round; then it narrows itself both ways, and between Bebbington on the east, and Oldfield on the west side, falls narrow of the sole: then it widens itself either way to Stanney on one side, and Burton on the other, where it is broadest; then narrowing again till it points with the tip of the toe upon Chester liberties. Mr. Cambden fitly calls it a languet of the land, and promontory of the main land, shooting into the sea, inclosed on the one side with Dee-mouth, on the other side with the Merzey. The Welsh Britons call it Killgurry, because it is an angle. That it was in old time a forest, I think cannot be doubted, but that it should not be inhabited, or disafforested, not till king Edward the Third's time, that I suppose to be true but in part; for the very antiquity of the church, some castles, monasteries, and the very manurage of the most part of it yet appearing, argue the contrary.

But I will not contend, for it sufficeth me I can boast in behalf of the inhabitants there now, and of their industrious predecessors too, that it is now one of the most fertile parts, and comparable, if not exceeding, any other so much in quantity of the whole county besides. And this will our weekly market of Chester for corn and fish make good for me, and if I added flesh too, I should not miss it much.

To proceed with the description of it, I shall need to lead you but one walk over the length of it, and back again, which I will covenant to dispatch with much brevity, if I may in my walk make some indentures on either hand, as these jovial fellows we see sometimes do, when they coming out of the tavern, they indent their journies down the street, to survey their friends on either side.

We will here set in, at the tip of the toe, which comes to the stone-bridge almost at Chester; and first, we will follow that water dividing this from Broxton Hundred, which will bring us a little behind Upton to Chorlton, and then to the Lea, a fair house, and fine demesne, so called, and hath been the mansion for some descents of the Glaziers, esquires, of special note and good account. And next unto it lies Backford town and church, and hard by it the seat of our worthy prothonotary, Henry Berkenhead, esquire, a gentleman whom the whole country most deservedly acknowledges to have inherited, together with his place, that humanity and fair deportment that was in his father and

ancestors before him. From whence as we go, we see on the west of us Capenhurst, a fine lordship, belonging to the houses of Cholmley and Pool, and in the same, one gentleman's seat wherein.

By our brook lies Croughton, a member of the lordship of John Hurleston, esquire, formerly mentioned; and from thence we come to Stoke, a little parish-church adjoining to that fair demesne and ancient seat of the Bunburies, of good worship, called Stanny-hall, and which may be glad of the worthy present owner, sir Henry Bunbury, knight, whose grave and well-disposed courses procure unto him a special good estimation, for his endeavours to do good in public government, and his more private affairs also.

We turn us now towards our journey more westwards, passing by Whitbey; and from whence it may seem the Whitbeys derived their name, of whom this gentleman, that now bears special part in the government of this city, has advanced their names to no mean degree of deserved estimation.

Then holding on our course we go by Great Sutton, a goodly lordship, and where hath been a famous seat, called Sutton-court, the inheritance now of sir Robert Cholmley; and upon our other hand Pool, a fair ancient seat, with a park, of which the long continued race of the Pools have borne that name, and it is very probable have been the ancestors of some very great families of that name in other countries; the present owner there John Pool, esquire. Near unto which we see also Stanlow, now a farm of the said Mr. Pool's.

But there was a monastery founded by the famous Lacy, constable of Chester, about the year 1173, taking the name from Steny-hill; but for the unruliness of the Merzey-water, they misliked their seat there, and found means to be translated from thence to Whaley, in Lancashire.

We come next to Hooton, a goodly ancient manor and fair park, which, ever since the reign of king Richard the Second, hath been the seat of the Stanleys of Hooton, gentlemen of great dignity and worth, deriving their pedigree from Alan Silvester, upon whom Ranulph the first earl of Chester bestowed the bailiwick of the forest of Werral, and delivered unto him a horn, to be the token of his gift; from whence we gather, that Werral was holden to be a place of no mean account in those times; where have continued the same Stanleys in a direct succession, and was lately possessed by a very worthy and noble-minded knight, sir Rowland Stanley, who lived there to the age (I have heard) of near one hundred years, and lived to be the oldest knight in this land; which I note the rather, to approve the healthfulness of the place, and where his fourth generation, his son's son's son was at the time of his decease. Near unto which stands Eastham, the parish-church and lordship.

Next beyond it we leave on our left-hand Brinstone, and so come to Pooton, or Poolton, of which name there is another township, from which this is distinguished by the name of Lancelot; and the next to that is Brumbrough, a pretty town, with a chapel; and therein Daniel Bavand, esquire, hath a fair house and demesne; next which lies Nether Bebbington and Over Bebbington, the precincts whereof take up in this tract a large extent; the one a church-town, with a fair church and goodly parsonage, the other a member of the parish, and where John Minshal, of Minshal, esquire, hath great store of fair possessions.

Upon our left-hand we leave Stoorton, a lordship, and so go by Prenton, where one race of the Haukenhuls have a fine house and demesne; the present owner thereof John Okenhall, esquire. Beyond which lieth Lanian, or Landecan, a township, with pretty farms in it, the lands of sir Richard Wilbraham, knight and baronet, formerly mentioned; and from thence we go next to Woodchurch, a parish-church, and a neat parsonage by it; beneath which, looking towards the Merzey again, lies a goodly vale and pleasant track, in which we may see Upton, a fine lordship, wherein stand the house and demesne, where a long descent of gentlemen have had continuance, sprung from the house of Bould, of Bould in Lancashire, the now owner thereof, Peter Bould, esquire, to whom I owe particular respects of love; and next unto this Oxton; and then more near to Merzey side the township of Trawmore; and near to that is a fine seat of that worthy gentleman, whom elsewhere we remembered, John Minshal, of Minshal, esquire, called Derby house.

Thence, on our left hand, we see Caughton, where Mr. Thomas Powel hath fair lands; and then leaving the ferry, where the passage lies over into Lancashire, unto Liverpool, we step over into Berket-wood, and where hath been a famous priory, the foundation whereof I am not yet instructed for, but now a very goodly demesne, and which is come (by descent from the Worsleys, men of great possessions) now to a gentleman of much worth, Thomas Powel, esquire, the heir of that ancient seat of Horsley, in the county of Flint, and one whom our county may gladly receive to be added to the number of those that deserve better commendation than I am fit to give them; though unto him I am particularly bound to extend my wits to a higher reach than here I will make trial of.

Beyond which, we have only that other Pulton, called by the name of Seacombe, till we come to the north-western shore, lying upon the Vergivian or Irish sea, where is situated the township, parish, and church of Kirby, in Walley, or Walsey, a town where . . . hath fair lands, and where lie those fair sands, or plains, upon the shore of the sea, which, for the fitness for such a purpose, allure the gentlemen and others oft to appoint great matches, and venture no small sums in trying the swiftness of their horses.

And so we come to Bidston, a goodly house, demesne, and park of the right honourable William earl of Derby; which, though it be less than many other seats which his honour hath, wherein to make his residence, when he is so pleased; yet for the pleasant situation of this, and the variety of noble delights appendant to it, his lordship seems much to affect the same, and enlargeth the conveniencies therein for his pleasure and abode many ways, which, with craving pardon for my bold collection, I suppose his honour doth out of his honourable love to this our country, that we might have the more of his presence here, where he bears the great

places of his majesty's lord lieutenant in the causes military, and the prince's highness chamberlain of the county palatine, as his noble and worthy ancestors have done before him.

Following the circuit of the shire, we come next to Great Mooles, which gives name and seat to an antient family of Mooles; whence we go by Moreton, and then by Saughall Massie, a very gallant lordship; and leaving Overchurch on our left hand, in which we pass by Newton, and somewhat beyond that by Greasby, where we hold on nearer the shore, and take with us West-Kirby: Here in the utmost western nook of this promontory, divided from the land, lies that little barren island called Ilbree, or Hilbree; in which, it is said, there was some time a cell of monks, though I scarce believe it; for that kind of people loved warmer seats than this could ever be.

From whence we come next to the Graunge, which I would rather think to be that seat where those monks eat their beef and brewis, and which is now possessed by William Glegge, esquire, being descended to him from his ancestors; upon the side of this to the east, lies Frankby, a large township, and so we come to the two townships, Great and Little Caldey.

Near unto which lies the station or landing-place for their boats and barges, with their laden and unladen commodities, called the Red-Bank; so I take it from the colour of the rock upon the shore brink; and near unto this lies Irby, another fair lordship, wherein the Balls, freeholders, have a good seat. And we come thence to Thurstanton, the ancient seat of the Whitmores, of Thurstanton, the owner now — Whitmore, esquire; which race, whether they had their beginning from the city of Chester, in which have been many mayors of that name; or, that from them came the name into Chester; their own evidence, wherewithal I am not acquainted, can better declare it than I can. On the east side of it lies Barnston, whence it is like the Barnstons, gentlemen in Broxton Hundred, had their own name first; and upon the shore side, we come next to the Old-field, where we said the narrowest place of the hundred is supposed; and it is like hath given name to those gentlemen the Oldfields, of whom we have made mention before.

Our next remove is to Heswall, or Hesselwall, a town where stands the parish church and parsonage, finely situated, and there extends to it a fair lordship of Thornton Mayow, and Raby, another very pleasant vein of a large precinct.

But near the sea side, we come to Gayton, the seat of that ancient race of Glegges, of Gayton, now the possession of Edward Glegge, esq. a gentleman well reputed; and next unto this lies Leighton, in which is seated, a very ancient house, and fine demesne, another branch of the Whitmores, of a very great descent, the owner now Wm. Whitmore, esq. And next neighbour to this is the well-known town, parish-church, and port of Great Neston; and the usual place where our passengers into Ireland do so often lie waiting the leisure of the winds, which makes many people better acquainted with this place than they desire to be, though here be wanting no convenient entertainment, if no other wants be in the way; and here is the station of the ships, called The New Key, where they embark and disembark both men, horses, kine, and all other commodities, on the back of this Neston; to the east lies a large tract of heath and commons, and therein a fair lordship called Chilter Thornton.

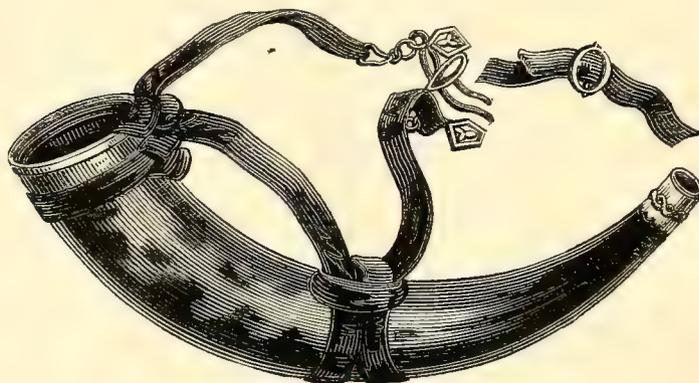
But keeping still our shore, we have Nesse. And

next to that more landwards Woollaston, a great breadth of grounds. And then have we Burton, a pretty town. And a landing place by the side of a great brow of a promontory reaching into the sea, they call it Burton-head; and next to this we come to that gallant, lofty seat of Puddington, overlooking the sea which so far holds on her large breadth unlimited within the mouth of Dee, wherein have continued the race of the Massies, which has been a great name, derived into many branches from that Hamon Massie, one of the earls barons, and the owner now sir William Massie, knight, who adds more lustre to the fame of his predecessors; which seat is also beautified with a fine park; a great spacious common, which they vulgarly called Motherless Heath, lies eastward behind this a great way further, at the one side whereof we see Ledsham; and so we come to Shotwick, a little parish-church, and near unto it an ancient house that hath belonged to John Hockenhall, of Hockenhall, esq. and so we come to that gallant park called Shotwick-Park, where sometimes have been, and yet are remaining, the ruins of a fair castle that stands upon the brink of Dee within the park, in which is also a fine lodge for the habitation of the keepers of the Prince's Highness deer in that park, and is in the holding of sir Richard Wilbraham, whom we have often mentioned; from whence we come pre-

sently to Great Saughall, a fair lordship, and chiefly belonging to his Highness; and Little Saughall, another fine township, the lands of sundry freeholders there inhabiting; and along by the precincts of them both, lies a place called anciently Kingswood, where now his Highness's tenants have made inclosures to the great encrease of corn for the benefit of the country. And next to this lies, first a goodly ancient seat, upon the brow of Dee banks, called Blacon-Hall, the name of the whole lordship, the lands of sir William Norris, knight of the Bath, whom Lancashire hath the most interest in making his chief residence among them, where he hath great possessions; and then adjoineth Crabhall, the demesne of William Gamull, a prime alderman of the city of Chester, whom we have formerly and shall hereafter mention, who there hath a most delicate fine house to retire unto at his pleasure, and choice appendants both for pleasure and profit: Round about it we have nothing left, but upon our left hand the two Mollingtons called Banester and Torrent, a fair lordship, and whereof much of the lands have belonged to the Mordaunts, great knights of Ocley, in Bedfordshire, but now to several purchasers in those parts. And thus we arrive again at the tip of the toe in our description, being to come home presently to our famous city again.

Wairral Horn,

In the possession of Sir S. M. T. STANLEY, Bart. described p. 188.



Backford.

THIS parish is situated three miles north of Chester, and contains five townships, Backford, Chorlton, Mollington Tarrant, or Great Mollington, Lea, and Coghall: the last of which forms part of Broxton Hundred. Mollington is the only one of these townships which is noticed in the Domesday Survey.

The adjacent township of Moston was conceived to form a part of this parish before the year 1599, and the rectorial and vicarial tithes of that township and of Chorlton, were paid severally to the bishop's lessee as impropiator, and to the vicar of Backford. In that year a memorandum was entered in the parish register, of a claim being brought forward by the inhabitants of the parish of St. Mary on the Hill in Chester, to the right of including Moston and half of Chorlton within their limits. The claim was discountenanced at the sessions held July 24th in that year, and the church of Backford maintained a temporary possession. An entry occurs in 1603, in the same register, that "Mr. Morgell (Registrar of the Diocese) paid 10s. for a church ley, and did acknowledge that, in his opinion, Moston did belong to Backford." An opinion to the same effect was given by chief justice Parker, and is now preserved in the parish chest.

Notwithstanding this, the township of Moston has been lost subsequently to Backford altogether, and the moiety of Chorlton also, as far as concerns the tithes: but the rector of St. Mary's does not exercise any of his clerical functions within it, enjoying the tithes of the said moiety solely as impropiator.

BACKFORD.

THE compilers of Domesday, as already mentioned, omit all mention of the township of Backford; but there is strong reason to believe that it was allotted at the Conquest, or very shortly afterwards, to the Massies, barons of Dunham Massey, who bestowed this church on the priory which they founded at Birkenhead during the reign of Henry the Second.

^aIn the time of Randle Gernons, earl of Chester, Robert de Masci, a younger son of the baron of Dunham Massey and Simon his brother, gave to God and St. Werburgh, eight bovates of land in Backford free from all service whatsoever.

^b8 Edw. II. Hamon de Massey, fifth baron of Dunham, and Alice his wife, obtained from Adam de Macclesfield, the manor of Backford cum pert. (except 12l. rent in that manor) to themselves for their lives, remainder to Richard, son of Robert Massey, remainder to the right heirs of Hamon Massey.

From this family the manor passed to the collateral line of the Massies of Timperley.^c

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. Sir Hamon de Massie, of Tymplegh, kt. held the manor of Backford cum pert. from the earl of Chester in capite by military service. Valued at nothing beyond reprisals. Matilda his wife held jointly with him, at the time of his death, lands in

Backford, valued at 22s. per annum. Henry Massy son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Ric. II. Edward Massie of Tymplegh, held, inter alia, in joint feoffment with Elena his wife, the manor of Backford cum pert. from the king as earl of Chester in capite. Value per annum x l. Richard Massie son and heir.

This Edward was brother and heir of Henry Massie, and had licence, ^dby patent 15 Ric. II. to settle the manor of Backford on his issue by Elena his wife, who died per *Inq.* 10 Hen. V. seized of the same, held of the king as earl of Chester, and valued at x l. per annum, being then widow of Nicholas de Davenport, a second husband, and leaving one daughter and heiress, Cecilia, issue by her first husband Edward Massie, her son Richard being dead without issue.

Among the records in the exchequer of Chester is a mandate to the eschætor (21 July, 2 Hen. VI.) to deliver the manor of Backford to this Cecilia, and Richard de Chadderton her husband, in which Cecilia is described as sole daughter and heiress of Edward Massie and Elena his wife.

Richard de Chadderton had issue by Cecilia, Margaret, sole daughter and heiress, wife of Richard de Radclyffe, who cannot be clearly identified, but most probably was

^a Chartulary of St. Werburgh, p. 2. Harl. MSS. 1967. It is most probable that these bovates were in the present township of Lea, in Backford parish, which does not occur under its own name at that period, but belonged to St. Werburgh's abbey, whereas no lands were possessed by that monastery in the present township of Backford.

^b Williamson's Cheshire Evidences, p. 9.

^c During the life of the sixth and last baron of Dunham of this family, who died s. p. m. 49 Edw. III. ^d Records in the Exchequer of Chester.

a younger son of the *Radclyffes of Wimersley. This Richard is said in some pedigrees to be the father of two coheireses, Ellena and Elizabeth, and in others to have had a son Nicholas, who was father of these coheirs; but the general circumstance of the Radclyffes of Tymperley and Backford, ending in the two coheirs of these names, is unquestionable.

Elizabeth Radclyffe had for her portion a fourth part of the manor of Tymperley, ^e and survived to 15 Edw. IV. when she was wife of Charles Arderne of Tymperley.

Ellena, the other coheiress, as appears by *Inq. p. m.* 17 Edw. IV. died seized of the manor of Backford, which she held in demesne as of fee tail, from the prince as earl of Chester in capite, by military service, as the tenth part of a knight's fee. Value per annum x*l.* This Ellena was then widow of John Parre, by whom she had issue John Parre.

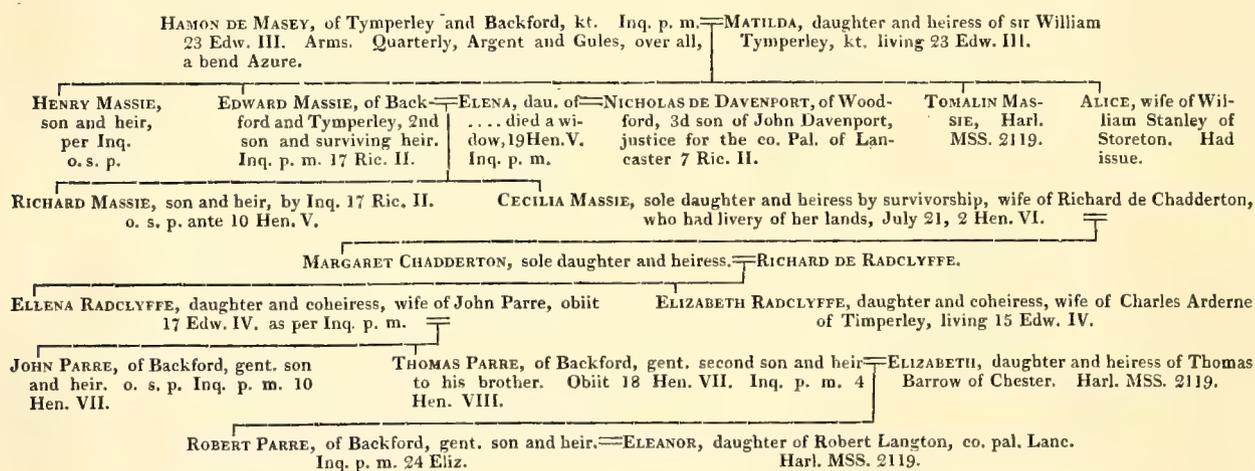
John Parre, junior, joined with Alice his wife, 10 Edw. IV. in exchanging the fourth part of Tymperley with sir William Booth, for lands in Stoke, Picton, and Chester, and, per *Inq. p. m.* 10 Hen. VII. died, holding in demesne, as of fee tail, from the prince as earl of Chester in capite, the manor of Backford, Value xiii*l.* xix*s.* iv*d.*; also lands in Stoke and Picton. Thomas Parre, brother and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VIII. Thomas Parre held the manor of Backford, and lands in Stoke and Picton, Value xvii*l.* vis. viii*d.*; and lands in Chester. Obiit 20 Ap. 18 Hen. VII. William Parre, son and heir, aged upwards of 16 years.

Inq. p. m. 2 Edw. VI. William Parre, of Backford, gent. held the manor of Backford, with lands therein, as before, Value xiii*l.* vis. iiii*d.*; and lands in Frods-ham, Tranmoll, Neston, and Brombrough. Obiit 2 Oct. 2 Edw. VI. Robert Parre son and heir.

Inq. p. m. a^o 24 Eliz. Robert Parre of Backford held the manor of Backford and lands therein from the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, Value xiii*l.* vis. viii*d.*; and also lands in Brombrough, which the said Robert Parre had alienated to Thomas Aldersey, merchant, who resold the same to Henry Birkenhead, esq. The time of the death is not mentioned.

Before proceeding to the further descent of the manor thus vested in the Birkenheads, it will be necessary to arrange, from these evidences, the pedigree of the previous lords of Backford, which has suffered more than most of the Cheshire genealogies from confusion of names and dates.



Henry Birkenhead, the purchaser of Backford from Thomas Aldersey, (June 1571)^e was son and heir of Henry Birkenhead, esq. the second son of Adam Birkenhead, of Huxley, esq. and brother to the first recorder of Chester, and to the founders of the Crowton and Rivington families of Birkenhead. He died, 7 March, 10 Jac. I. seized (per *Inq.* 11 Jac. I.) of the manor of Backford, late the property of Robert Parre, gent. held as in the preceding Inquisitions, value vi. vis. viii*d.* and of lands in Brombrough, Backford, Chorlton, Newton juxta Tattenhall, Syddenhall, and Huxley. Henry Birkenhead son and heir.

From this Henry, the manor of Backford descended to John Birkenhead, of Backford, esq. who died issueless in 1720, as stated in the pedigree annexed, on whose decease it passed to the next heir male, Thomas Birkenhead, descendant of Thomas, a second son of the purchaser. This Thomas also dying issueless, the

estates and manor were divided between his nieces, Frances Birkenhead, wife of John Glegg, of Irby, esq. and Deborah, wife of William Glegg, of Grange, esq. remarried to lieut.-col. Charles Crosbie. Both these moieties are now vested in major-gen. Birkenhead Glegg, who inherits the first by lineal descent from his grandmother, Frances Birkenhead, before-mentioned, and succeeded to the second on the decease of her sister without surviving issue in 1795. The manerial lord is proprietor of the whole township, with the exception of ^h two-thirds of a small estate near the church, which has been supposed to be the estate possessed by the abbeyes of Stanlaw and Whalley, under the name of **ROCHES CROFT**.

ⁱ The gift of this tenement, to "God, St. Mary, and the abbey of Stanlaw," consisting of four bovates of land in the demesne of Roches Croft in the vill of Backford, was made by Hamon de Masie, fourth baron

^e As supposed by William Radclyffe, esq. Rouge-Croix, who has paid peculiar attention to the early ramifications of the northern families, and particularly those of the counties of York and Lancaster.

^g Papers communicated by major-general Glegg.

^h One third is possessed by Mr. Meacock of Stanney, under the will of the late Mr. Browne, of Whitby, who purchased from the Bunburies, to whom a portion of the abbey lands of Whalley was allotted at the dissolution. Another third is the property of Fallows, of Fallows Hall, in Alderley, esq. by inheritance; and the third is vested in major-general Glegg, by purchase, from the family of Bankes, of Winstanley, in the county of Lancaster. It must however be mentioned that a small tenement in Chorlton retains the name of the *Rush Croft*, and may be the *Roches Croft* here mentioned, as that township appears to have been included in Backford at an early period.

ⁱ Charters of Stanlaw abbey, Harl. MSS.

^f Leycester, p. 373.

of Dunham, a^o 1246, in perpetual alms, free from all secular service. Witnesses, Roger, abbot of Chester, and John de Grey, justice of Chester; seal appendant, a lion passant, sinister, circumscribed Sigillum Hamonis de Masey.

^kThe same was confirmed by Hamon Masci, his son, in a deed with a similar seal appendant, circumscribed, Hamo filius Hamonis de Masci.

This estate is enumerated among the lands held by John Eales, abbot of Whalley, by the service of finding twelve chaplains to celebrate divine service at Stanlaw, in an *Inq. p. m.* 21 Hen. VI.

In the absence of positive evidence to connect the title of the present proprietors with the possessions of the dissolved abbey of Whalley, it may be mentioned as a strong reason to favour the presumption, that, until a few years ago, the estate had descended by a distinct title from the rest of the township, and that one of the proprietors inherits other portions of the lands of Stanlaw.

The village of Backford stands pleasantly, on an eminence adjoining to the principal road from Chester into Wirral, which, immediately below the village, crosses the deep valley which separates the hundreds of Wirral and Broxton, from which circumstance the parish undoubtedly derives its name^l. The old hall is mostly taken down. A part of its site is occupied by a handsome brick mansion, built by the father of the present proprietor. It was lately in the occupation of Mary, widow of the late Philip Egerton, of Oulton, esq. The grounds, from the contiguity of the turnpike

road, are very confined, but most judiciously laid out by Webb, the tower of the parish church grouping remarkably well with the plantations, and the boundaries being successfully concealed.

The hall of Backford appears to have first become the residence of the Birkenheads in 1605, in which year the entries of their baptisms commence here, and cease at Waverton, the parish church of their other residence at Huxley.

It is not clear from which of the Cheshire Birkenheads the celebrated political writer, sir John Birkenhead, descended; his father exercised the humble trade of a saddler at Northwich, and he will be noticed more properly under that township.

George Birkenhead, of Milton Brook, third son of Henry Birkenhead of Backford, was grandfather of Henry Birkenhead, M. D. of whom an account will be found in Anthony Wood. He was author of numerous poems, and founded, in 1707, the professorship of poetry in the university of Oxford, to which literature is indebted for the lectures of a Trapp, a Lowth, and a Coppleston.

Leland is ridiculously incorrect in his account of the arms of this family, "Byrkenhead gave three bromes: peradventure that the first of them made a gentelman, was sum grome of a chambre." It is almost unnecessary to say that the coat of Birkenhead is one of the numerous Cheshire bearings which are what the old heralds call arms of affection, and were adopted with reference to the coat of the local sovereigns of the palatinate.

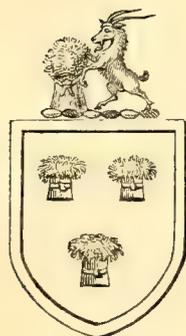
BIRKENHEAD AND GLEGG OF BACKFORD.

Arms of BIRKENHEAD of Backford, Sable, 3 garbs, Or, within a border, Argent.

Crest, on a wreath, a Goat saliant, Argent, attired Or, resting his fore-feet on a garb, Or.

Arms of GLEGG of Backford, Sable, two lions counter passant in pale Argent, for difference a crescent on a crescent.

Crest, on a wreath, a hawk with wings displayed, preying on a partridge, all proper.



From the pedigrees contained in No. 1536. Harl. MSS. continued from the Registers and Monuments of Backford, Waverton, and other churches; the information of the family in the last descent; and MS pedigree by the late John Glegg, esq. of Backford.

JOHN DE BIRKENHEAD, temp. Edw. III. Seal, Sable, 3 garbs Or.

ADAM DE BIRKENHEAD, living temp. Hen. IV.

HENRY (alias John) BIRKENHEAD, living temp. Hen. V. and VI.

HENRY BIRKENHEAD.

ADAM BIRKENHEAD, of Huxley, temp. Hen. VII. and Hen. VIII. buried at St. Mary's, in Chester, where a monument remains to his memory. ALICE, dau. and heiress of John Huxley, of Huxley.

MARGARET, wife of Thos. Touchet, of Whitley, 10 Hen. VII.	JOHN BIRKENHEAD, eldest son and heir.	JANE, dau. and heir of Ralph Done, of Crowton, co. Cest. esq. Had issue.	HENRY BIRKENHEAD, 2d son, Clerk of the Green Cloth to Hen. VIII. Prothonotary and clerk of the crown for the counties of Chester and Flint. Obiit 1558.	ALICE, dau. and heir of John Horncliffe of Hallowbury, co. Essex, esq.	HUGH BIRKENHEAD, ancestor of a branch settled at Rivington, co. Lanc.	Sir RALPH BIRKENHEAD, knt. youngest son, the first Recorder of Chester, 21 Hen. VII. 1505.	MARY, dau. of Roger Bradshaw, of Haigh, in co. of Lanc. esq.
ALICE, wife of John Whitmore, of Thurstanton, esq.	Richard Birkenhead, Recorder of Chester, base issue.						
ELIZABETH, wife of Thomas Hurleston, of Hurleston, co. Lanc. and Picton, Cheshire.							

FRANCIS RALPH.	ELIZABETH, dau. of Henry Bunbury of Stanney, co. Cest. esq. obiit Aug. 12, 1629. 2d wife.	HENRY BIRKENHEAD, of Huxley and Backford, esq. Prothonotary and Clerk of the Crown for the counties of Chester and Flint; purchased the manor of Backford, June 1571. a ^o 13 Eliz. along with estates in Bromborough, from Thos. Aldersey, haberdasher; obiit 7 March 10 Jac. I. Inq. p. m. 12th Jan. 11 Jac. I.	MARY, dau. of Hugh Bostock, of Huxley, esq. by Anne, dau. of John Bruen, of Stapleford, widow of . . . Hockenhull, 1st wife. s. p.	ROBERT BIRKENHEAD, esq. son and heir, marr. Anne, dau. of Roger Brereton, of Hawarden, esq. and widow of Randle Lloyd, of Chester, esq. created an Esquire by investiture of collar of SS. and silver spurs the day after the battle of Leith, in which he was engaged under command of the earl of Hertford.
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ELIZ. wife of Henry Browne, of Upton, gent.	BRIDGET, wife of John Chetwode, of Oakley, co. Stafford, esq.	GEORGE BIRKENHEAD, of Milton Brook, married Catherine, dau. of Hen. Plumbe, by whom he had Henry, and Thomas, who was father of Dr. Henry Birkenhead, Fellow of All-Souls, College, Oxford, Founder of the Professorship of Poetry in Oxford. 3d son.	HENRY BIRKENHEAD, of Backford, esq. eldest son and heir, ob. March 7, 1646, bur. at Backford, married 1596.	ALICE, dau. and heiress of John Singleton, of Staining, in the co. Lanc. esq. buried at Backford, Nov. 10, 1632.	THOMAS BIRKENHEAD, 2d son, bur. at St. Mary's in Chester, bapt. at Waverton, March 1, 1582.	ALICE, dau. and heiress of Thos. Roberts of Chester, died Jan. 1, 1692, bur. with her husband in St. Mary's Chest. 4 Jan. 1691-2.
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^k Chartulary of Stanlaw abbey. Harl. MSS. ^l From the Saxon, Ford, a way, and Bach, a valley, which enters into several Cheshire names, in composition, and forms the sole name of a township between Backford and Chester. Vide Todd's Johnson, and Whitaker's Glossary to Peirs Plowman. ^m Leland's Itinerary, VI. fo. 15.

			a				b						
1. ELIZABETH, eldest daughter, born 1597, wife of Lenox Beverley, eldest son of sir George Beverley of Huntington, knight, obiit a ^o 1656.	2. ANNE, died young, buried at Backford, April 7, 1612.	3. MARGARET, resident at Huxley, died unmarried, buried at Backford; obiit Aug. 12, 1624.	4. ANNE, bapt. at Waverton, Nov. 26, 1604, wife of Peter Legh, of Birch, younger son of sir Peter Legh, of Lyme.	5. ELEANOR, bapt. at Backford, Nov. 29, 1605, wife of Thomas, 2d son of sir Hen. Bunbury of Stanney.	6. MARY, bapt. at Backford, Feb. 5, 1606, wife of Wm. Downes, of Worth and Shrigley, o. s. p.	7. BRIDGET, bapt. at Backford, Jan. 25, 1609, s. p.	8. MATILDA, bapt. at Backford, Aug. 22, 1610, wife of Hugh Hollinshed, of Heywood, esq.	9. BARBARA, bapt. at Backford, Jan. 21.	10. AMEY.	11. FRANCES, bapt. at Backford, March 1, 1613.	HENRY BIRKENHEAD, of Backford, esq. eldest son and heir, bapt. at Waverton, Sept. 2, 1599, bur. in the church of St. Sepulchre in London, July 15, 1660; married Margaret, dau. of sir Randle Mainwaring, of Over Peover, knight, who was buried at Backford, July 20, 1661, marriage portion 860 <i>l</i> . (Harl. MSS. 2022.) by whom he had issue, Henry buried at Backford, 19 Feb. 1634; Randle buried at Backford, Aug. 9, 1635; Anne buried at Backford, July 25, 1642; Eliza; and Philip, eldest son and heir apparent, who died unmarried in the life of his father, a ^o 1650, aged 23 years.	JOHN BIRKENHEAD, of Backford, esq. 2d son, and heir to his brother, bapt. at Waverton, Sept. 8, 1600, obiit 1657.	JANE, dau. of Capt. Berrington of . . . , near Litchfield co. Staff. buried at Backford, Jan. 29, 1685.
ALICE, bapt. at Backford, 11 March, 1638, wife of Joseph Cortus, buried at Backford, June 22, 1660.	DIANA, bapt. at Backford, 23 March, 1639.	SINGLETON BIRKENHEAD, of Backford, esq. son and heir, born and baptized at Backford, 30th April, 1636, buried 3d April, 1694.	MARGARET, second dau. of Wm. Brock, esq. of Upton, and afterwards of Bradley, co. Cest. married at Gropenall, May 20, 1673, buried at Backford, June 13, 1715.	JOHN, 2d son, bapt. at Backford, June 21, and bur. there Aug. 18, 1650.	ANNE, bapt. at Backford, 28 June, 1642, wife of Matthew Ellis, of Overlegh, gent. married at St. Mary's 25 Jan. 1665; he died 1689, buried at St. Mary's in Chester; she died Jan. 3, 1710.	SUSANNAH, bapt. at Backford, Nov. 16, 1645.	MARY, bapt. at Backford, Dec. 16, 1647.	FRANCES, buried at Backford, 8th Jan. 1646.					
SINGLETON BIRKENHEAD, 3d son, born in Chester, 9th April, 1683.	HENRY BIRKENHEAD, eldest son, born at Bradley, June 8, 1674, died 30th of the same month; buried at Gropenall.	JOHN BIRKENHEAD, eldest surviving son and heir, born at Backford, 8th Oct. 1675, bapt. 4th Nov. buried there 27th March 1720. s. p.	JANE, dau. of Charles Hurleston, of Picton, esq. buried at Backford, Jan. 6, 1721, born Sept. 1668, married at Trinity, Chester, Oct. 3, 1703.	ELIZ. born at Backford, 29th Sept. and bapt. 23d Jan. 1678-9, obiit 1694, buried at St. Mary's, May 29.	MARGARET, born at Chester, 29 May 1684, bur. at Backford, March 27, 1685.	MARGARET, born at Backford, August 25, 1689, buried the day following.	ADAM, o. s. p.	1708.					
THOMAS BIRKENHEAD, born March 10, 1634, buried at Backford, 1685, Jan. 7, in the chancel.	DIANA, 2d dau. of John Birkenhead, born March 20, 1639, obiit Jan. 20, 1721, buried at Backford, Jan. 23.	HENRY, 2d son, born 20th Dec. 1639, died at Backford, unmarried 1649.											
DIANA, born Aug. 19, 1680, ob. June 30, 1761.	MARY, born 1667, wife of Thomas Johnson of Chester, merchant.	THOMAS, born 15 Feb. 1664, succeeded to the Backford estate, on the decease of John Birkenhead, esq. s. p. 1720; o. s. p. May 2, 1724, buried at Backford May 25.	FRANCES, dau. of Richard Lathom, esq. o. s. p. 1726.	HENRY BIRKENHEAD, buried a ^o 1671, obiit a ^o 1717. 3d son.	REBECCA, dau. of . . . Jones, of . . . co. Denbigh, gent. ob. Jan. 28, . . . , aged 85.	JOHN, 2d son, o. s. p. 1669.	PHILIP, 4th son, o. s. p. a ^o æt. 25.						
JOHN, bapt. at St. Michael's, 1694, buried at St. Mary's, 7th June 1695.	THOMAS, buried 4th Jan. 1696-7.	HENRY, bapt. at St. Michael's, 1694, died an infant.	ELIZABETH, died an infant.	FRANCES, eldest dau. and co-heiress to her uncle, born June 4, 1704, died April 14, 1791, bur. at Thurstanton, wife of John Glegg, of Irby, esq. who died May 1708, and was eldest son and heir of Edward Glegg, the second son of Edward Glegg, of Grange, esq. in the co. of Chester.	DEBORAH, 2d dau. and coheirress, born March 21, 1706, obiit March 6, 1795, aged 88, married first to William Glegg, of Grange, esq. by whom she had William, Edward, and Elizabeth, who died infants, and 2dly to Chas. Crosbie, esq. a Lieut.-Colonel in the foot service, who died 6th Jan. 1761, having had issue by this marriage Kennedy, who died an infant.								
MARY, wife of Robert Dod, of Rowton. Left issue.	JOHN GLEGG, of Irby, esq. only surviving son and heir, obiit March 6, 1804, aged 72 years, buried at St. Mary's, Chester, born Dec. 6, 1732.	BETTY, eldest dau. of John Baskervyle Glegg, of Withington and Gayton, esq. obiit 9 July 1810, a ^o æt. 77, buried at St. Mary's.	HENRY, buried at Thurstanton, Oct. 11, 1734.	JANE, buried at Thurstanton, July 24, 1734.	EDWARD BIRKENHEAD, buried 6 Jan. 1727-8.	FRANCES, and REBECCA, died infants.							
JULIANA, living unmarried 1214.	LUCY, living unmarried 1814.	SARAH JULIANA, born May 22, bapt. at Chester Cathedral, June 19, 1815.	SARAH, youngest dau. of Henry Barnard, D.D. rector of Maghera, co. Derry, mar. 1814, at St. George's Hanover-square. 2d wife.	BIRKENHEAD GLEGG, of Irby and Backford, esq. a major-general in the army, bapt. at St. Michael's, Chester, Dec. 8, 1765, living at Chester, 1816.	EMMA, second dau. and co-heiress of Edward Holt, of Ince Hall, co. Lanc. 1st wife.	JOHN BASKERVYLE GLEGG, 2d son, born 1773, a major in the army, living 1814.	JANE, wife of the rev. James Bullock, bapt. at St. Michael's, Nov. 18, 1764.	MARY, HENRY, BETTY, died young.	EDWARD, born Feb. 16, bapt. 15 March, 1757, buried at St. Mary's 6 Feb. 1777.				
			EMMA JOHANNA GLEGG.	2. MARY GLEGG.	BASKERVYLE GLEGG, eldest son and heir apparent, living 1816.	2. JOHN GLEGG, died young.	3. EDWARD HOLT GLEGG.						

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Oswald. Val. P. N. 5*l*. 6*s*. 8*d*. Eccl. Val. 5*l*. Discharged Living, Val. Certif. 19*l*. 11*s*. 10*d*.

The church of Backford was given by the barons of Dunham Massy, lords of Backford, to the priory of Benedictines which they founded at Birkenhead, and is valued at vi. vis. viii*d*. in the ecclesiastical taxation of pope Nicholas, shortly after which the appropriation and the endowment of the vicarage must have taken place, the prior of Birkenhead having presented to the vicarage in 1305.

In the ecclesiastical taxation of the 26th Hen. VIII. the rectory was valued at 12*l*. 6*s*. 8*d*. and the vicarage at 5*l*. 0*s*. 4*d*. including an annual pension of 1*l*. paid by the prior.

After the dissolution, the impropriate rectory, and the advowson of the vicarage, were made part of the endowment of the new see of Chester, to which they continue appendant. The great tithes are leased under the bishop by the rev. sir Henry Poole, bart.

All the other tithes belong to the vicar, with the exception of half the tithes of Chorlton, claimed by the rector of St. Mary's as mentioned in the general statement of the component townships of this parish; and he also claims a moiety of the rectorial tithes of Chorlton. The township of Lea is protected by a modus for tithes hay.

The church consists of a tower, body, and chancel, and stands close to the turnpike-road. The tower was apparently built about the reign of Henry VI. with red stone; and was handsomely finished with battlements and finials, the latter of which are now broken; the

windows are in a good gothic style, and the strings of mouldings and cornice ornamented with foliage and grotesque carvings in the style of the time of the building.

The body, consisting of three aisles divided by pillars, was rebuilt substantially with brick in 1728, as appears by an inscription over the south porch. A large arch at the east end opens to the chancel, which, with the exception of some evident additions, is the oldest part of the fabric. The east window contains some fragments of painted glass, antiently consisting of oak-leaves traced with black on a white ground. A frag-

ment only of an inscription remains, which once told the name of the donor. From the letter R repeated in some of the panes, there can, however, be no doubt of the window being painted at the expense of Richard de Radclyffe, lord of Backford in the reign of Henry the Sixth, a date which coincides with the style of the architecture of the tower, and of one of the octagonal capitals of the pillars of the nave, the only fragment of the former body of the church now in existence.

The church is in excellent repair, and is one of the neatest in the hundred.

VICARS OF BACKFORD.

INSTITUTED.	VICARS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1305.	Willielmus de Acton, Id. Oct. Ricardus.	Prior de Birkenhead.	
1349.	Henricus de Molynton.	Prior de Birkenhead.	P. m. Ricardi ult. vicarii.
1396.	Johannes Spenser. Thomas de Coghull.	Prior de Birkenhead.	
1457, 14 Maii.	Henricus Ball.	Prior de Birkenhead.	P. m. Thomæ de Coghull.
1462.	Willielmus Forshagh, Prb'r.	Prior de Birkenhead.	P. resig. Henrici Ball.
1471.	Johannes Fox.	Prior de Birkenhead.	P. m. Willielmi Forshagh.
1482, 4 Dec.	Hugo Yardsley.	Prior de Birkenhead.	
* * * * *			
1582.	Thomas Lawson.	William, Bishop of Chester.	
1582, March 19.	Robert Hutton.		
1592, May 23.	William Denson.		
The Vicarage of Backford unsupplied from June 1630, to January 1632.			
1632, Jan. 14.	William Baguley. John Willson, M. A.	The Bishop of Chester. About 1644, when Baguley's signature ceases.	Death of William Denson.
1646 ante.	— Frecketon. John Haughton.	The Deputy Lieutenant, pro tempore. Appears first in the Register in 1670.	
1685.	Robert Cotterell.	James Poole.	Death of John Haughton.
1691.	William Barrett.		Death of Robert Cotterell.
1691, Aug. 18.	John Turner.	Richard Shuttleworth, and others.	Death of William Barrett.
1720, Nov. 9.	Robert Denson.	Robert Crompton.	Death of John Turner.
1751, Feb. 13.	Thomas Broadhurst, A. B.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of Robert Denson.
1803, April 29.	Thomas Armitstead, B. D.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of T. Broadhurst.

The episcopal registers of Chester begin the series of Backford incumbents with Thomas Lawson in 1582, and nothing appears in the parish register to fill up the vacancy between this presentation and the termination of the Lichfield registers.

— *Frecketon* is inserted on the authority of the parliamentary surveys (Lambeth Records, 904, 206), which find that the parsonage of Backford, with all houses, &c. was an impropriation belonging to the bishopric; that the then minister, Mr. Frecketon, was resident in Chester when taken by the parliament forces, and had his goods sequestered by the committee of sequestration for delinquency; that he enjoyed the profits of the vicarage, being placed there pro tempore by some of the deputy lieutenants of the county, and by virtue of an order from the committee of plundered ministers, June 10, 1646, had 50l. by way of augmentation, and has all the profits of the rectory.

Some memorials of *John Willson* will be found in

Calamy. He was of Brasenose college, Oxford, and a man of learning, and died at Chester about 1672.

John Haughton was a younger son, and finally heir, of the family of Haughton, of Haughton in Edisbury hundred. He has a monument in the chancel, and was buried Nov. 27, 1685.

The register contains also the sepulchral dates of *Robert Cotterell*, July 16, 1691, and *John Turner*, Oct. 12, 1720. *Robert Denson* is commemorated by a monument.

Thomas Broadhurst, the last incumbent, a minor canon of Chester, and vicar of St. Oswald's, died March 28, 1803, at the advanced age of 84 years.

In the earlier part of the list occur two incumbents bearing the name of two component townships of the parish. The *Coghulls* were a family of some consequence, but *Henry de Molynton* presents almost a solitary proof of that township having conferred a local name.

MONUMENTS.

On the north side of the altar, attached to the east end, is a painted wooden tablet, inscribed, "Margaret Birkhened, eldest daughter of Henry Birkhened, esq. died the xth day of August, a° 1624."

Arms, in a lozenge, quarterly, 1st and 4th, Sable, three garbs Or, within a bordure Argent, for Birkenhead; 2nd, Ermine, on a bend coticed, Gules, three crescents Or, for Huxley; 3d, Or, six trefoils slipped Vert, in the centre a cinquefoil Gules.

On a similar tablet on the other side, "Here lyeth interred the bodies of Lenox, son'e and heir of sir George Beverley, late of Huntingdon, kt. who died the 5th day of April, 1660. He married Elizabeth, dau'r of Henry Birkenhead, of Backford, esq. by whom he had issue 8 son'es and 4 daugh. He died the 19th of January, 1656.

Arms, Sable, between three wolves' heads erased Argent, on a chevron of the second, three pellets, for Beverley; impaling Sable, three garbs Or, border Argent, for Birkenhead.

Against the south wall of the chancel are fixed three monumental tablets to the memory of the Morgells of Moston.

"Here lyeth the body of Ralph Morgell, of Moston in the county of Chester, esq. registrar of the consistory court of Chester. He married Margaret, daughter of Edward Glegg, of Gayton, esq. and had issue Jo. Hen. Rafe. Edw. Tho. W. Isabell, and Margaret, wife of Wm. Glasior, of Ley, esq. He died the 4th of January, 1678. He left the poor of Backford 10l. the use of it to be given in bread yearly for ever. Blessed are the charitable."

Arms, Morgell of Moston impaling Glegg of Gayton. Quarterings of Morgell, 1st, Argent, on a bend engrailed Gules three trefoils Ermine; on a chief Azure three fleurs de lis Or, for Morgell; 2dly, Argent, on a fesse Gules, between two barrulets wavy Sable, three crescents Or, for difference a cross crosslet Sable, Dod of Edge; 3d, party per pale, Sable and Gules, an eagle displayed Argent, Edge; 4th, Argent, three stars Sable pierced of the field, Willaston; 5th, Argent, two barrs Sable, for difference a crescent on the upper barr, and an annulet in chief, Brereton of Malpas; 6th, Argent, a chevron between three crescents Gules, Ipstones; 7th, Ermine, three mascles in fesse Gules; 8th, Or, a raven Sable, Corbet; 9th, Argent, an escarboucle Sable; 10th, Argent, a cross fleury Sable; 11th, Azure, a chief Gules, over all a lion rampant Or; 12th, Gules, a cross Ermine.

Impalement, 1st, Sable, two lions counterpassant Argent, for Glegge, with five quarterings.

Crest, a wolf's head Argent, semee of pellets issuing from a ducal coronet.

Close to this is another board inscribed, "Margareta, nup. Radulph. Morgell, gen. uxor, et Edwar. Glegge de Geton filia, obiit 12° die Octobris, 1627."

Arms, Morgell as before, impaling Glegg, with two quarterings.

The third Morgell memorial is inscribed, "Here lyeth the bodys of Rafe Morgall, gen. and Elizabeth his wife, who had issue Rafe, William, and Elizabeth Morgall. He died Nov. 27, 1683, and she died May 9, 1683. They gave 5l. to the parish of Backford, the use of it to be given to the poore, on Good Friday, in money for ever.

Arms, Morgell quartering Dod as before, impaling

Glasior of Lea. Quarterly, 1st and 4th, Azure, three pheons with the points downwards Argent, a chief of the second, Glasior; 2d and 3d, checquy, Argent and Gules, on a chief Argent a lion passant Gules. Two crests, Morgell as before, and Glasior, a dragon's head and neck, with wings displayed Or, issuing from a ducal coronet Gules.

On the same side, over the chancel door, on an oval marble tablet,

"Underneath
lieth the remains
of Sarah,
relict
of Giwn Lloyd, esq.
of Hendwr
in the county of Merioneth,
and sister
to sir Rowland Hill, bart.
of Hawkstone.
She died at Backford Hall,
April xiv,
MDCCLXXXII, aged LXXIV."

Opposite to these are three monuments to the memory of deceased clergymen and their families.

The first, a plain stone, records that, "underneath lieth the body of Robert Denson, vicar, who died Feb. the 1st, 1750."

Another is a painted wooden tablet, inscribed, "Here lyeth the bodies of John Houghton, who dyed Aug. 15, 1682; Robt. Houghton, 5th son, who died Sept. 19, 1681; Mary Houghton, 2d daughter, she died Ap. 23, 1672. They were son'es and dau'rs of John Houghton, vicar of Backford, by Jane his wife, dau'r to Hugh Hopkin, of Chomley, gent."

Arms, Sable, three barrs Argent, for Houghton; Crest, on a wreath of the colours, a bull's head Argent, charged on the neck with three barrs Sable. In the same line is another coat for Hopkin, Sable, between three muskets proper, a chevron Argent, charged with three roses Gules; crest, on a wreath a tower Gules, with flames issuing from the sides, on the summit a demi-lion rampant Argent.

Between this, in a neat pyramidal mural monument of blue and white marble,

"To the memory
of the Rev. Samuel Griffith, D. D.
Rector of Avington,
in the county of Berks,
who died 29th April, 1796,
aged 64."

The following inscription is on an altar-tomb, inclosed with iron rails, opposite to the south porch.

"Here lie interred
Anne, Mary, and Sarah Griffiths,
daughters of Thomas Griffiths,
of the city of Chester, esquire,
and Alice his wife,
daughter of Henry Vigers,
of Eaton, in this county, gent.
Anne died April 8, 1758,
aged ten weeks.
Mary died April 30, 1758,
aged three months.
Sarah died Feb. 17, 1776,
aged 16 years.
Thomas Griffiths was interred
here the 9th of August, 1784,
aged 52.

Also Alice his relict,
mother of Anne, Mary, and Sarah,
6th Sept. 1798,
aged 61.

The following inscription on an altar-tomb¹, existing in 1656, is now destroyed. "Hic jacet corpus Ricardi Coventrey, nuper de Mollington Torret, qui postquam vitam, in principem et statum amore summo, in patriam et amicos pietate non minore, in pauperibus liberalitate haud mediocri, traduxerat, obiit die XXI Decemb. Anno 1586.

Arms, Sable, a fesse Ermine between three eagles displayed Or.

All the sums of money bequeathed for charitable purposes in this parish have been lost, with the exception

of one hundred pounds, vested in the funds in the name of the vicar, and John Feilden and B. Glegg, esqrs. Another small piece of land, situate between the residence of John Feilden, esq. and the adjacent highway, is held on lease from the poor of the parish, by Mr. Feilden (whose stables are built thereon) by virtue of a lease to George Hunt, of Great Mollington, for 99 years from 1742, at the rent of 6l. per annum. Part of the interest and rent arising therefrom is expended in a weekly distribution of bread to the poor on Sundays, and the rest given on Easter Tuesday.

A field in Chorlton is the property of that township, and the rent appropriated to the reduction of poor rates.

The Registers commence in the year 1562.

CHORLTON.

IMMEDIATELY contiguous to the township of Backford, lies Chorlton, distant about three miles and a half north from the city of Chester, and divided from the Hundred of Broxton by the line of the Ellesmere canal. The greatest part of the township occupies an elevated situation, commanding the fine range of the Forest and the Frodsham Hills. The ground which slopes from this part to the canal is reputed to be some of the richest land in this part of the county.

The connection between the abbey of St. Werburgh and this township commenced at an early period. Robert Hastings, abbot from 1186 to 1194, granted lands here to William Fitz Warner, by deed, enrolled in the chartulary of that abbey.

After this Thomas de Arderne, grants to the abbey lands in Frodsham, Badelegh, Hellesley, and Cherleton. With the last of which he had been enfeoffed by his brother Gilbert de Arderne, rector of Aldford.

Other lands in Bacforde and Cherleton, with the homage of Robert de Mascy, of Sale, for his land in those places, were also granted to the abbey by Richard de Mascy, of Tatton, who was sheriff of Cheshire in 1278.^a

^b 13 Edw. II. In plea to a quo warranto the abbot of St. Werburgh claimed to hold his lands here in pure and perpetual alms, free from all services and customs whatsoever, as confirmed to him by Edw. I.; and in another plea ^c 31 Edw. III. claimed infangtheof, wayf, stray, goods of natives, felons, and fugitives, and view of frankpledge yearly at Chorlton.

After the dissolution of the abbey of St. Werburgh, the manor, and the before-mentioned estate was obtained from the dean and chapter of the new cathedral by sir Richard Cotton, a portion thereof held under him in fee farm, by Richard Ashton, Margaret Torshaw, Thomas Trafford, John King, Thomas Whitfield, and Robert Cook, for the annual rent of 10l. 4s. 2d. ^d By a subsequent charter of Elizabeth, the fee farm rent was directed to be paid to the dean and chapter of Chester cathedral, and the lands declared to be held by the fee

farmers and their heirs, in free and common socage of the queen, as of her manor of East Greenwich in Kent.

After numerous alienations these lands are now principally vested in Richard Wicksted^d, George Ormerod, and James Swan, Esquires, the largest portion being the property of the first mentioned gentleman, having been purchased by him, together with the mansion in which he now resides, from Thomas Cowper Hinckes, esq. at the conclusion of the last century. The most considerable of the estates, thus held by fee farm rent from the dean and chapter, and now divided between the before-mentioned proprietors, was purchased by the Leches of Carden, who had possessed a portion thereof in the male line for several generations, and obtained the rest in marriage with Mary, niece and coheirress of Charles Hurleston, of Newton and Picton, esq. the mother of the present John Leche, of Carden, esq. The Hurlestons obtained this property, together with the advowson of the church of St. Mary on the Hill, and lands in the adjacent townships, a^e 13 Eliz. by purchase from George Cotton, of Cumbermere, esq. and Mary his wife, which George was son of sir Richard Cotton before-mentioned.

The minor proprietors of fee farm lands in Chorlton, are major-general Glegg, Jonathan Lowe, and John Grace. The estates of general Glegg in this township have passed to him by the same title as the manor of Backford, and are noticed in the Inquisition after the death of Henry Birkenhead, esq. the purchaser of Backford, 11 Jac. I.

The rights of the abbot are now vested in the fee farmers, but no manerial privileges have been exercised for many years.

One antient freehold estate in this township was held at a very early period by the Hootons of Hooton, and descended from that family to the Stanleys.

15 Edw. II. Adam de Hoton suffered a recovery of one mess. and lands in Chorlton to the use of John de Hole^f.

¹ Harl. MSS. p. 2151. p. 106.

^a All these grants are preserved in the Chartulary, Harl. MSS. 1967. 29, b. and 30. It is probable, from Bacforde being mentioned in these grants, that part of Chorlton, as well as Lea, was antiently included in the vill of Bacforde, no lands being held by the monastery therein at a later period.

^b Harl. MSS. 2079. 195.

^c Enrollments in the Chester Exchequer.

^d Harl. MSS. 2071. 165. and Pat. 22 Eliz.

^e Heir male of the Wicksteds of Nantwich, who branched out from the Wicksteds of Wicksted, temp. Hen. VIII. vide pedigree in Acton.

Williamson's Evidences, p. 13.

Inq. p. m. 20 Ric. II. William de Hoton held in demesne, as of fee tail, inter alia, lands and tenements in Chorleton juxta Backford, from the abbot of Chester, in socage. Val. per ann. xiiis.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VIII. Sir William Stanley, of Hooton, knight, held lands in Chorleton juxta Backford, from John abbot of St. Werburgh, in socage, by fealty only. Val. xxs. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VIII. William Stanley of Hooton, esq. held lands in Chorleton juxta Backford, from the dean and chapter of the church of Christ and the Virgin Mary in Chester, in socage, by fealty only. Val. xxs. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 2 Jac. I. William Stanley of Hooton, esq. held lands in Chorleton juxta Backford, from the same, in socage, by fealty only. Val. xxs. per annum.

This estate descended in the direct line of the Stanleys of Hooton, to sir William Stanley, bart. who sold the same in 1791 to William Pownall, of Chester, esq. After the alienation of some small portions, the residue

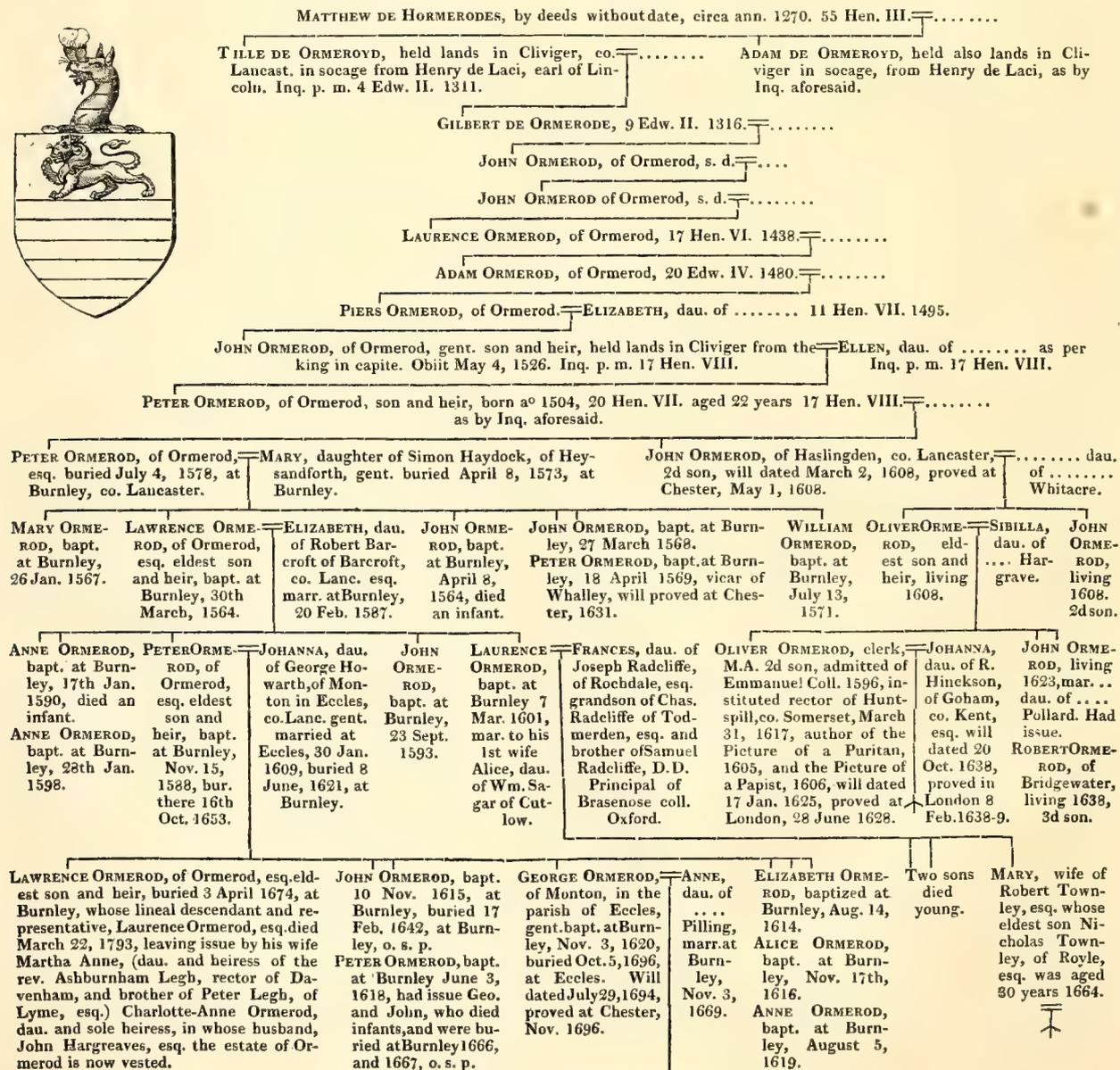
was conveyed by Mr. Pownall, in 1799, to William Nicholls, esq. F. S. A. deputy registrar of the archdeaconry of Chester, a gentleman of great zeal in the investigation of local antiquities, whose assistance in circulating inquiries and collecting information for the account of Cheshire in the Magna Britannia, has been acknowledged by its ingenious and learned editors; and whose decease is said by his friends to have been accelerated by the assiduity with which he devoted his leisure hours to an employment, which varied so little from his official pursuits. Mr. Nicholls bequeathed the estate before mentioned (together with a residence and fee farm lands adjoining, which he had purchased in 1807 from Edward Griffiths, esq.) by will dated 1809, to his wife Dorothea, daughter of the rev. William Russel; which said estates were sold in 1811, by the before-mentioned Mrs. Nicholls to George Ormerod, esq. the representative of the second branch of the family of Ormerod of Ormerod, in the county palatine of Lancaster, agreeably to the pedigree annexed.

ORMEROD OF CHORLTON.

ARMS. Or, three bars Gules; in chief a Lion passant of the second.

CREST. On a wreath a Wolf's head, couped at the neck, barry of four pieces Or and Gules. In the mouth an ostrich feather, erect, Argent.

Allowed in the Visitation of Somersetshire, 1623, by the deputies of William Camden, Clar. King at Arms, and again allowed, in 1814, by sir Isaac Heard, kt. Garter, and Ralph Bigland, esq. Norroy.



LAWRENCE ORMEROD, eldest son and heir apparent, bapt. at Eccles, 29 Sept. 1670, died in the life of his father.	ALICE, dau. of . . . Howarth, of Bury in the co. of Lanc. married there Feb. 19, 1704. 1st wife.	OLIVER ORMEROD, of Bury, in the co. of Lanc. bapt. at Eccles, Oct. 17, 1672, died March 31, bur. April 2, 1768, at Bury.	DOROTHY, dau. of . . . , died without issue, March 28, bur. April 1, 1748.	PETER ORMEROD, of Bury, youngest son, living July 29, 1694., wife of George Allred, living 29 July, 1694.	ELIZABETH ORMEROD, living unmarried 29 July, 1694.
ELIZABETH ORMEROD, married at Bury 28 Oct. 1725, to John Openshaw, of Pimhole, in the co. of Lancaster. Had issue.	ANNE ORMEROD, born and bapt. at Bury, April 10, 1716, o. s. p.	GEORGE ORMEROD, of Bury, gent. only son and heir, born 4th and bapt. at Bury, 6th March 1718-9, died June 29, 1789, buried at St. John's in Bury. Will dated 27th Feb. proved at Chester 23 July, 1789.	ANNE, dau. of John Hutchinson, of Bury, merchant, born 1719, marr. there 28th Dec. 1743, died 23 Dec. 1788, bur. at St. John's in Bury.	ALICE ORMEROD, born 12 Dec. 1708, bapt. at Bury; married 31 Jan. 1730, to James Openshaw, of Walmersley, in the co. of Lancaster. Had issue.	RACHEL ORMEROD, married at Bury, 27 Nov. 1739, to Robert Booth, of Bury, co. Lancaster. Had issue.	
GEORGE ORMEROD, of Bury, esq. only child and heir apparent, born April 20, 1757, bapt. at Bury, May 19, following, died before his father, Oct. 7, 1785; buried at the collegiate church of Manchester.	GEORGE ORMEROD, esq. only child, heir to his grandfather; born 20 Oct. 1785, bapt. at St. Mary's in Manchester, Nov. 13, 1785, admitted of Brasenose Coll. Oxon. 12 April 1803, created M. A. Feb. 5, 1807.	ELIZABETH, dau. of Thomas Johnson, of Tyldesley, in the co. of Lancaster, esq. by his wife Susanna, dau. and coheir of Samuel Wareing, of Walmersley, in the said county, esq. born 22d Oct. 1752; married at the collegiate church of Manchester, 18th October, 1784.	SARAH, eldest dau. of John Latham, of Bradwall Hall, in the co. of Chester, and of Harley-street, London, M. D. President of the Royal College of Physicians, by Mary his wife, eldest dau. and coheir of the rev. Peter Mere, B. A. Vicar of Prestbury, co. Cest. born at Prestbury, Dec. 28, 1784, married at Sandbach, Aug. 2, 1808.			
THOMAS-JOHNSON ORMEROD, eldest son, born at Great Missenden, Bucks, 27 July, 1809, bapt. 30th Aug. following.	GEORGE-WAREING ORMEROD, born at Astley, in the co. pal. of Lancaster, Oct. 12, 1810, and there bapt. 18th April, 1811.	JOHN-ARDERNE ORMEROD, born at Chorlton, in the co. pal. of Chester, and bapt. at Backford, June 8, 1813.	SUSAN-MARY ORMEROD, born at Chorlton, in the co. pal. of Chester, and baptized at Backford, Aug. 7, 1814.	HENRY-MERE ORMEROD, born in London, 10th Jan. 1816, and bapt. at the parish church of St. Mary-le-bone.		

MOLLINGTON TORRANT, OR GREAT MOLLINGTON.

ROBERT de Rodelent, the Norman baron of Rhuddlan, held this township at the Conquest.

“ Isdem Robertus tenet Molintone et Lambertus de eo. Gunner et Ulf tenuerunt pro duobus maneriis, et liberi homines fuerunt: ibi una hida geldabilis: Terra est ii carucarum: ibi est una in dominio, cum duobus servis; et ibi ii acrae prati: valet xiv solidos. Wasta fuit, et wasta invenitur.”

This Robert de Rodelent was slain by the Welshmen in 1088, and dying without legitimate issue, his barony was split into numerous subdivisions. Of this manor no subsequent record has occurred, before the year 2 Edw. II. when it was possessed by the family, who imposed on it the name by which it is distinguished from the adjacent township of Mollington Banastre.

^a 2 Edw. II. William Torrand de Molington obtained from James son of Roger de Coghull, and Agnes his wife, lands in Molington.

^b 3 Edw. III. William Torrand obtained from William de Backford, chaplain, the manor of Mollington Torrant, except certain lands therein, remainder to John, son of the said William, and Emma his wife, and their heirs.

By *Inq. p. m.* 8 Hen. V. it appears that Edmund de Eulowe died seized of the manor of Little Neston, and lands in Mollington Torret, which are recognized as the manerial estate in a subsequent Inquisition. This Edmund was son of John de Eulowe, who obtained the manor of Little Neston with his wife Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of John de Strangeways, but it does not appear in what manner he became possessed of his estate in Mollington. He left Katherine, daughter of Richard de Hatton, next of kin and heiress ^c, who married Roger Booth, esq. fifth son of John Booth, of Barton, esq. and brother of sir Robert Booth, founder of the house of Dunham Massey. By an inspection of the pedigree annexed, and that of the Dunham Massey

branch, it will appear that this Roger Booth was brother of two archbishops of York, uncle to a bishop of Exeter, father of the archdeacons of Durham and York, grandfather of a bishop of Hereford, and great grandfather of an archdeacon of Hereford: a series of high dignities in the church, which were most probably never attained by the same number of descents of any other family.

By his wife Katherine, Roger Booth, or Bothe, was father of Robert Booth, son and heir, of whom hereafter; and of John Booth, prebendary of Riccal, in York Cathedral, archdeacon of Durham, treasurer of Lichfield with Sawley annexed, and master of Denwall Hospital, with Burton annexed.

He resigned Denwall Hospital and the treasurership in 1495, in which year, on Nov. 15, bishop Smith gave the latter office to his nephew Charles Booth, assigning to the late treasurer a pension of 50l. out of the same.

John Booth died July 1496, having directed his body to be buried at the church of Sawley, which he had partly rebuilt, appointing his nephew Charles Booth, afterwards bishop of Exeter, his executor. ^d

Ralph Booth, third son of Roger and Katherine Booth, was collated by his uncle, Laurence Booth, to the archdeaconry of Durham in 1463, and to the archdeaconry of York in 1477, and died in 1497. ^e

Roger Booth died 18th of Aug. 1467, and was buried with his wife in the church of Sawley, where the following inscription was placed on his monument in the chancel, erected at the expense of his son John Booth ^f.

Hic jacet Rogerus Bothe, Armiger, frater Willhelmi archiep'i Eboracen's, et Laurentii episcopi Dunelmensis, et Katherina uxor ejus, pater et mater Johannis Bothe, thesaurarii Lichf. Qui quidem Rogerus obiit 18 die mensis Augusti, A. D. 1467, et Katherina uxor ejus obiit anno præeunte, et hoc erat Anno Domini 1466. Quorum animabus propitietur Deus. Amen.

^a Williamson's Evidences, p. 7.

^b Ibid. p. 17.

^c *Inq. p. m.* vide Little Neston.

^d Willis's Cathedrals, and Churton's Founders of Brasenose.

^e Willis's Cathedrals.

^f Ibid. and Collins's Peerage, under the title of Delamere. vol. VII. 70. edit. 1768.

Robert Booth, of Mollington, esq. son and heir of Roger, had issue, by Margaret his wife, Roger Booth, who succeeded him, and Charles Booth, bishop of Hereford, recognized as nephew of John Booth in his will before-mentioned. The bishop received his education at Pembroke Hall, Cambridge; his successive preferments will be found in the pedigree annexed, and a copy of his monumental inscription in Willis's Account of Hereford Cathedral. His father was buried at Sawley, where a brass plate was thus inscribed to his memory.

Hic jacent Robertus Bothe, Arm^f, filius et hæres Rogeri Bothe in cancello sepulti, frater magri. Johⁱs Bothe, archidiaconi Duresm. et magri. Radi. Bothe, archidiaconi Ebor. et Margareta uxor ejus; qui quidem Robertus obiit 22 Feb. A^o 1478, et vidua Margareta obiit A^o 14**.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. Roger Boothe, esq. held two parts of the manor of Neston, and the manor of Mollington Torret, alias Torrold, from John Glegg, by military services. Value vii. xiiis. Thomas Boothe son and heir.

This Roger Booth had issue Thomas, John, and Charles Booth, the two first of whom were successively seized of this manor.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VIII. Thomas Bothe, esq. held two parts of the manor of Little Neston, and also held the manor of Mollynton from John Glegg, esq. in socage, by services unknown. Val. per. ann. vii. xiiis. Obiit 13 March, 19 Hen. VIII. John Bothe, brother and heir, aged 13 years.

John Booth, or Bothe, who thus succeeded, was educated at Brasenose, and was collated in 1522, to the archdeaconry of Hereford. ^b By will, dated Oct. 8, 1542, he bequeaths his body to be buried at Chester, his "arrasse, of the stoyre of Thadeus, conteynynge in lengthe v yards and one quarter, and in bredthe foure yardes and one quarter and one nayle," to "Agnes Bothe, beyng my nees, and yt to succede to the heyers of her bodye lawfullye begotten, yf hyt maye so longe endure:" other furniture, "a Flanders Chyst," to Frances Bothe; his lease of the manor house of Salghton and his farming stock to Margaret Bothe; a rent charge of x l. per annum on Molynton to Roger Bothe; xxs. a piece to his "chapplyns," a year's wages to all his servants, and to the "college of Brassyn Nos in Oxford, certen of my bokes." ⁱ He died on the Saturday before the feast of the Assumption, 34 Hen. VIII. and by *Inq. p. m.* of the same year, held in fee two-fifths of the manor of Little Neston and Hargreve, and also the manor of Molynton, alias Molynton Torrald, from the heirs of John Glegge in socage. Val. per ann. 6l. 13s. Anne (an error for Agnes) Bothe, next of kin and heir, as daughter of his brother Charles Bothe, aged nine years.

^k Agnes Booth, in whom this family thus terminated, was eldest daughter, and by settlement, sole heiress of Charles Booth, of the bishopric of Durham, by Jane, daughter and coheir of William Farrington, of Farrington, co. Lanc. who remarried Henry Beconsal of Beconsal; she brought the estates of her family in marriage to William Mordant, of Oakley in the county of Bedford, second son of sir John Mordant, kt. first lord Mordant of Turvey. She died Feb. 20, 44 Eliz. and by *Inq. p. m.* Sept. 14, in the same year, was found to have held in fee two-fifths of the manor of Little Neston, and also the manor of Molynton Torrald, holding the last from Edward Glegge, esq. in socage, by services unknown. Value per annum, vii. xiiis. Edmund Mordant son and heir, aged upwards of forty years.

It does not appear whether the manerial rights were sold by the Mordants at the period when they alienated the Neston estate, or whether they fell into disuse; but it is certain that after that time the manor was considered vested in the Gleggs of Gayton, the previous proprietors of the paramount royalty.

Mary, daughter and finally sole heir of Robert Glegg, of Gayton, esq. brought the said manor, with other manors and estates, in marriage to John Baskervyle, of Old Withington, esq. by whom the manor of Mollington was sold to Thomas Hunt, esq. Jan. 26, 1756, together with a small estate in the township, which had been acquired by William Glegg of Gayton, in marriage with Cicely, daughter of Robert Sefton, and sister and coheir of Thomas Sefton, and which is stated to be held from Edmund Mordant, as of his manor of Molinton Torrald, in the *Inq.* after the death of Robert Sefton, 8 Oct. 1 Jac. I.

The Hunts were previously settled in Mollington, by the purchase of a much more considerable estate, which had originally belonged to the Gamulls, and was sold by — Gamull to Francis Leche of Mollington, the representative of a younger branch of the Leches of Carden, (as appears by an entry in the Visitation of 1663-4) whose connection with this township terminated in his grandson Thomas Leche, who sold the same estate to John Hunt, of Chester, gent. a^o 1699.

Thomas Hunt, esq. son of Thomas the purchaser of the manor, and grandson of the before-mentioned John Hunt, had issue by his wife Mary Vere Robartes, finally heiress of the family of Robartes, earl of Radnor, Geo. Hunt, esq. of Llanhydrock, co. Cornwall, and of Mollington in Cheshire, who gave his estates in that township to his younger brother, Thomas Hunt, esq. and finally died without issue in 1798. Mary Hunt, widow of the said Thomas Hunt, and his sole surviving daughter Anna Maria Hunt, conveyed their estates in Mollington Torrant, with the manor, in 1797, to John Feilden, esq. of Blackburn in Lancashire, the present proprietor.

JOHN FEILDEN, of Great Mollington, esq. second son of Joseph Feilden, of Blackburn, esq. born 26 July 1769, bapt. at Blackburn. Sheriff of Cheshire 1803, living 1816.

ELIZABETH, dau. and coheir of the rev. William Loxam, M. A. of Longton, co. Lanc. rector of Bethnal Green, co. Middlesex, married at Penwortham, co. Lanc. living 1816.

JOHN-JOSEPH FEILDEN, only son, born 25 Jan. 1798, bapt. at Backford, died an infant.

PRISCILLA FEILDEN, eldest dau. bapt. at Backford.

ELIZABETH-ELLEN FEILDEN, 2d dau. bapt. at Backford.

MARGARETTA-DOROTHEA FEILDEN, 3d dau. bapt. at Backford.

^g Willis's Cathedrals.

^h Probate Copy, Harl. MSS. 1991.

ⁱ Ibid.

^k Harl. MSS. 1566. 75.

There are no vestiges remaining of the antient hall of Mollington Torrant, but its site is supposed to have been near a pool in the centre of the village. The present mansion, a handsome and spacious brick building, well screened with timber, was erected in 1756, in a flat situation, but in a point which commands interesting views of the city of Chester, and the Edisbury and Broxton

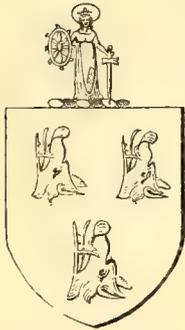
Hills. A court-leet and court-baron are incident to the manor.

The pedigrees annexed contain the descent of the Booths of Mollington to their termination in Agnes Mordant, and that of the Leches of Mollington from their separation from the parent stem to the alienation of their estates to John Hunt, esq.

BOOTH OF MOLLINGTON.

Arms. Argent, three boars heads erased and erect, Sable.

Crest. On a wreath a figure of St. Catherine proper, vested, Vert, crowned with a ducal coronet within a nimbus, and crined Or, holding in the right hand a wheel Or, and in the left a sword proper, hilted Or, the point downwards.



ROGER BOOTH, of Mollington, and Little Neston, esq. jure uxoris, fifth son of John Booth of Barton, esq. (and brother of William and Laurence Booth, bishops of Lichfield and Durham, and successively archbishops of York), obiit Aug. 18, 1467, buried at Sawley, co. Derby.

KATHERINE, dau. of Richard de Hatton, next of kin and heir of Edmund de Eulowe, from whom she inherited the manor of Mollington, and two-fifths of Little Neston, obiit 1466.

JOHN BOOTH, Treasurer of Lichfield, master of Denwall Hospital, and rector of Burton and Sawley, archdeacon of Durham, and prebendary of York, obiit July 1496, buried at Sawley.

RALPH BOOTH, LL.D. collated archdeacon of Durham, 1463, and of York, Feb. 24, 1477, obiit 1497.

ROBERT BOOTH, of Mollington, esq. son and heir, obiit Feb. 24, 1478, buried at Sawley, co. Derby.

MARGARET, dau. of . . . , survived her husband.

ROGER BOOTH, of Mollington, esq. son and heir, Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII.

CHARLES BOOTH, LL.D. Treasurer of Lichfield, Nov. 18, 1495, Prebendary of Clifton, April 6, 1501, Prebendary of Farendon, Aug. 31, 1504; archdeacon of Bucks, May 1505; bishop of Hereford, Nov. 30, 1516; obiit 5 May, 1535. Will proved, May 28.

THOMAS BOOTH, of Mollington, esq. son and heir, o. s. p. Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VIII.

JOHN BOOTH, of Mollington, D. D. second son, collated 1522 to the archdeaconry of Hereford, Inq. p. m. 34 Hen. VIII. o. s. p.

CHARLES BOOTH, of the bishopric of Durham, esq. 3d son, died before his brother.

JANE, dau. and coheir of William Farrington, of Farrington, co. Lanc. re-married to Henry Beconsal of Beconsal.

FRANCES BOOTH, dau. and coheir.

AGNES, eldest dau. and coheir, inherited the estates of Mollington and Little Neston, and brought the same in marriage to William Mordant, of Oakley, esq. obiit 20th Feb. 44 Eliz. Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz.

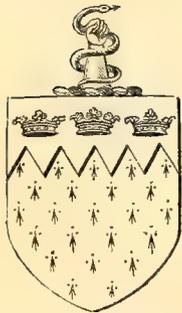
MARGARET BOOTH, daughter and coheir.

EDMUND MORDANT, of Oakley and Mollington, esq. son and heir, per Inq.

LECHE OF MOLLINGTON.

From the Visitation of 1664, continued by the Backford Registers.

Arms. As Leche of Carden, a crescent on a crescent for difference, allowed by sir W. Dugdale.



GEORGE LECHE, of Chester, an alderman of that city, 2d son of John Leche of Carden, esq. by Margaret, dau. and heiress of John Mainwaring, of Ightfield.

ALICE, daughter of John Dutton, of Helesby.

WILLIAM LECHE, of Chester, 1st son.

ROBERT LECHE, LL.D. second son, chancellor of the diocese of Chester.

RICHARD LECHE, citizen of London, merchant, 3d son.

. dau. of Deane, of Reading, in the co. of Berks.

ANNE, dau. of George Pease, of Hull, co. Ebor. gent. 2d wife.

JOHN LECHE, only son, alderman of the city of Chester, obiit anno 1639.

MARGARET, dau. of John Frodsham, clerk. 1st wife.

MARGARET, wife of Henry Lloyd, citizen of Chester.

FRANCIS LECHE, of Mollington, esq. aged 45 years, a^o 1664, purchaser of that estate from . . . Gamul, citizen of London, and others.

BRIDGET, dau. of Shorland Adams, of Treyton, co. Ebor. married at Conisbrough, co. Ebor. Sept. 19, 1649.

MARGARET, wife of Joseph, son of John Bruen, of Stapleford.

FRANCIS, born 17th Oct. 1650, and buried at Conisbrough, 19th Oct. 1650, eldest son.

WILLIAM LECHE, bapt. at Backford, May 28, 1666.

FRANCIS LECHE, eldest surviving son, born 22 Sept. 1651, bapt. at Backford, Oct. 2.

ANNE, dau. of . . . of . . . , bur. at Backford, March 19, 1682.

MARY, born Aug. 29, bapt. at Backford, Sept. 7, 1653. BRIDGET, born 29 Jan. 1655, bapt. at Backford, Feb. 7. ANNE, born 17 Oct. bapt. at Backford, 9th Dec. 1658.

SIDNEY LECHE, 4th son, born 29 July, bapt. 21 Aug. 1661.

JOHN LECHE, bapt. at Backford, March 15, 1680-1. 2d son.

THOMAS LECHE, of Great Mollington, esq. sold the estate to John Hunt, of Chester, esq. anno 1699.

BRIDGET, bapt. at Backford, March 12, 1682.

L E A.

THE township of Lea lies immediately west of Backford, at the distance of three miles from Chester. It is divided from the latter township by a brook, which flows down a deep dingle branching from the larger valley which forms the boundary of the hundreds.

Lea was the property of the abbot and convent of St. Werburgh, and was included within their view of frank pledge for the manor of Upton. They claimed here wayf, stray, infangtheof, and goods of natives, felons, and fugitives.^a

^b After the dissolution of that abbey, the manor and the whole township were granted, along with Whitby and Overpoole, to William Glasier, esq. and John Glasier, gent. by letters patent dated 30th Nov. 22 Eliz. subject to a fee-farm rent of 34l. 15s. 4d. of which 10l. 11s. 4d. related to this township.

^c At this period it was farmed by a family who had held it under the abbots, and assumed their name from the township. By a monument in Backford churchyard, it appears that they bore the arms of the Lees, of Lea Hall, in Wybunbury.

^d The Lea estate was mortgaged by Thomas Glasiour, esq. to George Naylor, esq. and the mortgage being foreclosed by his son Francis Naylor, esq. the estate became his property by an order of the court of Chancery in 1709, which was ratified and made absolute by the consent of Thomas Glasiour, son and heir of the before-mentioned Thomas Glasiour.

^d The estate afterwards descended to George Naylor, esq. of Herstonceux in the county of Sussex, and was sold by him to Thomas Bootle, esq. of the Inner Temple, London, in the year 1718.

^d In 1802 the manor and township of Lea were sold by Edward Wilbraham Bootle, esq. M. P. and Mary Wilbraham Bootle his mother, to the present proprietor John Feilden of Great Mollington, esq.

The present hall of Lea is a respectable farm-house, built a few years ago. The old hall was composed of timber frame-work, the interstices of which were filled up with brick resting on a stone foundation. It was approached by a stone gateway, and stood within the present garden.

The court of Lea has been disused for many years. This manor was made dependent on the manor of East Greenwich in Kent, together with most of the other abbey lands, on the settlement of the contests between the fee farmers and the dean and chapter of Chester cathedral.

Lea is remarkable from the circumstance of a considerable portion of the township, in the thirteenth century, having formed part of the official estates of the *master cook of the abbot of St. Werburgh*, an office which was held in fee hereditarily, in right of which the cook claimed certain perquisites in the abbot's kitchen, and eight bovates of lands in Huntinton, which he exchanged afterwards for the same quantity in Newton and Lee. These perquisites and estates were assured to the representatives of Geoffrey the cook, by a recovery in the portmote court of Chester in the time of Thomas de Capenhurst, who was abbot from 1249 to 1265, and are stated at length in the ^c subjoined extract from the chartulary of the abbey, in which the word "parlamento" is observable as applied to the ordinary assemblage of the convent in the refectory. The reader will find in Dugdale's Warwickshire, in the account of Wodelowe, the particulars of a similar establishment in the household of the earl of Warwick, the proprietor of which had his lands in Wodelowe, his kitchen fees, and his perquisites of *robes and horses, corresponding with those of the esquires of the earl.* ^e An extract from the original charter is subjoined in a note.

All the following particulars of this family will be found in the chartulary of St. Werburgh, 1967, 28 and 28 b.

Gunware, relict of Gilbert Sust (by deed without date, about 1190) gives to Nicholas, son of John de Frodsbam, her lands near the *cemetery of St. Thomas, without the north gate*, and her lands "*juxta la Bache*;" *Geva, sister of Gunware*, confirms the same to Thomas, brother of Nicholas aforesaid, which Thomas quitclaims to the abbey of St. Werburgh 12 selions of land, "*in territorio de Pull subtus viam tendentem ad pontem lapideum.*" The words in italics give very early notices of "the Bache" and stone bridge by their present names, and

^a Quo warranto, 31 Edw. III.

^b Villare Cestriense.

^c Parish Register.

^d Information of John Feilden, esq.

^h Co've't'o i'r Thom' abb'em e' Ric' Coudrey de feodo coqu'e abb'is.

Ita conven' i'r abb'em Cestr' et R' Coudrey, v'z q'd v' p'd'e'us abbas i' pleno portmoto petiit v's p'd'os Ric', Helyam le Hunter, et Joh'em fil' ejus, omnes caudas salmonum et barsarum, et tam capita quam caudas milvellor' congruor' et radior' ad coq' ips' abb'is et convent', et duo frusta de sing'lis spinis boum et porcor' in ip'a abbat' mactat', et una' mich'am, et II galones e'visie singulis diebus ibi p'cipiend' et flotura' pinguedinis o'ium carnum in p'd'ta coqua elixarum, excepto tempore e'visionis et exta et pingued' ips' carniu' que fuerint n'eca p'linto ips' abb' et conv' in Cestria et q' o'ia id' ab' clam' ut jus sui et ecc'e sue, et i' q' id' Ric' Elyas' et Joh' no' h'uer't mag'm p' dimissio'em q' Will's Marmion, q'ue abb' Cestr' p'decessor' ipi' abb'is ide' fec' Galf' coco', ad e'm q'm p'tnuit, e' q' p'tin' illu' ad p'fat' abb'em rev'ti debent ut jus ecc'e sue p'd'te. P'd'e'us Ric' concessit et recogno't medie'te' sui p'missor' in abbi'a p'd'e'a p'cipi'd' ut p'd'us abbas ea pe'it e'e jus ip'ius abb'is et ecc'e sue p'd'e' et medie'te' o'iu' p'missor' p'fato abb'i, et medie'te' o'iu' p'missor' ibide' ut jus ecc'e sue p'd'te, et ea remisit, et o'io' qu'et cla' de se et h'ed' suis, p'd'e'o abb'i et successor' suis i' p'pet'. Pro hae autem recog'ne p'd'e'i concess' abbas et e'ventus p' se et successor' suis i' p'pet' i' loco s'vicii cuj'd' Mag'ri Coci q' invenit' teneba't' q'd d'e'us Ric' et h'edes et assig'ti sui, sint cu' p'd'tis Helya et Joh'e, in coqu'a ip'orum abb' et conv', p'd'co feodo et p' terris et tene' quas q' tene't de p'd'e'o abb'e in Cestr' Neuto' et la Lee. H'eant et tene'a't tras et tene'ta illa de p'd'e'is abb'e et conv' et suc' suis pro una denarrata redditu, singulis annis i' f'to S'ci Joh'is Bapt' p' o'ibus s'vic', auxiliis, consuetu'b's, sectis cur' et demand'.—Chartulary of St. Werb. Harl. MSS. 1965.

ⁱ Will's comes Warr' om'ib's baronib's, &c. Sciant tam futuri q' p'se'tes me concessisse et dedisse Alano coco meo fil' Ric' coci unu' officiu' in domo mea, videl'z capitale minist'iu' coquine mee qu'd d'r magist' eocus, q'd Ric' p'r ej' h'uit in domo pr'is mei & in mea. Et tota' illa' tra' q' d'r Wodelowe cu' oib's p'tine't' suis.—Q're volo & firmit' statuo q'atin' p'd'e's Alanus et h'ed'es sui h'eant & tene'a't p'd'e'm minist'iu' sive p'fatu' officiu' plene & integ'e' cu' o'ib'z feod' d'e'coquine cu' o'ib's pertine'e' q' p'tin't ad Magistru' Cocu' scil'z in robis et i' equis sic' armig'i mei h'nt in domo mea, eod' m'o q'o Ric' p'r ej' h'uit i' domo p'ris mei & in mea, de me et h'e'dib'z meis jur' h'e'ditar' ip'petuu'.—Obligingly communicated by William Hamper, esquire.

authority for a cemetery consecrated to the memory of Thomas a Becket, within a time almost as nearly following his martyrdom in 1170, as the erection of the chantry of St. Thomas in Poulton Lancelyn.

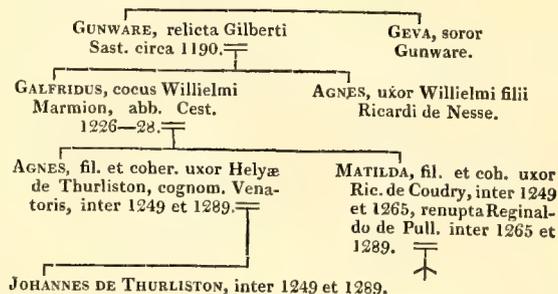
Geoffrey, son of Gunware, called Galfridus Cocus from his office, by deed without date, gives to William, son of Richard de Nesse, in frank marriage with Agnes his sister, two bovates of land in Huntindon, which Ralph Faber held in fee farm from his mother Gunware; and afterwards quitclaims to the abbot of St. Werburgh, all his right in eight bovates of land in Huntindon, in exchange for the same quantity of land in Lee and Newton. It appears from the recovery subjoined that he was cook in the time of William Marmion, who was abbot from 1226 to 1228, and his office was divided between his two daughters and coheirs, Agnes, wife of Helyas de Thurliston, and Matilda, wife of Richard de Coudrey, remarried to Reginald de Pull, the ancestor of the Pooles of Poole.

Richard de Coudrey, first husband of Matilda, and Agnes, wife of Helyas de Thurliston, and John his son, appear in the recovery of the profits of their hereditary office subjoined in the preceding page. John de Thurliston and Matilda, relict of ^k Richard de Coudrey, quitclaimed all their right in this corrody to the abbot of St. Werburgh.

Reginald de Pull, second husband, appears in a deed, by which Helyas de Thurliston, called the Hunter, and Agnes his wife, daughter of Geoffrey, and Reginald de Pull and Matilda his wife, daughter of Geoffrey, quit-

claim to Simon, abbot of St. Werburgh, the homage of Adam, son of Agnes de Bacford, and 5l. rent paid by the said Adam for two bovates of land in Lee juxta Bacford.

The relationship of the parties will be as follows :

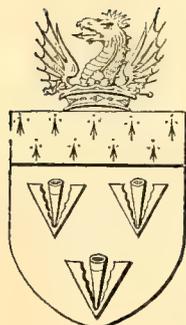


The following pedigree of Glasier is founded on the parochial registers of Backford, and some minute collections of Randle Holme, (Harl. MSS. 2119.) who asserts the founder of the family to have been a Manxman by birth, and to have described himself as a native of Warwickshire. He was doubtless allured to England by the plunder of the monasteries, and associated himself with one of the prime agents in the plunder of the Cheshire houses, sir Piers Dutton of Hatton, in the account of which place some anecdotes will be found little creditable to his morality. His descendants, however, were connected with the best blood in Cheshire, and maintained themselves at Lea for six generations, occasionally enjoying the civic honours of the neighbouring city of Chester.

GLASIER OF LEA.

Arms. Azure, three pheons, Argent, a chief, Ermine.

Crest. A dragon's head and neck, with wings displayed, Or, issuing from a ducal coronet, Gules.



WILLIAM GLASIER, a native of the Isle of Man. JANE, dau. of Richard Sheriff of Chester, 1532; Mayor in 1552. Fletcher, of Morley.

JAMES GLASIER, 2d son, married Elizabeth, dau. of Nicholas Tichborne, of Roiden, in Essex, obiit 22 Jan. 1606, buried at St. John's, in Chester. Had issue William and Thomas, who died s. p.
 ALICE, living during the suit with the dean and chapter of Chester.
 WILLIAM GLASIER, son and heir, vice chamberlain of Chester, grantee of the manors of Over Poole, Lea, and Whitby, buried at St. John's, in Chester, Sept. 12, 1619.
 ELIZABETH, dau. of ... Eglington, of ...
 ELIZABETH, wife of Thomas Case, of Eaton Boat.
 ALICE, wife of Richard Thornton, of Chester.
 Divers other children.

ELIZABETH, wife of sir Thomas Aske.
 MARY, wife of Richard Massy, sheriff of Chester.
 MARY, dau. of Ralph Egerton, of ... 1st wife.
 JOHN GLASIER, of Lea, esq. o. s. p. son and heir.
 MARY, dau. of Thomas Legh, of Adlington, esq. re-married to John Bentley, co. Derby. 2d wife.
 HUGH GLASIER, of Chester, brother and heir of John Glasier, 1595, mayor of Chester, 1603.
 MARY, dau. of ... Crispe.

HUGH GLASIER, baptized at Backford, Sept. 10, 1598, o. s. p. Aug. 9, 1599.
 THOMAS GLASIER, baptized at Backford, Sept. 10, 1596, o. s. p.
 WILLIAM GLASIER, of Lea, esq.
 GRACE, dau. of ... of ...

JANE GLASIER, born 25 Jan. 1619, baptized at Backford.
 THOMAS GLASIER, of Lea, esq. obiit 8th Dec. 1673, buried at Eastham, 12 Dec.
 ELIZABETH, dau. of Sir William Stanley, of Hooton, bart.
 MARY, wife of Richard Legh, of Baggilegh, esq.

DOROTHY, o. s. p.
 MARY, wife of Capt. Munday; and 2dly, of John Ashton, of Chorlton, buried at Backford, Jan. 7, 1685.
 WILLIAM GLASIER, of Lea, esq. buried at Backford, 6th Feb. 1689.
 MARGARET, dau. of Ralph Morgell, of Moston, buried at Backford, Oct. 25, 1695.
 ELIZABETH, wife of Peter, second son of John Hurlston, of Picton.
 ANNE, wife of ... Evans of Broadlane, and 2dly of Francis Poole, of Capenburst.

MARGARET, o. s. p.
 ELIZABETH, wife of Ralph Morgell, of Moston, bapt. 28th July, 1658; buried May 10, 1683.
 THOMAS GLASIER, of Lea, esq. eldest son and heir, who mortgaged the Lea estate.
 KATHERINE, dau. of Richard Lloyd, of Allington.
 HUGH, bapt. Dec. 6, 1655, buried Dec. 20, 1655.
 WILLIAM, bapt. 14th Dec. 1659.

THOMAS GLASIER, esq. eldest son and heir.
 MARGARET, MARY, bapt. 12 June 1678.
 WILLIAM, bapt. Nov. 23, 1682.
 ANNE, bapt. Feb. 18, 1688.
 KATHARINE, bapt. Dec. 9, 1690.
 RICHARD, bapt. Aug. 24, 1690.
 JAMES, bapt. Oct. 18, 1691.
 JOHN, bapt. Feb. 28, 1692.
 JOHN, bapt. Jan. 24, 1693.
 MARY, bapt. May 19, 1695, buried Jan. 3, 1702.

^k Matilda is called relict of Richard Coudrey, from his being named in the recovery. He was certainly first husband, as the recovery is in the time of Thomas Capenhurst, and the deed in which she occurs with Reginald de Pull is of the time of abbot Simon, his successor.

Part of the Parish of St. Oswald.

CROUGHTON.

CROUGHTON, situated about four miles north-east from Chester, and a member of the parish of St. Oswald, lies within the limits of the hundred of Wirral, between the parishes of Backford and Stoke, and contiguous to Wervin and other townships of the same parish, situated within the hundred of Broxton, from which it is divided by the line of the Ellesmere canal.

Hugh Lupus and his countess gave this manor to the abbey of Chester in their charter of 1093, by virtue of which the abbot, 31 Edw. III. claimed infangtheof, wayf, stray, goods of felons, natives, and fugitives, and to have view of frank pledge of the residents herein at his manor of Upton. After the dissolution of this abbey, it was included in the first charter to the dean and chapter of the new cathedral. Having become the property of sir Richard Cotton, in consequence of the informality of the charter, it passed to his son George Cotton, esq. and was ^a sold by him to Richard Hurleston, esq. anno 13 Eliz. with lands in the adjacent townships. To this purchaser it was confirmed by queen Elizabeth, to hold the same from the manor of East Greenwich, subject to the annual fee-farm rent of 7l. 0s. 4d. payable to the dean and chapter of Chester.

^b John Hurleston, esq. his son, died seized of this manor and township in the 36th of Eliz. holding it in demesne as of fee, leaving John Hurleston, his son and heir, then aged upwards of two years.

Anne and Mary Hurleston, daughters of John, and neices and coheiresses of Charles Hurleston, of Newton and Picton, esq. brought this township in marriage about the middle of the last century, to Henry John Needham, lord viscount Kilmorey, and John Leche, of Carden, esq. in which families it now remains vested.

A very romantic dingle, called the Dungeons, branches from the valley which forms the line of the Chester canal in this township, and extends upwards nearly half a mile, the sides being uniformly overspread with almost impervious thickets, and the bottom covered with sand and gravel, of a nature which strongly tends to shew its having been deposited there by the waters of the sea, and confirms the theory of the Mersey having passed through the vale between the hundreds, to a confluence with the Dee below the walls of Chester.

It appears from the chartulary of the abbey of St. Werburgh, that the rector of Stoke claimed at an early period the township of Croughton as part of his parish; all the ecclesiastical profits and tithes of which were afterwards released to the abbey by an agreement between the abbot and rector, a copy of which is appended to the account of the church of Stoke in the following pages.

^a Williamson's Deeds, p. 84.

^b Vide Picton, in Broxton Hundred, for pedigree of Hurleston.

Stoke, or Stoak.

TWO townships are comprehended in this parish, Stoke and Little Stanney, together with a part of the township of Whitby. It is situated five miles north-east from Chester, on the bank of the Ellesmere canal, near its junction with the Mersey. The parish extends into the hundred of Edisbury between the parishes of Ince and Thornton, and includes a part of the Holme House estate of G. J. Legh, esq. of High Legh. With this exception the boundaries are formed by the parishes of St. Oswald's, Backford, Eastham, and an extra-parochial tract, on the Wirral side, and by the river Gowy on the side of the hundred of Edisbury.

STOKE.

THE earliest possessor of this township that has been ascertained, is Roger de Soterlegh, who occurs in an agreement with the abbot of St. Werburgh, printed in the following account of the church, but without date. After him occurs Edmund de Soterlegh, who presented to the church in 1316. By this Edmund, it may be supposed, with probability almost amounting to certainty, to have been transferred to Peter le Roter de Thornton, in or about the year 1326, in which year the said Edmund passed to this Peter the manor of Arrowse by fine for twenty marks, ^a and it is proved by the episcopal registers of Lichfield that sir Peter Thornton was possessed of this place, and had alienated his right in the church before 1349.

On the division of the estates of the Thorntons amongst the coheirs of that family, the principal part became vested in the Duttons of Dutton. (Other smaller shares, too minute to follow, may be traced among the descendants of the other coheirs, in the following Inquisitions post mortem. 33 Edw. III. sir William Golborne, kt.; 12 Ric. II. Johanna, daughter of Hamon Fitton of Bollin; 20 Ric. II. Thomas de Seynesbury; 31 Ric. II. Matthew de Weverham; 2 Hen. IV. Thomas de Seynesbury; 4 Hen. IV. sir William Venables of Bollin; 3 Hen. V. Richard Venables of Bollin; 7 Hen. V. Alice de Barton; 6 Hen. VI. William Beeston; 21 Edw. IV. Thomas Beeston; and 13 Hen. VII. John Beeston.)

By *Inq.* 4 Ric. II. after the death of sir Thomas Dutton, of Dutton, kt. husband of Ellena de Thornton, it appears that he held, among other estates, seven parts of a moiety of sir Peter Thornton's lands in Stoke and Arrowse, from the king in capite by military service. Value per annum 26s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Thomas de Dutton held, inter alia, lands in Stoke, valued with other portions of Thornton lands at xxi. per annum.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VIII. Sir Peter Dutton, kt. held,

inter alia, lands in Stoke from the king in capite by military service. Value per annum vi.

Inq. p. m. 25 Ap. 7 Jac. I. John Dutton, of Dutton, esq. held inter alia lands in Stoke, from the king in capite, as the 30th part of a knight's fee. Value per annum vii.

This estate of the Duttons passed in marriage, with the other manors and estates of the Duttons, to the families of Gerard, and Fleetwood of Gerards Bromley, successively, and was sold by the last mentioned family to the Bunburys of Stanney in the middle of the last century.

The Bunburys had long been possessed of another estate in the township, which is thus noticed in the Inquisitions.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VI. Richard Bunbury, of Stanney, held lxxiis. ijd. rent issuing from the manor of Stoke.

Inq. p. m. 9 Edw. IV. John Bunbury of Stanney held the same.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. John Bunbury held one messuage and lands in Stoke from Tochet and John Beeston. Value per annum xi.

Inq. p. m. 32 Hen. VIII. Richard Bunbury, esq. held lands in Stoke and Pyckton from the king in capite as the 20th part of a knight's fee. Value per annum, iiii. xvs. iiiiid.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VIII. Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, held lands in Stoke from the king in capite as the 20th part of a knight's fee. Value per annum xls.

Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz. Thomas Bunbury, esq. held lands and messuages in Stoke from the queen as of her manor of East Greenwich, value per annum lxiis. ijd. and lands in Stoke and Pickton from the queen's earldom of Chester, as the 20th part of a knight's fee. Value per annum 48s.

Sir Thomas Charles Bunbury, bart. is now sole proprietor of the township of Stoke, with the exception of two small tenements, (one of which belongs to the poor

^a Williamson's Villare Cest.

of Eastham,) and claims a court-leet and court-baron for the manor, which have not now been held for many years.

The village is a collection of ragged and filthy hovels, scattered round the church without the least attention to arrangement, on a small elevation adjacent to the marshes through which the Gowy forces its way to a confluence with the Mersey. Of the roads it may be sufficient to say, that they are not worse than could be expected, after stating that the soil is deep clay, that materials are distant, the landlord an absentee, and the tenants of a description peculiarly apt to neglect their duty in this respect, under a stronger stimulus and more favourable circumstances.

THE CHURCH.

Domesday is silent on this head, but it is evident from fragments of architecture yet remaining, that the present building is nearly coeval with the Conquest.

The advowson was antiently appended to the manor.

1316, non. Octob. Edmund de Soterlegh presented Roger de Soterley to this church, vacant by the decease of Robert de Hulme, the last rector.

Sir Peter de Thornton, after obtaining possession of the manor, gave the church gratuitously (gratanter donavit) to the dean and chapter of the collegiate church of St. John in Chester, in 1349; who presented to it in the same year, on the 7th of the Ides of October, Adam de Wygan, chaplain, after the death of Francis, the last rector.

The appropriation of the rectory took place in the same year.

After the dissolution, the church became again united to the manor, and passed with it to the Bunburies, who now possess the impropriation and advowson of the curacy.

The living is a curacy; the impropiator has the great tithes, the curate the tithes of hay and potatoes; the tithes of the portion of Whitby which is in this parish, are held on lease by Mrs. Brown of Whitby.

In must be added that the right of burial from all the component townships of this parish, was claimed antiently by the abbots of St. Werburgh in right of their neighbouring chapel of Wervin, for which they allowed the rector of Stoke two marks of silver yearly. The original agreement between the abbot and the rector, without date, confirmed by the patron, Roger de Soterlegh, is here given from the chartulary of the abbey.^b

CHURCH.

Tax. Eccl. 6l. 13s. 4d. Certif. Val. 29l. 4s.

The church of Stoke is a picturesque and venerable building of red stone, in a low situation, and embosomed in trees. It is very irregular in its architecture

and the disposition of the windows and buttresses, which are of all forms and ages. At the west end is a wooden belfry, which has many years been in a very dangerous state of dilapidation.

A doorway, under a semicircular arch, ornamented with chevron mouldings, forms the entrance in the body of the church. The ornaments are concealed by the south porch, and another semicircular arch, opening into the church at the opposite side, is altogether defaced and walled up.

The body of the church is about twenty yards by nine, and is divided into two parts by a massy pointed arch. At the west end, under a rude oaken gallery dated 1679, is a circular font, about three feet in height and rather more than two feet in diameter, ornamented round the sides with a series of tall and narrow Saxon arches. On the east side of the division before-mentioned, the width of the church is increased by a wooden transept projecting into the church yard on the south side, formerly used as a chancel by the Bunbury family, and completely surrounded with their sepulchral memorials.

From this part the chancel of the church is divided by a mutilated oaken screen, over which has been a rood loft, decorated with lines of running foliage and gothic ornaments well executed in oak, of which a considerable portion is remaining. This chancel appears to have been rebuilt about the time of Henry VIII. The roof of this part is very mean and of modern date, but that of the greater part of the body of the church precisely corresponds with the timber work in the roof of the hall of Stanney. This part, as well as the wooden transept, is almost surrounded with

MONUMENTS OF THE BUNBURY FAMILY.

I. Against the north wall of the chancel is a large monument of white alabaster, decorated at the summit with the arms and crest of Bunbury. and at the base with a shield of Bunbury, impaling Argent, three roundels and a chief Gules, for Baily of Hoddesden, which coats are also placed on each side of a large oval tablet of blue marble in the centre, inscribed in capitals:

“ Neere this place
lyeth interred the body
of Henry Bunbury, esq.
eldest son of Henry Bunbury,
of Stanney in the countie
of Chester, kt.
together with

Ursula Bunbury, the daughter of
John Baily, of Hodsden in the countie
of Hartford, esq.

his most lovinge wife.

He } dyed { Feb. 1, Anno D'ni 1664, } aged { 66 yeares.
She } { Mar. 20, Anno D'ni 1652, } { 53 yeares.

The most deare parents

^b Comp'o i'r abb'em et r'torem de Stoke. Harl. MSS. 1965, p. 40.

Abbas et Co' Se'e Werb. Cestr' om's dec's et prove't's ecc'e'asticos p'venie'tes de villà de Crochton, et cap' ip'i' no'i'e eccl' su' S'e'e Werburg' Cestr' p'oehial', et cap'lle su' de Wyrvin in p'pet' retinebu't n'no' corp'a def'etorum i' vill' de Stoke et Staney, cu' le Holm, et medi'te de Whytebi', i' cimiterio eccl'e' su' Se'e Werburg' Cestr' lib' ad sepult'a adm'te't, et mortuaria et obl'ones q' off're't' p'd'cis defu'tis s'n' reclamac'oe r'toris ecc'e' de Stoke et successor' suor' lib'e p'cipiet i' p'petuu'. D'e'us v'o abbas et successores sui, d'e'o r'tori u' marc' arge'ti i' p'petuu' anu'ti' i' nat' Se'i Joh'is i' abbatia Cestr' solve't. S'd au' lite' mota' con'vener't s' b' p'e'a xx sol' d'e'o r'tori solve'd inf'a viii dies a t'i'o soluc'o'is p'd'e'e sunt cu' a d'e'o R'tore vel p'coratoribus suis d'e'us abbas sup' d'eam soluc'onem fuerit requisitus. Hæc v'o conventio judicialit' declarata et cu' sigill' judieu' vid's vir' relig' p'oris de Clav'cote et p'oris Wi'chen'bu' n'no' d'n'i Rogeri de Schoterleg' patroni ecc'e' de Stoke, et d'ci r'toris consign'. It' a'a c'uent'o i'r abb'em Cestr' et q'dam R'torem de Stoke, sup' p'cepe'o'e deci' ar' et p'v'etuu' ecc'e'asticar' ville de Crochton, a d'e'o abb'e in p'pet' p'cipi'edor' fu' f'ca et judicialiter declarata, ut r'tor ecc'e' de Stoke i' p'pet' p'cipiet u' marc' arge'ti an'uas ut sup'ius d'e'm, Tho' P'or' s'ce Frideswide, et cancellar' Oxon, iudicibus d'ni p'pris delegat' sup' hiis exitibus, et d'e'm com'p'm suis sigillis una cu' sig' d'e'i r'toris roborantib's.—26 l. Co. 1. 41 b.

Two sentences are evidently imperfect, which the reader will readily excuse when he is told that Randle Holme pronounced the charter to be illegible a hundred and fifty years ago.

of Tho: John, Henry, Wm. Joseph, and Richard, sons, and Susan, Mary, Anne, Eliz. and Ursula, daughters.

John dyed in the service of his king and countrie in Ireland, A. D. 1642.

Mary and Anne dyed in theire minoritie.

In memory whereof the fower youngest sons and two youngest daughters have erected this monument, Anno Salutis 1688."

II. On the north side of the altar is a painted board, emblazoned with the arms of Bunbury impaling Skeffington. Viz. Bunbury, 8 quarters, 1st, Argent, on a bend Sable three chess-rooks of the first, Bunbury; 2d, Argent, a fesse between three pheasants Gules; 3d, Argent on Gules, three leopard's heads cabossed Vert, on a bend engrailed Argent, between two cinquefoils Or, for Aldersey; 4th, Argent, a bend coticed Sable, Barton; 5th, Sable, two barrs Argent, Brerton; 6th, Or, on a chief Gules, three trefoils slipped of the first, a crescent for difference, Bamville of Chester; 7th, Argent, a tree erased Vert, Storeton; 8th, Bunbury. Impalement, Argent, three bulls'-heads erased Sable for Skeffington, with eight other quarterings. Over the shields, the crest of Bunbury and of Skeffington, the latter a mermaid proper on a wreath.

Inscription :

Here lyeth the body of William Bunbury, third son of Henry Bunbury of Bunbury and Stanney in the county Palatyne of Chester, esq. He married Mary, the second daughter of sir Richard Skeffington, of Fisherwick in the county of Stafford, kt. and had issue five sonnes and two daughters, John, Skeffington, Francis, and Ursula, died in their minoritie; Charles, William and Mary He died y'e 23d of October, 1676, being his birth-day, aged 47 years. She died the 22d of April, 1711, aged 82 years.

III. On the other side of the altar is a similar board, emblazoned with the before-mentioned eight quarterings, impaling the same eight quarterings, inscribed,

Next under this place lyeth Richard, youngest son to Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, esq. with Diana his wife, daughter of Thomas, a younger son of sir Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, in com. Cest. kt. He died July 24, a^o 1674, aged 32 years.

She died March 5, 1710, aged 66 years.

They had only two sons, Thos. and Robert; Thos. died Oct. the 6th, anno 1691, aged 20 years, and is here buried.

Robert died Aug. 20, 1717, aged 44 years, and is here buried.

IV. Near this, against the south wall of the chancel, is a defaced memorial of Elizabeth, daughter of Bunbury.

V. On the other side of the window is a corresponding one, with six quarterings of Bunbury, being the 1st, 2d, 3d, 5th, 6th, and 7th, of II. impaling Baily as in I. between the crests of Bunbury and Baily, viz. a horse's head and neck Argent, issuing from a ducal coronet. Inscribed.

Ursula, dau. to John Baley, of Hodsden co. Hartford, esq.

late wife of Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, esq. dyed the 20th of March, 1652.

VI. Close to this is another painted tablet, inscribed, Here under lyeth the bodye of Edward Morgan, of Goulden Grove, Flintshire, esq. He married Ursula, daughter to Henry Bunbury of Stanney, and had issue Edward, Elizabeth, and —. He died 22d November, 1682, aged 38 years.

The said Ursula died 27th Nov. 1709, aged 72.

He was son and heir of the noble captaine Edward Morgan, who was slain at Winnington Bridge, Aug. 1659, by Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas Whitley of Aston, esq. who was son and heir of Robert Morgan, of Goulden Grove, esq.

by Katherine, dau. of William Jones, of Castle March, kt. son and heir of Edward Morgan, esq. originally descended from s^rTudor ap Eidnefydd Vychan, one of the xv families

or houses of greatest account in Northwales.

Arms, Morgan (Gules, a chevron Ermine, between three human heads couped Argent) with three quarterings, impaling Bunbury, eight quarterings as in II. except that the bend in the 4th coat is double coticed.

VII. Over this is a tattered armorial surcoat, and a helmet with the Bunbury crest, and between it and the screen, another tablet, with six quarterings of Bunbury as in V. Inscribed, "Anne, daughter of Henry Bunbury, esq. son and heir of Henry Bunbury, kt. dyed the 23d of September, 1627."

The following inscriptions are on large flagstones round the altar rails.

VIII. Here lyeth Ursula, daughter of John Baily of Hodsden, esq. late wife of Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, esq. She died A. D. 1652, March 20, and was aged 53.

IX. Here lyeth Henry Bunbury, esq. eldest son of Henry Bunbury, of Stanney in the countie of Chester, kt. He dyed A. D. 1664, Feb. 1, and was aged 68.

X. Joseph and Lettice Bunbury, died Aug. 1704.

XI. Underneath lieth Henry Bunbury, of Howcroft, gent.; also Joseph Bunbury, of Houghton, gent. son of Joseph and Lettice Bunbury, who died 29th day of May, Anno Domini, 1738, aged 53. Also under this stone lie the remains of Helena, dau. of Joseph and Lettice Bunbury, of Boughton, who died May 1, 1763, aged 91.

XII. Here lyeth interred the body of William Bunbury, fourth son of Henry Bunbury, esq. of Stanney in the countie of Chester. He dyed the 23d of October, 1676, it being the daye of his birth, aged 47.

XIII. Here lyeth the body of Richard Bunbury, the youngest son of Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, esq. who died July the 1674.

XIV. Here lyeth the body of Edward Morgan, esq. who is above named with Ursula his wife, daughter of Henry Bunbury, esq. who dyed Nov. 22, 1682, aged 38 years. She dyed Together with Elizabeth, their only daughter, who dyed 25 June, 1686.

The part of the body of the church appropriated to the Bunburys, contains ten more monuments, in addition to a tattered banner and two atchievements for sir H. Bunbury, and his lady, Susanna Hanmer.

XV. The first of these records that,

Near this place lyeth the body of sir Thomas Bunbury, bart. who first married Sarah, daughter of John Chetwood, of Oakeley in the countie of Stafford, esq. by whom he had issue sons and daughters, whereof sir Henry, his heire, and Mary, survived him.

Afterwards he married Mary, the daughter of Humphrey Kelsal, of Heath syde in the countie of Chester, gent. by whom he had issue 2 daughters, Priscilla and Lucie, both living. He dyed 22 of August,

1682

The inscription is on a marble tablet, with ornaments in the fantastic style of the day, decorated with the arms of Bunbury impaling Kelsal, Ermine, a bend engrailed Sable, a crescent for difference. The effect is much injured by plaster pillars, and a profusion of gilding and tawdry foliage of the same materials.

XVI. On a plainer marble monument adjoining, with the arms of Bunbury impaling Hanmer, Argent, two lions passant Azure, is inscribed,

Here lye the remains
of sir Henry Bunbury, bart.
who dyed the 12th of February, 1732, and
was buried the 16th following.
Near him lies also sir Charles
Bunbury his son, who dyed
April y'e 10, 1742. And between y'e
two is interred Susanna, lady
Bunbury, daughter of W'm
Hanmer of Bettisfield, esq. in
com. Flint, mother of sir
Charles, and wife of sir Henry
Bunbury, to whose memory she erected
this monument. She died
Sep. the 23d, 1744

The remaining are all wooden tablets, emblazoned, and the letters in black on a golden ground.

XVI. Arms and crest of Bunbury. A label of three points for difference.

Neere this place lyeth the body of Thomas Bunbury, esq. eldest son of sir Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, bart. by Susanna his wife, who was born the last day of June 1701, and dyed the 21st day of April, in the year of our Lord 1702.

XVIII. Arms, Bunbury. Six quarterings as V. Crest on each side.

Neere this place lieth the body of Mrs. Abigail Bunbury, fifth daughter of Thomas Bunbury, of Stanney, esq. She dyed the 16th day of February, Anno D'ni 1672, aged 12 years.

XIX. Arms and crest, Bunbury, 4 quarterings, 1st, 2d, 3d, and 6th of V. on each side of the crest a small shield of Bunbury impaling Wilcocks, Argent, a lion rampant between three crescents Sable, a chief vary; and Birkenhead, Sable, three garbs Or, within a bordure Argent.

Here lyeth the body of Thomas Bunbury, gent. fourth son of sir Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, kt. He first married Margaret, sole dau. of William Wilcocks, of the Oakes in the countie of Salop, gent.; and had issue Martha, Henry, Mary, Elizabeth, and Anne. She died 1632, aged 37. He afterwards married Elinor, fifth daughter to Henry Birkenhead, of Backford, esq. and had by her eleven children, whereof six died in their minority. Thomas, Dulcibella, Joseph, Benjamin, and Diana only survived him. He died the 9 day Dec. anno 1668, aged 63 years, and she died the xx of December, a° 1675, aged 70 years.

XX. Arms, Bunbury, eight quarterings as V.

Here lyeth the body of Eleanor, 3d daughter of Thomas Bunbury, of Stanney in the countie of Chester, esq. by Sarai his wife, daughter of John Chetwood, of Ockley in the county of Stafford, esq. She died the 23d of August, 1678, aged 26 years old.

XXI. Arms as in the last.

Neare unto this place lyeth interred the body of Wil-

liam Bunbury, second son'e of Thomas Bunbury, of Stanney, esq. who died the 21st day of April Anno D'ni 1672, between the 9th and 10th year of his age.

XXII. Arms, Bunbury in a lozenge, in the corners Birkenhead, as in XIX. and Norreys of Speake. Quarterly, Argent and Gules, in the 2d and 3d quarters a fret Or, over all a fesse Azure.

Here lyeth the body of Dulcibella Bunbury, daughter to Thomas Bunbury, of Stanney, gent. by Eleanor, his second wife, who was fifth daughter to Henry Birkenhead, of Backford, esq. She dyed the fifth of July, A. D. 1686, aged 48 years. Virtus ejus vivit.

XXIII. Arms, Bunbury, four quarterings as XIX.

Here lyeth the body of Lydia Bunbury, daughter to Thomas Bunbury of Stanney in the countie palatyne of Chester, esq. by Sarah, daughter to John Chetwood, of Ockley, esq. his first wife. She died the vi day of June, in the year 1675, and in the 11th year of her age. Firmum in vita nihil.

XXIV. Arms, Bunbury, eight quarterings as V.

Here lyeth interred the body of Martha Bunbury, daughter of Thomas Bunbury, of Stanney in the county of Chester, esq. by Sarai his first wife, daughter of John Chetwood, of Ockley in the countie of Stafford, esq. She dyed the 10th day of July, A° 1676, and in the 25th year of her age.

Another sepulchral memorial of much higher antiquity remains to be noticed, cut in longobardic characters, in the blocks of stone which form the south wall of the church, at a few yards distance east of the porch, and apparently relating to one of the early rectors.

Magister Andre' cuj' a'i'e p'p'itiet' d's.

On a stone near this memorial is carved a shield, emblazoned with a plain cross, underneath which is the following inscription, now barely legible, commemorating a clergyman, who, from the concluding words, was most probably a sufferer in the civil tumults of his time. The arms vary little from those of the neighbouring family of his name resident at Bridge Trafford, but he does not appear in their pedigrees.

Hic jacet corpus
Henrici Trafford,
Clerici, qui obiit
vicesimo quarto die
Augusti, anno ætatis
suæ quinquagesimo
quarto, annoque
recuperatæ salustis
M.DC.LIV°
Servavi fidem;
resurgam.

A free-school within this parish, still remaining, was built on the green of Little Stanney by sir Thomas Bunbury, to the endowment of which he left by will (dated 22d August, 1682) the sum of two hundred pounds, ° and upwards of 300l. to the poor of the parish. This sum, considerably increased by subsequent donations of the Bunburies and others, has long been lost to the parish, from being invested in private hands. ^dThe salary is now reduced to 6l. per annum, 1l. of which was left by the will of Henry Marsh, and 5l. is paid by sir Charles Bunbury, by whom the master is appointed.

The registers commence in the year 1543.

^c Parish Registers.

^d Information of the rev. Jacob Cheesbrough.

LITTLE STANNEY.

THIS township, as previously mentioned, is most probably included with Great Stanney, under the general description of Stanei, in the Domesday Survey, which was retained in the hands of the earl.

As early as the reign of Richard the First, if not anterior to it, the Bunburies of Bunbury had made a settlement in this township, as appears by the following abstract of a deed recorded in the chartulary of St. Werburgh.^a

Will's Patric' confirmavit escambiu' Umfrey cognati sui, milit', q'd fecit cu' monach', dans eis p' Pecforton et 1111 bovat' in Staneya, molendinum in Staneya et Al-richesholm, et q'dq'd p't'net ad eam in marisco et prato, ex parte v'sus Staneye, et ex altera v'sus Merse, dans eis tot'm pratum, et tot'm mariscum, et totam aquam, sicut decurrit in Merse.

At this time the manor was vested in a family which bore the local name, and terminated in a female about the time of Edward the Third; when the sole daughter and heiress of David de Stannich, brought Stanney in marriage to David de Bunbury^b, descendant of David de Bunbury, great uncle of Humphrey before-mentioned, and representative of the male line of the family.

On this marriage the Bunburies made Stanney their principal seat of residence, and it is vested to this day in their representative.

This David de Bunbury obtained by fine from William de Stoke, 17 Edw. III. the °manor of Stanney cum pert. and the advowson of Bunbury for his life; remainder to William de Bunbury his son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VI. Richard Bunbury (grandson of this William) held in demesne as of fee the manor of Stanney from the abbot and convent of Whalley in socage, by fealty and 1111 shillings rent; also the manors of Bunbury and Occleston, and lands in Hole, Hole hey, Tattenhall, Tilstone, and Stoke. John Bunbury son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 9 Edw. IV. John Bunbury held in demesne as of fee the manor of Stanney as before, value XL marks per annum; and also the manors and lands before recited. John Bunbury son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. John Bunbury held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Stanney as before, and also the manor and lands before recited, and lands in Beeston. Richard Bunbury son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 32 Hen. VIII. Richard Bunbury, esq. held in demesne as of fee the manor of Little Stanney from the king, by fealty and 1111s. rent, value per annum 26l. 13s. 4d.; also the manors of Bunbury and Occleston, and lands in Stoke, Pyckton, Hoole, Tylston, Tattenhall, and Newton; val. tot. XLVI. VIIS. 1111d. Obiit 27 Nov. a° p'd'to. Henry Bunbury, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VIII. Henry Bunbury of Stanney, held the manor and water-mill of Little Stanney as in the last *Inq.* value xviii. and lands in Great

Stanney and in the townships before-mentioned, except Tattenhall, val. tot. LXVII. XIId. Obiit 18 Jan. a° p'd'to. Thomas Bunbury son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz. Thomas Bunbury, esq. held the manor of Little Stanney from the queen as in the last *Inq.* val. xviii. with lands in Stoke, Pickton, Tilston, Bunbury, Occleston, Wimbles Trafford, Gelden Sutton, Hoole, Chester, Saughall, Dunham, Claverton, and Great Stanney, val. tot. LXXVI. Obiit 5th May, 44 Eliz. Henry Bunbury, esq. son and heir, aged upwards of 36 years.

From this period the Bunbury estates, including this township, passed according to the pedigree annexed, and are now vested in sir Thomas Charles Bunbury, bart.

A court leet and court baron are claimed for the manor, but have not been held of late years.

Stanney Hall, the antient seat of the Bunburies, is now occupied by a farmer. It was built of timber, and surrounded by enormous barns still standing, apparently of the same age with the rest of the fabric, the whole being encompassed by a moat. The antient hall still remains, but is converted into several apartments, and divided into two stories. From the large doorway, forming the principal entrance on the western side, a passage led across the lower end, to a similar door on the other side, as in most of our college refectories. On the left several doors opened from this passage to the kitchen, buttery, and other offices; on the right, a screen open in the middle, divided the hall from this vestibule. The room itself was extremely spacious and lofty, and finished with a wooden roof resembling that of the church of Stoke, and probably of the same date. At the upper end, over the high table, a long series of verses, apparently of a moral tendency, is inscribed on the oak wainscot near the roof, but too much defaced to allow transcription.

After the decay of this fabric, the Bunburies resided at a modern building within the township, denominated, in a moment of conviviality, *Rake Hall*, a name which it still retains. The origin of the name is recorded on a pane of glass now fixed in the kitchen, dated Dec. 15, 1724, and inscribed with the names of the guests present, Sir Charles Bunbury, sir R. Grosvenor, sir W. Stanley, sir Francis Poole, Amos Meredith, colonel Francis Columbine, Edward Mainwaring, Thomas Glazeor, Scherington Grosvenor, Seimour Cholmondeley, William Poole, and Charles Bunbury, junr. The Bunburies have given up even this occasional residence for upwards of sixty years.

Of the family itself something remains to be said; but either from seclusion of residence, from wish for privacy, or from intermarriages with other counties, they seem to have been connected little with the concerns of Cheshire, and much cannot be told of the earlier generations beyond their estates and alliances. ^dOne warrior graces the pedigree, sir Roger de Bunbury, a commander in the French wars of Edward the Third, who

^a Harl. MSS. 1967. p. 21.

^b Vide Bunbury, in Edisbury Hundred.

^c Williamson's Evidences, p. 23.

^d Wotton's Baronetage, vol. III. 688.

is said to have added the chess rooks to the plain bend of the paternal coat, in compliment to his skill in military tactics.

The following document relates to somewhat more recent days, and is no bad illustration of the feuds of the Cheshire families in the reign of Edward the Fourth, in which the time is fixed by the names of the parties, although the petition itself is wholly without date.

Harl. MSS. 2046. 35. "Sheweth mekely unto your gode grace yowre orator William Stanley of Hoton, squier, how that one Richard Bunbury, broder to John Bunbury of Staney, squier, with 20ty harnessht men with hym in forme of werre, and contry to your lawes and proclamac'ons, upon Palme Sunday last passed came to the town of Wyrbyn and Pickton, and there soght the servants of your s'd suppyant, in their howses and chambers and all theire places, theym to have beiten, maymed, murthered and slayne, if the s^d Richard Bunbury had found the s^d servantes in other of the s^d townes, and there soght them, and hath kept them from their tenures sith the s^d Sondag, unto the makeyng hereof unto their great hurte, to the s^d poore tenants should in that behalf, &c. Wherefore youre said suppliant mekely besecheth youre highnes, the p'mises tenderly considered, and in way of charity, to call before you the said Richard Bunbury, and to p'vide to the s'd poor tenants remedy in such wise as youre peace may be kept, and the s'd poor s'vantes be at their habitac'ons."

Henry Bunbury, esq. the father of the first baronet, was a zealous loyalist, and had his whole estate sequestered for five years, during which time he was kept in prison at Nantwich. He had only an allowance of the fifth part of his estate, and on his enlargement was made to pay £200l. He was damaged by sequestration and plunder more than 10,000l. in addition to the having his hall at Hoole burnt to the ground^e.

The grandfather and uncle of the present proprietor represented the city of Chester, for nearly the first half of the eighteenth century; the former of these, sir Henry Bunbury, gay, good-humoured, and lively, was an intimate friend of Farquhar the comic writer, who drew from him the character of sir Harry Wildair^f. His talents and humour were inherited by his younger grandson, the late Henry Bunbury, esq. whose delineations of satirical subjects will be long admired, and whose productions of a higher class once obtained a high rank in popular estimation. It may not be uninteresting to record, that his son, major-general sir H. C. Bunbury, K. C. B. had the important office of notifying to Napoleon Bonaparte, his sentence of exile to the Island of St. Helena.

For the evidences of the earlier generations of the following pedigree, the reader is referred to the accounts of the townships of Bunbury and Beeston, in Edisbury Hundred.

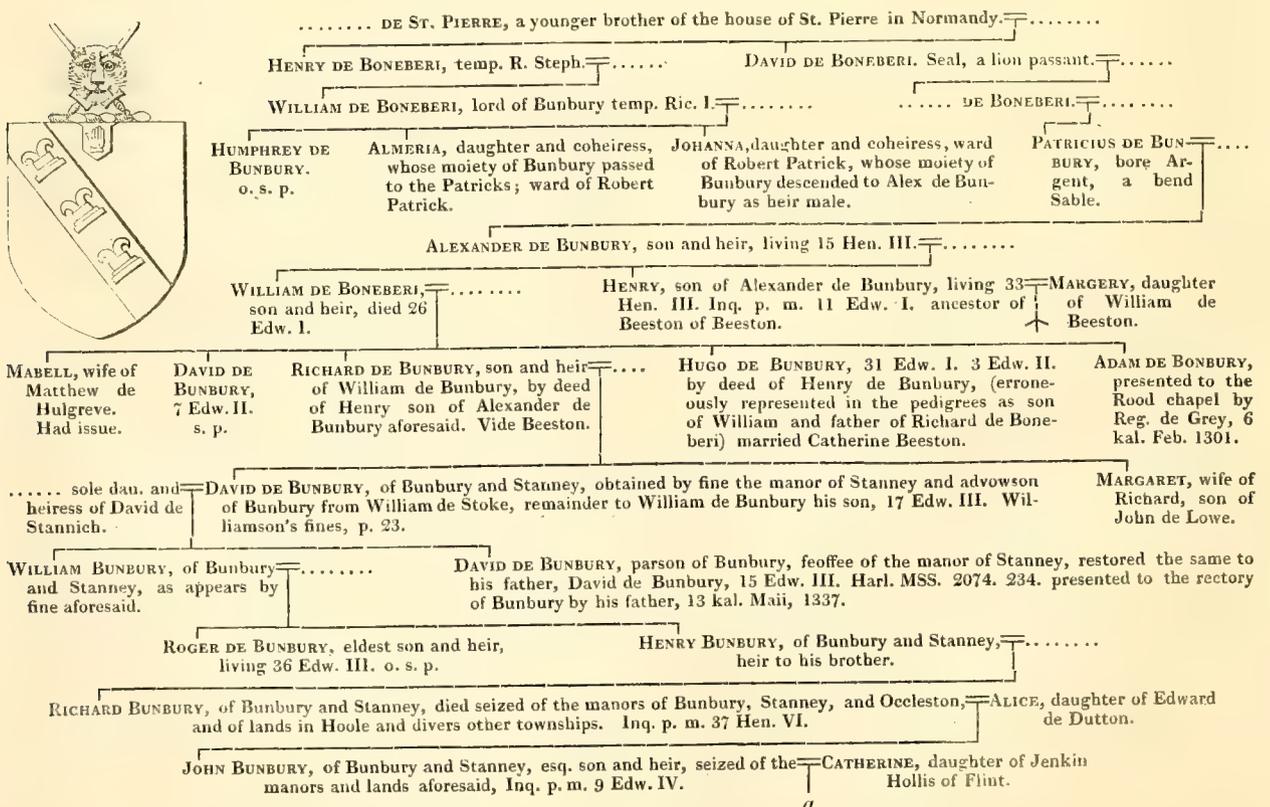
BUNBURY, OF BUNBURY AND STANNEY.

Compiled from the Visitations and Inquisitions, and continued by the Registers of Stoke and Thornton, and the information of sir Charles Bunbury in the latter descents.

ARMS. Argent, on a bend Sable, three chess rooks Argent.

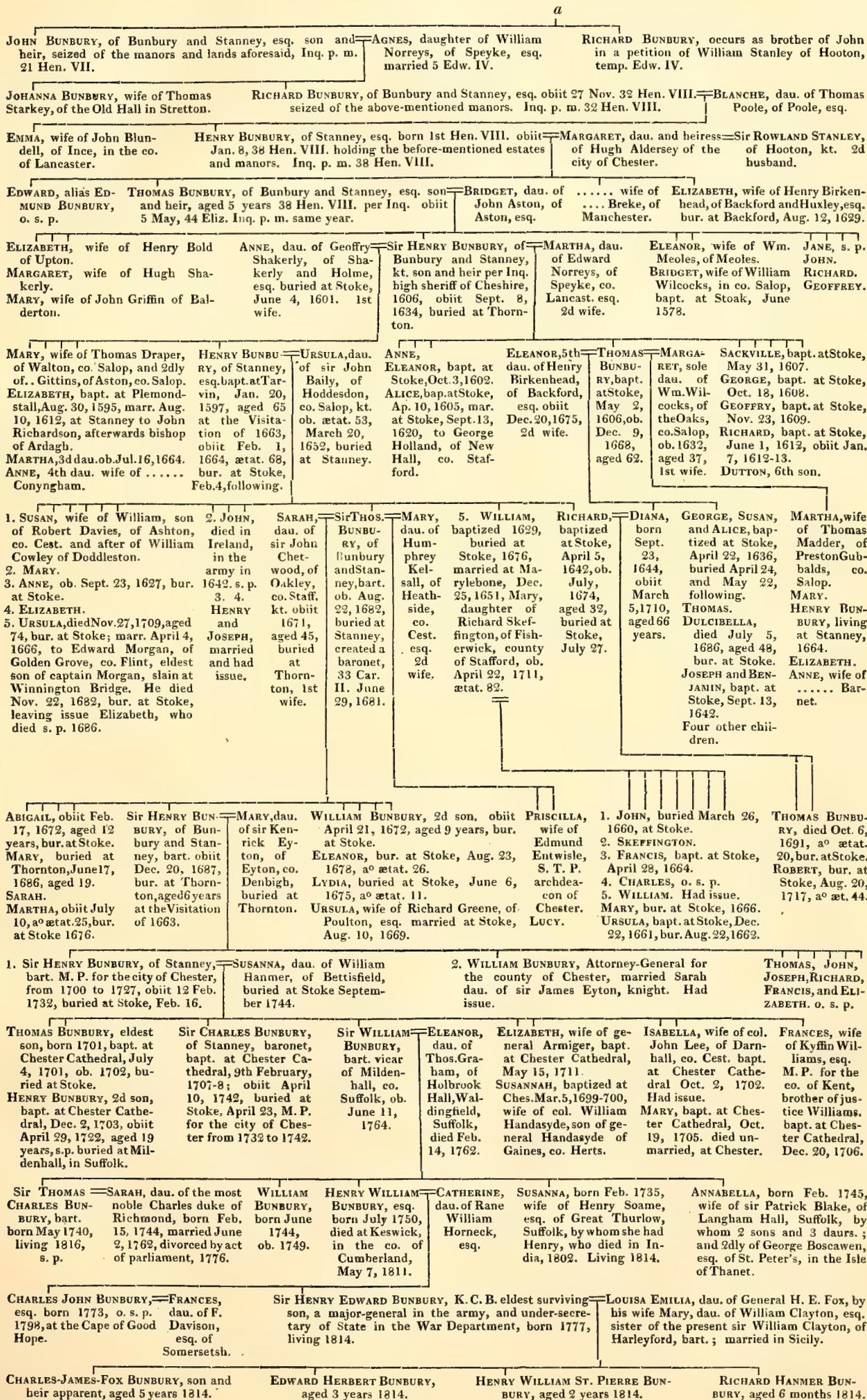
CREST. On a wreath two swords in saltier crossed through the mouth of a leopard face Or, blades proper, hilted Or.

Confirmed by sir William Dugdale in the Visitation of 1663.



^e Catalogue of lords and gentlemen, &c. edit. 1733. p. 127.

^f Information of Sir T. C. Bunbury.



Extra-Parochial Townships adjacent to Stoke.

GREAT STANNEY.

CHESHIRE presents few districts more eminently unblest in situation than the present township, bounded on one side by the waters of the Mersey, which have worked their way to it, by the destruction of lands deemed unworthy of the expence of preservation; on another, by stagnant brooks and morasses, and approached on the third by roads of deep clay, almost inaccessible in the midst of summer.

At the Domesday Survey, both Stanneys were probably included under one head among the estates reserved by the earl. "Ipse comes tenet Stanei et Restaldus de eo: Ragenal tenuit, sicut liber homo: ibi una hida geldabilis; terra est 11 carucarum. In dominio est una, et 11 bovarii, et 11 villani, et 11 bordarii, et una piscaria. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat xii solidos, modo xiv solidos. De hac terrâ v acra fuit et esse debet Sanctæ Werburgæ: Canonici calumpniantur, quia injuste perdunt."

The manor was subsequently granted to the barons of Halton, and was given in 1178 by John constable of Chester, to God, St. Mary, and the abbot and monks of Stanlaw, in the foundation charter of that convent. It is described as a part of the fee of the Lacies, in the charter of deafforestation of the domains of Stanlaw, granted at the instance of Roger de Lacy, son of the founder, by Randle the Third.

The monks of Stanlaw built a grange here, which on the removal of the convent to Whalley, in 1296, was left in the custody of one monk, called Roger Harefoot, or Pes Leporis^a. The site of the Grange was selected in the best point the township affords, and an artificial terrace still existing was formed adjacent to it, about two hundred yards in length, commanding the lake-like expanse of the bends of the Mersey towards Liverpool and Runcorn, and the opposite woods of Hale, which rise from the waters with striking magnificence, when contrasted with the desolation of the Cheshire shore. The spot is called by the country people Grange-Cow-Worth, and contains six statute acres, which nearly form a square, surrounded by a deep moat, still filled with water. Traces of extensive buildings are occasionally laid bare by the plough, and a large pavement was removed some years ago, for the repairs of the adjacent roads

By *Inq. p. m.* 21 Hen. VI. John Eales, late abbot of the monastery of Whalley, died seized in demesne, as of fee, as of right of his monastery, of certain lands in Great Stanney, Acton, and Backford, temporalities of the said monastery, held from the king, by the service of providing twelve fit chaplains, for the continual celebration of divine service at Stanlaw; Val. per annum, xxi.: on which premises, Nicholas Billington, the succeeding abbot, had then entered.

After the dissolution Great Stanney became the property of the Warburtons.

36 Hen. VIII. Henry Bunbury, esq. obtained of John Warburton, of Bromfield, gent. and Sibilla his wife, the manor of Stanney, alias Stanney Grange, two messuages, 670 acres of different kinds of land and moss, and 40s. rent in Great and Little Stanney, for 500 marks.

Inq. p. m. 38 Henry VIII. Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, held lands in capite from the king, by military service, as the 20th part of a knight's fee. Value, per ann. xxvii. xiiis. viiid.

Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz. Thomas Bunbury, of Stanney, esq. held messuages, lands, and other tenements in the same, as in the last *Inq.* Value per annum, xxvii. xiiis. viiid.

From this period Great Stanney has descended with Little Stanney, and the other estates of this family, to sir Thomas Charles Bunbury, bart. the present proprietor. The following extract from the Chartulary of St. Werburgh, without date, but of the time of Henry the Third, shews the township to have antiently been a part of the parish of Eastham, (Harl. MSS. 1965. 15.) The church of Stanlaw pays annually one stone of wax to the church of St. Werburgh, between the octaves of St. Peter and St. Paul the apostles, and another on the feast of St. Nicholas; in lieu of which it receives all the profits and offerings of Staney and its appurtenances, which the monks of Stanlaw cultivate with their own hands: provided that as long as any seculars remain in Staney, they pay to the mother church of Eastham all its ecclesiastical rights, as before the arrival of the monks at Stanlaw.

^a Cotton MSS. Cleopatra, C. 3.



Monastery of Stanlaw.

To the east of the parish of Stoke lies a low marshy extra-parochial district, formerly covered by the tides, and as late as the last century, completely insulated by the division of the stream of the Gowy into two branches, previous to its confluence with the Mersey. On a small rock which rises from the Marsh, at the junction of these rivers, is the site of the monastery of Stanlaw.

On this desolate and sequestered spot, in the year 1178, 24 Hen. II. John sixth baron of Halton and Constable of Chester, founded a convent of the Cistercian Order, which he endowed with the land of Stanlaw, and the vills of Mauricaceston and Staneye. This foundation took place on the eve of his departure to the Holy Land, where he died in 1190.

I. *Radulphus*, had the honour of first presiding over a convent, the situation of which most probably owed its selection to the ideas of austerity and mortification which had taken possession of the mind of the founder, at the approach of his meditated crusade. There was not only the absence of the scenery in which the monks so much delighted, the deep valley, the wood, and the shaded stream, but the place was exposed to all the horrors of inundations of the sea, and the greatest difficulties of access. Even at the present day, it is difficult to select in Cheshire a scene of more comfortless desolation, than this cheerless marsh, barely fenced from the waters by embankments on the north, shut out by naked knolls from the fairer country which spreads along the feet of the forest hills on the south-east, and approached by one miserable trackway of mud, whilst every road that leads to the haunts of men, seems to diverge in its course, as it approaches the "Locus Benedictus" of Stanlaw.

^aThis abbot died on the feast of St. Bartholomew, 1209, and was succeeded by

II. ^b*Osbern*, who appears to have been an active head of the monastery. Randle earl of Chester, in the first year of his abbacy, granted him a deafforestation of the domains of the abbey, and a permission to destroy beasts of chase within the limits, at the instance of his "beloved Roger de Lacy." In the same year Henry d'Espenser increased the abbey estates by the grant of the vill of Weylaton, in exchange for other lands given by his brother Thomas d'Espenser. To the abbacy of Osbern must also be referred the donations of Roger de Lacy, in Rochdale and Brendwood. ^cThis abbot

died on the feast of St. Philip and St. James, in what year is not mentioned.

III. ^d*Charles*, abbot of Stanlaw, obiit 3d nonar. Jan. year uncertain.

IV. ^e*Peter*, was in all probability the abbot who presided over Stanlaw at the time of the great donations from John de Lacy, consisting of the church of Eccles and half of Blackburn, Stanynge, Hordern, Newton, &c. which, in the words of Dr. Whitaker, "occasioned the vast preponderance in their property on the side of Lancashire, and naturally turned the eyes of the monks to a place at once more commodious in itself, and better adapted to the inspection of their other estates." This abbot also died 3^o nonar. Jan. the year is not mentioned.

V. *Simon* succeeded to the abbacy before 1259, in which year, the day after the feast of St. Simon and St. Jude, ^fhe returned from the council of London with the confirmation by the bishop of Chester, and the chapter of Coventry, of the grant of the church of Blackburn, the second moiety of which had been added to the donations of his father, by Edmund de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, who was interred at Stanlaw in 1258. This abbot died 7th id. January, and was succeeded by

VI. ^g*Richard de Thornton*, who may be referred with strong probability to the neighbouring family of le Roter, who settled on the manor of Thornton, by a grant from the Ardernes of Aldford, of whose connection with the founders of Stanlaw, much has been said in the account of Alvanley. This abbot retained his office one year, dying on the anniversary of his predecessor's death, in the following year 1269.

VII. ^h*Richard Northbury*, who from his name appears also to have belonged to a Cheshire family, died 7th kal. January 1272.

VIII. *Robert Hauworthe*, last abbot of Stanlaw, succeeded to the government of the house, when the anxiety of the monks for their removal was heightened by distresses of no ordinary description. In 1279, according to the Chronicle of St. Werburgh. "Mare erupit III non. Februar. die S'tæ Werburgæ, et incredibilia mala fecit apud Stanlaw et alibi; insuper pontem Cestriæ confregit et asportavit, cursum solitum supra modum excedensⁱ." This calamity was followed in 1287, by the fall of the great tower of the church, in a violent storm; and in 1289^k, the greatest part of the abbey perished in

^a Cotton MSS. Titus, F. 3. 258.

^{b c d e f g h} Ibid.

ⁱ MS Chronicle in Gastrell's Notitia.

^k Cotton MSS. Titus, f. 3. 258.

a conflagration. In the same year the lands of the abbey suffered so severely by a second inundation, that an indulgence of forty days was granted to all who assisted the abbey by contributions; and to direct the aid of pious charity into the same channel, other indulgences were granted by Roger, archbishop of Mountroyal, and Aimo, bishop of Versailles, to all who should undertake a pilgrimage to Stanlaw, to pray for the souls of Edmund de Lacy earl of Lincoln, and those of his ancestors there buried¹.

Under these circumstances, the convent of Stanlaw represented to pope Nicholas the Fourth, the inconveniences of their situation, that the waters rose three feet high in the offices of the monastery, that access was altogether unsafe from the inundations, and total destruction threatened their buildings from the fury of the tides, and that they had received from the liberality of Henry de Lacy, a grant of the place where the church of Whalley was situated, "habitationi admodum accommodus," where they prayed permission to remove, increasing their number with the addition of twenty monks, and leaving four to perform divine service at Stanlaw. This request was granted, and a bull issued authorizing them to remove to Whalley, and appropriate the revenues of the church, and its dependencies, on the conditions of endowing a sufficient vicarage, whenever the opportunity of removal should be afforded by the resignation or death of the incumbent.

This event took place on the 18th of the kalends of January 1294, on the death of Peter de Cestria, the last secular rector of Whalley, supposed by sir Peter Leicester, with considerable probability, to be the same with Peter de Lascy, an illegitimate scion of the baronial house of Halton.

The convent of Stanlaw had yet, however, three difficulties to encounter: first, from the monks of St. John at Pontefract, who pleaded a prior right to the benefice of Whalley, in right of a grant to their house from Hugh de la Val; and stated, that the presentations of Peter de Cestria and his two predecessors had been made injuriously by the earl of Lincoln and his ancestors, the monks not daring to oppose them. On this ground, pope Boniface temporarily revoked the bull of his predecessor, but afterwards confirmed it. The failure of this claim is satisfactorily accounted for by Dr. Whitaker^m, from the circumstance of De la Val's grant being made during a possession derived from a temporary attainder of Robert de Laci, who was afterwards restored, and refused to confirm the grant made during such attainder, which thus became void in law; but the malignity of the monks of Pontefract gives the transaction another cast, and asserts, that Roger de Meauland, then bishop, was bribed by the monks of Stanlaw with 300 marks sterling; that the compliance of the succeeding ordinary was bought by 1000 marks; and that of the Chapter of Lichfield and Coventryⁿ, by a pension of fifteen pounds sterling.

The next opposition was from their patron, who took forcible possession of the church on the death of Peter de Cestria, and retained it until he had extorted a release to him of the chapel of St. Mary, in Clithero, then valued at 100 marks sterling, of the right of hunting in his forests, and other privileges. The monks then obtained entrance, having read the revocation

before the doors of the church; the people, in crowds, invoking judgements on the Simoniacks.

Another difficulty yet remained, from the increase of price of provisions, which the removal of this convent to Whalley occasioned to the neighbouring monastery of Salley. These objections were compromised in a chapter of the order, held at the house of the Hospitalers, near St. Botolph, in 1305, by which the punishment of the offending members of either house was transferred to the house offended, and either house had the option of purchasing the tithes which the other monastery could spare them^o.

With this final settlement we must take our leave of the monks of Whalley, and consign their further history to the annals of their proper historian; to a Work which will doubtless continue, to late posterity, a standard ornament of topography, and bears, on every page, the genuine tokens of the most vigorous intellect, as highly polished by classical acquirements as it is richly imbued with the knowledge of English antiquities.

Robert Hauworthe, who had now been abbot twenty-four years, either feeling himself inadequate to the exertions which the concerns of the new monastery would call for, or possibly having contracted, from long residence, an affection even for the scene of his troubles, determined to remain at Stanlaw, with five of his monks, and resigned the abbacy to Gregory de Northbury, who removed, with twenty monks, to Whalley; five others were placed in the granges of the convent; and one continued a student at Oxford. Hauworthe died on the eighth of the kalends of May, 1304. From his name, he was undoubtedly a native of Lancashire; and is referred by the historian of Whalley, with apparent probability, to the Howorths of Great Howorth, in that county.

From this period to the dissolution, Stanlaw continued a cell to the monastery of Whalley, in which were maintained treble the number of monks stipulated for in the petition of the convent to Pope Nicholas. This appears from the inquisition after the death of abbot Eales, 21 H. VI. which states him to have held the Cheshire estates, mentioned in the account of Great Stanney, "per servicium inveniendi xii capellanos idoneos apud Stanlowe, ad divina continuè celebranda."

After the dissolution Stanlaw came into the hands of sir Richard Cotton, the great trafficker in the abbey lands of Cheshire, and was sold by his son, George Cotton, esq. anno 13 Eliz. to sir John Poole, of Poole, knt.

By *Inq. p. m.* 19th April, 12 Jac. I. John Poole, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Standlowe, alias Standlowe Grange, with lands and tenements therein, from the king in capite, by military service, value per ann. beyond reprises, xls.

From this period Stanlow has followed the descent of the other estates of the Pooles, and is now vested in the Rev. Sir Henry Poole, bart.

The site of the building is occupied by a mean farmhouse and barns, in which one or two antient doorways are preserved. In the centre of the farm-yard there commences a subterraneous excavation, hewn in the solid rock, which passes under the buildings adjoining, in an easterly direction, and emerges at about sixty yards distance on the verge of the Gowy, at its point of confluence with the Mersey. Here another similar passage, branching off at right angles to the North, led to

¹ Another indulgence of 30 days was granted 1283, by Oenianus bishop of Bangor, to all who should go to Stanlaw, to pray for the earls of Lincoln and constables of Chester there buried, or who should contribute towards the amending the difficult access to Stanlaw, or the removing the monastery and the bodies of the founders. Vide Whitaker's Whalley, 111*.

^m History of Whalley, 140.

ⁿ Chartulary of the monks of St. John of Pontefract. Monasticon, f. 899.

^o The complaint of the monks of Salley, and the award of the Chapter of the Order, will be found at length in the Monasticon.

a very small circular apartment, hewn also in the rock, and undiscovered until a few years ago, when the fury of the waters burst in upon it, and disclosed a considerable quantity of bones, and some leaden coffins. These probably contained the remains of some of the later ecclesiastics of Stanlaw, the bones of the Lacies having been translated with fitting reverence to the monastery which their munificence had established at Whalley.

On this spot are still lying some carved fragments, the remains of the offices of the convent, built below the rock on which the monastery stood, and completely on a level with the rivers which wash its base. It was in this part of the building that the waters must have risen to the height of three feet, as stated to the pope in the petition for removal, which was doubtless intended to impress him with a belief of the convent itself being exposed to similar inconvenience.^p

Another circumstance remains to be mentioned, relative to a tract of land possessed by the Pooles from an early period, formerly called^q Green Worthe, and

latterly Pooles Wharf, and held with the township of Poole under the Gleyves and Titheringtons. This land stretched between the Mersey and the township of Great Stanney to Poole, and along it lay a causeway, by which the monastery communicated with the road from Whitby to Chester. One agreement with the abbots of St. Werburgh, enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday, relative to this road, has been already noticed,^r and an award of subsequent differences relative to the same, a^o 6 Edw. I. is preserved in the chartulary of Stanlaw.^s About seventy years ago, this piece of land, then reduced to about one hundred and twenty acres, was swept entirely away by the violence of the Mersey, and the communication with Ince having been long lost, this place is now without any legal road, the trackway over the marshes to Stanney being only on sufferance.

^tThe estate of Stanlaw, consisting of about two hundred and thirty acres, forming one grass farm, is considered extra-parochial and tithe-free.

CARTA JOHANNIS CONSTABULARII CESTRIÆ,
DE FUNDATIONE ABBATIÆ DE STANLAWE.^v

Universis Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ filiis tam præsentibus quam futuris Johannes constabularius Cestriæ salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et hæc præsentî cartâ meâ confirmasse Deo et Sanctæ Mariæ, et Abbati atque monachis de Stanlawe, ad construendam abbatiam ordinis Cisterciensis, ipsum locum Stanlawe, quem mutato nomine Benedictum Locum vocari volumus; et villam unam quæ vocatur Staneya, et alteram villam quæ vocatur Mauricaceston, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, in bosco, in plano, in pratis, in pascuis, in viis, in semitis, in aquis, in piscariis, in maricis, in molendinis, et in omnibus aliis esiammentis suis, liberam et quietam ab omni terreno alii servitio et seculari exactione; pro salute animæ meæ et patris mei, et uxoris meæ et omnium antecessorum et hæredum meorum, in puram et perpetuam eleemosynam. Concessi quoque eis in perpetuam eleemosynam, quietantiam tolnei in

emptione et venditione omnium rerum suarum, per totam terram meam, necnon et quietantiam tolnei de proprio blado suo in molendinis meis. Dedi etiam eis messuagium unum in villâ Cestriæ cum omnibus edificiis suis, quod habui juxta ecclesiam Sancti Michaelis, similiter in puram et perpetuam eleemosynam, cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus suis. Et quando ego et hæredes mei voluerimus, in domo prænominata placita nostra tenebimus, et ad expensas nostras hospitabimus. Hæc vero omnia prænominata, ego Johannes et hæredes mei, erga regem et comitem Cestriæ, de omni terreno et forensi servitio, quod ad prædictas terras pertinet, warrantizabimus, manutenebimus et defendemus. Et quicumque hanc meam eleemosynam destruere vel minuere voluerit, destruat eum Dominus, et ejus maledictionem et omnium sanctorum et meam habeat. Hanc autem eleemosynam

^p In the Vignette prefixed to this account, the site of the cemetery is indicated by the figure of the monk, and that of the offices by the fragment on which the arms are represented. The rock on the left is that on which the convent stood, and is only elevated twelve feet above the level of common tides. The view is taken at the confluence of the Gowy and the Mersey.

^q Vide Poole, Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VII. and 1 Hen. VIII.

^r Vide Ince in Edisbury Hundred.

^s Vide Catalogue of deeds appended, XXVIII.

^t From the information of Mr. Sudworth, lately tenant of this farm.

^v Mon. Ang. Ex Registro de Whalley penes Rad. Ashton, mil. et bar.

ABSTRACT OF CHARTERS to the MONKS of STANLAW, Harl. MSS. 2060.

150. Hamon, son of Hamon de Masey, confirms to the abbot and convent of Stanlawe, all his father's donations of lands in Backford. Witnesses, Galfridus de Dutton, Robert de Venables, parson of Rosthorne, Richard de Trafford, Roger de Tofto, and others.

John de Lacy, constable of Chester, confirms to the abbey and convent of Stanlaw, all the gifts of his grandfather, the founder of the said abbey, and of his father, Roger de Lacy, constable of Chester.

Henry d'Espenser gives to the abbey and convent of Stanlaw, the township of Weylaton, subject to a rent of 10s. to be paid at Chester, on the feast of St. John the Baptist, in exchange for a carucate of land in Bamford, and the mill; and also the mill of Swyneford, in Barue, which his brother, Thomas d'Espenser, had given them. Witnesses, Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester, Roger, the seneschal, of Mohaut.

Ranulph, earl of Chester, confirms to Henry d'Espenser the vill of Weylaton, with that part which William, son of Henry, lord of Stapleford, had given him.

Urian St. Pierre, son of John de St. Pierre, serjeant of the peace for the county of Chester, of fee, releases the tenants of the abbot of Whalley (formerly of Stanlaw), at Weylaton, from distress, and from puture to himself and his serjeants, by permission of Ranulph earl of Chester. Witnesses, Robert de Holland, justice of Chester; Richard de Aston, &c.

Beatrix, daughter of Robert de Mesnilwarin, widow of Adam de Stapleford, releases in court at Chester, to Henry le D'espenser, the lands of Weylaton, on which she had her dower.

Richard de Eston gives two bovates of land in Acton to the monks of Stanlawe.

Henry de Norreys gives land in Deresbury. Witnesses, Alan, Robert, and John le Norreys.

CHARTERS preserved in Harl. MSS. 2062. relative to the ABBEY of STANLAW.

I. A confirmation charter of John, constable of Chester, including a prohibition to the monks of St. Werburgh, from gathering reeds in a marsh, called Rishy Marsh, adjoining the lands of the said abbey, for decorating their booths at the feast of St. John the Baptist.

II. A confirmation charter of Richard, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, of John Lacy's gifts of the townships of Staney and Mauricas Eston, and lands in Chester near St. Michael's church. Witnesses, John abbot of Cumbermere, Robert monk of Cumbermere, &c.

dedi et concessi liberam et quietam, atque honorificam, sicut ulla elemosyna liberius, et quietius, et honorificentius dari potest, anno ab incarnatione Domini, millesimo centesimo, septuagesimo octavo. Hujus autem donationis et confirmationis testes sunt isti: Robertus Decanus de Donnington, Nicholaus Persona de Marnham, Radulphus sacerdos de Swallow, Simon sacerdos de Eston, Gregorius sacerdos de Castello, Galfridus monachus de Parco, Symon monachus de Cumberlande, Henricus Biset, Johannes de Daville, Martinus

Angevinus, Hugo de Dutton, Johannes filius Thurstani, Radulphus filius Gilberti, Gilbertus filius Ranulphi, Matheus filius Johannis, Johannes filius Affir, Richardus Ayton, Willielmus filius Richardi, Robertus Venator, Adam de Dutton, Hugo suus frater, Robertus filius Rogeri, Rogerus Burdon, Gaufridus de Meringe, Willielmus Benvena, Ricardus de Cheile, Fulco Dispensator, Henricus de Alintona, Petrus de Sandall, Willielmus clericus de Cambrakbeke, Osbertus Marescallus, Willielmus Legat. Apud Donnington.

CHARTÆ HUGONIS ET RANULPHI, COMITUM CESTRIÆ,
SPECTANTES ABBATIAM DE STANLAW.

HUGO, comes Cestriæ, justiciario, constabulario, dapifero, vicecomiti, et omnibus baronibus suis, et omnibus ministris suis, et omnibus hominibus suis, Francis et Anglicis, tam præsentibus quam futuris, salutem. Sciatis me dedisse in puram et perpetuam elemosynam, pro salute animæ meæ, et pro animâ patris mei, et pro animabus antecessorum meorum, abbatiæ Benedicti Loci de Stanlaw, et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus, quietantiam theolonei in villa mea Cestriæ, de omnibus quæ præfati monachi ibi emerint, ad opus suæ dominicæ donus de Stanlaw. Testibus abbate Cestriæ, Johanne constabulario, Radulpho filio Warini, Hugone de Dutton, Johanne Burd, Martino Angevin, Adamo Dutton, et multis aliis. Apud Cestriam.^u

RANULFUS dux Britannicæ, comes Cestriæ et Richmondicæ, constabulario, dapifero, camerario, et omnibus ministris ejus, et omnibus baronibus et militibus suis, et omnibus hominibus suis, Francis et Anglicis,

clericis et laicis, tam præsentibus quàm futuris, salutem. Notum sit vobis omnibus, me concessisse et hanc chartâ meam confirmâsse Deo et Abbatîæ de Loco Benedicto de Stanlaw, et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus, omnes illas libertates et donationes, quas eis fecit comes Hugo pater meus, et prout charta sua, quam habent monachi prædicti, testatur. Testibus Johanne constabulario Cestriæ, Petro cancellario, Radulfo de Maynillwaringe, Hugone de Boidell, Ranulfo de Praers. Apud Cestriam.^w

OMNIBUS Christi fidelibus, &c. Ranulphus comes Cestriæ salutem: Noveritis, &c. quod ego pro salute animæ meæ et omnium antecessorum meorum et successorum, et dilecti mei Rogeri de Laci, constabularii Cestriæ, deafforestavi abbatiam de Stanlawe et grangiam de Stanciâ, quæ est de feodo prædicti Rogeri, constabularii Cestriæ, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis per certas divisas suas, et sint omnino liberi et quieti de

^u Leycester, p. 131. The original in the possession of Mr. Townley of Carre, co. Lanc. 1657.

^w Leycester, p. 144. from the chartulary of Whalley abbey, in the possession of sir Ralph Ashton, 1649, viii. 33.

III. A confirmation of the foregoing by Baldwin, archbishop of Canterbury.

IV. An acquittance to the monks of Stanlaw from payment of toll by Ranulph earl of Chester. Witnesses, Roger, constable of Chester, Philip de Orreby, Warin de Vernon, &c.

IV. Licence from Henry de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, constable of Chester, and lord of Ros and Rowenock, to appropriate the church of Whalley, 23 Edw. I.

V. An indulgence of 40 days to those who contribute to the assistance of the monks of Stanlaw, after their sufferings by inundations. 1289.

VI. An acquittance from toll in the city of Chester, granted by Hugh earl of Chester, to the monks of Stanlaw. Witnesses, the abbot of Chester, John constable of Chester. Seal, a man on horseback, at the back of which two private seals of a wivern, within a flourished border.*

VI. Charter of deafforestation of the abbey of Stanlaw, and Stoney Grange, by Ranulph, earl of Chester.*

VII. A charter of Ranulph, earl of Chester, releasing the monks of Stanlaw from carrying to Chester any such beasts of chase as may be slain within the precincts of the monastery. Seal, a wolf rampant.*

VIII. Charter of Roger, constable of Chester, of a messuage and lands adjacent to the church of St. Michael, on the side nearest to Gloverstone. Witnesses, Hugh de Dutton, Adam de Dutton, Robert the clerk, and others. Seal, a griffin beating down a serpent with one of his fore feet, and on the back a smaller seal of a naked figure, armed with a shield only, holding up the head of a naked body on which he is trampling. Both are engraved in Whitaker's Whalley, p. 145.*

IX. A charter by Roger de Lacy, granting to the monks of Stanlaw, four bovates of land in Rachedam (Rochdale) and a pasture within his forest, called Brendwood. Witnesses, Turgitsius, abbot of Kirkstall, Richard de Cestria, Eustace de Cestria, &c.

X. Charter of Roger de Lacy, granting to the same the vill of Minor Wlinton, with its appurtenances in free alms. Witnesses, Galfridus, dean of Whalley, Eustace of Chester, and Geoffry, brothers of the grantor, &c. Seal, as No. VIII. on the back thereof another private seal, representing a quatrefoil on a lozenge. Engraved in Whitaker's Whalley, 142.

XI. Confirmation to the same by Roger de Meuland, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, of the churches of Rachedam, with the chapel of Sadelworth, of Eccles, with the chapel of St. Mary-dene, and of Blakburne, with the chapels of Law and Samlesbury, dated 14 kal. May 1277, and 20th year of the consecration of the bishop. Seal, represents the figure of a bishop with hands uplifted, and mitre and crosier, standing between two church spires, and two heads crowned with mitres, under which are the letters ROG. M.: over each head is a crescent including a cross. The seal is engraved in Whitaker's Whalley, 114.

XII. Confirmation charter of the church of Rochdale to the same by William, bishop of Coventry. Witnesses, Henry, abbot of Chester, R. abbot of Norton, &c. Seal, a bishop with mitre and crosier, and hands uplifted, as in the act of giving his blessing; on the back thereof a private seal, representing a figure within a gothic arch, over which are seated the Virgin and her Son. Engraved in Whitaker's Whalley, p. 114.

XIII. A confirmation by John de Lacy, of his ancestors charters to the abbey of Stanlaw.

XIV. A confirmation of the chapel of Walton to the same, by Alexander, bishop of Coventry. Dated at Tarvin in May, in the 5th year of his pontificate. Seal, representing a bishop under a gothic arch, over which are the Virgin and Child; on the back thereof a private seal, representing a naked figure, reclining against the trunk of a tree, circumscribed Hero pro Xto. mundo sis nudus isto. Engraved in Whitaker's Whalley, p. 114.

XV. An indulgence of forty days by the archbishop of Mont Royal to all who pray for the souls of Edmund de Lacy, and Peter the archbishop before mentioned, 13 kal. May 1287.

XVI. A similar indulgence of forty days by the bishop of Versailles to all who shall go to Stanlaw to pray for the soul of Edmund de Lacy, sometime earl of Lincoln, and those of his ancestors there buried.

XVII. A similar indulgence with the five seals attached, engraved in the History of Whalley, p. 114.

XVIII. A grant of the abbot and convent of Stanlaw, of a free burgage in Werington, the gift of William Boteler, to John de Werington for the term of his life, reserving to the members of the convent the annual rent of 8s. 6d. "salvo nobis et successoribus nostris in dicto burgagio, hospitio ad hospitandum, et ad res nostras ibidem recolligendas, et conservandas, cum necessè habuerimus."

XIX. A grant of lands in Swinton, to Robert de Eccles.

XX. A charter of John son of John de Lacy.

* Printed among the preceding charters given in the text above.

omnibus causationibus, querelis et placitis et serviitiis, ad forestam pertinentibus, in purâ et perpetuâ elemosynâ. Hiis testibus, Rad. abb. de Pulton, Guidone priore de Su'wic, Philippo de Orreby, tunc justic. Cestr. Henrico de Audrel. Hugone Despenser, Tho. fr'e suo, Hugone de Dutton, Gaufrido fr'e suo, Hugone de Pasci.^x

OMNIBUS S'tæ Matris Ecclesiæ filiis, ad quos præsens pagina pervenerit, Ran. com. Cestr. salutem. Notum sit vobis, me dedisse Deo, et S'tæ Mariæ et monachis de Stanlawa, quietantiam de bestiis silvestribus occisis vel atinctis in terrâ ipsorum monachorum portandis usque ad Cestriam. Et quod dicti monachi et eorum

homines non causentur propter aliquam bestiam aliquo casu mortuam et inventam in terrâ eorum, nisi fuerit aliquis sakerbor. qui de hoc loqui voluerit adversus monachos dictos aut eorum homines; et quod sint quieti de servientibus et forestariis. Test. Rogero constab. Cestr. Warino de Vernon, Hamon de Mascy, Phillippo de Orreby, Willielmo de Venables, Ricardo de Aldeford, Adamo et Hugone de Dutton, Petro clerico, Thoma Dispensatore, Sollino de quatuor maris, Rad. de Munfichet, Gaulfrido de Dutton, Adamo de Buri, et multis aliis. Apud Frodesham.^y

CLAMIAM ABBATIS DE WHALLEYE,

Extract' de Rotulo Pl'itor' com' Cestr. in Sc'cio Cestr. remanen' de anno Edwardi T'cii vicesimo septimo.^z

Abb' de Whalleye clam' lib'tates s'b-Whalleye. } scriptas in fforestis de la Mere et de Wyrhale, videl't q'd ip'i teneant situ' de Stanlawe, et grangiam de Staneya cu' o'ib'z p'tin' suis p' c'tas divisas deafforestatas imp'p'm. Et q'd ip'e et successores sui lib'i sint et quieti de om'b'z causac'o'ib'z pl'itis querel' et s'viciis ad forestam p'tinentib'z. It'm clam' q'd ip'e et successores sui imp'p'm quieti sint de putura om'iu' s'vientiu' et fforestarior' d'ni comitis in villa de Wynfleton. Et q'd quieti sint de sectis pl'itor' fforestes de la Mare de t'ra ip'ius abb'is de Wynfleton, et de fine faciendo de aliquib'z hujusmodi sectis. It'm clam' q'd si a'ialia sua infra fforestam ult' metas suas p'prias p' escapiu' de die ven'it et ibidem inventa fu'int sine cus-

todia et forestariis av'ia illa capia't, idem abbas av'ia sua p' replegiamentu' delib'ata h'eat sine am'ciamento v'l aliquo p' eisdem solvendo. Et si de nocte inveniant' v'l die cu' custodia, hoc emendet sc'd'm quantitate' delicti. It'm clam' p' se et successorib'z suis quietantiam de bestiis silvestrib'z occisis v'l atinctis intra ip'ius abb'is usq' Cestr' portand'. Et q'd ip'i non incausent' nec molestent' p'pt' aliquam bestiam aliquo casu mortuam et in t'ra eor' inventam nisi fu'it aliquis sacreb' videl't qui f'c'm viderit et de hoc v'sus eos loqui volu'it. Et q'd sint quieti de s'vientib'z et forestariis.

Et p'd'c'us abbas de Whalleye quæsit' quo waranto clam' p'd'c'a lib'tates et p'ficua in forestis de la Mare et de Wyrhale tener' p'cip'e et h'ere, venit p' attornatu'

^x Leicester, p. 144. Seal, a lion rampant within a heart-shaped shield.

^y Seal as the last. Both deeds in the possession of Mr. Towneley of Carre, June 23, 1657. Leicester, p. 144.

^z Transcribed from the original in Chester Exchequer, and obligingly communicated by F. Thomas, esq.

XXI. A grant of forty days indulgence to all who pray at Stanlaw for the souls of Roger, constable of Chester, Matilda his wife, and his successors.

XXII. A grant by John de Lacy, of the Marsh of More to the convent of Stanlaw.

XXIII. Confirmation charter by John de Lacy of the church of Rochdale.

XXIV. as XXII. Seal appendant, an armed man on horseback, the shield emblazoned with arms of Lacy; indorsed with the private seal representing a triangular shield, emblazoned, quarterly, a bend, over all a label of five points; circumscribed, "Secretum: Jobis de Lascy: com: Linc: Constab: Cestr."

XXV. A licence from John de Lacy to the abbot and convent of Stanlaw to cut wood within the forest of Rocindale.

XXVI. A charter of Richard de Hulton, whereby he releases to John de Lacy, constable of Chester, all his right in the advowson of the church of Blackburne.

XXVII. A confirmation charter of Edw. I. of all the lands bestowed on the houses of Stanlaw and Whalley, dated at York, March 1, anno regni 2ndo.

XXVIII. An award relative to differences between the abbots of St. Werburgh and Stanlaw, as to the boundaries of the manors of Wytebey and Staney, and the road from Wytebey to Chester, under Cohull, called the Portwey. 6 Edw. I.

XXIX. Grant of Hamo de Mascy of four bovates of land in his demesne of Roches Croft, in the vill of Bakeford, to God and St. Mary and the abbot and convent of Stanlaw, in perpetual alms, free from all secular service. Witnesses, Roger, then abbot of Chester, John de Grey, justice of Chester, &c. Seal, a lion passant sinister, circumscribed, Sigillum Hamonis de Masci.

XXX. Confirmation of the same by Hamon, son of Hamon de Masci. Seal, a lion passant, circumscribed, Hamo. Fil. Hamonis de Masci.

XXXI. A grant of two bovates of land in Eston to the same by Hugh de Dutton. Seal, an eagle with wings expanded looking backwards, circumscribed, Sigillum Hugonis de Dutton.

XXXII—XLVIII. Charters relative to lands and buildings of minor importance, and therefore not here particularized.

XLIX. An acknowledgment of the right of the Lacy family to present to the church of Whalley.

L. A grant, by Gregory, abbot of Stanlaw, of a corrody of seven loaves and seven flagons of ale weekly, to Gilbert de Rushton and Eva his wife, and of two carcasses of oxen of the value of half a marc together, two carcasses of hogs of the value of 40d. together, and four carcasses of sheep of the value of 32d. altogether, to be received yearly at Whalley at the feast of St. Martin in the winter, and also of two stone of cheese and two stone of butter, at the feast of St. Giles; for the faithful performance of which the convent pledge all their goods in Blackburnshire, "destructioni et potestati Ballivorum domini ejusdem feodi."

LI. Another grant, from the same, to William Burton, of ten convent loaves and seven flagons of beer weekly, and fish as allowed to the monks of the convent. One ox's carcass and a half yearly of the value of six shillings, two hogs valued at four shillings, two sheep valued at two shillings, two stone of cheese, and two of butter; and to his garçon twenty-one loaves of chet weekly, three lagene and a half of beer, and on fish days the same allowance as to the boys of the convent; also forage and pasture, both in winter and summer, for twenty-four sheep and for four kine in the better pasture, along with the sheep and kine of the convent.

CHARTERS, &c. of the ABBOT and CONVENT of STANLAW, preserved in Madox's Formulæ Anglicanum. Folio, London, 1702.

A letter of John de Lascy to the bishop of Coventry, signifying that he had given in pure alms to his monks of Stanlawe, the advowson of the church of Eccles, and praying the bishop to admit them thereto. p. 5.

A confirmation by John de Lacy of all the donations to the said monks by the confirmant's ancestors in frank-almoigne, and of all their lands within his fee. p. 59.

A confirmation by the same to the same of the moiety of the church of Blakeburne, with the confirmant's body to be buried therein. p. 256.

A grant in frank-almoign, from Henry de Lacy to the same, of the church of Whalley with its dependent chapels, and a permission to transfer their monastery from Stanlaw to Whalley. p. 262.

Bishop Alexander de Savensby's charter of appropriation of the church of Eccles to the abbey of Stanlawe. p. 303.

Roger bishop of Coventry's charter of appropriation of a moiety of Blackburne to the monks of Stanlawe.

suu' et ostendit Cartam d'ni Ranulphi quondam comitis Cestr' in qua continet' q'd idem d'us Ranulphus deaforestavit situ' abb'is de Stanlawe et grangiam de Staneya cu' om'ib'z p'tin' suis p' c'tas divisas imp'p'm. Et q'd idem abbas et successores sui lib'i sint et quieti de om'ib'z causac'o'ib'z, p'litis, querel', et s'viciiis ad forestam p'tinentib'z quoad loca sup' p'd'c'a. Et aliam Cartam d'ni Ranulphi quondam comitis Cestr' et Lincoln' in qua continet' q'd idem d'us Ranulphus dedit et concessit abbati de Stanlawe et monachis ibidem Deo s'vientib'z in puram et p'petuam elemosinam quietantiam de p'fato comite et he'dib'z suis imp'p'm de putura s'vientiu' et fforestarior' ip'ius comitis in villa de Wynfleton. Ita q'd d'c'a abb'ia et d'c'i monachi d'c'am quietantiam h'eant imp'p'm pacifice et sine impedimento. Et etiam Carta d'ni Joh'is de Scotia quondam comitis Cestr' et Huntynghdon' in qua continet', q'd idem Joh'es dedit et concessit, et carta sua confirmavit Deo et eccl'ie b'e marie de Stanlawe et monachis ibidem Deo s'vientib'z quietantiam de sectis pl'itor' fforestae sue in la Mare de t'ra ip'or' monachor' in Wynfleton. Et de fine faciendo qui ad sectas illas p'tiner' solet. Et si forte a'l'ia eor' ibidem existentia casualit' ult' metas suas p'prias p' escapamentu' in d'c'am fforestam de die ven'nt et ibidem inventa fu'nt sine custodia ibidem f'ca capiant' et replegient'. Et si de nocte in eadem inventa fu'r'nt sine custodia hoc emendet'. Si vero cu' custodia ibidem f'ca de die v'l de nocte inventa fu'nt hoc sine dil'one convincat' et emendet'. Et si'liter si d'c'i monachi v'l eor' ho'ies inventi fu'nt cu' venac'oe v'l in aliquo delicto manifesto q'd ad forestam p'tinet, hoc convincat' et sc'd'm modu' delicti emendet'. Et insimul aliam Cartam Ranulphi quondam comitis Cestr' in qua continet' q'd idem comes dedit et carta sua con-

firmavit Deo et b'e Marie et monachis de Stanlawe quietantiam de bestiis silvestrib'z occisis v'l attinctis in t'ra ip'or' monachor' portand' ad Cestr'. Et q'd d'c'i monachi et eor' ho'ies non incausent' p'pt' aliquam bestiam aliquo casu mortuam et inventa in t'ra eor' nisi fu'it aliquis sacreb', qui de hoc loqui volu'it adv'sus d'c'os monachos aut eor' ho'ies. Et etiam q'd sint quieti de s'vientib'z et forestariis. Et sup' hoc inquisic'o'e capta p' Ric'm Done custod' foreste de la Mare et Mondrem. Et p' Will'm de Stanlegh custodem fforestae de Wyrhale. Et p' Ric'm Starky de Tranemol, Will'm Waleys de eadem, Will'm de Tranemol, Will'm de Prenton, Henr' Bernare de T'nemol, Ric' de Staney, Rob't'm de Calvelegh, Henr' de Acton, Henr' de Melus, Henr' Sampson, Will'm de Lakene, Henr' de Letherlond, xii lib'os et leg' ho'ies fforest' p'd'c'e eis adjunctos, juratos, et sup' sacr'u' suu' on'atos ad inquirend' si p'd'c'us abbas et p'decessores sui, abb'es loci illius p'd'c'a situ' abb'ie de Stanlawe et grangiam de Staneya ac etiam om'ia lib'tates et p'ficua in p'd'c'is cartis suis contenta tenuerunt, p'cep'unt, et h'uerunt, sc'd'm tenorem cartar' suar' p'd'c'ar'. Qui o'es p'd'c'i jurati dic' sup' sacr'u' suu' q'd idem abbas et om'es p'decessores sui a temp'e confecc'o'is cartar' p'd'c'ar' situ' abb'ie de Stanlawe et grangiam de Staneya cu' om'ib'z p'tin' suis ac etiam lib'tates et p'ficua in eisdem cartis ut p'mittit' conte'ta tenuerunt et p'ceperunt et hucusq' h'uerunt. Id'o consideratu' est q'd p'fatus abbas et successores sui eadem situ' abb'ie de Stanlawe et grangiam de Staneya cu' om'ib'z p'tin' suis ac etiam lib'tates et p'ficua in p'fatis cartis suis contenta teneant et p'cipiant et h'eant in futuro' sc'd'm tenorem cartar' p'd'c'ar'. Jure d'ni E' princ' Wall' duc' Cornub' et comitis Cestr' in om'ib'z semp' salvo.

TAXATIO ECCLESIASTICA PAPÆ NICHOLAI, bonorum temporalium ABBATIS DE STANLAWE. Tib. C. X. Cotton MSS. 591.

Abbas de Stanlawe tenet apud Cadwellesheved in Dec' de Mauncestr' duas caruc' terr' et val' caruc' p' annu'.....	1 0 0	Et h'et ib'm de redd' assis' p' annu'.....	0 8 0
Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' staur' p' annu'.....	2 0 0	Item h'et apud grang' de Acton tres car' terr' et val' car' p' annu'	0 10 0
Item h'et apud Grangia' de Mawynnton duas caruc' terr' et valet caruc' p' annu'.....	0 15 0	Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' staur' p' annu'.....	1 4 6
Et h'et ib'm de redd' assis' p' annu'.....	1 3 0	Item h'et apud grang' de Acle duas caruc' terr' et val' caruc' p' annu'.....	0 10 0
Et h'et de p'fic' staur'.....	1 6 8	Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' staur' p' annu'.....	3 13 4
Item h'et apud Rachedale de redd' assis' p' annu'.....	3 0 0	Item h'et apud grang' de Aykberwe di' car' terr' que val' p' annu'	0 5 0
Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' staur' et de pastur' de Brendwood.....	0 6 8	Item h'et de redd' assis' p' annu'.....	0 12 0
Item h'et apud grangia' de Staneye nove' caruc' terr' et val' caruc' p' annu'.....	0 15 0	Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' stauri p' annu'.....	0 9 7
Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' stauri et de mol'ino p' annu'.....	6 0 0	Item h'et apud Crowenton in eodem Dec' de redd' assis'.....	5 13 4
Item h'et apud grangia' de Bacforde in eodem Dec' dimidi' caruc' terr' et valet p' annu'.....	0 6 0	Item h'et apud Stanworth in Dec' de Laylond unam caruc' terr' et val' p' annu'.....	0 10 0
Et h't ib'm de p'fic' staur' p' annu'.....	1 10 0	Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' stauri p' annu'.....	0 12 0
Item h'et apud grangia' de Aston in Dec' de Frodesham tres caruc' terr', et val' caruc' p' annu'.....	0 10 0	Et h'et ib'm de redd' assis' p' annu'.....	0 9 3
Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' staur' p' annu'.....	1 0 0	Et h'et de redd' assis' in Wyco et Cestr' p' annu'.....	3 3 6
		Et h'et de redd' assis' in Dec' de Blakeburne p' annu'.....	0 3 6
		S'ma.....	51 1 4
		Inde decima.....	5 2 1½

NAMES of the MONKS of STANLAW at the removal to WHALLEY. Cleop. C. 3. Cotton MSS. with some additions from an obituary of the convent.

Anno Domini 1296; anno Bisextili; littera dominicali C. Anno Regni Edwardi xxiv. Anno ætatis d'ni Henrici de Lascy XLVII. Intraverunt Conventus de Stanlawe in Wyrral, in manerium de Whalley, præsidente in officio Abbatis, Viro Venerabili Gregorio de Northbury, sub quo isti sunt subscripti monachi.

Thurstanus de Cest. prior qui.....XIII kal. Maii, sepultus in ecclesia parochiali de Whalley, ante altare Mariæ Virginis de Whalley.

Ricardus de Preston.

Hugo de Heli.

Willielmus de Cest. obiit 1298, 3 nonar. Aprilis.

Robertus de Tofte, obiit 1311.

Rogerus de Meles, in communi negotio domûs itinerans usque curiam Romanam in vigilia apostol'um Symonis et Judæ, ibid. obiit, eodem tempore.

Willielmus Workedelegh.

Ricardus de Rodiberd.

Ricardus de Aston.

Johannes de Buckley.

Johannes de Boteler.

Willielmus de Moston.

Willielmus de Segbroke.

Robertus de Weryngton, obiit 1343, 3 non. Sep.

Willielmus de Wico.

Adamus de Lostoke.

Robert de Midylton, obiit in festo apostolorum Petri et Pauli, 1311. Prior.

Rogerus de Bromburgh, obiit 1399, Sept. 9.

Ricardus de Mottrom.

Ricardus de Wheteley.

Isti manserunt apud Stanlawe,

Robertus Hauworthe, quondam Abbas. Obit 1304, 8 kal. Maii.

Thomas de Upton.

Rogerus de Frodesham.

Johannes de Walton.

Warinus de Ines.

Robertus de Buri.

Apud Merlond,

Ricardus Sutton.

Henricus Sthorishworth.

Apud Stayninges,

Humfridus Niger.

Thomas de Lene.

Apud Stany,

Rogerus Pes Leporis.

Ad Studium Oxoniæ,

Helias de Workedelegh, obiit 1318, in vigilia Sti. Michaelis Archangeli, sepultus est apud monasterium de Bexley.

Eastham.

THIS parish is situated half way between Chester and Liverpool, on the bank of the Mersey. It contains seven entire townships, Eastham, Hooton, Over Poole, Nether Poole, Childer Thornton, Great and Little Sutton, and a part of Whitby, which it divides with Stoke; and it antiently comprehended the township of Great Stanney, before the foundation of a Cistercian monastery at Stanlaw.

EASTHAM.

THE township of Eastham is situated seven miles north of Chester, on the turnpike road to the Liverpool ferries, in a situation which derives no inconsiderable degree of beauty from the contiguity of the broad estuary of the Mersey, and the views of the Lancashire shore.

The earl retained this manor at the Conquest: "Ipse comes tenet Estham; Edwinus comes tenuit, ibi xxii hidæ geldabiles: Terra est totidem carucarum; in dominio sunt ii carucæ, et iv servi, et xvi villani, et x bordarii cum vi carucis; ibi molina et ii radmans unus presbyter.

"De terrâ hujus manerii tenet Mundrit ii hidas, Willielmus unam hidam, Hamo vii hidas, Robertus unam hidam, Robertus dimidiam hidam, et Walterus dimidiam hidam. In dominio sunt iv carucæ et viii bovarii, et xxii villani et ii bordarii, et v radmans, et ii francigenæ cum ix carucis.

"Totum manerium tempore regis Edwardi valebat xxiv libras, et post iv libras; modo dominium comitis valet iv libras, hominum cxii libras."

This survey includes Eastham, and Bromborough also, which, though not mentioned by name, contained both the church and maner house of the original vill of Eastham. About the year 1152, Eastham and Bromborough were given by earl Randle Gernons to the abbey of St. Werburgh, as distinct manors with distinct churches. A new church had then been built in Eastham; but that this was only a dependant foundation, and that the church, where the priest mentioned in Domesday officiated, was situated in Bromborough, is obvious from the words of the confirmation, by pope Honorius, "Eccl'ia de Brombro', cum Capella de Estham^a." In the same manner the antient court-house of Bromborough, notwithstanding the separation, continued the seat of the new manor of Eastham. In the abbot's plea to a quo warranto, 31 Edw. I. he claims wreckage, infangtheof, wayf, stray, goods of fugitives, felons, and natives, and view of frank pledge, in his manors of Eastham and Bromborough, expressly stating his right to have the said view yearly, of all residents in man'is de Bromburgh et Eastham, *apud Bromburgh*. The site of the old manor house is yet to be traced by strong earthworks.

A malediction similar to that with which the earl closes the following grant may be found in the preceding foundation charter of Stanlaw; and another in Peck's *Desiderata Curiosa*, with some singular instances of its fulfilment.^b

^c Ran'us comes Cest. ep'o Cest. archidiacono, omnibusque sanctæ dei ecclesiæ et constabulario, dapifero, justiciariis, baronibus, vicecomitibus, ministris et ballivis, et omnibus hominibus et amicis suis, salutem. Notum est omnibus quod multum forefeci rebus S. Werburgæ, unde in fine pœnitentiam agens, dedi Deo et Sc'æ Werburgæ pro salute meæ animæ, et pro satisfactione malorum prædictæ ecclesiæ à me illatorum, Estham et Brunburgh in perpetuam eleemosynam cum cunctis suis pertinentiis in hominibus, in ecclesiis, in terris et aquis, in silvis et in omnibus consuetudinibus, sicut ego habui eas die qua fui vivus et mortuus. Quapropter volo et firmiter præcipio, super fidem et amorem mihi debitum, ut hæc mea eleemosyna pro salute et satisfactione meâ data, sit sicut decet ab omni re soluta et libera; et si quis eam diminuerit in aliqua, in aliquo ipse Deus diminuatur et destruat.

Test. Willielmo abbate Rademore, Roberto priore de Calke, Joanne capellano, Eustachio filio Johannis, Simoni filio Willielmi, Willielmo de Greillè, Ricardo Pincerna, Hugone ancip. Roberto de Buscherville, Roberto filio Hugonis, Simone filio Osbernii, apud Greseleg." This charter was confirmed by king Henry II.

The tithes of the parish had been previously conferred on the same abbey, by Hugh Lupus and his countess, in 1093, in their foundation charter.

After the dissolution, the manor of Eastham shared the fate of most of the possessions conferred on the dean and chapter in their first charter, and being extorted from them by sir Richard Cotton, finally became the property of sir Rowland Stanley, of Hooton, subject to a fee-farm rent of 30l. per annum. From this period it has followed the descent of Hooton, and the other estates of the family, and is now vested in his descendant and representative sir T. S. M. Stanley, bart.

At the distance of about a mile from the village is the ferry of Eastham, or Carlet ferry, which passed with the manor from the abbey of St. Werburgh to the Stanleys as before mentioned. The hill above the ferry house

^a Vide Bromborough, in the account of the Church.

^c Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965. 17 b.

^b Peck's *Des. Cur.* XIV. 5. Account of Sherburn castle.

from the combination of the rich woods of Hooton with the grand expanse of water backed by the Edisbury hills, commands by far the most beautiful view, which the Hundred of Wirral can boast of.

At this ferry house, in the latter end of September, is usually held the annual meeting of an agricultural society, established a few years ago, the objects of which are limited to the Hundred, and the distance of ten miles round Chester.

PLIMYARD, which is a hamlet of the township of Eastham, and the property of sir Thomas Stanley, is situ-

ated at the extremity of the parish contiguous to Brombrough. The hall of Plimyard, an antient stone farmhouse, was most probably on the site of a grange belonging to the monks of St. Werburgh, which existed here at the dissolution, but does not, from its architecture or other circumstance, possess any further claim to notice.

The manor of Eastham was released by charter from providing pature for the serjeants of the forest of Wirral, together with the abbot's other manors of Sutton, Brombure, and Ireby.^d

VICARS OF EASTHAM.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
	Simon de Aston.		
1316.	Adamus de Clyffe.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Simonis de Acton.
1332, 3 Id. Ap.	Thomas de Lauton, Prb'r.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Adami de Clyffe.
1362.	Thomas de Bonbury, cap's.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	
1401.	Willielmus Hichekin, cap's.	Jo. Ep'us Lichf. et Coventr. per lapsum.	
1404.	Johannes Bretworth, cap's.		
1404.	Thomas Skipton, cap's.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. resig. Johan. Bretworth.
	Henricus de Wybunbury.		
1436.	Willielmus Thomason, Prb'r.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Henrici de Wybunbury.
	Willielmus Harrison.		
1465, Sept. 22.	Gilbertus Fouler, cap's.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Willielmi Harrison.
1511, Oct. 6.	Matthew Swettenham.		Death of Gilbert Fouler.
1611.	Hugh Holland.	Signs the register in 1611 and 1612.	
		The Bishop of Chester.	
1613, Oct 29.	Hugh Kiddcar.		
1615.	Devereux Beverley.		
1637.	William Seddon, A. M.		
	Richard Banner.		
1665.	George Becket.		Death of Richard Banner.
1695, May 21.	Robert Griffiths.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of George Becket.
1728, Oct. 11.	Honoratus Lebeg.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of Robert Griffiths.
1766, March 25.	George Travis, A. B.	The King by lapse.	Cess. of Honoratus Lebeg.
1767, Aug. 14.	George Travis, A. B.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Cess. of said Geo. Travis.
1787, Feb. 13.	George Travis, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Cess. of said Geo. Travis.
1797, May 4.	Thomas Trevor Trevor, LL. B.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of George Travis.

Hugh Kiddcar only signs the register once, anno 1613. His successor *Devereux Beverley*, is given on the authority of an entry in the parish register. "Hic incipit Devereux Beverley, March 1615:" his signature continues to 1636.

William Seddon, next rector, appears first also in a similar entry, "Hic incipit Gul. Seddon, A. M. qui inductus fuit Feb. 1637:" a long notice of this divine is inserted in the "Sufferings of the Clergy, from the communications of his son Edward Seddon, rector of Throwley and Giddy, in Devonshire."

He was born at Outwood, in the parish of Prestwich, in Lancashire, educated at Magdalen college, Cambridge, and held a living in Chester with Eastham, and being compelled to take his family and property into Chester for security at the time of the siege, was left by bishop Bridgeman in care of the palace. After the surrender of Chester, he was imprisoned, and his wife and family, with the remains of their effects, sent to the plundered parsonage of Eastham, where he was afterwards permitted to join them, but where a new minister speedily dislodged him.

In this distress, disowned by his puritanical brother

(Peter Seddon, of Outwood), and threatened with imprisonment, he was protected by Mr. Bratherton, who, as trustee of Mr. Byrom, a loyalist, who had fallen in the king's service, presented him to the living of Groppenhall, where he re-collected his scattered family, and enjoyed a short calm; but being "soon haunted with the old rumours of a dangerous delinquent and malignant," was compelled again to leave his rectory, and place himself under the protection of Mr. Fleetwood of Penwortham, where he maintained his wife and nine children on a pension of 40l. from his patron, privately baptizing the children of the Lancashire loyalists, and performing ministerial offices according to the forms of the church; which occasionally procured him an escort of "musqueteers to guard him to Preston" as a prisoner.

After the restoration, the intruder Thomas Bradshaw having abandoned Groppenhall, he was presented anew to that living, on lapse, by the Crown, Sept. 15, 1661, where "he and his wife, the constant partner of his sufferings, aged each of them about 70 years, departed this life in one month, and lie buried both in one grave in the chancel there. A. D. 1671."

^d Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 17. b. 1965.

Richard Banner (unquestionably the puritan who ejected him) died 6th Dec. 1655. Among the monuments will be found a memorial of him, and of his successor *George Becket*, who was buried Nov. 7, 1694.

Robert Griffiths is called vicar in the register, the day before his institution, on the occasion of the burial of his son Robert, May 20, 1695.

Honoratus Lebeg, was also rector of Wallesey. His successors will be found in the list of prebendaries of Chester cathedral.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Mary,
Chapel of Bromborough, Tax. P. N.
12l. 13s. 4d. Val. Eccl.
Discharged living. Certif. Val. 32l. 3s. 4d.

In the account of the manor of Eastham, it has been already mentioned, that the original manor included the present Bromborough, in which the church was situated, that the manor was subsequently divided, and a new church erected in the present Eastham, which was granted to the abbey of St. Werburgh, about 1152, by Randle Gernons, and confirmed under the name of "Capella de Estham," by pope Honorius.

After the dissolution, the vicarage was given to the dean and chapter of Chester cathedral, who usually present one of the prebendaries.

The impropriation was obtained from the dean and chapter in the same manner with the manerial rights by sir Richard Cotton. That part of the rectorial tithes which arises from Eastham, Hooton, and Childer Thornton, now belongs to sir Thomas Stanley. Those of the two Pooles, to the rev. sir Henry Poole, bart. : of Great Sutton, to Mr. Joseph White; of Little Sutton, to the rev. Thomas Edwards of Aldford; and those of that part of Whitby, which is in this parish, to Mr. Hignet of Fulke Stapleford.

The vicarage house, greatly improved by the present incumbent, is one of the best in the Hundred, and commands a delightful view of the changing scenery of the Mersey.

The church, a large handsome fabric of red stone, consists of an extremely elegant, but plain spire steeple, a nave, chancel, and two side aisles, divided from the nave by four pointed arches, sprung from low octagonal pillars, with capitals. The north aisle terminates in a chancel appropriated to the Stanleys of Hooton. A considerable part is said to have been rebuilt from the designs of Inigo Jones. There is however remaining among some mutilated letters under the chancel window, a date, 17 E. R. viz. 1574, in which year Inigo Jones would only be two years old.

In the Stanley chancel are two altar tombs to the memory of the Stanleys of Hooton. On the top of the first is carved a large cross, and the following inscription is preserved round the edges :

"WILLIAM Standley, of Houton, was buried here the fourth of January, the yeare of our Lord God, 1612. Death restes in the ende.

His wife was Anne Herbert, and left by her livinge one son and six daughters.

Death miseries."

On the marble lid of another altar tomb, supported by six short pillars, is inscribed in large capitals,

"HERE lyeth the body of the honourable Charlotte lady

Stanley, wife to sir William Stanley, of Hooton, bart. and daughter to the right honourable Richard lord Viscount Molyneux, who deceased the 31st day of July 1662. Requiescat in pace."

On a brass plate on the same tomb,

"HERE lyeth the body of sir Rowland Stanley, of Hooton, knt. who deceased the 5th day of April, a^o 1613, and was here buried the 23d day of the same moneth, in the yeare of his age 36."

On the west side of the chancel door is a lancet window, partly built up, which most probably is part of the original fabric; on the other side of the door, is an achievement for James Poole, of Poole, esq. who died 13 December 1613. Arms, Poole, impaling, Argent, on a fesse, Gules, three mullets, Or, on a canton, Azure, a fleur de lis of the third, for Gumbleton of Kent.

Within the altar rails are two flag stones, inscribed with the following memorials of two successive vicars of Eastham, in capitals :

"HERE lyeth the body of Richard Banner, clarke and vicker of Eastham, who died the vi day of December 1655."

"HERE lyeth, waiting the comeing of his Lord, the body of George Becket, who was vicar of this church 29 years, and died in the year 1694, aged 63."

On the pannels of a pew in the north aisle are three antient shields carved in wood, with curious mantlings and tassels : the first is the coat and crest of Poole; the second a chevron, between three bucks heads cabossed, another buck's head for the crest. This coat is that of Buerton, quartered by Poole, the crest of which was granted with some variations, by Wriothesly, garter, as a crest for the coat of Poole. The third pannel contains the coat of Capenhurst, also quartered by Poole, a chevron between three capons.

The following sepulchral memorial is inscribed on a neat marble tablet, fixed against a pillar of the middle aisle.

Seputuræ consecratum
Gulielmi Currey, hujus parœciæ,
et Helenæ uxoris ejus.
Qui spe in Christo stabilita,
id sibi unicè negotium fecerunt,
ut vitam Christi servo dignam agerent,
Deo ut placerent.
Obiit ille 15^o Oct. 1779, æt. 72,
illa 16 Martii 1785, æt. 82.
Juxta sepultus est Gulielmus Currey, arm^r.
præfatorum Gulielmi et Helenæ filius,
qui moribus virtuti aptissimis,
civilem et militarem vitam
feliciter explevit.
Obiit 17 Ap. 1798, æt. 58.
Elizabetha uxor Gulielmi Currey, hujus
parœciæ, armigeri,
Femina pia, benevola,
moribus universim suavissimis
prædita,
corpore infirmo, animo æquo,
per omnem fere vitæ cursum cum
adversa valetudine conflictata,
ad æternam requiem migravit
23 Oct. 1785, æt. 43.

The following memorials, now destroyed, existing in 1593, occur in Harl. MSS. 2151. p. 125.

"PRAY for the soule of Peter Stanley of Byckerstath, esq. one of the younger son'es of Will'm Stanley, of

^c Represented in the initial letter of this Hundred.

^d Vide Bromborough in the account of the Church.

Hoton, kt. and Elizabeth his wife, being daughter and heire of James Scaresbreeke, and Margaret his wife, which Margaret was daughter and heire of Thomas Athurton, of Byckerstath, esq. which made this window anno 1543.

In a window on the south side of the church :

“ORATE pro bono statu Ranulphi Pull, Cl'ici,
Qui hanc fenestram vitream fecit. A. D. 1423.”

“Hic jacet Margeria, nuper uxor Willielmi Stanley, armigeri, ac filia Joh'is Bromley militis, quæ obiit die dominica, 13^o die mensis Augusti, anno Dni. 1469.”

A school was erected in this parish at Childer Thornton, about 1630, at the charge of the parishioners, who continue to repair it. The trustees are nominated by

the parish, which trustees, together with the minister, appoint the master. The small income arises from parish gifts and legacies.

H. Marsh left a house and land in Stoke, of which 20s. is given to the master of Thornton school, 20s. to the master of Stanney school, and the rest to the poor of Eastham. The lands now let at about 20l. per annum.

Other charities (including a clumsy donation of “two in-calf heifers” as the foundation of the parish stock), recorded on the church board, and stated, in bishop Gastrell's Notitia, to amount to 83l. are now lost to the parish.

The registers commence in the year 1611; one entry has been added of 1606.

HOOTON.

IN one of the most delightful situations which the banks of the estuary can boast, lies the interesting township of Hooton, commanding a peculiarly beautiful view of the Forest Hills, the bend of the Mersey, and the opposite shore of Hale, and shaded with venerable oaks, of a growth which the Wirral breezes have elsewhere rarely suffered. These claims to attention are, however, of a very secondary nature when compared with those which it possesses from having continued, during a lapse of five centuries, the seat of the eldest branch of the noble house of Stanley.

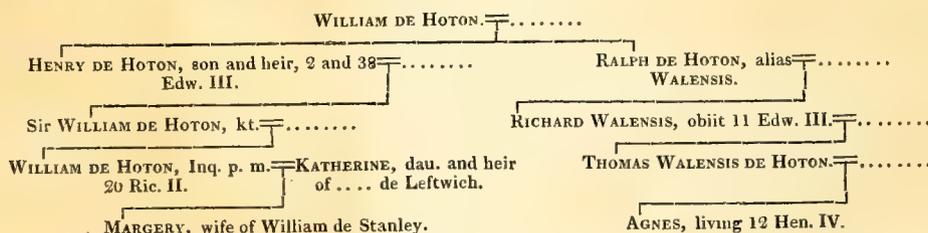
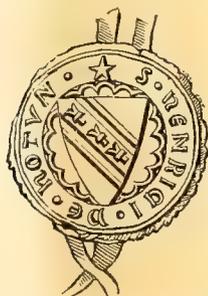
Richard de Vernon, the Norman baron of Shipbrook, was grantee at the Conquest. “Isdem Ricardus tenet Hotone, Tochi tenuit; ibi una hida et II partes unius hidæ geldabiles; terra est III carucarum; ibi IIII radmans et unus villanus, et IIII bordarii cum II carucis. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xxx solidos, et post v solidos, modo xvi solidos.”

In the reign of king John, or Richard the First, Hooton was obtained in marriage by Randle Walensis, as appears by a charter whereby Thomas, son of Randle Walensis, releases to Richard Walensis, his brother, all

the lands of his father Randle in Cheshire, and also his right in Hooton which was of the inheritance of his mother. Witness, Philip de Orreby, Justice of Chester, Henry de Audithley, &c.^a

This family, sometimes called Walensis, and sometimes by the local name of de Hoton, bore, according to the Visitation, Argent, on a bend Vert three mullets of the first: but who, by the annexed seal^b, are ascertained to have used a coat materially differing from the bearing before mentioned.

William de Hoton, the last heir male of the family, died (per *Inq. p. m.* 16 Ric. II.) seized in demesne as of fee-tail of the manor of Hooton, held from John de Whitmore as heir of Margaret, wife of Hamo le Strange, by fealty, val. per ann. xx marks; also of lands in Moreton, Upton, Pulton Lancelyn, Woodbank, Chorlton, and Rovacre. He left one daughter and sole heiress, Margery, wife of William de Stanley, to whom Agnes, daughter of Thomas de Hoton, and next of kin and heir of Richard Walensis, confirms possession of Hooton by deed dated 12 Hen. IV. The relationship of the parties is given as follows. Harl. MSS. 1535. 249.



The Stanleys who thus succeeded to Hooton, are well known to be a younger branch of the house of Audley, descended from Adam de Stanlegh, brother of Lydulph de Audley, who assumed the local name of a township in Staffordshire, afterwards granted to his son William. Adam, son of this Lydulph de Audley, by deed without date, ^d grants to this William, son of Adam de Stanlegh his unclé, all Stanlegh and Balterley, (with a proviso, that, if they cannot be warranted, an equivalent shall be given) in exchange for Thalc, and subject to the yearly rent of 12d. payable on the feast of St.

Michael. Among the witnesses occur Adam and Thomas, brothers of William de Stanlegh.

William de Stanlegh, heir male of William son of Adam de Stanlegh, before mentioned, settled in Cheshire in the reign of Edw. II. on marrying Jane, one of the daughters and coheirs of sir Philip Bamville, of Storeton, kt. forester of Wirral, by whom he had issue John Stanley son and heir, who inherited, in right of his mother, the bailywick of the forest of Wirral, and a share of the manor of Storeton, whose son, William Stanley, proved his right to the same in a plea to

^a Harl. MSS. 2079. 59.

^c Harl. MSS. 2079. 55.

^b Annexed to a deed of Henry de Hotun. 23 Edw. III. Harl. MSS. 2038. 63.

^d Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5, p. 13.



C. Heath del.

From a drawing by W. H. Sturt, by L. Kingston sc.

HOOTON HALL, taken down 1773.
From a painting in the possession of Sir T. S. M. Stanley Bar.

The Rev. J. C. Sturt del.



a quo warranto before Jordan de Macclesfield, justice in eyre to the earl of Chester.

This plea is recited in a confirmation of a grant of 20 marks per annum made to William Stanley the younger, son of this William, 35 Edw. III. in consequence of the loss which he sustained by the disafforesting of Wirral; and the said grant and plea^e were exemplified under the seal of the exchequer of Chester, 12 Jan. 10 Ric. II. By *Inq. p. m.* 21 Ric. II. this William de Stanley died seized of the manor of Storeton, and lands in Great Meols, Chorleton, Congleton, Bechton, and Honbrugge. William Stanley son and heir.

William de Stanley, heir by this *Inq.* and great grandson of John de Stanley, is made his grandson in the usual pedigrees, the compilers of which have confounded "William le pere," claimant before Jordan de Macclesfield, with "William le filz," at whose suit the claim was exemplified. He settled at Hooton in consequence of the marriage with the heiress of Hooton before-mentioned, and by *Inq. p. m.* 6 Hen. VI. is stated to have held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Hoton, by law of England, as in right of his wife, Margery, daughter and heir of William de Hoton and Katherine his wife, from the baron of Shipbrooke, val. per ann. xx marks. He held also the manor of Storeton, and the forestership of Wirral, (which is named though disafforested) and lands in Poulton Lancelyn, Upton, Brunbrough, and Hoton. William de Stanley son and heir.

Sir John de Stanley, K. G. and lord-lieutenant of Ireland, brother of William Stanley, also settled at the same period on the estates of his wife, Isabella de Latham, a part of which still continues the residence of the ennobled branch of this family, the distinguished house of Derby. Their history is beyond the limits of the annals of Cheshire, but it is written in those of their country in characters which will only perish with the world itself. Their name has graced for ages the records of the tournament, the court, and the battle; it has descended with the heroic story of Bosworth and of Flodden, and it has been consecrated by a suffering patriot on the martyr's block.

Of the three next generations of the elder line, successively of the name of William Stanley, nothing important has occurred beyond the particulars of the pedigree. William Stanley, fourth in descent from the marriage with the heiress of Hooton, added to his estates by marriage with Agnes, one of the daughters and coheirs of Robert Grosvenor of Holme, with whom he had the manor of Buerton, which still remains in the family. He was one of the king's carvers, and made sheriff of Cheshire (durante bene placito) 16 Jan. 2 Edw. IV. and was made sheriff for life by another patent dated 26 Feb. 5 Edw. IV. in which office he continued to 10 Hen. VII. He built the old stone tower of the former hall of Hooton, and was succeeded by his son,

Sir William Stanley, kt. who married Anne, daughter and coheir of sir James Harrington, of Westby, respecting whom the following notices occur in the Inquisitions.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VIII. Sir William Stanley, kt. held the manor of Hooton from the heirs of Margery, formerly wife of Hamo le Strange, by fealty, value per annum xii. also the manor of Storeton, and lands in Hoton, Frodsham, Congleton, Bradley, Chorleton, Upton, Tranmore, Thingwall, Woodchurch, Acton,

Kirke Walesey, Row Shotwick, Childer Thornton, Altrincham, Pennesbey, Moreton, Meoles, Bebington, Pulton, Brombroughe, and Spittle. Died on Wednesday next after the feast of St. Chad, a^e p'd'to. William Stanley, esq. son and heir, aged upwards of 38 years.

Inq. p. m. 12 Hen. VIII. Anne Stanley, widow, held the manor of Buerton, and lands in Dunham Massie, Allostock, and Aldford. William Stanley, son and heir, aged upwards of 46 years.

Sir William Stanley, last named, was made sheriff of Cheshire, durante bene placito, 17 Hen. VIII. He was succeeded by his son William Stanley, who died issueless, as appears by the following Inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VIII. William Stanley, esq. held the manor of Hoton as in the preceding *Inq.* and the manors of Storeton and Buerton, a fishery in Aldford brook and the Dee, and lands in the townships mentioned in the preceding Inquisitions, after the deaths of William and Anne Stanley. Val. tot. lxxixl. xis. Rowland Stanley brother and heir.

King observes in his Vale Royal, that this sir Rowland Stanley lived to be the oldest knight in the land, and to see his son's son's son settled at Hooton. He certainly gave up the estates before his decease, as appears by the *Inq.* after his grandson's death, which preceded his own by one year; and this conveyance must have been dictated by the obvious policy of avoiding a forfeiture, which would have been the necessary consequence of their falling into the hands of his son. Sir Rowland was sheriff of Cheshire 18 Hen. VIII. before his brother's death, and in the general contribution to provide defence against the Spanish Armada subscribed 100l., which he apparently intended as an open disavowal of countenancing his son's proceedings. He died April 5, 1613, aged 96 years, and lies buried at Eastham.

Of his son, sir William Stanley, it remains to speak hereafter. William Stanley, son of sir William, succeeded to sir Rowland's possessions in the life of his grandfather, as appears by the following *Inq.* which varies from the preceding ones in some particulars. An altar tomb erected to his memory is yet remaining in the Stanley chapel of Eastham church.

Inq. p. m. 11 Jac. I. William Stanley, esq. held the manor of Hooton as in the preceding *Inq.* value xii. also the manor of Storeton, and lands in Chorlton, Upton, Thingwall, Tranmore, Kirkeby, Whalley, Great Saughall, Childer Thornton, Moreton, Pennesby, Mollington Bannester, Meoles, Woodchurch, Pulton Lancelyn, Spittle, Brombrough, and Buerton. William Stanley, esq. son and heir, aged seven years 26th of April previous to the taking this *Inq.* Val. tot. 69l. 19s. 8d.

The dignity of a baronet was conferred on William Stanley, esq. son and heir of the William who succeeded by this *Inq.* by patent dated June 17, 1661.

The direct male line of this antient house failing in 1792 by the death of sir William Stanley, bart. without issue, the baronetcy and the manors of Hooton, Storeton, Eastham, Buerton, and the numerous estates of the family, passed to John Stanley Massey, of Puddington, esq. his eldest surviving uncle, by virtue of a settlement made by sir Rowland Stanley, April 5, 1743, previous to his marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Parry, of Perthymael in the county of Flint.

On succeeding to the title and estates, sir John S.

^e Given in the Introduction to this Hundred.

^f Leicester, p. 180.

^g His petition relative to an affray with the Bunburies, will be found in the account of Stanney, p. 216.

Massey, re-assumed the name of Stanley in addition to the name of Massey, which he had previously assumed on succeeding to the estates which had devolved to his younger brother Thomas Stanley, esq. by the will of William Massey of Puddington, dated Feb. 6, 1715.

The baronetcy, and the united estates of the Stanleys of Hooton and Masseys of Puddington, are now vested in his grandson, sir Thomas Stanley Massey Stanley, bart. heir male of this most ancient family.

Hooton Hall is a large modern fabric, built with Storeton stone. It stands near the estuary, within the ancient park, adjacent to a cross-road leading from Eastham to Trafford, which is judiciously concealed, and the approach to the house brought under the road, which is raised over it by a handsome arch. The entrance lodges are situated at a considerable distance in the township of Childer Thornton. They were erected, together with the house, from the designs of Wyatt,

and are the most elegant buildings of the kind which the county can produce.

At Hooton is preserved the ancient Horn by which the Storetons held the master forestership of Wirral.

The former hall of Hooton was a very large quadrangular timber building, one of the rooms of which was decorated with rude paintings of the earls of Chester executed on the wainscot. One side was occupied by a strong stone tower, embattled and machicolated, from which rose a slender turret of extraordinary height. It was erected by sir William Stanley, who had for this purpose a licence (enrolled in the exchequer of Chester, and dated 10 Aug. 2 Hen. VII.) "ad finiendam et sursum construendam turrem lapideam, quam inceperat construere apud manerium suum de Hooton, cum machicolationibus et battelationibus, et ad formandam et faciendam, cum omnibus aliis operi convenientibus."

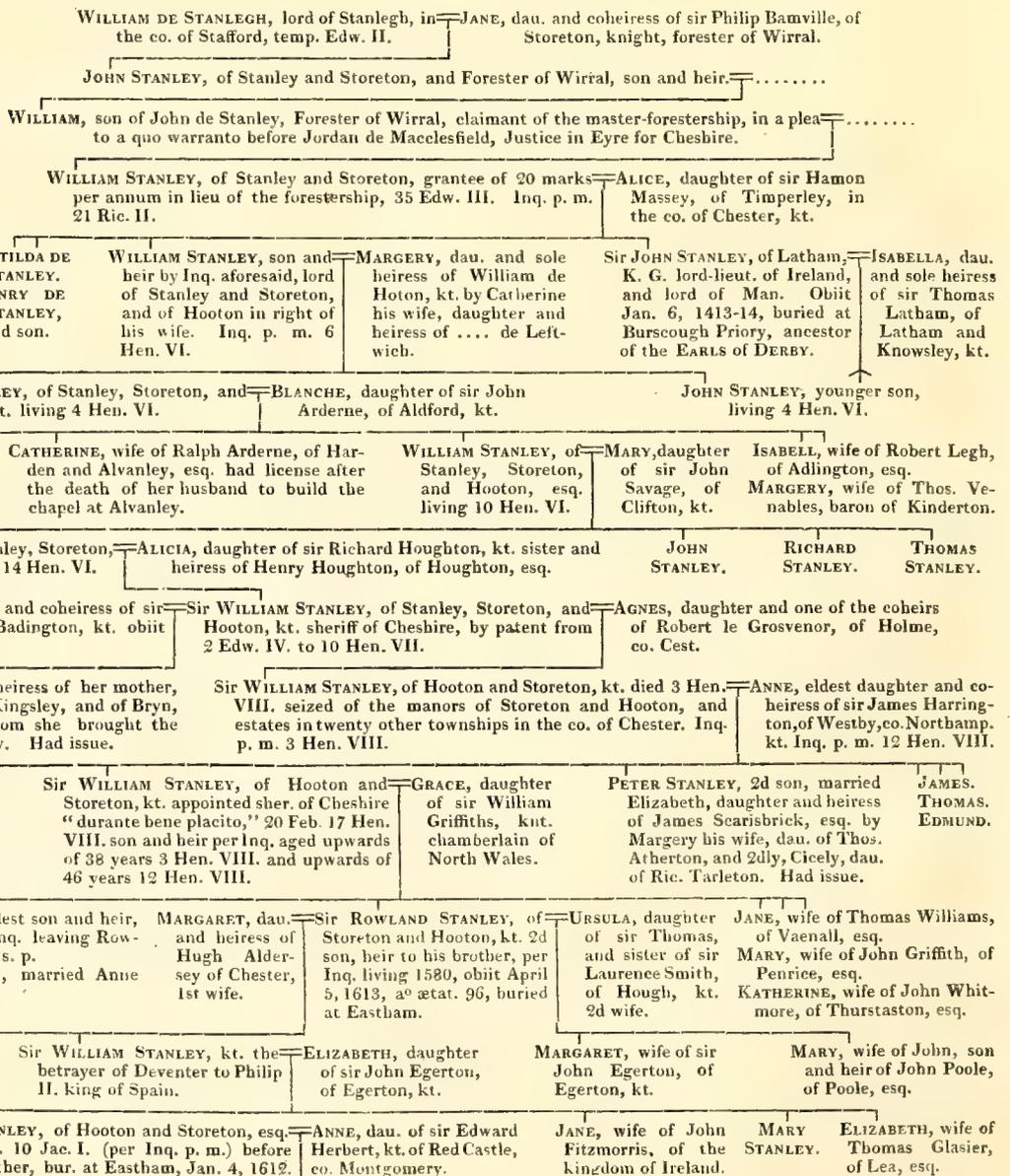
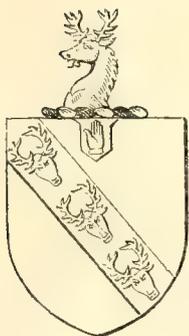
A court-baron is held for this manor at Hooton.

STANLEY, OF HOOTON AND STORETON.

From Harl. MSS. 1535. and 1173, the Visitations and Inquisitions, the Parochial Registers of Eastham and Burton, and an abstract of the family evidences in the later descents.

Arms. Argent, on a bend Azure, three Bucks heads cabossed, Or.

Crest. On a wreath, a Stag's head and neck coupé Argent, attired Or, langued Gules.



a

JOAN, died an infant. DOROTHY, wife of Roger Hurleston, whom she survived, buried at Eastham, March 16** FRANCES.	WILLIAM STANLEY, of Storeton and Hooton, esq. bapt. April 26, 1606, at Eastham, only son and heir, per Inq. p. m.	MARY, daughter of John Draycott, of Painsley.	MARY. ELIZABETH. ANNE. KATHERINE.
ROWLAND STANLEY, 2d son.	SIR WILLIAM STANLEY, of Hooton and Storeton, bart. created a baronet, June 17, 1661, son and heir.	CHARLOTTE, daughter of the right honourable Richard, lord viscount Molyneux, obiit July 31, 1662, buried at Eastham.	ANNE, wife of Thomas Hawkins, esq. WINIFRED, wife of sir Willm. Langdale, kt. CATHERINE. DOROTHY. ELIZABETH.
WILLIAM STANLEY, eldest son and heir apparent, o. s. p. RICHARD STANLEY, 3d son, baptized 1654. (Eastham R.)	JOHN STANLEY, 4th son, bapt. 1656, (Eastham R.) PHILIP, buried at Eastham, May 13, 1625.	Sir ROWLAND STANLEY, of Hooton and Storeton, bart. bapt. June 1653, (Eastham R.) 2nd son and heir, obiit May 1737.	ANNE, daughter of Clement Paston, of Berningham in Norfolk, esq. buried at Eastham, March 13, 1693. MARY, wife of sir John Gage, of Firle, in Sussex, bart. marr. July 28, 1686, ancestress of the present lord Gage. CHARLOTTE. AGNES.
2. ROWLAND, born June 28, 1681, bur. at Eastham, Aug. 29, 1623. 3. ROWLAND, born Jan. 21, 1628, buried at Eastham, April 18, 1695.	Sir WILLIAM STANLEY, bart. of Hooton and Storeton, eldest son and heir, baptized Nov. 11, 1679. (Eastham.)	CATHERINE, dau. of Rowland Eyre, of Hassop, co. Derby.	1. MARY, bapt. Feb. 4, 1675, (Eastham) wife of Chas. Harrington, of Heigton Hey. 2. ANNE, bapt. March 14, 1676. (Eastham.) 3. CHARLOTTE, bapt. Aug. 21, 1678. (Eastham.) 4. DOROTHY, bapt. 1682. (Eastham.) 5. ELIZABETH, bapt. June 16, 1684. (Eastham.) 6. CATHERINE, bapt. Sept. 18, 1687, bur. at Eastham, March 12, 1689. 7. AGNES, bapt. Jan. 1, 1692, wife of Robert Blundel, of Ince, co. Lanc. esq.
1. ELIZABETH, 1. Sir Rowland, bapt. Dec. 26, 1710, buried bart. of Hooton at Eastham, and Storeton, May 17, 1711. baptized Aug. 23, 1707, November 11, (Eastham R.) 1714. 2. ANNE, bapt. 23, 1707, November 11, (Eastham R.) 1714. 3. DOROTHY.	ELIZABETH, dau. of Thos. Parry, of Perthymael, co. Flint. esq. marriage articles dated April 4, 1743, with remainder, on failure of issue, to the brothers of sir Rowland Stanley; died at Bath, May 12, 1761.	2. WILLIAM, bapt. Sept. 5, 1708. 5. HENRY, bapt. May 24, 1713, died s. p. 6. CHARLES STANLEY, of Moore, co. Lancast. bapt. April 25, 1717, obiit Sept. 1, 1792. 7. JAMES STANLEY, of Moore, co. Lancast. bapt. Nov. 25, 1719, obiit 1784.	4. THOMAS STANLEY, of Puddington, esq. godson of Wm. Massey, of Puddington, esq. whose name he assumed, and to whose estates he succeeded, pursuant to his will, dated Feb. 6, 1715, baptized Jan. 5, 1715. 3. JOHN STANLEY, bapt. Feb. 28, 1711, assumed the name of Massey on possessing the Puddington estates by assignment from his brother, and added the name of Stanley on succeeding to the baronetcy and estates, ob. Nov. 24, 1794, a ^o æt. 84. MARY, dau. of Thomas Clifton, of Lytham, esq. co. Lanc. obiit May 21, 1770, a ^o æt. 40.
WILLIAM STANLEY, bur. at Eastham, Sept. 6, 1753, s. p. ROWLAND, buried at Eastham, April 20, 1756, s. p. CATHERINE, buried at Eastham, Sept. 6, 1745, s. p. ELIZABETH, buried at Eastham, April 6, 1750, s. p.	Sir WILLIAM STANLEY, of Hooton and Storeton, bart. only surviving son and heir. o. s. p. 1792.	BARBARA, only dau. of John Towneley, of Towneley, in the county of Lancaster, esq. marriage articles dated July 30, 1785.	MARY STANLEY MASSEY, wife of Thos. Weld, of Bretwell Priors, esq. married at Burton, co. Cest. 1772. Sir THOMAS STANLEY MASSEY STANLEY, bart. of Hooton, Storeton, and Puddington, died at York, Feb. 19, a ^o æt. 40. CATHERINE, daughter of William Salvin, esq. of Croxdale, in the county of Durham, married 1780, buried at Eastham, Nov. 5, 1798. WILLIAM STANLEY MASSEY, born at Poole Hall, April 1750, o. s. p. JOHN STANLEY MASSEY, esq. died at Hooton, Dec. 30, 1790, a ^o æt. 36.
WILLIAM STANLEY MASSEY STANLEY, eldest son and heir apparent. o. s. p. JOHN STANLEY MASSEY STANLEY, 2d son. o. s. p.	CHARLES STANLEY MASSEY STANLEY, baptized May 7, 1787, living 1814. HENRY STANLEY MASSEY STANLEY.	Sir THOMAS STANLEY MASSEY STANLEY, of Hooton, Storeton, and Puddington, bart. eldest surviving son and heir, living 1814.	MARY, daughter of sir Carnaby Haggerstone, bart. married 1805. JAMES STANLEY MASSEY STANLEY, bapt. Nov. 7, 1790. o. s. p. CATHERINE, wife of . . . Blundell, of Crosby, in the co. of Lancaster, esq.
WILLIAM THOMAS, eldest son and heir apparent, bapt. Nov. 24, 1806.	MARIA FRANCES, baptized Dec. 13, 1807.	ROWLAND, baptized April 4, 1809.	JOHN, baptized April 30, 1810. CHARLES, baptized April 4, 1813.

It remains to give some account of sir William Stanley, the eldest son of sir Rowland Stanley of Hooton. He was originally engaged in the service of the king of Spain, and was subsequently employed, in the year 1578, in the reduction of the rebellious province of Munster. In this campaign he particularly distinguished himself in conjunction with sir George Carew, by an attack on the lands of the brother of the earl of Desmond, and by the gallant manner in which he sustained a charge of four hundred foot and thirty horse, in close fight for eight hours, not having himself in his "companie above six score persons to the uttermost^s."

After this he went into Holland with the English auxiliaries under the earl of Leicester. The painful duty of relating his conduct in this service will be best fulfilled, by a *literal transcript* from the pages of the historian of the reign of Philip II.

"In the treaty between the States and Elizabeth, it had been agreed that when any vacancy should happen in the government of a town, fort, or province, the commander-in-chief should fill it up with one of three persons presented to him by the States. To this agreement Leicester paid no regard, but appointed persons to governments of great importance, not only without their being named by the States, but even when the States remonstrated against his appointing them.^h Roland York, a Londoner, who had some years before been detected in treasonable practices, of which they gave Leicester timely information, was, notwithstanding this, intrusted with the charge of the principal fort near Zutphen, which commanded the country of Veluwe; and William Stanley, an English catholic who had been in the service of Spain, was made governor of Deventer, into which place Leicester, in contradiction to the

^s Holinshed, VI. 421.

^h The following account of the artifice and violence which was resorted to, in order to obtain possession of Deventer, is transcribed from an original letter, Harl. MSS. 285. 294.

"Ryght worshipfull, and my singular good master, may it please your worship to know that we have gotten Deventrie, w'th all thyng under his Excellencies government, yet of suche disposition of religion the burgomasters weare, that they bothe in other matters besid this have shewn themselves (that in truth they weare), for by no means could his excellencie intreat or comand a garyson theire of foote. Which beyng sence, and further howe nessessery a garyson weare, theire beyng that and the only places wherby the enemy passed to w'ith victalle to Suthefeild, his excellencie determined onne the following.

Onne Tusday and Weddensday last, sir William Standley comandid his souldiers to get into the towne by xx and xv. and not above, and theire beyng kep themselves close, which was wonderfully performed, and other captayns would give their souldiers leave. All these were well furnished with powder and shot to passe to place themselves in the towne; all thes were not onne espyed, so covertly was it handled; and further the councill of state and others weare theire, who kept all the burgomasters in the concill thout without neede.

Onne Tusday the xx of this instant, came sir William Standley, and divers others with some score of troopes; in the afternoone came the lord marshall in with a good troope. At this tyme was gotten into the towne of knowne souldiers xii hundred.

treaty with Elizabeth, had put a garrison of twelve hundred foot and two hundred horse, consisting mostly of Irish papists.

“The States remonstrated against the trust committed to Roland York and William Stanley. These men gave soon a fatal proof of the justness of the suspicions which had been entertained of their fidelity. In a few weeks after Leicester’s departure for England, they entered into a treacherous correspondence with Baptisto Tassi, governor of Zutphen, and began to prepare their measures for delivering to him the important fortresses which had been entrusted to their care. The council of state received intelligence of their perfidious design; but they had not power to hinder them from putting it in execution. In the beginning of February both Deventer and the fort opposite to Zutphen were given up to the Spaniards. York did not live long to enjoy the wages of his iniquity, and died in misery, neglected, and forgotten by those, to whom he had sacrificed his honour; but Stanley, having persuaded most of his troops to enter into the service of Spain, and having uniformly professed the Catholic religion (which Philip considered as an atonement for the most odious crimes,) was permitted to retain the government of Deventer, together with the same rank in the Spanish, which he had enjoyed in the English army.

“This man, sprung from a respectable family in England, had been concerned in Babington’s conspiracy in

favour of the queen of Scots, and was probably betrayed by the dread of a discovery into this unworthy conduct.

“Deventer was afterwards recovered by prince Maurice and the gallant colonel Vere, who was fired with the generous ambition of wiping out the reproach which Stanley’s treachery had brought upon his countrymen.”ⁱ After this Stanley remained in Holland, arranging the communications of Philip’s emissaries with his native country, and pointing out the parts which were most vulnerable to the assaults of the Spanish armada. The ministers of Elizabeth were not idle, and employed constant spies to watch his conduct, of the closeness of whose observations the Harleian Manuscripts still contain several memorials^k. In the same collection are extant, examinations of his servants, who were intercepted at Chester on their way to his father at Hooton.

After it had pleased Heaven to blast this gigantic attempt against English liberty, and the purity of English religion, sir William retired into the dominions of his master, where he is said by Birch^l to have possessed a high place in the favour of Philip, at one time spoken of as the probable leader of an expedition into Ireland, and at another as likely to be decorated with the order of St. Iago. He was finally nominated by Philip to the government of Mechlin^m, in which town his mortal existence terminated.

The lord marshall beyng come to his lodgings he sent for alle the burgomasters in the evninge, telling them his excellencie was paste to Utricke, for that his grefe would not suffer him to staye so nere unto so loved a kensman as he who dyed, ells would he have senned them; further that he had sent hym thither (for that they made some staie of takyng a garyson), for to know theire intent whether they meant to take in any or not; and, said he, “dellay not, for bothe I have matters of great importance to goe about, and further I must send word to his excellencie at Utricke your determinations; and tomorrowe viii of the clocke I will attende your answer, dellay not therefore, but let me knowe your mynde.” And over even he gave sir William Standley commandment, that before vii of the clocke in the mornne, that all should be redy in the market place, which is marvellous fayer.

This night did the burgomasters appoynt a treble wache (for in the towne, of burgers that are souldiers, are now v thousand, that wache and ward, beside a number other). The gates were very strongly kept, the streets were all chaynid; but in the morning our people got att the market place at their appoynted tyme.

The burgomasters, erly, before vi, weare in councill. About or before vii, the lord marshall with a trayne of gentylnen following him went to the state howse, straight knocked, and was admitted wheare all the burgomasters weare in councill. Straeght sir William Standley with some chossen souldiers came to the dore, knocked, and left his men at the dore.

All beyng in, “I came down,” sayd the lord marshall, “for an answer, and telle me strayght.” They stood as men not fully agred; but presently one of the prinsipallist slip away, which was bothe told the lord marshall, and further his name. Quothe the lord marshalle, “Theire is one of you gonne, fetche him strayght hether, or by the lyving God before whom I stand, theire is not one of you shall passe awaie with your lives from this place.” They fearing, sent for him, and he came. “Now tell me,” saythe he, “why you have this nyght chaynid your streetes, and mad so stronge wache, your friends and defenders beyng in the towne; do you thincke,” saythe he, “that you have a people that are come over, to spende their lives and theire goodes, and to leave all they have to be thus used of you, and to be betraied amongst you? You shall find us trusty to our frendes, and as politike as yourselves. Well,” said he, “set your hands, and give over your government to these men here nomynated strayght. Dalley not.”—Which they p’formyd.—“Now,” saide he, “let one of you goe to the wache, dyscharge them, let them unarme themselves, and passe to theire lodgings:” which was donne.—“Now,” sayd he, “fetche me the keys of the gate, and deliver me them strayght, or you shall alle dy.” This donne, he sent them to pryson, appoynted new officers, and brought this stobern towne in one daie to good safty. Great was the cry of women, thincking the towne should have bene sackyd.

Theire is in this towne victalle for three yeares, without any relieif, for certeyn; a towne, sir, (but that they are compellyd to keep in their cattayl for feare of the enemy), most fayre, stronge, and large; as fayre a compaest towne as I have senned.

My lorde marshall, by the Dutcheman that brought this newes with his letters to his excellencie, was wonderfully praysed. “He did it,” saythe he, “with such wysdome and eorage as was to be wondered at;” and “further,” he added, “his excellencie mought be happy to have such a man about him.”

Sir Phillip Sidney on Munday dyed, to the great heavines of his excellencie, and our holle people here; but he dyed so godly, as all wondered, and most praysed God for it. County Hollocke was shot through the cheke; a small hurte, yet very lyke to dy.

Sir, I seate prayinge God ever to bless you, with my honorable lady.—Utrick, this xxiiii day of October, your poore and ever humble sarvant,

HENRY ARCHER.

I have sent you divers letters of tale, whiche I thincke the wynde beyng contrary will staye theire commynge. To the righte worshipfull his singular good master, sir Thoms Henege, Tressurer of his Majesties chamber, These

Original letter, Harl. MSS. 285. 294.

ⁱ Watson’s History of Philip II. vol. III. pp. 80. 84. 195. Sixth edit.

^l Vide Birch’s Memoirs of Elizabeth, p. 321.

^k Advertisements from the Low Countries, 287. 94. Harl. MSS.

^m Wotton’s Baronetage, vol. III. 303.

OVER POOLE.

ONE township only of this name is noticed in Wirral, or Wilaveston hundred, by the Domesday Survey. It was possessed by William Malbedeng, baron of Nantwich, and most probably included both the present townships of this name.

"Isdem Willielmus tenet Pol. Ernuin tenuit pro uno manerio. Ibi terra quatuor boum geldabilis; ibi unus villanus, et unus bordarius habent dimidiam carucam. Valuit et valet quatuor solidos."

^aThe manor of "Haverpulle" was subsequently given by Catherine, wife of Hamelin de Bardulph to the abbey of St. Werburgh, in pure alms, which gift was afterwards confirmed by her husband. The abbot of St. Werburgh's claimed here, in a plea to a quo warranto, 31 Edw. III. infangtheof, wayf, stray, goods of natives, felons, and fugitives, and to have view of frank-pledge yearly of residents here, at his manor-house of Little Sutton.

After the dissolution the manor was granted by letters patent of the ^bdate of the 30th Nov. 22 Eliz. to

William Glasier, esq. and John Glasier, gent. together with the manors of Lea and Whitby, the demesne, woods, and messuages, &c. subject to the fee-farm rent of 10l. 11s. 4d. for Lea, and 34l. 15s. 4d. for Whitby and Overpoole, payable to the dean and chapter of Chester cathedral.

The Glasiers remained in possession as late as 1710, when Thomas Glasier was lord of this manor.

Since that period the manor has passed to the Pooles of Nether Poole, and is now the property of the rev. sir Henry Poole, bart.

A court-leet and court-baron are held occasionally by sir Henry Poole for the manor, at the same periods at which the court is held for the manor of Nether Poole, generally after an interval of seven or eight years from the court preceding. The village consists merely of a few ragged huts and farm-houses, situated near the shore of the Mersey, about six miles north of Chester, on a cross-road leading from Eastham to Bridge Trafford.

NETHER POOLE.

NETHER POOLE is situated on the immediate bank of the Mersey, exposed to the violence of the stream of that river, which is here diverted from its former direction by a rocky shore, and turns off towards Liverpool and the Irish sea, forming a right angle with its previous course. The township has consequently suffered much from the ravages of the waters, and considerable quantities of land have been washed away by their fury, as more particularly noticed under the account of the township of Stanlaw.

The manor of Poole was vested in a family, which assumed the local name before the reign of Henry the Third, the elder branch of which terminated in three coheireses, Gillian, Basilia, and Alice de Pulle, who quitclaimed to William "le Hare" of Pulle, all the lands of Pulle, for four marks of silver, by ^c deed enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday, dated Thursday before the feast next after the return of the earl Randle from Jerusalem, (which event took place in 1220) and witnessed by Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester, Warren de Vernon, and William de Venables.

This William was most probably father of Robert de Pulle, with whom the annexed pedigree commences, which Robert had issue Reginald de Pulle, who married Matilda, daughter and coheiress of Geoffry, hereditary master cook of the abbot of St. Werburgh. The particulars of this office will be found in the account of Lea, as extracted from the chartulary of the abbey. Harl. MSS. 1965.

The next deed of the Pooles which has occurred, relates to the grant of the manor of ^dCapenhurst to James Pulle, by Hugh de Bernston, 21 Edw. I.

^e Robert Poole, son of this James, married the daughter and coheiress of the manerial lord of Capenhurst.

The Poles of Shute, in Devonshire, branched out about this time from the Pooles of Poole, according to Prince and Wotton, both of whom agree in the general fact, but differ in the person and the time ^f.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VII. Thomas Poole held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Poole, alias Nether Poole, and the lands called Grenewarthe^g adjoining, from John Gleyve, by fealty. The rest of the *Inq.* is illegible.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. Thomas Poole, esq. held the manor of Nether Poole from John Worthe, of Tytherington, in socage, by the render of one penny, value per ann. xs.: also the manors of Buerton and Capenhurst, and lands in Salghall Massey, Moreton, Greenewarthe, Occleston, Neston, Liskard, Kirkby in Walley, Upton, Leighton, Barret's-poole, Hurleston, Bradwall, Bradley, Oscroft, Tilston, Chester, and Woodchurch. Val. tot. 37l. 5s. Ob. 29 Feb. a^o p'd'to. John Poole, esq. son and heir, aged upwards of 40 years.

Inq. p. m. 30 Hen. VIII. Randle Poole, clerk (brother of John), held the vill of Nether Poole, from Jasper Worthe, by fealty, and the render before-mentioned, Val. xiiii. vis. vii. with lands in Buyrton, Lyscard, Great Neston, Bradley, Salghall, Capenhurst, Thyngwall, and Wervyn. Val. tot. xxxi. xv. Ob. 26 Mar. a^o p'd'to. Thomas Poole, kinsman and heir.

Thomas Poole, who thus succeeded to the estate, was son and heir of sir William Poole, kt. who was made sheriff of Cheshire, durante bene placito, 30th Nov. 19 Hen. VIII. He was seneschall of Birkenhead Priory at the dissolution, and the builder of the present hall of Poole.

This Thomas Pole, of Nether Pole, esquier, covenanted ^h 22 Nov. 38 Hen. VIII. with sir Edward Fittone, knight, that his son and heir apparent, John Pole,

^a Chartulary of the abbey of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965. 4.

^b Pat. 22 Eliz.

^c Cheshire Domesday, p. 91. Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5.

^d Vill. Cest.

^e Ibid.

^f Prince's Worthies of Devon, and Wotton's Baronetage.

^g The lands latterly called Poole's Wharf, part of the demesne of Stanlaw abbey, now washed away by the Mersey.

^h Not three months before his decease. John Poole must then have been extremely young, and possibly the marriage never took place. His issue was certainly by another marriage.

should marry Susanne, daughter of the said sir Edward, whose jointure was settled at 10l. per annum, in consideration of a marriage portion paid to Mr. Poole, of 246l. 1s. 4d. Harl. MSS. 2095. 78.

Inq. p. m. 1 Edw. VI. Thomas Poole, esq. held ^hlands in Nether Poole, in socage, from Jasper Worth, val. xvij. ; and also lands in Nether Bébblington, Great Neston, Liskard, Bradwall, Salghall, Capenhurst, Kirkby, Moreton, Woodchurch, Neston, Leighton, Oscroft, Hurleston, Occleston, Buerton, Oldfield, Handbridge, Backford, Thingwall, and lands attached to the office of seneschall of the late priory of Birkenhead. Val. tot. lxxxvij. iiii s. Obiit 2 Feb. a^o 38 Hen. VIII. John Poole son and heir.

Inq. p. m. Ap. 19. 12 Jac. I. John Poole, esq. held the manor of Nether Poole, with lands therein, from Jasper Worthe, esq. in socage, val. xx marks, the manors of Buerton, Capenhurst, and Stanlaw, and lands in Great Neston, Lyskard, Kirkby Wallesey, Thingwall, Leighton, and Chester. Val. tot. lviij. iij s. xij d. Obiit 5th Dec. ult. p^r. ante capt. hujus inquisitionis. John Poole next of kin and heir, aged upwards of thirty years.

James Poole, eldest son of this John, dying without issue male, of wounds which he received at the siege of Chester, the estate passed to his younger brother, Thomas Poole, in whose lineal descendants, as exhibited in the following pedigree, it continued to be vested, until the death of the late sir Ferdinando Poole bart. in 1804, when the property and the title passed to the present proprietor, the rev. sir Henry Poole, bart. grandson of William, a younger brother of the first baronet, on whose issue the title was entailed, in the event of the failure of the elder line.

Poole Hall is one of the most venerable specimens of domestic architecture which the county can boast. The north and east fronts are composed of soft stone, now grey with lichens. The rest of the building is formed with timber and plaister, rising into gables in the general style of Cheshire halls. The east front is tolerably regular, lighted with large bay windows, and has at each end a tall octagonal turret. The north front, represented in the annexed engraving, is very irregular; a projection in the centre terminates in a gable. One of the before-mentioned turrets finishes the north-east angle, and at the other is a large heavy embattled porch, approached by a flight of steps, and forming the entrance to a very spacious hall, at the extremity of which is the principal living-room, a handsome apartment, lighted by a large bay window, and another placed in the octagonal turret, which forms so interesting a feature in the front of the building. Round these rooms are hung a numerous collection of family pictures, some of which are

well executed, but do not possess any initials which might identify the persons represented.

The most interesting of these are two large paintings of females. The first represents a lady habited as a nun, with a rude bench before her, on which a scull is placed; the date 1623. Over the scull is painted "ordinis S'tæ Claræ, æt. suæ 19." The other painting represents a lady in the dress of the reign of Elizabeth, a large ruff and head-dress of pearls; black gown with pointed waist, with a profusion of chains of pearl and other jewels: date "1600, æt. 20." Arms quarterly, 1 and 4, Gyronny of four pieces, Azure and Argent, a saltier, Gules, for Gage; 2 and 3, Sable, a sun, Argent. Beneath the lozenge containing the arms is the motto "æterna præpone caducis."

The other rooms on this floor are converted to the uses of the farm. The stairs consist of solid pieces of massy oak. One of the apartments to which they lead is wainscotted with the same material. The upper row of panels is carved with representations of the several branches of the family, the badges of the Talbots, Pooles, and Troutbecks, and the coat of Poole singly and impaled with Talbot. From these circumstances there can, I apprehend, be no doubt of the house being built by sir Thomas Poole, who married a daughter of sir John Talbot. He succeeded to the possession of the estate in 1502, and died the 2d Feb. 1547-8. The date of 1574 appears on a chimney-piece in the great hall, the style of which is somewhat later than that of the rest of the fabric.

Like most of the antient halls in the county, Poole has been approached through a line of stables and cow-houses. With that studied contempt which the taste of the day entertained for prospects, these buildings were suffered to intercept a point of view, where the forest hills rise over the bend of the water, in a line of uncommon grandeur and beauty.

In a very curious and antient House in Lancashire, Smithells Hall, the seat of a branch of the knightly family of Radcliffe, and inherited from them by the Bartons, is a room which has the appearance of being added about the time of Henry the Eighth, precisely resembling the style of the room above described in the carved portraits, knots, and armorial badges. It is impossible for any one who has seen the two rooms, not to be struck with the resemblance; and the circumstance of the lady of Andrew Barton, the builder, being the daughter of sir William Stanley of Hooton, the manor adjacent to Poole, considerably strengthens the probabilities of both works being executed by the same unknown artist, introduced by this alliance to the notice of two families otherwise remote and unconnected.

^h Another *Inq.* was made 3 Eliz. which terms this estate the manor of Nether Poole, Val. xxi. o s. iij d.

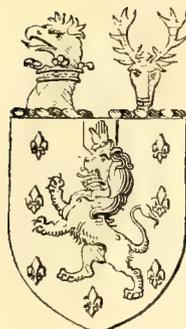
POOLE OF POOLE.

From No. 1535. Harl. MSS. the Visitation of 1613, the Inquisitions p. m. and the information of sir Henry Poole, bart.

ARMS. Azure, a Lion rampant, Argent, within an orle of fleur de lis, Argent.

CREST. A griffon's head, Azure, beaked and eared, Or, ducally gorged.

Note.—By grant of Wriothesly, Garter, and John Young, Norroy, 4 Hen. VIII. another crest was granted, composed of a buck's head, cabossed, Gules, attired, Barry of 5 pieces, Azure and Or, the sinister horn counterchanged.



ROBERT PULL, alias POOLE, OF DE LA POOLE.—ELIZABETH, dau. of Hugh de Raby.
 REGINALD DE PULLE, living in the time of Simon, abbot of St. Werburgh, between 1265 and 1289.—MATILDA, widow of Ric. de Coudrey, and dau. and coheirress of Geoffry the cook of Lea and Newton, master cook in fee of the abbey of St. Werburgh.

JAMES DE PULLE, obiit 1 Edw. II. grantee of lands in Capenhurst, from Hugh de Bernston. . . .

ROBERT DE POOLE, obiit 3 Edw. III., daughter and heiress of Thomas de Capenhurst.

Sir JOHN POOLE, knight, 3 Ric. II.—. . . .

ELIZABETH, wife of John Legh, of the East Hall, in High Legh, esq. 17 Hen. VI. THOMAS POOLE, of Poole, esq. mar. by dispensation, 1425, being related to his wife in the 4th degree. ELIZABETH, dau. of sir William Stanley, of Hooton, co. Cest. kt. RICHARD POOLE, JOHN POOLE. JAMES POOLE, WILLIAM POOLE.

MARY, wife of John Meoles, of Meoles, 37 Hen. VI. Left issue. 4. ROBERT POOLE. 5. JAMES POOLE. 6. HENRY POOLE. THOMAS POOLE, eldest son and heir, living 7 Hen. VI. died seized of the manor of Nether Poole, per Inq. 16 Hen. VII. MATILDA, dau. of . . . Mainwaring of . . . RANDLE POOLE, of Chester. RICHARD POOLE, 3d son. MARY, dau. of Ralph Pembridge.

RANDLE POOLE, of Chester. THOMAS POOLE, of Poole, son and heir, died per Inq. 19th Feb. 1 Hen. VIII. seized of the manors of Nether Poole and Capenhurst, and other lands. MATILDA, dau. of Thomas Fitton, of Gawsorth, obiit 2 non Apl. 1501. Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5. p. 137. Gawsorth Mass Book., wife of John Glegg, of Gayton. CICELY, wife of John, son of Wm. Whitmore, of Thurstaston.

THOMAS POOLE, eldest son and heir apparent, o. s. p. 23 Hen. VII. JOHN POOLE, 2d son and heir, per Inq. aged 40 years and upwards, 1 Hen. VIII. o. s. p. RANDLE POOLE, clerk, rector of Neston and Hawarden, died seized of the manor of Nether Poole, and other lands, 30 Hen. VIII. March 26, s. p. Inq. p. m. 30 Hen. VIII. Sir WILLIAM POOLE, knt. made sheriff of Cheshire, dure bene placito, 19 Hen. VIII.; obiit 27 Hen. VIII. MARGARET, dau. of Thos. Hough of Leighton, widow of sir William Troutbeck, kt. ELIZABETH, wife of John Minshull, MARGARET, wife of Gilbert Searisbrick. MABELL, wife of Richard Standish. MARGERY, wife of . . . Billington. MARY, wife of John Whitmore. BLANCHE, wife of Richard Bunbury of Stanney.

RALPH POOLE, born before marriage. THOMAS POOLE, of Poole, esq. heir to his uncle Randle Poole, per Inq. 30 Hen. VIII. seneschall of the priory of Birkenhead, obiit 33 Hen. VIII. 2d Feb. seized of the manor of Nether Poole, and other lands. Inq. p. m. 1 Edw. VI. MARY, dau. of John Talbot, of Grafton. RALPH, and RANDLE POOLE. MATILDA, wife of Thomas Grosvenor of Eaton; and 2dly of Robert Fletcher, of Ince.

MARGARET, wife of Geo. Vernon, of Richmond. ELIZABETH, wife of . . . Macclesfield, and 2dly of John Butler, of Dunstable. KATHERINE, dau. of George Minshull, of Minshull. 2d wife. JOHN POOLE, esq. son and heir of Thomas Poole, per Inq. 1 Edw. VI. died Dec. 5, 11 Jac. I. seized of the manor of Poole, and other lands. per Inq. Buried at Eastham, Dec. 13, 1613. Inq. p. m. 12 Jac. I. SUSANNA, dau. of sir Edward Fitton, of Gawsorth. Marriage covenant dated Nov. 22, 38 Hen. VIII. RANDLE POOLE. THOMAS POOLE. WILLIAM POOLE. BARNABY POOLE. FRANCES POOLE.

WILLIAM POOLE, 2d son. RICHARD POOLE, 3d son. ROWLAND POOLE, married . . . dau. of . . . Aldrow, by whom Randolph, bapt. at Eastham, Oct. 20, 1592; and Mary, bapt. May 24, 1610. 4th son. REGINALD POOLE, married Cecily, dau. of Matthew Wood, clerk, by whom he had Anne, bapt. at Eastham, 18 July, 1599. 5th son. JOHN POOLE, esq. eldest son and heir apparent, of Capenhurst, co. Cest. died before his father. MARY, dau. of sir Rowland Stanley, of Hooton, knight. MAUD, wife of John Culcheth, of Culcheth. MARGARET, wife of James Skrymshyre of Norbury. BRYTTAIN, wife of sir Thomas Stuart, of Ely, knight.

FRANCIS POOLE, 2d son, married Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas Frogge, of Minshull. HENRY POOLE, 3d son. JOHN POOLE, of Poole, esq. son and heir, succeeded to his grandfather, 11 Jac. I. being then aged upwards of 30 years, obiit a^o 1641. DOROTHY, dau. of Thos. Tyldesley, of Morleys, co. Lancast. esq. MARY, ELEANORA, wife of John Bowes. Had issue.

ELEANOR, dau. of Francis Draycott, co. Stafford, esq. re-married to sir Edw. Mostyn, of Talacre, bart. THOMAS POOLE, 2d son, and heir to his brother. DOROTHY, dau. of John ap Meredith Vychan, co. Merioneth, esq. KATHERINE, dau. of sir John Talbot, of Grafton, co. Worcester, knt. o. s. p. JAMES POOLE, of Poole, esq. son and heir, aged ten years, at the Visitation of 1613, died of wounds received at the siege of Chester, 1645. bur. at Nantwich. KATHERINE, dau. of Sir John Pershall, of the co. Staff. kt. MARGARET.

JAMES POOLE, of Poole, esq. son and heir.—MARY, sister of sir Edward Mostyn, of Talacre. MARGARET, o. s. p.

MARGARET, dau. of Anthony Lowther, of Cleveland, esq. BENJAMIN POOLE, of London, esq. eldest son and heir, died Jan. 1656, buried in Waltham abbey church. HENRIETTA, dau. of Geo. Vernon, esq. of Sudbury, co. Derby, s. p. ANNE, relict of sir Thomas Estcourt, of Pinkney, co. Wilts, and dau. of, of Kirkham, co. Derby, esq. Sir JAMES POOLE, of Poole, bart. second son and heir, created a baronet, Oct. 25, 1677, married to his third wife, Frances, dau. of major-gen. Randolph Egerton, of Betley, co. Stafford, relict of sir John Corbet, by whom he had no issue. ANNE, dau. of Thos. Eyre, of Has-sop. WILLIAM POOLE, 3d son, included in the limitations of the patent of baronetcy., dau. of Hesketh, of the co. of York.

., dau. and heiress, wife of John Nicol, esq. of Minchenden, co. Middlesex, whose dau. and heir married, March 22, 1753, James marquis of Caernarvon, afterwards duke of Chandos, and died s. p. Aug. 4, 1768. ROWLAND, 3d son, married Bridget, dau. of Richard Huddleston, and had 3 daughters. THOMAS POOLE, died young. WILLIAM POOLE, died young. ANNE, wife of Robert Moli-lora, dau. of Gumbleton, co. Kent, o. s. p. JOHN d. young. Sir FRANCIS POOLE, bart. 3d son and heir, M. P. obiit Feb. 15, 1763. FRANCES, dau. of Henry Pelham, esq. of Lewes, co. Sussex. GRACE, dau. of Henry Pelham, esq. of Lewes, 1st wife. WILLIAM POOLE, of Hooke, co. Sussex, esq. DOROTHEA, dau. of the rev. Daniel Walter, vicar of Cuckfield, co. Sussex, and prebendary of Chichester. 2d wife.

FRANCES, wife of the right hon. lord viscount Palmerston, mar. 6th Oct. 1767, died June 1, 1769, without male issue. HARRIOT LUCY. Sir HENRY POOLE, bart. eldest son and heir, o. s. p. 1767. Sir FERDINANDO POOLE, of Poole, bart. second son and heir by survivorship, married 1772, dau. of Thomas White, esq. of Horsham, co. Sussex, who died 1786, o. s. p. m. June 8, 1804. Sir HENRY POOLE, of Poole, co. Cest. and of Lewes Priory, baronet, only son and heir, in orders, born Feb. 29, 1744-5, living 1816. CHARLOTTE, dau. and coheir of Jonathan Woodward, of Woodbridge, co. Suffolk, esq. HENRIETTA, living unmarried 1816. GRACE, wife of Thos. Sanden, of Chichester, co. Sussex, M. D.

HENRY POOLE, esq. only son and heir apparent, died at the age of 10 years. HENRIETTA, living unmarried 1816. CHARLOTTE-ELIZABETH, wife of Robert Willis Blencowe, eldest son of Robert Blencowe, esq. of Hayes End, near Uxbridge, co. Middlesex, living 1816.

W H I T B Y.

THIS little township has of late years assumed the appearance of a petty port, from the termination of the Dee and Mersey branch of the Ellesmere canal, and its connection with the estuary of the latter river, taking place at this point. Exertions have likewise been made to improve the communication with the Wirral turnpikes; and it is not unlikely that the lapse of a very few years will add considerably to its population, and its local importance. It lies six miles north-east of Chester.

The place is unnoticed in Domesday; but was possessed at the time of that survey by the baron of Nantwich, William Malbedeng, who included it shortly afterwards in his grant of lands to the abbey of St. Werburgh, as appears by the confirmation charter of Hugh Lupus and his countess, to that abbey^a, in 1093. The abbot claimed here infangtheof, wayf and stray, wrecks, goods of natives, felons, and fugitives, and view of frank pledge yearly, from residents here at his manor house of Little Sutton, as appears by his plea to a quo warranto, 31 Edw. III.

After the dissolution the place was granted by letters

patent, dated 30th Nov. 34 Eliz. with the manors of Lea and Overpoole to William Glasier, esq. and John Glasier, gent.; and was valued^b along with Overpoole, at 34l. 15s. 4d. per annum.

From the Glasiers the manor passed by sale to the Morgells of Moston, in Broxton Hundred, and was conveyed by the heiress of that family, together with the Moston Hall estate, to Henry Bennet, esq.

Whitby was purchased from sir John Williams of Botelwyddan, and John Townshend, esq. the husbands of two of the daughters and coheirs of the aforesaid Henry Bennet, of Moston, esq. (who died without male issue, Nov. 26, 1741), by Mr. Hewitt, of Poole, who re-sold the same within two years to the right honourable earl Grosvenor, in whom the manor and the lands of the township, with the exception of two tenements, are now vested.

Whitby is partly in Eastham, and partly in the parish of Stoke, under the accounts of which townships, the distribution of the tithes has been mentioned.

LITTLE SUTTON.

THE present appearance of this township is destitute of any thing to attract the eye, or excite the curiosity of the traveller: it contains merely a groupe of ordinary farm houses, forming an inconsiderable village on the road which leads from Chester to the Liverpool ferries, in one of the most flat and monotonous parts of the Hundred. At an earlier period, its connection with the abbey of St. Werburgh rendered it a place of considerable interest. Sutton was one of the four principal manors, where,^c by the charter of earl Randle, the monks were directed to provide mansions fit for the holding of their courts, and the proper reception of the abbot and his retinue: and by letters patent,^d 22 Ric. II. the abbot had licence to enkernel and fortify this manor house, together with his other seats of Salghton and Inise.

The seculars of St. Werburgh held Sutton in the time of Edward the Confessor: "Ipsa ecclesia tenet Suttone, et tenuit tempore regis Edwardi. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est v carucarum. In dominio est dimidium carucæ, et v villani et ix bordarii, cum duabus carucis. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xl solidos, modo xxx solidos."

Sutton is enumerated among the lists of the former possessions of this abbey, confirmed to its new tenants, of the order of St. Benedict, by Hugh Lupus, in his charter of 1093. The abbot and convent of St. Werburgh continued its possessors to the dissolution, and in their plea to a writ of quo warranto, 31 Edw. III. claimed to have by prescriptive usage in this manor, infangtheof, wayf, stray, and chattels of natives, felons, and fugitives, and to have at this manor house, view of frank pledge, as well for Little Sutton, as their adjacent

manors of Great Sutton, Whitby, Over Palle, and Childer Thornton.

After the dissolution, the manor was granted to the dean and chapter of Chester, and by the unfortunate omission in their charter, became lost to that foundation, and passed into the hands of sir Richard Cotton, in the Inq. after whose decease, 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary, it is valued, with lands in the manors before mentioned, at 77l. 10s. 1d.

From the heirs of sir Richard Cotton, Sutton was obtained by sir Hugh Cholmondeley, of Cholmondeley, and from him descended to the Cholmondeleys of Vale Royal, who continued to hold the same, subject to a fee farm rent paid to the dean and chapter, until a recent sale of the manors of Little and Great Sutton, to Mr. J. White, of London, by Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq. Mr. White is the present proprietor, and holds a court leet and court baron for both manors.

The hall of Little Sutton, a very antient building, was taken down within the memory of aged persons now living: its site was west of the turnpike road near the centre of the village. It is however probable that the antient manor house of the abbots occupied an elevated spot about four hundred yards south-west of the site of the hall, where a curious discovery was made about the year 1811, in digging for the foundation of a large farm house, under the direction of the present proprietor.

In this place, a little below the surface, the workmen discovered an antient cemetery, about 42 feet square, filled with a very considerable quantity of bones and skulls, which were also found in great quantities in the ground adjoining: the soil altogether consisted of black animal matter, which still retained a great degree of

^a Chartulary of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965.

^c Chartulary before mentioned.

^e Enrollments in the Exchequer of Chester; see the Introduction to Wirral, and the account of St. Werburgh's abbey.

^b Villare Cestriense.

^d Tanner's Notitia Monastica.

oiliness. The space inclosed was formed into twenty-five compartments by thirty-six upright pillars; each compartment was seven feet square. In these compartments the bodies had been laid in rows, and drains had been made to carry away the putrid moisture which might flow from the bodies. The pillars which were placed at the corners of these compartments, seemed to have been intended to support a floor above. They were formed into a cylindrical shape by the strokes of a pick-axe, but were much rounded inwards towards the middle of the pillar, being only seven inches in diameter in that part, and twelve inches at the top and bottom. The height of the pillars was about two feet six inches.

At the north side remained the two steps leading to the room over the cemetery, which were much worn and formed out of one ashlar; near this was the stone frame-work of the door, on which an inscription re-

mained; but it is to be lamented that the whole was barbarously destroyed, and the stones new cut, and worked up into the foundations of the farm house, before the inscription was seen by any one who could either decypher it, or describe the form of the letters. There can be no doubt of the general fact of the cemetery being formed either by the secular canons or their successors, the monks of St. Werburgh, but the destruction of this inscription has done away with the only means of ascertaining the period of the erection of the fabric. The particulars above stated were taken from a plan and account given by an intelligent master-workman^f, who was employed at the time, and has been confirmed by a neighbouring gentleman who saw the ruins in the short interval between their discovery and demolition.^g

GREAT SUTTON.

THE greatest part of what has been said of Little Sutton, applies to this township. The abbot of St. Werburgh had the same privileges here, as in that manor, in the leet of which Great Sutton was included. It has passed since the dissolution, through the same hands, to the same present proprietor, and the village, like that of Little Sutton, consists of a number of farm-houses ranged at the side of the road leading from Chester to the Liverpool ferries.

Great Sutton did not, however, like Little Sutton, form part of the original endowment of St. Werburgh's abbey. It was in moieties at the time of the Domesday survey, between the bishop of Chester, and the baron of Malpas, but as it does not in any subsequent record that has appeared, occur among their possessions, it was most probably very shortly afterwards united to the

adjoining manor, with which it has since descended. The share of the bishop is thus described:

"Ipse episcopus tenuit et tenet Sudtone: ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est III carucarum: in dominio est una; et v villani, et II bordarii, cum una carucâ; ibi VI acræ prati. Tempore R. Edwardi, valebat XL solidos, modo XX solidos."

A later part of the survey notices the other share thus, being the only property which Robert Fitz Hugh held in Wilaveston Hundred:

"Isdem Robertus tenet Sudtone. Tochi tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est III carucarum; in dominio est una, et III bordarii cum uno villano; ibi sex acræ prati: Tempore R. Edwardi valebat XL solidos et post VI solidos; modo reddit LXIV denarios de firmâ."

CHILDER THORNTON.

THIS township is omitted in the Domesday survey. The manor was the property of the abbey of St. Werburgh from an early period, and was included within the abbot's view of frank pledge, at his manor house of Little Sutton, who also claimed, in his plea to a writ of quo warranto, 31 Edw. III. to have infangtheof, wayf, and stray, and chattels of natives, felons, and fugitives.^a

After the dissolution of the abbey, the lands of Childer Thornton were included in the first charter to the dean and chapter of Chester, in consequence of the unfortunate omission in which charter, they became lost to that foundation, and after falling into the hands of sir Richard Cotton,^b were granted out in fee farm, to William May, or Meo, and Richard Bavand, along with the manor of Bromborrough.^c

^dIn the 38th of Elizabeth, William Baxter, alias Mayo, and Alice his wife, passed over their messuages and lands in this township to Robert Cotgreave, gent. for the sum of 500l.

In 1668, the township is stated to consist entirely of freeholders; at present the privileges of a court leet and court baron, are claimed by sir Thomas S. M. Stan-

ley, T. W. Currey, esq. the representatives of a family of the name of Spurstow, and Joseph Wilmot, esq. three shares of the manor being claimed by each of the first parties, and one each by the others.

The principal land-owners now possessing estates within the township are, sir Thomas S. M. Stanley, bart. whose ancestors held lands in this township, under the abbot and convent of St. Werburgh before the dissolution, to which Sir T. S. M. Stanley has recently added by purchase; the minor canons of Chester cathedral, who possess estates in this township and Boughton, under the will of Mrs. Barbara Dod, dated May 22, 1703; T. W. Currey, esq. who has a residence in the township; Joseph Wilmot, of Chester, esq. in right of his wife, daughter of — Litherland; the representatives of the family of Spurstow, before mentioned; and Robert Vyner of Gautby, esq.

By *Inq. p. m.* 9 Hen. VI. it appears that certain lands in this township, were held under the prior of the order of St. John of Jerusalem, by Robert Fitton, of Sutton, in whose family they continued for several generations.

^f Mr. Mason of Little Sutton.

^b *Inq. p. m.* 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary.

^g Richard Richardson of Capenburst, esq.

^c Villare Cest. p. 25.

^d *Ibid.*

^a Enrollments in the Exchequer of Chester.

^e *Inq. p. m.* William Stanley, kt. 3 Hen. VIII.

Bromborough

Contains two townships only, Bromborough, and Brunstath, commonly called Brimstage.

BROMBOROUGH.

THE learned editor of the Saxon chronicle has mentioned "Brunburgh"^a in Cheshire, as one of the places which from a similarity of name, may contend for the honour of being the celebrated Brunanburgh, the scene of the decisive defeat which Anlaf and Constantine experienced from the troops of Athelstan, in 937.

It is acknowledged by all writers, that the fleet of the invaders, amounting to 615 sail of different descriptions, was placed in the Humber, and although the battle took place at such a distance from the point of landing, that the pursuit and slaughter of the Danes and islanders lasted two days, it is impossible to trust sufficiently to similarity of names, as to believe any circumstances could bring the conflicting armies to the distance of Bromborough, seated at the mouth of an estuary, on the western ocean, at the extremity of a peninsula, remote from every point which it would be the interest of Athelstan to guard, or of Anlaf to menace.

^bTwenty-five years before this battle, a monastery was founded by Elfreda at this place, then called Brimesburgh. This monastery had ceased to exist before the Norman conquest. Bromborough itself does not obtain a notice by name in the Domesday survey, being then (as previously mentioned) the head of the manor, and included in the description of Eastham, which was retained by the earl.^c Two manors were subsequently formed out of the original vill of Eastham, and were granted out together by Randle Gernons to the monks of St. Werburgh, in the charter given in the account of Eastham; but Eastham still continued subject to the court of Bromborough, as the site of the original manor.

The monks of St. Werburgh had a grant from Edward the First, when earl of Chester, of a market every week on the Monday, and a yearly fair of three days on the feast of St. Barnabas, the vigil, and the day following, provided that such market and fair do not injure the markets and fair in the neighbourhood. This charter has fallen into disuse. The abbot of the same house, in a plea to a quo warranto 31 Edw. III. claimed here infangtheof, wayf, stray, goods of natives, felons, and fugitives, and view of frank pledge of residents in Bromborough and Eastham, at his manor house of Bromborough.

After the dissolution the manor was granted to the dean and chapter of Chester, by their foundation charter, but fell afterwards, with most of their estates, into the hands of sir Richard Cotton, in the Inquisition after

whose death, 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary, it is valued, with lands in Bebington, Plymyard, and Eastham, at l. xiiis. xd.

The acquisitions of sir R. Cotton were shortly afterwards parcelled out among the fee farmers; and William Meo, alias Baxter, and Richard Bavard, gent. had this manor and Childer Thornton in fee farm, at the rent of 33l. 11s. 11d. per annum, of which 25l. 7s. 7d. was paid from Bromborow.^d

^eAt the same time, Henry Hardware, gent. had the old manor house, called Bromborough court, the demesne, the water mills, and a wood called William Drife, val. at 9l. per annum.

The manor and vill of Bromborough was sold to bishop Bridgeman, and inherited from him by his son, sir Orlando Bridgeman, knight and baronet, keeper of the Great Seal. By him the same was conveyed to . . . Greene, who sold the whole in parcels; selling the manor and court, and the hall built on the manerial estate, to Edward Bradshaw, alderman of Chester, who was lord of Bromborough in 1668, and was succeeded by his son^f, sir James Bradshaw, of Risby, kt. from whom the manor and hall passed, either by devise or purchase, to his brother-in-law, James Mainwaring, esq. descended from the house of Mainwaring of Whitmore, in the co. of Salop.

James Mainwaring, esq. son of the preceding, subsequently bought the Bromborough Court estate from the Hardwares. Both estates are now vested in his grandson, James Mainwaring, of Bromborough, esq., who by the termination of the elder lines of this house in females, is representative and heir male of this antient family, lineally descended from Ranulphus, lord of Peover, Warmincham, and other manors, at the time of the Domesday survey.

Bromborough is an antient respectable village, chiefly built with red stone, and situated near the estuary, at the distance of eleven miles from Chester. The hall is a large building, much altered by successive proprietors in various styles; the grounds command an interesting view of the port of Liverpool, and terminate in a steep declivity, and rich woods overhanging the ferry house of Eastham, beyond which opens by far the most delightful prospect which Wirral Hundred can boast, consisting of the broad expanse of the Mersey, seen over the woods of Hooton, and backed by the Lancashire shore, and the Edisbury hills.

The court house built by the Hardwares, and now

^a Gibson's Saxon Chronicle, 4to. Oxon. 1695.

^b Brompton's Chron. inter Decem Scriptores, 834, and Leland's Collectanea, vol. I. 215. 219.

^c Vide the account of the Church.

^d Villare Cest. p. 22.

^e Ibid.

^f This descent has been extracted from the Villare of 1668, Harl. MSS. 2010, which has in this instance been continued by a later hand.

occupied as a farm, is in the style of the early part of the seventeenth century, with bay windows and indented and scolloped gables. Adjacent is the moated site of the manor house of the abbots of St. Werburgh, occupying an extremely strong position, at the end of a neck of land, accessible only from the south. To the east it is defended by the estuary, on the other sides by precipitous banks, descending to an inlet, which forms a channel between this parish and Bebington, of a depth sufficient for vessels of considerable burthen.

The manor house of Brombroro is one of those which

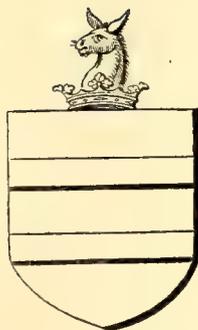
was directed by the charter of earl Randle to be maintained in a state of security and convenience for the holding of the courts appertaining to Chester abbey; and the strength of this situation, as well as of the works still remaining round their other manor house of Irby, are proof of the fears entertained by the monks of the incursions of the Welshmen, at that early period. After the separation of Eastham and Brombrorough, the view of frank pledge for both manors continued to be held at this manor house, until they finally fell into different hands at the dissolution.

MAINWARING OF BROMBROROUGH.

ARMS. Argent, 2 barrs, Gules.

CREST. An ass's head proper, coupéd.

Compiled from Parochial Registers, by the rev. Joseph Eaton, M. A. F. S. A.



EDWARD MAINWARING, of Whitmore, 8th son of — ALICE, daughter and heiress of Robert sir John Mainwaring, of Peover, knt. by Catherine, dau. of Wm. Handford, of Handford. Boghey, of Whitmore, co. Salop.

EDWARD MAINWARING, of Whitmore, son and heir. — JONE, dau. to Matthew Cradock, of Stafford.

EDWARD MAINWARING, of Whitmore, son and heir. JOHN MAINWARING. MARY. ALICE. ELIZABETH. ANNE.

RANDLE MAINWARING, of London, a colonel in the army, temp. Car. I. — ELIZA, daughter of Humphrey in the cause of the king, born at Whitmore. Hawes, of London.

GEORGE MAINWARING, youngest son, bapt. at St. Mary Cole, Dec. 10, 1642, obiit Aug. 14, 1695, buried in Trinity, Chester, 17 Aug. mayor of Chester, 1681-2, M. P. for Chester, 1689. — ELIZABETH, dau. of Edward Bradshaw, of Chester, esq. baptized in Chester, Jan. 23, 1652-3, married at St. John's, Chester, April 25, 1672, died Dec. 8, 1725, buried in Trinity church, Chester, 12th Dec. 1725.

JAMES MAINWARING, eldest son and heir, purchaser of Brombrorough, born March 31, 1673, bapt. at Trinity, Ap. 17, died June 24, 1749, buried at Brombrorough.	MARY, dau. of Michael Johnson, alderman of the city of Chester, married Oct. 12, 1693, at Trinity church, Chester.	THOMAS, born 11 Jan. 1675, bapt. at Trinity, died Sept. 5, 1679, buried at Trinity, Sept. 8.	EDWARD, born 20th Sept. 1679, bapt. at Trinity, Sept. 23.	GEORGE, born 16th Dec. 1688, bapt. at Trinity, obiit 1720, s. p.	ELIZABETH, wife of Thos. Mason, of Shrewsbury, born 12th June 1674, bapt. at Trinity, mar. there, June 24, 1703.
		ROBERT, born 11 Nov. 1677, bapt. at Trinity, mar. Jane, dau. of . . . Mayhood, by whom Charles, who died s. p. and two daughters.	ROGER, born July 17, 1685, bapt. at Trinity, married Elizabeth, dau. and co-heiress of Joseph Eaton, of Stepney, co. Middlesex, esq. whose eldest son assumed the name of Ellerker, died at Risby, co. Ebor. Had issue.	RANDLE, born 25th Feb. 1695, bapt. at Trinity, died unmarried at Petersburgh.	MARY, born June 16, 1681, bapt. at Trinity, died unmarried, bur. at Trinity, Feb. 28, 1754-5.
		JOHN, born 1st Oct. 1678, baptized at Trinity. Had issue.		WILLIAM, born Sept. 28, 1694, bapt. at Trinity, died unmarried in the East Indies.	HENRIETTA, born Sept. 5, 1682, bapt. at Trinity, buried at Trinity, 18th Feb. 1687-8.

MICHAEL MAINWARING, eldest son, born Aug. 9, 1694, bapt. at Trinity, bur. there March 9, 1695.	JOHNSON MAINWARING, born 8th May 1696, bapt. at Trinity, married Elizabeth, dau. of John Acton, esq. of Gloverstone, in Chester, at St. Mary's, 4 Ap. 1714, by whom Eliz. who died an infant. Married 2d, Anne, dau. of Nich. Moore of Ansthorp, co. Ebor. who died s. p. in France, 10 Feb. 1737, buried at Dover.	GEORGE, born the 3d May, 1699, bapt. at Trinity, died March 30, 1741, buried at Brombroro; married Ann, daughter of John Walcot, esq. of Walcot, co. Salop, at the church of St. Olave, in Chester, 22 June, 1735. She was born at Walcot, Nov. 24, 1700, and buried at St. Olaves, April 1, 1782.	JAMES, born Jan. 8, 1701-2, bapt. at Trinity, obiit 23 Oct. 1749, buried at Brombroro; a baron of the Exchequer; purchaser of Brombroro Court, from the Hardwares.	MARY, dau. and coheir of Charles Kynaston, esq. of Oatley, co. Salop, married at Haselwell, co. Cest. buried at Brombroro, Feb. 8th, 1786.	EDWARD MAINWARING, a prebendary of Chester Cathedral, 1746, born Jan. 5, 1708, bapt. at Trinity, died July 30, 1780, at Coddington, buried in Chester Cathedral; married Eliz. dau. of John Pooke, gent. of Salehurst, co. Sussex, who was married at Ewhurst, co. Sussex, 1734, and died 6th June 1786, buried in Chester Cathedral; by whom he had issue James and Mary, who died s. p. and Edward Mainwaring of Chester, esq. who married and has issue.	ELIZABETH, MARY, MARY, JANE, MARY, BRIDGET, CHRISTIANA, all baptized at Trinity ch. of whom Eliz. the eldest married Jos. Clegg, esq. alderman of Liverpool, and had issue; the rest died unmarried.
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LETITIA, born 20th June 1741, ob. 13 May, 1743.	JAMES, died an infant, March 28, 1739, born 23d Aug. 1738.	ANNE, born June 20, 1740, married at St. Oswald's, 1st. Mascie Taylor, esq. of Lymme, co. Cest. and 2dly, at St. Oswald's, 5th July 1773, Thomas Townshend, esq. of Chester; buried at St. Olaves, s. p.	CHARLES MAINWARING, esq. son and heir, born 1723, baptized at Trinity, died 30 July 1781, bur. at Brombroro, Aug. 2, 1781.	MARY, dau. of Wm. Falconer, esq. recorder of Chester, married 24 June, 1754, at St. John's Chester, buried at Brombroro, Sept. 8, 1789.	THOMAS MAINWARING, born 1725, bapt. at Trinity, Oct. 11, married . . . , dau. of Jas. Mason, of Shrewsbury, esq. Had issue.	ELIZABETH, born 1726-7, bapt. at Trinity, March 26, died unmarried Oct. 31, 1752.
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ELIZABETH, born Aug. 1, 1755, bapt. at St. John's, and there married May 10, 1780, to the hon. Booth Grey, 2d son of the earl of Stamford, who died 4 March 1802, leaving issue.	ANNE, born 25 April 1758, died the same year, 28 June, baptized at St. John's.	MARY, born Feb. 2, 1763, married at St. John's, 15 May, 1786, John Smith of Chester, gent. who died leaving issue.	JAMES MAINWARING, of Brombroro, esq. eldest son and heir, born April 15, 1757, in Chester, bapt. at St. John's church, May 14, married abroad.	. . . , dau. of . . . , died May 7, 1816, buried at Brombrorough.	CHARLES, born 6 April, 1761, died 14th May following.	CHARLES, born Sept. 7, 1768, in holy orders, died at Oatley, co. Salop, 1807, bur. at Ellesmere.	SARAH-SUSANNA, dau. of . . . Townsend, of . . . esq. marr. at Trinity, Chester, 24 June 1800.
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MARY-ANNE-ELIZABETH MAINWARING, died unmarried, buried at Brombrorough.	JAMES MAINWARING, clerk, only son and heir apparent, M. A. of Brasenose Coll. Oxon, living 1816, born at Avignon, and naturalized by act of parliament.	CHARLES, died an infant, 1802.	CHARLES-KYNASTON MAINWARING, born 1803, Sept. 16, 1803, bapt. at Tattenhall, Oct. 30, 1803.	SUSAN, born 1804, Oct. 7, bapt. at Tattenhall, December 25.	TOWNS- born 1807.
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o Quo warranto of the abbot of St. Werburgh, 31 Edw. III.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Barnabas. Tax. Eccl. 16l.
Certified val. 5l. 11s. 8d.

It has been already mentioned that Brombrorough, which is unnoticed as a separate manor in Domesday, formed one vill with Eastham, at the Conquest. It appears from that survey, that a priest was then resident within the *original manor of Eastham*, and it has been proved that the present church of Brombrorough was the church of that original manor, and that *after the separation of the manors, a new church* was erected in the *new manor of Eastham*, which was given with the mother church of Brombrorough to the abbey of St. Werburgh, by Randle Gernons, in the confirmation of which charter by pope Honorius, the priority of the mother church of Brombro is expressly recognized in the words "Eccl' de Brombro' cum capellâ de Estham." The same church of Eastham is also styled a chapel to Brombrorough

in the ecclesiastical taxation of Pope Nicholas. After the dissolution, the impropriation passed into lay hands together with the manor; the nomination to the curacy remained vested in the dean and chapter of Chester, in whom it still continues. The impropriation is now attached to the manor.

The church of Brombrorough is small, but very antient: it consists of a body and chancel, both of which are entered on the south side by two semicircular doorways, and a north aisle, which is separated from the body of the church by four pointed arches. The body of the church is separated from the chancel by a large massy semicircular arch, the piers of which are inclined inwards at the base. The doorway of the chancel is also included within a semicircular arch, exhibiting a good specimen of the zig-zag, or chevron ornament, and originally resting on pillars with fluted capitals. The greater part of the fabric has the appearance of being nearly coeval with the Conquest, and it may be doubted whether some parts of it are not fragments of the Saxon monastery of Brimesburgh.



BRUNSTATH, OR BRIMSTAGE.

THIS bleak and moorish tract was the original settlement of the Domvilles, a house entitled to a high rank on the roll of Cheshire families. The eldest line, which soon terminated in an heiress, is represented by the earls of Shrewsbury. A younger branch continued in uninterrupted male descent at Lymme, in the Hundred of Bucklow, to the commencement of the last century. They were most probably a younger line of the barons of Montalt, under whom they held their lands, and whose arms and crest they adopted, with a slight variation.

^a The first of this family that occurs is Matthew de Domville, who by Agnes his wife, daughter and heir of William, son of Robert de Wettenal, by Ellena, daughter and heir of Robert de Bulkelegh, had issue

Sir Roger Domville, knight, who held this manor and the manor of Oxton from Robert de Montalt,^b by military service, as one knight's fee, as by Inquisition, after the death of the said Robert, 6 Edw. I.

John Domville, of Oxton and Brunstath, son and heir, married Maud, daughter of sir William Brereton,

of Brereton, knight,^c and married Maud, widow of William de Mobberlegh, to his second wife; by his first wife he had issue, Robert, second son, ancestor of the Domvilles of Lymme, and

John Domville, of Brunstath and Oxton, son and heir, who married Cicely, daughter of William de Mobberlegh, and sole sister and heir of the whole blood to Ralph de Mobberlegh, in whose right he had long contests with John Leycester, of Tabley, respecting his share of the manor of Mobberlegh, which he obtained, subject to certain remainders, partly by award of arbiters in 1377, and partly by release in the year following. This John Domville, and Cicely his wife, 1 Ric. II. levied a fine of lands in Mobberley and Tatton, to the use of John Brunstath, John Brereton and others, as trustees of the manor and advowson of Mobberley; and 5 Ric. II. obtained from the same the manors of Brunstath and Oxton, and lands in Mobberlegh and Plumlegh to their use for life, remainder to their daughters Isabella, Margery, Maud, and Ellen successively. The said parties

^a Leycester MSS.

^b Williamson's Villare Cest. p. 24.

^c Leycester MSS.

levied a fine of their manors of Brunstath and Oxton, 9 Ric. II. to the use of Roger de Horton, as trustee, with remainder finally to John, son of the said John and Cicely Domville.^d

This John Domville the younger dying issueless, the manors of Brunstath and Oxton, and part of Mobblerley, passed in marriage with Margery, second daughter and heiress of his father, to sir Hugh Holes,^e of Raby, serjeant of the Bridgegate, and deputy to the earl of Nottingham, as justiciary of Chester, 20 Ric. II. By Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. V. Margaret, widow of Hugh Holes, held in

joint feoffment, with her husband, the manors of Brunstath and Oxton, and free rents in Thingwall. Val. per annum, xx marks. Thomas Holes son and heir:

To this Thomas Holes, his grandfather, John Domville, grants the arms of Domville, by deed dated 16 Ric. II.^f

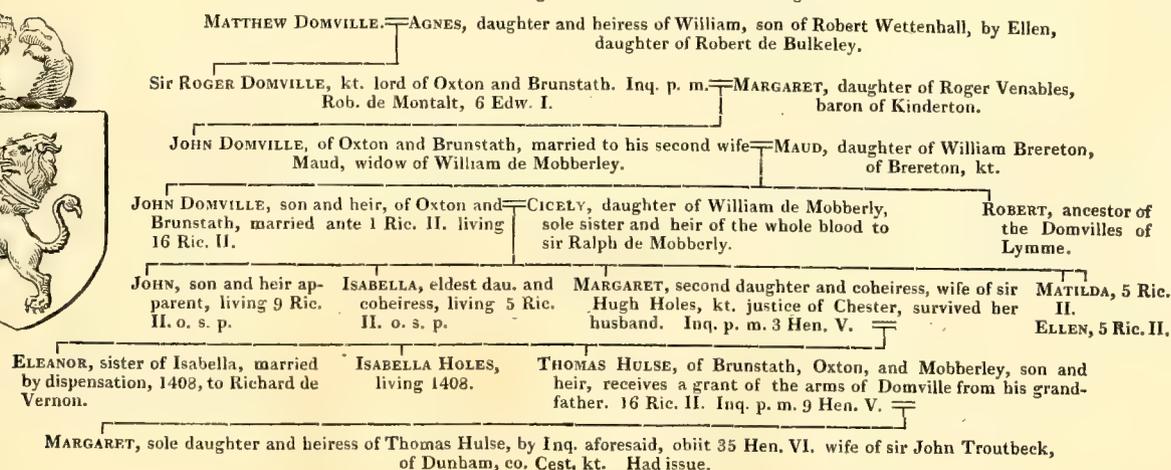
Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. V. Thomas, son of sir Hugh Holes, knight, held in demesne, as of fee, the fifth part of the manors of Little Neston and Hargrave; and also the manors of Brunstath, Oxton, and Mobblerley. Margaret sole daughter and heiress.

DOMVILLE, OF BRUNSTATH AND OXTON.

From the Inquisitions p. m. in the Exchequer of Chester.

ARMS. Azure, a lion rampant Argent, collared Gules.

CREST. On a wreath two lion's gambes erased and embowed Argent.



With this heiress the united estates of the Domvilles and Hulses, including those of many other Cheshire families, passed in marriage to sir John Troutbeck, of Dunham, slain at the battle of Blore-heath, 38 Hen. VI. The manors of Brunstath and Oxton, and the greater part of the other estates, are now vested in the earl of Shrewsbury, by descent from this sir John Troutbeck, through his ancestor John Talbot of Albrighton, esq. who married Margaret, daughter of Adam, and niece and heiress of sir William Troutbeck, in whom that knightly family terminated, as mentioned in Dunham.

The township of Brunstath is situated about the centre of the hundred, at a point equidistant from the Dee and the Mersey, and about two miles south-west of the eleventh mile-stone on the road from Chester to the Liverpool ferries. The entire township is separated from the rest of the parish and the parish church by the intervention of Nether Bebington. It is exclusively the property of the earl of Shrewsbury, and subject to the jurisdiction of his leet of Raby.

The appearance of the township is bleak and moorish. It is watered by a small rivulet, which flows through the collection of straggling huts which compose the village. At the extremity of the village is the hall, a stone build-

ing of no great antiquity, but attached to a lofty and antient tower, the only fragment of the former fabric, consisting of four stories connected by a flight of stairs winding round a central pillar, and surmounted by massy battlements and machicolations. The lowest story, which is said to have been the chapel, is vaulted with stone, and the intersections of the ribs are concealed under well carved key-stones. From the general appearance of the building, as well as from a licence which Hugh Hulse, and Margery his wife, obtained to build an oratory here, Feb. 11, 1398, it is most probable that this tower was built by the Hulses about the reign of Henry V. It evidently, in its original state, formed part of a fabric of great strength and consequence, and in its present ruinous condition is one of the most antient remains of domestic architecture which the county can produce.

The period of the demolition of this building is uncertain: It certainly was preserved in a habitable state to the latter end of the sixteenth century, when it appears from the letter subjoined^g, that it was tenanted by John Poole, of Poole, esq. who resided there as a kind of superior bailiff under the Talbots.

^d Abstracts of Fines in Williamson's Collections.

^e Vide the account of Raby.

^f Flower's MSS. Grosvenor MSS.

^g This letter is extracted from a most valuable collection of evidences of the Talbots, obligingly communicated by William Hamper, esq. containing many royal letters, specimens of old poetry, and other curious documents of too early a date to come within the compass of this work, being anterior to the connection of the Talbots with the county. To this collection, however, the History is indebted for some valuable original documents given in the account of Dunham, Raby, the serjeancy of the Bridge Gate, and elsewhere; and two curious papers are here added, as in some degree connected with Cheshire, although only generally so. The first is a letter from sir Ralph Egerton, as sheriff of Cheshire, to John Talbot, relative to a law-suit then pending respecting his Cheshire property, in which, with the most criminal obsequiousness, he promises him to summon a jury of his own appointing, provided that Talbot selects such as shall not be liable to be challenged as the kindred of the party; an instance of corruption of which it is to be trusted the county cannot produce many similar examples. The other is a confirmation of the charter of the Shropshire minstrels, which it appeared proper to insert from its analogy to the Dutton jurisdiction, as well as being in itself a romantic legend, which will remind the reader of the quest of the Sangreal by the knights of king Arthur. These letters were found in 1806, among a collection of deeds of the Rabies, Hulses, Mobblerleys, and Troutbecks, in an oak chest at Heythrop.

To the right worshipfull and his best good cosen and friend, Mr. John Talbot, esquier, to be delivered.

SIR,—I have reseed your letter, whereby I understand howe the fisherman hath served you: the party whom promised to have come hymself, hath falsified hymself, w^{ch} fawlt is not myne, but as sone as God recoverethe my strenghe y^t I may travell abroad, and that I stay myself at Brinstath, I shall be nere to see that you be provided as often as the sea serveth: in the meane time holde me blamelesse. I have sent you by this berer xx m[']ks, w^{ch} yf I had bin at home in the contrey soner, yt shold have byn sent you by yo^r baylife; and albeit the same be lese than you have repai['] of the same, yit is hit as much as hitherunto I am able to yeld you: notwithstanding when I shall reseve notice what may best plesse you I will yeld to the same willingly, and as you have tied me to honour you much, so shall you never find me ungratfull to you or yors. Yor tenants have refused to take the groundns at mich lesse price than they have given you, wherby I am reenforced to hold them myself. I have done my best in this short time to repare the howse, wh^{ch} was altogether ruyned. hold me blamelesse yf I have sent you lesse money than you expected. I ensure you, sir, I left the purse penylesse. I promysed my cosen John Talbot a m[']lyan, wherof I must entreat him to use payciance, untill my man's retorne from Irelande, wh^{ch} I dayly do expect. So resting always at your comawnd, I leave you to the keeping of thalmighty.

At Poole, the 23d day of July, 1592.

Your poore cosen fast and asured,

JOHN POOLE.

In the possession of the earl of Shrewsbury, 1807.

Sir Ralph Egerton to John Talbot, esq.

Having received your welcommed letters of the xxviiiith of the last february, by the bearer hereof, your servant Hauckkens, for your better intelligence whether there be any prorsus come to my handes at the sute of Mr. Bryan, Mr. Bunburye, and Hurleston, for the impannelling of a jurye for the tryall of right in com[']ns betwixt your tennante, you being lorde, and the foresayd gentlemen and their tennantes uppon their repleavyes, the trespasses to be done by them against you, or ells your tennantes against them, as yt seemethe unto mee, the trothe yt is their none suche prorsusses come yet unto my handes, neither yet my under sherryffes, yf any doe I most fyrst see them, and yf any blame may be layd yt is to mee, bothe for this cause and all other mens causes, for the makinge of retornes, the contentes of your letters is so reasonable to equitye, co[']scyence, and good consyderatione, that yf you weare a meane and inferryowr person I could not, in the dischargd of my dewtye as consyence, but grant your request, as alsoe to move you to forsee as devyse fore and twentye substancyall suffeycent p[']sons neither akyn or alyeid to any of you, I meane yow and the gentlemen, and send them by any of your servants unto mee, and they shall be returned when I shall receive the prorsus.

I thinke Hurleston will not muche trouble you, for that I am to extend uppon his p[']son to the Queenes use out of the Cowrte of Wardes a thousand markes afore Easter Terme, soe am I lyke to be troubled with a prysoner. Thus I com[']yt yow to the keepinge of Allmightye God wth all hartye com[']endac[']onns.—

Yors assurdyly to use,

Wrynehill, the iijth of March, 1579.

RA. EGERTON.

Post script.—Sythence wrytinge of this letter I received the names of certayne gentlemen by this bearer, wherof I will co[']syther, and yf I shall fynde them indyfferent, as to content you I will spare theime of y^e grand jurye, only for your expedytione. Yors agayne, RA. EGERTON.

(Direction).—To the right worshipfull and his very good friend, John Talbot, esquier, at his howse of Pepperhyll, or ells wheare yeve theise.

Written by a secretary, except the conclusion and signatures. In the possession of the earl of Shrewsbury, 1807.

The true copy of a confirmation by John, earle of Shroesburye, of the orders for the Mynstrells in Shroesburye, founded by Reger Belismo, earle of Shroesburye, in the reigne of William the Conqueror, and confirmed in the reigne of Henry the Sixt.

Bee hit knowne to all true Cristen men that this present writing seith or herith, That I, Roger Bedeleme, erle of Shroesbury, sone after the conquest of my sov[']ayn William Conqueror, was enfect with syknesse of lepur, and as I in my syknesse being, a vision appeared to me in myn chamber, and bade me goe into Araske, for there was a candyll the which was with our Lady Christys Moder in Bedeleme at the birthe of our Blessed Lord her Son, and that time the sayd candyll tende by hitselke through myracle, and when the night was goen, an angell tooke the candyll and bare hit into the heir (ayer in the margin) in Araske, and there it bernyth and never wastyth, and so shall till the day of Dome. And yif thou might gete a sight of that candyll and a drop of that waxe thou shouldest be hoole of thy syknesse. And when the day was comyn I told my counsaill of that vision, and with their advise I tooke with me xij men and myselfe was the xij and went into Araske, and there wee prayed xl dayes, and every third day we had a sight of that candyll, but hit was ferr from us. And then we imaginyd that hit was not the will of our Lord Jesu that I should be cured, by cause the candyll descended not to us, or els there was some visious man in our fellyshipp. Than every of us was confessed, and ij places was halowed for us to abyde xij daies, xij of us to pray in oen place, and the xij in the other place, till every man were tryed by hitselke, and this we should pray v oures afore the noen, and ij oures before the night. And in the xij day my mynstrell went into that place, and as he prayed the sayd candyll descended noo ferr from him but the lenght of a launce. And as he heve uppe his bondes a droppe of the waxe fell on his right bond, and he put hit into a bottell of sylver and brought hit unto me, and then hit was full of waxe, and therewith he touched my face, and than the waxe vanished away and my ondmest skinne fell from me, and I fresh of coullor and hoole of body, and never after enfecte till the p[']orte of tyme that I should change my life. And than sone uppon this thorough Godys grace we came to Shroesbury, and than I bad my mynstrell ask of me what he woulde that I might yeve and I would grant him, and he besought me that he might have a tapur of waxe in the remembrance of the sayd myracle to brenne before an image of our Lady there as I woulde ordeine. And that every mynstrell within the counte of Shropshire dwelling yerely should come to Shroesbury uppon Seynte Peterys day, that is called Lammase Day by ix of the bell to doe worship to our Lady Cristys moder, and there to chese them a master, a man of good governaunce, by th['] election of themselves, and that master to swere by the erle of Shroesbury, or his assignees, treuly to rewle his brothern after the law of armes and the foresayd light afore our Lady. And to the sayd light every mynstrell within the said sheir to pay iiijd. to the maistrys bond, other to his assignees; and yif any mynstrell of England or of Wales come into that shyre aforesayd, and get iiijd. with his instrument, to pay iiijd. to the said maister or his assignees, and if he woll not, they to take his instrument by the power of your gracious lord earle of Shroesbury, and bring hit before an image of our Lady, and there to abide xl dayes, and yif he woll not pay his duties, his instrument to be forfeite to the use of our Lady. I, Roger Bedeleme, erle of Shroesbury, graunt to my mynstrell and to his brothern, all this seid before, and the foresaid lyght to be bore thorough my towne of Shroesbury, and my baner before hit, and in too places to rest, that is to saye in my said towne in the church of saynt Alkunde, and in my abbey of Shroesbury, in the remembrance of the sayd myracle. And I truly to sustaine and mayntaine and all my heires for evermore. To this seid foundation we, John, erle of Shroesbury and of Weyford, lord Talbot and Furnyvale, have sett to our seale. Written at Shroesbury on saynt Mathewes day thapostyll, the yare of the reigne of king Harry the 6t after the Conquest xxij.

From the copy by sir Simon Archer, A. D. 1638.



Bebington.

THE boundaries of this parish are formed by the estuary of the Mersey, and the parishes of Bromborough, Eastham, Woodchurch, Bidston, and Birkenhead. It is composed of five townships, Nether Bebington, Poulton Lancelyn, Higher Bebington, Tranmere, and Storeton, of which Poulton alone is noticed in Domesday.

NETHER BEBINGTON.

THE earliest existing document relative to the manor of Bebington, under that name, is the charter of Hugh de Boidele, given in the following account of Poulton Lancelyn, which confirms possession of Bebington and Poulton to Robert de Lancelyn, temp. Ric. I. This charter recognizes the ancestors of Robert to have previously held both these manors from the manor of Diddleston, the fee of the Boideles. It is clear that the paramount lordship of one, Poulton, was vested in Osberne Fitz Tezzon, the ancestor of the Boideles, in 1086, by the evidence of the Domesday survey; and that the mesne manor of the other, Bebington, was possessed in 1093 by Seward, the ancestor of the Lancelyns, by his grant in that year of the church of Bebington to the abbey of St. Werburgh: it is also clear that the Boydells and Lancelyns, descendants of this Osberne and Seward, were severally paramount and mesne lords of the united manors of both Bebington and Poulton in the time of Richard the First. From these circumstances there can be little difficulty, notwithstanding the omission of Domesday, in supposing that Osberne Fitz Tezzon was the Norman grantee of Bebington at the Conquest, as he certainly was of Poulton, and that the superior rights of both manors passed by inheritance from Osberne to his great grandson, Hugh de Boidele, under whom they were held by Robert Lancelyn in the time of Richard I.

Conjecture may perhaps proceed safely further, and assert the identity of the two manors at the Domesday survey, by inferring that the "presbyter" of Poulton, where no mother church is known to have ever existed, was the priest of that church of Bebington, which, though unnoticed in the survey, was given so shortly after it to the abbey of St. Werburgh.

The further descent of the manor has been incorporated with that of the following township, "Poulton Lancelyn," which has uniformly passed by the same title. A court-leet and court-baron is held for both manors by the present proprietor, Joseph Greene, esq.

The township of Nether Bebington lies at the distance of thirteen miles north of Chester, on the road to the Liverpool ferries; the port and shipping of which, joined to the view of the estuary, the Lancashire shore,

and the Edisbury hills, give a character to the prospect which amply atones for the insipidity of the foreground. The village is about a quarter of a mile distant from the church, and contains no object worthy of notice, with the exception of the rectory-house, built near the centre of the village, but screened by plantations.

CHURCH,

Dedicated to St. Andrew.

Tax. Eccl. P. N. 8l. 13s. 4d. Val. Ecc. 30l. 13s. 4d.

There is a tradition that the church of Bebington was antiently called the *White Church*, a name which^a Dr. Whitaker, on the authority of Bede, states to have been usually applied by the Saxon inhabitants to the stone churches which were substituted for the antient buildings of wood, and thus presented a novel appearance to the eye. Under these circumstances it at first appears singular that Bebington should be omitted in Domesday, but this difficulty is done away with, by the apparent probability that the vill of that name was then identified with Poulton, whose possessors have always been lords of both townships, and where the accurate record beforementioned places a priest.

In or before 1093, it appears from the confirmation charter of St. Werburgh of that date, that "Seward dedit capellam de Bebinton, et terram quatuor boum, et decimam illius manerii," among other donations to that monastery.

The following confirmation of Seward's grant, by his descendant William Lancelyn, reciting three previous confirmations, was enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday. An abstract of the same, preserved in the chartulary of St. Werburgh, will be found under Poulton Lancelyn.

^b "Ego Willielmus filius Roberti Lancelyn, dedi Deo et ecclesie Sanctae Werburgae, Cestriae, advocacionem ecclesiae de Bebinton; ac Ricardus Lancelyn proavus meus dedit eisdem cum corpore suo, &c.; et Robertus filius dicti Ricardi avus meus, et Robertus pater meus, dictas donationes, confirmaverunt: quorum cartas ego

^a Whitaker's Whalley, p. 36.

^b Cheshire Domesday, Grosvenor MSS. xx1. 5. p. 102.

Willielmus de Lancelyn recognosco me vidisse et confirmavisse."

After the dissolution the advowson of the church fell into the possession of sir Richard Cotton, owing to the omissions in the first charter of the dean and chapter of Chester; of whose original endowment it formed a part. After passing through the hands of several subsequent proprietors, ° it became the property of the Stanleys of Hooton about the middle of the seventeenth century, from whom it passed to a branch of the Pooles of Poole. The Rev. Hugh Poole, son of Hugh Poole, rector of Bebington, 1708-16, dying without issue, his sister and heiress brought the advowson in marriage to her husband, — Jacson, esq. a younger son of the Jacsons of Hallwood, in the county of York, in whose grandson, the rev. Roger Jacson, M. A. rector of Bebington, the same is now vested.

The church of Bebington consisted originally of a nave, south-aisle, and chancel. The two former of these are still remaining, and are divided by a range of Saxon arches, resting on massy cylindrical columns. At the extremity of the south aisle is a handsome tower surmounted by a lofty spire, of less antiquity than the part of the fabric to which it is attached.

The rest of the building has been replaced by another chancel with side aisles, of large dimensions and extreme loftiness, finished in the style of the splendid architecture of the reign of Henry VII. It appears to have been the intention of the builder to have erected a central tower, from the formation of the four western piers of the chancel; and by an arrangement in the roof of the side aisles, he has contrived to give to this part, internally, the effect of transepts. The design was interrupted before the vaulting was finished, but the parts erected have every appearance of having formed part of a regular plan, which, if it had proceeded to completion, would have presented one of the finest specimens of ecclesiastical architecture in Cheshire.

The altar has been originally placed between two large niches, under canopies ornamented with shrine-work, and terminating in finials. That on the north side only is remaining.

At the east end of the north aisle is a mural monument, inscribed,

Near this
are interred in hopes
of a blessed resurrection
thro' Jesus Christ our Lord,
the bodys of the Greens
of Poolton Lancelyn, esqres.
viz. Edward 1631, Randle 1639,
Henry 1653, Richard, Jan. 1677,
His wife, daughter to
Sir Thos. Bunbury, bart. May 1678,
Edward 1694, John 1711,
His wife Priscilla, Dec. 15, 1742.
The rev. Thomas Green, Jan. 17,
1746.

Thomas Green, A. M. R^t of Woodchurch, erected this 1742.

Arms, Azure, three stags trippant Or. Crest, on a wreath a demi stag saliant Or.

On the south side of the altar is a pyramidal mural monument of black and white marble, inscribed,

In memory
of Edward Green, esq.
only son of John Green, esq.
by Priscilla his wife,
dyed without issue,
May 19, 1756.
aged 50.

Arms, Azure, three stags trippant Or. This gentleman was the last heir male of the Greens of Poulton.

Opposite to this is a very elegant monument of black marble, with the following inscription on a drapery of white marble.

Priscilla, eldest daughter and heiress of Edw. Green, esq. widow of John Parnell, esq. of Chester, died December 18, 1792, aged 86.

Ursula Green, Spinster, died Dec. 1791, aged 84.

Edward Parnell, esq. son of John and Priscilla, died unmarried Aug. 1776, aged 39.

Elizabeth Green, spinster, died May, 1751, aged 41.

Within these rails their remains are deposited
with those of numerous ancestors
resident at Poulton Lancelyn in this parish
for more than seven centuries,
and lords also of this manor.
The righteous shall be had
in everlasting remembrance.

On a small brass in the chancel, the following inscription commemorating two rectors,

RADULPHUS Poole, Hugoni patri, tam suggesto
quam sepulchro eodem, successor, collectus fuit ad
patres, Aprilis v^o 1662.

Near this, on a marble tablet attached to one of the pillars of the church, is a tribute to the memory of the eldest son of the present incumbent, John Jacson, who died Mar. 11, 1799, æt. 20, after a painful illness of seven years continuance.

In the north aisle is a marble monument to the memory of several of the Worrals of Tranmere.

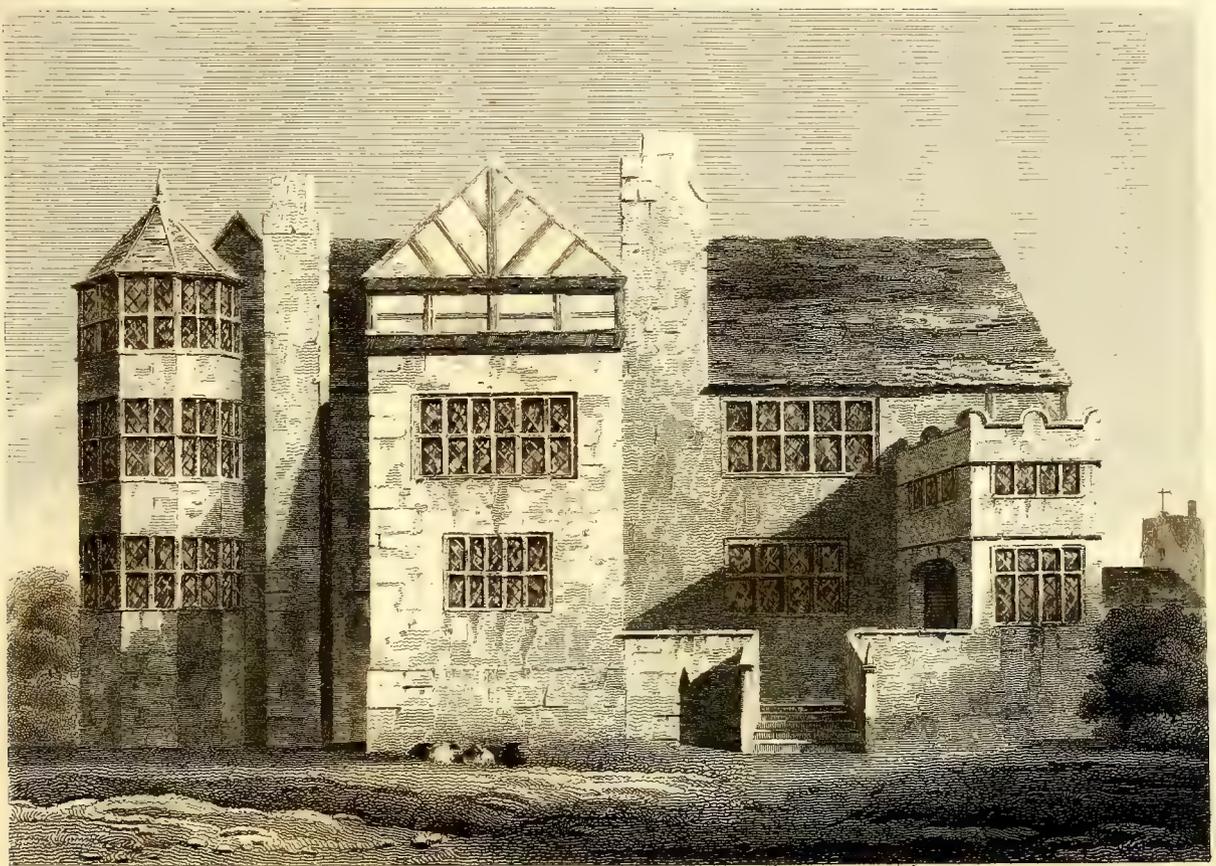
Amongst the painted glass existing in this church in 1629, were arms of Lancelyn, Stanley quartering Hooton, and Chauntrell; under the latter, "Orate pro bono statu Ricardi Chauntrell, et Margaretæ uxoris ejus, qui hanc fenestram fieri fecerunt, A. D. 1523."

In the third window, on the north side, this coat, quarterly, 1 and 4, Azure, three stars Argent, in the centre point a crescent of the second, Minshull of Minshull; 3 and 4, Sable, three bucks' heads cabossed Argent, for Bebington; underneath,

"ORATE pro bono statu Edw'i Mynshull et Eliz.
uxoris ejus."

CHARITIES.

In the list of benefactions suspended in the church, is an allotment of twenty acres of land given by the inhabitants for the endowment of a school. The master is appointed by trustees, in whose number the rector and the manerial lord of Poulton Lancelyn are always included. A room attached to the east end of the



Geo Ormerod F.S.A. delin^t

London Pub Aug 10 1816 by Lockington & Co

C Heath sculp^t

POOLE HALL.



Geo Ormerod F.S.A. delin^t

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C Heath sculp^t

BEBINGTON CHURCH.



church, and which is a considerable injury to the elegant appearance of the fabric, is used as the school. The lands now let at 30l. per annum.

Another benefaction is appropriated to hiring out cows to the poor parishioners, for which they pay five shillings per annum. The number is now ten.^d

RECTORS OF BEBINGTON.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1316, Junii 9.	Robertus de Notingham.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ, Cest.	
1331, 5 id. Feb.	Walterus de Norton, Prb'r.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ, Cest.	P. m. Roberti de Notingham.
1338, 2 non. Sep.	Thomas de Capenhurst, Prb'r.	Johannes de Ardena Miles, hac vice.	P. m. Walteri de Norton.
1345.	Johannes de Hale.	Edwardus, fil. p'mog. Comes de Cestria.	
1348.	Johannes Maunte, Cler's.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	Causâ permutationis.
1349.	Petrus Garnan.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	Permut. cum Joh'e Maunte.
1356.	Johannes de Wetefield.	Abbas de Valle Regali, hac vice.	
1393 ante.	Rogerus Faryngtone.		
1400, 2 Maii.	Willielmus de Wermincham.	Abbas S'ce Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Rogeri Farrington.
	Robertus Booth.		
1464, Junii 8.	Johannes Carlele, Prb'r.	D'nus Thomas Stanley, miles, D'nus Stanley, Eleanora uxor ejus, et Ricardus Carlele hac vice.	P. m. Roberti Booth.
1507, Oct. 7.	Nicholas Chauntrell.		Death of John Carlele.
1511, March 14.	John Brereton. Richard Gwent.		Death of Nic. Chauntrell.
1543, Aug. 15.	John Harrison. Thomas Runcorn.	Richard Hyde.	Death of Richard Gwent.
1556, Oct. 10.	Roger Sefton. John Nutter, B. D.	John Grice.	Death of Thomas Runcorn.
1602, June 4.	Hugh Poole.	John Egerton.	Death of John Nutter.
1647.	Ralph Poole.		Death of Hugh Poole.
1662.	Richard Stones.	Daniel Bavand, gent.	Death of Ralph Poole.
1687.	Hugh Poole.		Death of Richard Stones.
1708.	John Hall.		Death of Hugh Poole.
1716, July 7.	Hugh Poole.	John Slater.	Death of John Hall.
1739, May 12.	James Adams, A.M.	Roger Jacson, esq.	Death of Hugh Poole.
1753, Aug. 20.	Simon Jacson, A.B.	The said Simon Jacson, A.B.	Res. of James Adams.
1777, Nov. 15.	Roger Jacson, A.B.	Simon Jacson, clerk.	Res. of said Simon Jacson.

Roger Faryngtone occurs as rector of Bebyngtone, Aug. 8, 1393, Harl. MSS. 2179. p. 17. in an appeal to the bishop of Lichfield, on his being involved in a suit with the abbot and monks of St. Werburgh, relative to the withdrawing of an annual pension of two marks said to be due to the monastery.

John Brereton was most probably the third son of sir Randle Brereton of Shocklach, who afterwards held St. Mary's in Chester, Astbury, and both moieties of Malpas, and died in 1542.

Thomas Runcorn will be found noticed in the list of Pre-

bendaries of Chester Cathedral, and *John Nutter*, B. D. in that of the Deans.

A memorial of *Hugh Poole*, and *Ralph* his son, will be found in the opposite page. The other rectors of the same name were of this family, and hereditary patrons.

Simon Jacson, A. M. held with Bebington, the rectory of Tarporley; his son, the present incumbent, has long filled with honour to himself, and benefit to the county, the situation of Chairman of the Winter and Spring Sessions of the county of Chester.

^d Account of the Charity for the supply of Parish Cows.

"In a book, which plainly refers to a former account not now to be found, a regular account is kept of the charity, from 1692 to the present time, but nothing is said of its origin, or the fund from which it arose. In the benefactions on the board in the church there appears one of fifty shillings to buy a parish cow, which by its place there seems ancient, but there is no date. In 1692, there were 29 cows; in 1712, 26; in 1732, 26; in 1752, 22; in 1772, 16; in 1792, 13; in 1815, 9 cows only; but the number has often been as high as 32. The hire paid for each cow in 1692, and thence to 1755, was 2s. 8d.; from 1755 to 1797, 3s.; from that date 5s. The rules are, that the cows shall be lent to such persons as the rector and churchwardens approve, each such person finding a surety, in some substantial parishioner, for the good usage and forthcoming of the cow, on the demand of the rector and churchwardens, and paying yearly the sum fixed as the hire, and bringing his cow for inspection to the rectory, now on the 25th April in each year. It appears that the price of a cow in 1692 was something less than 3l. in 1815 it is 9l. and upwards. Every encouragement is given to persons willing to advance any portion of the cost of a cow when necessary to buy one; nor are such persons wanting who will give the price of the calf when fat, viz. 3l. or 4l. It should seem that the cows were formerly lent to such persons as held small farms; but such farms having become less in number, the cows are now mostly found with poor labourers and widows; and perhaps a reason may be found in this alteration for the diminution in the number of cows. It might be of advantage to raise the hire still further, say to 7s. 6d.; but nothing is, I fear, practicable, that would replace the original number."—Communicated by the rev. Roger Jacson, M. A.

Nov. 24, 1815.

POULTON LANCELYN.

THE township of Poulton cum Spittell, or Poulton Lancelyn, is situated at the south-east extremity of the parish of Bebington, at the distance of about twelve miles from Chester, on the bank of a deep and richly wooded dingle, presenting a scene of sequestered beauty, totally different from any thing in this part of the county. The highest extremity of the valley winds round the upper part of the township in a bold semi-circle, and forms a junction near the hall with another vale which extends through Plimyard to the Suttons. The united streams of the two dales, which form the boundary of this township and Bromborough, meet the tide at about half a mile's distance from Poulton Hall, and at Bromborough bridge fall into a deep creek, navigable to the Mersey: at this point another dingle forks out in a western direction, and forms a boundary between this township and Nether Bebington.

Poulton Hall and the grounds adjacent are situated above the most romantic part of the valley, sheltered with respectable timber, and commanding a delightful prospect of the Clwydian mountains. The former hall stood at short distance from the present one, on a high knoll, overhanging the dale below, and within the area of the antient castle of the Lancelyns, the site of which is still indicated by slight traces of earthworks, and was remarkably strong, defended by the dale in front, and on the two sides by deep ravines issuing from it. At the early period of its erection its strength and difficulty of access was materially increased by a large pool or mere, then formed by the tide below, which seems to have given name to the township, and to the contiguous tracts of meadow ground called the Marfords. The effects of the waves are still visible in the worn face of the rocks, at the upper end of the valley.

Osbern Fitz Tezzon, ancestor of the Boydells, was grantee of Poulton at the Conquest: "Isdem Osbernus tenet Pontone, et Rogerus de eo; Gamel tenuit et liber homo fuit, ibi ii hidæ geldabiles. Terra est quatuor carucarum. In dominio est una et ii servi, et unus radman, et unus villanus, et presbyter, et iv bordarii, cum una carcua inter omnes. Tempore regis Edwardi, valebat xxxv solidos, et modo wasta fuit; modo valet xxv solidos."

This description, from the mention of the priest, seems to include Bebington, as previously mentioned.

Under this family Poulton was held by the Lancelyns, from whom the township received its name, and to whom possession was confirmed in the following charter, temp. Ric. I. by Hugh de Boidele, great grandson of Osbern before mentioned, for the sum of twenty marks, and the service of sending four men every third year to repair the earthworks of Doddleston castle.^a This charter was in the possession of Ralph Lowndes of Ashley, in 1650, together with another original charter from the same to the same, commuting the service to the render of two silver pence yearly, and reducing the attendance

at Doddleston, to that of two men for three days every third year.

Hugo de Boidele, &c. per cartam dedi Rob'to Lancelyn, pro homagio et servicio suo, totam terram quam Ricardus pater prefati Roberti tenuit de antecessoribus meis, viz. Pulton et Bebington, Apilton et Hull, cum omnibus pertinentiis, habendum et tenendum de me et heredibus meis in feudo et hereditate, ut jus suum hereditarium libere plene et pacifice in bosco, in plano, in pratis, in pasturis, in aquis, in viis, in semitis, et moleninis, in piscariis et in calarum donationibus, &c. faciendo mihi et heredibus meis servitium duorum militum, viz. cum duobus armatis apud Doddleston in werra quadraginta diebus, scilicet servicium unius hominis pro Pulton et Bebington, et servitium alterius hominis pro Apilton et Hull. Transactis aut perfectis quadraginta diebus quiete remanebunt illo anno, pro omni servitio et consuetudine universa, ad terram pro pertinente, salvo servicio quatuor hominum quolibet tertio anno ad sex dies ad meum heimeneum faciendum apud Doddleston. Pro hac donatione idem Robertus Lancelyn mihi dedit viginti marcas, et ego Hugo de Boydele et heredes mei warrantizabunt, &c. His testibus, Radulpho de Mainwaring, Radulpho de Montealto, Will'mo Patric, Thoma filio Willielmi, Roberto de Pulford, Herberto fratre ejus, et multis aliis.

At what period the Lancelyns began to hold Poulton, under the family who thus confirmed possession to them, does not appear; but it is certain that Bebington, the confirmation of which was included in this same charter, and which, as already mentioned, appears originally to have been part of Poulton, was possessed by their ancestors before 1093, in which year Hugh Lupus and Ermentrude, his countess, confirm the following donation of Seward de Lancelyn.

"Seward dedit Capellam de Bebington, et terram quatuor boum, et decimam illius manerii, et decimam de Bromhale, et de Walei, et de Maynes, et de Westona, et de Willne, et post obitum suum omnis substantiæ suæ et suæ mulieris tertiam partem de Cestresira et de Maynes. Teste Willielmo constabulario, Hugone Osberni filio (the superior lord), et Wimundo de Col."^b

In deducing the descent of the Lancelyns from this period, it will save much repetition to combine the evidences relating to both manors, Poulton and Nether Bebington.

^c The following abstract (preserved in the Chartulary of St. Werburgh), of a grant of Bebington church, to that abbey, gives the generations of the Lancelyns, which succeeded to Seward the original donor, but most probably not immediately.

"W's Lancelyn, in pleno co. Cest. cora. Reig. de Grey, just. C. recognovit adv. eccl'ie de Bebington esse jus monachorum Cest. ex donat'o'e ejusd. progenitor. sui noi'e Siw'rdi qui primus illam eis contulit, prout carta Hugo'is quondam co'is Cest. testatur: et ex con-

^a Harl. MSS. 2022. a copy is given by sir Peter Leycester, p. 205, which differs in several points, and is very incorrect in the names of witnesses.

^b Foundation Charter. Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965.

^c Harl. MSS. 2071. p. 100. Vernon's Collections. The deed itself is given at length in a copy of the Cheshire Domesday, Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5. p. 102. and printed p. 243.

cessione et donat'o'e Ric'i Lancelyn p'avi sui et ex confirm. Rob'ti filii d'ci Ric'i avi p'd'cti W'i et Rob'ti p'ris sui qui dictas donac'o'es per cartas suas confirmaverunt."

^d From the transcripts of deeds, preserved among the Harl. MSS. it appears that two collateral lines had branched off in this space. Galfrid, son of Richard de Lancelyn, assumed the name of Aston, and had a confirmation charter from Hugh Dutton of three oxgangs of land in Aston, which the said Hugh had given his father Richard Lancelyn. Hugh, son of this Galfrid, exchanged the lands with Richard lord of Aston.

^e Henry de Pulton Lancelyn, a younger brother of the second Robert, had lands in Pulton, which his four daughters and coheirs, Emma, Cecilia, Margaret, and Sywerida, quitclaimed and released to their uncle, Robert de Lancelyn.

To return to the parent stem. Robert de Lancelyn will be further noticed in Little Meoles; and his son, *William de Lancelyn*, to whom the descent was last brought down, appears in the Chartulary of St. Werburgh (30. b.) in a final concord with the abbot in the time of Reginald de Grey, just. Cest. and married in the reign of Henry the Third, Agnes, one of the daughters and coheirs of Richard de Kingsley, with whom he had a share of Kingsley fee, as appears by Richard Done's claim in eyre, in plea to a quo warranto 31 Edw. I, an enrollment in the Cheshire Domesday, and other evidences. These estates (as mentioned in "Edisbury Hundred,") were shortly afterwards granted out to the Le Roters and Gerards. By this wife he had

William de Lancelyn, son and heir, who 'appears in the Chartulary of St. Werburgh (p. 23. b. and 30. b.) in several grants relative to Pulton, Brombure, and Bebington, as William, son of William Lancelyn; and by ^gdeed s. d. granted three bovates of land in Poulton Lancelyn to the abbot of St. Werburgh, for the purpose of making a grange; and by Inq. p. m. 11 Edw. I. died seized of two knight's fees in Pulton Lancelyn and Bebington, held from John Boydell, as of his manor of Doddleston. He had a younger brother, sir Thomas de Lancelyn, a knight of Rhodes.^h

Ranulph de Lancelyn, son and heir of William, confirmed his father's donation, by deed s. d. and dying issueless, was succeeded by Henry Launcelyn, his brother, who, by Joanna, daughter of Hugh de Raby, had issue William son and heir.

William de Lancelyn, a^o 9 Edw. II.ⁱ settled the manors of Poulton, Nether Bebington, and Little Meoles, on his son Henry, by Katherine his wife, remainder to the right heirs of William. This William was however succeeded by another son Richard de Lancelyn.

In these two last generations, there is a discrepancy between the Lancelyn pedigree, and the claim of Richard Done (a contemporary and kinsman) pleaded to a quo warranto 31 Edw. I. arising possibly from a clerical error in the latter, which substitutes Richard and Henry, for Henry and William Lancelyn. From the general correctness of this pedigree, drawn up by Randle Holme, but very superior to his usual productions, and the corroboration which it receives from the last mentioned settlement, proving William to be in possession 9 Edw. II. it appears the better authority. Both

descents however join again in Richard Lancelyn, who, by Felicia, daughter of William de Doncaster, had issue

William de Lancelyn, recognized as "filius Ricardi Launcelyn 'tenens maner' de Pulton Launcelyn per s'vic. mil. in the Inq. after the death of his superior lord, William Boydell, 23 Edw. III.

Inq. p. m. 6 Ric. II. William Launcelyn held in demesne, as of fee, the manors of Pulton Lancelyn, Nether Bebington, and le Spittel, from the heirs of John Boydell, chv'r, from the king, as earl of Chester, and from the princess, as of her assignment of dower, and also lands in Little Meoles, from the baron of Kinder-ton. Val. tot. vl. John Lancelyn son and heir.

John Lancelyn, living 2 Hen. VI. (as by Inq. after the death of Margaret, widow of Christopher Hough), by Maud, daughter of William Stanley, of Storeton, his wife, had issue

Roger Lancelyn, son and heir, who appears 1 Edw. IV. in an arbitration respecting the water-course of Pulton Dale, between the mills of Bebington and Brombro' referred by Richard, abbot of St. Werburgh, and himself, to Ralph Bold and John Massey.^l

John Lancelyn, lord of Pulton Lancelyn, was son of the preceding, and father of

William Lancelyn, as appears by a plea to a quo warranto, in which this William claimed before Thomas Kebelle, and John Mordant, justices in Eyre at Chester, a^o 17 Hen. VII. to hold the manors of Pulton Lancelyn, and Nether Bebington, by charter of Randle Meschines, third earl of Chester, exempt from all attendance of the lord or the tenants of these manors, at the shire and hundred courts, with the exemption also from answering for any offences committed out of the limits of these manors to any one but the earl of Chester, or the capital justiciary annexed to his sword and dignity. This William died per Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VIII. seized of the manors of Pulton Lancelyn, and Nether Bebynton, held from Robert Reddysh as of his manor of Doddleston, in socage, by the render of 1d. per annum. Val. per ann. xil. xviii. viiid.; also of lands in Little Meoles, val. tot. xvl. xvii. viiid. William Lancelyn next of kin and heir, being son of Roger, son of this William, and aged 16 years.

William Lancelyn, last mentioned, in whom the male line of this antient family terminated, was living 38 Hen. VIII. as appears by an Inquisition after the death of Ralph Leftwich. His only daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, married Randle Greene (a descendant of the knightly family of Greene of Greene's Norton, in the county of Northampton), with whom she conjointly levied a fine, a^o 11 Eliz. on her manors of Poulton Lancelyn, Nether Bebynton, ^mSpittel, and Little Meoles.

After the decease of Edward Greene, esq. the last heir male of this Randle, in 1756, the manors of Poulton and Nether Bebington passed to his sister Priscilla, wife of John Parnell, esq. and by her bequest they devolved to the present proprietor, Joseph Greene, esq. whose relationship, through a female line, to the ancestors of Mrs. Parnell, is exhibited in the pedigree annexed.

A court leet and court baron are held annually for this manor, and the manor of Nether Bebington. The lands of the township are exclusively the property of Joseph Greene, esq. with the exception of one small tene-

^d Harl. MSS. 2022.

^e Ibid.

^f Harl. MSS. 1965.

^g Harl. MSS. 2022.

^h As stated in a magnificent pedigree obligingly communicated by Joseph Green, esq.

ⁱ Williamson's Evidences, p. 87.

^l Harl. MSS. 2022.

^m Williamson's Evidences, p. 87.

ment belonging to Robert Vyner, esq. of Gautby, in the county of Lincoln.

In the hamlet of Spittell, annexed to this township, was antiently a chapel, from which it derives its name, dedicated to St. Thomas the Martyr (viz. Thomas a Becket), and certainly founded within thirteen years after his death in 1170, "as Richard, his successor in the archbishopric, who died in 1183, confirmed thereunto all its possessions, particularly a carucate of land, and half a fishery, and part of a wood, which Randle Walensis and Bernard his brother had given to it, "salvo jure matris ecclesie de Bebinton." From a subsequent charter (between 1208 and 1226), it appears that divine service was performed here by the almoner of the abbey of St. Werburgh, and mass said for the souls of the bishops of Coventry, the earls, abbots, and monks of Chester; and that the said almoner received in consequence thereof the revenues of the church of Ince, with

the exception of a pension of 20s. paid to the monastery of St. Werburgh. This endowment is stated in the following extract from the Chartulary of St. Werburgh, which is preceded by the licence of William, bishop of Coventry, to appropriate in usus pauperum et indigentium, and the ratification of the chapter of Coventry. Of the chapel or its site there are now neither remains nor local tradition.

Carta Hugon. abb'is et co'vent. de Eccl'ia de Ynes, et Cantar. in Capella B'i Thom' in Wyrall.

Hugo abbas Cest. et conventus deder't ecc'am de Ynes cu' o'ibus p'tin' elemosinar' abbat' sue et ad s'te'tac'oem paup'ru' et i'degenciu', salva pensione xxs. q' d'e'i mo'chi ad suu' usu' de ead' ecc'a p'cip'e consuev'nt, ita q' elemosinar' i' p'p'a p'a i' cap'la b'i Tho'e divinia celebret i' p'petuu' p' ep'is Coventr', comitib' Cestr', abb'ibus et mo'chis Cestr', et o'ibus fidelibus.

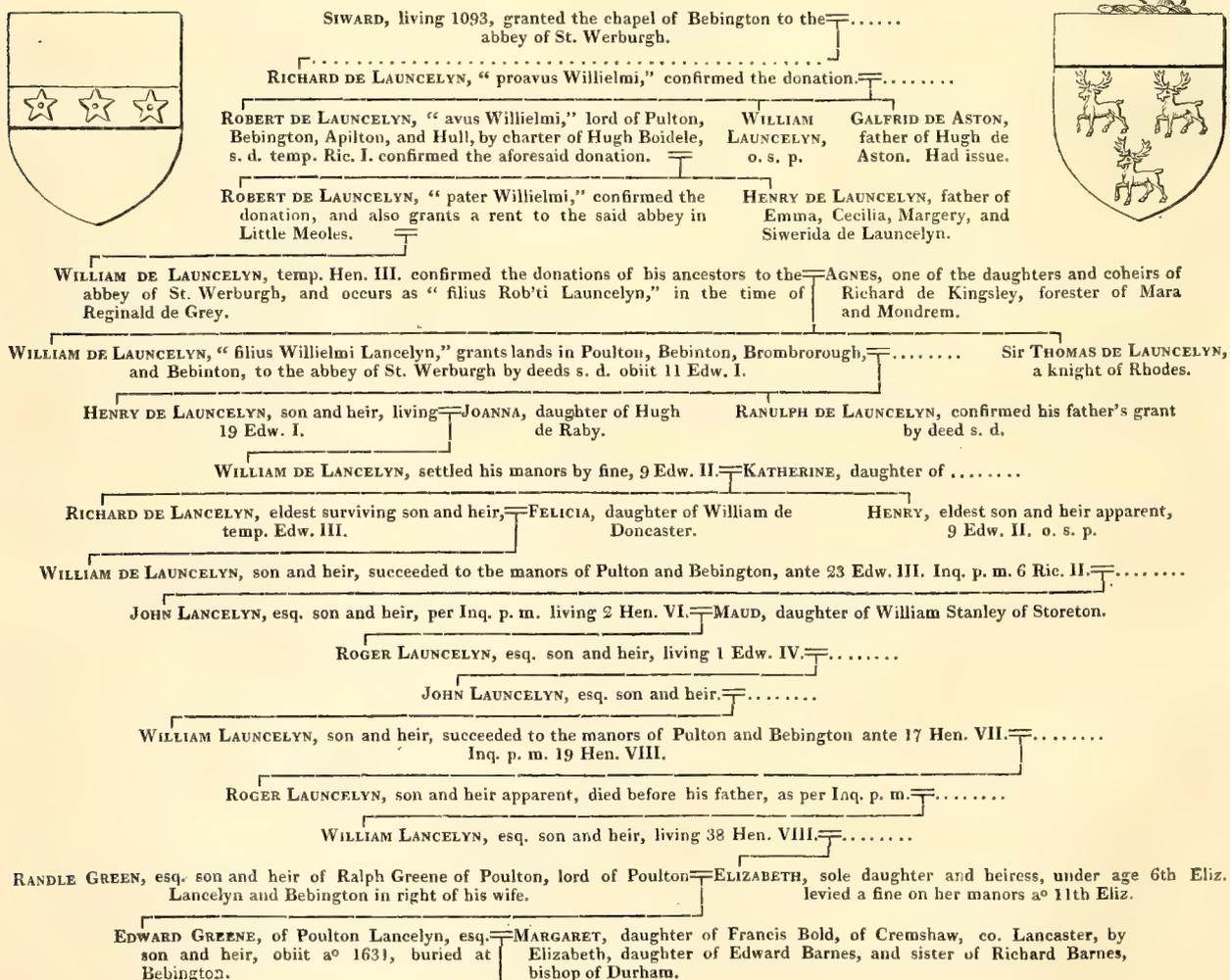
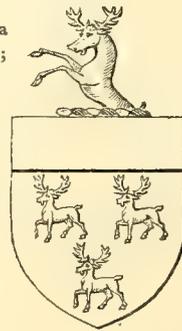
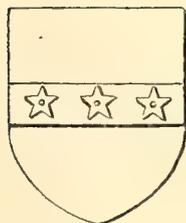
LANCELYN OF POULTON, AND GREENE OF POULTON LANCELYN.

Compiled from Harl. MSS. 2022, the Inquisitions post mortem, the Visitation of 1663, and the MS. documents in the possession of the family in the latter descents.

Arms of Lancelyn of Poulton.—Argent, on a fesse Sable three mullets Argent, pierced of the second.

Arms of Greene of Poulton.—Azure, three stags Or, a chief of the second. Crest.—A demi-stag saliant Or. The chief added as a distinction from Greene of Greene's Norton.

Note.—The arms of the present family of Greene of Poulton are Azure, three stags trippant Erminoise, on a chief Or, three crescents Sable. Crest, on a wreath a demi-stag saliant party per pale Or and Azure; Granted to Joseph Greene, esq. on his assumption of the name.



a

ELLEN, wife of Wm. Bennet, of Carnesdale, co. Cest. Had issue.	ELIZABETH, wife of John Spencer, citizen of London. Had issue.	HENRY GREENE, of Poulton Lancelyn, esq. obiit anno 1653, buried at Bebington.	ANNE, dau. and coheir of Ric. Bold, of Bold, co. Lancaster, eldest son of Thomas, a younger brother of . . . Bold, of Bold Hall.	RICHARD. ROWLAND. EDWARD. JOHN, and JANE. o. s. p.	RANDLE GREENE, of Poulton Seacombe, sixth son, buried at Bebington. 1639.	HANNAH, dau. of John Hardware, of Peele in Great Mouldsworth.
HENRY GREENE, 2d son, living 1654.	MARGARET, wife of Hen. Hockenull, of Prenton. Had issue.	RICHARD GREENE, of Poulton Lancelyn, esq. living 1654, et. 31, obiit Jan. 1677, bur. at Bebington.	ELIZABETH, dau. of Radclyffe Asheton, of Cuedale, co. Lanc. 2d wife.	URSULA, dau. of sir Thos. Bunbury, of Stanney, bart. mar. at Stoke, Aug. 10, 1669, ob. May 1678, bur. at Bebington.	4. JOHN, living 1654. 5. PETER, and 6. THOMAS, o. s. p.	RANDLE GREENE, son and heir, living at Willaston in Wirral, 1654, and at sir Wm. Dugdale's Visitation in 1663, marr. . . . dau. of
HENRY GREENE, o. s. p. EDWARD GREENE, o. s. p. SARAH, obiit infans, bur. at Stoke.	THOMAS GREENE, M. A. rector of Woodchurch, 4th son, obiit Jan. 17, 1746, bur. at Bebington.	JOHN GREENE, of Poulton Lancelyn, esq. eldest surviving son and heir, obiit 1711, bur. at Bebington.	PRISCILLA, daughter of Richard Bird, of Chester, ob. Dec. 15, 1742, bur. at Bebington.	RICHARD GREENE, of Neston in Wirral, and afterwards of Chester, marr. . . . dau. of . . . by whom he had 13 children, of whom 12 died s. p.		
PRISCILLA, born Nov. 1706, wife of John Parnell, esq. attorney at law, of the city of Chester, by whom she had Edward, who died s. p. Aug. 1776, aged 39. Obiit Dec. 18, 1792.	URSULA, born Jan. 6, 1708, died unmarr. Dec. 1791, buried at Bebington.	EDWARD GREENE, of Poulton Lancelyn, esq. only son and heir, born Aug. 11, 1705, o. s. p. May 19, 1756, aged 50, buried at Bebington.	CATHERINE, only surviving daughter and heiress, aged 70, Sept. 8, 1777, wife of Randle Kent, of Knutsford.			
RICHARD KENT, of Liverpool in the county of Lancaster, esq. obiit March, 1790, aged 58 years, buried at St. Thomas's, Liverpool.	ELIZABETH, daughter of . . . Robinson, of Winsford, co. Cest. obiit 1797, aged 60 years, buried at St. Thomas's, Liverpool.	THOMAS KENT, 2d son.				
WILLIAM, obiit a ^o et. 19, s. p.	JANE, died an infant, buried at St. Thomas's.	PETER, died an infant, bur. at St. Thomas's.	JOSEPH KENT, of Poulton Lancelyn and Nether Bebington, esq. born 1773, only surviving son and heir, assumed the name and arms of GREENE pursuant to the will of Mrs. Parnell, by royal sign manual, Feb. 26, 1793.			
RICHARD, aged 14 years, 1777, o. s. p. buried at St. Thomas's, Liverpool, 1785.	ELIZABETH, living 1814, widow of lord Henry Murray, sixth son of John, third duke of Atholl. Had issue.	KITTY, living 1814, widow of John Backhouse, of Liverpool, esq. Had issue.				

STORETON.

THE villages of Great and Little Storeton are both comprehended within this township, which is situated immediately south-west of Little Bebington. Both are composed of stragling huts, scattered along the edge of a bleak and barren moor. In the interval between them, adjacent to Storeton Hall, a farm-house of no curiosity or antiquity, stand the remains of the antient hall of the Storetons, built of white stone, from the contiguous quarries, and now converted into barns and stables. Several antient doorways remain, and one pointed window, in a part which appears to have been used for the purposes of a chapel, and projects at right angles from the rest of the building.

Randle Meschines, third earl of Chester, gave this township, with Pudican or Puddington, early in the 12th century to Alan Sylvester, "meo homini et ministro." Witnesses to the charter, a William de Romara, William Percy, and William, constable of Chester.

Alan Sylvester^b left one son, Ralph, on whose death without issue, these manors were granted in marriage with his sister to Alexander, the tutor of the earl's son, by Hugh Kevelioc, in the following charter. Alexander has been noticed in Teverton, as signing by the official name of Alexander Magister, immediately after the sheriff, and before the chamberlain of the palatinate.

"Hugo comes Cestriæ, constabulario suo, dapifero suo, et universis baronibus suis, et omnibus hominibus suis, salutem. Noveritis me dedisse Alexandro magistro filii mei, Annabellam filiam filii Alani Salvagii, cum totâ sua hereditate, videlicet, Storeton et Pudington et om-

nibus eorum pertinentiis, tenendâ in feodo et hereditate, liberè et quietè de me et heredibus meis, sicut Carta patris mei testatur. Testibus, Bertramo de Verdon, Johanne constabulario."

By this marriage the master forestership of the forest of Wirral became vested in Alexander de Storeton, which had been given with the manors before-mentioned to Alan Sylvester^c. Alexander left issue two daughters, of whom Johanna wife of Richard de Kingsley dying s. p. the whole inheritance became vested in Agnes, wife of sir Thomas Bamville.

This sir Thomas Bamville had issue two sons, Philip son and heir; and Alexander, who married Roesia, widow of Robert de Stokeport, who by deed enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday^d, released to Richard de Stokeport, her right of dower on Etchells, Stockport, Bredbury, Romelegh, Werneth, and Hatterslegh. Thomas, son and heir of Alexander, married Hawisia, daughter of Robert de Winnington, from whom descended the Bamvilles of Chester, and who possessed certain lands in Storeton, derived from Johanna de Kingsley, as appears by the following charter: "Ego Alexander de Bamville et Roesia uxor mea dedimus Thomæ filio meo primogenito, et Hawisiæ uxori ejus, filiæ Roberti de Winnington, terram illam in villâ de Parva Sturton, quam Johanna quæ fuit uxor Ricardi Kingsley mihi dedit." Seal appendant, a stag statant, circumscribed "Siggillum Alexandri de Bamville."^e

Philip, eldest son of Agnes de Storeton, by sir Thomas Bamville, had issue, as appears by the plea before quoted, three daughters and coheirs. Jane,

^a Harl. MSS. 2079. 17.

^b Grosvenor MSS. Vide plea of Stanley, in the Introduction to this Hundred, p. 190. It must however be observed, that Alexander, who is proved by the charter given above to be *son-in-law* of Alan Sylvester, is expressly stated in the Stanley plea to be son of Ralph Sylvester, and *grandson* to Alan. The old pleas to quo warrantos have been found equally incorrect in other instances.

^c Plea to a quo warranto by sir William Stanley exemplified 10 Ric. II.

^d Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5. p. 103.

^e Harl. MSS. 1535. 69.

wife of sir William Stanley, knight, (which marriage occasioned the first settlement of the Stanleys in Cheshire); Ellen, wife of William Lakene; and Agnes, wife of John de Bechinton. Of these, Jane had the forestership, and a third of Storeton, and each of the other sisters had also a third of Storeton, which shares are thus noticed in the Inquisitions and fines, as shortly afterwards passing to females.

Lakene's Share.---*Inq. p. m.* 23 Edw. II. William Lakene held in demesne, as of fee, a third part of the manors of Great and Little Storton, as the fifth part of a knight's fee, from the lord earl of Chester, in capite; also fifty acres of land, and the third of a windmill in the same, and lands in Greves, and Kirby in Waley. Alice daughter and heiress.

Bechinton's Share.---19 Edw. II. John de Bechinton and Agnes his wife obtained from Peter Broom the manor of Little Storeton for life, remainder to Simon son of John, and his heirs, &c.^f

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. Symon de Bechton held as in the preceding Inquisition, a third part of Great and Little Storton, and lands in Pulton, in Walieze, Greves, and Nether Bebington. Richard de Bechinton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 36 Edw. III. William de Bechton, held as before a third part of the manor of Storton, except a third part of the same, which Cecilia, widow of Richard Bechton holds in dower, and lands in Moreton, Waylaysegh, and Greves. Agnes, Amilia, and Alicia, the wife of Thomas, son of William, son of Robert, son of John de Kirkbye in Waley, are sisters and heirs.

Both these shares became shortly afterwards vested in the Stanleys, as appears by the following Inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 21 Ric. II. William de Stanley, senior, held,

inter alia, the manor of Storeton, from the king as prince of Chester, in capite, by military service. Value, per annum, xl.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VI. Sir William de Stanley, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Storeton, and the bailywick of the forestership of Wirral, from the king in capite, by military service, value, per annum, xl.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VIII. Sir William Standley of Hooton, knight, held, inter alia, the manors of Great and Little Storeton, with the office of master forester of the forest of Wirral, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, as the 10th part of a knight's fee, value, per annum, xviii.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VIII. William Stanley, esq. held inter alia, the manor of Great and Little Storeton, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, as the 10th part of a knight's fee, val. per ann. ixl. xiiiiis.

Inq. p. m. 2 Jac. I. William Stanley, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Storeton, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, as the 10th part of a knight's fee. val. per ann. ixl. xivis.

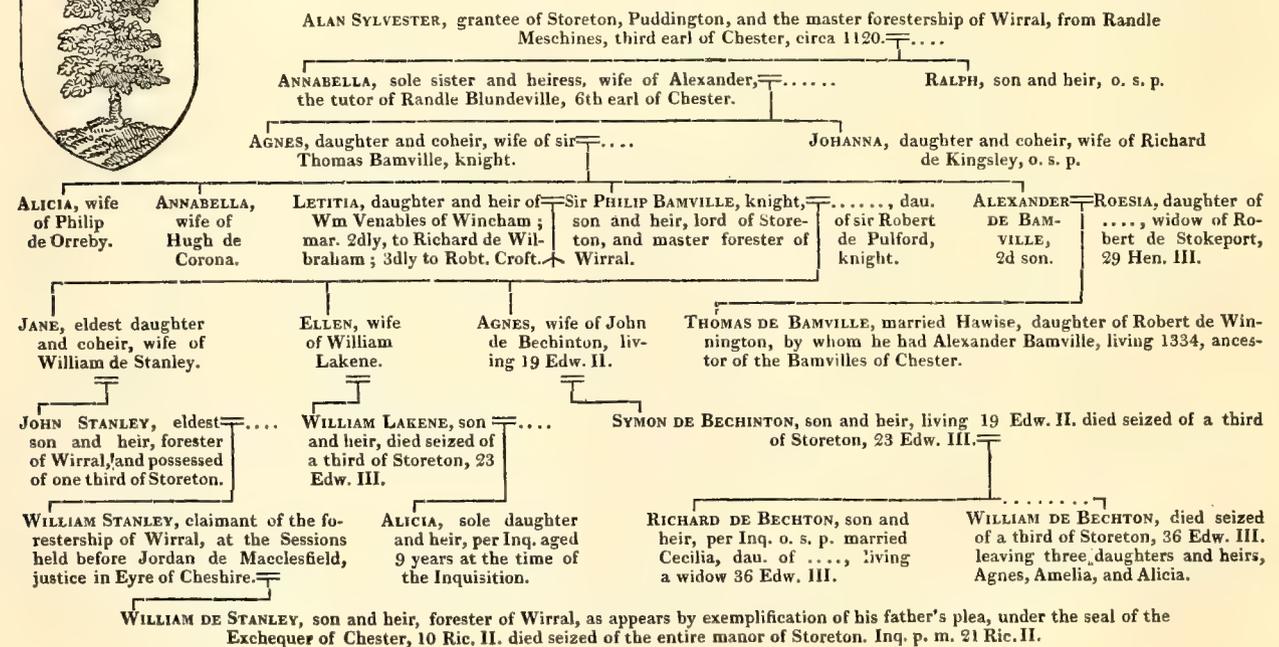
The pedigree of Stanley of Hooton will give the remainder of the descent of the manor to the present proprietor, sir Thomas Stanley Massey Stanley, bart. who holds a court leet and court baron for the same. An account of the office of Forester of Wirral, attached to this manor, will be found in the Introduction to the Hundred.

Storeton possesses some excellent quarries of white stone, well adapted to all architectural purposes. This stratum, which varies strikingly from the usual rock of Wirral, commences in Higher Bebington, and passing through Storeton and Barnston, is continued to Bids-ton, in the north-west angle of the peninsula.

STORETON OF STORETON.



ARMS.—Argent, on a mount Vert, a tree proper.



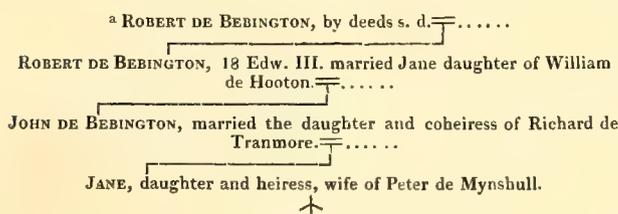
^f Williamson's Evidences, p. 13.

BEBINGTON SUPERIOR.

JOHN, lord of Worleston, gave the manor of this township to Robert de Bebington, reserving the render of a rose on John the Baptist's day, for all services, by deed, dated Thursday after the Assumption of our Lady, 31 Edw. fil. reg. Hen. Robert Brescy being then sheriff of Cheshire. From Robert de Bebington the manor passed by the following descent to the Minshulls.

ARMS.—Sable, three buck's heads cabossed, Argent.

CREST.—A demi eagle with wing displayed, Sable, bezantee issuing from a ducal coronet.



The manor continued vested in the Minshulls of Minshull for several generations.

^bIn the 28th of Elizabeth, Richard de Minshull died seized of it, holding in socage from the heirs of Worleston by the render of a rose. His son John Minshull's daughter and sole heiress, Elizabeth, brought it in mar-

riage to Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esquire; in whose family it continued, until it was sold in parcels by his descendant Charles Cholmondeley, esq. M. P. for the county of Chester, about the middle of the last century.

Joseph White and Daniel Orred, esquires, are now the principal land proprietors within the township; the former by purchases made since the above period; the latter by a purchase made immediately from the Cholmondeleys. The reputed manor of Nether Bebington is claimed, and appointment of gamekeepers made by both.

Derby house, an occasional seat of the Minshulls, is vested, by purchase also, in Dr. Watson, of Preston in Lancashire.

One of the Liverpool ferries, situated in this township, called the Rock Ferry, is included in Mr. White's purchase.

Richard de Bebington, descended from a younger brother of the Bebingtons of Bebington, was father, by Margaret, his wife, daughter of Thomas Croxton, of Ravenscroft, of Richard, Ralph, and Randle de Bebington. Randle de Bebington fell at Flodden field^c, with William, Randal, James, John, and Charles, the sons of his eldest brother: from Thomas and Richard de Bebington their surviving brothers, were descended the Bebingtons of Chorley and Nantwich.

TRANMERE.

THE manor of Tranmere, antiently called Tranmoll, was the property of a family to whom it gave name at a very early period.

Bernard de Tranmol, lord of Tranmol, appears in a deed of the time of James de Audley, justice of Chester, 50 Hen. III.

By *Inq.* 25 Edw. III. William de Tranmore held in demesne as of fee, two parts of the vill of Tranmore from the lord of Bertumlegh in socage.

Richard de Tranmore, son of this William, had two daughters and coheirsses, of whom one married John de Bebington, and brought to him a moiety of the manor. This share descended with the manor of Little Bebington to the Minshulls of Minshull, and their representatives the Cholmondeleys of Vale Royal, by whom both estates were sold in the last century.

The other moiety passed in marriage to Robert Holme of Tranmere, the eighth in descent from whom, William Holme, (in whom, as will be seen by the subjoined pedigree, the connection of this family with Tranmere terminated,) sold his estates in parcels in the time of James I. I have been unable to collect anything relating to the elder line since that period: the manerial privileges connected with this moiety are altogether disused.

The manor of Tranmere is at present claimed by

Daniel Orred, esq. the proprietor of a considerable estate within the township, purchased from the Cholmondeleys, and by F. R. Price, of Bryn y pys, esq. in right of the dissolved priory of Birkenhead, which had estates in this township, both of whom give deputations to game-keepers.

^dBy *Inq.* 20 Jac. I. Henry Kent, gent. died seized of 1 messuage, 5 cottages, 50 acres of land, 20 of meadow, and 40 of pasture, in Tranmore, late the inheritance of William Holme, held of the manor of Halton by the services of the ninth part of a knight's fee and suit of court to Halton, and paying 2l. per annum to Thomas Powell, esq. of Birkenhead priory.

^eThis family of Kent of Tranmore, terminated in a heiress, Elizabeth, married about the time of Charles II. to Edward Glegg, of Grange, esq.

FROM Thomas, third son of William Holme, of Tranmere, and uncle of William, the vendor of the Holme estate in that township, descended the four RANDLE HOLMES, the celebrated collectors of the Cheshire papers now deposited in the British Museum.

The first Randle Holme, only son of the before-mentioned Thomas, was ^fdeputy to the college of arms for Cheshire, Shropshire, and North-Wales, and ^gpaid a fine of ten pounds for contempt in not attending and

^a Booth's Pedigrees.

^b Villare Cest.

^c Booth's Pedigrees, and Harl. MSS. 1535.

^d Williamson's Coll. of Cheshire Evidences.

^e Harl. MSS. 2161. 143.

^f Ibid. 2022. 36.

^g Monuments at West Kirkby.

receiving the honour of knighthood at the coronation of Charles I. He was sheriff of Chester city in 1615, and mayor in 1633-4. On the 19th of July, 1634, Thomas Howard, earl of Arundel and earl marshall, came to Chester, and not finding the deputy herald (then mayor) in attendance to welcome him, he sent for him by a messenger with a warrant.

Mr. Mayor attending with his insignia of office, the following curious conversation took place, which is preserved in a memorandum written by this Randle and his son, then sheriff. ^h The earl said, "*Mr. Maior, I sent for you to tell you your offence you have committed in not giving your attendance as you ought, and now, do you come with your authority?*" and with that suddenly took the staffe out of Mr. Maior's hands, and laid it in the window, saying, "*I will teach you to knowe yourself, and attend peers of the realme. Though I care not for your observances, yet, because you want manners, I shall teach you some, and you shall further heare from mee; I would have you to knowe I have power to committ you, to teach you to knowe yourselfe and me, and give better attendance.*" After many excuses on Mr. Mayor's side, and reprimands on the other, the earl left him, and the mayor paid the fees demanded by the earl marshall's officers.

Randle Holme was buried at St. Mary's on the Hill, Jan. 30, 1654-5. The marriages and issue of this branch are incorporated with the pedigree of the elder line subjoined, but it may be proper to add that his first wife was the widow of Thomas Chaloner of Chester, a collector of equal zeal with any of this family.

The second Randle Holme was sheriff in his father's mayoralty, 1633-4, and mayor in the important year of 1643, in which siege was laid to the city. By a commission dated at Oxford in this year, Jan. 1, 19 Car. I. he was empowered, in concert with sir Robert Breerewood, sir Orlando Bridgeman, and others, to seize the effects of absent rebels and their adherents, who either were or had been in rebellion, within the county of the city, or a circuit of five miles round the same.

Randle Holme was joined with his father in the office of deputy to Norroy, in which he was very tenacious of his privileges, and jealous of the interference of unlicensed dabblers in his business.ⁱ Of his unfitness for his office he has left abundant evidence in a draft of a letter to sir George Booth, Nov. 3, 1656, (Harl. MSS. 2094, 18) from which it appears also that he was suffered to proceed with his business during the usurpa-

tion. Sir George, being desirous of possessing a genealogical account of his family, illustrated by original evidences, had employed Mr. Holme for two years in making collections, who writes that he can prove him descended from above three hundred great families, but that having no learning he was unable to digest his notes, and requested therefore to receive his money and be discharged.

This Randle died 4th Sept. 11 Car. II. and was buried at St. Mary's on the Hill.

The third Randle Holme was author of the *Academie of Armory*, of which hereafter; and in consideration of the services and losses of his family, obtained the place of Sewer of the Chamber in extraordinary to Charles II. as appears by a protection and exemption from offices granted by the earl of Manchester, Dec. 20, 1664. He followed the employment of his father and grandfather, and was deputy to Garter for Cheshire, Lancashire, Shropshire, and North-Wales; but previous to this appointment had attracted the notice of sir William Dugdale by the irregularity of his proceedings, who prosecuted him at the Stafford assizes, 20 Car. II. for marshalling the funeral of sir Ralph Ashton, and obtained a verdict against him, with 20l. damages.^k He was buried at St. Mary's, March 15, 1699-70, and was succeeded in his office by his eldest son,

The fourth Randle Holme, died in 1707 without surviving issue; his only son, a fifth Randle, and several daughters, having died before him. The family had now fallen into very reduced circumstances.

A notice of the collections of the Holmes will be found in the general introductory matter. Among these collections are fragments of many MS. works of the third Randle Holme; but his only printed work, which now bears a high price from its rarity, is entitled as follows:

The Academie of Armory, or a Storehouse of Armory and Blazon, containing the several kinds of created beings, and how born in coats of arms both foreign and domestic, with the instruments used in all trades and sciences, together with their terms of art, also the etymologies, definitions, and historical observations on the same, explicated and explained according to our modern language, &c.

By Randle Holme, of the city of Chester, gent. sewer in extraordinary to his late majesty king Charles the Second, and sometimes deputy to the kings of arms. Chester, printed for the author, 1688.^l

^h Ibid. 2057. p. 9.

ⁱ Vide a letter by him to sir Gilbert Houghton, bart. desiring him to send forthwith his father's funeral certificate, and 6l. 13s. 4d. being the proper fee, or threatening him with contesting the matter in the earl marshall's court, Harl. MSS. 2011. p. 5. and Ibid. p. 9, another letter to Mrs. Manwaringe, March 9, 1637, desiring her husband's certificate, and a fee of 3l. 6s. 8d. and several complaints of escocheons having been made by . . . Dutton, whom he threatens with proceedings. Other letters of the same purport are extant, ibid.

^k Bigland on Parish Registers, p. 91.

^l This most singular work, which, he rightly says, "*is to be understood by few,*" is divided into four books, of which the first is altogether confined to the matters usually to be found in old treatises of heraldry.

His second book, which "*treateth of all essential and created beings in whom there is either life or motion,*" is divided into eighteen chapters, of which the first most blasphemously introduces as an heraldic disquisition, a treatise "*on the proper mode of blazoning God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, cherubims and seraphims, the distances of the heavens, the Heathen gods and goddesses, demy gods and cuntry gods, the holy orders of angels and the infernal order of devils, and the names the devil is called by.*" His object appears to have been the formation of a kind of encyclopædia in this awkward heraldic form; and in the rest of the present book he proceeds through all the range of creation, treating the reader with the strangest jumble on natural history, mineralogy, and surgery, occasionally diversified by palmistry, hunter's terms, the cock-pit laws, diseases, an essay on time and on men punished in hell. Introducing each subject successively as the fancied bearing of an armorial coat.

The first division of the "*third booke*" contains thirteen chapters, of which the first treats of dress, the second of coins, and the third of gradations of ranks: under this head are included all orders, from the "*emperour,*" with the ceremonies of his coronation, and the fees of the officers of his household, to the butcher, with his terms "*for all the pieces of meat cut in the shambles, either in or from beef, veal, mutton, pork, and brawn.*"

The fourth chapter of this division contains the lives of our Saviour and his apostles, an account of monastic orders, the trades of which catholic saints are patrons, the seven deadly sins and seven cardinal virtues, a description of the sibylls, and of poverty.

Then follows an account of the various kingdoms, of wrestling, merchandize, grammar, billiards, tennis, and tools of bricklayers, ropers, upholsterers, and other trades, which are continued in several succeeding chapters. The tenth chapter treats in an equally strange manner of languages, the eleventh and twelfth on surgeon's instruments, and the thirteenth concludes a summary of architecture which had been commenced in the preceding chapter.

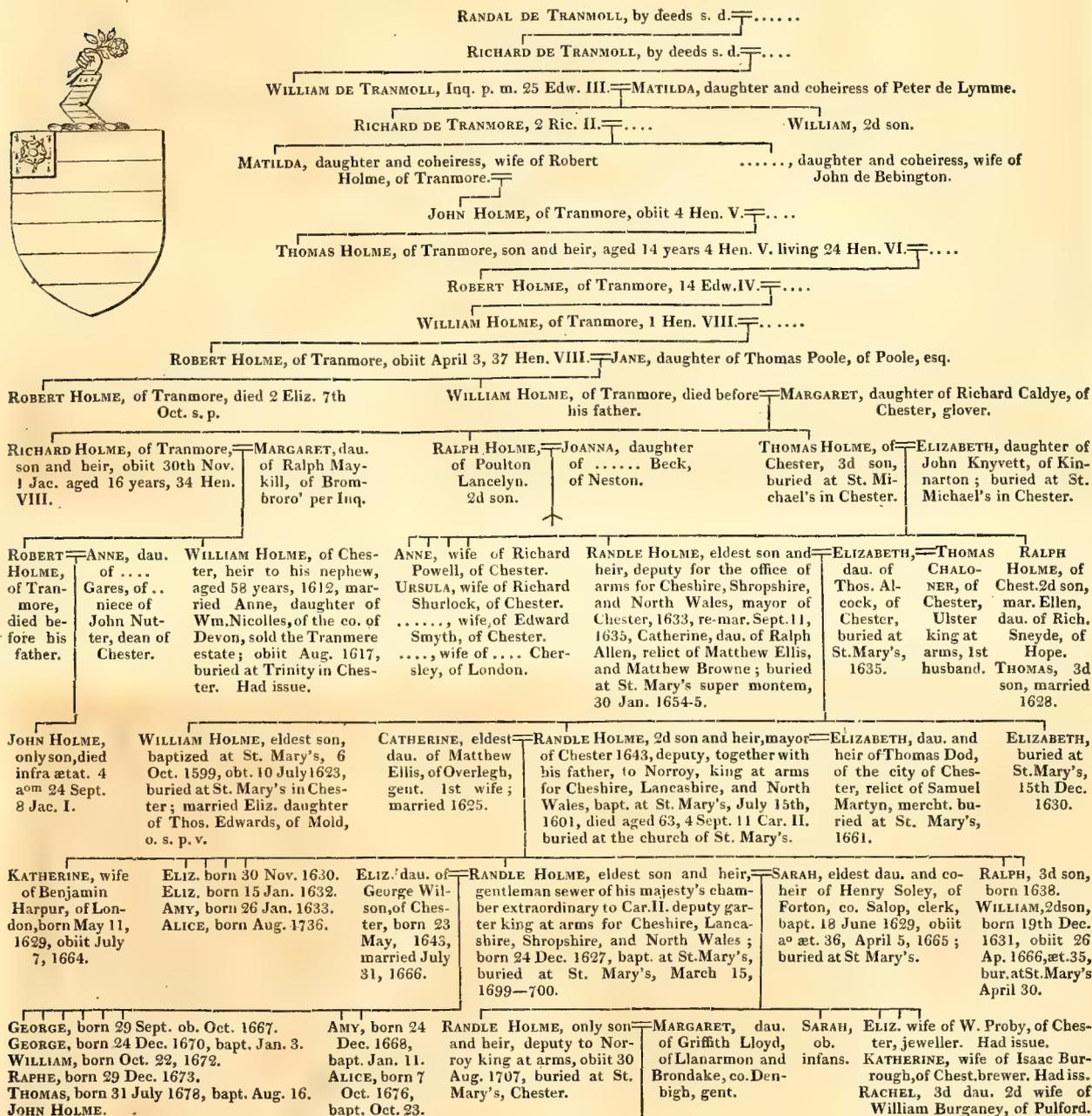
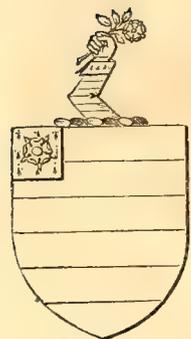
With this the printed part concludes, and the remainder, of which Randle gives an abstract, is announced as ready for the press if encouraged by

HOLME OF TRANMORE.

ARMS.—Barry of six, Or and Azure, on a canton Ermine, a rose Gules, seeded Or, bearded Vert.

CREST.—An arm couped and embowed, vested as the coat, and cuffed Erm. grasping a rose branch proper.

Harl. MSS. 2161. 143. and monuments and registers of the Church of St. Mary in Chester.



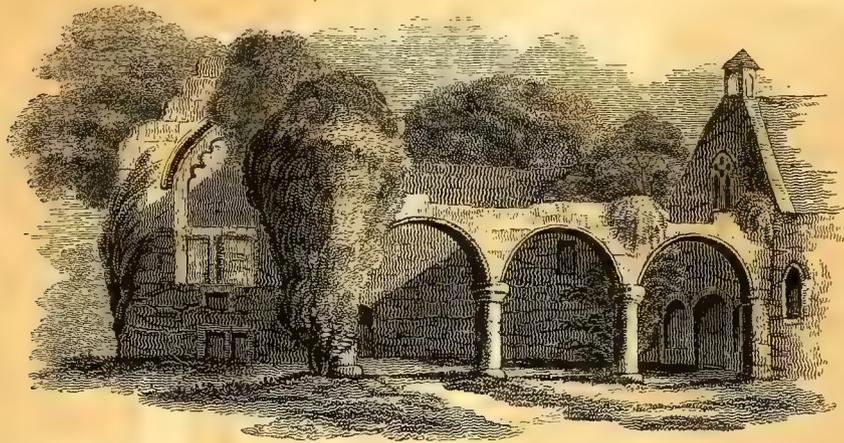
SARAH, ELIZ. KATHERINE, RANDLE, KATHERINE, who all died before their father.

liberal and free contributors, otherwise that it would "sleep in the bed of its conception, and never see the glorious light of the sun." Portions of the MS. and of the printed part and its unpublished continuation exist among the Harl. MSS. 2026. and 2028. 35.

Of the mode in which these heterogeneous subjects are introduced, the following may serve as a specimen, copied at random from the accounts of countries.

"He beareth Or, a wild Irishman, or an Irish Tague, holding a half-pike in his left hand in bend sinister, the head downwards, all proper. The habit of these kind of wild people, is to go bare-headed, their mantle about their shoulders which they call a brackin, their shoes they call brogues, and hose and breeches made bothe together and close to the thigh they call trouses.

"The place of their abode is called Ireland, it is situated under the 8 and 10 climats, the longest day being 16 hours in the south parts, and 17½ in the north. It is an island wholly environed with the salt seas. Some historians say, the soil, air, habits, and disposition of the people, differ not much from the old Britanes, but more barbarous, being man eaters and drinkers of the blood of them they slew in fight, neither were the women free from such savage customs. The modern Irish are somewhat better, by reason of their commerce with civil nations, but the wild Irish of the poorer sort are termed kernes."



Birkenhead.

ABOUT the year 1250, Hamon de Masci, third baron of Dunham Massey, founded at Birkenhead, in honour of St. James, a priory for sixteen monks of the Benedictine order. The place is unnoticed in Domesday, but from a variety of fines and other documents it is proved to be an original part of the barony of Dunham. It is beautifully situated near the mouth of the estuary of the Mersey, opposite to the town of Liverpool, at the side of Wallesey pool, a large bay which the Mersey forms at its confluence with the Birken, from which this manor derives the name of Birkenhead, or Birkenheved, as it was antiently called.

The only donation to the monks of this convent of which the grant is known to be extant, is that of the rectory of Bowden, given by ^a Hamon de Masci in 1278. At this period they were also possessed of the rectory of St. Wilfrid's church in Davenham, which the prior of Birkenhead sold to ^b Ralph de Vernon of Shipbrook for 70 marks, ^a 13 Edw. I.

The principal estates of the convent, namely, those of Moreton, Claughton, Tranmere, Over Bebington, Salghal Massey, and Bidston, and the rectories of Backford and Bidston, were of the fee of Dunham Massey, and consequently must have been of the gift of the founder or his family. A presentation to Backford vicarage occurs in the Lichfield episcopal register as early as 1305: Bidston was never endowed.

Other minor estates occur in the Valor Ecclesiasticus 28 Hen. VIII. which were the gift of various donors who cannot now be identified, together with one of greater importance in Wallesey, to which the moiety of that rectory was attached. This moiety was appropriated before the commencement of the Lichfield registers, and the monks maintained a small chapel there, where religious rites were solemnized by a stipendiary, but no vicarage was ever endowed. The parochial duties were performed by the rector of the other moiety, which was in the gift of the abbot of St. Werburgh.

The other possessions and privileges of the convent are contained in the plea of the prior to a writ of quo warranto, 27 Edw. III. subjoined entire; but the following brief abstract will perhaps be more acceptable to some readers.

In this plea the prior of Birkenhead claimed for himself and tenants, and their beasts, common of pasture

and turbary in Budeston, Moreton, and Salghall, and to hold a court of the manor of Claghton; which claims were respited sine die. Other claims were referred to the jurisdiction of the judges of the earl's forests, which respected his right to fisheries, wreckage, and boats for all purposes, within the bounds of Claghton, from the manor of Oxtan to the line of the Mersey; a right of common for the beasts of himself and his tenants, at all times of the year, in Tranmere, and a right of exemption for himself and his tenants from the jurisdiction of the foresters, when not taken in the fact. The right of assize of bread and beer in Bylegh, and the receiving of forfeitures there, was disclaimed altogether by the prior, and adjudged to belong to the earl.

The prior produced a charter of earl Randle, by which he was exempted from puture, with the exception of lodging and entertaining six foresters in his regular rotation; and another charter of the same, by which he was exempted from all suits to the court of the hundred of Wirral (Wilaston). He further claimed the right of ferrying passengers from Birkenhead to Liverpool, and of building houses for their accommodation, and making suitable charges for their provision; in support of which he produced royal letters patent, dated at Wodestoke, 13 Ap. 4 Edw. II. and ratified by Edw. III.

The charges of the ferry will be deemed curious, 2d. for a horseman, and a farthing for one on foot: but on Saturday, the Liverpool market-day, ("die mercati apud Lyverpol, videlicet die Sabbati,") for a man a halfpenny, and for a man and what he may carry, a penny. This charge was objected to as exorbitant by William Braas, the prosecutor on the part of the crown.

The monks of Birkenhead, by grant from Hamon de Masci, confirmed by pope Alexander, had the right of electing their own prior from the monks of their convent. Notwithstanding this indulgence, the advowson of the priory of Birkenhead occurs in a recovery, 19 Edw. III. and in other deeds, as one of the rights of the barony of Dunham. The following are all the names of the priors which have been noticed.

^c *Oliver*, prior of Birkenhead, a witness to deeds temp. R. Johan.

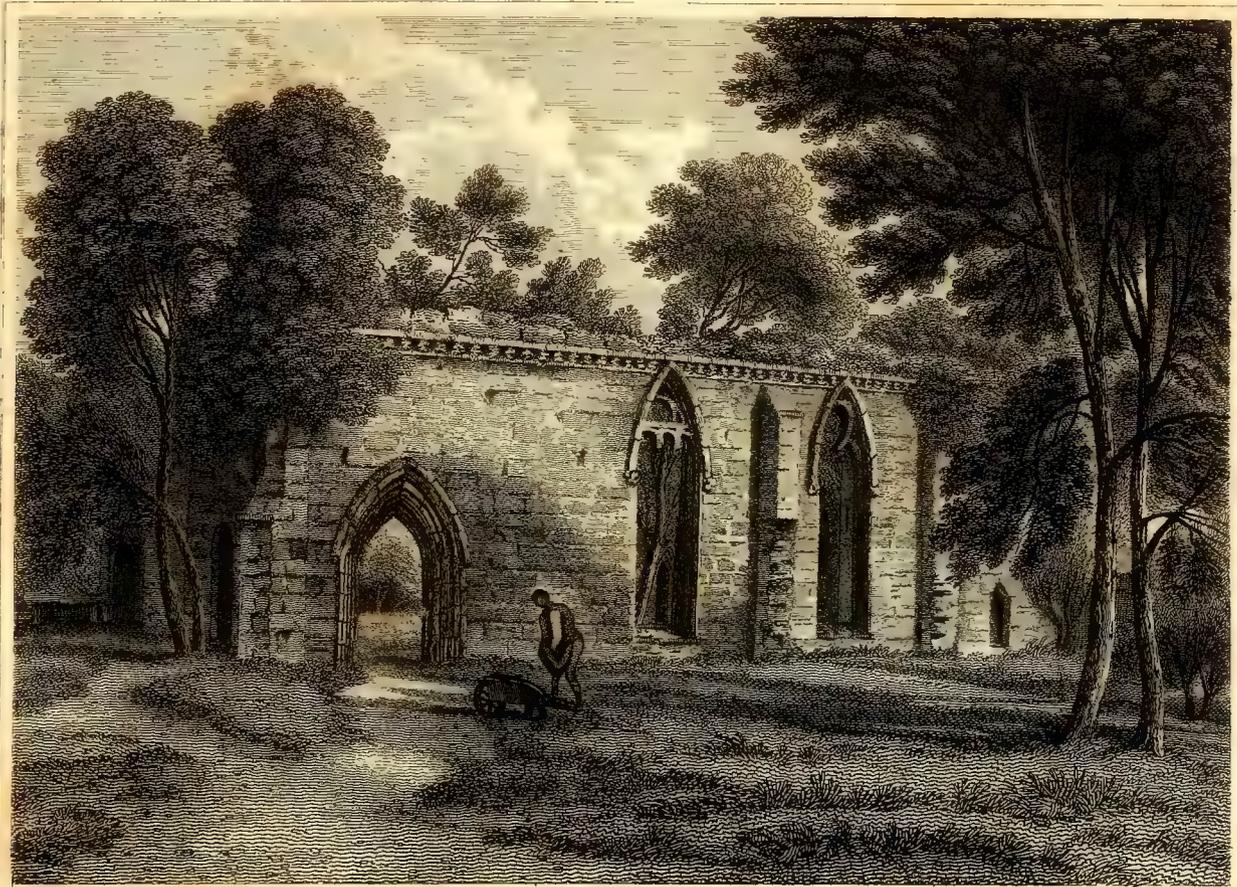
^d 1339, —, monk of Birkenhead, was elected prior on the vacancy occasioned by the death of *Robert de Bechinton*.

^a Vide charter annexed.

^b Williamson's Evidences, p. 2.

^c Leicester, p. 241.

^d Lichfield Registers.



Geo Pickering delin

Lond. Pub. Aug 10 1816 by Lockington & Co

C Heath Sculp

REFECTORY OF BIRKENHEAD PRIORY.



Geo Pickering delin

Lond. Pub. Aug 10 1816 by Lockington & Co

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Vaults UNDER THE DORMITORY. BIRKENHEAD.

* 1379. *Roger*, prior of Birkenhead, occurs as witness to a charter whereby William Eltonhead, prior of the hermit friars in Warrington, grants a chantry therein to sir Thomas Dutton, kt. The same prior, 14 Ric. II. appears in a bond of 20l. to Nicholas de Audley, of Hely, kt. to be paid at New Hall. Harl. MSS. 2038. 18.

1428. 6 Hen. VI. *Robert*, prior of Birkenhead, occurs in a list of the homagers of the barony of Dunham, in a fine levied on that manor.^f

^g 1455. *Thomas Bovere*, was elected prior of Birkenhead.

^h 1460. *Thomas Reynforth* is confirmed prior.

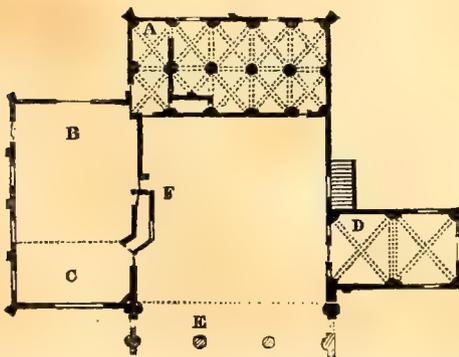
ⁱ 1495. *Nicholas* —, a monk of the convent, was elected prior.

The priory of Birkenhead is stated by Leland to have been "a celle to Chester, and composed of sixteen monks."^k Bishop Tanner states his doubt of this fact, from the independent power which the monks possessed of electing a superior, and the distinct *Valores Ecclesiastici* of these monasteries. It may be added, that, in the presentations to churches, the pleas to quo warrants, and the other documents which have been examined in preparing this work, including the entire chartulary of St. Werburgh, there has not transpired the slightest fact which can tend to confirm Leland's assertion, as to the connection between the two foundations; and it will also be found, by referring to the endowment of Chester bishopric, the revenues of which were formed out of the estates of the abbeys of Chester and Vale Royal, the priory of Birkenhead, and the Benedictine nunnery of Chester, that Birkenhead is there noticed as an independent foundation, in the same terms as the other three religious houses before-mentioned.

It remains to describe the buildings of the priory as far as they can be traced by existing ruins. One peculiar circumstance in their arrangement is to be noticed: the church of the priory occupied the south side of the quadrangle, in a situation which, from its exposure to the sharp sea breezes, particularly required the protection of high buildings to the north. The same inversion of the ordinary arrangement is observable in Chester cathedral.

The site of Birkenhead priory is on a rock of red sandstone, the eastern side of which is washed by the Mersey, and the south side defended by a small creek. The other sides of the adjacent grounds are formed by the road leading to the neighbouring ferry house of Woodside. The greater part of this space was included within a wall, of which part was remaining when King made his drawing of the priory for the Vale Royal.

In the south-west angle of this space stand the ruins of the priory, the quadrangle of which is a square of about twenty-five yards.



The north side of this quadrangle is occupied by a building of two stories, (A) about twenty yards long and ten in breadth, built like the rest with red stone, and supported by buttresses. The upper story was unquestionably the dormitory. The lower apartment, represented in the annexed engraving, is vaulted with stone arches, sprung from corbels in the walls, and a row of octagonal pillars, which runs down the middle, with the exception of corbels fixed in a wall which divides off the two vaulted compartments nearest to the refectory, where no pillar seems to have existed. There are other modern subdivisions, but this apartment seems to have been part of the original plan, and it is therefore probable that the whole vaulted line was originally used as the offices of the priory, notwithstanding its having a strong resemblance to a double cloister walk at its first appearance. This part of the ruins has suffered much by wanton abuse; and some stout sycamores growing in the dormitory above, are doubtless insinuating roots through the interstices of the stones composing the vaulting, which in a few years must level the pile with the ground.

The hall (B) and abbot's apartment (C) occupy the west side of the court, and extend together about twenty-seven yards including the thickness of the walls, of which twenty yards were devoted to the hall, which is ten yards in width, and was lighted by two elegant pointed windows on the west side, in the style of the fifteenth century. Four doors open to the hall: one at the north end, and another on the west side, form the approach from without; the others open to the offices, and to a small passage (F) communicating with the quadrangle and the abbot's apartment. The last of these is an enriched specimen of the lancet, or highly-pointed style. This passage was entered either from the abbot's apartment or the refectory, and is supposed by Grose to have been used for the purpose of a confessional.

The abbot's apartments were of two stories, the fireplaces of which are remaining. They communicated with the hall and quadrangle by the passage before-mentioned; and a small spiral staircase in the angle of the building apparently led to the priory church, forming the south side of the quadrangle.

The length of this building to the west was co-extensive with the inner court; to the east it must have been extended further, as appears by the doors which opened from it to the chapter-house, and the traces of the vaulted passage which communicated between them. The west end of the north aisle is yet in existence, lighted by a narrow lancet-shaped window. Part of one of the pilasters from which the arches were sprung is yet attached to this fragment. It approached nearer to the form of a cylindrical column, than to that of the clustered pillars given by Buck, or the octagonal columns engraved by King, but is much more massy than those in the delineation of Buck. The former of these artists gives three arches of the church as occupying a space equal to the south side, and the latter gives two small and two large ones: King has also given massy semicircular arches, and Buck light pointed ones. As far as can be judged from existing fragments, and the bases of pillars laid bare in some late alterations, King's view is nearest the truth; and his arcade has been introduced, with one slight alteration, in the preceding vignette, incorporated with the present ruins. The arches are destroyed, but the places which they occupied (E) are indicated by fainter shading in the plan annexed.

^c Leicester, p. 253.

^f Williamson's Evidences, p. 40.

^g Lichfield Register.

^h Ibid.

ⁱ Ibid.

^k Leland's Itin. V. 54.

^l See some very judicious observations on this subject in Whitaker's Whalley.

The eastern and last remaining side, by an arrangement very unusual in conventual buildings, consists chiefly of a simple stone wall, from which projects at right angles, a fabric which it is difficult to assign to any other purposes, than those of the chapter house. It is an oblong building of 16 yards by 8, (D) of two stories, the lower story vaulted with stone; and by far the most antient part of the priory. The arches of the vaulting are semicircular, with rounded ribs, between which, a huge horse-shoe arch stretches in the centre from side to side, the stones of which are plain, square, and massive, and rest on solid piers with early Norman capitals. A screen has been formerly fixed into deep incisions made in the side of these piers, and has divided the room into equal parts. The western division, or ante-room communicated with the church by an arch now filled up, and with the quadrangle by a door-way between two windows yet remaining. The inner apartment, or chapter room, is lighted by three windows, two of which are of the style of the sixteenth century, but the third on the eastern side is coeval with the rest of this part, being short, narrow, and round-headed.

This part of the building is now fitted up and used as a chapel. Near the small window which has been described, is a monument inscribed as follows :

Near this place lie the remains
of Richard Parry Price, Esq. F. R. S.
who,
after bearing with uncommon fortitude
a very long and lingering illness,
died May 14, 1782,
aged 45.

He was a tender husband,
an affectionate father,
a sincere friend,
and a good Christian.

This monument was erected to perpetuate his virtues,
by his much afflicted widow.

The silent dead nor praise nor trophies seek,
Yet what truth dictates, gratitude may speak.

After the dissolution, the site of the priory, with the manors of Claughton and Wolton, and lands in Wallesey, Bidston, and Tranmere, were granted to Ralph Worseley, third son of William Worseley, of Worseley, in Lancashire; of whom, and of his numerous offices, an

account will be found among the monuments of St. Mary's, in Chester. 20 March 15 Eliz. an exemplification, was enrolled in the Chester Exchequer, of a deed of settlement made 14 Eliz. between the said Ralph Worseley of Chester, and Thomas Browne, of Hoole, gent. whereby the aforesaid lands and manors were thus settled; one moiety on Thomas Powel, esq. and Alice his wife, eldest daughter and coheir of the said Ralph, remainder to Thomas Powel their eldest son and heir apparent; and the other moiety on Thomas Tochet and Katherine his wife, another daughter and coheir, with remainder to their issue. Avice, another daughter and coheir, occurs as wife of Humphrey Davenport, in another deed, similarly enrolled 26 April 16 Eliz. and is afterwards called on her father's monument wife of Thomas Vawdrey.

The estate became finally vested in Thomas Powel, husband of the eldest coheir.

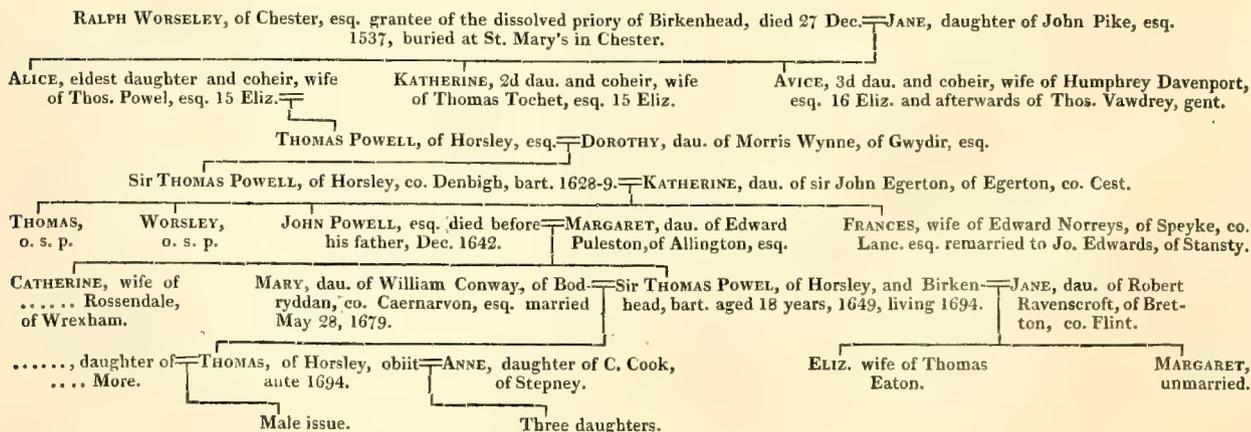
Thomas Powell of Birkenhead, esq. his grandson, was created a baronet, Jan. 21, 1628-9. This family resided at Horsley, co. Denbigh, and continued in possession to the commencement of the last century, when the estate was sold to John Cleiveland, only son of Joseph Cleiveland of Loughborough, gent. a younger brother of Cleiveland the poet, and great grandson of William Cleiveland, who removed from York, and settled in Leicestershire, where he died at an advanced age in 1630.

John Cleiveland, esq. the purchaser of Birkenhead, who was mayor of Liverpool in 1703, and M. P. for that borough in 1710, by will dated 1st Aug. 1716, devised Birkenhead, with lands in Wallesee, Tranmere, and Claughton, to his son William, in fee, who died without issue, as did his brother John, leaving their sister Alice sole heiress, who married Francis Price, esq. and afterwards Thomas Lloyd, of Gwernhayled, esq.

In 1806, the present proprietor, Francis Richard Price, esq. great grandson of Alice Cleiveland, barred the entail which was created by her will, dated 29 Nov. 1765, limiting the estate to her son, R. Parry Price, esq. remainder to her grandson Francis P. Price, and the heirs of his body in tail male. After the entail was thus barred, Mr. Price sold the dependent estates, reserving the priory and manor of Birkenhead, which comprises all the land from high-water mark (including Woodside Ferry), up to Bidston Light-house. It is bounded on the south by Tranmere, and on the north by Wallesey Pool.ⁿ

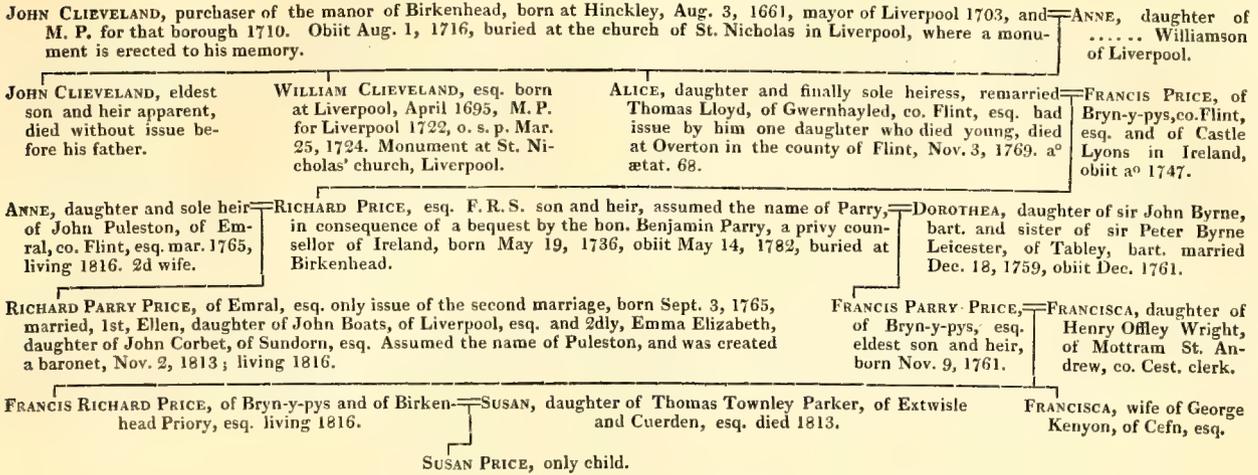
POWEL OF BIRKENHEAD AND HORSLEY.

Le Neve's MS Pedigrees of Baronets.



ⁿ This latter part of the descent of the manor was obligingly communicated by John Litherland, attorney at law; from an abstract of title deeds.

CLIEVELAND AND PRICE, OF BIRKENHEAD.



CARTA HAMONIS DE MASSIE DE ECCLESIA DE BOWDON.

OMNIBUS Christi fidelibus hoc præsens scriptum visuris vel audituris, Hamo Massie, filius et hæres Hamonis quarti, salutem in domino. Noverit universitas vestra, me, pro salute animæ meæ et animarum antecessorum meorum, dedisse concessisse et hac presenti chartâ mea confirmasse, et pro me et heredibus meis omnino quietam clamasse, Deo et beatæ Mariæ, et sancto Jacobo et priori et conventui de Birkhened ibidem Deo servientibus, in puram et perpetuam elemosynam, dimidiam acram terræ in Donham, videlicet illam quæ jacet inter selionem ecclesiæ de Bowdon, et selionem Johannis prepositi de Donham, et unam acram

terræ ingold Lacheker, ad caput crofti Johannis filii, bondi Thomæ le Criar, una cum advocacione et donacione ecclesiæ de Bowdon cum omnibus pertinentiis, habendum et tenendum prædictis priori et conventui et eorum successoribus in perpetuum. His testibus, D'no Gunselino de Badlesmere tunc justiciario Cestriæ, D'no Symone tunc abbate S'tæ Werburgæ Cestrensis, D'nis Uriano de S'to Petro, Petro de Arderne, Patricio de Heselwall, Rogero Domville, Godfrido clerico, Richardo de Massy tunc vicecomite Cestrensi, Wilhelmo Lancelyn, Roberto de Pulle, Bertramo de Melle, et multis aliis.

EJUSDEM HAMONIS CARTA DE ELECTIONE PRIORIS.

OMNIBUS sanctæ matris ecclesiæ filiis, præcipue heredibus, et amicis, et omnibus hominibus suis, clericis et laicis, tam presentibus quam futuris: Hamo de Massie salutem. Notum sit vobis me tales libertates monachis de Birkened concessisse, et hâc præsententi cartâ mea confirmasse, scilicet de electione prioris, ut cum prior illius loci obierit, alter ei in regimine de ipsa

congregatione succedat, et ille prior constituatur, quem omnis congregatio Benedicti canonicè elegerit. Hanc dignitatem et potestatem eligendi prioris, supradictis monachis, pro pace et quiete eorum in perpetuum largitus sum, non solum de me, sed de heredibus meis, secundum quod papa Alexander eis concessit, et privilegii sui autoritate confirmavit. Test. &c.

Taxatio P. Nicolai bonorum temporalium Prioris de Byrcheved.

	l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
Prior de Byrcheved h'et apud Clocton in Dec' de Wyrhale tres caruc' terr' et val't car' p' annu'	-	-	-	Item h'et apud Morton in eodem Dec' sex caruc' terræ et val' caruc' p' annu'	-	0	13 0
Et h'et ib'm de redd' assis' p' annu'	-	0	13 4	Et h'et ib'm de redd' assis' p' annu'	-	-	0 13 4
Et h'et ib'm unu' molen' quod val' p' annu'	0	12	0	Et h'et ib'm unu' molend' ad vent' quod val' p' annu'	-	-	0 12 0
Et h'et ib'm de profic' stauri p' annu'	-	0	12 0	Et h'et ib'm unu' columbar' quod val' p' annu'	0	1	4
Et h'et ib'm de vendic. bosci p' annu'	-	0	1 0	Sm ^a	-	8	13 0
				Inde decima	0	17	3½

Ministers Accounts, Augmentation Office, 28 Hen. VIII.

	l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
Scit' nuper Priorat' cum terr' dominical'	-	14	14 3	Brynston, redd'	-	-	0 0 8
Reddit' et firm' in Morton'	-	7	6 8	Weryngton, redd'	-	-	0 0 3
Reddit' et firm' in Claughton cum manerio de Wolton	-	8	3 0	Newsam in com' Lancastr', redd'	-	-	0 15 0
Kyrby in Walley, redd' et firm'	-	5	13 8	Lyverpole, redd' et firm'	-	-	0 18 4
Tranmolle, redd' et firm'	-	0	18 0	Mellyng, redd'	-	-	0 2 6
Overbebygton, redd'	-	0	0 4	Leftwich, un' croft'	-	-	0 4 0
Barkeford, redd'	-	1	6 8	Rectoria de Walezy, medieta rector'	-	12	0 0
Salgham, redd'	-	0	11 0	Rector' de Barkeford, le tithe barne et decim'	12	13	4
Bydston, redd'	-	0	13 4	Rector' de Bydston, firm' rector'	-	13	6 8
Eswall, redd'	-	0	3 4	Rector' de Bawden, firm' rector'	-	50	0 0
Upton, redd'	-	0	3 0	Vend' bosc', null'.			
Civitas Cestrie, redd'	-	0	4 6	P'quis' cur', null'.			
Secom, redd'	-	0	0 4	Sm ^a totalis recepti	-	129l.	18s. 10d.

CLAMEUM PRIORIS DE BIRKEHED.

Extract' de rotulo Pl'itor' com' Cestr' in Sec'io Cestr' remanent' de Anno Edwardi T'cii vicesimo septimo ^a.

PRIOR de Birkehed sum' fuit ad respondend' D'no Comiti de pl'ito quo waranto clam' fod'e t'bas et h'ere co'am pasture in villa de Budeston, Morton, et Salgh'n, sibi ho'ib' et tenentib' suis ad om'ia av'ia sua, et infra bundas man'ii de Claghton videl't a bunda ville de Oxton usq' ad filu' aque de Mersee in solo suo p'p'o fac'e piscarias om'i'od' et in d'co solo suo om'i'oda p'ficua recip'e p't' wreccum regale et batellas tam in d'ca p'te illius aque de Mersee q'm in d'co solo suo p'p'o h'ere vid'l't ad piscand' et ad carand' et ad om'ia alia p'ficua recipiend' ult' d'cam aqua' ad o'imod' t'ras in pace D'ni Reg's qui p' te'p'e fuerit existentes. Et q'd ip'e ho'ies et tenentes sui non impl'itent' de ulla re forestam tangent' nisi cu' manu op'e inveniant'. Et q'd ip'e ho'ies et tenentes sui sint quieti de o'imod' s'vientib' receptand' et pascend' p't'q'm de sex forestar' sine equo et sine o'i alia secta quando cursus illos pascend' even'it. Et h'ere passagiu' ult' aquam de Mersee de o'ib' reb' et p' illo passagio p'cip'e p'ut justu' fu'it et in loco passagii in solo suo p'p'o domos sufficientes construere et h'ere et ho'ies in domib' illis mansuri h'eant o'imoda victualia et illa emant et vendant sine impedimento alicujus. Et q'd ip'e successores ho'ies et tenentes sui sint quieti de om'i secta hundr' de Wilaston. Et q'd ip'e et successores sui h'eant lib'am cur' suam bis in anno de om'ib' tenentib' suis corrigend' vid'l't de assi'a panis et c'visie et de forisfacco'e om'i'od' de Bylagh et h'ere jamnu' et feuger' et co'am pasture ad om'ia av'ia sua in villa de Tranemoll om'i temp'e anni. Et p'd'cus prior venit, et quo ad p'mu' clam' suu' vid't ad fodend' t'bas et h'ere co'am pasture dic' q'd qualit'cu'q' ip'e illas no'ie lib'tat' clam' illud tamen est lib'um ten' et non cadit in clameo lib'tat' p' q'd ip'e necesse non h'et ad p'sens warantu' inde ostendere. I'o co'sid'atu' est p' judicatores q'd p'd'cus prior quo ad hoc eat sine die. Et quo ad h'end' lib'am cur' suam dic' q'd ip'e h'et div'sos tenentes qui sectam debent ad cur' suam de Claghton p'ut de co'i jure dat' p' q'd illud non cadit in clam' lib'tat'. I'o consid'atu' est p' judicatores q'd p'd'cus prior quo ad hoc eat inde sine die. Et q'd ad assi'am panis et c'visie et forisface'onem o'imodam de Bylagh o'ino disclam' in eade' lib'tate. I'o lib'tas illa capiat' in manu' D'ni Comitis. Ita q'd tenentes ejusde' prioris de cet'o sint intendentes ad t'nu' vic' in hundr'o D'ni Comitis de Wilaston' (respectuant' usq' It' de Wirhale)^b. Et p'd'cus prior quo ad hoc in mia'. Et quo ad hoc q'd sup'ius clam' h'ere piscarias a bund' man'ii de Claghton ut p'd'c'm est. Et quo ad hoc q'd ip'e sup'ius clam' q'd ip'e ho'ies et tenentes sui non impl'itent' de ulla re forestam tangent' nisi cu' manu op'e inveniant'. Et quo ad hoc q'd ip'e clam' h'ere jamnu' et feuger' et co'am pasture in villa de Tranemoll om'ia illa tangen' foresta' D'ni Comitis de Wirhale. I'o nichil inde fiat ad p'sen' s'ct' respectuant' usq' p't' foreste ibidem. Et quo ad lib'tate' de s'vientibus pascen' &c.

dic' q'd ip'e h'et div'sa t'ras et ten' in Wirhale. Et q'd D'n's Ranulphus quondam comes Cestr' p' cartam suam concessit o'ib' lib'is ho'ib' et tenentib' et in ea t'ras h'entib' q'd ip'i et eor' h'er' imp'p'm quieti essent de om'ib' s'vientib' receptand' et pascend' p't'q'm de sex forestar' tantu' sine om'i equo et sine o'i alia secta. Et p'fert hic Cartam illam que hoc idem testat'. Et quo ad aliam lib'tatem videl't essend' quiet' de secta ad hundr' de Wilaston dicit q'd quidam Ranulphus quondam comes Cestr' p' carta' suam concessit Priori de Birkehed qui tu'c fuit et monachis ibidem q'd ip'i et eor' ho'ies lib'i essent soluti et quieti de secta hundr' p'd'c'i et de octo denar' quos Vic' ejusde' hundr' solv'e solebant. Et p'fert hic Cartam illam que hoc idem testatur, et eo Waranto clam' lib'tatem illam videl't p' se et ho'ib' suis videl't tenentib' ad voluntate' &c. Et quo ad passagiu' p'd'c'm et ad edificaco'e'm domor' in loco passagii faciend' dic' q'd D'ns E. quondam Rex Angl' pat' D'ni Reg' nu'c p' litt'as suas patent' concessit et licenciam dedit p' se et her' suis Priori de Birkhed qui tunc fuit p'decessori Prioris nu'c et conventui ejusdem loci q'd ip'i in solo suo p'p'o apud Birkhed in loco passagii a villa de Lyverpol in com' Lanc' usq' prioratu' de Birkhed in com' Cestr' et ab eode' prioratu' usq' ad p'd'c'am villam ult' brachiu' maris quod quidem passagiu' co'e antea h'ebat' vel p'pe idem passagiu' p'ut conven'cius fieri posset domos sufficientes p' hujusmodi hospitand' construere et eas constructas tenere possent. Et q'd ho'ies in domib' illis mansuri victualia p' sustentaco'e ho'im ibide' t'n'situr' emere possent et vendere sine occ'one ip'ius D'ni Reg' vel her' suor' aut alior' quor'cu'q' quas quide' l'ras patentes D'ns Rex nu'c inspiciens eas p' l'ras suas patentes ratificavit et confirmavit. Et ult'ius concessit eisde' tu'c Priori et conventui q'd ip'i et eor' successores imp'p'm h'erent ibidem passagiu' ult' d'cu' brachiu' maris tam p' ho'ib' q'm p' equis et aliis vel quib'cu'q' et p' passagio illo p'cip'ent p'ut r'onabilit' fu'it faciend'. Et p'fert hic l'ras patentes p'd'c'i D'ni Reg' nu'c que p'missa testant' quar' dat' est apud Wodestok xiiii die Ap'ri anno regni sui quarto. Et eo Waranto clam' lib'tate' illam. Et Will's Braas qui sequit' p' D'no Comite pet' q'd p'd'cus Prior ostend' et declaret cur', &c. que et cujusmodi p'ficua clam' virtute passagii p'd'c'i qui dicit q'd clam' p' ho'ie et equo on'ato vel non on'ato duos denar' et p' ho'ie pedito quadrant'. Et in die mercati apud Lyverpol videl't die Sabati p' ho'ie ob' et p' ho'ie et sumagio die Mercati unu' denar'. Et p'd'cus Will's Braas dic' q'd p'd'cus Prior excessive cepit p'ficua p'd'ca et alio modo q'm de jure fac'e deberet. Et hoc pet' q'd inquirat' p' p'riam. Et p'd'cus Prior si'l'r. I'o prec' est Vic' q'd venire fac' hic ad p'xim' com' xii, &c. p' quos, &c. Et qui p'd'c'm Priore' nulla, &c. ad recogn', &c. Quia tam, &c.

^a Transcribed and obligingly communicated by F. Thomas, esq.

^b The words in the parenthesis are added in the margin of the claim merely to explain the identity of the Hundreds of Wilaston and Wirhale. This is the latest instance which has occurred of Wirral appearing under its antient name.

Bidston.

FOUR townships are comprehended in this parish, Bidston, Moreton, Salghall Massie, and Claughton, all of which are omitted in the Domesday survey.

BIDSTON.

THE manor of Bidston, and of the other component townships of the parish, were antiently part of the barony of Dunham Massey, which was held of the king, in capite, by the service of five knight's fees, by Hamo de Massey, the fifth baron of that house, 16 Edw. I. These estates are noticed first in the time of Hamo the third baron, ^a who gives to John Massey, the lands of Moreton, formerly occupied by John de Moreton, and housebote and haybote in Bidston Wood, in exchange for lands in Puddington.

Hamon Massey, the sixth baron, having sold the reversion of Dunham, with its dependent member, to Oliver Ingham, the right to the same was contested by the coheirs to the barony, the titles of both which parties were bought out by Henry ^b duke of Lancaster, who by fine 9 Edw. III. ^c obtained from Thomas Hanksford, and Katherine his wife, the manors of Doneham, Altrincham, Hale, Kelsal, Salghall, Moreton, Bidston, Claghton, Podinton, and the advowson of the priory of Birkenhead; and at the same time obtained the said manors, from Cicely, widow of John Fitton of Bolyn, Thomas le Strange, of Knokyn, and Lucy his wife, Randle de Dutton and Margery his wife, Richard de Bradshaw and Cicely his wife, and Alice sister of the said Cicely.

The manor of Dunham, and these dependencies were afterwards given in exchange for lands in Lincolnshire, by Henry duke of Lancaster, to Roger le Strange lord of Knockin, from whom the manors of Bidston, Moreton, and Salghall Massey, passed as hereafter mentioned. By the manor of Claghton, and the advowson of Birkenhead, mentioned in the preceding fine, are only to be understood the paramount rights of that manor and advowson, granted out by the Masseys, the antient lords of the one, and founders of the other.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VI. Roger le Strange of Knokyn, chevalier, died seized in fee of the manor of Dunham Massie, and Kelsall, and held also in demesne, as of fee, the manors of Bydeston, Moreton, Salghall, and Massey, cum pert. from the king in capite, by military service, value, per annum, xxi. John le Strange son and heir.

Bidston was alienated to the Stanleys almost immediately subsequent to the death of this Roger le Strange, as appears by an exemplification of an *Inq. p. m.* 21 Hen. VII. enrolled at Chester 15 Oct. 23 Hen. VII. which states that Thomas earl of Derby, unjustly ejected by traverse of this Inquisition, was lawfully entitled to the said manor, as son of George, son of Thomas, son of Thomas, son of sir John Stanley, who died lawfully seized of the same.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VI. Thomas Stanley chevalier, held in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Bydestone, from the prince as earl of Chester, by military service, value, per annum, xxi. Thomas Stanley son and heir.

Thomas Stanley, heir by this Inquisition, and created earl of Derby, 1485, had issue George Stanley, who by ^e Jane his wife, the heiress of the former lords of Bidston (being daughter and heir of John lord Strange), had issue Thomas earl of Derby; in the Inquisition after whose death, dated 14 Hen. VIII. the manor of Bidston is valued at xxi. per annum, as in the preceding Inquisitions.

^f These manors were sold in 1653, by Charlotte countess of Derby (the celebrated defender of Latham), her son Charles earl of Derby, and Dorothea Helena de Ruppa his wife, to William Steele, esq. who re-sold them in the time of Charles the Second, to lord Kingston. Having subsequently passed by sale to the Vyners, they have descended to the present proprietor Robert Vyner, esq. of Gautby, in Lincolnshire, who holds a court leet and court baron annually for the said manors.

During the embarrassments which involved the noble house of Stanley, at the close of the great rebellion, Bidston became the usual residence of Charles, eighth earl of Derby. Latham Hall, the chief seat, was a heap of ruins, and Knowsley was in a condition little superior: half the estates of the family were sold or sequestered; and the bill to effect their redemption, which justice had induced both houses of parliament to pass unanimously, was rejected by the son of that king, for whom the earl's father had ruined his fortunes, and laid his head on the block. Under these calamities, the unfortunate peer retired to Bidston to practise economy, and heal the feelings of a broken heart, and left it to his successor to assert, that "he possessed no estate in Lancashire, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Warwickshire, or Wales, whence he could not see another of equal or greater value, lost by his grandfather for his loyalty and his service to his king and country."

The hall of Bidston is situated on a rock of yellow stone, above the village, and is built with materials of the same description. The eastern front has bay windows and gables and a piazza, along the basement story: the western front is built in the same style with the exception of the piazza; the entrance is by a semicircular porch, which rises to the height of the building, and which is approached by a square court, the entrance to which is a stone gateway, with a curious circular arch. Immediately below the Hall lies the main street

^a Leicester, p. 240.

^b Ibid. 242.

^c Williamson's Evidences, p. 23, 24.

^d Sic. in *Inq.*

^e This coincidence has occasioned an erroneous supposition that the Stanleys obtained Bidston by this marriage.

^f Williamson's Villare Cest.

of the village, broad and cleanly, the houses of which are composed of venerable grey stone, interspersed with trees. In the lowest part of the town stands the PARISH CHURCH, which consists of a nave and chancel, with tower and side aisles, and is an antient respectable fabric. Over the western door are the Derby cognizances.

The rectory is leased under the bishop of Chester, by Benjamin Keene, esq. who enjoys the tithe and all the emoluments; the curate is appointed, and his salary of 20l. per annum (the antient stipend) paid by the lessee. This stipend has an augmentation from queen Anne's Bounty. The certified value is 21l. per annum, consisting of the 20l. before mentioned, and 1l. surplice fees. It is valued in the Eccl. Tax. at 5l. 6s. 8d.

The church formed part of the endowment of the priory, which the Masseys, lords of Bidston, founded at Birkenhead; and having been appropriated by that convent, was valued at 13l. 6s. 4d. at the dissolution. The impropriation and patronage was given to the bishop by the Pat. 33 Hen. VIII.

A school house was erected on the waste ground, at the charge of the parish, by permission of lord Strange, to whom they gave the nomination of the master: the sum of 200l. was raised at the same time for its endowment, of which, in 1724, only 45l. was remaining; the residue has been laid out in land.

The Registers commence in 1679.

The light-house erected in this township, of which a further account is given, under the head of Little Meoles, is a tall octagonal building, with an external gallery running round the upper story. Being situated on an elevated moor opposite the port of Liverpool, and a most conspicuous object, the ground at the sides has been selected for erecting at least eighty private signal poles, for the convenience of the Liverpool mer-

chants, which present a singular appearance to most parts of the surrounding country.

The parish is situated at the extreme point of the Hundred, about two miles from the shore of the Mersey, and double that distance from the Dee.

§ The following particulars relative to the manor of Bidston, and the surrounding estates of the Vyners, extracted from three surveys, taken in 1665, 1756, and 1814, will give some idea of the increase of the value of land in this neighbourhood. The first is a very beautiful survey executed on vellum, and containing plans and elevations of every dwelling. The variation of this survey, and the following one of 1756, are extremely trifling. The rents in the latter are as follow:

	a.	r.	p.	yearly rent.	quit rent.
Bidston demesne,	1064	1	35		
Do. moss land	-	72	2	30	
Do. rock	-	211	3	7	
Land on lease	-	177	2	30	
Bidstone cum Ford	115	0	30	174	0
Wallasey	-	87	2	19	74
Poulton cum Sea-					
combe	-	28	2	16	16
Moreton	-	116	2	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	185
Moreton Common	317	1	28		0
Saugham Massey	564	0	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	305	0
Childer Thornton	63	3	37	40	0
Poulton Lancelyn	40	3	5	33	0
Thingwall	-	60	1	24	39

Of the above lands, in 1814, a considerable part was let on leases for lives at nominal rents: the remainder, amounting to 1530 a. 2r. 32p. were let for the sum of 3332l. per annum, which nearly averages the sum of 2l. 4s. per statute acre, for land, which taken together, is inferior in point of quality to most estates in the county.

SAUGHALL MASSIE, AND MORETON.

SAUGHALL MASSIE is called Saugham in antient deeds.

The manor of this township has passed, as before mentioned under the head of Bidston, and is the property of Robert Vyner, of Gautby, esq. The tenants attend at his court, which is held annually at Bidston.

THE village of Moreton is situated at a short distance from Bidston, in a dreary flat, on the verge of the shore.

There was antiently here a small chapel of ease, without any settled endowment, which, bishop Gastrel says, was destroyed about the year 1690. The tenants annually attend at Mr. Vyner's court at Bidston; the history of which manor includes the descent of the manor of Moreton.

CLAUGHTON.

THE manor of Claughton, which lies partly in this parish, and partly in the parish of Woodchurch, was part of the possessions of the priory of Birkenhead, (valued with the manor of Wolton at 8l. 3s. 28 Hen. VIII.) and was granted at the dissolution, together with the site of the priory, and other estates, to Ralph Worsley, esq. with whose daughter and coheir Alice,

it passed in marriage to Thomas Powel, of Horseley, esq. It has descended from that period to the present (1814), along with Birkenhead, and other adjacent estates of the Horseleys, to the present proprietor, Francis Richard Price of Bryn y pys, co. Flint, esq.

A gamekeeper is appointed for the manor, but no court is held, or other manerial privilege exercised.

Wallesey

CONTAINS three townships, Wallesey, Liscard, and Poulton cum Seacombe.

It has been observed in the introduction to this hundred, that the angles of the termination of the promontory of Wirral consist of two rocky elevations, which have apparently been separated from the main land by the streams of the Dee and the Mersey at some distant period. One of these is called Walea in Domesday, and the other Cerchebia, or Kirkby, in a charter of 1081. The latter of these was afterwards denominated West Kirkby as a distinction from Kirkby in Walley, the name assumed by the former parish as early as the thirteenth century, and which was shortly afterwards changed to Walayesegh. The grantor of the church to St. Werburgh is designated in the chartulary of that abbey "de Waley." These names long maintained a competition: *Kirkby in Waley* occurs in a recovery of lands by John de Bechinton from Henry and Alice de Bechinton, 31 Edw. I. William Bechinton, by *Inq. p. m.* 36 Edw. III. holds from Ellena de Bechinton the same lands in *Waylayeseqh*; and in the same *Inq.* occurs the local name of John de *Kyrkbye in Walaye*. In an *Inq. p. m.* 32 Edw. III. Hugh de *Walay* holds lands in *Kirkbye in Waly*. *Kirkeby in Walleia* is the uniform designation in the Lichfield episcopal registers to 1487, when it is written *Wallesey*. This corruption is the basis of the names now generally used, but there are scarcely two persons who adopt the same orthography.

WALLESEY.

WALLESEY at the Conquest formed a part of the possessions of Robert de Rodelent.

"Isdem Robertus tenet Walea: Uctredus tenuit, et liber homo fuit; ibi una hida, et dimidia geldabilis; terra est iv carucarum; ibi est unus villanus et unus bordarius, cum dimidia carucâ; et unus francigena habet unam carucam cum ii bovâriis, et uno radman, et uno bordario."

After the dispersion of the property of Robert de Rodelent which followed his decease without legitimate issue, Wallesey, or at least a moiety of it, became a part of the fee of Halton, under which (as appears by the feodary) Richard Samson, temp. Edw. II. held a moiety of the manor as the fourth part of a knight's fee, by military service and a relief of 1s. 5d. In the renewal of the feodary, temp. Hen. VI. the same is described as being held by sir Thomas Stanley and Henry Litherland^a, and the Litherland share appears to have merged afterwards in that of the Stanleys.

The manor was possessed in 1668 by the earl of Derby, and part thereof having been alienated with the other Wirral property of that family to Steele, and since passed through the earl of Kingston's family to the Vyners, is now possessed by their representative, Robert Vyner, of Gautby, esq.

Another portion, which was acquired by sir John Egerton before 12 Jac. I. (described in the *Inq. p. m.* of that year as late part of the possessions of William earl of Derby) is now vested in his descendant, sir John Grey Egerton, of Egerton and Oulton, bart.

Sir J. Grey Egerton and Robert Vyner, esq. are stated to be joint lords in a recent bill for inclosing

waste lands within the parishes of Wallesey and West Kirkby.

Another share of the manor has been supposed to be attached to lands recently purchased by John Tobin, esq. from F. R. Price, of Bryn-y-pys, esq. which were part of the estate of the dissolved priory of Birkenhead. In the Villare of ^b1668, sir Thomas Powell, bart. is described as joint lord in right of this estate, which he inherited from Ralph Worsley, esq. grantee of the dissolved priory: and in a payment for pasture of Wallesey Leasowe previous to the late inclosure, sir John Egerton and Mr. Vyner used to receive half a mark each, and Mr. Price two shillings. Wallesey hall, a stone building situated between the church and the rectory, forms part of this property.

Another manor house, formerly called New hall, afterwards Mock Beggar, and now Leasowe castle, was occasionally the residence of its proprietors, the Egertons of Oulton. After an intermediate alienation, it is now, by purchase, the property of the widow of Lewis Boodeè, esq. It consists of a tall octagonal tower, to four of the faces of which square turrets are attached, terminating in gables, which rise above the central building. The gardens are surrounded with a large fosse and mound, and disposed in terraces and alcoves. It is situated towards the middle of a large level plain called the Leasowe, which stretches along the end of Wirral, and is protected partially from the inroads of the sea by a range of sand-hills, but does not boast a single shrub to break the monotony of the prospect. This plain, containing about two hundred and twenty acres, is now about to be inclosed, and is the place

^a Leicester, under Halton.

^b Harl. MSS. 2010.

mentioned as an occasional race-course in Webb's Itinerary. In this act the sand-hills are directed to be preserved, as a security from the inroads of the Irish sea.

The village of Wallesey consists chiefly of one street, at the extremity of which is the church, seated on high rocky ground above the houses. The parish is separated from the rest of the hundred by a small brook, the Birkin, which renders communication with Cheshire difficult and circuitous. The district is now particularly bare of timber, but there is a tradition that the place was formerly so well planted, "that a man might have gone from tree-top to tree-top, from the Meoles stocks to Birkenhead." The Meoles stocks were trunks of trees in the sea-shore above New hall.^c

In the reign of Elizabeth, Wallesey had a little port, to which there belonged three barks and fourteen men: a very inconsiderable quantity, but nevertheless nearly one-fourth of the number of barks and mariners which then were employed at the infant port of Liverpool on the opposite shore, as in the same year, 1565, a census, extant in the town records, states the entire number to consist of only twelve barks, navigated by seventy-five sailors.^d

CHURCH.

Wallesey is a divided rectory, one moiety of which was appropriated by the priory of Birkenhead. After the dissolution, this moiety, which was valued in the Valor Eccl. ^o22 Hen. VIII. at 12l. was granted by Pat. 38 Hen. VIII. as part of the endowment of the new bishopric of Chester, to which it continues attached. It is now held on lease from the bishop by the rev. Thomas Armitstead of Backford. The priory maintained a chaplain in this township, and the chapel where he officiated is alluded to in the following extract from Gastrell's Notitia, which is correct in the general fact, although ^fRobinson, who made the communication, appears to have been ignorant of the origin of the *two* churches.

"There were formerly two churches here; one called Walleys Kirk, situated in the present church-yard, the foundations of which are yet visible, and Lees Kirk, near a narrow land still called the Kirk-way, but which one became ruinous and the other wanted a priest: they were both taken down, and the present one was built in their stead.

"Walley gave those lands called the Near Crook Hey and meadow adjoining, and the Turn Crook Hey, to the high-altar and to the priest for ever, for a burying place in the chancel belonging to the church. This deed of gift was in the parish-chest, and read by H. Robinson, schoolmaster, when I received this information."^g

Lees Kirk must have been the chapel belonging to the priory of Birkenhead. Walleys Kirk is obviously a corruption of the name of the parish church, uniformly called *medietas rectoriæ de Kirkebye in Walleia*, in the early Lichfield registers.

The other moiety of the rectory was given to the abbot and convent of St. Werburgh, with all its appurtenances, in pure alms, by ^hWilliam son of Richard de Waleya. This convent presented to the moiety of the church until the dissolution of monasteries. Their right of presentation was opposed by John de Litherland in 1404, but the abbot afterwards presented Thomas de Chernock in the same year. After the dissolution, the right of presentation to this moiety was granted to the bishop of Chester, together with the appropriation of the other moiety before mentioned.

The parliamentary survey of the appropriated moiety, which is extant among the Lambeth records, describes it as consisting of "one-half of all houses, barns, stables, glebe-lands, tithes, and all other profits or emoluments to the said parsonage appertaining." The incumbent nevertheless enjoys the entire glebe, the house, and other buildings, as decreed upon a suit at Chester in 1720.ⁱ

The church stands on elevated ground. The old steeple, which according to Robinson's MSS. was erected in 1530, is preserved. The body of the church is rebuilt. It contains the following monumental inscriptions.

Within these sacred walls
are deposited the remains
of Elizabeth Penketh,
who departed this life on the
2nd Dec. 1778, æt. 33.

Also of Ellen Johnson,
eldest daughter of the late Thomas Johnson, esq.
of Newton in this county,
who departed this life on the
9th April, 1783, æt. 34.
Erected by an affectionate sister, M. A. Johnson.

Sacred to the memory
of George Briggs, who died
8th Feb. 1814, aged 85.
He resided nearly 60 years
as curate and rector of this church,
endeared to all who knew him
as a minister and a friend
by pureness of knowledge
by love unfeigned.

Led by Religion's bright and cheering ray,
He taught the way to Heaven, and went that way;
And while he held the Christian life to view,
He was himself the Christian that he drew.

The rectory stands below the church, the stone part was built by George Snell in 1632, the brick part was added by Thomas Swinton in 1695.

^k CHARITIES.

Major Henry Meols of Wallesey, built a school and endowed it in 1656-7.

Mr. William Meols, his brother, gave 125l. to the school, which, with some other money, was laid out

^c The above is extracted from a letter written by Mr. Robinson, a schoolmaster here, to Mr. Charles Bunbury, in 1720, and mentioned by him as a story told him by one Richard Watt, on the authority of what he had heard from old people. The extract was communicated by the rev. A. Campbell.

^d History of Liverpool.

^e Comput. Ministror. Augm. Office.

^f Robinson wrote a History of Wallesey, remaining in the church chest, detailing many fabulous stories respecting the parish.

^g Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^h Chartulary of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965. 26. b.

ⁱ Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^k Transcribed from an account of the charities and other local particulars, obligingly communicated by the rev. A. Campbell, rector of Wallesey, through the medium of the rev. John Myers, of Wavertree, M. A.

in a house and lands, namely Hough's barn, and a yard, the Randscoff hey, the Gorst hey, and the old fields.

Henry Young gave a close to the field, called the Winter hey in Poolton cum Seacombe.

In 1799 the old school was pulled down, and another built by subscription.

Its present endowment consists of a house and garden in Poolton, and the before-mentioned fields, amounting to about 22 statute acres, and the interest of 100l. left by the rev. George Briggs. The master is appointed by the minister and churchwardens for the time being.

The other charities consist of the interest of 7l. per annum, left by Henry Robinson to be given to the poor every Whit-Tuesday in bread, except what is expended in repairing an inscription in the church.

The interest of 64l. borrowed by the parish from the poor of Wallesey, given on St. Thomas's day, and the interest of 20l. borrowed by the schoolmaster, and given on Whit-Tuesday.

A rent charge of 2l. 16s. annually given in bread; left by Thomas Cleave, citizen of London, and charged on the old fields in the occupation of John Tobin, esq.

RECTORS OF THE UNAPPROPRIATED MOIETY OF WALLESEY.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1301, die dom. prox. post fest. Sc'e Cedde Ep.	Simon de Rodeswell.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	
1302, 6 kal. Mart.	Hugo de Massey, Acolithus.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	
1324.	Johannes de Breerton, cl'us. Robertus Kely.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Hugonis de Massy.
1404.	Thomas Chernock, cap's. Willielmus Orrel.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Roberti Kely.
1456.	Henricus Shakerley, cap's.	Religiosus Vic. Robertus Breerton prior claustralis monast. Sc'e Werburgæ.	P. resig. Will'i Orrel.
	Willielmus Wall.		
1487, 20 Feb.	Thomas Pemberton.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Willielmi Wall.
	John Gorstilowe.		
1580.	Thomas French.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of John Gorstilowe.
	Thomas Fletcher.		
1619, Nov. 25.	George Snell.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of Thomas Fletcher.
1635, ante.	Randle Adams.		
1656, ante.	Edward Harrison, A. M.		
1660.	John Harvie, A. M.		
1661.	Alexander Featherstone.		
1674, Aug. 20.	Thomas Swinton.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of Alex. Featherstone.
1702, July 16.	John Forshall, A. B.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of Thomas Swinton.
1718, June 17.	Charles Aldcroft, A. B.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of John Forshall.
1749, April 4.	Honoratus Lebeg, A. M.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of Charles Aldcroft.
1769, July 27.	George Briggs.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of Honoratus Lebeg.
1814, Feb. 18.	Augustus Campbell, A. M.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of George Briggs.

John Gorstilowe was buried at Wallesey 1579. *Thomas Fletcher* Nov. 6, 1619.

George Snell will be found in the list of archdeacons of Richmond. ¹He was deprived of Wallesey before 1635, in which year there is an entry of a child's baptism in the parish register, described as child of *Randle Adams*, minister of God's word, and his wife Mary, as is again the case in 1637, 39, 42, and 44.

¹*Edward Harrison* is called rector in the entry of his wife's death in 1656, and minister in that of his own, Sept. 5, 1659. He was M. A. of Emanuel College, Cambridge, and confirmed "pastor of God's word in

Wallazy," by an order from the protector, dated May 14, 1656.

John Harvie, M. A. signs as minister for the first time in 1660¹, in which year Calamy states him to have been ordained by bishop Worth in London. His successor signs a brief the year following, 1661. After this deprivation he had a dissenting congregation in Chester, where he lived on terms of intimate friendship with Matthew Henry, and died Nov. 28, 1699.

Charles Aldcroft was a minor canon of Chester cathedral. His successor was also vicar of Eastham.

¹ Information of the rev. Augustus Campbell.

LISCARD.

LISCARD, or Listark, as it was formerly called, was held under the barony of Halton, by the Astons of Aston, at the earliest period to which it can be traced.

Ricardus de Aston tenet villam de Listark pro quinta parte unius feodi militis et per relevium il. Feodary of Halton, temp. Edw. II.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VII. Sir Richard Aston, kt. held in demesne as of fee the manor of Listark from the king as of his barony of Halton, by the service of the tenth part of a knight's fee. Val. per ann. xxxs.

Inq. p. m. 26 Hen. VIII. Richard Aston, esq. held the manor of Lyscard as before, by the eighth part of a knight's fee. Val. per ann. vii. xiiis. ijd.

The family of Meoles succeeded as lords of Liskard, but at what period does not appear. The manor of Liskard is omitted for the first time among the Aston possessions in an *Inq. p. m.* 16 Eliz.; and in another *Inq. p. m.* 36 Eliz. it is stated that Thomas Meoles, of Great Meoles, gent. held lands and messuages in Lyscard in free socage from Thomas Aston, esq. Val. per ann. iiii. vs.

Before this Inquisition, the Meoleses possessed an interest in the township of Lyscard, as appears by the following Inquisitions.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. Thomas Poole, of Poole, esq. held lands in Lyscard and Kyrkby from John

Meoles in socage, by the render of a red rose. Val. per ann. xxxs.

Inq. p. m. 1 Edw. VI. Thomas Poole, esq. held lands and messuages in Lyscard from Thomas Meoles by fealty and the render of a red rose. Val. per ann. lviii. iiiiid.

The same lands are noticed in two other *Inqs.* taken 3 Eliz. and 12 Jac. I.

On the termination of the male line of the family of Meoles, this manor, or reputed manor, passed by marriage, together with that of Great Meoles, to the Houghs, and was finally sold in 1804, by the late rev. George Briggs, the rev. Edward Newton, John Webster, esq. and Mr. Matthew Taylor, executors of the will of John Hough, esq., to John Penketh of Sea Bank, esq. the present proprietor.^z

The abbot of Basingwerk had antiently an estate in this township. John Done of Crowton, 20 Hen. VI. died seized of a third part of a quarter of that township held from that abbot by fealty; and 17 Hen. VI. William Chauntrell of the Bache, held a fourth part of a quarter of Liscard under the same.

An acknowledgement of the paramount lordship of Halton is still gathered from several tenements within the township.

POULTON IN WALLESEY.

At the southern extremity of the parish of Wallesey, lies Poulton, with the hamlet of Seacombe, bounded on the south and east by the broad estuary, which here forms a considerable bay, and on the west by the rivulet, which flows from Wallesey Leasowe to meet the Mersey.

Domesday is altogether silent with respect to this township.

Certain lands in the township pay a quit-rent to the fee of Halton, but it does not appear from the feodary of that barony, that any paramount rights were claimed by it over this township.

By *Inq. p. m.* 23 Edw. III. Symon de Bechinton is found to hold lands and messuages in Pulton in Walitzè, from Matthew de Bechinton. Val. iiii.

In the three following Inquisitions shares of the manor of Pulton are stated to be held from the family of Houghs of Leighton, as superior lords.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VI. William Chauntrell held jointly with Alicia his wife, a fourth of a moiety of Pulton in Wallesey, and a fourth of a moiety of Secum in Wallesey, from Thomas Hough. Value, per annum, xxxs.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VI. Richard Done of Crowton, held in right of Matilda his wife, a third part of the moiety of Pulton, and a third part of the moiety of Secum, from Thomas Hough, in socage by fealty. Value xxxs.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Thomas Bold, esq. held in demesne, as of fee, a moiety of Pulton in Wallesey, and a moiety of Secum in Wallesey, from Thomas Hough, in

socage, by fealty. Value of each moiety, per ann. xxxs.

After this Inquisition, there is no further mention of the manor, but the Houghs occur thrice, as holding, among other estates, lands here, under the Pooles of Poole.

Inq. p. m. 22 Edw. IV. Thomas de Hoghe, of Leighton, held messuages and lands in Pulton and Secum from Thomas Poole, as of his manor of Poole. Value, per annum, v marks.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. Richard del Hough, of Leighton, held as in the preceding Inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 27 Eliz. William Hough, of Leighton, esq. held messuages and lands in Pulton and Secum, and a free fishery there in the Mersey for himself and tenants, and another fishery called Frydayes tide, from John Poole, as of his manor of Poole, in socage by fealty. Val. iiii. vis. viiid. Alicia, wife of William Whitmore, of Leighton, daughter and heiress.

At the earliest period to which the present manerial estate can be traced (1695), it is found vested in Thomas Meoles, of Chester, (representative of the Meoleses of Meoles, lords of the adjacent manor of Liskard) and William Whitmore, of *Thurstanston*, esq. From this period its descent is perfectly clear^a.

March 1693. James Gordon purchased the said estate from Thomas Meoles of the city of Chester, ironmonger, and Mary his wife, and William Whitmore, of *Thurstanston*, esq.; and was succeeded by James Gordon, his son, in or before the year 1718.

^z Information of the rev. Edward Newton.

^a Obligingly communicated from title deeds by Francis Barker, esq. The manerial descent is very obscure, but it is observable that the Meoleses, from whom the present manerial proprietor of Poulton traces his title, were also lords of Liscard, and that the Pooles, who held lands in Liscard under the Meoleses, are the family from whom the Houghs held lands in Poulton. Both these vills very probably formed one manor originally

8 Aug. 1774, the last mentioned James Gordon devised to Richard Smith, esq. captain in the royal navy (and afterwards rear-admiral), for life, with remainder to Anne, wife of the said Richard Smith for life, with remainder to James Gordon Smith (therein called James Smith only), their eldest son for life, remainder to the first and other sons of the said James Gordon Smith, successively in tail.

In Feb. 1778, the testator died; in July 1799, Anne wife of Richard Smith died; in July 1811, Richard Smith died; and in September 1786, James Gordon Smith married Anne Brideson, and died May 1805, having had issue several children.

Their eldest son, James Gordon Smith, dying an infant, was buried in the Isle of Man, Feb. 14, 1788.

Richard Smith, of Urswick, in Lancashire, esq. their second son, was born in January 1789, and is the present proprietor.

No manerial rights are exercised in this township; but in a late act for inclosures, it was stated that Richard Smith, of Urswick, co. Lanc. claimed the manor of Poulton, and that some right or interest in the manor was likewise claimed by James Mainwaring, esq. of Bromborough^b.

The village lies in a low situation on the banks of the rivulet before mentioned, interspersed with trees, which are screened from the sea breezes by the high grounds of Wallesey, and form an agreeable contrast to the dreary townships adjacent.

Parish of Overchurch.

UPTON.

Two villages of this name are noticed under Wilaveston Hundred in Domesday: one of which was held by the king, and the other by the baron of Nantwich or Malbedeng. The former of these refers to the township of Upton, in Broxton Hundred, on the confines of the present Hundred of Wirral.

“Isdem Willelmus tenet Optone, et Colbertus de eo. qui et tenuit ut liber homo; ibi tres hidæ geldabiles: Terra est v carucarum; in dominio est una: et iv servi, et ii villani, et unus radman et iv bordarii cum una carucâ. Ibi ii acræ prati: tempore R. Edwardi valebat xxv solidos: modo xx solidos.”

Before the termination of the family of the barons of Nantwich in three coheirs, the paramount rights of this manor passed with other portions of the barony to the Praers family, of whom Philip de Praers, temp. Johan. gave his lands here to Philip de Orreby. In 1230, Fulco de Orreby, by deed enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday, assigned his mother Alice Bamville, her dower on Upton, Frankby, and Willaston.

Agnes, daughter and heir of Philip de Orreby, had issue by her husband Walkelyn de Arderne, sir Peter de Arderne, knight, who possessed this manor in right of his mother, holding the same by Inquisition 20 Edw. I. from Robert Praers, as a knight's fee, together with Frankby.

^c 4 Edw. II. John de Warwick and Maud his wife, daughter of John de Arderne, obtained from the said John, the manor of Upton by Moreton; after the death of William de Brichull.

^d Margaret, daughter and coheir of John de Warwick, (a descendant of the preceding John, and erroneously identified with him in the Cheshire Pedigrees), brought

the said manor in marriage to Baldwin Bold, second son of sir Richard Bold, of Bold, in the co. of Lancaster. From whom, and Margaret his wife, Robert Maderer, 9 Hen. VI. obtained the manors of Upton and Frankby, which he settled on them and their heirs^e.

Inq. p. m. 9 Eliz. Laurence Bold (great grandson of Baldwin Bold), held the manor of Upton in Wirral, from the queen as of her earldom of Chester, by military service, value, per annum, xl.; also the manor of Frankby, and lands in Salghall-Massy and Arrow: obiit 4th April, 8 Eliz. Ellen Bennet next of kin and heir.

This Laurence married ^f Margery, daughter of John Glegg, of Gayton, and aunt of William Glegg^g, who obtained by fine from this Laurence, 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary, the manor of Upton, with 16 messuages, one mill, and 2700 acres of various kinds of land in Upton, Frankby, and Arrow. A considerable portion of these lands passed to Thomas Bennet, of Barnston, in marriage with Ellen Bennet, mentioned in the preceding Inquisition, (who was daughter and heir of John Bennet, of Salghall, and of his wife, the ^h sole issue of the before mentioned Laurence Bold); but the manor of Upton, with its dependency of Frankby, passed to Charles Bold, third brother of Laurence.

ⁱ 25 Eliz. Peter Bold, gent. eldest son of Charles, obtained of sir Edward Fitton and Alice his wife, a release of ten marks yearly rent, due to them from the manor of Upton, held from their lordship of Aldford, by fealty, and the rent aforesaid, to the said Peter Bold, and his heirs for ever, for 100l.

^j *Inq. p. m.* 3 Jac. I. Peter Bold, gent. died seized of the manor of Upton, and of one capital messuage, called Upton Hall, with other messuages and lands, and view of

^b Since this was written, at the Chester Spring Assizes, April 1816, in a cause Smith v. Smith, the Jury, contrary to the direction of sir William Garrow, chief justice, found generally, that the profits and privileges specified in the abovementioned Act to belong to the manerial lord, were exclusively the property of Richard Smith, esq. A claim advanced by Mr. Mainwaring of Bromborough had been previously abandoned.

^c Williamson's Cheshire Deeds.

^d Harl. MSS. 1535.

^e Williamson's Deeds, p. 40.

^f Chesh. Pedigrees.

^g Williamson's Deeds, p. 79.

^h Villare Cest.

ⁱ Williamson's Deeds.

frank pledge, in Upton and Frankby, &c. Val. viii.; and lands in Saughall-Massy, Arrowe, and Chester. Obiit 25 Oct. 3 Jac. I. Henry Bold, senior, son and heir.

This Henry Bold, and Peter his eldest surviving son, joined in the sale of the manor to Robert Davies of Manley, 12 April 1614, who re-sold the same in parcels at successive periods, selling the town to Charles earl of Derby, and the hall to William earl of Derby.

After several successive alienations the hall and the manor of Upton became vested in the Cunliffes, and was sold by the present sir Foster Cunliffe, bart. to Thomas Clarke, of Liverpool, esq. by whom it was conveyed to captain Webster, the present proprietor, who resides in the hall. A court leet and court baron are incident to the manor. The jurisdiction of the leet extends over the township of Frankby.

The hall is a low building, with bay windows and gables, probably of the age of Elizabeth. From its situation on high ground, commanding the village, it appears to have been erected on the site of a more antient mansion. The town stands on a knoll, about a mile from Woodchurch, in which parish the buildings are partly situated. The surrounding country is bare and desolate, but the prospect is enlivened by a view of the

Irish sea, and the numerous sails passing and re-passing to the port of Liverpool.

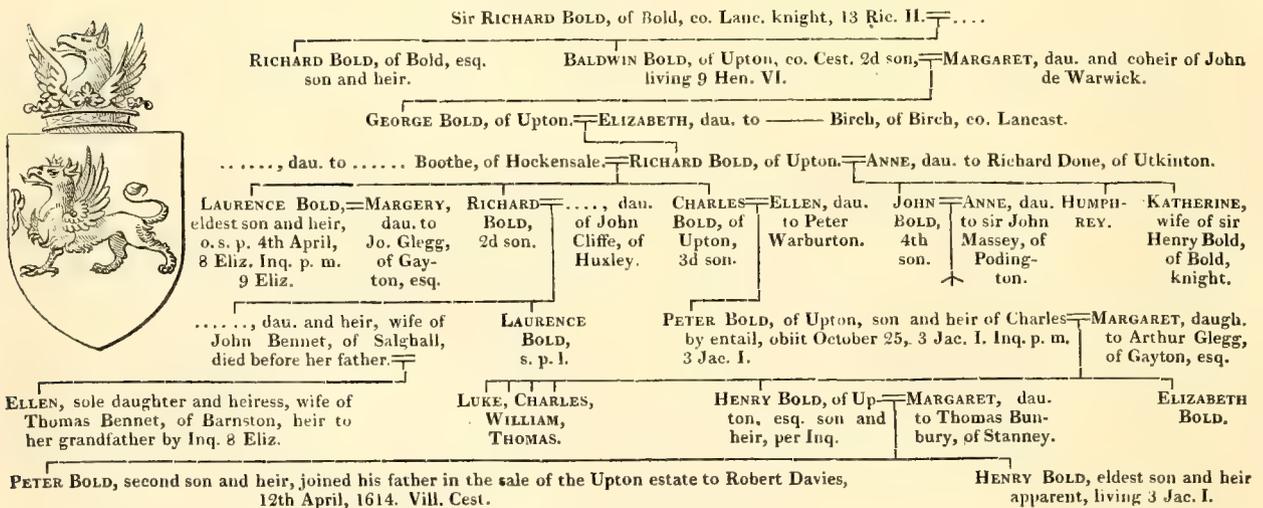
THE PARISH of Overchurch contains only one township, Upton, by which name it is most usually designated. The antient church was situated at the distance of a mile from the village, and was a stone fabric in the last state of decay. In 1709, leave was given to the inhabitants to sell two of their church bells to defray the expence of repairs. The petition states the building to be then extremely ruinous, that the steeple had been thrown down in a storm, and that there were only fourteen families to bear the charge. In 1813, the whole building was taken down in consequence of a survey under direction of the bishop, and a small neat church has been erected subsequently, at the expence of the parishioners, on waste ground adjacent to the town of Upton. The rectory of Overchurch was granted to the dean and chapter of Chester in their first charter, from the unfortunate omission in which, it was lost to the cathedral, and became the property of the Stanleys of Hooton, in whom it still remains. The impropiator of the rectory possesses the right of appointing the curate. The Certified Value is ivl.

BOLD OF UPTON.

From the Visitation of 1613, Vincent's MSS. Coll. Arm. and the Inquisitions.

ARMS. Argent, a griffon passant, Sable.

CREST. A griffon's head, Sable, winged Or, issuing from a ducal coronet, Gules.



West Kirkby.

Church, ded. to St. Bridgett. Tax. Eccl. 10l. 13s. 4d. Abbas Cest. in eadem, 2l. 13s. 4d. Val. Eccl. 28l. 13s. 4d.

THIS parish, the extreme point of Wirral, comprehends the town of West Kirkby, Great and Little Caldey, Frankby, Greaseby, Great and Little Meoles, and Newton cum Larton.

WEST KIRKBY.

ROBERT de Rodelent (although the place was omitted in the Domesday survey) is ascertained to have been the first Norman possessor, by his grant of the church of West Kirkby, immediately subsequent to the Conquest, with other lands and churches (among which was the adjacent one of Hilbree), to the abbey of Utica in Normandy, the place where his ancestors were buried. The gift was subsequently confirmed by king William in 1081, in his charter to that abbey, where it is thus recited. "Robertus de Rodelento, præfato Hugone Cestrensi comite domino suo concedente, dedit Sancto Ebrulfo, Cerchebiam cum duabus ecclesiis, unam scilicet quæ in ipsa villâ est, et aliam prope illum manerium in insulâ maris."^a The abbot and convent of St. Ebrulf soon after gave all their right and claim in the town and church of Kirkby, and the chapel of Hildburgheye, and the church of St. Peter in Chester to the monks of St. Werburgh, subject to a rent of 30l. per annum, to be paid at the manor of Petheling, by the monks of Chester. This church in a very short time fell into the possession of the earls of Chester, and being annexed in the reign of Stephen to the manor of Caldey, and conferred on the abbey of Basingwerk, became subsequently the subject of warm litigation between that convent and the monks of Chester.

^cThe abbot of Basingwerk claimed the presentation in right of his manor of Caldey, to which he stated it had been annexed by charter of Randle Gernons, with all other privileges except warren and pleas of warren. That in the time of king Stephen one Nigell was presented by his predecessors, who was succeeded, with their permission, by his son Thomas, and he by his son Richard, and so on, until, in consequence of the Council of Lateran in 1215, hereditary succession in benefices was forbidden by the legate in England. The abbot added, that after the death of the last hereditary incumbent his convent was dispossessed of Caldey, the advowson of West Kirkby, and other estates, by Randle Blundeville; by whose collusion the abbey of St. Werburgh obtained several presentations, of which the last was that of Ralph de Montalt, "qui tempore guerræ per posse occupavit," and that the last rector being now deceased, the abbey of Basingwerk reclaimed its privileges, and estimated their losses at 200l.

The abbot of St. Werburgh asserted on the other hand, that the advowson had been procured by his convent for the sum of^d 69 shillings, paid to the abbot of Basing-

werk in open court before Lucas de Taney, chief justice of Chester, to whose jurisdiction an objection was raised by the plaintiffs, on the ground of his appointment by Simon de Montfort, an acknowledged rebel, king Henry being then in his custody, and Edward earl of Chester, a prisoner in Wallingford castle.

This objection being deemed insufficient, and the jurors finding the three last appointments to have been made by the abbots of St. Werburgh, the determination was in favour of that abbey, with which the advowson remained to the dissolution, and was then given by charter, and has since continued attached, to the dean and chapter of the new cathedral. The rector has the tithes of the whole parish, which is divided into four quarters. The first consists of Kirkby, Grange, and Newton; the second of Frankby and Greaseby; the third of Great and Little Meoles; and the fourth of Caldey^e.

The church of West Kirkby is situated at a short distance from the shore of the Irish sea, under a rocky elevation adjacent to the village, and consisted originally of a tower, nave, and north aisle, the division between which is now removed. In the chancel at the end of the nave, under three niches, are a piscina, and two stalls for the officiating priests.

On the right hand of the chancel door, is a tablet formed of red stone, on which is carved a coat, consisting of a plain cross, supported by eagles, and ornamented with a coronet. Underneath is inscribed: H. S. E. Johannes Vanzoelen, nuper de civitate Bristolensi Generosus: qui obiit tert. die Septembris, a^o Dⁿⁱ 1689. The person here commemorated died on his way to Ireland with the duke of Schomberg, whose army encamped in the adjacent townships of Great and Little Meoles in that year^f.

In a small chapel, which was antiently the termination of the north aisle, is a monument "to the memory of Edward Glegg, of Grange, esq. who married Elizabeth daughter and heiress of John Kent, of Tranmore, gent. and died the 4th August 1714, leaving issue William, Edward, John, Abigail, and Silence."

Near this is another commemorating John Glegg, of Caldey Grange, esq. who died the 23d of April 1749, aged 37; also Catherine and Mary, his issue by Mary his wife, who died Feb. 28, 1758, aged 39.

In the aisle are other inscriptions in memory of John Glegg of Tranmore, gent. and Hannah his wife; and

^a Leycester, p. 105.

^b The several charters will be found in the Chartulary of St. Werburgh, p. 23. Harl. MSS. 1965.

^c Harl. MSS. 2072, 21.

^d According to some MSS. a palfrey and 9 marks.

^e Gastrell's Nottia.

^f Leigh's Lancash. b. I. p. 29.

also, of Anne, daughter of Edward Glegg, of Irby, the wife of John Urmson, of Neston, the matter of which is incorporated with the pedigree of Glegg of Grange, and of Irby.

In 1668, the church contained the following memorials now removed. Harl. MSS. 2151.

On a painted tablet, the arms and crest of Glegg, impaling, Argent, a lion passant, between three cross-letts fitchè for Bowyer. Underneath. Here lyeth the bodye of William Glegge, of Gray's Inne, esq. sonne and heir of William Glegge, of Great Caldý or Grange, esq. who married Hannah, dau'r to sir Jo. Bowyer of Knypersley in Staffordshire, knt. and by her had six sons and three dau'rs. He died 15 Dec. anno 1644, aged 57 years; she died 20 Sept. 1670, aged 70 years.

On another tablet, the same arms and crest, with an

impalement of the coat of Lowndes, Argent, fretty Azure, on a canton, Gules, a lion's head erased, Or. Inscription. "Here lyeth the body of Anne, the onely daughter of John Lowndes of Overton, in the co. of Chester, gent. second wife of Edward Glegg, of Grange or Great Caldey, in the said county of Chester, esq. by whom he left issue Edward, John, and Anne. She died June 5, 1675, aged 51 years.

On stones in the chancel.

Depositus Gulielmus Glegge, armiger, Novemb. 8, 1636, anno ætat. 77.

Alice Glegge, who died the 16 of Decemb. 1647.

Will'm Glegge, esq. interred 15 Decemb. 1644.

Katherine Glegge, died 25 Jan. 1630.

Hanna Glegge, 25 Aug. 1663.

Nov. 1632, W. G. & May 24, 1634. W. G.

RECTORS OF WEST KIRKBY.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
Temp. Steph. R.	Nigellus.	Ran'us de Geroniis Comes Cestriæ.	
	Thomas, filius Nigelli.	Ex concessione Abb'is de Basingwerk.	P. m. Nigelli.
	Ricardus, filius Thomæ.	Ex concessione ejusdem.	P. m. Thomæ.
	Willielmus, filius Ricardi.	Ex concessione ejusdem.	P. m. Ricardi.
1215, post.	Simon Dyggons, Cler. Abb'is Cest. et Cancellarius Comitum Ranulphi de Blundeville.	Rogerus, Abbas S. Werburgæ.	P. m. Willielmi.
Temp. Hen. III.	Ricardus de Cowdrey.	Walterus, Abbas S. Werburgæ.	P. m. Sim. Dyggons, cler.
Temp. Hen. III.	Rad'us de Montealto.	Thomas, Abbas S. Werburgæ.	P. m. Ricardi Cowdrey.
15 Edw. I.	Willielmus.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Rad'i de Montealto.
	Rogerus de Rodeswell.		
1333, 13 kal. Dec.	Petrus de Northburg.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Rog. de Rodeswell.
1361.	Simo Gentil, cl'us.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	
1364.	Johannes de Cubbelegh, cl'us.		
1387.	Rad'us Gentil.		Causâ permutat. cum Johanne de Cubbelegh.
	Thomas de Derington.		
1433, 26 April.	Henricus Hey, prb'r.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Thomas Derington.
	Henricus Meoles.		
1469, 8 April.	Henricus Best.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Henrici Meoles.
1473.	Thomas Bolton.		Permutat. cum H. Best.
1477.	Willielmus Fowler de Northmeles.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	Permutat. cum T. Bolton.
	Richard Tollett.		
1508, August.	Richard Buckley.	Abbot of St. Werburgh.	Death of Richard Tollett.
	Richard Winstanley.		
1603, Oct. 5.	Thomas Billinge.	Thomas Savage.	Death of Ric. Winstanley.
1631, Aug. 13.	Thomas Glover.	The King.	Resig. of Thomas Billinge.
1654.	John Cartwright.		Deprivation of T. Glover.
1670, May 25.	Thomas Williamson.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Ejectment of J. Cartwright.
1696, Nov. 5.	Richard Wroe, S. T. P.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of T. Williamson.
1717, March 10.	John Oliver, M. A.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Richard Wroe.
1730, Feb. 8.	John Mapletoft, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of John Oliver.
1761, Sept. 3.	Edward Mainwaring, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of John Mapletoft.
1780, Oct. 4.	William Smith, D. D.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of E. Mainwaring.
1787, July 10.	Thomas Pearce, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of William Smith.
1796, Aug. 10.	Thomas Pearce, D. D.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Cess. of said Thos. Pearce.
1803, March 29.	Thomas Trevor Trevor, LL. B.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Thomas Pearce.

The seven names at the head of this list are recited in the account of the litigation between the abbots of Basingwerk and St. Werburgh.

Henry Meoles was a younger brother of the family of Meoles of Great Meoles in this parish.

John Cartwright is inserted on the authority of Calamy, who states him to have been chaplain to lady

Wilbraham of Woodhey after his ejectment, and to have died Feb. 17, 1688.

The succeeding incumbents will be found on the list of dignitaries of Chester cathedral.

In 1636, a school was founded in Grange in this parish by William Glegg, of Grange, esq. who endowed it

with 15 acres (Cheshire) of land in Greaseby, now let at 45*l.* per annum. The salary of the master was further augmented in 1676, by a rent charge of 30*l.* settled by Thomas Bennet, of Newton, on an estate in that township, called the New House, previously the residence of the Coventry family. The nomination of the master was originally vested in the bishop and the heirs of Mr. Glegg; but the appointment is now made by the bishop and the churchwardens of West Kirkby.

The remainder of Mr. Bennet's estate was subsequently left to the poor of the parish to be distributed at the will of his executors, ^f with a limitation of a rent charge of 56*l.* per annum, to be expended in purchasing bread for twelve poor people every Sunday, and of 24*l.* to be distributed in clothes to 24 poor of the parish. The latter of these directions is still followed. The entire rents of the estate, exclusive of the rent charge to the school, amounted in 1814, to 327*l.* per annum.^g

The Registers commence in 1692.

THE MANOR was antiently held under the abbey of Basingwerk, by a family who bore the local name^h. It continued attached to that convent, after the loss of the rectory, and was held in farm under the monks by various successive inferior lords to the dissolution. ⁱIn 1668, it was the property of the earl of Bridgwater, but was afterwards sold in parcels, and is now divided among the freeholders, who hold yearly a court baron, and exercise the other manerial privileges in succession.

The parish appears to have been insulated at some distant period by a deep rocky channel, which joins the estuary of the Dee, between Caldey and Thurstanston, and gradually mixes with the flat district on the shore of the Irish sea. The greater part of the space thus separated is rocky and uneven, and totally different in character from the rest of the Hundred.

LITTLE CALDEY.

THIS township is on the shore of the Dee, about a mile south east of West Kirkby. The village consists of a collection of straggling fishermen's huts, scattered over an eminence near the estuary, which is separated by a deep rocky valley from the parish of Thurstanston.

Robert de Rodelent was the Norman grantee. "Isdem Robertus tenet Calders: Levenot tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi tres hidæ geldabiles: Terra est x carucarum: ibi v villani et v bordarii habent duas carucas, et unus francigena cum uno serviente habet duas carucas. In dominio duo boves, et una acra prati."

After the death of Robert de Rodelent, it most probably passed to the (illegitimate?) line of Rodelent; who afterwards assumed the name of Thurstanston. Agnes de Thurstanston, the heiress of this family, brought Little Caldey in marriage to Patrick de Haselwall.

^a Agnes their daughter, who held this village under them by deed of gift, 17 Edw. I. re-surrendered one half to them by deed, s. d. The other moiety was given by Patrick de Haselwall and Agnes his wife, (also in 17 Edw. I.) to John de Norreys, and Nichola his wife, their daughter; from whom John de Calveley and Margery his wife, 14 Edw. II. obtained one fourth of the manor by fine.

This John de Calveley was uncle of Robert de Calveley, who married the heiress of Haselwall, from whom

the Davenports inherit a moiety of the estates of that family^b; but the before-mentioned deed was most probably a deed of trust only, as the Calveleys, and their successors the Davenports, do not appear to have ever possessed a share of Little Caldey, but the whole seems to have descended by the other coheir to the Egertons of Caldecote, and having passed with their share of Haselwall and Thurstanston to the Brownes, to have passed with it to the Whitmores, who have certainly (as appears from title deeds) exercised exclusive manerial rights, for upwards of a century.

These manerial rights, by a recent division of the Whitmore estates (1816) in chancery, have been allotted with the greater part of the township, to Whitmore and Elizabeth Smart, whose connection with the family is given in the account of Thurstanston.^c

Little Caldey is enumerated among the estates of the Egertons of Caldecote and Winehill, descendants of Eustasia, daughter and coheir of Ralph de Haselwall, in four Inquisitions p. m. 9, 10, 17 and 21 Hen. VIII.

Hugh Lupus gave the tithes of both Caldeys to the abbey of St. Werburgh, which gift was confirmed subsequently by Robert son of Serlo.

The village of Dawpoole or Dalpoole, is situated on the shore below Caldey, and is a reputed manor, for which a game deputation is given by the representatives of the Whitmores.

^f Gastrell's Notitia, p. 97.

^h In the chartulary of St. Werburgh, the surrender of the abbot of Basingwerk is preceded by three charters, whereby Richard de Kirkeby surrenders his right in four bovates of land and the advowson of the church, and quitclaims the same to the abbot of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965. p. 23.

ⁱ Harl. MSS. 2010.

^a Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^b Vide the Inquisitions of the Davenports in Calveley and Haselwall, and Fines, p. 2.

^c Issue of Baptist Smart, M. D. by a second wife. See Thurstanston and the Whitmore pedigree.

^g Information of the Rev. Mr. Newton.

GREAT CALDEY,

COMMONLY called Grange, was held by Hugh de Mara. "Isdem Hugo tenet Calders. Erniēt tenuit, liber homo fuit: ibi una geldabilis. Terra est trium carucarum. In dominio est una cum uno bordario. Valebat v solidos, modo x solidos."

The manor was afterwards resumed, and granted by Randle Gernons to the abbey of Basingwerk, along with the advowson of West Kirkby, under the account of which township the particulars are fully stated of a singular contest between the abbots of Basingwerk and St. Werburgh, respecting that appendage to this manor, of which the monks of the former convent were disseized by Randle Blundeville.

Roger Mortimer claimed lands in Formedon in this township in the 10th of Edward the First, which he stated to have been held in capite of the convent of Basingwerk, in the time of Richard the First.

The manor appears to have continued united to the earldom from the time of the second resumption until it was granted, by letters patent, dated 6 Edw. VI. 1552, under the name of Hull Grange, with a swannery on Newton Carr, to John Glegg, of Gayton, or to his younger brother also John Glegg, the ancestor of the Gleggs of Grange^b. In the descendants of the latter, of whom a

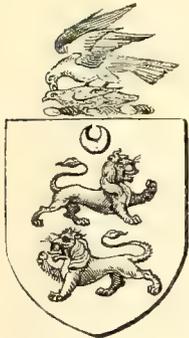
pedigree is annexed, the manor continued, until it was sold with the estate, by the late William Glegg, of Grange, esq. to John Leigh of Liverpool, in which sale was comprehended the entire township of Great Caldey, with the exception of an estate appropriated to the poor of this parish, and another estate belonging to the trustees of Northwich school.

Grange Hall has been taken down, and its site occupied by a farm house: it stood north east of a rocky and moorish elevation, which rises above the town of West Kirkby, where the cottages which compose the village are scattered, and its situation is marked by plantations of respectable growth.

The Carr, a common of two hundred and twenty statute acres, situated within this township, is included within the provisions for inclosures, in the act lately passed for inclosing the wastes of the parishes of Wallesey and West Kirkby.

It should be understood that the manerial rights of these two Caldeys are totally distinct from the view of frank pledge, and court leet, called the Court of the Hundred of Caldey, mentioned under the township of Gayton, the jurisdiction of which extends over several of the townships adjacent.

GLEGG OF GRANGE.



ARMS, as Glegg of Gayton. Confirmed by sir William Dugdale, 1664; a Crescent for difference.

From Parish Registers, the Visitation of 1664, and a transcript of a Pedigree by Ralph Bigland, and Isaac Heard, esqrs. in the possession of general Glegg.

JOHN GLEGG, of Grange, second son of John Glegg, of Gayton, esq. — SIBILLA, daughter and coheirss of Roger Ledsham, of Chester.

ROGER GLEGG, of Caldey Grange, esq. son and heir. — ANNE, daughter of William Hockenull, of Prenton.

WILLIAM GLEGG, of Caldey Grange, esq. son and heir, obiit Nov. 8, 1636, a^o aet. 77, buried in the church of West Kirkby. — ALICE, dau. to Thomas Ratcliffe, of West Kirkby, widow of William Leigh, of Irby, obiit 16th Dec. 1647, buried at West Kirkby.

MARGERY GLEGG. ELIZ GLEGG, wife of George Watson, merchant. WILLIAM GLEGG, of Caldey Grange, esq. aged upwards of 24 years at the Visitation of 1613, died 15th Dec. 1644, aged 57 years, buried at West Kirkby. HANNAH, dau. of sir John Bowyer, of Knipersley, co. Stafford, died 20th Sept. 1670, buried at West Kirkby, aged 70 years. ALICE, wife of George Bennet, of Greaseby. JOHN GILBERT EDWARD ARTHUR.

HESTER GLEGG. ROGER GLEGG. — MARTHA, dau. of ... Moss, obiit Sept. 2, 1697. ANNE, only daughter of Roger Lowndes, of Overton, co. Cest. obiit June 5, 1675, aged 51 years. EDWARD GLEGG, of Caldey Grange, esq. aged 42 at the Visitation of 1664, born 1622. married Anne, dau. of ... Thelwall, esq. 3d wife, who died s. p. MARGARET, dau. of William Glegg, of Gayton, esq. by Cicely, daughter to Robert Sephton, of Mollington, esq. sister and coheir to Thomas Sephton. 1st wife. HANNAH GLEGG, A daughter buried at West Kirkby, Aug. 2, 1663. four younger sons.

HANNAH, only dau. obiit Sept. 19, 1729, bur. at West Kirkby, a^o aet. 41. Had iss. JOHN GLEGG, of Tranmore, gent. 3d son, living 1703. JANE, daughter of John Scorer, of Westminster, gent. buried at Thurstanston, Mar. 7, 1720, a^o aet. 46. EDWARD GLEGG, of Irby, esq. 2d son, obiit Dec. 15, 1703, a^o aet. 45; buried at Thurstanston. WILLIAM GLEGG, of Grange, esq. son and heir, aged 11 years 1664. MARGARET, dau. of ... RET GLEGG.

PRUDENCE, SILENCE, died young. ROGER, died unmarried, Decem. 7, 1777. ANNE, wife of the rev. John Urmsion, of Neston, ob. Feb. 6, 1769, aged 61. JOHN GLEGG, of Irby, esq. eldest son and heir, ob. May 14, 1768. Vide Backford. FRANCES, eldest dau. of Henry Birkenhead, of Backford, and coheirss of her uncle Thos. Birkenhead. EDWARD GLEGG, of Caldey Grange, esq. obiit Aug. 4, 1714, aged 33 years, bur. at West Kirkby. ELIZ. dau. and heirss of John Kent, of Tranmore. MARGARET, wife of ... Becket, buried at Haselwall, 1715.

GLEGGS of Backford. DEBORAH, 2d dau. and coheirss of Henry Birkenhead, of Backford, esq. re-married to Lieut.-colonel Charles Crosbie, o. s. p. WILLIAM GLEGG, of Grange, esq. baptized at West Kirkby, Dec. 28, 1704, died Dec. 21, 1739, without surviving issue. EDWARD GLEGG, of Backford, July 1706, o. s. p. JOHN GLEGG, of Grange, esq. born 1712, ob. April 23, 1749. MARY, dau. of ... Carr, of Liverpool, ob. Feb. 28, 1758, aet. 39. ABIGAIL, wife of ... SILENCE, bapt. 1708.

FRANCES, daugh. of Thomas Jennings, 1st wife. WILLIAM GLEGG, esq. only son and heir, who sold the estate of Caldey Grange. SIDNEY, dau. of ... Lloyd, living at Parkgate, 1814. MARY FRANCES. MARGARET, obiit Nov. 2, 1749. CATHERINE, obiit March 14, 1746.

^a Vill. Cest.

^b The date of the grant will scarcely permit John Glegg, father of these two Johns, to be supposed the grantee of the manor.

FRANKBY.

THE township of Frankby was from an early period a part of the manor of Upton, with which it passed to the beginning of the seventeenth century. It is omitted in the Domesday survey.

Philip de Praers gave his lands in this town to Philip de Orreby, by deeds, s. d. apparently of the time of king John, from the names of the witnesses.

In 1230, this vill, with Upton and Willaston, were assigned to dame Alice Bamville, for dower^a, by her son Fulk de Orreby, by deed enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday.

Agnes, daughter and heir of Philip de Orreby, brought this place in marriage to Walkelin de Arderne, whose son Peter, in the 20th of Edw. I. died seized of it, holding of Robert Praers, by a knight's fee. His son and heir, John de Arderne, passed it over to John de Warwick and Maud his wife, whose descendant and heir Margaret brought the same (with Upton) to Baldwin Bold in marriage, about the time of Henry IV.

Laurence Bold, great grandson of Baldwin, died seized of this place 4th April, 8 Eliz. being parcel of Upton, holding it of the queen^b as of her earldom of Chester by knight's service, then valued at viii. per annum.

^c Peter Bold his nephew died seized of this and other estates, 15 Oct. 1606. In 1614, Henry Bold and Peter Bold, son and grandson of the above Peter, joined in the sale of the estate to Robert Davies of Horton, who re-sold it in the 21st of James I. to Peter Daa or Day, whose heir was lord in 1701.

The manor subsequently became the possession of Mr. Bond of Daisey Bank, near Congleton, from whom it was purchased by Mr. Peter Philipps, who claims a court here subordinate to the court of Upton, at which the tenants of this manor continue to attend.

Other particulars of the descent of this manor, and the pedigree of Bold, will be found in the account of Upton.

GREASEBY.

THE tithes of Greaseby, or Gravesbiri, as it was then called, together with those of Storeton, were given by Hugh Lupus to the abbey of St. Werburgh, previous to the great foundation charter of that abbey in 1093, the gift being recited in the charter of that abbey, as an act "dum habuit in dominico suo," previous to the parceling out the Cheshire manors among his followers^d, and as one confirmed by Nigell de Burceio, on his coming to the inheritance, who increased the donation with the gift of eight bovates of lands; witnessed by Ranulph and Garacinus his brother, and many others.

This endowment consequently took place before the year 1086, the period of the completion of Domesday, which describes Nigell as lord of Greaseby, Storeton, and Olton.

"Ipse Nigellus tenet Gravesbirie: Dunning tenuit: ibi duæ hidæ geldabiles: terra est trium carucarum: in dominio est una et duo servi, et duo francigenæ, et unus bordarius, cum una caruca inter omnes. T. R. Edwardi, valebat xxx solidos, modo xx solidos.

^e R. de Rullos, a subsequent proprietor of Greaseby, conferred by charter the whole town on the abbey of St. Werburgh, as appears by an entry in the chartulary of St. Werburgh, and a confirmation charter of his sons, Richard de Rullos and Robert his brother, who grant to God and St. Werburgh, and the monks of that abbey, the town of Gravesbi, in Wirhale, in free alms, for their own souls and that of their father, who gave the same free from all census and service, to the said monks for the good of the souls of his ancestors. And the

said Richard and Robert retain nothing in the same but prayer and alms. Witnesses, Andrew the chaplain, Thurstan the priest, and William the priest. Cart. 13 Edw. I. m. 11. n. 38. per inspex.

The monks of St. Werburgh who thus obtained possession of the whole manor, claimed here, as in their other manors, the privileges stated in their plea to the writ of quo warranto 31 Edw. III. namely, infangtheof, wayf, stray, goods of natives, felons, and fugitives, and view of frank pledge, at their manor house of Irreby.

After the dissolution of the monastery, Greaseby was granted to the dean and chapter of Chester cathedral, by their foundation charter; but during the confusion which followed the discovery of the omission in that charter, possession was obtained by John Harpur, as stated by Dr. Williamson; and by Inq. p. m. 13 Eliz. some lands within this township in the holding of Robert Radcliffe are found to be held in capite, from the queen by knight's service, paying a fee farm rent to Richard Harpur, of 31s. valued at 6s. 8d.

^f On the settlement of the disputes relative to the dean and chapter lands, the manor was by James I. granted or rather confirmed to George Cotton, esq. son of sir Richard Cotton, and was conveyed by him, subject to a fee farm rent to the dean and chapter, along with other lands to Thomas Bennet. The manor afterwards passed into the possession of the Gleggs of Irby, and was sold by the late John Glegg, of Irby and Backford, esq. to Mr. Robert Peacock of Upton, who is the present proprietor, and holds a yearly court in this township.^g

^a Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5. p. 100.

^b Inq. p. m. 9 Eliz.

^c Inq. p. m. 3 Jac. I.

^d Foundation charter of St. Werburgh.

^e Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^f Harl. MSS. 2010. It is incorrectly stated in the Villare of 1688, and the Villare Cestriense of 1701 by Dr. Williamson, that the township consisted entirely of freeholders, without any manerial privileges.

^g From the deeds in possession of Mr. Peacock.

GREAT MEOLES.

THIS township is situated at the extremity of the hundred, on the shore of the Irish sea. The baron of Rhuddlan possessed it at the Conquest:

"Isdem Robertus (de Rodelent) tenet Melas. Levenot tenuit: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est una caruca et dimidia: ibi est unus Radman et 11 villani; et 11 bordarii habent unam carucam. Tempore regis Edwardi

valebant xv solidos, modo x solidos. Wasta invenitur."

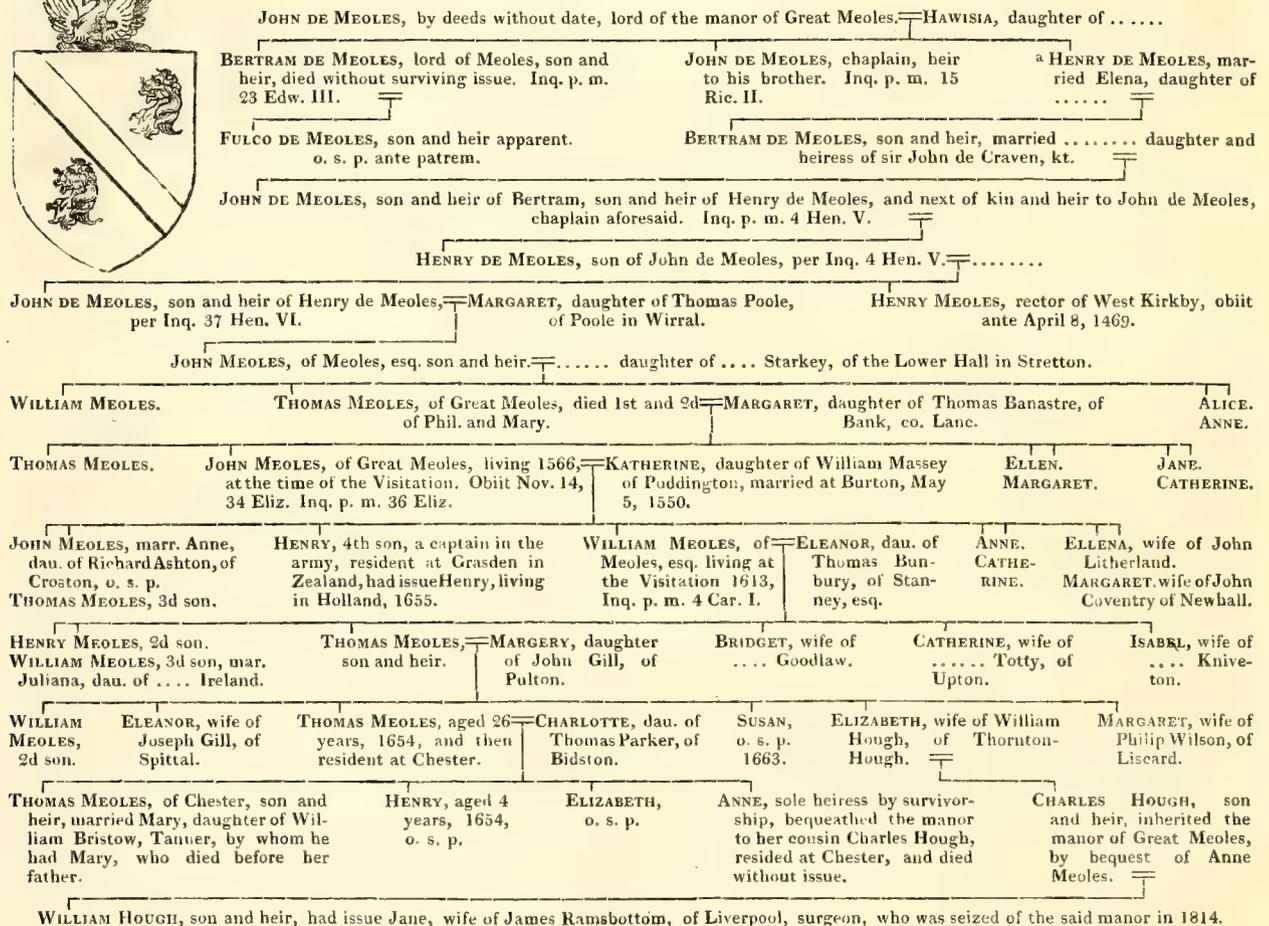
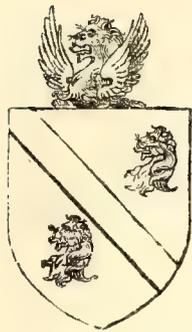
Robert de Rodelent shortly afterwards was slain by the Welsh, and died without legitimate issue; at a period little subsequent to which, a family is said to have settled as capital lords under the earls, and were certainly settled previous to the commencement of the following pedigree.

MEOLES, OF MEOLES.

From the Inquisitions p. m. the Visitation of 1613, Harl. MSS. 2119. and the information of the family in the three last descents.

ARMS.—Argent, a bend Sable between two lions' heads Sable, langued Gules.

CREST.—On a wreath a lion's head erased, Sable, winged, Or.



The following extract from the enrolments in the Cheshire Domesday, is the earliest document which has occurred respecting this family, and shews them to have been in possession at least three generations before the 14th of Hen. III.

^b Memorandum: quod recognitum fuit in pleno comitatu Cestriae, coram d'no Will'o de Vernon, tunc justic. Cest. Rog. de Montealto, sen' Cest. War. de Vernon, Will'o de Venables, Ham. de Masey, et aliis fidelibus d'ni Comitibus ibi praesentibus, quod Robertus filius Walteri de Meles, et Walterus filius ejus, et eorum sequela, sunt liberi homines, et in hujus rei testimonium id irrotulari provisum est.

Next occurs John de Meles, father of Bertram de Meles, with whom the pedigree commences.

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. Bertram de Meeles, held the manor of Meeles and xx acres in the same, of which each acre is worth xiiid. and one windmill worth xiiid. per annum, which are held in capite from the lord earl of Chester, by the services of the fifth part of a knight's fee, and are worth iiii. xiiid. per annum. No heir mentioned.

This Bertram de Meoles had issue Fulco de Meoles, to whom he gave ^c eight bovates of land in Meoles by charter without date, between 3 and 10 Edw. I. Test. Guncelino de Badlesmere, tunc just. Cest. Uriano de S'to Petro, ^d Petro de Ardren, Patricio de Haselwall,

^a In the Cheshire pedigrees this Henry is erroneously made son of Fulco de Meoles.

^b Domesday Book, Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5. p. 100.

^c Harl. MSS. 1535.

^d This charter will correct an error in the Vale Royal, p. 123, where the names occur in the same order, and are printed Urianus of St. Peter of Arderne, as if the Ardernes had been a branch of the St. Pierre family.

Roberto de Pulle, Will'o de Launcelyn, Philippo de Bamville, et Rogero de Domville, militibus. Fulco de Meoles dying without issue before his father, John de Meoles, his uncle, succeeded Bertram in the inheritance.

Inq. p. m. 15 Ric. II. John de Meoles, chaplain, was seized in demesne, as of fee, in fee simple, of the manor of Meoles cum pert. which is held from the king as earl of Chester in capite by military service. Val. per ann. v marks. John, son of Bertram de Meoles, son of Henry and Ellen his wife, next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. V. John de Meoles held in demesne as of fee the vill of Mykull Meoles cum pert. from the king as earl of Chester in capite. Val. 1111l. per annum, and lands in Kirkby Walley, and Tranmore. Henry, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 36 Eliz. John Meoles, of Meoles, gent. died seized of the manor of Great Meoles, with 11 messuages and lands therein, held of the queen as of her earldom of Chester as the fifth part of a knight's fee. Val. per ann. xx111s. 1vd. also lands in Kirkby Walley, Liskard, Walley, the city of Chester, and Liverpool. Obiit 14 Nov. 34 Eliz. William Meoles, gent. son and heir, aged upwards of xxx111 years.

Inq. p. m. 4 Car. I. William Meoles, of Meoles, esq. held the manor of Great Meoles, with messuages, lands, and all free customs and privileges to the manor belonging, of the king as earl of Chester as the fifth part of a knight's fee.

The male line of this antient family became extinct in the grandson of this man, Thomas Meoles, who resided at Chester. He sold the manor of Pulton cum Seacombe in 1695, and was succeeded in his other estates by his sister, Anne Meoles, who also died issueless, and bequeathed her estates to her cousin, Charles Hough, son and heir of William Hough of Thornton, by Elizabeth, the only sister of Thomas Meoles (father of the said Elizabeth) who had issue.

The manor is now vested in William Ramsbottom, surgeon, of Liverpool, in right of his wife, Jane Hough, grand-daughter of Charles Hough before-mentioned.

The family of Meoles embarked zealously in the cause of Charles I.; and if we may judge from the disparity of their marriages after that time to the alliances which they previously formed, they were sufferers in no small degree from the effects of that disastrous period.

LITTLE MEOLLES.

THIS manor, at the Conquest, belonged to Robert de Rodelent, the proprietor of the adjacent township of Great Meoles.

"Isdem Robertus tenet Melas: Levenot tenuit: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est 111 carucarum: ibi unus Radman, et 111 villani, et 111 bordarii, habent unam carucam. Tempore Regis Edwardi valebat x solidos, modo x11 solidos."

The Grosvenors^a, and after them the family of Meoles, of Great Meoles, became the subsequent capital lords; the mesne manor was held by the Lancelyns of Poulton, from an early period. Robert de Lancelyn, about the time of Richard I. grants 3l. rent in Little Meoles, to the abbey of St. Werburgh.

9 Edw. II. Henry de Brombrorough obtained from William Launcelyn the manors of Poulton, Nether Bebington, and Little Meoles, which he settled on William^b, remainder to Henry son of William and Katherine his wife, and their issue, remainder to the right heirs of William.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VIII. William Lancelyn held lands in Meoles, from John de Meoles, in socage, by the render of a red rose. Value, per annum, 111l. xv111s. William, son of Roger Lancelyn, grandson and heir.

From the Lancelyns the manor of Little Meoles passed with other manors and estates to Randle Greene, in marriage with Elizabeth sole daughter and heiress of the last-mentioned William Lancelyn, of Poulton Lancelyn, esq. which Randle and Elizabeth levied a fine on their manors of Poulton Lancelyn, Nether Bebington, Spittle, and Little Meoles^c, 11th Elizabeth.

Shortly afterwards the manor was alienated to the Stanleys of Weever and Alderley.

Inq. p. m. 33 Eliz. Thomas Stanley, of Wever, esq. held lands in Little Meoles from Thomas Meoles, esq. by the render of a red rose. Value, per annum, 1111l.

Inq. p. m. 23 Ap. 4 Jac. I. Sir Thomas Stanley, of Wever, knt. held the manor of Little Meoles from Thomas Meoles, esq. by the render of a red rose. Value, per annum, 1111l.

From this period the manor of Little Meoles has regularly descended in the family of Stanley, of Alderley, and by settlement made previous to the marriage of sir John T. Stanley, bart. is now vested in the Rev. Edward Stanley, his brother, for life^d, with remainder to sir J. T. Stanley, and his heirs.

No court is held for the manor.

The erection of an excellent hotel by the father of the possessor, joined to the neighbourhood of Liverpool, have made this township of late years a place of resort for sea-bathing, notwithstanding an apparent dearth of attractions, situated as it is amongst a range of sand-hills on the desolate extremity of a promontory.

The adjacent lake, antiently called "Lacus de Hilburgheye," and "Heye-pol," was quitclaimed by William Lancelyn^e, to the Abbey of St. Werburgh: it derives its present name from two large sand-banks, which afford in stormy weather a salutary refuge to the vessels frequenting the port of Liverpool. The Bidston and Leazon light-houses are erected to further this object; the blending of the two lights being the signal that the vessel is right for Hoyle Lake. A side passage, between the banks, called the Swash, also opens into the lake from the mouth of the Dee, which is pointed out by two large sea-marks erected on the island of Hillbree.

^a Vide Hillbree.

^b Williamson's Deeds, p. 10.

^c Ibid, p. 87.

^d Information of Sir J. T. Stanley, Bart.

^e Harl. MSS. 1965. Chartulary of St. Werburgh, p. 23.

NEWTON CUM LARTON.

THIS small township was the antient inheritance of the Lancashire family of Banastre.

Robert de Banastre granted his lands in Newton Thurstan Banastre, his brother, by deeds without date, witnessed by Fulco de Orreby, Urian de Bermingham, and others^f. Seal appendant, three chevrons.

By another deed without date, Ralph de Vernon grants to Hugh de Venables, with Agatha his daughter in free marriage, the land which he held in Newton by gift of Thurstan de Banaster, with the homage and services of John de Corne, for half the township, and of William Lancelyn for the land held by him in Larton. Seal appendant, a garb.

The estate which was thus vested in the Venables family, occurs as follows, among other numerous estates attached to the barony of Kinderton.

Inq. p. m. 6 Ric. II. Hugh Venables, of Kinderton, held the manor of Newton, in Wirrhal, from the king, by military service, Value VIII marks per annum.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. V. Hugh Venables, of Kinderton, held half the town of Newton, in Wirrhal, from Adam Banester del Bonke, in the county of Lancaster, Value, per annum, IIII.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Sir Hugh Venables, of Kinderton, knt. held a moiety of Newton, in Wirrhal, from Bannester, of Bonck, in Lancashire, Value, per annum, 1s.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VII. William Venables, of Kinderton, esq. held a moiety of Newton, from Henry Bannester, of Bonck, in socage, Value, per annum, 1s.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. Thomas Venables, of Kinderton, esq. held a moiety of the manor of Newton from Henry Bannester, of Banck, in socage, Value, per annum, 1s.

Inq. p. m. 32 Hen. VIII. Sir William Venables, of Kinderton, knt. held a moiety of the same, as in the last Inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 4 and 5 Phil. et Mar. Katherine wife of sir W. Venables held the same as before-mentioned.

The manor is not noticed in the following Inquisitions of this family 23 Eliz. and 4 Jac. I. and therefore may be supposed to have been alienated soon after the death of lady Venables, in 1557. A portion passed to the Masseys, of Puddington, which is valued at 1111l. in the Inquisition after the death of William Massey, 23 Eliz.; and at x1s. in the Inquisition after the death of John Massey, 10 Jac. I.

Another part of the township, called the New-house estate^g, was for several generations the residence of a branch of the Coventry family, who entered a pedigree in the Visitation of 1613. It passed afterwards to Thomas Bennet, of Newton.

This Thomas Bennet, in 1668, was joint lord of the manor of Newton, together with Edward Massey^h, of Puddington, esq. and Henry Newport, of Larton. These two last-mentioned shares have fallen into disuse, and Thomas Bennet, the proprietor of the third share, died issueless. The manerial rights are now claimed by the Rev. Roger Jacson, rector of Bebington, in right of his wife, Mary-Anton, daughter and heiress of . . . Johnson and Ellen his wife, daughter and heiress of . . . Anton, who married the daughter of . . . Bennet, a relative of Thomas Bennet, of Newton, before-mentionedⁱ.

Certain portions of Bennet's estate, called Bennet's Yard and Coventry's Meadow, were recovered by Mr. Johnson, and have descended with the reputed manor: but the bulk of the estate^k (which, in 1814, let for 327l. per annum), was bequeathed by Thomas Bennet to the freeschool and other charities of the parish of West Kirkby^l.

Another estate belonging to the school of Woodchurch, and let at 81l. per annum, is situated in this township.

Extra-Parochial Township adjacent to West Kirkby.

HOOSE.

THIS small extra-parochial township lies between Great and Little Meoles, adjacent to the parish of West Kirkby, and was possessed by Randle Probye, in 1579. In the Villare of 1668, it is described as being in the possession of Robert Ormeston and John Field, of Bidston.

^m In or about the year 1755 the Hoose became the property of John Glegg, of Irby and Backford, Esq. and was sold by his son John Glegg, esq. in 1803, to Sa-

muel Baxter. This purchaser, after several minor alienations of small parcels of land, sold the residue, together with the manor of it, to Charles Monk, of Bromborough, in 1812; by whom the same was resold to J. T. Swainson, esq. F. R. S. and S. A. of Larkfield, near Liverpool, who is the present proprietor, and has erected a neat cottage for his occasional residence in a secluded valley near the shore.

^f Harl. MSS. 2074.

^g Pedigree of Coventry, of Newhouse, Harl. MSS. 1535.

^h Harl. MSS. 2010.

ⁱ Information of the Rev. Roger Jacson.

^k Information of the Rev. . . . Newton, of West Kirkby.

^l Gastrell's Notitia Cestriensis.

^m From deeds in the possession of J. T. Swainson, esq. by whom the particulars were obligingly communicated.

Part of St. Oswald's Parish.

HILBREE ISLAND.

AT a short distance from the town of West Kirkby, and at the extreme point of the Hundred, lies the little island of Hilbree, which was formerly part of this parish, but becoming afterwards a cell to the abbey of St. Werburgh, in Chester, it was included within the parish of their church of St. Oswald, to which it still continues attached, although it is twenty miles distant from any other portion of the parish.

Like the Holy Islands of Lindisfarn, it was the object of superstitious pilgrimage; and like those islands alternately joined to or separated from the contiguous mainland by the variation of the tide:

“ With the flow and ebb its stile
Varies from continent to isle,
Dryshod o'er sands twice every day,
The pilgrims to the shrine find way;
Twice every day the waves efface
Of staves and sandal'd feet the trace.”

MARMION.

The sanctity of the shrine of Hilbree is said to have been manifested by a miraculous interposition of St. Werburgh, in favour of Richard earl of Chester, when a minor, related at length by Bradshaw, the monk of Chester Abbey, in the life of his sainted patroness. The earl was performing a solemn pilgrimage to St. Winifred's Well, on the opposite shore of Flintshire, when he was attacked by a band of Welsh insurgents, and driven into the abbey of Basingwerk, which seemed likely to afford him only a temporary security. In this dilemma he addressed himself to St. Werburgh, who is said to have instantly parted the waters of the Dee, by the formation of new sand banks, over which his constable, the baron of Halton, marched troops to the relief of his lord: these banks have since retained the name of the Constables Sands.

It is very probable that the resort of pilgrims to the cell may date from the period in which this miraculous tradition first gained credit; but the church of Hillbree was of greater antiquity than the time to which the story refers, being mentioned in the charter granted in

1081, to the abbey of St. Ebrulf of Utica by William the First, as having been previously given to that convent along with the church of West Kirkby, by Robert de Rodelent.

^m This Convent released it to the abbey of St. Werburgh with that church, under the name of Capella de Hildburgheye, or the Isle of Hildburgha, from which the present name is corrupted; and William Fitz-Richard rector of Kirkby about the time of Richard I. after Kirkby had passed to the abbey of Basingwerk from that of St. Werburgh, by a deed preserved in the chartulary of the latter abbey, quitclaimed the isle of Hildburgheye, with its chapel and appurtenances to the monks of that house, reserving only the right of sepultureⁿ, to the mother church of Kirkby.

The cell which the monks of St. Werburgh established here, had a grant^o of 3l. issuing from Little Meoles by Robert de Lancelyn about the time of Richard I. William Lancelyn, his son, quitclaimed also to the same monks for ever, the lake (meaning the fishery) of Hoyle lake adjacent, under the description of “ lacus de Hildburgheye, qui vocatur Heye-pol.” The same William Lancelyn gave^p also a message in Little Meoles, which grant was confirmed by Robert Grosvenour and Margery his wife, “ dominos capitales.”^q

Leland observes of this island, that “ at the floode it is al environid with water as an isle, and then the trajectus is a quarter of a mile over and four fadome deep of water, and at ebbe a man may go over the sand. It is about a mile in cumpace, and the ground is sandy and hath conies. There was a celle of monkes of Chester, and a pilgrimage of our lady of Hillbyri.”^r

A similar account occurs in the introduction to Hollinshed's Chronicles.

Of this cell there are not the slightest remains. The island is at present used as the situation of two large landmarks to guide vessels into the Hoyle Lake. A light was maintained here for the same purpose at a very early period, to which John Scot earl of Chester contributed 10s. per annum, 20 Hen. III.^s

^m Chartulary of St. Werburgh, p. 23. Harl. MSS. 1965.

ⁿ Ibid. p. 23. b.

^o Ibid.

^p Ibid.

^q Ibid.

^r Leland, vol. V. 55.

^s Stone's MSS. Chester Cathedral.

Thurstanston, or Thurstaston.

THIS parish, comprehending Thurstanston and part of Irby, is situated fifteen miles north of Chester, on the road to West Kirkby.

THURSTANSTON.

THURSTANSTON occupies high ground, overhanging a slip of meadows, which runs along the edge of the Dee. Immediately north of the township this tract of valley bends inwards, and sweeps, in a bold semicircle, between rocky elevations, to the flat district in the centre of the end of the peninsula, which adjoins the shore of the Irish Sea. Through this vale, similar to the one which separates Wirral from Broxton, but of ampler dimensions, and more rugged, there is no doubt of an arm of the sea having formerly passed, thereby separating West Kirkby from the peninsula, as Hilbree is now separated from West Kirkby. The village of Thurstanston, seated at the Western termination of the valley, immediately above the estuary, forms a wild and pleasing accompaniment to the brown moors and abrupt precipices with which it is environed.

Robert de Rodelent, the Norman baron of Rhuddlan, was grantee at the Conquest. "Isdem Robertus tenet Turastaneton; et Willelmus de eo. Levenot tenuit, et liber homo fuit: ibi duæ hidæ geldabiles. Terra est quatuor carucarum; in dominio est una: et duo bovarii et quatuor villani, et quatuor bordarii cum una carucâ et dimidio. Tempore Regis Edwardi valebat xxx solidos; et post octo solidos; modo xvi solidos."

This Robert was murdered by a body of marauding Welshmen, in a dastardly manner, on the 3d of July 1088, and dying without legitimate issue, his estates were subdivided among numerous proprietors. Thurstanston passed to a family, who retained his name, and were most properly illegitimate descendants.

^b Matthew de Ruelent gave the church of Turtaniston to the abbey of St. Werburgh, in the time of Randle Meschines, earl of Chester, "when his brother Simon was made a monk of that abbey. This donation was confirmed by his son William de Thurstanston, who resigned his right in the chapel to the abbey for ever, in the reign of Henry the Second ^c.

Richard de Thurstanston, by deeds without date, grants lands in Castle Northwith, to Roger Fitz Richard ^d, which the said Richard had previously held from his father William, son of Matthew.

Next occurs Peter de Thurstanton, brother of Richard, and father of Agnes, grand-daughter and heiress of William de Thurstanston before mentioned, who brought Thurstanston, in marriage, to Patrick de Haselwal ^e. This marriage is proved by a series of deeds preserved in the chartulary of the abbey of St. Werburgh, whereby Alice, daughter of Pictavoys, and Jane her sister, gave to John Erneway, land in North-

gate-street, opposite to the abbey, subject to a rent of 12d. to the heirs of Robert le Duc, "salvo hostilagio d'norum de Thurstanston;" in consequence of which, Patrick de Haselwall and Agnes his wife quitclaim to John Erneway, hostilage and suit due to their court for lands bought from Alice, &c. as before, in consideration of the annual payment of xxiiii. to them and their heirs. The time of the deed is fixed by mention of John Erneway; who, by a grant of Crabwall, is proved to have been living in the time of Guncelyn de Badlesmere, who was justice of Chester from 1 to 10 Edw. I.

This Patrick de Haselwall was father, by a former wife, of David, ancestor of the Haselwalls of Haselwall (for an account of whom see Haselwall), and by Agnes de Thurstanston, had issue William and de Haselwall.

William, "filius Patricii de Hasewalle," joined with Thomas, abbot of St. Werburgh, in making bounds between the manors of Thurstanston and Irby, which are described ^f as commencing at an old trench, where there was formerly a house for lepers, and proceeding from thence to a large fountain walled in with stone, which was called Lyndemere, and free to the tenants of both manors, and from thence to a hillock called Knukyn, each party mutually quitclaiming whatever lies on the other side of the boundary. This William de Haselwall left one daughter, Agnes, wife of William, son of Robert de Whitmore, by whom she had John Whitmore. But the manor of Thurstanston passed to John de Haselwall, his nephew and heir, who left one daughter and heiress, Cicely de Haselwall, before mentioned.

^g 19 E. II. John Sewenston, chaplain, obtained from William, son of Peter de Brichull, and Cicely his wife, the manor of Thurstanston, which he settled on William and Cicely and the heirs of Cicely, remainder to Richard, son of Ralph Vernon, of Shipbrook, jun. then to William, Robert, and Maud, brothers and sister of Richard, then to the right heirs of Ralph Vernon. John de Whitmore (son of Agnes de Haselwall before mentioned) and Margery his wife put in a claim. Cicely survived to 6 Edw. III. ^h, and died seized of this manor in joint feoffment with William her husband.

By virtue of this settlement, the manor of Thurstanston was claimed and recovered ⁱ, 11 Rich. II. by Cicely, widow of John, son of John de Whitmore before mentioned, who in the life-time of her husband had previously attempted to recover a moiety of the barony of Shipbrook, as daughter and heir of John, son of Margaret, daughter and heir of John, son of Eustachia, daughter

^a Written also Thurstanton and Thurstington, and usually pronounced Thursinton. Thurstanston is the spelling of the Chartulary of St. Werburgh.

^b Confirmation Charter of Randle Meschines.

^c Williamson's Villare, p. 97.

^d Harl. MSS. 1535, 521.

^e Villare Cest, p. 97.

^f Chartulary of St. Werburgh, p. 32. Harl. MSS. 1965.

^g Williamson's Collections, p. 14.

^h Ibid. p. 17.

ⁱ Vill. Cest. p. 97.

and heir of Ralph Vernon. Her claim, which was made 41 Edw. III. is given in a note below^k. Her husband, John, was mayor of Chester in 1369 and the three following years; and dying 3 Kal. Oct. 1374, was buried at Trinity Church, in Chester.

The latter part of this intricate descent has been given as stated in Williamson's Abstracts, and the rest follows clearly from the Inquisitions; but, before proceeding to these, it is necessary to point out one very material error of Williamson's in a fact, and a probable one in a date. Cicely, wife of William Brichull, 19 Edw. II. and Cicely, afterwards wife of John Whitmore, are positively identified, by the description of her grandmother in the Cheshire pedigrees, and her own claim 41 Edw. III.: *therefore it must have been William Brichull only who died 6 Edw. III.* By the arrangements 11 Ric. II. the same Cicely only recovers from her own trustees, what she had previously settled on them 19 Edw. II.; but if this date is correct, she must have been upwards of 90 years of age.

John Whitmore, son of Cicely, combining in himself the claims of both lines of the Haselwalls, died per *Inq. p. m.* 16 Hen. VI. holding in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Thurstanston, from the king in capite, by military service, value per annum x marks; also messuages in Caldaye, value x marks; and lands in Gilden Sutton, value iiii. l.; and by another *Inq.* lands in Chester, value iiii. viiis. ixd. William Whitmore next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 24 H. VI. Elizabeth, widow of John Whitmore, held in dower, lands in Thurstanston, value v marks; in Caldaye, value 40s.; and in Chester, value 15s. 8d. William Whitmore next of kin and heir.

16 Aug. 16 H. VI. Inrolment of a mandate to the escheator, to deliver to William, son of William Whitmore deceased, the lands of John Whitmore, being the manor of Thurstanston, and lands in Great Sutton, Caldey, and Tranmore. He was Mayor of Chester 1473, as appears by a deed with William Stanley, of Hooton, dated at Claverton, Wednesday before the feast of St. George, 14 Edw. IV.

Inq. p. m. 2 Ric. III. William Whitmore held the manor of Thurstanston from the king, as earl of Chester in capite, as the sixth part of a knight's fee, value, per annum, x marks. John Whitmore son and heir. This William married Elizabeth, daughter of William Atherton, of Atherton, esq. pursuant to a covenant entered into by his grandfather and the said William, 10 H. V. *previous to the birth of any of his daughters*, now in the possession of the family.

Inq. p. m. 12 H. VII. John Whitmore held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Thurstanston, as in the last inquisition: also lands in Tranmore. John Whitmore, son and heir.

The male line continued settled at Thurstanston to the middle of the last century, when the estate, consisting of the manors of Haselwall, Caldey, and Thurstanston, was divided among the six daughters and coheirs of Joseph Whitmore, esq. to whom it was limited in fee, by a family settlement, as tenants in common.

At the commencement of the year 1816, the Whitmore estates were in *twenty-four* equal shares, the rents were received, and the courts held jointly. *Six* of these were vested in Mrs. Browne, sole representative of the Whitmores, as daughter and heiress of Catherine, 4th daughter and coheir of John Whitmore, esq. and the only one that had issue. *Eight* in Whitmore and Elizabeth Smart, the issue of Baptist Smart, M. D. by a second marriage, which Baptist Smart had married to his first wife, Lucy, 6th daughter and coheir. *Five* in colonel Hugh Maxwell Goodwin, and Anne his wife, daughter of Walter Thomas, merchant, and niece and heiress of Charles Goodwin, esq. of Farndon, who purchased the same from Dorothy, second daughter and coheir. The *remaining five* were the property of James Okell, esq. of Vron, in Flintshire, in right of his wife, the sister and heir of William Dix, esq. to whom the same were devised by Mary the fifth coheir.

By a recent decree of Chancery, the manor and hall of Thurstanston have devolved exclusively to Mrs. Browne. The manor of Little Caldey, and nearly the whole of the estate there, to Whitmore and Elizabeth Smart. The residue of Caldey, and the greater part of the lands of Thurstanston, to Mr. Goodwin and his wife, and the moiety of Haselwall manor and advowson, with all the lands in Haselwall and Oldfield, and a small part of Thurstanston, to Mr. Okell^l.

It remains to say that the annexed pedigree, compiled from the preceding documents, is continued to the present period from the Registers of Thurstanston, the family evidences, and a valuable pedigree compiled in 1674, and preserved in Harl. MSS. 2119. The errors in the Cheshire Collections, on the subject of this family, are beyond all precedent. The heiress of Thurstanston is successively married to father and son, and her great grandson by one match is made to marry her great grandson's granddaughter by the other. Into such errors could haste and inadvertency lead even Glover.

With the following pedigree is incorporated the descent of the Haselwalls of Haselwall, by the first wife of Patrick de Haselwall, the authorities of which will be found in that township. It is presumed that the contradictions of the Cheshire genealogies in the earlier descents have been successfully reconciled: at all events the attempt has been more laborious, than the compilation of any other pedigree in the work.

^k Plac' Com' Cestr' coram Barth' de Burghersh, Just' D'ni Com. Cestr. 41 Edw. III. Joh's fil. Joh'is de Whitmore, jun. et Cecilia uxor ejus, petunt versus Rad'um de Vernon, ch'v'r, medietat' man'ii de Shipbrok, et sextam partem man'ii de Wic Malbank, cum p'tiu', ut jus et hereditat' ipsius Cecilie tenere de d'no com' Cestr. in capite. et idem Joh'es et Cecilia dicunt quod quidam Rad'us de Vernon, antecessor ipsius Cecilie cujus hæres ipsa est, fuit seizitus de p'd'ca medietate et sexta p'te, &c. tempore Regis H. p'avi d'ni Reg', &c. et de ipso Rad'o, &c. descendit jus, &c. cuidam Eustachie, ut fil. et heredi, et de ipsa Eustachia descendit jus, &c. cuidem Johanni, ut fil. et heredi, et de ipso Joh'e descendit jus, &c. Margarete ut fil' et heredi, et de ipsa Margareta descendit jus, &c. cuidam Joh'i ut fil. et heredi, et de ipso Joh'e descendit jus, &c. isti Cecilie ut fil' et heredi quæ nunc petit simul, &c. &c." The MS. quoted reads, erroneously, Joh'es fil' Will'mi, which is corrected by the claim 11 R. II.

^l In the *Gent. Mag.* 1793, 210. is a description and engraving of a sword of Oliver Cromwell, which had been long in possession of the family of Joseph Whitmore, of Thurstanston, esq. and was bequeathed by him to his son-in-law John J. Wright, of Plas Isa near Mold, and formerly of Brewers'-hall, near Chester, "on account of the relationship which his mother Mary, daughter of sir John Gwyllym of Hartsheath, near Mold, was supposed to bear to the family of Oliver Cromwell.

"It is from hilt to point 23½ inches long, the handle 5 inches long; the blade is two inches broad. There is a date on it lengthways, on both sides opposite each other, thus ^{ANNO} 1652; between the date and the hilt, on the right side across the blade are, in capital letters, SPES MEA EST DEO; next the effigies of a half length figure, seemingly with flowing hair, and round it an inscription OLIVER CROMWELL PRO PARLIAM GENERAL; next across the blade VINCERE AUT MORI, and between that and the hilt, the effigies of a warrior on horseback. On the left side of the blade, next the date, SOLI DEO GLORIA, there a similar effigies to that on the right side, with the same inscription round it; then across the blade, FIDE, SED CUI VIDE; then on the hilt a similar effigies of a warrior on horseback. The hilt and guard are of steel, gilt with gold, the handle of shagreen, with silver threads round it, one of which only remains at present. The gilding is partly off, being corroded with rust, which has also considerably affected the blade."

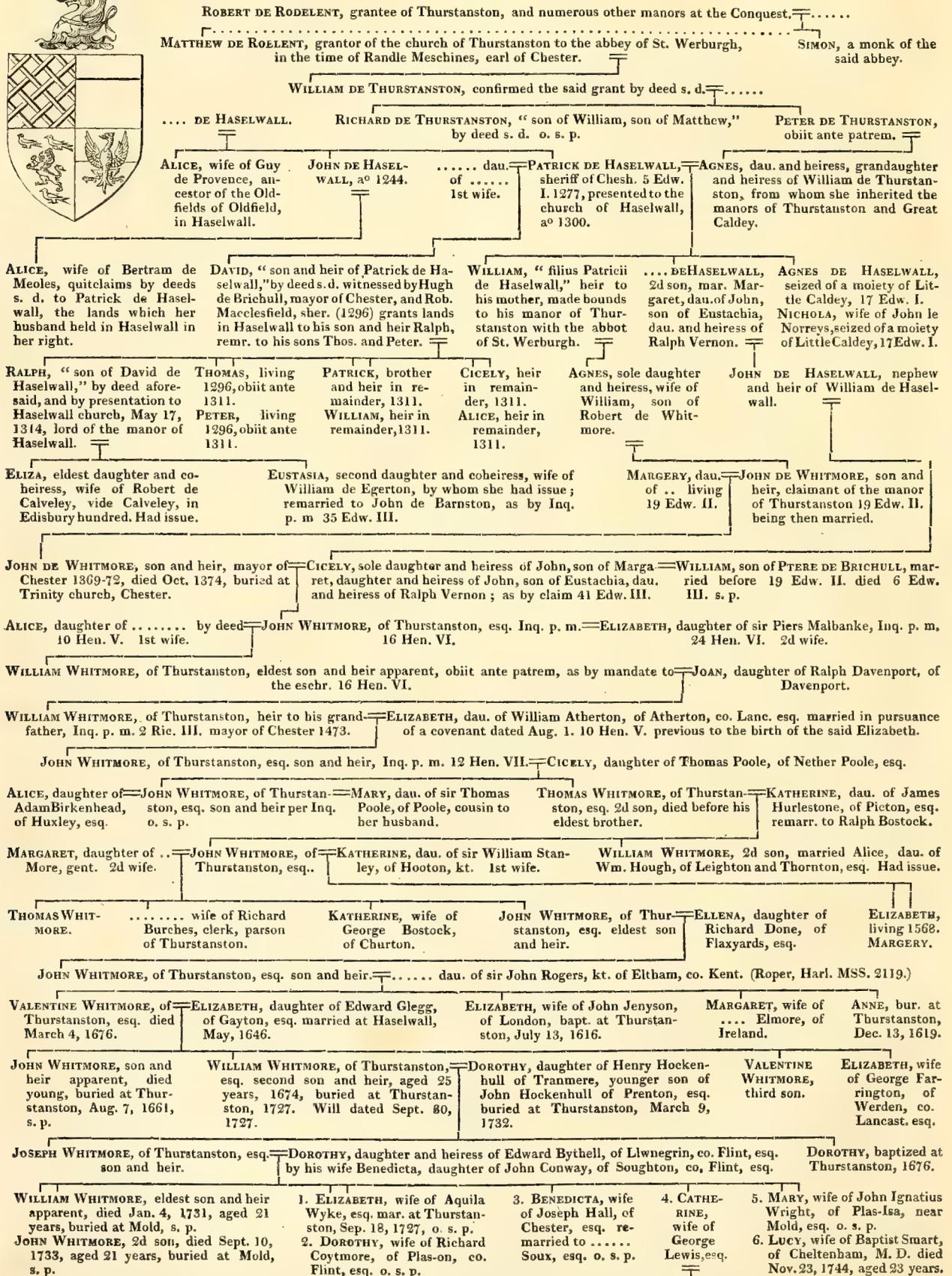
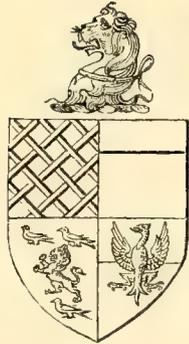
WHITMORE, OF THURSTANSTON.

From the Inquisitions and fines, Harl. MSS. 2119. and fragments of the register of Thurstanston preserved in the registry of Chester.

ARMS, from a monument of white marble in the church of Haselwall, quarterly, 1st, Vert, fretty Or, Whitmore; 2d, Argent, a chief Azure, Haselwall; 3d, Or, a lion rampant Gules, between three martlets of the second; 4th, party per fesse Vert and Gules, an eagle displayed Or.

CREST. A lion's head couped at the shoulder Argent, bound round the neck with a ribband Azure.

Note.—The 1st and 2d coats have been used indiscriminately as the coat of Whitmore, with a motto "either for ever." The 3d and 4th coats refer to Cecilia, wife of John Whitmore, and her grandmother Margaret, whose family name is unknown, but it is evident, that the said Cecilia used also the coat of her ancestress Eustachia Vernon, the fesse of which appeared on her husband's monument in Trinity church Chester.



Lucy, sole daughter and heiress, wife of Charles Browne, of Marchwiell hall, co. Denbigh, esq. living a widow, and s. p. 1816.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Bartholomew,
Discharged living. Certif. Val. 35l. 13s. 6d.
Val. Eccl. 6l. 13s. 6d.

The church of Thurstanston, as before mentioned, was conferred on the abbey of St. Werburgh by Matthew de Ruelent, in the time of Randle Meschines, third earl of Chester. After the dissolution the patronage of the rectory was given to the dean and chapter of Chester by charter, and it is usually bestowed on some of the minor canons of that cathedral.

In 1724, the church stood within the court yard of Thurstanston Hall. It is a mean building, extremely small, low and dark, and consists of a body, and semi-

circular chancel, with a bell turret. Under a window on the south side is the name of "John Wittmore," cut in old letters, which is the only token of antiquity about the building, excepting what may be inferred from the form of the chancel.

There are two monuments. One to the memory of Lucy, daughter of the last John Whitmore, esq. wife of Baptist Smart, M. D. who died Nov. 23, 1744, aged 33.

Another attached to the screen of the chancel, is erected to the memory of "Edward Glegg, of Irby, esq. second son of Edward Glegg, of Grange, esq. who departed this life the 15th Dec. 1703, in the 45th year of his age, leaving three sons and two daughters, by Jane his wife, the only daughter of John Scorer, of Westminster, gentleman. Also, of Jane Glegge, his wife, who died March 4th, 1720, in the 46th year of her age."

RECTORS OF THURSTANSTON.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1320, 9 kal. Nov.	Johannes Hurell. Willielmus de Berynton. Rogerus de Lauton.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Johannis Hurell.
1333, 11 kal. Aug.	Thomas de Ewyas, cl'us.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Rog. de Lauton.
1336, 4 id. Oct.	Ph'us de Ewyas.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. res. Thomas de Ewyas.
1362.	Robertus de Handbrigge, prb'r. Johannes de Molyneux.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	
1424, 19 Julii.	Willielmus Gilew, cap's. Willielmus Smyth.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Johan. Molyneux.
1475, Oct. 20.	Jacobus Dolphyn. John Hewitt.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Will'i Smyth.
1507, Dec. 16.	Richard Prestland.	Abbot of St. Werburgh.	John Hewitt.
1542.	Thomas Sharpe.	Thomas Pole.	Res. of Rich. Prestland.
1601, June 5.	Henry Tottie.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Res. of Thomas Sharpe.
1601-2, Jan. 15.	Hugh Burgess.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Henry Tottie.
1616, May 15.	Richard Burgess.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	
1641, Oct. 28.	Bryan Lascelles. — Watts.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	
1669, Sept. 8.	John Groom.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Res. of John Groom.
1679.	William Thompson.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	
1683, Feb. 2.	Robert Bradshaw.	The King.	
1689, Oct. 15.	Peter Morrey.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Rob. Bradshaw.
1692, Jan. 22.	Miles Atkinson.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Res. of Peter Morrey.
1705, Sept. 28.	John Hodson.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Miles Atkinson.
1752, Aug. 25.	Charles Henchman, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of John Hodson.
1761, Nov. 28.	John Prince, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of C. Henchman.
1796, Feb. 11.	Joseph Eaton, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of John Prince.
1800, Dec. 6.	James Winfield.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Joseph Eaton.
1807, Oct. 31.	George Harrison Larden, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of James Winfield.
1808, May 3.	James Ireland, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of G. H. Larden.

William Thompson occurs in the list of prebendaries of Chester, and *Peter Morrey* in that of the vicars of Neston.

John Hodson was great grandfather of the present Principal of Brasenose College, and eldest son of Samuel Hodson of Christleton. He married at Christleton, Jan. 6, 1697, Dorothy, daughter of George Hockenhull, of

Prenton, esq. by whom he had two sons and three daughters, and was buried at Thurstanston 8th July 1752.

Charles Henchman, and the succeeding names from *Joseph Eaton* to *James Ireland* inclusive, were minor canons of Chester cathedral.

The name of *Watts* is inserted on the authority of Calamy.

I R B Y.

HUGH LUPUS granted this township as "the manor of Erby in Wirhalle," in his charter to the abbey of St. Werburgh in 1093. The manor continued vested in that monastery to the dissolution, being specified in the several claims which the abbots pleaded to successive writs of quo warranto, and released with the other manors from the forest services due to the ^a serjeants of the Storetons and Stanleys, as foresters of Wirral. The abbot had here infangtheof, wayf, stray, goods of felons, fugitives, of natives, and view of frank pledge for Irby, Grevesby, Woodchurch, and Knoctorum.

After the dissolution it was held by sir R. Cotton, and sold by him to John Harpur, who held it in fee farm. In the 44th year of Elizabeth, Thomas Leigh, gent. obtained it by fine from Harpur, for the sum of 400l.^b from whose two daughters and coheirs it passed by successive sales to Edward Glegg, of Grange, esq. One moiety was purchased from William Rathbone, and Elizabeth his wife, one of these coheiresses, in 1656, and the other moiety from Laton Clarke, and Alice his wife, the other coheiress, in the year following.

Mr. Glegg bequeathed the manerial estate to Edward, his son by a second marriage, as will be more fully seen in the pedigree of Glegg of Grange, from whom it has descended to the present proprietor, major-general Glegg. The antient hall, which is still standing, is a plaister and timber building, environed with ash trees of greater age and size than the surrounding townships can boast of, and situated within a moat, of which three

sides remain. These sides are each about one hundred yards in length, and the earthen mounds unusually lofty. The site of the antient manor house of the abbey was evidently within this enclosure; and from the facility with which the Welshmen might cross the Dee on their predatory excursions, the monks were beholden to protect this distant point with works of no inconsiderable strength. Irby was one of the ^cfour principal manor houses of the abbot of St. Werburgh, all of which by charter of Randle Gernons, were ordered to be of sufficient magnitude to receive the abbot and his monks for the purpose of holding their courts.

Another estate in this township, purchased by the late rev. Croxton Johnson, rector of Wilmslow, was the property of the Balls of Irby, now represented by admiral Henry Lidgbird Ball. This family descend from Thomas Ball of Irby and Boughton, a second son of Thomas Ball of Tushingam, whose ancestors were settled there 10 Edw. II. This Thomas Ball farmed the Irby estate under the abbot of St. Werburgh, in the reign of Henry VII.^d

Irby lies partly in the parish of Woodchurch, and partly in Thurstanston. From the village of the latter it is separated by a moor, on which are some broken fragments, which have very much the appearance of being the remains of an antient rocking stone, but are too much injured to suffer any positive opinion to be formed respecting them.

^a Leger Book of St. Werburgh.

^c Leger Book of St. Werburgh.

^d A pedigree of the family is preserved in Harl. MSS. 2119, 117. William Ball, of Irby, disclaimed his right to arms, in the Visitation of 1613.

^b Williamson's Cheshire Evidences.

Haselwall.

HASELWALL.

THIS manor was granted at the Conquest to Robert de Rodelent, the dispersion of whose estates after his decease has been previously mentioned.

“Isdem Robertus tenet Eswelle, et Herbertus de eo. Ulchel tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Ibi 11 hidæ geldabiles. Terra est 1111 carucarum. In dominio est una, et 11 bovarii, et 111 villani, et unus bordarius cum unâ carucâ.”

Patrick de Haselwall, the first local lord noticed in the Cheshire Collections, was sheriff 5 Edw. I. 1277, and occurs frequently as a witness in charters. He married twice, having issue by both wives: and had a brother John, a father of Alice, wife of Bertram de Meoles, who releases lands in Haselwall to her uncle by deeds without date; and a sister Alice, wife of Guy de Provence, with whom he gives two carucates of land in his demesne of Oldfield, and the waste between Oldfield and Pensby by Irreby^b, in frank marriage by deed without date. The issue by his second marriage, who were heirs to their mother's estates, have been mentioned under Thurstanston.

David “filius et hæres Patricii de Haselwall,” is recognized as such in a deed witnessed by Hugh de Bricchull, mayor, and Robert de Macclesfield, sheriff of Chester (1296), in which he settles lands on his sons Ralph, Thomas, and Peter^c.

Ralph, son of David de Haselwall, obtains lands by fine from his father anno 1311, with remainder to his brothers and sisters, Patrick, William, Cicely, and Alice. He presented to the church of Haselwall, May 7, 1314, and left two daughters and co-heirs: Eliza, wife of Robert de Calveley, and Eustasia, wife of William de Egerton, remarried to John de Barnston, between which daughters the manor of Haselwall was divided.

I. *Calveley Share.* Eliza, wife of Robert de Calveley, lord of a moiety of Haselwall in her right, survived to 1350, when the Black Prince presented in her stead to the church as superior lord, in consequence of a temporary forfeiture. She had issue one son, whose widow, Ellena, died without issue, before 35 Edw. III. when she was succeeded by Katherine, sister of her husband, erroneously called “Soror Ellenæ p'd'tæ” in an interlineation of the *Inq. p. m.*

Katherine brought half of Haselwall, and the manor of Calveley, to her husband Arthur Davenport, with whom she received a release from puture due to the foresters of Wirral, from William son of William son of John de Stanley^d, and presented jointly with her

husband to the church of Haselwall in 1369 and 1394, presenting again as a widow in 1405^e.

From this Arthur Davenport the moiety of the manor of Haselwall has descended to his representative Davies Davenport, esq. M. P. according to the pedigree given under Calveley^f. The following notices of Haselwall occur in the Inquisitions of the Davenport family.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Ellena widow of the son of Robert de Calvelegh, held in demesne, as of fee, from the earl of Chester, in capite, inter alia, a third part of the manor of Haselwall, as the 18th part of a knight's fee. Value, per annum, xliis. 1vd.

Inq. p. m. 31 Hen. VI. Henry Davenport held in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Haselwall, from the king, in capite, as the 4th part of a knight's fee. Value, per annum, xls.

Inq. p. m. 11 Edw. IV. Hugh Davenport, of Calveley, held, inter alia, a messuage, cum pert. in Haselwall, from the king, as earl of Chester, by military service. Value, per annum, 1111.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VIII. Ralph Davenport, of Calveley, held, inter alia, one messuage, and the advowson of Haselwall, as before. Value, per annum, 1111.

Inq. p. m. 9 Eliz. John Davenport, of Calveley, held, inter alia, five messuages in Haselwall, with the advowson of the church, as before. Value, per annum, viiil. xviii.

Inq. p. m. 9 Jac. I. Hugh Davenport, esq. held, inter alia, divers lands and tenements in Haselwall, with the moiety of the advowson of the church, from the king, as earl of Chester, by military service. Value, per annum, viiil. xliis.

II. *Egerton Share;* derived from Eustasia de Haselwall.

By *Inq. p. m.* 35 Edw. III. John de Barnston held for life, by law of England, a third part of the vill of Haselwall, from the king, as earl of Chester, in capite, by military service, in right of Eustasia, his late wife. Value, per annum, xls. Ralph de Egerton, son of Eustasia, next heir.

Ralph Egerton had licence, anno 1398, to found an oratory in his manor houses of Haselwall and Caldecote.

This share of the manor is thus subsequently noticed in the Inquisitions of the Egertons of Wryne Hill, among other estates.

Inq. p. m. 31 Hen. VI. Roger de Egerton settled his share of the manor of Haselwall and other estates, and

^a Woodnoth's Collections.

^b Harl. MSS. 2077. 5.

^c Woodnoth's Collections.

^d Harl. MSS. 2079. 147.

^e Vide “Calveley,” in Edisbury Hundred. Her son, Henry Davenport, is erroneously stated in the Cheshire pedigrees to have gained Haselwall in marriage with Isabel, daughter and heiress of Patrick de Haselwall. The fact of inheriting by this match is certainly erroneous, and the existence of the lady doubtful.

^f See Calveley, p. 153.

the advowson thereof, on trustees, who were seized of the same. Hugh de Egerton, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. Hugh Egerton leaves John son and heir. Haselwall omitted in this Inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. VIII. John Egerton, esq. held the manor of Haselwall, and half the advowson of the church, with lands in Caldey, from the king, as earl of Chester, in capite, as the 4th part of a knight's fee. Value, per annum, vi. leaving daughters and coheirs only.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VIII. Randle Egerton held, as enumerated in the preceding Inquisition. Value vi. John, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VIII. John Egerton held as before. Value, per annum, vii. xs. leaving daughters and coheirs only.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VIII. John Egerton held as before. Value, per annum, vi. Ralph Egerton, son and heir, aged 12 years.

^f 4 Eliz. Sir Ralph Egerton passed over to Thomas Brown and his heirs, the moiety of the manor of Haselwall, with lands, a fishery, and half the advowson of the church, for 500l.

^g 14 Oct. 28 Eliz. Richard Browne had livery of a moiety of the advowson and manor of Haselwall, as son and heir of Thomas Browne.

From this family the moiety of the manor and advowson was purchased in 1699^h, by William Whitmore, of Thurstanston, esq. the representative of its antient lords of the local name. It has since followed the distribution of the Thurstanston estates, and by a recent decree in Chancery (1816) has been allotted, together with the moiety of the advowson, to James Okell, esq.

Haselwall Hall, attached to this moiety, standing north of the church, is occupied by farmers. The moated site of a more antient hall is still visible.

The hamlet of **OLDFIELD**, within the township, is a distinct manor, of which one moiety is the property of Mr. Hough, the other, having descended to the proprietors of the second moiety of Haselwall by the same title with that moiety, is now vested in James Okell, esq. It was antiently the inheritance of the Haselwalls, and was given by Patrick de Haselwall in the time of Henry the Third, as before-mentioned, in marriage with his sister Alice to Guy de Provence, whose grandson Richard assumed the name of Oldfield, and was the common ancestor of the Oldfields settled in Northwich Hundredⁱ.

Haselwall and Gayton are both situated on the shore of the Dee, along which they present a fertile tract of meadow ground, which gradually changes to a dreary and barren flat as it advances inwards; to the northeast this rises into a wild and rocky moor, immediately under which the parish church is situated, commanding the estuary, and environed by huts and farms mostly of stone, rude in their structure, and placed in great disorder.

CHURCH.

Taxatio Eccl. 5l. Val. Eccl. 18l. 8s. 4d.

The Church of Haselwall has been much altered, and almost wholly rebuilt, at various periods. It consists of a tower, a nave, and chancel, without side aisles. The

tower, which is the most antient part, has a singularly checquered appearance from such of the stones as have decayed having been irregularly replaced with bricks.

Against the north wall of the church is fixed the coat of Whitmore, "Vert checquy Or," carved in white marble, with three quarterings. 2nd. Argent, a chief Azure, for Haselwall. 3rd. Or, a lion rampant between three martlets Gules. 4th. Party per fesse, Vert and Gules, an eagle displayed Or^k. Under these is an oval medallion, likewise carved in white marble, representing a winged figure thrusting a lance into the mouth of a dragon, round which is inscribed, "Sigillum Willielmi de Hesel Welle. This William was the founder of the Thurstanston branch of the Haselwall family; and the seal here represented was in possession of the Whitmores anno 1724^l. Under the arms is the Whitmore motto, "Either for ever;" supposed to allude to the practice of that family, to bear indifferently either of the two first coats in this escutcheon. The third coat is that of the heiress of another line of Haselwall; the fourth cannot be precisely ascertained.

On the north side of the altar is an oval marble tablet, inscribed :

" Sacred
to the memories of
Sir Wm. Glegg, knt.
and dame Elizabeth, his wife,
who both lie interred at Esher, in Surrey.
He was the eldest son of
Edward Glegg, of Gayton, esq.
by Katherine, daughter of sir Henry Delves,
of Doddington, bart.
Lady Glegg was daughter of sir Robert Cotton,
of Combermere, by
Esther, sister and sole heir
of sir John Salisbury, of Llewenny, bart.
Sir William died Jan. 9, 1706 :
Lady Glegg, March 5, 1711.
Their youngest son William Glegg, of Gayton, esq.
the last male heir of that antient family
rests within these rails.
He married Lucy, daughter of Richard Dyot, of the
city of Westminster, esq.
and died November 9th, 1758,
in the year of his age 70.

On the opposite angle of the chancel, within a niche, decorated with the arms and quarterings of Glegg, is a large brass plate, representing a figure kneeling before a desk, in a long gown, with a ruff, beard, and mustachios, and a sword suspended at his side. To the following singular verses, inscribed on the plate, is attached "Obiit. Jan. 3, 1619," which obviously refers to John, second son of William Glegg, of Gayton, esq. who was buried the 4th of January in that year.

I have no feelinge now of frende
Or frendshipp, 'tis all dead and gon :
He heere inclosed, juste at his ende
Neare lefte a jott to any one.
Goe, hast to him, sad soule of mine,
Live, ever where he sitts and singes ;
Enter death's lists, oh, neare decline,
Goe, flie apase, with angel's wings ;
Get hense awaie, pris'ner to flesh and bone :
Elisium's the dwelling place wheree he is gone.

^f Williamson's Deeds, p. 84.

^g Vill. Cest.

^h Enrolments in the Exchequer of Chester.

ⁱ Vill. Cest. Marriage deed, Harl. MSS. 2077. p. 5.

^k The colours are added from the Visitations.

^l Gastrell, Not. Cest.

Near this brass are two armorial paintings: one to the memory of "Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Pickford, citizen of London, late wife of Edward, son and heir of William Glegg, of Gayton, esq.: she died without issue May 27, 1649." Arms of Pickford, chequy Or and Azure, on a fess Gules, three lions rampant Argent. The second to the memory of Cicely, daughter of William Glegg, of Gayton, esq. and wife of Thomas Browne, of Upton, who died in childbed, March 16, 1661. Arms of Browne: Argent, two bendlets Sable, between two pellets. Crest, a demi lion rampant, Ermine, ducally crowned, Or.

On the opposite site is a large mural monument of white marble, decorated with the arms of Glegg impaling Delves, and two smaller shields of the same families; inscribed: "Here lieth Katherine, second daughter of sir Henry Delves, of Dodington, in the co. of Chester, bart. and late wife of Edward Glegg, of Gayton, in the said county, esqre. She was married to the said Edward, on Monday, the 22d of July, 1650, and had issue by him thirteen sons and two daughters, whereof there are living eight sons and the said two daughters; viz. Katherine, William, Henry, Robert, Edward, Thomas, Elizabeth, Roger, Benjamin, and Arthur. She died, to the great grief of her dear husband, and all his and her owne relations, on Sunday, the 26th day of August, in the yeare of our Lord God 1666, in the 40th yeare of her age, haveing bene to all wives, a president of chastitie; to all matrons, an example of gravitie; to all persons a paterne of piety: she was most loveing to her husband, careful of her children, respectful to her relations and equalls, courteous to her inferiours, charitable to the poore, true-hearted to her friends, kinde to her servants, and a cordial lover of all pious ministers and good persons.

"Edward Glegge, her most sorrowful husband, survives, and erects this monument in memorial of her. The said Edward formerly married Elizabeth, the daughter of Edward Pickford, a citizen of London, who died without issue, in the year of our Lord God 1649, and was interred in this place."

On a brass in the chancel, is the following inscription:

"Here lies William Ramsbottom, late rector of Heselwell. He died the 15th day of November, 1702, in the 70th year of his age; and having been rector there thirty six years, obtained his place of rest, and by the power of almighty God, will be raised again to glory."

On a tombstone on the north side of the chancel:

Hic jacet reverendus
Joannes Norris, A. M.
quondam Hujus Parochiæ
Rector.

Obiit Nov. 10, A. D.
1762.

On the next tombstone:

Here lieth the remains
of J. Radenhurst, clerk, B. A.
late rector of this parish,
who departed this life
21 June, A. D. 1807,
in the seventy-seventh
year of his age.

The Registers are in very good preservation, and commence in 1539.

Adjacent to the church is the parsonage, well screened from the village, and commanding a magnificent view of the Dee and Welsh hills. The grounds are laid out with singular taste and neatness, and separated by a few meadows only from the shore of the estuary. The rector has the tithe of the Sunday's fishery through the parish: the lord of Gayton receives the tithe of the Friday's fishery in that part of the river which is opposite to his manor. There is no other peculiarity in the tithes, or any modus, or exemption.

The advowson has always been attached to the manor, in moieties: one share is the property of Mr. Davenport, and the other of Mr. Okell.

It is observable that Haselwall and Woodchurch are the only churches in this hundred which never belonged to any monastic foundation.

RECTORS OF HASELWALL.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1300.	Willielmus de Fulburne.	Patricius de Haselwal.	
1314, 17 Maii.	Robertus de Wakefield, Acolithus.	Radulphus f. Davidis de Haselwall.	P. resig. Patr. de Fulburne.
1350.	Johannes de Essington, cap's.	Edwardus fil. p'mog. et comes Cest. rac'oe cujusdam alienationis absque licentiâ, per Elizabetham quæ fuit uxor Roberti de Calvelegh, quæ tenebat in capite de d'co principe.	
1369.	Henricus de Bechinton, pr'b'r.	Arthurus Davenport, et Radulphus Egerton.	P. m. Johannis de Essington.
1394.	Philippus Egerton, pr'b'r.	Arthurus Davenport, et Radulphus Egerton.	P. m. Henrici de Bechinton.
1397, Aug. 12.	Johannes de Castro, pr'b'r.	Arthurus Davenport, et Catharina uxor ejus.	
	Johannes de Merboster.		
1405, Junii 2º.	Johannes de Castro.	Katherina Davenport, et Rad'us Egerton.	P. resig. Jo. Merboster.
1411, May 22.	Johannes Crisp.	Rad'us Egerton, et Hen. Davenport.	
	Ricardus Thicknes.		
1411, Octob. 20.	Petrus Egerton, cl'us.	Hugo Davenport de Calveley.	P. m. Ricardi Thicknes.
1463, March 24.	Urianus Egerton, pr'b'r. John Knion.	Hugo Egerton, arm. hac vice.	

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1560, 31 Aug.	Thomas Streete.		Death of John Knion.
1582, 25 Jan.	Peter Surge.	Hugh Davenport.	Death of Thomas Streete.
1613, 1 April.	Hugh Holland.	Arthur Davenport.	
1624, 12 April.	Francis Edwards.	John Edwards, and Richard Brown.	Death of Hugh Holland.
1660, 9 Feb.	Thomas Trafford, A. M.	Thomas Browne.	
1666.	William Ramsbottom.		
1702, Feb. 9.	Arthur Fogge, A. M.	Mary Burroughs.	Death of Will. Ramsbottom.
1716.	William Birchall.	George Davenport, esq.	
1737, July 25.	John Norris.	Nehemiah Griffiths, esq. hac vice. Whitmore turn.	Cession of William Birchall.
1763, June 22.	John Radenhurst, A. B.	Richard Davenport, esq.	Death of John Norris.
1807, July 23.	Benjamin Penny, A. M.	James Penny, esq. hac vice. Whitmore turn.	Death of John Radenhurst.

Five only of these rectors appear to have been buried at Haselwall since the commencement of the registers. *Streete*, Aug. 1, 1582. *Holland*, April 5, 1624. *Ramsbottom*, Nov. 1702. *Norris*, Nov. 12, 1762. *Raden-*

hurst, June 23, 1807. Memorials of the three last-mentioned will be found in the list of monuments.

Arthur Fogge occurs in the list of prebendaries of Chester cathedral.

GAYTON.

IMMEDIATELY south-west of Haselwall, lies Gayton, another of the line of townships on the shore of the Dee, granted to Robert de Rodelent at the Conquest.

“*Isdem Robertus tenet Gaitone, et Willielmus de eo. Levenot liber homo tenuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est II carucarum. Ibi II villani et tres bordarii habent unam carucam: ibi II piscariæ. Valuit xv solidos et post II solidos: modo III solidos.*”

After the death of Robert, the manor was resumed by the earl, and was again granted out in the time of Henry the Third, to Reginald Tibermont, a Norman, who resigned the same to the royal donor^a, for the purpose of its being bestowed on the abbey of Vale Royal.

It has been already mentioned that the monks soon became dissatisfied with their distant manor, and obtained licence from their founder to exchange it with Randle de Merton, for the township of that name, immediately adjacent to the domains of the convent. To facilitate the exchange, the earl of Chester gave to the new lord of Gayton the bailywick of Caldey Hundred, Lache on Rudheath, and the Earl's Eye, all which estates by licence of 33 Edw. III. were settled by Stephen de Merton, last heir male, on trustees, to his use for life, remainder to John de Merton, remainder successively to his daughters, Johanna, Agnes, Elizabeth, Ellen, and Agatha^b. John de Merton dying issueless, the estates vested in Johanna, eldest daughter and co-heiress, wife of Gilbert Glegg, from whom the following abstract of Inquisitions and deeds will carry the descent without interruption to the 17 Hen. VII.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Stephen de Merton held for life, of the grant of John Denneston chaplain, and John Strangways, the manor of Gayton, and the issues of Caldey Hundred from the earl of Chester in socage in capite. Value, per annum, xxxviii. viiij. Johanna daughter and heiress.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VI. Gilbert Glegge, of Gayton, held the manor of Gayton, and a third of the Hundred of Caldey in Wirrhall Hundred in right of Johanna his wife, from the king as earl of Chester in capite in socage, by one penny rent. Value, per annum, iv marks. Also the manors of Great and Little Storeton^c. John Glegge, son and heir.

^d 18 Hen. VI. Thomas Glegge, of Gayton, petitions William de la Pole earl of Suffolk, chief justice of Chester, concerning Gayton, Lache on Rudheath, and Caldey Hundred, which John Denneston chaplain gave to Joan de Merton, and the heirs of her body, and which after the death of Joan and John her son, ought to descend to the said Thomas, according to grant aforesaid, &c.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VI. Thomas Glegge died on the Wednesday after the Annunciation, all his lands being settled on trustees. Thomas son and heir, aged 24 years.

Thomas, found heir by this Inquisition, was a zealous partizan of the house of York; and in conjunction with John Glegge, Henry Brombrugh and others seized stores and money at Gayton, coming to king Henry, to the enormous value of 20,000 marks, for which 15 July, 38 Hen. VI. a warrant (enrolled in the Exchequer of Chester) issued to the high sheriff, the bailiffs, William Stanley and others, to arrest the said Thomas and John Glegg, and imprison them in the castle of Chester. Thomas Glegge received a pardon from king Edward the IV, 12 Feb. 8 Edw. IV. for this and all other offences up to the 15th of April preceding. He survived to 9 Hen. VII. when he settled lands in Claverton and Chester, on Henry Glegge, constable of Chester castle, and Thomas Glegge junior, son of James Glegge, remainder to Thomas Glegge, senior.

By a plea to a quo warranto 15 Hen. VII. it appears that this Thomas died issueless, and that the male line of this family was continued by his brother John Glegg,

^a Vide Charter of Vale Royal, Edisbury Hundred.

^b For the detailed account of this descent, charters and pedigree, and the correction of a very material error of the Cheshire pedigrees, which derive this property from two heiresses severally of the names of Merton and Sutton, vide “Merton,” in Edisbury Hundred.

^c The Jurors were mistaken in this part of the Inquisition. Gilbert Glegg, before his decease, 6 Hen. VI. had appointed Richard de Bunbury his attorney, to deliver full seisin of the manors of Great and Little Storeton, to William, son of William Stanley, of which manors Gilbert Glegg was only the trustee. Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5.

^d Vill. Cest.

the manor of Gayton and Hundred of Caldey being then claimed by John Glegg, as son of John, son of Thomas, son of John, son of Gilbert Glegg. This quo warranto is probably the source of the errors which prevail in the Cheshire pedigrees, relative to the Suttons and Mertons, as it gives that erroneous description of Gilbert being son of Ellen, daughter and heiress of Ranulph de Sutton, which has been already amply confuted in the account of Merton.

This John, son of John Glegg, appears in an Inquisition 17 Hen. VII. and with him commences the Glegg pedigree entered in the Visitation of 1566 by his grandson Arthur. From his second son John descend the Gleggs of Grange and Irby, and from his eldest son (also John) the Gayton and other estates passed in the male line to William Glegg, esq. who died without issue in 1758, on which they became vested in the daughter and heiress of his elder brother, Mary, wife of John Baskervyle, of Old Withington, esq. whose grandson John Baskervyle Glegg, esq. is now possessed of the said manor, and the other Wirral estates of the family, by virtue of an assignment from his father.

By an extent 28 Edw. III. it appears that six pounds farm rent issuing out of this manor, was then paid to Randle, son of Peter the clerk, ancestor of the Thorntons of Thornton.

Gayton Hall, which stands immediately south of the little village of that name, has recently become once more the habitation of its antient line of possessors. It appears to have been new cased with brick about the beginning of the last century, and notwithstanding its situation, so near the bleak opening of the estuary, is environed by timber of stately growth. Sir William Glegg of Gayton, had the honour of entertaining king William here on his way to Ireland, on which occasion he was knighted by his royal guest.

The hundred of Caldey since its acquisition by Randle de Merton above mentioned, has descended, along with the manor of Gayton, to the present bailiff of the hundred, John Baskerville Glegg, esq. Its privileges consist of a view of frank pledge and court baron, to which the manorial lords and other proprietors of the townships within its jurisdiction owe suit and service, and are fined for non-attendance. From the series of court rolls, it appears that the limits of this jurisdiction comprize Thornton Hough, Leighton, Gayton, Haselwall, Thurstanston, West Kirkby, Great and Little Meoles, Hoose, Newton cum Larton, and Poolton cum Seacome. The hundred of Caldey is totally unconnected with the manors of either of the townships which bear the same name.

GLEGG, OF GAYTON.

Compiled from the Inquisitions p. m. the parochial registers, and the records of the College of Arms.

ARMS. Sable, two lions counterpassant, in pale Argent.

CREST. On a wreath a hawk proper with wings expanded, preying on a partridge proper.



GILBERT GLEGG, of Gayton, seized of the manor of Gayton, and the issues of the hundred of Caldey, in right of his wife. Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VI. JOHANNA, eldest daughter and finally heiress of Stephen de Merton, as by settlement 33 Edw. III. and Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III.

JOHN GLEGG, of Gayton, son and heir, as by Inq. after the death of his father, 6 Hen. VI.

THOMAS GLEGG, of Gayton, claimant of the manor of Gayton, 18 Hen. VI. by virtue of settlement aforesaid 33 Edw. III. Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VI.

JAMES GLEGG, father of Thomas, who was living 9 Hen. VII. HENRY GLEGG, constable of the castle of Chester, 9 Hen. VII.

THOMAS GLEGG, of Gayton, esq. son and heir, as per Inq. 19 Hen. VI. and of the age of 24 years. Intercepted treasures of Hen. VI. together with John Glegg, ante 15 July, 38 Hen. VI. and was pardoned by Edw. IV. by letters patent dated 12 Feb. 8 Edw. IV. living 9 Hen. VII. o. s. p.

JOHN GLEGG, second son, and finally heir, living 38 Hen. VI. obit ante 15 Hen. VII.

..... daughter of Thomas Poole, of Poole, esq. JOHN GLEGG, of Gayton, esq. with whom the entry in the Visitation of 1566 commences, states his descent in a plea to a quo warranto 15 Hen. VII. as son of John, son of Thomas, son of John, son of Gilbert Glegg.

JOHN GLEGG, second son, grantee of Grange by letters patent 6 Edw. VI.

SIBILLA, daughter and heiress of Roger Ledsham, of Chester.

JOHN GLEGG, of Gayton, esq. son and heir.

ISABELLA, daughter of John Leycester, of Tabley, esq.

THOMAS GLEGG, 3d son.

ROGER GLEGG, son and heir, ancestor of the Gleggs of Grange.

MARGERY, wife of Laurence Bold, of Upton, gent.

ARTHUR GLEGG, of Gayton, esq. finally heir to his nephew William Glegg, living 1566.

ELEANOR, daughter of John Massy, of Puddington, esq.

JOHN GLEGG, of Gayton, esq. eldest son, married Margaret, daughter of Roger Mainwaring, eschr. of Cheshire, by whom he had issue William Glegg, esq. who died s. p. and Margaret, finally sole heiress, wife of Robert Mainwaring, gent. of Merton Sands.

THOMAS GLEGG, second son, bur. at Heswall, Jan. 18, 1616. EDWARD GLEGG, third son.

ELIZABETH, eldest daughter, o. s. p. 2. MARGARET, wife of Peter Bold, of Upton, gent.

WILLIAM GLEGG, of Gayton, esq. bur. at Heswall, December 6, 1629.

MARY, daughter and coheiress of Edward Plankeney, of Chester, buried at Prescot, co. Lancaster, May 12, 1597.

3. KATHERINE GLEGG. 4. ELIZABETH, wife of John Aldersey, alderman of the city of Chester. 5. ELEANOR GLEGG.

MARY GLEGG, baptized at Heswall, July 30, 1570.

ELIZABETH GLEGG, baptized at Heswall, Sept. 14, 1576. JANE GLEGG, baptized at Heswall, Feb. 21, 1581.

EDWARD GLEGG, of Gayton, esq. bapt. at Heswall, Aug. 1, 1568, and there buried, Feb. 29, 1623.

ISABELLA, dau. of Robert Mainwaring, of Merton Sands, bur. at Heswall, Feb. 17, 1623.

JOHN GLEGG, 2d son, bapt. at Heswall, July 14, 1575, bur. there, Jan. 4, 1619, represented on a brass plate now affixed to the east wall of the chancel, 1816.

JOHN GLEGG, second son, bapt. at Whitegate, July 24, 1591. GEORGE GLEGG, baptized at Heswall, Sept. 29, 1592.

EDWARD GLEGG, baptized at Heswall, Nov. 30, 1593. ARTHUR GLEGG, baptized at Heswall, Ap. 1, 1600.

WILLIAM GLEGG, of Gayton, esq. bapt. at Whitegate, Jan. 29, 1589-90, bur. at Heswall, Oct. 24, 1656.

CICELY, dau. of Robert Sephton, of Mollington, eldest sister and coheiress of Thomas Sephton of Mollington, baptized at Backford, Mar. 3, 1593, died at Thurstanston, buried at Heswall, Ap. 3, 1662.

MARGARET, wife of Ralph Morgell, of Moston hall, esq. baptized at Heswall, Oct. 28, 1587, died Oct. 12, 1627, bur. at Backford.

ELIZABETH, wife of Valentine Whitmore, of Thurstanston, married at Haselwall, May 1646.

a			
1. BARTHOLOMEW GLEGG, eldest son and heir apparent, born 1611, bapt. at Heswall, Aug. 28, buried May 23, 1612.	5. ARTHUR GLEGG, bapt. Jan. 10, 1628, buried at Heswall, Jan. 25, 1629.	KATHERINE, daughter of sir Henry Delves, of Doddington, bart. marr. July 22, 1650, buried at Heswall, Aug. 1666. 2d wife.	EDWARD GLEGG, of Gayton, esq. 2d son and heir, bapt. at Heswall, Aug. 24, 1615, married 3dly, at Heswall, Sept. 20, 1671, Judith Hughes of Disserth; died May 26, 1687, buried June 1, at Heswall.
2. JOHN GLEGG, bapt. at Heswall, Jan. 20, 1654. died an infant.	6. THOMAS GLEGG. JOHN GLEGG, bapt. at Heswall, Jan. 20, 1660.	10. ROGER GLEGG, bapt. Jan. 14, 1663, buried Feb. 23, 1675.	ELIZABETH, daughter of Edward Glegg of Grange, bapt. at Heswall, Nov. 9, 1620.
3. HENRY GLEGG, bapt. at Heswall, March 20, 1655.	7. JOHN GLEGG, bapt. at Heswall, Jan. 1, 1661.	11. BENJAMIN GLEGG, bur. at Heswall, Sept. 7, 1729.	1. ELIZABETH, bapt. at Heswall, Feb. 16, 1614.
4. ROBERT GLEGG, bapt. at Heswall, April 10, 1657, buried there July 31, 1756.	8. JOHN GLEGG, bapt. at Heswall, Jan. 1, 1661.	12. BENJAMIN GLEGG.	2. MARGARET, w. of Edw. Glegg of Grange, bapt. at Heswall, Nov. 9, 1620.
5. EDWARD GLEGG.	9. JOSHUA GLEGG, bapt. at Heswall, Dec. 13, 1662.	13. ARTHUR GLEGG, bapt. at Heswall, Aug. 20, 1666, bur. Dec. 25, 1737.	3. CICELY, wife of Thos. Browne, of Upton, gent. bapt. at Heswall, May 23, 1624, bur. at the same place Oct. 1661.
MARY, wife of major Purcell, died April 1761.	CATHERINE GLEGG, buried at Heswall, Aug. 26, 1703, s. p.	ROBERT GLEGG, of Gayton, esq. buried at Heswall, Dec. 30, 1723.	4. ANNE, bapt. at Heswall, Aug. 19, 1629, ob. infans.
GRACE GLEGG, bur. at Heswall, March 1, 1730, s. p.	HESTER, wife of Robert Lee, of Wincham, esq. Had issue.	JULIANA, daughter of sir Roger Newdigate, of Arbury, co. Warw. bt. by his wife Juliana, ob. Mar. 30, bur. at Heswall, Ap. 3, 1737.	5. ANNE, wife of .. Rose, co. Derb. gent. bapt. Jan. 24, 1629.
JOHN BASKERVYLE, of Withington, esq. assumed the name of GLEGG, died Jan. 19, 1784, aged 78 years, bur. at Goostrey.	1. MARY GLEGG, daughter and finally heiress, baptized at Heswall, Oct. 1, 1711, died Feb. 21, 1784, buried at Goostrey.	2. ELIZABETH, bapt. at Heswall, March 3, 1714, there buried May 7, 1727, s. p.	6. MARY, bapt. at Heswall, Dec. 2, 1632, ob. infans.
WILLIAM. BRIDGET, daughter and heiress of John Kelsall, of Dodleston, in the co. of Chester, esq. bapt. at St. Michael's in Chester, Dec. 21, 1750, marr. at St. Michael's, Sept. 22, 1778, died June 27, 1786, bur. at Dodleston.	JOHN GLEGG, of Withington and Gayton, esq. son and heir, living 1816.	3. JULIANA BETTY, bapt. at Heswall, Oct. 26, 1723.	7. HANNAH, bapt. at Heswall, Jan. 1, 1634, ob. infans.
JOHN BASKERVYLE GLEGG, of Gayton, esq. only son, born April 27, bapt. June 1784, at St. Michael's, sheriff of Cheshire, 1814.	ANNE, second daughter of Thomas Townley Parker, of Extwistle and Cuerden, esq. by Susan, dau. of P. Brooke, of Astley, co. Lanc. esq.	1. BETTY, wife of John Glegg, of Irby and Backford, co. Cest. esq. ob. July 1810, buried at St. Mary's, Chester, a ^o æt. 77. Had issue.	8. MARGERY, bapt. at Heswall, Sept. 13, 1635, buried there Oct. 12, 1635.
JOHN BASKERVYLE GLEGG, son and heir apparent.		MARY SUSAN.	ANNE JANE.

Woodchurch.

CHESHIRE possesses no parish of similar extent, that has fewer claims to attention and interest, than Woodchurch; a district, which appears as if it had come unfinished from the hands of nature, and is certainly under very little obligation to the improvements of man. It occupies the centre of the northern part of the peninsula, and presents an appearance bare, moorish, and cheerless, but never rising into the wild, or the picturesque. None of the component townships, with the exception of Prenton, have been honoured with the residence of their manorial lords for a lapse of many centuries.

In this parish are included nine townships, Woodchurch, Landican, Knoctorum, Arrow, Oxton, Thingwall, Barnston, Pensby, Prenton, and a portion of the townships of Irby, Upton, and Claughton.

WOODCHURCH.

WOODCHURCH is not noticed in Domesday, but it occurs as "Wude Church," in 1093, in the charter of the abbey of St. Werburgh. There is strong reason for supposing that the name of Woodchurch was given subsequent to the Domesday survey, to a certain portion of land adjacent to the church, and that the church,

with such adjacent land, at the time of that survey formed part of the contiguous vill of Landican. The circumstances from which this is inferred are as follows: It is generally, but not always safe, to infer a church where Domesday places the priest, who in the account of this parish is found in Landican, with the manor of

which, the advowson of Woodchurch descended, to the time of Henry VIII. In the next place the British etymology of Landican obviously points it out as the original seat of the church; Llan, in composition, invariably designating the church town in Wales, although it does not enter, or appear to have entered, into the name of any place in this county, with the exception of that now spoken of.

It is certainly possible that two churches might have existed, the earlier one in Landican, and the later one in Woodchurch; but there is no tradition of such an event, and there is a circumstance in the name of Wude church which makes its existence more than probable at a period long anterior to the Conquest. It has been observed by Dr. Whitaker, that the stone churches were called White Churches by the Saxons, from the contrast of their beautiful appearance to the worm-eaten fabrics which preceded them. The observation will certainly bear inversion; and if the fabric of the wooden church had become so remarkable as to induce the Normans to stamp a name on its site, it is probable that it existed at a period contemporary with the existence of the church of Landican, and it will be difficult to suppose *two* churches existing in Woodchurch and Landican at the same period. The argument then stands thus. We have the British name of church, in the composition of the name of Landican; at Landican the Domesday survey places the priest, and although in 1093, from peculiar circumstances of architecture, certain lands in the neighbourhood of the church, which afterwards become a manor, assume the name of Wudechurch, the advowson of that church, situated in that manor, still remained attached to the original manor of Landican. The donation of these lands, which formed the basis of the present township, and from these reasons appear to have been taken out from the Domesday "Landchene," is thus noticed in the great charter of St. Werburgh, 1093. Radulfus Ermiwini filius et uxor ejus Claricia, dederunt terram ad octo boves in Wudechurch. To these lands were added donations from the Praers family, and other minor grants which occupy two pages of the chartulary of the abbey^a.

^b The first of these gifts is recited in the Foundation Charter of the abbey of St. Werburgh, and the lands of course became entitled to all the privileges conceded by earl Hugh in that charter. The abbot in his plea to a writ of quo warranto 13 Edw. II. names these concessions as the foundation of this manor of Woodchurch, and states their having been previously allowed in an assize, 15 Edw. I. when Ralph Caldwell, parson of Woodchurch, claimed one sixth of the manor against his predecessor^c. In another plea to a quo warranto, 31 Edw. III. he claims here infangtheof, wayf, stray, goods of felons, fugitives, and natives, and view of frank pledge, at his manor house of Irby.

^d After the dissolution the manor was granted by the crown, 8th March 1 Eliz. to Peter Grey, esq. who sold the same to Lancelot Bostock and Francis Hiccocks, of Horsham, by whom it was conveyed, 25 Eliz. to Robert Hiccocks, late of London, gent. as the manor of Cromborough Court, in Woodchurch, together with the vills of Knoctorum, Rowe, Shotwick, and Woodchurch.

^e By this Robert Hiccocks the manor was sold to the family of Crosse, in Lancashire, but re-purchased by the vendor, and subsequently sold by his sons

George and Robert, to Robert Leenes, who was possessed of the same in 1701.

After some intermediate alienations the manor was purchased by Thomas Wilson, D. D. son of Thomas, bishop of Sodor and Man: and has passed under his will, with the manors of Knoctorum and Landican, to Thomas Patten Wilson, esq. M. P. the present proprietor.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to the Holy Cross.

Tax. Eccl. 9l. 6s. 8d. Val. Eccl. 25l. 9s. 2d.

In the account of the manor of Woodchurch have already been given reasons for supposing the identity of this church with that of Landican, or rather with that church which is to be inferred from the mention of a priest in the Domesday survey of Landican.

By the abstracts of Inquisitions and fines given under Landican, it appears that the advowson of Woodchurch descended with that manor, as late as 13 Ric. II.; and although the mention of it is not continued in the Inquisitions, the lords of Landican continue registered as the patrons to 1483, when a chasm occurs in the episcopal registers.

A^o 31 Hen. VIII. Thomas Foulshurst, esq. levied a fine of lands in Landican, and other townships, to the use of William Sneyd, of Keele, esq. in which, most probably, the advowson of Woodchurch was included, as (according to Dr. Williamson) it passed by sale soon after the Reformation from "— of Keele," to the family of Adams.

In 1673, Hugh Burches, of Dublin, was instituted to this rectory on the presentation of his wife, Margaret Burches, the heiress of the Adams's, from whom the advowson descended through heirs female to Ellen, daughter of . . . Peacock, and wife of Bryan King, clerk, who is the present impropiator and patron.

The tithes of the parish are exclusively the property of the rector.

The church is a handsome stone fabric, consisting of a tower, nave, chancel, and south aisle, separated from the body by four arches, all apparently of the age of Henry the Eighth, or Elizabeth. The font is octangular, and ornamented in a good style with shields and gothic carvings.

The sepulchral monuments are as follows:

A marble tablet,

Sacred to the memory of
George Ball, of Irby, gentleman,
who departed this life
on the 1st of February, 1777, aged 54.
And of Catherine Weller Ball,
who died on the 18th of July, 1787,
aged 29.

On a tablet suspended in the chancel is the following inscription:

Underneath lyeth interred the body of William Hockenhull, gent. eldest son of George Hockenhull, of Prenton, esq. by Mary his wife, eldest daughter to George Leicester, of Toft, in the co. of Chester, esq. The said William had to wife Barbara, daughter and coheir of Richard Massey, of Sale, in the said county of Chester, esq. (who lineally was descended from the antient

^a 23 and 23 b Harl. MSS. 1965.

^c Extracts from Williamson in Cole's MSS.

^d Ibid.

^b Chartulary of St. Werburgh, and sir F. Leycester, p. 110.

^e Ibid.

^f Ibid.

family of Massey, baron of Dunham Massey, in the said county) by whom he had two daughters, Mary and Anne, and John, born after his father's death. He died 28th Dec. 1698, in the — year of his age.

Arms, quarterly. 1. Hockenhull, Argent, an ass's head erased, Sable. 2. Huxley. Argent, on a bend coticed, Gules, 3 crescents, Or. 3. Gleave. Sable, 3 crescents, Argent. 4. Argent, on a bend, Sable, 3 spear heads of the 1st. On an escutcheon of pretence, Massey of Sale.

Two Crests on wreaths, Argent, a buck's head coupé at the shoulders Argent, attired Or, pierced through the neck with an arrow fesse way, for Hockenhull of Prenton (but incorrect); and Azure, a bull's head, armed Or, issuing from a ducal coronet of the second.

Near this is another tablet inscribed :

Here lyeth the body of Mary, eldest daughter of George Leicester, of Toft, esq. and wife to George Hockenhull, of Prenton, esq. by whom he had issue ten children, whereof 3 sons, William, George, and Ralph, and 3 daughters, Anne, Mary, and Dorothy, survived her. She died 27th Dec. 1681, in the 37th year of her age.

On another tablet, the arms of Hiccocks (paly of eight pieces, Or and Azure, over all a bend, Gules), impaling Foster, Sable, a chevron between three pheons Argent. Crest, on a wreath a tiger, Argent, tufted Or.

Here lyeth the body of Robert Hiccocks, late of Woodchurch, in the co. of Chester, gent. who, by Elizabeth, his second wife, daughter to Elias Foster of Newchurch, in com. Cest. gent. and relict to William Gammull, of Crabbhall, in the said county, gent. had issue a son and daughter, viz. George and Mary. He died 14 Dec. 1690, aged 65.

Another memorial, which is given at length Harl. MSS. 2151, recounting a small benefaction to the poor of Irby, was put up to preserve the name of "Mary, eldest daughter of Robert Lenard, of Tervin, co. Cest. gent. late wife of George Ball, of Erby, co. Cest. gent. by whom he had issue 5 sons and 1 daughter, of which there survived only George and Dorothy. She died 6th Sept. 1680, aged 40 years." Arms, Gules, a human leg coupé at the thigh, and erased at the ankle, pierced through the calf with a sword blade, Argent, and guttee de sang, for Ball, impaling, Or, on a fesse, Gules, three fleurs de lis, Or, for Lenard.

In the church is suspended a large table, containing a list of the benefactors to the parish, singularly enough intitled "Catalogus Mecænatum." The most consider-

able gift is that of William Gleave, esq. alderman of London, who bequeathed, in 1665, 500l. to the building of a parish school, with one hundred of which the edifice was completed, and with the remainder lands were purchased for its endowment, of 20l. yearly value, now let at 81l. per annum. The school was erected in the church-yard, and in the time of bishop Gastrel, a library, consisting of 394 volumes, given by Mr. Richard Adams, was preserved for its use in a room adjacent. Within these few years, the school has been removed into the township of Arrow, and is now about to be re-erected on its original site. The schoolmaster is appointed by twelve trustees, of which the rector is always one.

Next on the list appears the name of James Goodier, of Barnston, who gave 20 marks in 1525, to buy 20 yoke of bullocks for the poor of the parish, afterwards set apart for the purchase of cows to be hired out to the poor at 2s. 8d. per annum, under the direction of the commissioners of pious uses. Agreeably to an award by the bishop of Chester, in 1679, this charity is managed by fourteen trustees, of which the minister, the churchwardens, and the proprietor of Prenton Hall are always four; the remaining ten are chosen annually. The cows are annually brought into the rectory court, and examined on the Friday before Whitsunday, and all persons convicted of misconduct excluded from the benefits of the charity for three years. A similar charity exists in the township of Oxton, founded on a bequest of 50l. in 1677, by Richard Sherlock, then rector of Winwick.

At one period this singular charity provided ninety-two cows for the parishioners: at present it is falling into disuse, and from the change in the value of money may be considered as any thing rather than charity. Three pounds, the sum allowed, is scarcely the fourth part of the cow's value: for this an interest of five per cent. is paid, notwithstanding which the sum is under no circumstances allowed to be paid off by the borrower, and the cow, when branded with the parish mark, is adjudged to be altogether the property of the parish, to be forfeited for disobedience to regulations, or to be left on removing. A similar charity has been noticed in the account of Bebington.

The parsonage house, a substantial brick fabric, for the erection of which a licence was granted in 1709, stands contiguous to the church gates.

The Registers commence in 1572.

RECTORS OF WOODCHURCH.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1286.	Ralph de Caldwell. Johannes de Tewe.	Appears in an assize, 15 Edw. I.	
1316.	Adamus de Wettenal.	Ricardus Praers.	P. m. d'ni Jo. de Tewe.
1342.	Adamus Griffin, cl'us.	Johannes Griffin, sen.	P. m. Adami de Wettenal.
1344.	Adamus, fil. Johannis Griffin, cl'us.	Edwardus, fil. p'mog. et comes Cestr', hac vice.	
1349.	Ranulphus de Becheton, cl'us.	Katherina, quæ fuit uxor Roberti Becheton, hac vice.	P. m. Adami Griffin.
1375, 16 kal. Oct.	Thomas de Copenhale, pr'b'r.	Robertus de Fulshurst.	P. m. Ran'i de Bechinton.
1376, 19 Sep'ber.	Johannes de Tittenlegh, vica- rius de Wybunbury.		Causâ permutationis cum Thomâ de Copenhale.
1396.	Ricardus Bryddesmere, pr'b'r.	Thomas Fulleshurst.	P. m. Jo. Tittenlegh.
1404, 30 Nov.	Hugo de Malpas.	Honesta mulier d'na Johanna relictâ d'ni Thomæ Fulles- hurst, mil.	P. m. Ricardi de Bryddesmere.
	Ricardus Fulleshurst.		

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1418, 6 Octob.	Thomas Copenhale. Ricardus Thickins.	Nob. vir. Tho. Fulleshurst, arm.	P. resig. Ricardi Fulleshurst.
1476, 22 Apr.	Thomas Smith, pr'b'r.	Robertus Fulleshurst, miles.	P. m. Ricardi Thickins.
1483, ult. Apr.	Robertus Fulleshurst, A. M.	Robertus Fulleshurst, miles.	P. m. Tho. Smith.
1598, June 11.	Richard Adams, continues in the parish register to 1615. Richard Sherlock.		
1654.	Peter Burches. Samuel Grastie.		
1664, Nov. 26.	William Anderson.	Ralph Morgan, and others.	
1673, Oct. 9.	Hugh Burches.	Margaret Burches.	Resig. of William Anderson.
1704, July 20.	Robert Janny.	Hugh Burches.	Death of Hugh Burches.
1705, Nov. 2.	Thomas Green, A. M.	The queen.	Deprivation of Robert Janny.
1747, March 27.	John Crookhall.	On the prayer of himself and Mary his wife, the patrons.	Death of Thomas Green.
1792, Sept. 10.	Bryan King.	Margaret Hughes, widow, and Ellen, wife of Bryan King.	Death of John Crookhall.

Copenhale and *Tittenlegh* occur again in the list of vicars of Wybunbury, and *Smith* and *Fulleshurst*, in that of the rectors of Barthomley.

Richard Sherlock was probably father of Richard Sherlock, rector of Winwick, a native of Oxton, in this parish. He occurs in 1618, and dying 30 Aug. was buried at Woodchurch, 1 Sept. 1643.

Samuel Grastie appears in the parish register as rector in 1655. He is again noticed as rector in 1659, but intruder in all the intermediate years. The church was

afterwards vacant to 1664. The following account of *Anderson's* resignation is entered in the parish register. "Gulielmus Anderson, rector, a xxvi^o die mens. Nov'ris A. D. MDCLXIV^o. usque ad xi^m diem Octobris A. D. MDCLXXIII^o. quam rectoriam per resignationem juxta Joannis Wilkins nuper ep'i Cestriensis decretum, ipse reliquit. Tempori cedere, id est necessitati parere, semper sapientis est habitum."

Thomas Green was a younger brother of the antient family of Greene, of Poulton Lancelyn.

LANDICAN

FORMED originally a part of the barony of Wich Malbank, to the founder of which it was granted at the Conquest, and with a probability almost amounting to certainty, appears to have contained the vill and church of Woodchurch in its original limits^a.

"Isdem Willielmus tenet Landchene: Essul tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi vii hidæ geldabiles: terra est viii carucarum: in dominio est una: et presbyter et ix villani, et vii bordarii, et iv francigenæ, cum v carucis inter omnes. T. R. Edwardi, valebat l solidos, modo xl solidos. Wasta invenitur."

In the Inquisition after the death of William Malbank, third baron of Wich Malbank, exemplified July 12, 16 Hen. VI. Landican is enumerated among the portions of the barony, divided between his three daughters and coheirresses. Landican was included in the share of the eldest coheirress, Philippa, wife of Thomas lord Basset, whose second daughter and coheirress, Philippa, was wife of Henry Newburgh earl of Warwick, who died issueless 13 Hen. III.

^b19 Edw. II. Randle Praers, and Joanna his wife, obtained from William de Dutton chaplain, the manors of Bartomlegh, Crue, and Landecan, with the serjeancy of the countess of Warwick and the advowsons of Bartomlegh and Woodchurch, to them and their heirs.

^c18 Edw. III. Thomas Praers of Bartomlegh, and Margery his wife, levied a fine of the said manors to their use for life, with remainder of the manor of Landecan, and the advowson of Woodchurch, to William Praers,

of Baddelegh and his heirs, in the event of the failure of issue of the said Thomas.

Inq. p. m. 13 Ric. II. Robert Fulleshurst, of Crue, held for life, by the law of England, after the death of his wife Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Thomas Praers, of Bartomlegh, the manors of Bartomlegh, Crue, and Landacan, and the advowsons of Woodchurch and Bartomlegh, which Elizabeth held the same in demesne as of fee, from the earl of Chester by military service, and the render of xliiis. iyd.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. V. Thomas Fulleshurst, of Crue, chevalier, held among other estates, the manor of Landican, and the aforesaid manors and advowsons, as in the preceding Inquisition. Value, per annum, of Landican, vl. Thomas Fulleshurst son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 and 18 Hen. VI. Thomas Fulleshurst held among other estates, the manors and advowsons before-mentioned, as in the preceding Inquisitions; no heir mentioned in the second Inquisition; in the first, Robert Fulleshurst is found son and heir.

3 and 4 Phil. and Mary. Richard and Thomas Wilbraham, esquires, obtained by fine, among other estates, lands in Landican, from sir Thomas Fulleshurst, knight, to them and their heirs. This purchase is not mentioned as the manerial estate; but in 1668, the manor of Landican is stated to be vested in sir Thomas Wilbraham, of Woodhey, bart. great grandson of the before mentioned Richard Wilbraham, and most probably in consequence of this purchase^d.

The advowson of Woodchurch, formerly attached to

^a Vide Woodchurch.

^b Williamson's Collection of Fines, p. 13.

^c Ibid. p. 24.

^d Harl. MSS. 2010.

this manor; had been previously alienated in the 32d of Hen. VI.

The manor of Landican is now claimed by Thomas Patten Wilson, esq. who inherits lands in this township under the will of Thomas Wilson, D. D. son of the

bishop of Sodor and Man; but the party from whom Dr. Wilson purchased, and the connection of this property with the manerial estate of the Fulleshursts have not been ascertained. The manerial rights exercised are confined to a game deputation.

KNOCTORUM.

“WILLIELMUS (Malbedeng) tenet Chenoterie, et Ricardus de eo. Colbertus tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est una caruca quæ est in dominio, cum II bovariis et II villanis. Valuit xv solidos, modo x solidos: wasta fuit.”

Knoctorum remained a very short time in the hands of this family, and is not noticed in any Inquisition, or other document which has occurred, among the component townships of the barony of Wich Milbank, being alienated, together with Willaston, Upton, and Frankby, almost immediately after the compilation of Domesday, to the Praers family, in whom also another large portion of the barony centered at a later period.

In the charter of earl Richard to the abbey of St. Werburgh, is a confirmation of a grant, by which “Ricardus de Praers dedit Knoctirum, testibus Willielmo et Ada’ filiis ejus.” This manor continued vested in that monastery to the dissolution, which possessed here the

same privileges which the monks claimed for their other Wirral manors, and view of frank pledge at their manor house of Irby.

After the dissolution it became lost to the dean and chapter of Chester cathedral, by the same omission in their original charter, which proved fatal to most of their possessions; and has been held since that time by various fee farmers under the Crown, subject to a reserved rent to the dean and chapter, in which successive alienations it has passed by the same title with the manor of Woodchurch. By the last sale it was transferred to Thomas Wilson, D. D. son of the bishop of Sodor and Man, under whose will it is now vested in Thomas Patten Wilson, esq.

The manerial privileges used or claimed are confined to a game deputation. The village consists merely of two or three farm houses, situated on an elevation opposite Woodchurch, in a very dreary part of Wirral.

ARROWE.

THIS manor was antiently part of the fee of the barons of Montalt, under whom the same was held by Roger de Soterley, 6 Edw. I. Edmund de Soterley passed his right herein by fine to sir Peter le Roter, lord of Thornton, for 20 marks, 19 Edw. II. on which Gilbert de Lymme appeared in the court of Chester, and did homage to Peter le Roter, for his lands in Arrowe, and acknowledged having held the same from Edmund de Soterley^b.

Arrowe was subsequently divided among the seven coheirs of Thornton. It would be equally vain and laborious to attempt to trace exactly these subdivisions, among contradictory Inquisitions, down to their final accumulation by the Duttons; but a general reference to these documents will be found under “Stoke,” which passed by the same title. Sir Peter Dutton by Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VIII. had then obtained a fourth of the manor;

and his family subsequently became possessed of a moiety of the manor, which was for a short time vested in the Tyldesleys of Tyldesley, and was held by John Tyldesley from the king as earl of Chester, as the sixth part of a knight’s fee, a^o 24 Hen. VII. as by Inq. p. m.

From the Duttons, this township passed with their other lands to the Gerards, lords of Gerards Bromley, who are described as sole lords in 1668^c, and 1701^d. The Fleetwoods, who succeeded to the Gerards by marriage, alienated all their Cheshire estates early in the last century^e.

The manor or reputed manor, and a considerable part of the township, is now vested in John Shaw, of Liverpool, merchant, by purchase from the late — Mac-knight, of the same place, merchant. There is no hall in Arrowe. The manerial privileges used are confined to a game deputation.

OXTON.

THE descent of this manor has been already given in the account of the manor of Brunstath, as forming part of the original estate of the Domvilles, and after being transferred by successive marriages of heirs female to the families of Hulse of Raby, and Troutbeck of Dunham, as vesting ultimately in the Talbots, by the mar-

riage of ^fJohn Talbot, of Albrighton, esq. with Margaret, daughter and heiress of Adam Troutbeck.

The earl of Shrewsbury, representative of the Talbots, is the present proprietor of Oxton, which is included within the jurisdiction of his leet of Raby.

The village of Oxton is mean and small, composed of

^b Villare Cest.

^d Villare Cest.

^f For the Inqs. p. m. and other particulars of this descent, vide Brunstath in Wirral Hundred, and Dunham on the Hill in Edisbury Hundred.

^c Villare of that year, Harl. MSS. 2010.

^e Vide Acton in Edisbury Hundred, and Dutton in Bucklow.

wretched straggling huts, amongst roads only not impassable. The township occupies an eminence which commands a full view of the buildings and shipping of Liverpool, exhibiting a picture resembling metropolitan bustle and splendour, almost immediately below the eye; but no degree of civilization or improvement has reached this part of the opposite shore, which is a scene of solitude, broken in upon only with the voice of the cowherd, or the cry of the plover. Bleak and barren moors stretch

round it in every direction, and exhibit an unmixed scene of poverty and desolation.

This township gave birth to Richard Sherlock, a voluminous polemical writer, and persecuted royalist of the time of Charles I. and II. a long memoir of whom will be found in Anthony Wood. He was a benefactor to the charities of this parish, and was most probably son of the rector of Woodchurch, of the same name.

THINGWALL.

THIS township is situated about one mile south of Woodchurch. The village, if it may be so termed, is composed of a few straggling huts, and contains no object of the slightest curiosity or interest.

William Malbedeng, baron of Nantwich, was grantee of this vill, at the Conquest. "Isdem Willielmus tenet Tingwelle et Durandus de eo. Winterlet tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est 11 carucarum: In dominio est una, et 11 servi, et unus villanus, et unus bordarius, habent aliam. T. R. Edwardi valebat VIII solidos, modo v solidos."

^a John Domville, of Brunstath, and Cicely his wife, held here, 10 Ric. II. lands of the value of 26s. and 8d. as appears by fine of that date.

By *Inq. p. m.* 3 Hen. V. Margaret, their daughter and heiress, held these lands in joint feoffment with her hus-

band, sir Hugh Holes, from the lord Strange, of Knokyn, as of his manor of Bidston, which lands were valued, together with Brunstath and Oxton, at 20 marks.

From sir Hugh Holes, these lands descended through successive female heirs of the families of Hulse and Troutbeck, to John Talbot, esq. ancestor of the earl of Shrewsbury^b, in whose leet of Raby, the township of Thingwall is included.

^c In 1668, the manor was claimed by the earl of Shrewsbury, sir William Stanley of Hooton, and lord Kingston. The property of the latter is now vested in R. Vyner, of Gautby, esq. at whose court of Bidston the tenants of his estates in Thingwall attend; but an agent deputed by him also attends to do suit and service for the same estates, at the earl of Shrewsbury's court of Raby^d.

BARNSTON.

THE name of this township varies considerably in early charters, and is given as Barnston, Bernstone, Berinston, and Berelestone. Under the latter appellation the tithes of the vill were given by Ralph Fitz Ermwin to the abbey of St. Werburgh in 1093.

Barnston, at the time of the Domesday survey, formed part of the lands of William Fitz-Nigell, the second baron of Halton. "Isdem Willielmus tenet Bernestone, et Radulfus de eo. Ravesvar et Leviet pro 11 maneriis tenerunt: et liberi homines fuerunt. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est 11 carucarum: in dominio est una et 11 bovarii et 11 bordarii. Valebat x solidos. Wasta invenitur."

From this survey it appears that the manor was antiently in moieties. Into these it was again divided. One most probably reverted to the earl, from whom, as will be seen hereafter, it was subsequently held by the Troutbecks. The other was held together with the manor of Capenhurst under the barony of Halton, by a family which assumed the local name of Barnston, of whom the following notices occur.

^e 21 Edw. I. Hugh de Bernston alienated the manor of Capenhurst to James de Pulle. q. v.

^f . . Edw. II. Hugh de Bernston holds a moiety of Berneston, as the fourth part of a knight's fee, and by relief of 1s. 5d. cum acciderit.

27 Edw. III. Robert de Barnston claims the privilege of assarting, in right of his estates in Barnston and Haselwall within the forest of Wirral, at the pleas of the forest before the earl's ^g justices in eyre.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. John de Barnston was found tenant by courtesy of the manors of his late wife Eustasia, daughter and coheiress of Ralph de Haselwall, and widow of William de Egerton. Ralph de Egerton son and heir of Eustasia.

This John de Barnston, who appears to have died issueless, was most probably elder brother of Robert de Barnston, ancestor of the Churton family. Their connection with Barnston terminated about this period, and they were succeeded by the Tyldesleys of Tyldesley in Lancashire.

. . Hen. VI. John de Tyldesley appears in the feodary of Halton as tenant of the moiety of Barnston before-mentioned.

Inq. p. m. 12 Hen. VII. John Tyldesley held in demesne as of fee half the manor of Arrowe, val. v marks, and also messuages and lands in Barnston, from the king as of his manor of Halton, in socage, by the render of a red rose. Val. v marks. John Tyldesley son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 24 Hen. VII. In this *Inq.* Richard Tyldesley is found son and heir to the preceding John

^a Williamson's Collections, p. 30.

^d Information of R. Ashhurst, esq.

^g Plac. Forest. de Mara et Wirhale. Harl. MSS.

^b Information of R. Ashhurst, esq. agent of lord Shrewsbury.

^e Villare Cest. See Poole.

^c Harl. MSS. 2010.

^f Feodary of Halton. Leycester, 290.

Tyldesley in his manor of Arrow, but no notice is taken of Barnston. This moiety was most probably alienated about this period, and has long fallen into disuse.

The second moiety of Barnston was possessed by the Troutbecks, and occurs first in the *Inq.* after the death of sir John Troutbeck, 38 Hen. VI. Having subsequently passed in marriage with Margaret, daughter and heiress of Adam Troutbeck, to John Talbot, of Albrighton, esq. it has descended with Dunham, Raby,

and the other estates of the Troutbecks to the present earl of Shrewsbury, to whose leet of Raby the tenants of this manor owe suit and service.

The village stands high, on a yellowish rocky soil, among bleak and desolate moors, two miles south west of Woodchurch. No remains of the antient hall are now in existence. It is described by bishop Gastrell as being in a very ruinous state in 1724.

PENSBY.

THIS township is situated in a moorish flat between Thurstanston and Haselwall, about fourteen miles north-west of Chester. The manor was divided into small portions at an early period.

^a 20 Hen. VI. Richard Bold of Chester obtained, with other lands, a fourth part of the manor of Penesby, by fine, from William Chene, John Medow, and John Greene, and their wives, for 100 marks.

^b A third part of the manor was given by Bertram de Verdon to the prior of St. John of Jerusalem, which third had been previously held by Hugh de Coronà, which lands were held by the Stanleys of Hooton under this order.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VIII. Sir William Stanley, of Hooton, kt. held lands in Penesby from the prior of the order of St. John of Jerusalem in England. Val. per annum xliiis. liiij.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VIII. William Stanley, of Hooton, held lands in Penesby from the king as parcel of the lands of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem. Value per annum xls.

Inq. p. m. 2 Jac. I. William Stanley, esq. held two hundred acres of land in Penesby as before-mentioned. Value per annum xls.

Another third part of lands and tenements in Penesby, formerly the possession of Peter Penesby, was held in dower by Isabella, wife of Peter Fitton. Value xliiis. liiij. as by *Inq. p. m.* 21 Ric. II.

From this last *Inq.* it is most probable that the whole manor was possessed originally by a family which bore the local name, and that these subdivisions arose from the termination of that family in coheireses at a very early period.

Before the year 1668, the manor was vested in the Gleggs of Gayton, and having subsequently passed in marriage with Mary, daughter and heiress of Robert Glegg of Gayton, esq. to John Baskervyle, esq. of Old Withington, descended to his grandson, John Glegg, of Old Withington, esq. who has conveyed his Wirral estates to his only son, John Baskervyle Glegg, of Gayton, esq. the present proprietor.

PRENTON.

WALTER de Vernon, brother of Richard de Vernon, baron of Shipbrook, obtained this vill at the Conquest, then called Prestune, and previously divided into three manors.

Isdem Walterius tenet Prestune. Ulviet, Edric et Leuvede tenuerunt pro tribus manerius, et liberi fuerunt. Ibi una hida et dimidia geldabilis: terra est iii carucarum: In dominio est una, et ii bovarii, et ii bordarii. Ibi molinum serviens curiæ; silva unâ leuvâ longa, et una lata. Valebat vii solidos, modo v solidos.

^d In the reign of Edward III. William de Prenton was lord of this township. The Prentons terminated in a heir female, who brought the manor in marriage to the Gleyves. Thomas Gleyve of Prenton dying without male issue, the manor passed from this family, by marriage with Agnes, daughter and heiress of the said Thomas Gleyve, to Henry Hocknell, gent. a younger son of John Hocknell, or Hockenhull, of Hockenhull in the hundred of Edisbury.

The arms were allowed in the Cheshire Visitations and

the precise point of connection is given by Randle Holme in Harl. MSS. 2161.

Inq. p. m. 32 Eliz. John Hocknell of Prenton (grandson of the aforesaid Henry) died seized of the manor of Prenton, with lands and tenements therein, but from whom held the jurors knew not, Value xxxs.; and also of lands in Tranmere, Moreton, and Hoole. Died 23d or 24th of April, 32 Eliz. John Hocknell son and heir, aged upwards of 17 years.

From John Hocknell the manor passed by lineal descent, as stated in the pedigree subjoined, to the late John Hockenhull, esq. father of George Hockenhull, who died without issue, and of one daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Briscoe, of Clayley, gent. in whose children the representation of this family is now vested. The manor and estate were sold by the trustees of the said John Hockenhull to J. Lyon, esq. and are now the property of his grandson, John Lyon, esq. barrister at law.

There are no freeholders within the township. The hall of Prenton had ceased to be occupied by its pro-

^a Williamson's Deeds.
^d Harl. MSS. 2079.

^b Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^c Harl. MSS. 2010. Villare of 1668.

^e Cheshire Pedigrees.

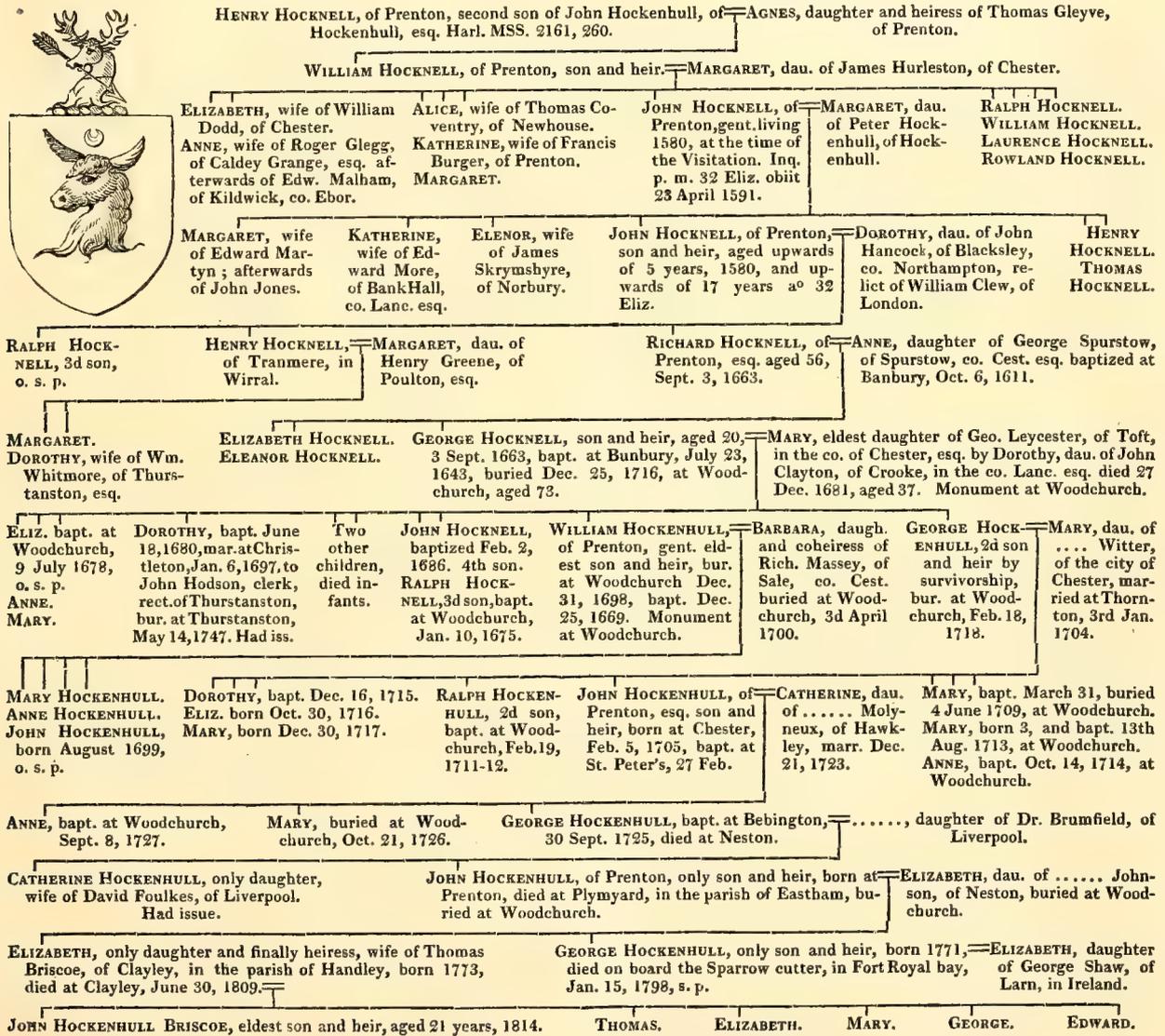
prietors a considerable time before the alienation of the manor. Its site is occupied by a respectable stone-built farm-house, situated in a warm sequestered dingle, somewhat better sheltered with trees than the rest of the surrounding country. The township lies at the eastern extremity of the parish of Woodchurch.

HOCKENHULL OF PRENTON.

From the Visitations of 1580 and 1663, continued from Parish Registers, the Monuments in the parish church of Woodchurch, and the information of the family in the three last descents.

ARMS. Argent, an ass's head erased, Sable, a crescent for difference.

CREST. On a wreath party per fesse, Argent and Or, a stag's head and neck, erased, attired Or, transfixd through the nostrils with a dart in bend, Or, feathered Argent, barbed Azure.



Neston.

THE boundaries of Neston are formed by the contiguous parishes of Burton, Eastham, Bromborough, Bebington, and Haselwall, and by the estuary of the Dee, along the shore of which the parish extends about three miles and a half. Its extreme length is about six miles, and breadth four, in which compass are comprehended eight townships, Neston, Little Neston cum Hargrave, Nesse cum Denwall, Willaston, Ledsham, Raby, Leighton, and Thornton Hough. The general aspect of the parish, from the flatness of its surface, and its exposure to the sea-breeze, which prevents the growth of timber, is extremely naked and cheerless. With one sole exception it is deserted by its considerable landholders and manerial proprietors; and one antient hall only, ruinous and abandoned to farmers, is now standing within the district.

NESTON.

THE manor of Neston was divided into three shares anterior to the Conquest, of which one-third remained in possession of the church of St. Werburgh, which had previously occupied it, and was held under the same by William, baron of Halton, the grantee of another third. The last third was held by Robert, sur-named Cocus.

Ipsa ecclesia tenet et tenet Nestone: et Willielmus de ea: ibi tertia pars duarum hidarum geldabilis. Terra est una caruca. Reddidit et reddit de firma xvii solidos et iv denarios.

Isdem Willielmus tenet Nestone. Erne tenet; ibi ii partes ii hidarum geldabiles. Terra est iv carucarum: in dominio sunt ii carucæ, et unus servus, presbyter, et iv villani, et ii bordarii, habent ibi iii carucas. Temp. R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos, et post tantundem, modo xxv solidos.

Robertus Cocus tenet de comite Nestone. Osgot tenet et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est iii carucarum. In dominio sunt duæ; et unus servus, et ii villani, et iv bordarii, cum una carucâ: et unus francigena ibi. Tempore R. Edwardi, valebat xiii solidos, et iv denarios, modo xvi solidos: wasta invenitur.

^a In the time of Henry I. or Stephen, William, the second baron of Halton, received from the monks of St. Werburgh their third of the manor, "quæ erat antiquitus præbenda Sc'æ Werburgæ," in exchange for his moiety of Raby, which was divided in equal portions between Halton fee and the church; and thus became lord of two-thirds, and finally of the whole.

Shortly after this exchange, which was confirmed by Randle Meschines, the manor and church of Neston passed to Robert de Montalt, seneschal of the earldom, whose widow, Leucha, held the church as part of her dower in the time of Henry II. as appears by the charter of her son to the monks of St. Werburgh given hereafter. ^b By *Inq.* 6. Edw. I. Robert de Montalt held

the manor of Neston from the king in capite, by the service of finding a judger or juror for the county court, and the court of the hundred of Wilaveston.

The descent of the Montalts will be found in the account of the Cheshire baronies. Their representation vested in Leucha, wife of Philip de Orreby, daughter and finally sole representative of Roger de Montalt, but Robert de Montalt, ^c grandson of the said Roger, and last baron of Montalt, by fine 1 Edw. III. for default of issue male, gave all his lands to queen Isabella, remainder to John of Eltham, the king's brother, and the heirs of his body, remainder to king Edward III.

^d 12 Edw. III. Edward, king of England, confirms an exchange between William de Montacute, earl of Sarum, and Isabella, queen of England, of 1000 marks issuing from the tin mines of Cornwall, for the castle and manor of Hawardyn, the manors of Lee, Boselee, and Neston, the castle and vill of Mold, and the seneschalship of Chester.

^e This William, earl of Salisbury, dying without issue July 3, 21 Ric. II. sir John Montacute, chv'r, his nephew, was found next of kin and heir by *Inq.* July 24 following, which John, earl of Salisbury, was beheaded for treason 1 Hen. IV. and his lands were forfeited to the crown by act of parliament 7 Hen. IV.

^f After several intermediate grants, Hawarden with its dependencies was granted in 1451 to Edward prince of Wales, and was then claimed by John Hertcombe, the survivor of four trustees, to whom John, earl of Salisbury, had granted his estates in fee before the commission of treason, and the said John Hertcombe obtained restitution accordingly.

^g In 1454 a fine was levied of the said manor, &c. to the use of Richard Neville, earl of Salisbury, and Alice his wife, grand-daughter of the aforesaid John, earl of Salisbury, with remainder to their son-in-law, sir Thomas Stanley, afterwards created lord Stanley, to his use for life, remainder to the issue male of his body,

^a Chartulary of the abbey of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965.

^c Leicester's MSS.

^d Charters, Brit. Mus. XI. 61.

^f Pennant's Wales, I. 97.

^g Ibid. 98.

^b Williamson's Villare Cest.

^e Vincent's Discoverie of Errors, p. 449.

reserving a power of re-entry to the earl of Salisbury on the failure of certain conditions stipulated for by sir Thomas Stanley.

In this noble family Neston continued for several generations, and is said to have been finally alienated to William Whitmore, of Leighton, esq. about the latter end of the sixteenth century, by William, earl of Derby, for the discharge ^h of a gaming debt. Bridget, daughter and coheirress of William Whitmore, married ⁱ Thomas Savage, second son of Thomas, viscount Savage, and had issue Darcie Savage, whose daughter and sole heiress, Bridget, marrying sir Thomas Mostyn, of Mostyn, bart. became ancestress by him of sir Thomas Mostyn, bart. in whom the manor of Neston is now vested.

Below the town of Neston, on the shore of the Dee, is a long line of houses called Park-gate, partly situated in this township and partly in Leighton. It originated in the buildings which were erected here about the middle of the sixteenth century, in consequence of the formation of a quay at this point to obviate the difficulties of navigating the obstructed channel of the Dee to the port of Chester. It is now a station for Irish packets, and owes its increase of late years to the influx of company, chiefly from Chester, and the parts adjacent, who frequent it as a bathing-place, in considerable numbers.

Neston market is held on Fridays; and the fairs are Feb. 2, May 1, and Sept. 29. The market has been held a great number of years without charter and without any notice of it on the part of the manorial lord. The fairs are equally irregular, and have been held about thirty years for the convenience of the neighbourhood. A court-leet and court-baron, the jurisdiction of which is coextensive with the township, are held yearly at Great Neston by sir Thomas Mostyn, bart.

CHURCH.

Ded. to St. Mary and St. Helen. Tax. Eccl. 13l. 6s. 8d.
Val. Eccl. 11l. 5s. 0d.

The existence of a church here is coeval at least with the Conquest, from the mention of a priest in the Domesday Survey. The church formed part of the dower of Leucha de Montalt, about the latter part of the reign of Stephen, after the alienation of the manor by the barons of Halton to the Montalt family.

Ralph de Montalt, seneschal of Chester, with the permission of Leucha his mother, and of his brother William de Montalt, the incumbent, gave the church of Neston to the monastery of St. Werburgh by the following charter, which being confirmed by Richard Peche, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, must bear date anterior to 1182.

ⁱ Notum sit omnibus quod ego Rad'us de Montealto dapifer Com' Cest' dedi eccl'ie S'ce Werburge ecclesiam de Neston pro anima Roberti patris mei, et Leuchæ matris meæ. Hæc autem omnia feci consensu et consilio Leuchæ matris meæ, in cujus dotem ipsa ecclesia quam donavi fundata est, et W'i de Montealto fr'is mei, et aliorum amicorum meorum. Hanc autem elemosynam feci pro excessibus meis et patris mei et antecessorum meorum in præfatam ecclesiam S'ce Werburge et maxime de Lay et aliis rebus illatis. Hiis testibus,

Ada' de Dumville, ^k Haytropo filio Hugonis, Stephano Mallanel, Rad'o filio Rogeri, Ric'o abb'e de Hagemi, Gilb. de Malopassu, &c.

^l This charter was confirmed by Robert de Montalt, dapifer com. Cest. in a deed witnessed by Philip de Orreby the elder; ^m and the church was quitclaimed by the incumbent, Richard de Neston, clerk, and Patrick his son. After the death of this Richard, it appears from the chartulary of St. Werburgh, that Roger de Montalt (who was contemporary with Philip de Orreby the younger, just. Cest. 1209-1228) refused to recognize the grant, took possession of the church with an armed force, and presented Ralph de Montalt, clerk, to the same. Roger de Montalt afterwards quitclaimed to the abbey the advowson and two bovates of land; but the monks purchased this restoration dearly, with the manor of Brocton (Bretton), the chapel and tenement of Sponne, one mark of silver yearly issuing from the tenement of Bechene, with homages and services thereto belonging, and the resignation of all the tenths of Hawarden to the rector thereof, and the payment of a yearly pension of five marks to Ralph de Montalt, clerk, whom Roger had presented.ⁿ

The appropriation of Neston was ratified by pope Honorius II. and Clement III.; and Hugh Grylle, abbot of St. Werburgh (1208—1226), assigned half the alterage to his chamberlain, to provide annually xs. "in cœnâ d'ni ad mandatum pauperum in claustro," 111s. for the charity of the monks on the feast of St. Catherine, 111s. for the expenses of his own anniversary, and the residue to his chamberlain.^o

After the dissolution, the advowson of the vicarage was granted to the dean and chapter of the cathedral of Chester, who usually present one of their prebendaries.

The vicar has the hay tithe and other vicarial tithes of the whole parish, with the exception of a modus paid by the township of Ledsham in lieu of tithe hay.

The rectorial tithes are variously distributed. Those of Leighton, Thornton, and Raby, are attached to the vicarage. Sir Thomas Mostyn possesses them in Great and Little Neston, the dean and chapter of Chester in Ledsham, and sir Thomas S. M. Stanley in Willaston and Nesse.

The church consists of a tower, nave, chancel, and side-aisles, which seems originally to have terminated in private chancels.

The tower appears to be of the age of the fifteenth century, as far as can be determined by the style of the parts which remain unaltered. The date 1697 is cut in a stone let into the north side, which is most probably the time of the new casing of the greater part of the building.

The nave and chancel are now thrown together. The marks of the antient partition and the rood-loft over it, are visible in a pillar which is now the third from the west end on the south side, and stands fourteen yards east of the steeple.

The nave has been originally divided from the side aisles by four semicircular arches on each side, resting on cylindrical columns with square capitals; of these, the first (a pilaster), the second and fourth, are standing on the north and south sides, and the fifth on the south. The first arch is also remaining on both sides, and the

^h So stated by Dr. Williamson on the authority of William Whitmore, esq. of Thurstanston, a^o 1710.

ⁱ Vide pedigree under "Leighton."

^j Vernon's Collections, Harl. MSS. 2074, and Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965. p. 24.

^k This Adam was most probably ancestor of the Domvilles of Brunstath. His appearance among the witnesses here is a corroboration of the opinion stated in the account of that township, of the early connection between the Montalts and Domvilles.

^l Chartulary, Harl. MSS. 1965. p. 24.

^m Ibid.

ⁿ Ibid.

^o Ibid. p. 19.

fourth on the south side. The third pillar has been cut away, and an arch, the chord of which is twenty-one feet, being double the original span, has been thrown from the second to the fourth column on each side. The nave formerly opened to the steeple by another semi-circular arch now built up.

The chancel has been originally separated from the side aisles by pointed arches resting on octagonal columns, some of which have been displaced, as in the nave, and arches substituted of double the original span.

The exterior is a mixture of all styles and ages. The font is extremely elegant, and most probably as old as the early part of the fifteenth century. It consists of an octagonal base, a slender shaft, and basin of the diameter of the base; the lower part of the shaft is ornamented with gothic niches with trefoil heads: the basin, or capital, is ornamented on each of the eight sides with a pannel including a quatrefoil.

On the north side of the altar is the following inscription on a marble tablet.

Spe vitæ beatoris
hic jacet quod mortale fuit
Joannis Briggs, A. M.
hujus Dioceseos Cancellarii,
et parochiæ de Mithley in comitatu Eboracensi
Rectoris.
Obiit 7^o Octobris, A. D. 1804,
ætat. 76.
Necnon haud longe ab hoc loco
requiescunt cineres Edwardi Briggs,
ejusdem filii natu minimi,
quem diutino morbo absumptum,
intra duodecimum ætatis annum
mors abripit
Septembris 14^o, A. D. 1793.

Opposite to this is another tablet, inscribed:
Sacred
to the revered memory
of Edmund Lyon, late of Liverpool, merchant,

who departed this life at Neston,
the 16th of January, 1789, aged 76,
and of Anne his wife,
formerly Anne Hayes, spinster,
who died the 12th of January, 1773, aged 52:
also to the respected memory
of her brothers, Thomas Hayes, of Chester, esq. M. D.
who died the 2d of August, 1767, aged 53,
and Joseph Hayes, of Neston, esq.
who died the 7th of July, 1784, aged 67,
sons of Samuel Hayes, formerly of Willaston
in this parish, gent. by Martha his wife,
who was daughter of John Ball, of Irby, esq.
This tablet is inscribed,
as a tribute of affectionate gratitude,
by their personal representative
Joseph Lyon.

Within, and near the communion rails, are several tablets, fixed on gravestones, commemorating,
"Edward Briggs, obiit Sept. 14, 1793, ætat. 12 years."
"Joseph Lyon, esq. obiit 16 June, 1809, æt. 58."
"Elizabeth Massie, widow of Thomas Massie, late of Coddington, esq. died 30 December 1784, aged 76."
Also a brass plate to the memory of the children of William Ramsbottom, rector of Haselwall, the first of whom died 1679.

A tablet, suspended in the vestry, is inscribed,
"Here lyeth the body of Thomasyn, daughter and heyre to . . . Newcomen, gent. late wife to George Pott, of Stancliffe. She dyed on the 27th day of November, 1650. By her he had John, George, Arthur, Ambrose, Thomas, Peter, and Samuel, also three daughters, Elizabeth and Thomasine, and Mary, and a sonne still borne.
Arms. Quarterly, four coats, the first, barry of ten pieces, Argent and Sable, over all on a bend Sable, three trefoils slipped Or, for Pott; impaling seven coats, the first, Argent, a lion's head erased Sable, between three crescents Gules, for Newcomen.

On the north side of the church is a handsome organ, erected by subscription in 1809, and built by J. Schultz, of Liverpool.

RECTORS OF NESTON.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
Ante ann. 1182.	William de Montealto.		
Circa 1210.	Ricardus de Neston, cl'us.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ.	
Circa id. tempus.	Radulphus de Montealto.	Rogerus de Montealto.	P. m. Ric. de Neston.

VICARS OF NESTON.

INSTITUTED.	INCUMBENTS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1336, 8 kal. Maii.	Henricus de Bromburgh. Robertus de Bruerâ, cap's. Joh'es Hobson.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. H. de Bromburgh.
1472, Sept. 10.	Hugo Starky.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Joh'is Hobson.
1477.	Ricardus Oldham, cap's.	Abbas Sc'e Werburgæ Cest.	P. m. Hugonis Starky.
1539, ante.	Ranulphus Poole, cl'us. Thomas Betson.		
1605, Aug. 2.	Francis Green.	Robert Whitby and William Aslegg.	Resig. of Thos. Betson.
1661, Sept. 20.	Francis Green, A. M. Samuel Marsden.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	
1692, Nov. 21.	Peter Morrey.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Peter Morrey.
1719, Oct. 1.	John Mapletoft.	Bishop of Chester, by lapse.	Death of J. Mapletoft.
1761, Oct. 19.	Abel Ward, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	
1784, Jan. 23.	Thomas Ward, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Resig. of Abel Ward.

William de Montalt is inserted at the head of the list of incumbents on the authority of sir Peter Leycester's MSS. and is doubtless the William who is noticed in his brother Ralph de Montalt's grant of the rectory to the abbey of St. Werburgh.

The two next names occur in the contest between the abbey and Roger de Montalt, previously noticed. *Richard de Neston* was married, and had issue Patrick de Neston; and from that Patrick's quitclaiming the church to St. Werburgh, after a similar quitclaim from his father, and the confirmation of Robert de Montalt, it is probable that the succession was hereditary, like that of the rectors of West Kirkby.

Randle Poole was rector of Hawarden, and manerial lord of Poole, in the account of which, the Inquisition after his death (30 Hen. VIII.) will be found.

It is singularly unfortunate that the registers of Lichfield and Chester should be equally defective with respect to this vicarage. The local register, commencing in 1700, is incompetent to supply the deficient names, and gives only the signature of Peter Morrey, and his burial March 28, 1719.^a

The circumstances of four names filling a space of near 130 years, is a strong proof of the healthiness of the situation.

The three last vicars were prebendaries of Chester. The last resigned in favour of his son, the present incumbent.^b

CHARITIES.

Bishop Gastrell notices a school-house built at Windle Hill, in the middle of the parish. The master was nominated by the vicar, but the school was without endowment, and nobody attended. This building has long been taken down, and there is now no free school in the parish.

Thomas Wilcock, of Chester, left lands in Willaston to the use of the poor of the parishes of St. John's and St. Bride's in Chester, and Neston parish, in unequal portions. These lands, of the value of 20l. per annum in Bp. Gastrell's time, have much increased in value; and the Neston share, which is given in bread, has risen accordingly.

Other smaller charities were laid out in the erection of the north gallery, but the interest continues to be distributed yearly to the poor.

The interest of 500l. bequeathed by Thomas Hayes, M. D. whose monument has been already noticed, is distributed annually to the poor of Great Neston; as is also the interest of a smaller legacy (10l.) paid to the churchwardens in 1802, pursuant to the bequest of Elizabeth, relict of Stepney Rawson Stepney, of Durrow, King's County, in Ireland, esq.

The vicarage house, a respectable fabric, is situated in the middle of the town, near the church.

The registers begin in the year 1700.

LITTLE NESTON CUM HARGREAVE.

LITTLE Neston and Hargreave are thus described in Domesday.

"Robertus Cocus tenet de Comite Nestone. Osgot tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis: Terra est trium carucarum. In dominio sunt II et unus servus et II villani, et IIII bordarii cum una carucâ, et unus francigena ibi. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat XIIII solidos et IIII denarios; modo XVI solidos. Wasta invenitur.

"Isdem Robertus tenet Haregrave; Osgot tenuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis; terra est II carucarum. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat VI solidos et VIII denarios, modo X solidos. Valuit IIII solidos cum receipt."

The manor is at present vested in the earl of Shrewsbury and Thomas Cottingham, esq. the title of the first of whom is derived through the Troutbecks from two distinct families, Hoghe and Salbury.

By Inquisition 43 Edw. III. Richard, son of Thomas del Hoghe, held in demesne, as of fee, a moiety of a fifth of the manor of Little Neston, in capite, from the earl of Chester. Value, per annum, XXXVIII. Cecilia, widow of Richard le Grosvenor, next of kin and heir.

This line of Grosvenor, of Little Budworth, terminated in Cecilia del Mere, whose son, Walter Twyford, 10 Hen. VI. passed over the manor of Budworth, and a fifth of this manor^c to William Troutbeck, esq. for 100 marks.

The remaining four fifths of the manor were vested in the family of Corona, as appears by the following abstract of a fine, 10 Edw. II. in which, with the laxity of old deeds, these shares are described as the entire manor.

10 Edw. II. Thomas de Coronâ obtained against Henry de Manchester, chaplain, the manor of Little Neston and Hargreave, cum pert. except a third of the same, which Lucy, widow of Hugh de Coronâ, held in dower, with remainder to John de Legh and Ellen his wife, remainder successively to their sons Robert, William, and Peter; remainder to the right heirs of John.

This Inquisition is important, inasmuch as it gives the connection of the three brothers who were ancestors of the several families of Legh, of Adlington, Isall, and Bechton, and shews their elder brother John Legh, of Booths, who is omitted in the settlement, to have been issue by a former marriage.

By *Inq. p. m.* 3 Ric. II. it appears that John le White had purchased the manerial rights of Thomas de Coronâ, in this manor, held, in capite, from the earl of Chester, and valued at xx marks.

Shortly after this these shares became divided, two fifths being the property of the Salbury family, and the other two fifths becoming vested in John de Ewlowe, of which hereafter. The first of these two fifths descended

^a This incumbent has been previously noticed in the will of dean Arderne, p. 40. He was a minor canon of Chester Cathedral. In consideration of his connection with their benefactor, the dean and chapter presented Mr. Morrey to Thurstanston, which he resigned in 1692, on his presentation to this vicarage.

^b To whom I avail myself of this opportunity of returning acknowledgements, for his obliging assistance in my local investigations.

^c For further particulars, see Little Budworth, in Edisbury Hundred, and the pedigree of Hough, of Leighton, in this parish.

in the following manner to the Troutbecks, the proprietors of Hoghe's share before-mentioned.

2 Jan. 7 Ric. II. *Alexander de Salbury*, brother and heir of *Henry de Salbury*,^d grants two fifths of the hamlet of *Haregreve*, lying between Raby and Willaston in breadth, and Pulton Lancelyn, Estham, and the king's highway leading to and from Chester, which William Abberbury and Margaret his wife hold for the life of the said Margaret, from the said Alexander, to Hugh Holes, of Chester, and David and John Holes, of Norbury, successively. Seal, three crescents.

14 Ric. II. The same grants to the same, lands occupied by the said William and Margaret, in Little Neston and Wirral.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. V. Margaret, widow of William Abberbury, died seized of two parts of Little Neston and Hargreave, which she held for the term of her life, with reversion as settled by the deeds preceding.

Sir Hugh Hulse, justice of Chester, eldest son of Hugh, on whom this settlement was made, had issue Thomas Hulse, whose daughter and heiress Margaret was married before 10 Hen. VI. to John Troutbeck, son of William Troutbeck, who purchased the before-mentioned share of this manor from Walter Twyford.

Margaret, daughter and heiress of Adam Troutbeck, brought the estates of her family, including these shares of Little Neston, in marriage, to John Talbot, esq. ancestor of the earl of Shrewsbury, the particulars of which descent, and of the families of Hulse and Troutbeck, will be found in the accounts of Raby in Wirral and Dunham in Edisbury.

The *Eulowe property* in Neston has descended to the family of Cottingham, as follows:

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. V. John de Eulowe held, inter alia, in capite, from the king, as the third part of a knight's fee, the third part of the manor of Little Neston, by law of England, in right of his late wife Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Robert de Strangewes. Value, per annum, vi. Edmund, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. V. Edmund son of John de Eulowe held, inter alia, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, by military service, two fifths of the manor of

Little Neston cum Hargreave. Value, per annum, v marks. Katherine, daughter of Richard de Hatton, next of kin and heir.

This Katherine (v. Mollington) married Roger Boothe, and had issue by him Robert Boothe, esq. son and heir, who died 22nd Feb. 1478, and had a son, Roger Boothe.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. Roger Boothe held, inter alia, two fifths of the manor of Little Neston with Hargreave, from the king, in capite, by the service of two fifths of half a knight's fee. Value, per annum, v marks. Thomas Boothe, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VIII. Thomas Boothe, esq. held, inter alia, the same, as before-mentioned. Value, per annum, 3l. 6s. 8d. John Boothe, S. T. P. brother and heir, aged 23 years.

Inq. p. m. 34 Hen. VIII. John Bothé, of Mollington, clerk, held, inter alia, the same as before-mentioned. Anne, daughter of Charles Bothe, aged nine years, niece and heiress.

This Agnes, erroneously called Anne in the Inquisition, married William Mordaunt, of Oakley, in the county of Bedford, esq. as stated at large under Mollington.

Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz. Agnes Mordant, widow, held in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, two fifths of the manor of Little Neston cum Hargreave, by the service before-mentioned. Value, per annum, iiii. vis. vii. Edmund Mordant, son and heir.

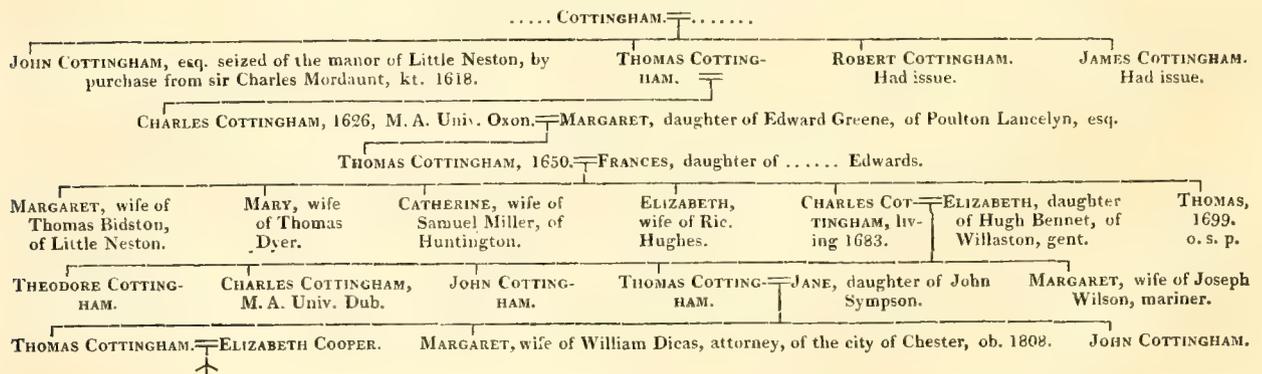
In this family of Mordaunt, of Oakley, these shares of Little Neston descended to the year 1618^e, when they were sold to John Cottingham, esq. by sir Charles Mordaunt, knt. The same are now vested in Thomas Cottingham, sixth in descent from Thomas Cottingham, the brother of the purchaser.

A court leet and court baron are held for this manor and Hargreave, by the earl of Shrewsbury^f and Thomas Cottingham, esq. as joint lords.

The hamlet of Hargreave is situated on the side of the parish which joins to Eastham, between Willaston and Raby. It gave name to a family about the time of Edward the First, when it was considered a distinct manor.

COTTINGHAM, OF LITTLE NESTON.

From MS. Pedigrees in the possession of Major-general Glegg, and the information of the family.



^d Extracts from the Shrewsbury Evidences (obligingly communicated by William Hamper, esq.) p. 135. This Henry (under the name of *Salisbury*) obtained by fine a fifth of the said manors from Henry de Winchester, 43 Edw. III. Williamson's Deeds, p. 27.

^e MSS. obligingly communicated by major-general Glegg.

^f Information of Richard Ashurst, esq. agent to the earl of Shrewsbury.

N E S S E.

By a singular coincidence Nesse and Ledsham, which are now joined under the same court leet, and vested in the same proprietor, to whom they have descended by very different titles, are surveyed together in Domesday, among the estates of Walter de Vernon, brother of Richard Vernon, the Norman baron of Shipbrook.

“Isdem Walterius tenet Nesse, Erniēt tenuit. Ibi una hida et dimidia geldabilis. Terra est ii carucarum: in dominio est una et ii bovarii, et v villani et iii bordarii, cum ii carucis: ibi una acra prati. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos, modo xvi solidos.”

10 Edw. II. Hugh de Dutton, obtained the manors of Nesse, Leigh, and Barterton, from William de Frods-ham, to him and his heirs for ever. The manor occurs afterwards, as follows, in the Inquisitions, among the numerous estates of the Duttons of Dutton.

Inq. p. m. 16 Ric. II. Laurence de Dutton held in demesne, as of fee tail, the manor of Nesse, near Burton, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, by military service. Value xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 24 Hen. VI. John Dutton, of Dutton, held as before, the said manor. Value x marks.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Thomas de Dutton held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Nesse, as before. Value, per annum, x marks.

Inq. p. m. 16 Edw. IV. Laurence de Dutton, illegible.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VII. Margaret, widow of John de Dutton, held in dower, from the heirs of the said John, the manor of Nesse, which they held as in the preceding Inquisitions. Value, per annum, x marks.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VIII. sir Peter Dutton, knt. held the manor of Nesse, as in the preceding Inquisition. Value, per annum, xl.

27 Eliz. John Dutton, of Dutton, levied a fine of numerous Cheshire estates, including the manor of Nesse.

Inq. p. m. 7 Jac. I. 25th April, John Dutton, of Dutton, esq. held the manor of Nesse, as in the preceding Inquisitions, namely, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, by military service. Value, per annum, xlv. xvs. Thomas Dutton, son and heir, aged upwards of forty years.

Elinour, sole daughter and heiress of this Thomas Dutton, marrying Gilbert, son and heir of Thomas lord Gerard, of Gerards Bromley, the Dutton estates passed

to that family, from which the manor of Nesse was purchased before 1668, by the Masseys, of Puddington; and having since passed by the same title with that manor, it is now vested in sir Thomas S. Massey Stanley, of Hooton, bart. who holds a court leet and court baron for the manor.

In the hamlet of Denwall, attached to this township, are considerable coal-mines, worked by sir Thomas Stanley. They are situated close to the high-water mark of the estuary of the Dee, and are worked to a very considerable distance under the bed of the waters.

In this hamlet “juxta littus maris,” was the poor HOSPITAL OF DENWALL, to which Alexander de Savensby, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, gave the church of Burton^a, by charter dated kal. Jan. 1238.

On the endowment and rebuilding of the hospital of St. John in Lichfield, by bishop Smyth, the revenues of this Hospital of Denwall, including the rectory of Burton, were united and appropriated to it, by the founder, by licence of king Henry the VIIth. Mr. Churton observes in his life of bishop Smyth, that all our historians have reported the gift to have been made by the king, but that his licence was all that was probably given; which was necessary, from the crown losing a contingent nomination to the hospital. It is simply stated in the episcopal register, “that the hospital belonged to the bishop’s patronage, and was his *gift*. The business was transacted in the episcopal court, in Lichfield cathedral, and after three days of examining witnesses and receiving depositions, was concluded on Tuesday, January the 8th, 1495-6, and confirmed by the chapter the next day.”^b The hospital of Denwall is no longer in existence; but the revenues of it are still appropriated to the use of the Hospital of St. John at Lichfield.

The following list of Masters of the Hospital, extracted from the Episcopal Registers of Lichfield, affords a tolerably complete catalogue from its commencement in 1336, to its appropriation in 1495. The Masters of Denwall were invariably rectors of Burton. The compatibility of the two benefices was objected to in 1447, but the bishop decreed them to be “beneficium compatibile, atque per clericum secularem regi debere. Dat. in Capell. Pal. Lichf. 11 Oct. 1447.”

MASTERS OF THE HOSPITAL OF ST. ANDREW IN DENWALL, AND RECTORS OF BURTON.

INSTITUTED.	MASTERS AND RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1336.	Johannes de Northburgh, rector eccl'ie de Northburgh, co. Lincoln.		
1374, Jan. 29.	Willielmus de Newhalgh, acolitus.	D'nus episcopus.	
1400, Aug. 4.	Frater Johannes Lugate. Thomas Wickersley.	Jo. Epus. Cov. et Lichf.	
1434, Oct. 7.	Roger Walle, cl'us. Edmundus Tebott.		P. m. Tho. Wickersley.
1445.	Roger Walle, pr'br. canon of Lichfield. ^d John Bothe, L. L. B. resigned the Hospital 1495.		P. m. Edmundi Tebott.

^a Vide “Burton,” for a copy of the charter extracted from the Lichfield Registers.

^b Vide Churton’s Founders of Brasen Nose College, vol. I. p. 83.

^c MSS. of archdeacon Churton.

^d Vide the account of the Booths, of Mollington, in this Hundred, for the several ecclesiastical dignities of this John Bothe.

WILLASTON.

FROM circumstances which it would be vain to inquire into, the township from which the Hundred of Wirral derives its Norman name of Wilaveston, has escaped notice in the Domesday survey. It appears first among the Cheshire Collections, in 1230, in which year, by deed preserved in the roll called the Cheshire Domesday, Fulco de Orreby made an assignment of dower in behalf of his mother Alicia Bamville, of the manors of Upton, Franckby, and Willaston^a. Agnes, daughter and heiress of Philip, brother of Fulco de Orreby, brought these among other estates to her husband Walkelyn de Arderne, of Aldford and Alvanley, under whom the manor of Willaston was held by the Mainwarings of Warmincham.

10 Edw. II. Matilda, daughter and heiress of Warin de Mainwaring, widow of William Trussel, of Cubbleston, junr. enfeoffed Richard Longespee to the manor of Wylaston in Wirral, to her use for life, and after her decease to Warin, son of William Trussel, junr. and then to the right heirs of Matilda in perpetuity^b.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. IV. Sir William Trussel, knight, held inter alia, in demesne as of fee, the manor of Willaston, from sir John Stanley, knight, as of his manor of Aldford, by grand serjeancy, value, per annum, xxi. Sir Thomas Trussel, knight, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 21 Edw. IV. Sir William Trussel, knight, held in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Willaston, from John Stanley, esq. as of his manor of Aldford, by grand serjeancy. Value, per annum, xxi. Edward Trussel, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VII. Edward Trussel held the manor of Willaston from John Stanley, as of his manor, by grand serjeancy. Value, per annum, xxi. John Trussel, a minor, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 15 and 22 Hen. VII. John Trussel, ward of the king, died seized of Willaston and the other estates of the Trussels. Elizabeth sister and heiress.

Willaston, and the other Cheshire estates of the Trussels, passed in marriage with this lady, to John Vere, 15th earl of Oxford, whose grandson Edward, 18th earl of Oxford, sold the manor in severalties, in the time of Elizabeth^c. Since that period the freeholders have been the lords of the manor. The manerial rights, comprising a court leet and court baron, are now exercised by these in rotation. ^dIn 1668 there were eighteen shares; they are now ^enineteen in number. The greatest number of shares are vested in Samuel Bennet, esq. who was mayor of the city of Chester in 1813, and in his four brothers. The family of Bennet have been in possession of property in the township since its alienation by the Veres.

The Hall of Willaston, which is in possession of the Bennets, was probably erected by their ancestors immediately subsequent to their acquisition of this estate. It is a moss-grown and ruinous brick building, of three low stories. Three projections in front are lighted by bay windows, and terminate in gables. ^fOn altering a chimney-piece some years ago, the date of 1558 appeared, with the initials and arms of Bennet, viz. Argent, two bars, Gules, within a bordure engrailed, Sable.

The village, situated eighteen miles north of Chester, is very sequestered, and chiefly composed of antient and substantial farm-houses. It is envied by timber of a better growth than most of the Wirral townships can boast, which adds much to the respectability of its appearance.

LEDSHAM.

THE Domesday survey notices this township as the property of Walter de Vernon, brother of the Norman baron of Shipbrook, and successor to him in his Cheshire possessions.

“Isdem Walterius tenet Levetesham: Erniet tenuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis: Terra est iv carucarum. In dominio est dimidia caruca, et unus servus, et unus radman, et unus bordarius cum dimidia carucâ inter omnes.”

At the earliest subsequent period to which existing records extend, the manor of Ledsham was possessed by the Gerards of Kingsley and Bryn.

Inq. p. m. 4 Ric. II. Peter Gerard, chevalier, held, inter alia, half the manor of Ledsham, from the earl of Salisbury, by military service. Thomas Gerard son and heir.

The descendants of Thomas Gerard, found heir by this Inquisition, became extinct in three generations, after which the estates of Bryn and Kingsley, together

with lands in Ledsham, passed by settlement to John Gerard, nephew of the before mentioned Thomas. By *Inq.* 13 Hen. VI. the manor of Ledsham is found to have been vested in Thomas Gerard, a younger brother of this John, who left issue William, who succeeded to the said manor (excepting three messuages and lands), then valued at six marks, and held from the king as earl of Chester, by the services of half a knight's fee.

The manor of Ledsham does not appear again in the Cheshire collections before 9 Eliz. when it was possessed by William Massey of Puddington, esq. to whom also the before-mentioned estate of John Gerard of Kingsley and Bryn, had descended, as follows.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VI. John Gerrard of Bryn held inter alia, in fee, three messuages, and thirty acres of land, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, by knight's service. Value, per annum, xls. Peter Gerard son and heir.

Peter Gerard found heir by this Inquisition, died be-

^a Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5. p. 100.

^b The pedigree of the Trussels will be found in the account of Warmincham, in Northwich Hundred.

^c Villare Cest, in “Ashton.”

^d Villare of 1668, Harl. MSS. 2010.

^e From the information of the rev. Thomas Ward, vicar of Neston.

^f From the information of the late Rev. T. Bancroft, M. A.

before 24 September 28 Hen. VI. at which time was enrolled in the exchequer of Chester a grant to Thomas Danyell, esq. of the custody of the lands of the late sir Peter Gerard, knight, until Thomas his son shall be of age; and 20th of February same year, was enrolled a mandate for assignment of dower to his widow Isabella.

Thomas Gerard, son of sir Peter, had issue Peter Gerard, who died before his father, and was interred at Winwick, in Lancashire, where a brass is yet remaining to his memory, leaving issue Thomas Gerard⁵, heir to his grandfather, as appears by *Inq. p. m.* 10 Hen. VII. in which Thomas Gerard, son of the aforesaid Peter Gerard, esq. is found next of kin and heir to sir Thomas Gerard.

This sir Thomas Gerard distinguished himself at the head of his Lancashire archers in the battle of Floddon, and fell in the service of his country eleven years afterwards in the wars in Scotland.

Inq. p. m. 15 Hen. VIII. Sir Thomas Gerard, knight, held, inter alia, lands in Ledsham, from the earl of Salisbury in capite, by military service. Value, per annum, xl. xiiis. iſd. He died in the war in Scotland, 6th Nov. anno predicto. Thomas Gerard son and heir, aged 12 years.

3^o Eliz. Sir Thomas Gerard, knight (son of Thomas last mentioned), together with Elizabeth his wife, passed over their estate in Ledsham to William Massie, esq. of Podington for one thousand marks; and Thomas, bastard son of sir Thomas Gerard, confirmed the same for 200l.

9 Eliz. William Massie, esq. passed a fine of the manors of Ledsham and Werford, and lands in Ledsham, Podington, Somerford, &c.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. William Massy, of Puddington, esq. held lands in Ledsham from the queen as of her earldom of Chester, by the services of half a knight's fee. Value, per annum, iſl.

Inq. p. m. 10 Jac. I. John Massey, of Puddington, esq. held the manor of Ledsham from the lord Henry, prince of Wales, &c. as earl of Chester, by the services of half a knight's fee. Value, per annum, iſl.

On the termination of the male line of the Masseys of Puddington, in 1715, the manor of Ledsham passed under the will of William Massey, esq.^h with his other manors and estates to his godson Thomas Stanley, of Hooton, and being afterwards assigned by him, the said Thomas Stanley Massey, to his brother John Stanley, has from him descended with the baronetcy, and the Stanley and Massey estates, to his grandson sir T. S. Massey Stanley, bart. the present proprietor.

Ledsham is situated on the Parkgate road, about six miles north-west of Chester, at the extremity of the parish of Neston. There are no freeholders in the township.

It antiently gave name to a family, from whom the late Dr. Lettsom is said to have descended. Richard, son of Letitia de Ledsham, and Agnes his daughter, occur in a grant of lands in Moston, in the time of Thomas, abbot of Chester, in the thirteenth centuryⁱ.

R A B Y.

THE early connection of this township with the serjeancy of the Bridge Gate of Chester, gives a degree of interest to as dreary and unpromising a district as any which this county can furnish, and which, since the extinction of its local lords in the fourteenth century, has been altogether abandoned to the residence of farmers.

Raby is twice noticed in Domesday, the first moiety as the property of the church of St. Werburgh: "Ipsa ecclesia tenuit et tenet Rabie. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: Terra est una caruca. Reddidit et reddit de firma vi solidos et viii denarios." In another part of the survey the second moiety occurs among the lands granted to the second baron of Halton. "Isdem Willielmus tenet Rabie, et Harduinus de eo. Erni tenuit. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est una caruca in dominio, est ibi et unus servus, et ii villani et ii bordarii cum una carucâ. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x solidos, et post xiv solidos, modo xx solidos." This second moiety was exchanged by the grantee for one third of the manor of Neston, with Richard, abbot of St. Werburgh, who thus became possessed of the whole of Raby. William, third baron, ^a confirmed this grant in the time of king Stephen.

The monks did not continue to hold the manor of

Raby long, but their possession may still be traced in the name of the adjacent estate of Thornton Grange. They had however lands here as late as 31 Edw. III. when the abbot claimed a view of frank pledge of his tenants in Raby at St. Thomas's court.

Before proceeding to the account of the Rabies who succeeded the monks, it will be necessary to give the descent of the SERJEANCY OF THE BRIDGE GATE, to which Robert de Raby succeeded by inheritance, and which occurs in so very prominent a manner in the Inquisitions of the family.

Randle the first confirmed, by deed, to Poyns his countess's servant, "lands between the Bridge Gate and the Castle, and a messuage, held by *the service attached to these lands*, which had been given by the countess." These lands with the service attached were assigned in a full portmote of the city of Chester before Thomas Boulton, justiciary, to Philip the clerk, by Richard Bagoth (to whom the said service had devolved) "from his inability to perform the *services of the Gate*, from poverty and impotence, particularly in war time^b."

This Philip the clerk was son of Galfridus Munitor, as appears by a release to him of 12d. rent, arising from land near the church of St. Michael, by Bernard, lord

⁵ This account is given here more particularly than the importance of the estate seems to require, in consequence of this Thomas Gerard having been inadvertently described, p. 45, as *eldest son* of the sir Thomas Gerard to whom he was found heir. The error is rectified in the Gerard pedigree, at p. 62 of this volume. ^h Dated Feb. 6, 1715-6, and proved at Chester. ⁱ Chartulary of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965. 29.

^a Leger Book of St. Werburgh, p. 50.

^b These deeds will be found at length in the account of Chester on the authority of a valuable transcript from the earl of Shrewsbury's evidences most obligingly communicated by William Hamper, esq.

of Tranmulle,^c in the time of Alan le Zouche, justice of Chester. He had one daughter Avicia^d, wife of Roger Grymbald, and was succeeded by Robert de Raby, as next heir. This appears by a charter of Nicholas, abbot of Dieulacres, 9 Edw. II. confirming to the *said Robert, as next of kin and heir of Philip the clerk*, late of Chester, for 1vs. rent, "messuagium quod fuit Radulphi Pincernæ, in magno chimino versus portam pontis in Bruge street, ante boveria comitis," which had been granted to the same Philip by Hamon, a former abbot. Seal, white wax, representing the infant Jesus on the knee of the Virgin, under a niche of tabernacle work^e.

The following Inquisition relates only to the property held by Robert de Raby in the city of Chester; ^fbut he is ascertained to have been lord of Raby by his claiming the right of assarting here, at the pleas of the forest of Wirral.

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. Robert de Raby held in demesne, as of fee, one messuage, and the custody of the garden of the castle of Chester, with certain liveries for the charge thereof, value c1s. 111d.; also the custody of the Bridge Gate of the Dee, from the lord earl, by finding one man to make proper ward of the said gate, and the Horse Gate, and the Shap Gat^g, (now called Ship Gate) and to receive the profits, value, per annum, xxs. and one stall in the Dee from the same by the render of 4d. value vii1d. and one messuage from the prioress of Chester, value x1s. and one messuage from the abbot of Basingwerk, value x1xs. x1d. and 3s. rent out of the walls of Chester, and one carucate in Claverton and Newbold, and seven stalls in the Dee, ^hand a boat on the same, held from the abbot of Garendon, value 1xs. and a messuage held from the abbot of Dieulacres, by paying 111s. to the abbot, and 1s. to the earl. Robert, son of Robert, son of Robert de Raby, next of kin and heir, who being dead without issue, Philip de Raby, uncle of the said Robert junior, was next of kin and heir.

By Inquisition after the death of Philip de Raby, 43 Edw. III. (an exemplification of which was enrolled in the exchequer of Chester, 18 Jan. 4 Edw. VI.) it appears that the said Philip died seized of the custody of the Bridge Gate in Chester, and the serjeancy of "Brugge Street," with buildings in Chester, and the custody of the Castle Garden, and its profits, namely of a certain "Restyngtre," and the residue of all the apples

of the garden after the first shaking, and a certain fee in the castle of 3d. per day paid at the exchequer by the hands of the chamberlain, in lieu of certain liveries settled on William Munitor, ancestor of the said Philip, by Randle earl of Chester.

This curious inquisition is a proof of the inaccuracy of these documents with respect to matters not immediately within the personal knowledge of the jurors, as it is proved by the documents before recited, that the office to which these liveries were attached, was not possessed by William Munitor, or any other ancestor of Philip the clerk, but were assigned to Philip by William Bagoth. Unless, however, the name of William is substituted for Galfridus Munitor, it is most probable that he was father of Galfrid; and the Inquisition, by either supposition, gives the connection of the families of Munitor and Raby.

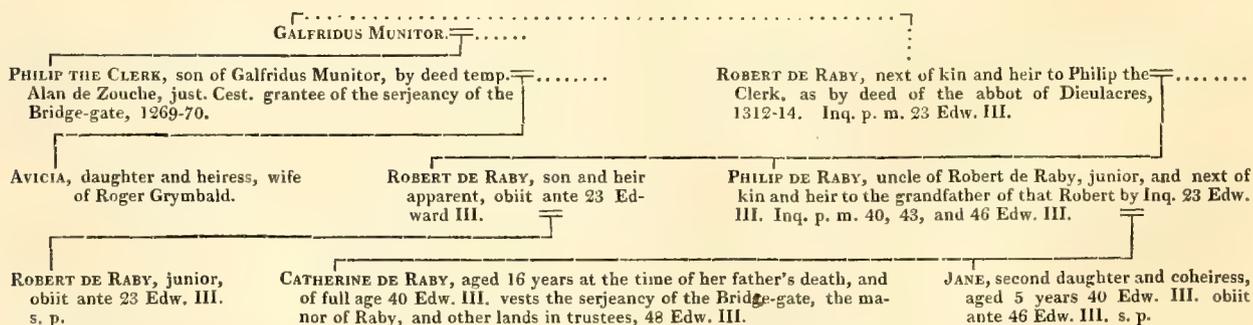
By *Inq.* 40 Edw. III. Philip de Raby left two daughters and coheireses, Catherine, then of age, and Jane, aged 5 years. By another *Inq.* 43 Edw. III. Catherine is stated to have been 16 at the time of his death. By a third *Inq.* 46 Edw. III. it appears that Jane had then deceased, seized of no lands, all her property being settled by her father. She would then have been only eight years old.

Of Catherine de Raby, nothing has occurred of later date than a settlement made by her, 48 Edw. III. whereby she grants to Richard Sparks and Robert de Neston chaplains, all her possessions, the serjeancy of the Brigge Gate, six marks and eleven shillings rent, received annually from the earl of Chester, all suits of her natives, and all her offices, fisheries, liberties, and commodities in Chester, Raby, Honbrigge, and Claverton, in trust to re-enfeoff the said Catherine or her assigns with the same.

After the deed a chasm occurs in the descent of the serjeancy, and the manor of Raby, which can neither be filled up by the records of Chester exchequer, or the Shrewsbury deeds, but it is most probable that Catherine de Raby died issueless. The serjeancy was divided about this time between the families of Norreys and Holes; and the representatives of the latter family inherited Raby, though not noticed in the Inquisitions of the Holeses; but by whose settlement this was effected cannot be ascertained.

RABY OF RABY.

From the Evidences of the earl of Shrewsbury, and the *Inq. p. m.*



^c Same Collection, p. 122.

^d Deeds *ibid.*

^e *Ibid.*

^f Harl. MSS. 2079.

^g *Sic.*

^h This boat on the Dee was granted by earl Randle to the abbey of Garendon, in a charter engraved in Nichols's Leicestershire. The messuage held from the abbot of Dieulacres was the house of Philip the clerk before mentioned.

By *Inq. p. m.* 3 Hen. V. Hugh de Holes, chevalier, died seized of half the serjeancy of the Bridge Gate, half the profits of the serjeancy of the Bridge Street, a messuage and gardens, and a road under the city walls to those gardens, the custody of the castle garden, and three pence per day paid at the said castle. He died the Wednesday after the feast of the apostles Peter and Paul. Thomas son and heir, aged 24 years.

By another Inquisition of the same year, Margaret, widow of Hugh Holes, held in joint feoffment with her husband, the manors of Brunstath and Oxton, and rents in Thingwall.

This Hugh de Holesⁱ was probably son of Hugh Hulse, to whom Margaret widow of Hugh Bruyn granted all her lands of Picmere, 2 Edw. III. and to whom Alexander de Salbury granted two-fifths of Hargreave and Little Neston, 7 and 14 Ric. II. with remainder to David and John Holes of Norbury. He was made deputy justice of Chester to the earl of Nottingham, 20 Ric. II. and married Margaret daughter and heir of John Domville, of Brunstath and Oxton, with whom, in addition to the lands mentioned in the preceding Inquisition, he had a share of the manor and advowson of Mobberley, which he inherited from her mother Cecily de Mobberlegh. He had issue Thomas, Isabella, and Eleanor, sister of Isabella, married by dispensation a^o 1408, to Richard de Vernon.

By *Inq.* 9 Hen. V. Thomas Holes, son of sir Hugh Holes, died seized of the fifth part of Little Neston and Hargreave, and the manor of Brunstath, Oxton, and Mobberley. Margaret daughter and heiress.

By Inquisition for proving age of this Margaret 10 Hen. VI. she is stated to be 10 years old, and wife of John Troutbeck, who was slain at the battle of Blore Heath, 38 Hen. VI. in the Inquisition after whose death are enumerated the manors and estates, which have been here traced to him from the families of Raby, Bruyn, Domville, Salbury, Mobberley, and Hulse.

These estates passed in marriage with Margaret, daughter and heiress of Adam Troutbeck, to John Talbot of Albrighton, esq. co. Salop, from whom Raby and the greater part of the others have descended to the present earl of Shrewsbury, the particulars of which descent will be found in the account of "Dunham on the Hill"^k.

The earl of Shrewsbury holds a court leet and court baron at Raby for the manor of Raby, Brunstath, Oxton, Thingwall, Barnston, and Thornton Grange. In the Inquisition after the death of Adam Troutbeck, 4 Hen. VIII. the manor of Raby is described as held from the earl of Derby, by the render of 3s. yearly on the feast of St. John the Baptist, and valued at vi. per annum.

LEIGHTON.

THIS manor was granted at the Conquest to Robert de Rodelent :

"Isdem Robertus tenet Lestone, et Willielmus de eo. Levenot tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est ii carucarum : in dominio est una caruca, cum uno servo et uno francigenâ, et ii bordariis, et ii piscariis. Valuit et valet xv solidos."

After the death of Robert de Rodelent, and the dispersion of his estates among various owners, the paramount lordship of Leighton was given to the barons of Montalt, under whom it was held^a 6 Edw. II. by John Riseings, and William de Leighton.

^bIn the same reign the daughter and heiress of William de Leighton brought the manor in marriage to Roger de Thornton, whose only daughter Ellen, heiress of the manors of Thornton Mayewe, and Leighton, became the wife of Richard del Hoghe, from whose descendants the former of these manors obtained the name of Thornton Hough.

This Richard del Hoghe junior, 3 Edw. III. obtained from William de Pennesby and Alice his wife, two messuages and three bovates of land in Thornton, for 20 marks. He is uniformly stated in the Cheshire pedigrees to be son of Richard del Hoghe of Little Neston, who is proved by *Inq. p. m.* 43 Edw. III. to have died without male issue. They are connected with dotted lines in the annexed pedigree, in the manner in which it is most probable they were related.

The series of Inquisitions relating to Leighton and Thornton commences with the great grandson of this Richard.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. IV. Thomas del Hoghe de Thornton, held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Thornton Mayowe in Wyrhall, from the prince as earl of Chester, in capite, by military service. Value, per annum, xl. Christopher son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. V. Christopher del Hough held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Leighton from John de Pull, chevalier, as of his manor of Pull, and from William del Lee de Capenhurst, as of his manor of Capenhurst, by military service. Value, per annum, v marks. Also the manor of Thornton Mayowe. Thomas son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VI. Margaret, widow of Christopher Hough, held for the term of her life a third part of the rents, issues, &c. of Leighton juxta Barnston, from John de Pulton, chevalier, by military service. Value, xxs. Also a third of Thornton Mayowe, and lands in Pulton Lancelyn, Pulton Secum, and Walley. Value, 126s. 8d. Thomas son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Edw. IV. Thomas de Hoghe held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Leighton juxta Bernston, from Thomas Poole, as of his manor of Poole, by fealty and vis. rent. Value, per annum, v marks; also the manor of Thornton Mayow, and lands in Pulton and Secum in Walley, Nomon's Heath, and the Poole of Kinderton. Richard de Hoghe son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. Richard del Hoghe held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Leighton as before, with the manor of Thornton Mayowe, and lands recited in the last Inquisition. Thomas del Hough son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. Thomas Hough held the ma-

ⁱ Vide *Leycester*, 340. who identifies the two Hughs, which makes it difficult to account for the descent of Picmere lands coming from Bruyn, and Brunstath lands coming from Domville, if both heiresses married the same Hugh.

^k Thornton parish, Edisbury Hundred.

^a Villare Cest.

^b Harl. MSS. 1535, and other Cheshire pedigrees.

nor of Leighton from Randle Poole clerk, as of his manor of Poole, by fealty. Value per ann. *ivl. vis. viiijd.* Also the manor of Thornton Mayow, and lands in Pulton Lancelyn, Kirkby in Walley, Kinderton, Mancote, and Great Neston. Val. total. *xviii. xvij.* He died on the Wednesday after the feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle. Richard Hough son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 16 Eliz. Richard Hough, esq. held the manor of Leighton as before mentioned. Value, per annum, *iii. vis. viiijd.* Also the manor of Thornton Mayow, and lands in Pulton Secum, Pulton Lancelyn, Tramoll, Great Neston, Kirkby Walley, Mancott, and Ewlowe. Obiit 10 Dec. 16 Eliz. Wm. Hough, esq. son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 27 Eliz. William Hough, esq. held the manor of Leighton juxta Barnston, with one capital and five other messuages, a free fishery in the water of Dee, and another fishery called Frydayestyde, from John Poole, of Poole, esq. as of his manor of Poole by fealty. Value, per annum, *iii. vis. viiijd.* Also the manor of Thornton Mayow, and lands in Pulton Seacombe, Great Neston, Pulton Lancelyn, Bebington, Brimstage, Spittle, Kirkby Walley, Mancott, Saltney, Ewlowe, and Tramoll. Obiit 10 Feb. 27 Eliz. Alice, wife of William Whitmore, daughter and heiress.

This William Whitmore, who was the second son of Thomas Whitmore, of Thurstanston, esq. joined his wife

in a fine on the manors of Leighton and Thornton, 27 Eliz. and had issue by her, William Whitmore, whose only daughter Bridget married to her second husband^c, the honourable Thomas Savage, second son of Thomas Viscount Savage, of Rock Savage, by whom she had issue Darcie Savage, esq. whose only daughter and heiress brought the manor of Beeston, these manors, and other extensive estates, in marriage to sir Thomas Mostyn of Mostyn, bart. in whose descendant, sir Thomas Mostyn, bart. the same are now vested by inheritance.

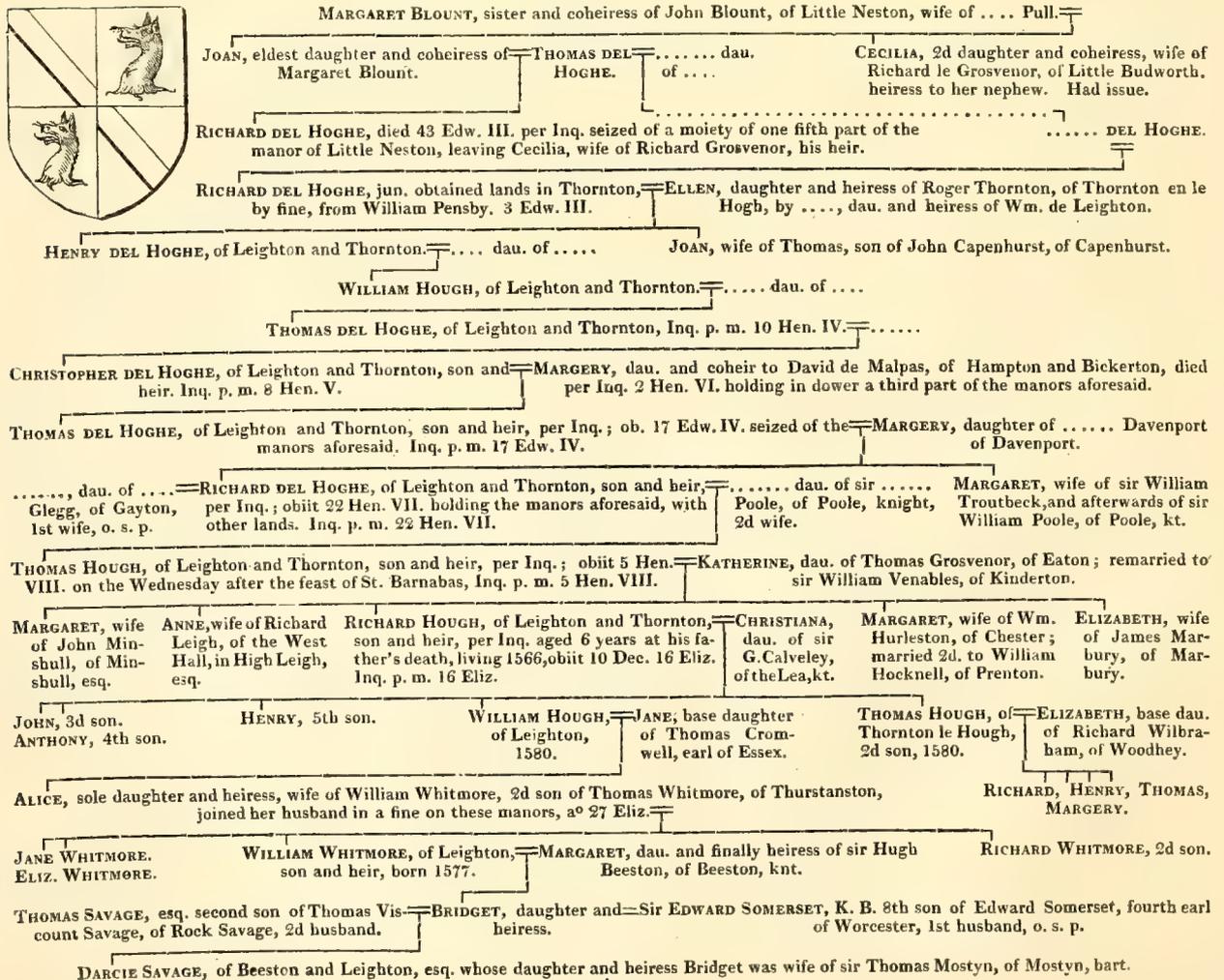
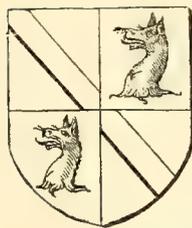
Of the heiress, with whom the pedigree concludes, Pennant observes: "This lady was a Roman Catholic. Tradition is warm in her praise, and full of her domestic virtues, and the particular attention that she shewed in obliging her domestics of each religion to attend their respective churches. Her husband and she were 'lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided.' They died within a day or two of each other, at Gloddaeth in Caernarvonshire, and were interred in the neighbouring church of Eglwys Rhos, being the first of the family interred out of the antient vault of the house of Mostyn."

A court leet and court baron for this manor and Thornton Hough are held yearly, alternately at Thornton and Parkgate, part of which is within the township of Leighton.

HOUGH, OF LEIGHTON AND THORNTON-HOUGH.

ARMS. Quarterly 1 and 4 Argent, a bend Sable, 2 and 3 Argent, a wolf's head, erased, Sable. Confirmed in the Visitation of 1580.

Compiled from the Visitation of 1580, and the Inquisitions.



^c Leicester in Clifton.

^d Whiteford and Holywell, p. 110.

THORNTON HOUGH.

THIS manor having become united, about the reign of Edward the Second, to the manor of Leighton, and having since descended by the same title to sir Thomas Mostyn, bart. through the Houghs, Whitmores, and Savages, it is unnecessary to recapitulate what has been already mentioned under that township.

The following are the notices of this township in the Inquisitions post mortem, and the Domesday survey.

“Isdem Robertus (de Rodelent) tenet Torintone, et Willielmus de eo. Ulchetel tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est 11 carucarum. Ibi unus radman, et unus villanus, et unus bordarius habent dimidiam carucam. Valuit x solidos, et post et modo x solidos.”

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. IV. Vide *Leighton*.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. V. Christopher del Hough held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Thornton Mayowe, from the king as earl of Chester, by military service, as the third part of a knight's fee. Value x marks. Thomas son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VI. Margaret, widow of Christopher Hoghe, held in dower for her life, inter alia, a third part of the rents and issues of Thornton Mayowe, from the king as earl of Chester, by military service. Value, per annum, xli. Thomas son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Edw. IV. Thomas Hough held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Thornton Mayowe, by

military service, as the third part of a knight's fee. Value, per annum, x marks. Richard son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. Richard del Hough held the manor of Thornton Mayow, as in the last Inquisition among other estates. Thomas del Hough son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. Thomas Hough held the manor of Thornton Mayow as before mentioned. Value, per annum, vii. xiiii. i. Richard son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 16 Eliz. Richard Hough, esq. held the manor of Thornton Mayow, as before mentioned, from the queen as of her earldom of Chester. Value, per annum, iiii. xiiii. i. Wm. Hough, esq. son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 27 Eliz. William Hough, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Thornton Mayo, twenty messuages, one windmill, one dovecote, and two-fifths of 100 acres, called Thornton Grange, &c. from the queen as of her earldom of Chester, by military service, as the third part of a knight's fee. Value, per annum, vii. xiiii. i. Alicia, wife of William Whitmore, daughter and heiress.

The account of the subsequent descent of this manor will be found in “*Leighton*.”

Thornton Grange has descended to the earl of Shrewsbury from the Troutbecks, and the tenants attend his leet of Raby. It most probably was possessed at an early period by the monks of St. Werburgh, together with the adjacent manor of Raby, of which they soon lost possession, but retained lands in the township.

Burton

IS situated on the shore of the Dee, about eight miles north-west of Chester, bounded on the land side by the parishes of Shotwick, Eastham, and Neston, and comprehends two townships, Burton, and Puddington.

BURTON.

THE manor of Burton was from a very early period part of the estates of the bishopric of Lichfield and Coventry. In an Inquisition after the death of Reginald bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, 37 Hen. VI. it is stated to be held by him in demesne as of fee, as of right of those churches, and is valued at xvi. xvs. per annum.

^aWalter de Langton bishop of the said diocese, obtained for this manor a grant of a market and fair, a^o 27 Edw. I.

As part of the lands of the church, this manor, among other privileges, enjoyed immunity from several of the oppressive customs of forest jurisdiction. On a presentment of the tenants of the manor for not having the feet of the dogs cut (expeditatos) agreeably to forest usage, the steward of the bishop appeared in court, and proved that the tenants from time immemorial had enjoyed exemptions from this custom, *jure ecclesiæ*^b. This usage enforced the cutting of the feet of every dog not

^a Harl. MSS. 2074, 203.

^b Vill. Cest.

belonging to the lord of the chace, but living within the circuit of the forest, until they could pass through a ring or "doggaug" kept by the master forester, usually of an oval form, about an inch in height, by an inch and a half in width. One of these rings, now in the possession of the bow-bearer of Bowland, T. L. Parker, esq. is engraved in the History of Whalley, and a further account of the practice will be found in a memoir relative to the forests, in Nash's Worcestershire.

It does not however appear that this manor ever enjoyed any exemption from the most oppressive custom of the forest, the *caput*, and perambulation of the serjeants or servants of the master forester. William Stanley, in his plea to a quo warranto, before Jordan de Macclesfield, expressly limits this most important exemption to the four manors of the abbey of St. Werburgh, Irby, Sutton, Eastham, and Bromburgh.

^dThe manor of Burton was purchased in the year 1806, from the bishop of Lichfield, by Richard Congreve, esq. second brother of William Congreve, esq. of Congreve, in the co. of Stafford, and of Aldermaston House in Berkshire, descended from a family of the highest antiquity in the first mentioned of those counties. It was previously held by lease under the same see since the year 1755, by the rev. Richard Congreve, father of the present proprietor, who also was lessee of the same after his father's death in 1782, to the time of his purchase.

A court baron is held annually for the manor.

Burton is situated on a rocky eminence, screened from the north by a superior elevation, under which the little promontory called Burton Point juts out into the estuary, at a short distance from the village. Burton Hall, the residence of Mr. Congreve, is a modern building, in a situation somewhat exposed and bare, but commanding a noble view of the Dee sands, the Welsh mountains, and the richer scenery which stretches from their base to the water edge.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Nicholas,
Tax. Eccl. 10l.

The church of Burton, which was antiently attached to the manor, was granted by Alexander de Savensby, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, to the hospital of St. Andrew in Denwall, in the adjacent township of Neston, in 1238, by the following charter :

"Universis, &c. Alexander, miseracione Dei Cov. et Lichf. eccl'iar. min. humilis, sal'm in D'no sempiternam. Ad universitatis vestræ notitiam volumus pervenire, q'd nos considerantes paupertatem hospital's de Dane-well in Cestresira jux'a litus maris, ad sust'ationem pauperum ib'm conv'santium, eccl'iam de Burton illi hospitali vicinam, divine pietatis intuitu et ad sustentationem fru' ib'm comorant', eisdem fr'ibus contulimus in usus co'es; nobis et successoribus n'ris jure pontificali et parochiali salvo, etiam Cov. et Lichf. eccl'iar' autoritate. Ut autem hæc nostra collac'o rata et inconcussa p'maneat, eam presenti scripto, sigilli n'ri impressione munito, confirmavimus. Hiis testibus, mag'ro Andr'e de Sawell, d'no W'o de Halghton, canonicis de Gnowsall, fr'e Radulpho monacho de Stanlawe, Galfrido cap'o, canonico Sc'i Joh'is Cest. et aliis. Dat. apud Andoure kal. Jan. a° D'ni 1238.

This grant is followed by the confirmation of the chapter of Lichfield, and the ratification of the appropriation by the pope's legate.

After this charter, the masters of Denwall Hospital were uniformly presented to the rectory of Burton^e, until both benefices were appropriated in 1495-6 by bishop Smith, to the hospital of St. John in Lichfield, from which the rectory of Burton is now held on lease by Richard Congreve, esq.^f The hospital nominates the curate, and the Easter dues are his property. All the tithes belong to the lessee.

The parish church, a plain stone fabric, consists of a tower, nave, chancel, and north aisle, divided from the body of the church by five arches. The whole was erected in 1721, with the exception of the Massey chancel at the east end of the north aisle, in which a considerable part of the original building is preserved. In this chancel is a monument of white marble, placed beneath the remains of a monument to the memory of some of the Masseys of Puddington, the greatest part of which has been cut away for the purpose of receiving the present tablet. The 1st and 2nd quarters of the arms are remaining: the 1st quarterly, in the 1st and 4th quarters, three fleurs de lis; the 2nd, a bend between six cinquefoils; over the shield is the Massey crest, a lion's head erased.

The inscription of the monument which has been substituted is as follows :

To the memory
of
Sir John Stanley Massey Stanley, bart.
of Hooton,
who departed this life on the 24th day of Nov. 1794,
in the 84th year of his age;
and of
Mary his wife,
daughter of Thomas Clifton, esq. of Lytham,
who departed this life the 21st day of May 1770,
in the 40th year of her age;
also, of their two sons, viz.
of sir Thomas S. M. Stanley, bart.
who departed this life on the 19th day of
February, at York, in the 41st year of
his age, and was buried at Eastham;
and
John Stanley, esq.
who departed this life on the 30th day of December 1790,
in the 36th year of his age;
this monument of gratitude
was erected by lady Stanley, relict of sir Thomas
S. M. Stanley, and daughter of
William Salvin, esq. of Croxdale, Durham,
1797.
Requiescant in pace.

On the opposite side of the church, is a stone fixed in the wall inscribed as follows :

Prope jacent reliquiæ
Elizabethæ filiæ Thomæ
Watts, hujus ecclesiæ pastoris.
Obiit A. D. 1775.
In eodem tumulo jacent reliquiæ
Peircii ejus fratris, qui
obiit A. D. 1781.

A blue flag-stone near the south door is inscribed as follows :

^c Sustenance and lodging provided for the foresters in their perambulation.

^e Lichfield Episcopal Register.

^f Information of R. Congreve, esq.

^d Information of Richard Congreve, esq.

^e Vide List of Rectors in account of Denwall.

Nathaniel Wilson, May 29, 1702.

Alice Wilson had issue

Samuel, James,

Joseph, Sarah,

Benjamin, Thomas

Bishop of Man, Mary.

The following monument, now destroyed, is described Harl. MSS. 2151. 127.

In the Massey chancel, an altar tomb of alabaster, with two recumbent figures inlaid in black marble. The male figure habited in a gown and ruff, with a sword on the right side, the head reposing on a cushion; the female figure having a large veil over the head. The hands of both clasped in prayer. Round the edge of the tomb, also inlaid in black marble. "Here lyeth entombed the bodyes of William Massye, of Potinton, esq. who dyed the 4th of June 1579, and of Anne his wife, who deceased the (30th^e) of Novemb. 1568, and had issue betweene them 6 sones and 11 daughters.

The Registers of this church commence in the year 1538.

In this parish is a School, open to all the poor children of the township of Burton, and to four children from the township of Puddington. The master is nominated by trustees. The school house, handsomely built with red stone, is situated on a small eminence, at a short distance from the village, on the road to Nesse. Bishop Wilson contributed 400*l.* to its erection and endowment. The memory of this donation is preserved by an inscription on a board at the west end of the church, which also mentions that "the right rev. the lord bishop of Worcester gave 50*l.* towards the rebuilding of the church." This benefactor was bishop Hough, who formerly filled the see of Lichfield and Coventry, and was consequently for a time the manerial lord of Burton.

The other episcopal contributor, Thomas Wilson, bishop of Sodor and Man, was born at Burton in 1663, and was fifth son of Nathaniel Wilson, of Burton, by his wife Alice Sherlock of Oxton, whose humble sepulchral memorial has been already noticed. His education was completed at Trinity college, Dublin, on leaving which, in 1686, he was licensed to the curacy of New

Church, in Winwick parish, of which place his uncle, Dr. Sherlock, was rector. To this circumstance he was indebted for his introduction to the Stanley family, from whom in 1697, he received the bishopric of Sodor and Man.

He had previously held the office of master of the alms-house of Latham, and refused the living of Bud-desdon, in Yorkshire, from scruples with respect to non-residence. The revenues of his new preferment did not exceed 300*l.* per annum, with which, by rigid economy and by bartering the produce of his demesnes for the manufactures of the district, he contrived to maintain his house, to relieve distressed mariners, and feed and clothe the poor of the island.

From his attachment to the inhabitants of his little diocese, bishop Wilson more than once refused the offer of an English see. He was invited to France by cardinal Fleury, who expressed an anxiety to see him, as he believed the bishop and himself to be the oldest and poorest prelates in Europe. The reply of the bishop is said to have been so gratifying to cardinal Fleury, that it procured an order from the French court, that no privateer should ravage the coasts of the Isle of Man.

Bishop Wilson was created D. D. by the university of Oxford in 1707, and received the same honour from the university of Cambridge. He died March 7, 1755, aged 93 years, having had issue by his wife Mary, daughter of Thomas Patten, of Warrington, esq. four children, of whom one alone survived him, Thomas Wilson, D. D. prebendary of Westminster, and rector of St. Stephen's, Walbrook, who realized considerable property in this Hundred, which is now vested under his will, in Thomas Patten Wilson, esq.

The works of the bishop were originally collected in two volumes, quarto, and have since been published in various forms and editions, collectively and separately. The piety and general utility of these compositions have rendered them so well known, that a particular enumeration is unnecessary.

Hugh Bethel, was ejected from this curacy in consequence of non-conformity. He was a man of good family, M. A. of Magdalen College, Cambridge, and a Fellow of Christ's College in the same university.

PODINGTON, OR PUDDINGTON.

HAMO, the common ancestor of the Cheshire Massies, and baron of Dunham Massy, was lord of this township at the Conquest.

"Hamo tenet de Hugone comite Potitone. Uluric tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Ibi ii hidæ et dimidia geldabiles. Terra est iii carucarum. In dominio est una, et unus servus, et iv villani, et iv bordarii, et unus radman cum una carucâ. Valebat xx solidos. Wasta fuit."

This Hamon had issue Hamon, the second baron of Dunham, and Robert de Massy, which Robert held the land of Podington by the services of one knight's fee, which passed from him to his nephew John Massy, and was given by the said John to his brother Hamon^a, the third baron, in exchange for lands in Moreton, and housebote and haybote in Bidston wood, in the time of Richard the First.

Hamon fifth baron, was contemporary with, and probably brother of Richard de Massy, sheriff of Cheshire 6 Edw. I. judge of Chester, 20, 25, and 28 Edw. I. and witness to the grant of the advowson of Bowdon to Birkenhead priory, from whom, according to the Cheshire pedigrees, the Massies of Podington descended, who are uniformly stated in the Inquisitions to hold the same from the barons of Dunham as superior lords, with the exception of two Inquisitions, 7 Hen. VII. and 17 Hen. VIII. which state, as hereafter mentioned, that the manor was held from the Stanleys of Hooton and Storeton, with which latter manor the paramount royalty of Podington was connected, by a grant of Randle the first to Alanus Sylvester^b.

This Richard had issue Hamon, who by Alice his wife had issue Thomas de Massy of Podington, who was succeeded 6 Edw. III. by his son Hamon de

^a Supplied from the Register.

^a Vide Leicester, p. 240.

^b Vide Storeton.

Massy^c. This Hamon^d 13 Edw. III. obtained one bovaty of land in Podington from Hugh de Pulle and Alice his wife; and appears to be living 23 Edw. III. as well by an Inquisition after the death of William Lakene, as by a fine passed in that year on lands in Tranmole, by Thomas son of Thomas del Ford and Cicely his wife. He was succeeded by his son,

John Massey of Podington, seneschall to Elizabeth countess of Salisbury, for her lordship of Hawarden, and defendant in a cause of arms against John Massy of Tatton, which was tried at Gloucester, 13 Nov. 2 Ric. II. when an award was made by sir Hugh Calveley, sir John Devereux, sir John de Birley, and sir Urian de Stapleton, that both parties should abandon the coat of the elder line of Dunham, which they then bore ("Quarterly Or and Gules, in the 1st quarter a lion passant, Arg.") and after inverting the colours of the same, that Massy of Podington should bear in the first and fourth quarters three fleurs de lis Argent, and Massy of Tatton should bear three escallops in the same. The Tatton family afterwards assumed a label Azure, for difference.

This John had licence a^o 1398 to found an oratory in his manor house of Puddington. He married Johanna, daughter and coheirress of Roger de Coghall, 4 Hen. IV. by whom he had issue Hamon Massey son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VI. Hamon Massey held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Podington, from William Stanley of Hoton, esq. as of his manor of Storeton, by the service of the third part of a knight's fee. The manors of Werford and Shanewick, half the manors of Coghull, and lands in Moreton, Nether Bebington, and Burton. Value xl.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VII. Thomas Massy of Podington, esq. held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Podington, (except lands called Smalleck and Hulgreave) from sir William Stanley, knight, as before. Value, per annum, xx marks; and also the manor of Werford, and lands in Bebington. Thomas Massey son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VIII. Thomas Massie of Puddington, held the manor of Puddington from George Booth of Dunham, esq. by the render of one pair of white gloves. Value, per annum, 26l. 13s. 4d.; also the manor of Werford, half the manor of Coghull, and lands in Mutlowe, Tytnake, Shanewick, Somerford, Clulow, Buglawton, Hulme Walfield, Nether Bebington, Nessehead, and Burton. Val. total. xl. viis. viiij. Obiit 13 Ap. a^o p'd'to. John Massie son and heir, aged 30 years.

Inq. p. m. 5 Edw. VI. Sir John Massie, knight, held the manor of Puddington from the heirs of George Booth as before mentioned. Value xl marks. And the manors and lands mentioned in the preceding Inquisition. Obiit 15 July a^o p'd'to. William Massy son and heir, aged upwards of 36 years.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. William Massy of Puddington, esq. held the manor of Puddington in socage, from sir William Booth, knight, as before mentioned. Value, per annum, xxviii. viiis. ijd. Also the manors and lands before mentioned, and lands in Ledsham, Newton, Thornton-le-Moores, Shotwick, Chester, and Bryneford, alias Halliwell. Obiit 4th June 21 Eliz. George Massy son and heir. This George died without male issue in 1600, and was succeeded by his brother John Massy, who was knighted by king James at Chester, during his progress in Cheshire in 1617^e.

Inq. p. m. 4 Sept. 10 Jac. I. John Massey, esq. held the manor of Puddington from sir George Booth, bart. as before mentioned. Value, per annum, xxviii. viiis. ijd. Also the manors and lands mentioned in Inquisition 5 Edw. VI. the manor of Ledsham, and lands in Newton. Obiit 21 April 8 Jac. I. William Massey, esq. son and heir, aged 29 years.

William Massey, son of this William, dying without issue, the estate devolved to his brother Edward Massey, living at the Visitation of 1663, who was grandfather of William Massey, esq. in whom the male line of this antient family terminated in 1715-6.

This last representative of the Masseys of Puddington was a zealous catholic, and warmly attached to the cause of the Pretender to the English crown; and is traditionally said to have fled home after the battle of Preston, and to have effected his escape to Wirral, by a desperate attempt at swimming his horse over the Mersey below Hooton. He was seized at Puddington Hall, and imprisoned in the castle of Chester, and died shortly afterwards, having bequeathed his estates to his godson Thomas Stanley, fourth son of sir William Stanley, of Hooton, bart. who assumed the name of Massey on succeeding to the same, which he afterwards assigned to his elder brother John Stanley, esq. who also assumed the name of Massey.

On the death of sir William Stanley of Hooton, bart. in 1792, the baronetcy and Stanley estates devolved to his uncle the said John Stanley Massey, of Puddington, esq. and are now vested with the estates of the Masseys in his grandson sir Thomas Stanley Massey Stanley, bart.

MASSEY OF PODINGTON.

From the Visitations and Inquisitions p. m. and the Parochial Registers of Burton.

ARMS. Quarterly, Gules and Or, in the 1st and 4th quarters, three fleurs de lis, Argent.

CREST.—On a wreath a lion's head erased.

RICHARD MASSEY, of Podington (contemporary with and probably younger brother of Hamon the fifth baron of Dunham Massey) sheriff of Cheshire 6 Edw. I. and judge of Chester 20, 25, and 28 Edw. I. =

HAMON MASSEY, of Podington, son and heir, 8 Edw. I. = ALICIA, dau. of . . .

THOMAS MASSEY, of Podington, 6 Edw. III. =

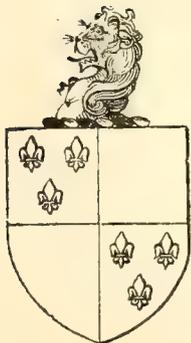
HAMON MASSEY, of Podington, 13 and 23 Edw. III. = . . .

JOHN MASSEY, of Podington, esq. 2 Ric. II. = JOHANNA, daughter and coheirress of Roger de Coghall, 4 H. IV.

HAMON MASSEY, of Podington, esq. son and heir, *Inq. p. m.* 28 Hen. VI. =

RICHARD MASSEY, 2d son.

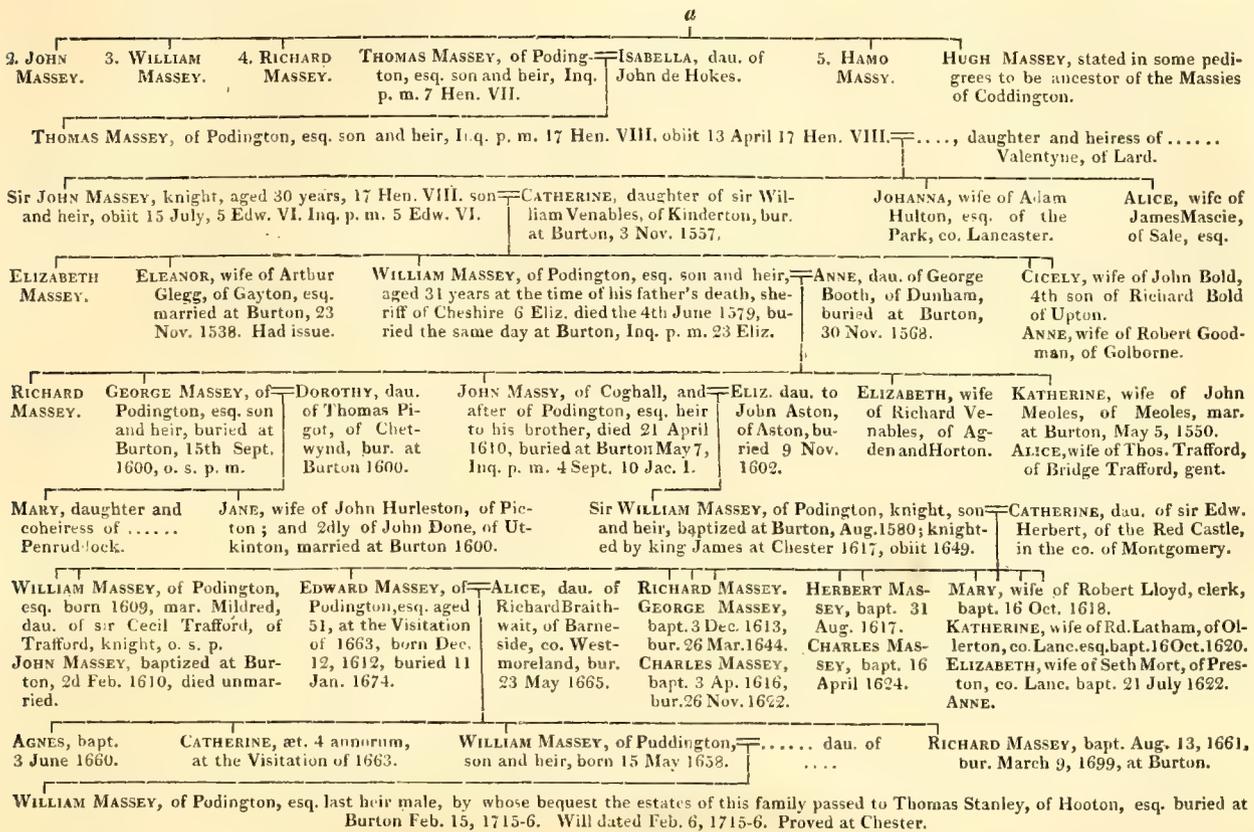
ANNE, wife of Robert Golborne.



^a Harl. MSS. and Vincent MSS. Coll. Arm.

^d Williamson's Deeds, p. 21.

^c Burton Register.



Shotwick.

IN the parish of Shotwick are comprehended the townships of Shotwick, Rough Shotwick, or Woodbank, Great and Little Salghall, and Capenhurst.

SHOTWICK.

THE church town of Shotwick is situated on the verge of the Dee marshes, and approached by a road which leaves the turnpike road from Chester to Parkgate, at the distance of about five miles and a half from the former place, and winds along a deep valley to the village.

Here, as in most cases in Cheshire where this termination of name occurs, were formerly salt-works; which were used in Leland's time^a.

Shotwick was possessed by the secular canons of St. Werburgh, before the Conquest. "Ipsa ecclesia tenet et tenet Sotowiche. Ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est trium carucarum. Ibi iv villani, et ii bordarii, cum una caruca, et una acra prati. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat xvi solidos, modo xiii solidos, et iii denarios."

This was confirmed to the Benedictine monks, who succeeded the canons, by the charter of St. Werburgh, 1093.

Shotwick Church was appropriated by abbot Walter, 24 Hen. III. to supply the increase of the kitchen expences in consequence of six monks added to the number.

^b 4 Edw. II. Robert de Hide and Henry son of William de Shotwike, being attached for brewing contrary to the assize, the abbot claimed the right of punishing them and of receiving the fine in his own court, as a privilege enjoyed from time immemorial over all the tenants of his manor of Shotwick. This court was held at Great Salghall, where its privileges are mentioned.

The Shotwicks were subordinate lords under the abbots, and terminated in Alice daughter and heiress of de Shotwike, who brought the manor in marriage to Robert de Hockenhull^c, of Hockenhull, about the time of Edward the First, as has been mentioned in the account of that township.

By Inq. 16 Hen. VII. John de Hockenhull is found to

^a Lel. Itin. V. 54.

^b Vill. Cest.

^c Ibid.

have died seized, inter alia, of nineteen messuages in Church Shotwick, and Rowe Shotwick, held under the abbot of Chester, at 33s. and 2d. rent. John Hocken-hull son and heir.

^dThis John Hocken-hull in plea to a quo warranto, 15 Hen. VII. claims a free fishery in Dee by Church Shotwick and Castle Shotwick, excepting "Whalle, Sturgion, and Thorlehede," which shall be carried to Chester Castle for the accustomed fee, and reserved for the earl's use. After the alienation of Hocken-hull manor in 1715, the Hocken-hulls made this place their residence.

The miserable state of the parish registers destroys the possibility of giving a connected account of them after that period; but they appear to have been resident in the village until the middle of the last century. Some baptisms of the children of Joseph and Martha Hocken-hull occur down to 1734. Soon after which period the estate was mortgaged and finally sold. A female in

whom this line of the family terminated, is said to have been indebted to parish relief for her subsistence.

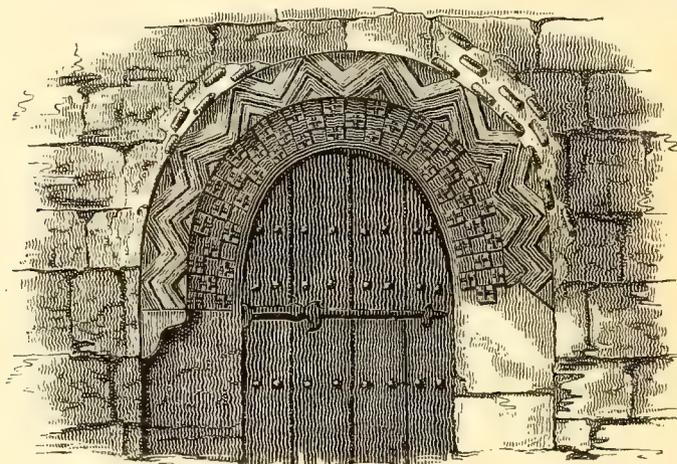
Mr. Samuel Bennet, the purchaser of Shotwick, was interred there, November 23, 1763: by his bequest the manor passed to John Nevett, esq. now of Great Salghall, who has assumed the name of Bennet, and is the present proprietor of the manor, and of the entire township.

Shotwick Hall, the residence of the Hocken-hulls, is a brick building, with large gables and square garden court, in the style of the seventeenth century. The antient hall stood nearer the church, at the back of the present parsonage, where its site is still visible.

Among the Harleian MSS. (No. 2115.) is preserved the reply of John Hocken-hull, of Shotwike, esq. to a quo warranto of the 15 Hen. VII. stating the privileges of his manor; and in the same collection (No. 2079. 147.) is an account of the fees antiently taken at the court baron of that manor.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Michael. Taxatio Eccl. 8l. Certif. Val. 23l. 15s.



The parish church of Shotwick stands on the immediate bank of the Dee marshes, which are still covered by high tides. It consists of a handsome embattled tower, a nave, north aisle, chancel, and a small chapel at the eastern termination of the aisle. The chancel is divided from the chapel by two low and obtuse arches, resting on octagonal pillars, without capitals; the aisle and body of the church are separated by a range of four acutely pointed ones. In the windows of the chancel and chapel are remains of very highly coloured painted glass, originally representing figures and shrine work; the side windows appear to have been decorated with fleurs de lis, and other flowers, repeated in every pane; one window is entirely composed of the repetition of the letters *T. A.* most probably the initials of Thomas Abbas, and referring to abbot Yerdlesley, whose æra accords with the general architecture.

The entire fabric appears to have been rebuilt in the fifteenth century, with the exception of later alterations, and the south doorway, which has a circular head ornamented with three ranges of quatrefoil, chevron,

and billey mouldings, in good preservation, considering the soft stone they are composed of, but defaced by the erection of a modern porch.

In the chancel is a marble monument inscribed,

Near to this place lieth interred the
body of Thomas Doe, esq. who
died October the 12th, 1755, in the 59th year
of his age.

He was a man of great truth and
sincerity, greatly beloved by all
his acquaintance;
also near this place lie the remains
of Anne Doe, relict of the above
Thomas Doe, who died June 1, 1778,
aged 86;

also the remains of Thomas
their son, who died 1785,
aged 65;
also Frances his wife, who died
13 April 1806, aged 64 years.

On a flag-stone, within the communion rails :

Here lyeth the body of Joseph Hockenhull, esq. who was interred 17th July anno domini 1679, aged 64.

The dean and chapter of Chester, by virtue of Pat. 22 Eliz. present to the curacy, and have the impropriation of the tythes of the whole parish, which are leased by them to Mascie Taylor, esq. and the widow of the late rev. John Briggs, M. A. Prebendary of Chester, and Chancellor of the diocese.

Of benefactions to the parish, a legacy of 34l. by Mr. Larton, of Capenhurst, still remains, and has its interest distributed in bread. Additional legacies amounting to 206l. are specified in the Parliamentary Return, but no information has been obtained respecting them.

The cure of Shotwick was for a few years committed to Dr. SAMUEL CLARKE, a learned biographer and active puritanical divine of the seventeenth century. He was maintained here by voluntary contributions, and drew enormous crowds together to his preachings and con-

of biographical anecdotes to be derived from no other source. He has also been attentive to the illustrating them with portraits, which has added in no small degree to their price and rarity. The following list is given in a life written by himself :

The Marrow of Ecclesiastical History, 4to. published in 1649 and 1650, reprinted in 1654, and in large folio in 1675. This was the first English collection of biography.

Lives of Sundry Eminent Persons, forming a third volume of the preceding work : published 1662. It was re-printed 1683, with a good engraving by White, of himself, and another of his wife, daughter of Valentine Overton, rector of Bedworth, co. Warwick. Another engraving of him, by Cross, is prefixed to the 4to edition of his *Ecclesiastical History* 1650 ; another to the edition of the same 1675.

A General Martyrology, 1651, 1660.

An English Martyrology, 1652.

Cases of Conscience, 1659.

A Book against Toleration ; a Life of Tamerlane ; a Description of the 17 Provinces of

1671.

Persecutors, 1673.

Under an assumed name, 1670.

for Saints and Sinners, 1646,

second volume. Of this work

excepting Wanley's *Wonders*,

which follow his plan,

contains an equal portion

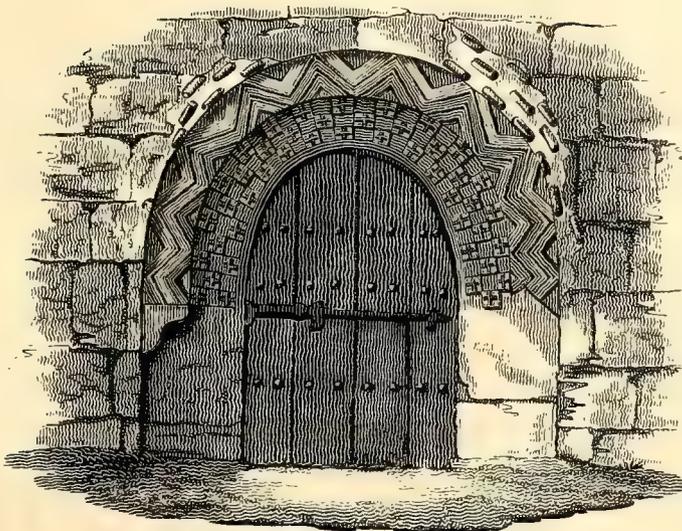
(with the useful : and that

a prodigious number of vo-

lumes of anecdote."

1680.

181.



Shotwick Church.

vill is mentioned as being confirmed by Hugh Lupus to that abbey, which is afterwards called the fee of Salghall, and was distinct from the manors of Great and Little Salghall, which were attached to the office of the earl's park-keeper of Shotwick. The paramount jurisdiction of both those manors has uniformly descended with Shotwick park, and is now vested in C. Trelawney Brereton, esq. who holds a court-leet and court-baron for the manor of Great Salghall, the leet of which extends over Little Salghall.

The privileges of the fee of Salghall have been disused most probably since the dissolution, as far as this township is concerned. They extended over the abbot's lands in Salghall, Shotwick, and Huxlegh,

the village is situated about four miles north-west of Chester, on a highway leading to the Dee ferries from the Neston turnpike road. With the exception of one or two buildings of a more decent appearance, it is an assemblage of ill-arranged and squalid huts of the most neglected and comfortless appearance. Great Salghall is celebrated as the birth-place of Mrs. Mary Davies, a horned monster, whose misfortunes are described in a very rare pamphlet with the following title^c.

"A BRIEF NARRATIVE of a strange and wonderful old woman that hath a pair of horns growing upon her head, giving a true account how they have several times after their being shed grown again. Declaring the place of her birth, her education, and conversation, with the first occasion of their growth, the

^a Possibly with one exception, as mentioned in the account of Shotwick Park. It should be observed that the manors of Great and Little Salghall are now called the fee of Salghall, but are clearly not that of the abbot, as they claim no jurisdiction over Huxley and Shotwick.

^b Vide Huxley and Hockenhull.

^c Preserved in the Library of the British Museum.

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Ded

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^d Harl. MSS. 2115. 192.

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The dean and chapter of Chester, by virtue of Pat. 22 Eliz. present to the curacy, and have the impropriation of the tythes of the whole parish, which are leased by them to Mascie Taylor, esq. and the widow of the late rev. John Briggs, M.A. Prebendary of Chester, and Chancellor of the diocese.

Of benefactions to the parish, a legacy of 34l. by Mr. Larton, of Capenhurst, still remains, and has its interest distributed in bread. Additional legacies amounting to 206l. are specified in the Parliamentary Return, but no information has been obtained respecting them.

The cure of Shotwick was for a few years committed to Dr. SAMUEL CLARKE, a learned biographer and active puritanical divine of the seventeenth century. He was maintained here by voluntary contributions, and drew enormous crowds together to his preachings and conferences, but was compelled to leave the place, after five years' residence, by a prosecution which was brought against him in the chancellor's court for the omission of ceremonies. In 1661, he was deputed by the ministers of London to present an address against re-ordination and surplices in colleges; and in the same year was appointed a commissioner for the reformation of the Book of Common Prayer. He was eight years a governor of Sion college, and two years president; and closed a life of piety in 1682, after being ejected many years for non-conformity. This mortification he however bore with such tranquillity, that he continued to attend his church as a hearer.

The works of Dr. Clarke are very numerous, and though little known, extremely valuable: they contain the essence of many abstruse writers, and a multitude

of biographical anecdotes to be derived from no other source. He has also been attentive to the illustrating them with portraits, which has added in no small degree to their price and rarity. The following list is given in a life written by himself:

The Marrow of Ecclesiastical History, 4to. published in 1649 and 1650, reprinted in 1654, and in large folio in 1675. This was the first English collection of biography.

Lives of Sundry Eminent Persons, forming a third volume of the preceding work: published 1662. It was re-printed 1683, with a good engraving by White, of himself, and another of his wife, daughter of Valentine Overton, rector of Bedworth, co. Warwick. Another engraving of him, by Cross, is prefixed to the 4to edition of his *Ecclesiastical History* 1650; another to the edition of the same 1675.

A General Martyrology, 1651, 1660.

An English Martyrology, 1652.

Cases of Conscience, 1659.

A Book against Toleration; a Life of Tamerlane; a Defence of Tithes; and a Description of the 17 Provinces of the Netherlands, 1675.

Lives of English Warriors, 1671.

God's Judgements against Persecutors, 1673.

An English Dictionary, under an assumed name, 1670.

A Mirror or Looking Glass for Saints and Sinners, 1646, 1655, 1657; and in 1671, a second volume. Of this work Mr. Chalmers observes, that excepting Wanley's Wonders, and Turner's Providences, which follow his plan, he knows not any book that contains an equal portion of the marvellous combined with the useful: and that "he must have turned over a prodigious number of volumes to accumulate such a mass of anecdote."

The Precedent for Princes, 1680.

A Book of Apophthegms, 1681.

GREAT SALGHALL

Is enumerated in Domesday among the townships which then were, and previously had been, the property of the church of St. Werburgh.

Ipsa ecclesia tenuit et tenet Salhare. Ibi una hida gel-dabilis. Terra est unius carucæ: ibi est in dominio, et 11 servi et 1 villanus, et 1 bordarius. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xvi solidos, modo tantundem.

In the charter of St. Werburgh, one third only of the vill is mentioned as being confirmed by Hugh Lupus to that abbey, which is afterwards called the fee of Salghall, and was distinct from the manors of Great and Little Salghall, which were attached to the office of the earl's park-keeper of Shotwick. The paramount jurisdiction of both those manors has uniformly descended with Shotwick park, and is now vested in C. Trelawney Brereton, esq. who holds a court-leet and court-baron for the manor of Great Salghall, the leet of which extends over Little Salghall.

The privileges of the fee of Salghall have been disused most probably since the dissolution, as far as this township is concerned. They extended over the abbot's lands in Salghall, Shotwick, and Huxlegh,

which had an early connection with the manor of Shotwick^b. In a plea to a quo warranto 31 Edw. III. the abbot claimed all wrecks in his fee of Salghall and Shotwick, and in his fee in these townships and Huxlegh, to have infangtheof, wayf, stray, goods of felons, natives, and fugitives, and view of frank pledge to be had yearly in Great Salghall.

The village is situated about four miles north-west of Chester, on a highway leading to the Dee ferries from the Neston turnpike road. With the exception of one or two buildings of a more decent appearance, it is an assemblage of ill-arranged and squalid huts of the most neglected and comfortless appearance. Great Salghall is celebrated as the birth-place of Mrs. Mary Davies, a horned monster, whose misfortunes are described in a very rare pamphlet with the following title^c.

"A BRIEF NARRATIVE of a strange and wonderful old woman that hath a pair of horns growing upon her head, giving a true account how they have several times after their being shed grown again. Declaring the place of her birth, her education, and conversation, with the first occasion of their growth, the

^a Possibly with one exception, as mentioned in the account of Shotwick Park. It should be observed that the manors of Great and Little Salghall are now called the fee of Salghall, but are clearly not that of the abbot, as they claim no jurisdiction over Huxley and Shotwick.

^b Vide Huxley and Hockenhull.

^c Preserved in the Library of the British Museum.

time of their continuance, and where she is now to be seene, viz. at the sign of the Swan near Charing Cross.

You that love wonders to behold,
Here you may of a wonder read,
The strangest that was ever seen or told,
A woman with horns upon her head.

London. Printed by T. I. 1676. 7 pp. small 4to."

The pamphlet describes her as then seventy-six years of age, bred and born in the parish of Shotwick, and the renter of a farm of sixteen pounds per annum under the Crown. Her husband, Henry Davies, had then been deceased thirty-five years, after which she had practised the business of a midwife.

The first affection of her head began with a soreness and swelling, supposed to be occasioned by wearing a tight hat, which after twenty years assumed the form of a wen, and continued for five years longer, "after which time it was, by a strange operation of nature, changed into horns, which are in shew and substance much like a ram's horns, solid and wrinkled, but sadly grieving the old woman, especially upon the change of weather."

"She hath cast her horns three times already; the first time was but a single horn, which grew long, but as slender as an oaten straw. The second was thicker than the former. The two first Mr. Hewson, minister of Shotwick, (to whose wife this rarity was first discovered) obtained of the old woman his parishioner. They

kept not an equal distance of time in falling off; some at three, some at four, and some at four years and a half's growth."

"The third time grew two horns, both of which were beat off by a fall backwards: one of them an English lord obtained, and presented it to the French king. The other, which was the largest, was nine inches long and two inches about: it is much valued for the novelty, a greater than any John Tradeskin can shew, or the greatest traveller can affirm to have seen. Sir Wiloughby Aston hath also another horn dropt from this woman's head, and reserves it as a choice rarity. At this present she hath a pair of horns upon her head of six months growth, and 'tis not without reason believed they will, in a short time, be larger than any of the former, for still the latter have exceeded the former in bigness."

Her horns are preserved in the Ashmolean and British Museums; and her portrait, which has subsequently been engraved by Richardson, is given in Leigh's Natural History, taken in the 72d year of her age, a^o 1668. Another portrait is preserved at Dodington Hall; and a third in the British Museum.

In the work before-mentioned is a portrait of Alice Green, who laboured under a similar affliction, copied from a painting at Whalley abbey. In this latter instance the horns were about three inches long, were renewed every three years, and their breaking out was attended with intolerable pain.

LITTLE SALGHALL.

UNINTERESTING as the present state of this township is, it has a long notice in the Domesday survey among the Wirral estates of William Malbedeng, baron of Nantwich, and probably, at that early period, derived some importance from its vicinity to the capital of the palatinate.

"Isdem Willhelmus tenet Salhare; Leving tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi sex hidæ geldabiles: terra est sex carucarum. In dominio est una et dimidia, et unus servus, et vii villani, et unus radman, et iv bordarii, cum iii carucis et dimidia. Ibi piscaria; tempore regis Edwardi valebat xx solidos, et post xxii solidos, modo xlv solidos."

This grant must have been subsequently resumed, as the manors of Great and Little Salghall were afterwards in the crown, and were usually attached to the office of park-keeper of Shotwick, and becoming vested in fee in sir Thomas Wilbraham, 17 Car. II. the manor of Great Salghall, and the paramount jurisdiction of Little Salghall, have since descended with Shotwick park to the present proprietor, Charles Trelawney Brereton, esq. in whose leet of Great Salghall this township is included.

A reputed manor also exists in Little Salghall, vested in the said C. T. Brereton, esq. an undivided portion of which was received in exchange by him from Charles Potts, esq. for certain lands near Chester. This undivided portion, together with lands now sold to Robert Ellison, of Shotwick lodge, was purchased by Mr. Potts from Mrs. Elizabeth Slaughter, of Chester, and formed originally a part of the estate of the Does of Salghall, for whom there are some memorials in Shotwick church, and of the Gamulls, whose Crabwall estate extended into this township.

An estate here, which was sold by the earl of Pembroke in the reign of Elizabeth for 120 marks, is said to have originally formed part of the inheritance of Guy de Provence, the ancestor of the Oldfields^a. At the same period a large part of the township belonged to the Tattons. These estates must have shortly afterwards subdivided, as the inclosure of King's Wood and the other wastes of Little Salghall took place within a few years subsequent, and formed a subject of litigation for a very numerous body of freeholders, the abstracts of the pleadings in which still fill a bulky volume of the Harleian MSS.

^a Harl. MSS. 2099.

ROUGH SHOTWICK.

THE township of Woodbank, or Rough Shotwick, consists of a number of scattered cottages and farm-houses, spread over a gentle elevation opposite the town of Shotwick, from which it is divided by a small rivulet.

A portion of the township was attached to Shotwick park, and has descended with that estate to C. T. Brereton, esq. Another estate was antiently the inheritance of the Wodebanks, from which family it passed to the Hootons of Hooton anterior to the second year of Edward the Third, in which year it was granted, under the name of Rowe Shotwick, by William de Hoton, to Henry de Hoton, his son and heir, and Isabel his wife, daughter of William Gerard. (Harl. MSS. 2079. 56.) Margaret de Hoton, the heiress of this family, brought it in marriage with their other estates, in the time of Richard the Second, to William de Stanley, in whose descendants it continued as late as 11 Jac. I. when it

was held by William Stanley, esq. as "two messuages and 80 acres in Woodbanke in Rough Shotwick," from the heirs of John Parrys in socage, as it is previously described in former Inquisitions.

Another estate, reputed to have manerial privileges, was conveyed, a^o 25 Eliz. by Lancelot Bostock and Francis Hiccock of Horsham, to Robert Hiccock, as "the vill of Rowe Shotwick," together with the manors of Woodchurch and Knoctorum. This estate subsequently passed in marriage with the daughter and heiress of — Stubbs, to — Boulton, a lieutenant in the navy, from whom the same was purchased by Edward Platt, of Chester, attorney at law, by whose will it was bequeathed to his daughter, Dorothy, wife of George French, esq. and her issue, with a life interest in one third thereof, reserved to Mr. Charles Price of Chester.

CAPENHURST.

WILLIAM FITZ-NIGELL, baron of Halton, was superior lord of this township at the Conquest.

"Isdem Willielmus tenet Capeles, et David de eo. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Erne tenuit: terra est una caruca: ibi est cum uno villano, et ii bordariis. Tempore Regis Edwardi, et post, valebat v solidos, modo viii solidos.

From the successors of this William Fitz-Nigell, the barons of Halton, the manor of Capenhurst was held by the Bernstons of Bernston, now Barnston, to the 21st of Edw. I. ^a when Hugh de Bernston gave the homages and services of William de Capenhurst, John le Von, and Robert Kenian, free tenants of the said Hugh, by charter to James de Pulle, who died 1 Edw. II. seized of one messuage and a carucate of land in ^b Capenhurst, held of Henry, earl of Lincoln, as of his barony of Halton, by the eighth part of a knight's fee. Val. per ann. 1l. 15s. 4d.

The manor of Capenhurst, as held by the Pooles of Poole immediately under the barons of Halton, is thus noticed in the Inquisitions. Robert Poole is noticed as holding it in the feodary of that barony, temp. Edw. II.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. Thomas Poole, esq. held, inter alia, the manor or vill of Capenhurst, ^c from Elizabeth, wife of John Veire, by services unknown. Val. per ann. xs.

Inq. p. m. 30 Hen. VIII. Randle Poole, clerk, held lands in Capenhurst from the king as baron of Halton, by the services of the 20th part of a knight's fee. Value per ann. 48s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 1 Edw. VI. Thomas Poole, esq. held messuages, lands, and tenements in Capenhurst from the king as baron of Halton, as the 20th part of a knight's fee. Val. per ann. 7l. 0s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 3 Eliz. The same Thomas Poole, of Poole

esq. held lands in Capenhurst from the queen as in the last Inq.

Inq. p. m. 19 Ap. 12 Jac. I. John Poole, esq. held the manor of Capenhurst from the king as baron of Halton, as before. Val. per ann. v marks.

Under this family, the Capenhursts, Cheneys, and Cholmondeleys, were successively lords of the mediate manor, derived from William de Capenhurst before-mentioned, whose homage and service were transferred by Hugh de Bernston, 21 Edw. I. to James de Pulle.

17 Edw. III. Thomas de Capenhurst grants to Thomas de Capenhurst his son and heir, and to Johanna his wife, daughter of Richard Hough of Thornton-Hough, five messuages and ^d all his lands in Capenhurst. Seal, Gules, a chevron between three cocks Argent.

^e Thomas de Capenhurst, jun. had issue two daughters, of whom — brought lands in this township in marriage to Robert de Pulle, the superior lord; Maud, the other daughter, married sir John Cheney of Willaston, kt. whose daughter and coheir, Maud, became the wife of William de Cholmondeley.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VII. Richard Cholmeley held the manor of Capenhurst in socage from sir Thomas Poole, kt. by fealty, and 7s. rent for all services. Value per annum xxil. iiii d.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VIII. Richard Cholmondeley, esq. held lands in Capenhurst from Randle Pole, clerk, by fealty, and viis. rent. Val. per ann. xxil. viis. viii d.

Inq. p. m. 30 Hen. VIII. Richard Cholmondeley, esq. held lands in Capenhurst and Upton from Thomas Poole, esq. by fealty, and viis. rent. Value per annum xxil.

Inq. p. m. 39 Eliz. Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, kt. held two-thirds of the manor of Capenhurst, with seven messuages, eight cottages, one windmill, and 376 acres of

^a Villare Cest. p. 31.

^b Ibid.

^c So in the Inq.

^d Harl. MSS. 1424. p. 119.

^e Williamson's Villare Cest. p. 87.

different kinds of land, ^ffrom the queen, as of her dutchy of Lancaster, as of her barony of Halton, by the services of the 40th part of a knight's fee. Value per annum xl.

The present earl of Cholmondeley, the lineal descendant and representative of sir Hugh, sold the manor of Capenhurst to Richard Richardson, esq. of the city of Chester, the present proprietor. A court-leet and court-baron are incident to the manor.

The township is in a flat part of the hundred, but is judiciously broken by plantations; and one of the best cross-roads in this part of Cheshire has been formed between the Parkgate and the Liverpool turnpikes, by the present proprietor, through the centre of the township. Capenhurst hall is a modern brick building; the old hall, an edifice composed of timber and plaister in the style of the beginning of the seventeenth century, was taken down shortly after the purchase of Mr. Richardson.

A mansion of more remote antiquity, said to have been the seat of the Capenhursts, stood at a short distance from the west side of the turnpike-road, about four miles and a half from Chester, in a point near the modern enclosures of Backford heath, and the moorish flat which extends through Stanney to the Mersey. It is, however, most probable that the deep groves of natural growth which covered the waste districts of the forest of Wirral at that early period, then gave a very different aspect to a situation which would certainly exhibit no charms to the eyes of modern taste. The site is marked by a mount included within a moat about fifteen yards in diameter, the outside of which is a parallelogram, of which each side measures about sixty yards; but their outline is considerably altered by the growth of timber, and the falling in of the earth since the demolition of the edifice.

The manerial lord is the exclusive proprietor of the lands in the township.

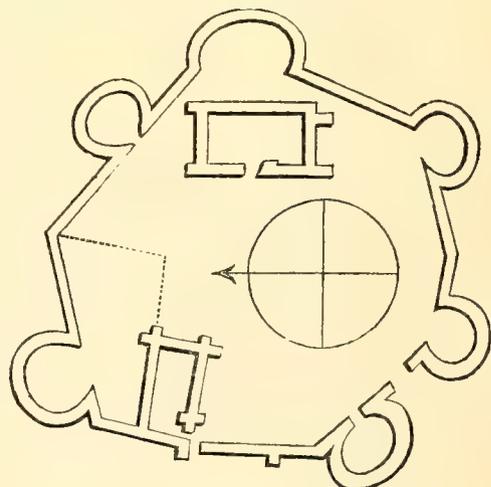
SHOTWICK PARK.

THE circuit which we have described, now brings us round to the vicinity of Chester, and to the commencement of the line of Norman forts which were erected by the earls to protect their frontier from the incursions of the Welsh. To these insults the shallow channel of the Dee left Wirral hundred peculiarly exposed; the lands nearer Chester were accordingly held by the service of finding sufficient watch and ward against sudden irruptions, and a fort was here erected, with an extra-parochial district round it appropriated to the service of the castle. At a later period, when the necessity which caused the building of the original works had ceased, a further object was found for their preservation, in the alteration which took place in the channel of the Dee, and rendered the embarkation of soldiers for Ireland a work of difficulty at Chester. In consequence of these inconveniences the Cheshire archers and other troops were collected on the shores of Wirral, and embarked from this point, which has more than once been honoured by receiving the sovereign on these expeditions.

Leland speaks of the castle as existing, and does not mention its being ruinous. "A myle lower is Shottewik castle, on the very shore, longing to the king, and therby ys a parke." Camden only translates the passage without acknowledgment, and most probably never saw it. "Hujus ingressu, ad Austrum, Shotwick, castrum regium, æstuario incumbit."

A drawing and plan of the castle is annexed as it existed in a ruinous state in the time of ^aRandle Holme, from which its form appears to have been a pentagon, strengthened with several towers. One of them is stated by the editor of Camden, on anonymous authority, to have been five stories high. The inroads of the sea, and the depredations of the farmers, have obliterated

all resemblance to this delineation, and the present earthworks consist merely of a large mount, strengthened by a huge mound in the form of a crescent, and two deep intrenchments on the land side.



In 1256, on the first progress of prince Edward into Cheshire, ^bFulco de Orreby, justiciary of Chester, received the charge of "Shotewyke" castle, as one of the chief strong-holds of the palatinate^c.

6 Edw. III. The manor of Shotewyke was granted to sir Roger Swinnerton. The care of the castle was next granted to sir Hugh Calveley, who held it at the time of his decease, and was succeeded by sir John Calveley, son of his nephew, the younger sir Hugh, by letters patent dated 17 Ric. II.^d

^e19 May, 15 Hen. VI. The king grants to William Troutebek, chamberlain of Chester, and John his son, the office of park-keeper of Shotewyk, for their joint lives, and that of the survivor.

^f The manor of Capenhurst was held immediately from the barony of Halton by the Pooles, and not by sir Hugh Cholmondeley, as erroneously stated by the jurors in this Inq.: the Cholmondeleys being only inferior lords after this date, vide the Inq. p. m. J. Poole, 12 Jac. I.

^a Harl. MSS. 2073.

^b MS. Chronicle of St. Werburgh.

^c Dugdale's Baronage, II. 57.

^d Harl. MSS. 1535.

^e Enrollments in Chester Exchequer.

^f 38 Hen. VI. The same office was granted to John Done, of Utkinton, esq. late held by John Troutbeck.

^g 8 June 1 Edw. IV. The king grants to Elena, wife of Thomas lord Stanley, for life, and John Stanley his son, the manors of Shottwyk and Salghall, and the keeping of the castle of Shottwyk, as it was held by Agnes late wife of sir William Porter.

^h 8 Edw. IV. a renewal of the same grant.

ⁱ 16 July 15 Edw. IV. The king appoints John son of Thomas lord Stanley, park-keeper of Shotwyk, *quamdiu nobis placuerit*.

^j 1 March 8 Hen. VIII. The king appoints sir Richard Egerton, master of the game at Shotwyk for life.

^k 23 Aug. 16 Hen. VIII. The king appoints John Southall keeper of Shotwick Park for life, in lieu of Peter Newton deceased.

^l 4 April 20 Hen. VIII. The king grants the office of keeper of Shotwick park, with a fishery in Dee, and its other appurtenances, as the same was formerly held by sir Ralph^h Egerton, to William Breretonⁱ, one of the grooms of the chamber, and to Urian Brereton his son, for their joint lives.

^m 2 May 3 Edw. VI. The king grants to Richard Wilbraham, esq. the office of keeper of Shotwick park, for forty years, from the death of John Mascy deceased, last keeper.

ⁿ 1 Mary. The queen grants to Richard Wilbraham, esq. in consideration of his resignation of the former lease, and the annual rent of 24l. 3s. 4d. the office of keeper of Shotwick Park, the demesne and manor of Shotwick, the vill, demesne, and manor of Great Salghall, the Parker's Howse, and appurtenances in Woodbanke, and a fishery in Dee for 60 years.

Dec. 3, 17 Car. II. The king, after reciting a lease of the office of Park-keeper, with the manors of Shotwick, Great and Little Saughall, &c. lately granted in farm to sir Francis Bacon, knight, attorney-general, sir John Dacombe, knight, chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, Thomas Murray, esq. his secretary, and others, some of whom were deceased, and the others had assigned their interest in the said lease to sir Thomas Wilbraham, knight, grants to the said Thomas Wilbraham, and to his heirs in fee for ever, the said manors, in consideration of the sum of 900l.

The manors of Great and Little Salghall vested subsequently in the family of Mainwaring of Peover, from whom they passed (probably by purchase) to the Salusburies of Ledbroke, co. Flint.

^k By will dated 1734, Salusbury Lloyd, of Ledbroke, esq. bequeathed the said manors to the husband of his daughter Catherine, Thomas Brereton, esq. who assumed the name of Salusbury, and who had probably possessed himself previously of Shotwick Park, by conveyance from this lady or her father, being described as of that place in the will^k. Mr. Brereton, by will, dated 1756, bequeathed these estates to his son, by a former wife of the Trelawney family, Owen Salusbury Brereton, esq. who died issueless, having bequeathed his estates to Charles Trelawney, esq. his maternal cousin, who has assumed the name of Brereton, and is the present proprietor of Shotwick Park, and the manors of Great and Little Saughall.

Shotwick Lodge is a common farm house, and the estate has long been disparked.

Mr. Owen Salusbury Brereton, a gentleman well known in the literary circles, (according to a memoir published in the Transactions of the Society of Arts, and the Biographical Dictionary of Chalmers) was born in 1715, and after being educated on the foundation of Westminster school, was a member of Trinity College, Cambridge. He became recorder of Liverpool in 1746, and filled his office with such ability, that, on his proposing to resign in 1796, the corporation requested him to retain his situation, and appointed a deputy to relieve him from the pressure of its duties.

Mr. Brereton was a bencher of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, and filled the office of treasurer, and was keeper of the Black Book. He was baron of the Exchequer of Chester, and represented Ilchester in parliament, was vice president of the Society of Arts from 1765 to his death, and was an early member of the Royal Society and the Society of Antiquaries. After attaining his eighty-fourth year, he died on Sept. 8, 1798, and was interred in St. George's chapel at Windsor, without any surviving issue by his wife, who was sister of sir Thomas Whitmore, K. B.

The Archæologia contain several papers from the pen of Mr. Brereton on various subjects of antiquities^l.

^f Harl. MSS. 2115. 123.

^g Enrollments in the Exchequer of Chester.

^h Of Ridley.

ⁱ Of Shocklach and Malpas Hall.

^k From the information of Henry Potts, esq. from perusal of title deeds.

^l His papers are, Observations on Round Towers in Ireland, ii. 80.—On a Tour through South Wales and Salop, iii. 111.—Extracts from a MS. relating to the household of Hen. VIII. iii. 154.—Account of a discovery of gold coins at Fenwick Castle, v. 166.—Of an unpublished seal of Henrietta Maria, queen of Car. I. v. 280.—Exhibition of Celts, viii. 450.—Of a drawing of a coloured window at Brereton, ix. 368.—Of a coin of a Philip, king of France, x. 465.—Of an Icelandic drinking-horn, xi. 433.—An account of a date and arms on the Deanery House at Windsor, xii. 415.

The abstract of the account with which Mr. Brereton accompanied the exhibition of the drawing of Brereton church window, contains some inaccuracies which should be noted in a History of Cheshire. The drawing was not "a drawing of a window in the parish church," but a copy of a drawing of one which had been long destroyed, preserved in an illuminated MS. genealogical work, chiefly relating to the Breretons, now, or lately, in the library at Brereton Hall. The church of Brereton is far from being "one of the oldest in the county," whether considered with respect to endowment, or the present fabric. It was originally a chapel to Astbury built about the time of Richard I., and only made parochial and endowed with the tithes of Brereton cum Smethwick in the time of Hen. VIII. (Leycester, 194.) The chancel, in which fragments of the glass were remaining in 1734, was rebuilt in 1542, (Sir Francis Leycester's Tabley MSS.) and the rest of the present church is apparently more modern. The greatest error is in the concluding statement, that sir William Brereton, the builder of the adjacent hall, was "son of that William Brereton who was one of the persons put to death by king Hen. VIII. as a pretence for his charge against his queen Boleyn;" to which he adds, "an original picture of him," (sir William the builder) "with the queen's head on the front of his cap, is now in the possession of Owen Salusbury Brereton, esq." It will require only a reference to the pedigrees to ascertain that sir William Brereton, chamberlain of Chester, and groom of the chamber to Henry VIII. beheaded on suspicion of intimacy with Anne Boleyn, was seventh son of sir Randle Brereton of Shocklach and Malpas Hall, and was only eighth cousin to the sir William Brereton, father of the builder of Brereton Hall, with whom he is here identified. The error has been made still more glaring by a plate taken by Basire, in 1796, from the painting of sir William Brereton of Brereton before-mentioned, in which has been actually introduced the following inscription: "Gulielmus Brereton Baro de Laughlin, Elizab. Reg. serviens, Gulielmi filius ab Hen. VIII. trucidati æ. suæ XXVIII."

Part of the Parish of St. Mary on the Hill.

LITTLE MOLLINGTON, OR MOLLINGTON BANASTRE,

Is the only part of the parish of St. Mary on the Hill¹, which extends into the Hundred of Wirral; it is situated at the distance of one mile from Chester, on the Parkgate-road, and is bounded by Broxton Hundred, the parishes of Trinity, St. Oswald's, and Backford.

Robert de Rodelent was the Norman lord of this township, which is placed at the head of his possessions, in a distinct entry from the adjacent township of the same name.

“Robertus de Rodelent tenet de Hugone comite Molintone. Godvinus tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi hida et dimidia geldabilis. Terra est III carucarum: in dominio est una, et III servi, et III villani, et III bordarii et II acræ prati: et duæ acræ silvæ. Tempore R. Edwardi fuit vasta; quando recepit, valebat xx solidos: modo xv solidos.”

After the death of Robert de Rodelent, this vill reverted to the earl, and was granted by Edward III. to Robert Banastre, of Lancashire, from whom the place assumed its additional appellation.

Inq. p. m. 41 Edw. III. Robert Bannester, of Mollington Bannester, held the manor of the same by gift of the king, from the said king, as the fourth part of a knight's fee. Value, per annum, VIII.

The heiress of the Banastres married into the family of the Langtons, barons of Newton^m, under whom this manor was held by the Hoghtons, of Hoghton Tower, having passed in marriage with Sibilla daughter and heir of Henry de Lea, to sir Richard Hoghton, of Hoghton, knt. which family of Lea, obtained the same in frank marriage with Clemence daughter of Robert de Banastre before-mentionedⁿ.

Sir Richard de Hoghton had issue Adam, who died, as by *Inq. p. m.* 10 Ric. II. leaving two sons, Richard, from whom the knightly family of Hoghton descend, and sir Henry Hoghton, knt. a representative of the county of Lancaster, 9 Hen. IV. in whom the manor of Mollington Banaster vested. Certain lands, however, continued vested in the elder line, and are valued at x marks per annum in the Inquisition after the death of Alexander Hoghton, 14 Hen. VII. who left issue one

daughter and heiress Anne; after whose death by *Inq. p. m.* 18 Hen. VII. the said lands are found to be settled on William Troutbeck: which sir William Troutbeck, of Dunham, knt. in the preceding year had made assignment of dower of Elizabeth his sister, mother of the said Anne^o.

To return to the possessor of Mollington Banestre, sir Henry Hoghton, before-mentioned:

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VI. Henry de Houghton, chvr. held the manor of Mollynton Bannester, in demesne, as of fee, for life, from sir Randle de Langton, knt. in socage, by the render of one penny per annum for all services, which Randle holds the same from the king as earl of Chester, as the fifth part of a knight's fee. Value, per annum, cs. Richard son of sir William de Houghton, son of the aforesaid sir Henry Houghton, next of kin and heir.

Shortly afterwards, William Stanley, of Hooton and Storeton, married Alicia daughter of sir Richard Hoghton, knt. sister and heiress of Henry Hoghton, with whom he received an estate here, the similarity of the render for which, seems to identify it with the manor described in the preceding Inquisition of 3 Hen. VI. although no manerial rights are afterwards noticed.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VIII. William Stanley, of Hooton, esq. held, inter alia, messuages and lands in socage, from the king, in socage, by the render of one penny. Value, per annum, IIII.

Inq. p. m. 11 Jac. I. William Stanley, of Hooton, esq. held, inter alia, two messuages and two hundred acres in Mollington Bannester, from the king, in socage, by the render of one penny for all services. Value, per annum, IIII.

From this period an estate has descended with the other estates of the family to sir T. S. M. Stanley, bart. but no manerial rights are at present exercised.

Another estate in the township is the property of the heiress of a family of the name of Dob. On this estate is situated the hall of Mollington Banastre, which has been for a considerable period the property of the ancestors of the present proprietor.

¹ A moiety of the tithes of Chorlton is appropriated to the Rectory of St. Mary, but that township forms no part of the parish.

^m Visitat. Lancast. 1567.

ⁿ Wotton's Baronetage, I. p. 17. Ex autographo penès H. Hoghton, Bart.

^o Ibid. p. 18.

Part of the Parishes of St. Oswald and Trinity.

BLACON CUM CRABWALL.

THIS township lies adjacent to the city liberties, in the parishes of St. Oswald and Trinity, but chiefly in the former. It is partly seated on the high and precipitous banks which formed the boundary of the Dee, when its estuary extended to the city walls, and partly composed of the land which has been recovered by embankments from the former channel. Unlike most estates in the immediate vicinity of populous towns, Blacon, though lying at a considerable distance from the principal lordships of its proprietors, has only experienced two alienations from the line of hereditary descent, since it was granted to Ranulfus, the ancestor of the Mainwarings, at the conquest.

“Ranulfus tenet de Hugone comite Blacheholl; Toret tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi ii hidæ geldabiles: terra est iv carucarum: in dominio sunt duæ; et iv bovarii, et iv villani, et iv bordarii, habent unam carucam; ibi Piscaria. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xiv solidos, modo xl solidos.”

The estates of this line of Mainwaring were vested 17 Edw. I. in Maud, daughter and heiress of sir Warin Mainwaring, of Warmincham, who married William Trussel, of Cubbleston^a, the younger, in or before the 1st of Edward II. This manor is noticed in the following Inquisitions of the Trussels, among other estates, as follows.

Inq. p. m. 3 Ric. II. William Trussel, of Cubbleston, ch'vr, held at will, by virtue of a feoffment made the day before his decease, inter alia, the manor of Blaken, from the heirs of John Delves, by military service and the render of xxxs. per annum. Value, xl. Elizabeth, daughter of Alured Trussel, and of Katherine his wife, daughter and heiress of this William Trussel, next of kin, and heiress.

By another *Inq. p. m.* 3 and 7 Ric. II. Margaret, wife of Fulco de Penbrugge, was found next of kin, and heiress to other estates of this William Trussel^b. The said Margaret died possessed of this manor, as appears by *Inq. p. m.* 2 Hen. IV. in which she is described as holding it, inter alia, as in the preceding Inquisition, then valued at xx marks, from William de Blundell and Richard de Montgomeri. William, son of Laurence Trussel, next of kin and heir.

Laurence Trussel, whose son William was found heir by this Inquisition, was son of Warin Trussel, a younger son of Maud Mainwaring, and consequently uncle of sir William Trussel, and Margaret de Penbrugge, the previous possessors of Blacon. His son William, by their demise without issue, became representative of the Mainwarings, of Warmincham, and was the ancestor of the subsequent generations of the Trussels of that place and Blacon.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. IV. Sir William Trussel, knt. held, inter alia, in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Blaken,

from John Delves, by the service of xxxs. per annum. Value, xvi. Sir Thomas Trussel, knt. son and heir.

Sir Thomas Trussel was succeeded by his son William Trussel, esq.

Inq. p. m. 21 Edw. IV. William Trussel, esq. held in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Blaken, from the heirs of John Delves, by the render of xxxs. Value, per annum, xvii. Edward Trussel, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VII. Edward Trussel held, inter alia, the manor of Blaken, from Ralph Delves, by military service, and the render of xxs. Value, per annum, xvii. John, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 15 and 22 Hen. VII. John Trussel, a minor, ward of the king, held, inter alia, the manor of Blaken, as before-mentioned. Elizabeth Trussel, sister and heiress.

The extensive Cheshire estates of the Trussels passed in marriage with this heiress to Edward Vere, fifteenth earl of Oxford, whose grandson, Edward, sold Warmincham, Blacon, and other manors, anno 22 Eliz. to John Crewe, and his son sir Randle Crewe, knt. serjeant at law, afterwards lord chief justice of the King's Bench, whose great grandson, John Crewe, esq. dying without issue male, the estates of the family passed in marriage with Anne, eldest daughter and eventually sole heiress to John Offley, of Madeley, esq. who took the name of Crewe in 1708, and was father of the right honourable John lord Crewe, the present proprietor of Blacon.

The antient manor-house of Blacon was standing in the time of Leland: “half a myle lower ys Blakenhedde, as an armet of the ground, pointing out. At this is an olde manor place belongging to the erle of Oxforde, and theryn lyith sumtyme syr Gul. Norres.

THE HAMLET OF CRABWALL was given by Thomas de Mainwaring, as part of Blacon, to John son of Robert de Erneway, and stated to consist of three bovates of land, which Robert son of Richard le Brun held from him, with messuages, tofts, and crofts; two bovates lying between the highway and the vill aforesaid, and another bovate lying between the land which Roger Mainwaring his father gave to Robert son of Erneway, and the croft of Stephen: subject to the payment of one penny for all secular service, “salva custodia vadi de Dee, sicut custodiri solet tempore guerræ.”

John, son of Robert Arneway, gave these lands, subject to the same charge, to Simon abbot of St. Werburgh, and his convent, “cum corpore suo in cemet. Mon. dict. Virg. sepeliendo.”

In consequence of this grant by John Arneway, and other donations of lands in Chester, Simon, abbot of Chester, bound himself and his successors to maintain for ever two secular chaplains to celebrate mass for the souls of John Arneway and Margery his wife, and all

^a The Mainwaring and Trussel pedigree will be found at length in the account of Warmingham, in Northwich Hundred.

^b Elizabeth Freville having died intermediately, and the said Margaret being cousin to sir William Trussel before-mentioned.

^c Chartulary of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965.

the faithful: one chaplain at the altar of St. Leonard, in the conventual church; and the other at the altar of the Virgin, in the church of St. Bridget; with one lamp before the altar of St. Leonard. The abbot to be responsible for the same to his diocesan, on the complaint of the mayor of Chester.

After the dissolution the manor became vested in a younger branch of the Gamuls, of Buerton, which separated from the parent stock in the reign of Elizabeth, and continued settled here for five generations. Their residence, which is now destroyed, was a respectable old building, with bay windows and gables, exhibiting a tolerable specimen of the domestic architecture of the early part of the seventeenth century.

The male line of this family became extinct by the death of William Gamul, esq. in 1750, who by will bearing date 6 Nov. 1743, bequeathed his estates in

Salghall and elsewhere, for the payment of debts; and devised Crabwall to his three surviving sisters, Anne, Margaret, and Catherine, all of whom died issueless. Under the will of the second of these sisters, Margaret, one entire moiety, which she possessed after the death of Catherine, passed to William Gamul Farmer, esq. second son of her niece Margaret daughter of Mary Souther, a fourth sister and co-heiress of William Gamul before-mentioned: the other moiety passed by deed of gift of the remaining sister Anne Gamul, to the same W. G. Farmer, esq. in whom the whole thus vested; and after his decease, without issue, passed to his elder brother Samuel Farmer, esq. who is the present proprietor of the entire hamlet of Crabwall.

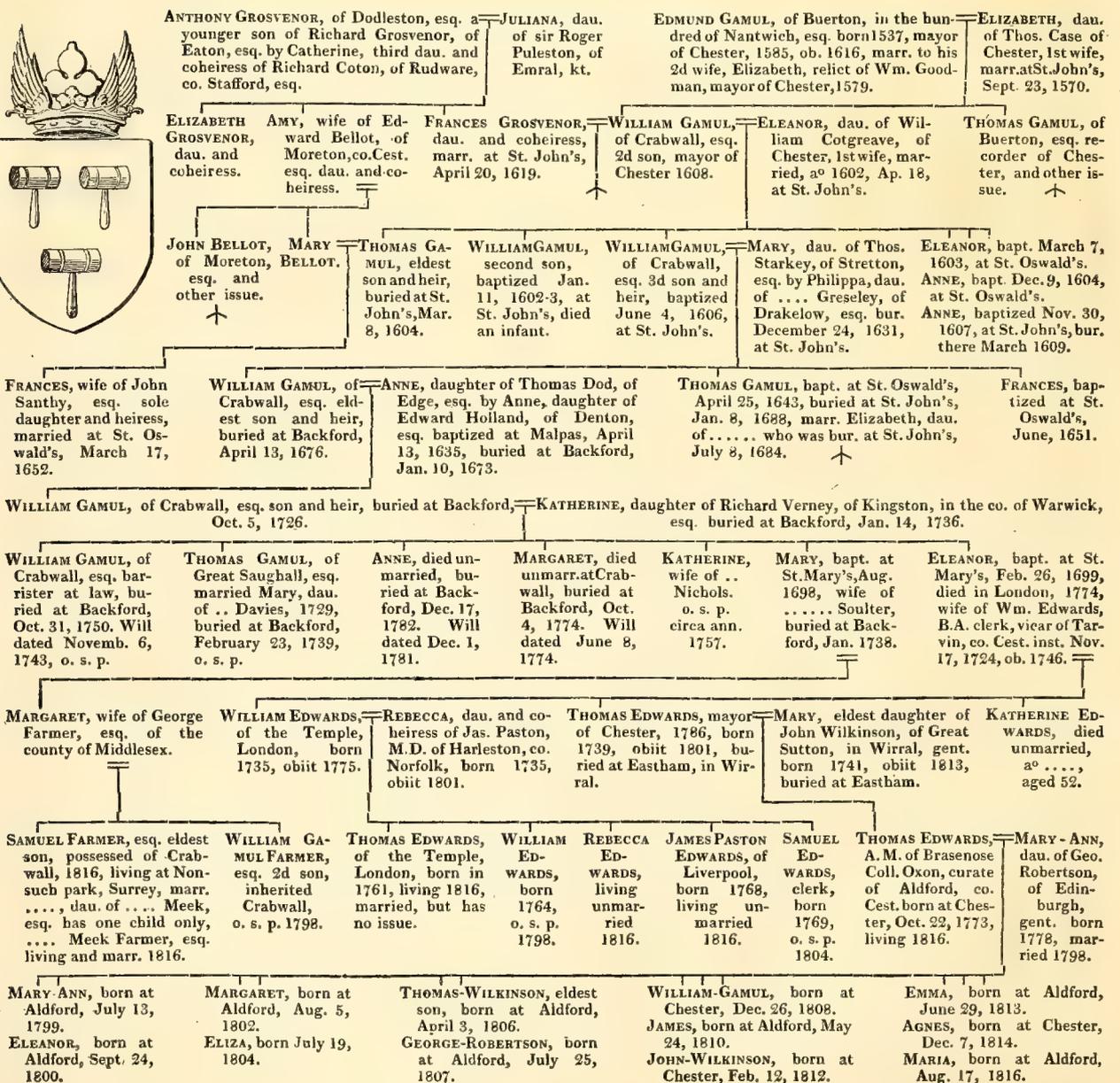
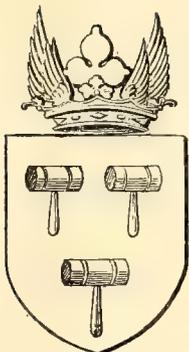
No court has been held for a considerable period, or any other manerial privileges claimed for the manor of Blacon, or for Crabwall.

GAMUL, OF CRABWALL.

Compiled from parochial registers, and evidences in the possession of the Rev. Thomas Edwards, of Aldford.

ARMS.—Or, three mallets Sable.

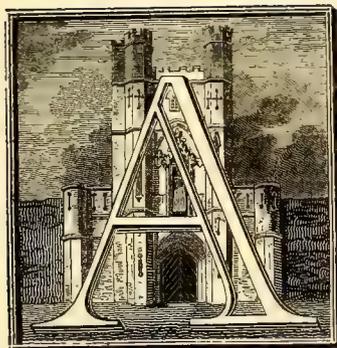
CREST.—A trefoil slipped Or, winged Sable, issuing from a ducal coronet Or.



History of Cheshire.

Hundred of Broxton.

INTRODUCTION.



AFTER the description of the geographical character of the Western Hundreds of Cheshire, which has been given in the Introductions prefixed to the accounts of Edisbury and Wirral, it remains only to recapitulate, that the present portion of that district, consists of a bold chain of hills on the south-east, and a natural terrace stretching north-west from their feet, in the direction of Chester, which is interrupted only by a channel made in the latter part of it by the present main stream of the Dee. These hills have been described as completing the great semicircular range which incloses the vale of Chester, and the natural terrace, as a continuation of the peninsula of Wirral, retaining at its sides two broad vales, which appear to have been the original beds of the estuaries of the Dee and the Mersey.

Broxton is very irregular in form, but bears the nearest resemblance to an oblong, averaging about eighteen miles in length by eight in breadth, and stretching from north-west to south-east. The upper end, or north-west side, commencing at Kinnerton, is divided from Flintshire by an imaginary line extending to Blacon point; and from that point to Stanlaw, it is divided from Wirral Hundred by the Dee and the Ellesmere canal, with the exception of the City liberties, which intervene between Broxton and Wirral in a part of this line. On the north-east side, the boundary line of Edisbury and Broxton Hundred ascends the Gowy, and another small brook, to Horseley hill, and after an interval of two miles, joins, and descends with one of the feeders of the Weever to the corner of Cholmondeley. The south-east side abuts upon Nantwich Hundred and Shropshire. The remaining side, on

the south-west, is the most irregular. Commencing near the second mile stone from Whitchurch, it is divided from Shropshire and the detached part of Flintshire by a small brook, which enters Flintshire near Oldcastle, leaving this Hundred and the county bounded for two miles by an imaginary line, which is then taken up by Flamings brook, and afterwards continued by the Dee to Aldford with some trifling exceptions, arising probably from variations in the channel of the river. At this point the county extends across the Dee, and is divided from Flintshire up to Kinnerton, where this description commenced, by a small stream which falls into the Dee opposite to Aldford, and is erroneously described by Webb as the Alun.

The space comprised within these limits contains the entire Hundred of Broxton, and the City liberties, or the county of the city of Chester, which are included within it, but, being under a distinct jurisdiction, are separately described. Broxton is co-extensive with the Hundred of Dudestan, with the exception of the townships of Rushton, Little Budworth, Oulton, Over, Alpraham, and Thornton^a, now forming part of Edisbury, Bettisfield, and Worthenbury in Flintshire, and Burwardstone, now unknown. It borrows Picton, Upton, Mickle Trafford, and Wervin from Wilaveston Hundred; Newton, and part of Lea from Cestre Hundred; and Lache, with Marleston, Claverton, and Dodleston from Atiscros^b.

This Hundred was traversed by the road from Deva to Uriconium, forming the communication between the northern and southern Watling streets. The line of road, after passing through Handbridge, may yet be traced in some fields between the present road to Eaton ferry and the Dee, between Iron-bridge and Eccleston. About half way between these points, where it traverses high ground on the verge of marshy meadows still overflowed occasionally by the Dee, the road has been defended on the left by a strong work of a form nearly

* * The Vignette represents the East Gate of Chester, as it appeared before the siege, from a drawing by Randle Holme. Harl. MSS. 2073.

^a Thornton should have been mentioned as a township borrowed by Edisbury from Dudestan, in p. 1, col. i. It was completely surrounded by Roelau hundred, and distant from every other part of Dudestan.

^b Sir P. Leycester inadvertently states Dodleston to be all that remains to Cheshire of Atiscros, p. 437.

semicircular, the bow of which is about 220 yards, and the chord 120, as nearly as can be judged by stepping an unequal surface. The side towards Chester slopes to the natural level by an easy descent; but the rounded front which covers the approach to the city, is elevated nearly eight yards above the meadows, and at the end where it joins the high ground, is protected by a fosse and rampart. This work occupies nearly the whole space on the left, or east side, between the road and the Dee, and the west side was doubtless protected by impenetrable thickets, as the woods of this district were selected for afforestation, by the Norman earl, before the completion of Domesday^c.

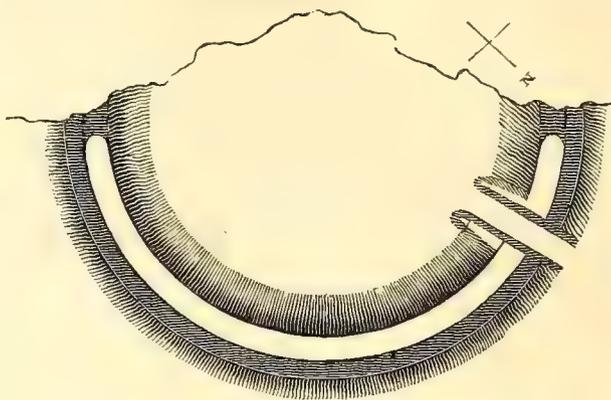
On the east side of the road, as it approaches Eccleston, are indications of artificial terraces, running out from the road to the Dee; and immediately below the east end of the church is a very considerable tumulus, about three yards high, and fourteen in diameter at the base. After this, the road enters Eaton park, and its course in the low ground has been ascertained by the discovery of piles^d, buried in the marshy soil, in the line to Aldford ford. Here large stone foundations of a former causeway may be seen, when the water is low^d, and the gravel of the antient road is apparent in a ditch on the opposite hill^d, where it must have ascended towards the present village.

Its further progress, which must necessarily have been between Stretton and the Roman post at Holt, has eluded observation. It is probable that some of the works of Shocklach, which appear unconnected with those of the Norman fortress, had reference to some early stronghold near it, and the church of Shocklach has been said to stand upon it^e. The continuation of the line points on Bangor, through the opening between the termination of the Broxton hills, and the course of the Dee. A recent discovery of Roman pottery has been made in Netherlegh, near the commencement of the line, but which is sufficiently accounted for by the vicinity of the city of Chester, without its connection with the wood in question.

There are strong probabilities in favour of this undisputed road having been crossed by another, descending from the interior of Cheshire, through the chasm between Rawhead and Bickerton hill, under the camp of Maiden Castle, passing onwards by Carden and Stretton, crossing the former road above Farndon, and fording the Dee immediately under the Roman post of Holt. To the right of this supposed road is the enormous tumulus of Coddington, and to the left of it, in and near Carden are several smaller tumuli, one of which is in a field south-east of the hall, where some Roman urns were discovered a few years ago. No indications of the road itself have been found, but it probably varied little from the present highway, which proceeds in a direction nearly straight from Barnhill to Holt.

The camp of Maiden castle, which defended the pass before mentioned, is one of the most perfect specimens of British castrametation in Cheshire. It is seated on the summit of Bickerton Hill, which commands an extent of prospect, said to include points in the distant counties of York and Hereford. The south-west side is an abrupt precipice. The earth works are on the accessible side of the hill, which is approached by a steep ascent, and form a perfect semicircle, the chord of which from rampart to rampart is about 140 yards. The width of the ditch is fifteen yards, and that of the summit of

the rampart eight yards, which descends to the area by a slope of thirteen yards. The only avenue to the camp is by a narrow passage on the north side, near the precipice, and the sides of this passage are cautiously guarded by parallel earthworks. Notwithstanding the elevated situation, and the perfect state of the works, they are so completely covered with furze and heath, that a stranger would experience some difficulty in finding the site of the encampment.



A third road, which has been noticed in the introduction to Edisbury, as traced under Beeston, in a direction bearing on Chester, probably crossed the Gowy above Fulk Stapleford, and passed onwards in a course which varied little from the straight line of road which passes through Huxley to Waverton; the continuation of which line, still uninclosed, though nearly disused, joins the Whitchurch road, at the third mile stone from Chester.

In the parcelling out of the manors contained within the present Hundred at the Conquest, the bishop was suffered to retain a moiety of Farndon, and the seculars of St. Werburgh, to keep Saughton, Cheveley, Huntindon, Boughton, and moieties of Pulford and Wervin. Lache, another of their estates, was waste and unappropriated. The earl reserved only parts of Eaton and Lea, with Coddington and Upton, and parcelled the rest among his followers.

Robert Fitz Hugh had Malpas, Christleton, Tilston, Cholmondeley, both Edges, Hampton, Larton, Duckington, Chowley, Broxton, Overton, Cuddington, Shocklach, Tushingham, Bulkeley, Bickerton, Burwardesley, and Crewe, which, with many unnamed intervening manors in this Hundred, and other manors in Edisbury and Flintshire, formed the original barony of Malpas. It is observable that this chieftain, the most powerful of the Norman settlers in the Hundred, was the most merciful; and that he suffered Eli, the Saxon proprietor of Crewe, to retain possession of that place, as his subtenant, and Edwiñ, a thane of considerable importance, to retain a similar interest in both Edges, Duckington, and half of Larton, Cholmondeley, and Hampton.

William Malbedeng, baron of Nantwich, had Tattenhall, Golborne Belleau, and half of Wervin; William baron of Halton, Newton, and Clutton; Hugo de Mara, predecessor of the Montalts, part of Lea; Hugh Fitz-Osborne, (probably ancestor of the Pulfords,) Caldecote, Claverton, and half of Pulford; Bigot, (predecessor of the Aldfords and Ardernes,) part of Lea, and a moiety of Farndon, now probably Aldford; Gilbert Venables,

^c Vide Dodleston.

^d Information of the rev. Thomas Edwards, M. A. of Aldford. The piles were discovered in making the artificial inlet of the Dee, in front of Eaton Hall.

^e Bishop of Cloyne's communication, *Magna Britannia*, vol. II. p. 434.

baron of Kinderton, had Eccleston; Radulfus Venator, Stapleford; Ilbert, (ancestor of the Pichots,) Waverton, and part of Eaton; and Osberne Fitz-Tezzon, (ancestor of the Boydells,) Hanley, Golborne David, and Dodleston.

The effect of time on the descent of these estates has been less than could have been expected. The bishop of Lichfield retains the estate of his Norman predecessor, and the Dean and Chapter of Chester retain fee-farm rents in those estates of the seculars, and the succeeding Benedictines of St. Werburgh, which were wrested from the church by sir Richard Cotton. The townships of Egerton and Cholmondeley, granted to younger sons of the baronial house of Malpas, are vested in the heirs male of those families. There is strong reason for supposing that Edge has descended uninterruptedly from Edwin the Saxon to its present proprietor, and an estate in Lea still remains the property of the representatives of the Montalts, the Ardernes of Alvanley. The manor of Pulford, which was probably inherited from Hugh Fitz Osberne, by the Pulfords, and which descended from them through the Grosvenors and the Winningtons to the Warburtons of Arley, has been regained in consequence of a recent purchase by the ennobled representative and heir male of the antient family of Grosvenor, from the elder line of which it passed by an heir female to the Winningtons.

In addition to these families deriving from the Domesday proprietors, are the antient families of Aldersey of Aldersey, and Massie of Coddington, existing in the male line, the Cardens represented in the female line by the Leches of Carden, and the Eatons of Eaton represented in the same manner, by earl Grosvenor, whose male ancestors, the knightly family of Grosvenor of Holme, remain to be noticed in a following Hundred.

The early possessors were naturally anxious to protect their frontier from the Welsh by a series of fortresses, which formed a complete line along the present border of Broxton Hundred, were supported on the left by those of Oswestry, Whittington, and other Shropshire castles, on the right by those of Chester and Shotwick, and covered in front by the numerous forts which were scattered as far as Rhuddlan, over the Hundreds of Atiscros and Exestan, then part of Cestrescire. Vestiges yet exist of those erected by the Boydells at Dodleston; the Pulfords at Pulford, the Ardernes at Aldford, and the barons of Malpas at Shocklach, Oldcastle, and Malpas.

Three good specimens of domestic architecture exist

in the Hundred; the castellated manor house of Saigh-ton; Carden, finished with gables, and composed of timber and plaister; and Grafton, a brick mansion with large bay windows and turrets. To these must be added a modern specimen of the revived florid gothic, Eaton hall, executed by Mr. Porden, under every advantageous circumstance which the opulence of a patron could furnish. The only remarkable specimens of church architecture are Shocklach, containing an ornamented semicircular door-way, and the large and handsome church of Malpas, finished in the early part of the sixteenth century.

The Dee is the principal river of the Hundred, with which it first becomes connected at Shocklach, and flows onwards to Aldford, sometimes within the county and sometimes forming its boundary only. At Aldford it enters Cheshire and Broxton Hundred, and passing by Eaton and Eccleston, proceeds through the City Liberties, under the walls of the city to Blacon point, by a channel partly artificial, and shortly afterwards becomes an estuary. Another small stream joins this river at Aldford, formed out of four brooks, severally descending from Tattenhall, Chowley, Cuddington, and Churton. To these rivers must be added parts of the Gowy and Weever, which wash the boundaries of Broxton, on the Edisbury side, and a brook which forms its separation from Flintshire, between Kinnerton and Aldford.

On the banks of the Dee, particularly between Eaton and Farndon, the landscape is exquisitely rich and beautiful, and the entire range of the Broxton hills commands and presents scenery of the most magnificent description. The views in the immediate neighbourhood of Barnhill, which is the finest part, are more particularly noticed in the account of Broxton township. The rest of the Hundred is cold, flat, bare, and uninteresting, with the exception of Carden, which has a fine mixture of rock and wood, and a rich foreground, with extensive scenery beyond it; and of Cholmondeley, which has prospects of considerable extent, diversified with the lake of Bagmere, and a profusion of timber.

The turnpike roads are numerous, and tolerably good, and the cross roads better than might be expected from the thinness of the population, and the dearth of materials.

The meetings of magistrates acting for the Hundred are held in the township of Broxton. The Hundred court is farmed under the Crown by sir John Grey-Egerton, bart. but has not been held for many years.

POPULATION TABLE

Of the Hundred of Broxton, abstracted from the Returns to Parliament A° 51 Geo. III.

The Letters affixed to the Townships denote the Hundred in which they are included in the Domesday Survey.
D. Dudestan.—A. Atiscros.—W. Wilaveston.—C. Cestre.

HIGH DIVISION.

TOWNSHIPS.	HOUSES.				OCCUPATIONS.			PERSONS.		
	Inhabited Houses.	Families.	Houses building.	Uninhabited.	Families employed in Agriculture.	Families employed in Trade.	Families not comprized in these Classes.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
PART OF ALDFORD. P.										
Aldford, including Ederley D.	79	77	—	—	46	8	23	204	187	391
Churton, one moiety	35	40	1	1	25	6	9	100	95	195
PART OF BUNBURY. P.										
Burwardesley D.	52	52	—	—	52	—	—	125	125	250
CODDINGTON. P.										
Aldersey	25	25	—	—	19	6	—	74	83	157
Chowley D.	9	11	—	—	11	—	—	31	37	68
Coddington D.	14	16	—	—	7	2	7	59	74	133
FARNDON. P.										
Barton	24	33	—	1	19	8	6	89	88	177
Churton, one moiety	23	25	—	2	18	7	—	58	70	128
Clutton D.	15	15	—	—	12	3	—	38	46	84
Crewe D.	7	7	—	—	5	1	1	18	20	38
Farndon D.	59	71	1	4	14	16	41	165	172	337
EXTRA PAROCHIAL.										
Kingsmarsh, or Over	6	6	—	—	6	—	—	24	16	40
PART OF HANDLEY. P.										
Handley D.	31	52	—	—	39	11	2	106	109	215
HARTHILL. P.										
Harthill	23	30	—	—	22	7	1	89	131	220
MALPAS. P.										
Agden	15	19	—	1	17	—	2	60	40	100
Bickerton D.	61	67	2	1	57	10	—	165	143	308
Bickley D.	76	79	1	—	51	15	13	204	215	419
Bradley	10	10	—	—	10	—	—	31	32	63
Broxton D.	51	60	2	2	49	9	2	60	40	100
Bulkeley	35	35	—	—	29	5	1	82	83	165
Chidlow	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	5	7	12
Cholmondeley D.	41	45	—	—	42	3	—	116	135	251
Chorlton	12	16	—	—	14	2	—	39	55	94
Cuddington D.	39	47	—	—	33	8	6	107	118	225
Duckington D.	10	15	—	—	8	1	6	40	32	72
Edge D.	48	48	—	2	48	—	—	119	157	276
Egerton	13	17	—	—	10	5	2	52	59	111
Hampton D.	33	33	—	3	33	—	—	95	95	190
Larkton D.	11	11	—	1	11	—	—	33	31	64
Macefen	10	11	—	—	9	1	1	25	29	54
Malpas D.	193	202	2	4	21	74	107	478	460	938
Newton	2	2	—	—	1	—	1	9	7	16
Oldcastle	16	16	—	1	16	—	—	42	52	94
Overton D.	12	17	—	—	16	—	1	49	52	101
Stockton	4	6	—	—	4	2	—	10	18	28
Tushingam cum Grindley	40	41	—	3	38	3	—	100	116	216
Wichalgh	3	4	—	—	4	—	—	16	14	30
Wigland	33	35	—	1	23	11	1	73	95	168
SHOCKLACH. P.										
Caldecote D.	11	12	—	—	11	—	1	30	26	56
Church Shocklach D.	23	30	—	—	23	5	2	73	83	156
Shocklach Oviat D.	27	29	—	—	29	—	—	70	85	155
TILSTON. P.										
Carden	35	38	—	—	27	5	6	95	98	183
Grafton	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	9	8	17
Horton	18	21	—	1	11	1	9	59	57	116
Stretton	18	16	—	—	8	1	7	44	57	101
Tilston D.	52	66	—	—	24	7	35	146	148	294
	1357	1511	9	28	975	243	293	3811	4026	7837

POPULATION TABLE.

LOWER DIVISION.

TOWNSHIPS.	HOUSES.				OCCUPATIONS.			PERSONS.		
	Inhabited Houses.	Families.	Houses build- ing.	Unin- habited	Families employed in Agri- culture.	Families employed in Trade.	Families not comprized in these Classes.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
PART OF ALDFORD. P. Buerton	8	10	—	—	10	—	—	26	30	56
PART OF BACKFORD. P. Coghall	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	9	9	18
CHRISTLETON. P. Christleton D.	107	110	1	3	87	13	10	288	272	560
Cotton Abbots.....	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	11	11	22
Cotton Edmunds.....	11	12	—	—	11	1	—	35	40	75
Littleton.....	7	7	—	—	6	1	—	24	20	44
Rowton.....	12	16	—	1	14	1	1	30	39	69
PART OF DODLESTON. P. Dodleston A.	30	42	—	—	36	4	2	117	112	229
Kinnerton Lower.....	15	17	—	—	16	1	—	46	49	95
ECCLESTON. P. Eaton D.	6	6	2	—	4	—	2	26	28	54
Eccleston..... D.	43	45	2	1	28	6	11	137	129	266
GULDEN SUTTON. P. Sutton.....	24	26	—	—	24	1	1	62	58	120
PART OF HANDLEY. P. Golborn David..... D.	10	11	—	—	4	—	7	27	31	58
PART OF ST. MARY'S. P. Gloverstone..... A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marlston cum Lache..... A.	13	22	—	1	20	1	1	49	61	110
Claverton..... A.	no separate return.									
Moston.....	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	5	6
Upton..... D.	30	30	—	1	26	2	2	93	89	182
PART OF ST. OSWALD'S. P. Bache.....	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	6	15	21
Newton..... C.	24	25	—	3	7	7	11	43	85	128
Wervin..... W.	11	11	—	—	10	1	—	33	34	67
Boughton Great..... D.	156	157	—	2	86	58	13	307	353	660
Chapelry of Bruera. Church on Heath.....	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	3	7
Huntinton..... D.	16	16	—	1	16	—	—	61	63	124
Lea cum Newbold..... D.	6	7	—	—	6	1	—	28	30	58
Saighton..... D.	45	49	1	1	9	4	36	124	123	247
PLEMONDSTALL. P. Hoole.....	40	40	—	—	30	3	7	88	125	213
Picton..... W.	12	15	—	—	14	1	—	53	47	100
Mickle Trafford..... W.	41	52	1	1	37	14	1	123	125	148
PULFORD. P. Pulford..... D.	26	37	—	—	12	4	21	83	88	171
Pulton.....	21	24	—	—	18	4	2	66	66	132
PART OF TARVIN. P. Fulk Stapleford..... D.	48	50	—	—	31	8	11	130	113	243
TATTENHALL. P. Golborn Belleau..... D.	10	16	—	—	13	3	—	35	40	75
Newton.....	11	11	—	—	11	—	—	33	33	66
Tattenhall..... D.	144	144	—	—	144	—	—	331	337	668
WAVERTON. P. Hatton.....	24	24	—	1	23	1	—	74	73	147
Huxley.....	37	37	—	—	30	7	—	102	110	212
Waverton..... D.	46	53	—	—	44	8	1	133	130	263
	1042	1130	6	17	834	156	140	2821	2993	5814

ITINERARY OF BROXTON HUNDRED.

BY WILLIAM WEBB, M. A.

Reprinted from KING'S VALE ROYAL.

BROXTON Hundred, lying in a wedge-like form, the broad end whereof butting part upon Flintshire, and part upon Shropshire, extends itself from the south to the north-west, for the length of about twenty miles; reaching with the sharp end of the wedge to that point where the two corners of Werral and Edisbury Hundreds touch together, two or three miles from Mersey; and in the broadest place not being past eight or nine miles over. The furthest of the townships situate at the wedges small end, is Coghall, an ancient demesne of the Massies, of Puddington, in Werral Hundred, and now sir William Massie's, situate upon a river or brook, which, from Chester liberties, divides that Hundred of Broxton from that of Werral, and so falls at Pool, or near thereunto, into Mersey; upon which brook or river, from Coghall towards Chester, lies next the lop of Wirvin, the lands of John Hurleston, esq.; to which also joins a demesne of his called Pickton farm; and the next neighbour to Wirvin, upon the said brook, is Moston, not long since purchased and beautified with a delicate house of brick by Mr. John Morgel, register of the diocess of Chester; next to which adjoineth the township of Upton, where Mr. Brock hath a fair house; and then next to that, upon the confines of the liberties of the city of Chester, a sweet and pleasant house and demesne, called the Baits, but more vulgarly the Bach, having been the seat of the Chauntrels, within our remembrance, but now the lands of the right worshipful Edward Whitby, esq. recorder of the city of Chester, learned in the law.

And thus I am quickly arrived at the city of Chester; upon which name Chester, because it giveth name to the whole county, as well as to the city, I will somewhat stay myself upon such notes as I meet withall, concerning that, and other names, by which the same city hath been called.^a

* * * * *

For our proceeding then with the rest of Broxton Hundred, which we made but an entrance into, we will take occasion to leave Handbridge, that ancient part of this city, lying close to the south-end of the bridge, and take view of that part of the Hundred, which lies on that side of the river Dee, and between it and the confines of Flintshire.

The first is the lordship of Lach, whereof a great part hath in times past been the lands of the famous and honourable earls of Oxenford; of whose revenues in these parts, many at this day of other names be the owners; and the chief house in this township is now the lands and holding of George Manley, gent. and no small portion of the township, the lands that belonged to the nunnery in Chester, and now belonging to the Breretons, of Handford, esquires.

More than a mile from this, towards the east, standeth

Eccleston church, and by it the town so called, whereof the chief lordship and capital house therein is the lands of the heir of the Venables, baron of Kinderton, at this present the king's majesty's ward: the same lordship being accounted a member of that great fee or barony of Kinderton, and doing their suit and service to the court there accordingly; the patron thereof is the said baron.

Down lower towards the south, in a fine level, lies Doddleston, a goodly lordship, the demesne and capital house whereof, belongs now to the right honourable the earl of Bridgewater; and the church there may justly vaunt itself to be the burying place of the late most wise and worthy lord Ellesmere, viscount Brackley, and lord chancellor of England, who having managed the great affairs of this kingdom in that honourable place with singular wisdom and high estimation, longer time than any of his predecessors therein ever did: yet by his own appointment, his course being finished, his body was brought down to rest in the church of Doddleston.

This said lordship adjoineth to Kinnerton, and next to that lies Burton; and turning towards the south-east, from thence you come to Pulford, a great lordship of the right worshipful Peter Warburton, of Areley, esq. who is patron of that rectory.

This standeth upon the river Allen; which coming from the midst of Cheshire^b, leads you on full east unto Poolton, sometimes the ancient seat of the Manleys, gent. now belonging as a member to the house of Eaton, at Eaton-boat, the mansion of the worthy family of the Grosvenors; which name Mr. Cambden derives from the name of Great Hunter; and saith, now it is corruptly called Gravenor. The heirs of which house, as in many their proper virtues, so in their marriages and alliances, have been happy for many descents, and have linked many families together of great dignity and repute: the late owner thereof, Richard Grosvenor, esq. deceased, by a daughter of the worshipful house of the Brookes, of Norton, had many daughters; of which, some being married, are very worthily bestowed according to their degree; but his heir and only son, now sir Richard Grosvenor, knight and baronet, enjoys the seat, and shews his own worthiness, better than I were able, if I would attempt to do it; having also knit unto his house other great houses of worship, by his own marriages: As his father, so his grandfather had many daughters, by whose marriages that house stands in near alliance to many of the greatest gentlemen of these parts.

Returning then a little back to the liberties of Chester, our way is to pass over the bridge; and if we go along the wall eastward, we shall soon be at the Foregate-street; which being done, you presently go to Spittle-Boughton, so called of an antient hospital there situate.

^a In the original edition of the Vale Royal, the description of Chester is inserted here.

^b This is a very material error: Pulton does not stand upon the Allen, which falls into the Dee higher up, and in its whole course never enters the county of Chester.

Near unto which lies Boughton itself, a township well replenished with gentlemen and freeholders' houses: but because the course of Dee comes southward I will turn me that way; which water, even as it turns itself towards the city, saluteth that fair new water-work, even now in finishing by the costs and industry of John Tirror, gent. son of him that devised and perfected the other water-work in the city, formerly mentioned. And this being of the like hope, to bring the water of a fine spring near it unto the midst of the city, to a cistern situate by the High-cross, at St. Peter's church, which is like to be a thing pleasant and commodious.

By the river side, a mile further southward, lies Huntington, a lordship; whereof the capital manor is a very neat house of timber, and belongs to the heirs of sir George Beverley, knight, late deceased.

From thence we soon come to Churchen-heath, where stands a chapel belonging to the parish of St. Werburgh of Chester aforesaid; and next to it lies a rich and fertile demesne, and a fair ancient timber mansion-house of the great family of the Calveleys; which now by the late decease of sir George Calveley, knight, is his being in wardship to his majesty; which house had in times past one addition of honour, when the owner thereof sir Hugh Calveley was captain of Calais, and married the late queen of Arragon; and another by the late presence of our gracious sovereign king James, in anno 1617, who, in his royal progress and return out of Scotland, came thither from the city of Chester, and advanced there the said sir George Calveley to the degree of knighthood; who, both for his noble descent of his ancestors, and for his noble matches in marriages, was worthily thought capable of that his majesty's munificence.

Beneath this demesne comes that water which began not far from Beeston Castle; and here, not far off, means to empty itself into the Dee; we must therefore step over a fair stone-bridge at Aldford, and so by the church there of Aldford, in which I have no intelligence of any thing worth relation, and a fair demesne of the antient inheritance of the Phittons, of Gowsworth, we go along by Hull-hall, and so by the goodly corn fields to Churton, where is situate two gentlemen's habitations of the Barnstons, and the Bostocks; and so leaving Aldersey on our left hand, a place that gave beginning to gentlemen of that name there; and from whence came many Alderseys that have been famous, and some of them citizens of London, and aldermen of the city of Chester, and whose posterity do there still flourish.

We come to Farndon, where is a fair new church, and the town itself a handsome continued street for a good length, reaching down to the foot of an exceeding fair stone-bridge, built (no doubt) together with that old substantial castle in the Holt, the bridge being the only partition between the two towns; and the river Dee here dividing a corner of Denbighshire from the county of Chester.

In pursuing the course of our river, and leaving, about a mile or more northward, the town of Barton, situated, and vulgarly called, upon the Hill, we come still easterly to Crew and Carden, whereof both have given names to gentlemen's families, though now almost failing; this latter being now the mansion of John Leech, gentleman, a man of a good descent, and extendeth to the next, called Calcot, where a gentleman of the same name hath yet a fine seat, and good reputation.

There is also another ancient seat of a house, the

possessors whereof were the Yerdleys, which, being divers years since purchased by lady Cholmondeley, is by her, as is said, passed to her son, Hugh Cholmondeley, esq. second brother to sir Robert Cholmondeley, baronet, a gentleman much beloved and respected.

Next we come to Tilston, which standeth now in the neighbourhood, by a fair demesne and mansion-house, heretofore the inheritance of the Massys of Grafton, of good account, but lately purchased, new built, and greatly enlarged, by sir Peter Warburton, knight, one of his majesty's justices of the Common-pleas; a man, for learning in the law, and wisdom for administration of justice, of singular note, and for integrity and uprightness in his place, of great fame; who left his only daughter and heir, the now lady Grosvenor; and by her former husband was lady Standley of Alderley, and mother to a very towardly young gentleman, Thomas Standley, esq. and many beautiful daughters, whereof one is married to the heir of sir John Done, knight.

Upon our left hand from hence lieth adjoining Horton, which was antiently a seat of the Golborns, gentlemen; and Orton, another lordship; and passing thence, still southward, by the township or hamlet of Charleton, we come presently to the lordships of Shoclach, being two; of the name whereof, one is called Church-Shoclach, having a little church in it, of which I can say little; and as for the castle, which Mr. Cambden saith hath been here, though I can say less, yet I desire I could speak the desert of that fair and goodly seat, which was of late years the mansion of a great and famous knight, sir Randol Brereton, whose daughter and heir, by her marriage, brought it into the possession of a most worthy and many ways ennobled knight, sir Richard Egerton, the heir and successor or the house of Egertons, of Ridley; to whom, for singular respects of due merits, I would I could sufficiently utter the full tribute of my duty.

From thence we come to Kidington, the uttermost confines, southward, both of this Hundred and of the county; in which there is also a fine seat of one ancient branch of those Breretons.

And then near unto it, a brook, or riveret, that comes more east to fall here into the water of Dee, and to divide us from the parish of Worthburg; and from an out-nook of Flintshire, we turn full eastward to Old-castle, which it is like got name, and it may be, from that very castle, which our writers speak to have belonged to the Ardens, or to the Ormsbees.

And looking further eastward, this Hundred showeth nothing else that way but Chadwich chapel, a member of the next great parish, from whence turning your face northerly, upon a very high hill is situate the town and church of Malpas, one of the baronies of the earls of Chester; which by Hugh, the first earl of Chester, was first given to Robert Fitz-Hugh; and having passed through the possession of divers lords of several surnames, as of Patricks, Suttons, Sampiers, Clerks, came at last to the renowned family of the Breretons, and the greatest part now rests in sir William Brereton of Brereton, knight, and no small portion in the heirs of sir Randol Brereton, of Shoclach afore mentioned; besides divers other branches of that noble stem here and there dispersed. Some of those first barons, no doubt, adorned the same barony with a castle, which is now ruined and decayed, and with a goodly church, which yet stands eminently mounted on the highest part of the town, from whence the prospect is every

way most pleasant; and the same church well supplied for the furtherance of God's service; there remaining two rectories, and none of the meanest maintenance, for the residency of two divines, alternately performing all parish duties; and the patronages thereof belonging to the knights of Brereton and Shoclach, either of them one.

In the church are memorials of sir Hugh Cholmondeley, of Cholmondeley, the elder, and sir Hugh Cholmondeley, the younger, knights; and of the lady Mary Cholmondeley, wife of the said sir Hugh the younger, mother of the said sir Robert Cholmondeley, baronet, now living, which is there erected of alabaster, cut and richly adorned, according to the degrees and deserts of those worthy persons.

To which, I had purpose here to have inserted such a remembrance of that sir Hugh Cholmondeley the elder, as at his decease was composed, and then intended to have been preserved, for better preservation of his worthy memory; but it would be thought now unseasonable, and myself, perhaps, be censured as too indulgent to the Muses, that then presented it to his son, then sir Hugh Cholmondeley, who benignly accepted it, and bountifully rewarded the writer of it. Therefore, I will only record thus much of it, That it contained the honourable course of his life, the great employment of his place, having been five years high sheriff of the county palatine of Chester, sometimes of Flintshire, a long time one of the two only deputy lieutenants of Cheshire, and a good space vice-president of the Marches of Wales, under that most honourable and famous sir Henry Sydney, knight, lord deputy of Ireland; together with brave achievements in his youth, fetching his knighthood, by his sword, from Leith in Scotland, in his younger days; his great providence and care to advance his estate and revenues; and his admirable gifts of wisdom, temperance, continency, liberality, hospitality, and many virtues of his life, and godly departure at his end; with the comforts that were offered unto us by the loss of him, because he left so compleat a successor the heir of all his virtues and dignities, then fully ripened, and possessor of the same, his said son, sir Hugh Cholmondeley the younger: so that it was then thought, the writer concluded well in the end of that encomium:

Then for the last adieu to his pure soul,
Which leaves us gain for loss, and mirth for moan;
I wish the title might his fame inrol,
And be engrav'n with gold upon his stone.

We have interr'd his reverend body here,
That was our country's father fifty year.

Ergo quid hæc mæsti decorant nunc funera fletus,
Cùm volet æthereis mens fruitura bonis?
Quis patriam luget talem amisisse parentem,
Tantus cui remanet sede relictus honos?
Ecquis in occiduo desperet lumina sole,
Crastina quæ rursus est exhibitura dies?
Nox fugit imbre vacans, redeunt spectacula: Phœbus
Cestrensi exurgens clarior orbe micat.

Pietatis ergo posuit, &c. W. W.

Not to omit the name of Malpas, because all writers have thought it observable, as coming from *Mala plarea*, a name it borrowed from a foul, narrow, cumbrous way that led into it, called Ill-street; and even in the British language was called Depenbach, a word of the same signification, which gave occasion to Giraldus

Cambrensis, to record the pleasant story: How a Jew travelling this way towards Shrewsbury, in company of the archdeacon of Malpas, whose surname was Peache, which word signifies Sin, and of a dean, named Devil; which archdeacon was telling the dean, that his archdeaconry began at Ill-street, and reached as far as Malpas, towards Chester: Wonder it is, quoth the Jew, and my fortune indeed good, if ever I get safe out of this place, where Sin is the archdeacon, and Devil the dean, Ill-street the entrance, and Malpas the passage out of the archdeaconry.

So returning now further northerly, we come next to a township called Hampton, well known by a fair house there situated, being the seat of the Bromleys, and now Hugh Bromley's, esq. learned in the law; and also by a well-known name of Hampton-post, so called of an old tree, standing in the road of Chester way of Whitchurch, and reckoned for a mark for passengers travelling that way; and another way, which there crosseth that, and leadeth from Malpas into the other part of Cheshire.

Along that way to Chester, we come to see Edge, a fair lordship, and now the mansion-house of Edward Dod, esq. baron of the princes highness court of exchequer at Chester, an office of much esteem in this county, and by him hath been many years supplied with great sufficiency.

Near to that lies Dockington, a lordship of sir William Brereton's; but more easterly is that ancient seat of Egerton, the house and demesne that gave name to that noble and honourable family of the Egertons; which name is now worthily advanced to titles of great honour, but had beginning here from one of the sons of David of Malpas, as Mr. Cambden hath collected, and so named of this place of their habitation. As also there, saith other gentlemen of the same race had their surnames from other places; as Cotgreve, Overton, Coddington, and Golborn.

From thence, holding our course still northerly, we presently enter upon the goodly demesne of Cholmondeley, which the vulgar speech call contractedly Cholmley, and is now the seat of the honourable baronet sir Robert Cholmondeley; who, unto that great worth he hath just title unto from his ancestors for many descents, hath added great honour unto his house, by his marriage with a virtuous daughter of the right honourable the lord Stanhope's; of whose worthiness, in the governing of the great affairs of the country, liberal hospitality, and other virtues, beseeming his noble descent, much might worthily be added in this place.

From the confines of this lordship, and this Hundred, on that part, we proceed to Bickerton, another member thereof, to which adjoineth Clutton: and near unto the same a very fine and large demesne, and a house answerable unto it, being the lordship and habitation of John Massie, esq. and near unto it Coddington church; the patron whereof is the dean and chapter of Chester.

Next to Bickerton lies Bulkley, the lordship of the lady Cholmondeley before mentioned, as part of the inheritance of Holforde, where there is a fair house and demesnes, that belong to the house of sir George Calveley, late of Lee before-mentioned, and a fair new house of Thomas Brassey, gentleman, of an ancient descent; and near unto this the lordship of Chowley, belonging to the Duttons of Hatton, beyond which, we come next to Handley, where stands the parish church of Hand-

ley, of which, more than that it appears to be of a very ancient foundation, I can say little; the patronage whereof belongeth to the said dean and chapter. But bending thence more easterly, we come to those mountains called Broxton Hills. The name of that lordship of Broxton, whereof the whole Hundred is denominate, and to which were given certain privileges concerning tolls and carriages; the particulars whereof I have not yet attained to be informed of; but the chief seats now within the same lordship is, that one of David Massie, esq. and the other the ancient breeding-place of a great family in this county, of the Dodds, which are branched into many houses of continuance to this day; but the seat itself, now lately for want of issue-male, begins a foundation for another name, and is possessed by my worthy friend Mr. Edward Tannet, who hath his descent from Shropshire.

The said Hundred of Broxton, now stretching out still northward, by an out-angle of Edsbury Hundred, brings us next to a goodly common, called Tattenhallwood, whereof there are two parts of very fruitful soil, and large extent, appertaining now to Peter Egerton, esq. together with the lordship and church-town of Tattenhall: of which church and rectory he is also patron, in which there is also in this town, a very fair house newly erected by Richard Bostock, esq. made all of brick, having a fair demesne thereunto adjoining. And not far from it a fair house and demesne of the Duttons of Hatton, called Rushall; and near unto it, another of the like situation called the Cleys, being the seat of a branch of that great family of the Golbornes, which were anciently owners of that spacious demesne, and great seat of the Golbornes, now the lands of the barons of Kinderton, called still by the name of Golborne Bellows, or Below, and is watered by a part of that Beeston water, whereof we spoke before, which, from hence, runs that way to the Lea-hall afore-mentioned.

The entrance of which brook into Broxton Hundred, stands at Huxley, wherein we may, at once, take view of two goodly demesnes, with ancient seats to them both; the one of which is the inheritance of the honourable race of the Savages of Rocksavage, and hath been long in the holding of the Birkenheads, of worshipful account.

The other is of Clive of Huxley, of whom hath been a famous descent both of knights and esquires, of that name and house: This demesne is accounted most fertile and fruitful. And if I may add this, I have heard some skilful husbands, in their country disputations, hold it for truth, that some of this demesne is (*omnibus viis et modis*) the best ground in Cheshire.

The same brook or riveret parting itself near Huxley, the other part of it divides the rest of the whole Hundred of Broxton from that of Edsbury; and the next lordship to Huxley is a very large demesne of Hatton,

a seat of one branch of the great and famous race of the Duttons of Dutton; and the house, being a fair, ancient building in the midst thereof, is now possessed by Mr. Dutton of Hatton.

And from thence you come next to Waverton, wherein stands the parish church of that name; but, besides the ancientness, which manifesteth itself in the sight of it, I find no other memorial of note in it; the gift of the parsonage belongeth to the bishop of Chester.

From thence leaving Saughton on the Hill, so called by the high situation, on our left hand, which hath been a grange little less than an abbey, belonging to the abbey of St. Werburgh, and, it seems, some of their religious society had this for their nest; it now is possessed by John Calveley, esq. one stem of those Calveleys of the Lea, of famous account; we come presently to Christleton, an ample lordship, divided into two townships, in the principal whereof stands the church. And the chief signiory there resting in the heirs of the Harpurs of Swarson, knights of great estimation in the county of Derby; yet many other gentlemen have been owners of fair lands within that precinct, as the Venables, Sneyds, Egertons, and Cholmondeleys.

Beneath, and eastward on our right hand, lies the Cottons, the chief town of the two of that name, called Abbot Cotton, with a fair capital messuage, in the holding of my good friend Thomas Partington, gentleman, and other great tenements and lands there, being of the inheritance of the said baron of Kinderton, which reaching Stanford bridge, we shall follow the water straightway till it brings us to our first entrance into this Hundred.

But first let us keep aloof upon the high ground, and take a view of Hoole, which confirms upon the liberties of the city of Chester, and contains within it a pleasant and sweet seat belonging to the right worshipful sir Henry Bunbury, knight, and then falling downwards with Great Trafford, and beholding on our left hand Newton, the lordship of John Hurlestone, esq. which was once one of the sweet morsels that the abbot and his convent kept for their own wholesome provision; which William, son of the Constable of Chester, gave them; as also, I suppose, that much of Great Trafford served them for the same purpose; go but through Sutton, another fat and fruitful lordship, replenished with good and commodious tenements, you are presently upon that vale of goodly rich meadowing, which may well carry the prime name for a fruitful spring of grass, from whence it served much of the city's provision, and many other neighbouring places, for their winter's provision of hay; and only taking view therein of that ancient chapel of Plemistowe, that stands in it, being a parish of itself, and a place well frequented by the neighbours thereabouts, for the service of God, we have here finished our course for our Hundred of Broxton.

PAROCHIAL TOPOGRAPHY.

Malpas.

THE south-west angle of Broxton Hundred is almost exclusively occupied by this parish, which is the most extensive of any in the western Hundreds of Cheshire. It measures, in a line nearly from north to south, from the brook which parts it from Whitchurch to Broxton seven miles and a half, and from east to west, from Marbury to Shocklach five miles and a half. The southern extreme part in Iscoyd is five miles from the church, the extreme part of Cholmondeley north-east, and of Broxton north, full six miles. Twenty-five townships are comprehended in this space, which is bounded on the south by the counties of Salop and Flint, and on the other sides by the parishes of Bunbury, Tattenhall, Handley, Harthill, Coddington, Tilston, and Shocklach. Its townships are Malpas, Agden, Bickerton, Bickley, Bradley, Broxton, Bulkeley, Chidlowe, Cholmondeley, Chorlton juxta Malpas, Cuddington, Duckington, Edge, Egerton, Hampton, Larton, Macefen, Newton, Oldcastle, Overton, Stockton, Tushingham cum Grindley, Wichalgh, and Wigland, in Cheshire, and Iscoyd, in the county of Flint.

MALPAS.

THIS township, which gives name to the parish, and derives its own designation from the antient difficulty of the pass, was distinguished before the Conquest by a British name of similar signification, Depenbech. From this circumstance of local strength, produced partly by the yielding nature of the soil, and partly by the inequality of surface, but more particularly from its position on the enemies frontier, Malpas was selected by the first Norman earl as the site of one of the numerous fortresses, with which, at regular intervals, he strengthened his Welsh border, and was bestowed by him on Robert Fitz Hugh, supposed to have been one of his bastard issue, whose possessions are recited in Domesday, immediately subsequent to those of the earl himself.

This Robert Fitz Hugh was one of the eight barons of the earl's parliament, and obtained from him an extensive grant, consisting of the following townships, principally taken from the forfeited estates of earl Edwin, and forming the original barony of Malpas.

In this parish, Malpas, Bickley, Bickerton, Broxton, Cuddington, Cholmondeley, Duckington, Edge, Hampton, Larton, Overton, and Tushingham; the entire parish of Shocklach; in Bunbury, Bunbury, Beeston, Burwardsley, Pecforton, Spurstow, Teverton, and Tilston Fearnall; in Coddington, Chowley; in Christleton, Christleton, comprehending Row Christleton, and Little Christleton; in Tilston, Tilston; in Eastham, Sutton; in Prestbury, Butley; in Wales, Worthenbury, and Bettisfield, and the unknown villis of Burwardestone and Cræneche.

Malpas itself, with the manor of which the barony has descended, is thus described in Domesday:

"Isdem Robertus tenet Depenbeche, Edwinus comes tenuit. Ibi viii hidæ geldabiles: terra est xiv carucarum: in dominio sunt iii et unus bordarius et dimidia acra prati. De hac terra tenent v milites de Roberto v hidas et dimidiam, et ibi habent iii carucas et vii villanos cum ii carucis et dimidiâ: ibi ii acræ prati. Totum tempore R. Edwardi valebat xi libras et iv solidos. Wasta postea fuit; modo inter totum valebat lii solidos; habet ii leuvas longitudine, et unam latitudine."

It is agreed by all parties that Robert Fitz Hugh died without male issue, and by the best authorities, that he had two daughters^a; Letitia was wife of Richard Patric, whose descendant, William's daughter and heir, carried one moiety in marriage to Richard de Sutton, or according to Dugdale, to Hugh, father of Richard. Mabilia, the other co-heiress, was wife of William Belward, immediate ancestress of the elder line of Egerton, who were afterwards represented as far as concerns this barony, by the Breretons of Brereton.

Another account states, that a Ralph ap Eynion, was hereditarily possessed of this barony, which passed with his daughter to Robert Patric: that Robert incurred a forfeiture, but received back from one of the earls of the name of Randle one moiety, which passed as before-mentioned to the Suttons, the other moiety being given by the earl to the Malpas or Belward family.

This story is abundantly discredited by the evidence of the Domesday survey, which proves Robert Fitz

^a MSS. Samson Erdeswick in Coll. Arm.

Hugh to be possessed of the barony, and by the mention of one of his daughters, Letitia, in the chartulary of St. Werburgh; but it may be satisfactory to add, that in Glover's Collections, who took considerable pains with the descent of this barony, both stories are preserved, but the latter drawn through with a pen. And in a following part where he had described David de Malpas as lord thereof "*ex dono Ranulphi com. Cest.*" agreeably to this story, that the words here printed in *italics*, are also dashed through, and "temp. Johann. et H. III." written over, in a hand which proves the correction to have been made by Glover himself, and that he consequently disbelieved the forfeiture of Ap Eynion, which must have led to the grant by earl Randle.

From this period to the commencement of the Inquisitions, the descent of the Malpas share of the barony is preserved^b by deeds, and by the pleas relative to the contests between the right heirs of David de Malpas, and his illegitimate descendants. From these it appears that his son William dying without lawful issue, left his brother Philip Gogh, surnamed de Egerton, his heir; but that David le Clerk, base issue of William by his concubine Beatrix de Montalt, intruded himself into the barony, and left possession of it to his daughters and coheirs, Beatrix and Idonea, the wives of Roderic ap Griffyn, and Urian St. Pierre, between which co-heirs a partition was made in the 44th of Henry the Third. The share of Beatrix passed to Isabella, the issue of Beatrix, by her first husband, Richard de Sutton, lord of a moiety of Malpas, in which family of Sutton three-fourths were thus vested; and the other fourth, which Idonea brought to Urian de St. Pierre, passed after four generations, in marriage to sir Walter Cokesay, with Isabella daughter and heiress of another sir Urian de St. Pierre.

In 1363, Isabella, one of the two sisters and co-heirs of David Egerton, the right heir of the second moiety of the barony, as heir of Philip Goch before-mentioned, instituted a suit against John de Brunham, trustee of the Cokesays, by which she recovered a moiety of their fourth share. In 1368, by another suit she recovered a moiety of another fourth from John de Sutton. Sir William Brereton of Brereton, the husband of her sister, failed in similar attempts to wrest his moieties of the two-fourths from John de Sutton in 1368, and from sir Walter Cokesay in 1379; but succeeded in the 19th of Richard the Second, to a share of the fourth part of the barony, which Isabella Delves had recovered, another small share descending from her to Hugh, son of David de Malpas, and a third part of one moiety of this fourth share to Philip de Egerton of Egerton. This acquisition was the commencement of the extensive interest the Breretons subsequently obtained in Malpas. Of the share which descended to the Egertons of Egerton, I find nothing beyond the 13th of Edward the Fourth, where it is noticed in the Inquisition after the death of Philip Egerton, esq.

The Inq. 2 Ric. III. after the death of sir William Brereton, knight, proves that the share which he then possessed consisted of a fourth part of a moiety of the manor of Malpas, and a moiety of another fourth part of the moiety thereof, with the advowson of a fourth turn of a moiety of Malpas church, and a second turn of Tylston, and the advowson of a prebend called Pety Chanonrye, in the collegiate church of St. John's Chester.

With respect to the other half of the fourth of the

barony which the Breretons had failed in wresting from the Cokesays, it appears in the Inquisition after the death of sir Thomas Cokesay, knight, 16 Hen. VII. to whom it had descended, that he died seized of an eighth part of the manor of Malpas, with the advowson of a fourth part of a moiety of Malpas church, and Herthill chapel, the manors of Bykley and Pecforton, and divers other estates.

By this Inquisition, Roger Horton was found next of kin and heir; and by licence dated 26 July 21 Hen. VII. had leave to enter on the same: but by another deed of the same date the king likewise granted permission to John Younge, Somerset Herald, to enter likewise, which Younge had succeeded in proving a nearer relationship, and was returned next of kin and heir, by Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. From these contending heirs the greater part of their estates were purchased 23 Hen. VII. by the unfortunate fiscal judge, Edmund Dudley, and are included in the Inquisition after his attainder for high treason, 1 Hen. VIII. but subsequently became the property of the elder line of Sutton, or Dudley, either by grant or purchase. It is most probable that a small portion of the barony passed by sale from Horton and Younge to the Breretons of Shocklach, and not to Edward Dudley, as no manor or barony of Malpas is noticed in the Inquisition after his attainder, and a part of the barony, loosely described as the barony of Malpas, occurs about this time in the will of sir Randle Brereton of Malpas and Shocklach, exemplified at Chester, 17 Hen. VIII.

Before entering on the arrangements leading to the present division, it will be better to pause in this intricate deduction. Brereton of Brereton had now one-fourth, viz. half of each fourth wrested from the coheirs of the bastard by Isabella Delves, the small portions of her share which fell to Egerton of Egerton, and Malpas of Hampton being disused;—and (with the exception of what small portion might have passed to Brereton of Shocklach as before-mentioned) Sutton lord Dudley had all the residue, namely, an entire moiety, legitimately descended from the Patricks, the half of the fourth which Brereton had failed in wresting from his ancestors, and the other half of the fourth, which Brereton had failed in wresting from Cokesay, and which had now passed to him through Edmund Dudley—forming altogether the remaining three-fourths. Five-sixths of these three-fourths, being an entire moiety, and a fourth of a moiety, were sold by Edmund Sutton lord Dudley, 19 Hen. VIII. to George Robinson.

22 Hen. VIII. Sir William Brereton of Brereton, knight, revived the old suit relative to the illegitimacy of the coheirs, and actually recovered each half fourth which his ancestors had failed in wresting from the heirs of David, and thus became seized of the entire moiety which belonged to the Belwards. The suit was most probably an amicable one; at least his claim was not opposed. Another fourth shortly after passed to Brereton by purchase, as it is most probable the first fourth did, though he preferred the appearance of recovering an antient right. The Breretons of Brereton thus became possessed of three-fourths of the barony of Malpas, which were finally sold by William lord Brereton, shortly after the restoration, to sir William Drake, in whose representative Thomas Tyrwhitt Drake of Shardloes, esq. M. P. they are now vested^c.

In the preceding alienation one-eighth remained

^b Vide abstracts of deeds and Inq. p. m. appended to this account.

^c It would be desirable to give the exact date of this great purchase, but I am informed by Dr. Drake of Amersham, who did me the favour of

vested in Edward lord Dudley, after the conveyance to Robinson, and another eighth in Robinson after the conveyance to Brereton. The first of these from the subsequent description of the Hill share, must have necessarily devolved by conveyance to that family; and the second (consisting of Pecforton, Bickley, and other parts, obtained by the Suttons after the death of Edmund Dudley), was passed over by fine, 28 Hen. VIII. by sir John Dudley, knight, and Jane his wife, to Rowland Hill, citizen and mercer of London, who on the 2d of December, 3 Eliz. levied a fine thereon, to the use of himself for life; remainder to the use of William Hill, clerk, late rector of Stoke; remainder to the use of Reginald Corbet, esq. one of the queen's majesty's justices of the Pleas, and Alice his wife, niece and kinswoman of the said sir Rowland, in special tail; remainder to the use of the said Alice in fee. This Reginald Corbet died seized of the same, leaving Alice his wife surviving, and Richard his son and heir, afterwards sir Richard Corbet, of Stoke upon Tern, a minor, who on the 14th Jan. 14 Eliz. sold this share of the barony, being one-fourth, to sir Randolph Brereton of Shocklach.

13 March, 17 Jac. Sir Randolph Brereton settled the same on his daughter Mary, wife of sir Richard Egerton of Ridley and Shocklach, and her issue successively.

17 Nov. 11 Car. Richard Egerton of Shocklach, esq. with Thomas and John his brothers, sold the same to Richard King, of the Inner Temple, and others, for 7500l. who on the 30th of March following conveyed the same "in performance of a trust reposed in them" to the right honourable Robert Cholmondeley, viscount Cholmondeley, and the lady Catherine his wife, in whose descendant and representative, the present marquis of Cholmondeley, this fourth is now vested.

FROM the plea of Edward Sutton, lord Dudley, to a quo warranto, 15 Hen. VII. (an abstract of which is given among the documents illustrating the manerial descent) it appears that the barons of Malpas possessed at that period a capital jurisdiction within the limits of their barony, and also that their punishment, contrary to what has been usually stated, was inflicted by the gallows.

The beheading, called in old documents the custom of Cheshire, was part of another jurisdiction, possessed indeed by the Suttons and St. Pierres, but possessed by them not as barons of Malpas, but serjeants of the peace of Cheshire in fee. A document has been already given in the account of Delamere^d, in which the husbands of the coheirs of David de Malpas are described as exercising this office over the whole of Cheshire, except the hundreds of Macclesfield and Wirral. The serjeancy was attached to the moiety of the barony which was possessed by the Malpas family, and on a temporary interruption of it by Reginald de Grey^e, a commission was issued to William de Tittley, 18 Edw. I. to inquire into its origin and powers, when it was ascertained to be held hereditarily by the two co-

heirs, and to have been antiently executed by twenty subservients. The circumstance of the serjeancy being vested in the lords of one moiety only, induces a belief that its origin was posterior to the division of the barony.

The perambulations and duties of the subservients and their numerous attendants, were analogous to those of the earl's foresters, which have been already described^f. Among the Harl. MSS.^g are several documents relative to the performance of their rigid duties, which ascertain even the subservients to have been representatives of the most respectable families of the county. 6 Edw. III. Hugh Cholmondeley occurs as presenting at the castle of Chester the head of David Cooper, beheaded for burglaries in Cholmondeley and Burwardsley. David de Bulkeley and Robert de Woodhull, subservients of Richard Sutton, occur also as presenting the head of Thomas Fox, a felon and fugitive. In the same collection is a writ of prince Edward to Richard Sutton, as serjeant of the peace, dated 4 Edw. II. Dec. 3, directing a greater attention to the preservation of the peace within his bailiwick, under penalty of incurring a forfeiture thereof.

The present customs of the manor do not vary from those of other courts leet. Mr. Drake claims a paramount jurisdiction over many townships of the ancient barony^h. The marquis of Cholmondeley has discontinued his court upwards of twenty years. A paramount jurisdiction over other townships is also claimed by the courts of Ridley and Shocklach, which have been severed from this barony at a distant period, and a paramount jurisdiction of the manor of Egerton over many townships of this barony most probably grew out of the connection of that family with the antient lords of Malpas.

THE CASTLE of Malpas, the original head of the barony, as well as the later castle of Shocklach, has long been destroyed. Like all the other Cheshire fortresses on the Welsh border, it was situated immediately adjacent to the church, which it most probably comprehended within its antient works. The only remains consist of the circular mound of the keep on the north side of the church, measuring about 40 yards in diameter on the summit, and considerably elevated above the level of the church-yard. In some recent alterations, the ditch was traced to a considerable depth by the variation between the natural soil and the mud which has accumulated in it for centuries.

OF its antient lords some notice is requisite beyond the mere detail of manerial descent. Of the origin of the SUTTONS, nothing can be spoken with certainty. It is, however, the opinion of two very competent judges, Erdswick and Dugdale, that they sprung from the Shropshire family of that name; and of the former of these, that they bore, as their paternal coat, the cross patonce Azure, which has been generally assigned to Robert Fitz-Hugh.

Another difficulty arises as to the connection between the Patricks and Suttons, which in the following table it has been attempted to do away with, by removing

applying for it to his nephew, the present proprietor, that the family are not aware that there are any documents at Shardeloes, which can throw light on the subject. It may be however fixed within a few years. *William lord Brereton* presented to Tilston (a moiety of which advowson passed with this share of Malpas) as late as *Sept. 11, 1668*; on *July 8, 1680*, *William Dod* was presented to Malpas by *Thomas Dod*, gent. by virtue of an assignment from *Hester Dod*, relict of *Randle Dod*, esq. who had a grant of the advowson from *sir William Drake of Amersham*. *Randle Dod* died in *June 1679*, between which year and 1668, the purchase of the manor must have been made. The estate has been increased by other purchases.

^d Vide account of Delamere, p. 52.

^e Harl. MSS. 2074. 149. By another Inq. Harl. MSS. 2155. it appears that *Roderic ap Griffin* and *Urian St. Pierre* executed the office by twelve subservients. This reduction was effected by the baron's charter, granted by *Randle III.*

^f Vide account of Delamere.

^g Harl. MSS. 2079.

^h Malpas, Cuddington, Shocklach, Caldecot, Oldecastle, Newton, Stockton, Agden, Overton, Edge, Duckington, Tilston, Stretton, Carden, Barton, Bradley, Wigland. Information of the rev. W. W. Drake, M. A.

what Dugdale has asserted on the unsupported authority of Glover, that the Patrick moiety passed in marriage with *Elizabeth*, daughter and heiress of William Patrick, to Hugh, father of Richard Sutton. It is certain, from the Leger Book of St. Werburgh and divers charters, that William Patrick had one daughter and heiress, Isabella, wife of sir Philip Burnel, who died without issue. From the same authority it is certain that Beatrix, widow of William Patrick, after remarrying Roderic ap Griffin, confirmed the deeds of this Isabella. And it is also certain that Isabella, wife of Richard Sutton, is called daughter and heiress of Beatrix in the Inquisition after her mother's death. On these authorities three-fourths of the barony are stated to be gained by Richard Sutton by one marriage with Isabella, daughter of William Patrick, by Beatrix, co-heiress of David the Bastard, on what appears little short of positive evidence. Nothing indeed but respect for the name of Dugdale, would seem to render the reasons of the variation necessary, and it is most probable that the name of Elizabeth has only crept into his pages by a very common error of the antient transcribers.

The first of this family that is worthy of a particular notice, is *John Sutton*, lord Dudley, sixth in descent from Richard and Isabella, who had the honour of bearing the standard at the funeral of Henry V. He was constituted lieutenant of Ireland for the space of two years, 6 Hen. VI. "in which employment and other his services, he merited so well, that, in 18 Hen. VI. he had summons to a parliament then held at Reading, and in the same year was appointed one of the commissioners to treat with the duke of Burgundy upon a truce." In 26 Hen. VI. in consideration of his services, he received a grant of an annuity of cl. issuing out of the customs of the port of London, and in 25 Hen. VI. being then one of the king's counsel, was sent as an ambassador, with the bishop of Chichester, to the duke of Brittany, and on another embassy to the duke of Burgundy within two years following. Towards the close of this reign his services were rewarded with the order of the Garter. Lord Dudley, as a staunch adherent to the house of Lancaster, was surprised by Richard duke of York at Gloucester, on his return from Ireland, and sent prisoner to the castle of Ludlow. He was afterwards wounded at the battle of Bloreheath, in compensation for which, and his other services, he received several honourable trusts and offices from his sovereign. By singular good fortune he was equally honoured by Edward VI. after his accession to the throne, and in the first year of his reign obtained from him a pardon of all debts upon account due from him in the exercise of his office; afterwards a grant of c marks yearly issuing from the dutchy of Cornwall, and lastly another grant of cl. per annum from the customs of the port of Southampton. In the seventeenth year of this reign, he was also employed as a commissioner, with the earl of Arundel, to treat respecting the prorogation of the truce between France and England.

John Sutton, lord Dudley, the vendor of the Sutton interest in this barony, alienated also his antient estate of Dudley castle, and is said by Dugdale to have subsisted on the charity of his relations, and to have passed from house to house, the object of their derision, and known by the name of lord Quondam.

The ST. PIERRES, in whom the other moiety of the

interest of the illegitimite line was vested, are said to have been a younger branch of the counts de St. Pierre in France; Urian de St. Pierre, the husband of Idonea de Malpas, being stated in the pedigrees to be son of John, son of William de St. Pierre, a younger brother of this house, who entered England in the time of Richard I. This Urian was the first to set up the standard of prince Edward, in his earldom of Chester, after his escape from Simon de Montfort, and seized on Beeston castle in his behalf in 1265. His son, John de St. Pierre, obtained a grant of Bunbury from his cousin Isabella Burnel, and appears to have died in his father's life-time, as his son Urian had a grant of free warren there, 12 Edw. I. which is six years before the date of the complaint respecting the serjeancy of Cheshire, when Urian the grandfather is ascertained to have been surviving.

The *COKESAYS*, who succeeded to the St. Pierres, were a family of consideration in Worcestershire, from a manor in which county they assumed their name. In Kidderminster church is a magnificent altar tomb, with the recumbent figure of Matilda, wife of sir Walter Cokesay, between those of her two husbands. The second husband, sir John Phelyppe, kt. (who, from the following extracts from the Chester records, held Bickley and Shocklach during the minority of his son in law,) is described as a personal friend of Henry V. and a warrior distinguished at Harfleur.

Miles honorificus John Phelyppe subjacet intus.
Henricus quintus dilexerat hunc ut amicus.
Consepelitur ei sua sponsa Matildis amata
Waltero Cokesay prius Armigero sociata:
Audax et fortis apud Harfleu John benegessit,
Et Baro, vim mortis patiens, migrare recessit
m.cccc.xv, Octobris luce secunda;
Sit suus alme Jesu tibi spiritus Hostia munda.ⁱ

John Younge (alias Somerset) found heir to Thomas Cokesay, esq. by Inq. 22 VII. was Somerset herald, and died in 1510. He is said by the historian of his college to have been a person of great merit in his profession. Henry VII. sent him to Scotland with the princess Margaret, when she was to be married to James IV. He wrote the history of the nuptials, of "fyancelles" as he termed it, a piece extremely valuable. On his return he received a warrant for his salary, during the two years of his absence, although he had been munificently rewarded at the northern court.^k

Edmund Dudley, who succeeded by purchase to Younge's estate in this parish, was the unfortunate fiscal judge, sacrificed by Henry VIII. as a propitiation for the unpopular measures of his royal father. His connection with Malpas is too slight, and his story too well known, to render further notice necessary.

The next name worthy of selection is that of *sir Rowland Hill*, kt. and merchant, lord mayor of the city of London, the first distinguished individual of a family, which has since been rendered illustrious by the virtues and abilities of many of its branches, and has been ennobled in two of them. His immense property was divided among his four sisters and coheirs. Agnes, the eldest, married John Cowper; Johanna, the second sister, wife of John Gratewood, had issue two daughters, Alice, wife of sir Reginald Corbet, a justice of the Common Pleas, and Mary, wife of sir Richard Leve-

ⁱ Nash's Worcestershire, p. 49.

^k Noble's Hist. of the College of Arms, p. 124.

son, the first of whom had Dernhall, and a portion of the barony of Malpas. Jane, third sister, had issue two daughters, who brought considerable estates to their husband, sir Hugh Cholmondeley of Cholmondeley, and John Leche, of Carden, esq. The fourth sister, Elizabeth, wife of John Barker, had two sons and a daughter, Alice, wife of sir Thomas Leigh, merchant, called the favourite niece of sir Rowland, whose hand is said to have been the reward of her husband's fidelity and industry, as the foreign factor of her uncle, and to have brought with it the wealth and estates which supported the honours of the peerage of Leigh of Stoneleigh, granted to her descendants. Sir Rowland adopted the arms of his mother, Margaret Wilbraham of Woodhey, adding, on a canton, the coat of Malpas of Hampton, of which family he was a representative; his grandfather, Humphrey Hill, having married Agnes, daughter and coheir of John Bird, by his wife Alice, one of the daughters and coheirs of David de Malpas of Hampton.

The EGERTONS and BRERETONS will be noticed under the townships of those names.

The DRAKES, who purchased their share of the barony, are descended from Richard Drake, of Esher in Surrey, a younger son of the antient family of Drake, of Ash in Devonshire. Prince mentions an anecdote of sir Bernard Drake, the elder brother of Richard, which should not be omitted,—that, in a contest which originated in the celebrated sir Francis Drake assuming unduly the coat of sir Bernard, the feud rose to that height, that sir Bernard boxed the ears of sir Francis within the verge of the court. The displeasure of the queen was shewn in a grant of a crest to sir Francis, wherein the coat of the Ash family was suspended inverted in the rigging of a ship. “Unto all which sir Bernard coolly replied, ‘that though her majesty could give him a nobler, yet she could not give him an ancients coat than his.’”¹

THE TOWN of Malpas consists chiefly of four streets, intersecting each other at right angles. The buildings are generally mean, and the whole place has contracted that neglected appearance which is the sure consequence of the non-residence of the principal proprietor. The church, the schools, and alms-houses, will be hereafter noticed. The castle, as before-mentioned, has not even a ruined wall to boast of; and an accidental fire in 1768, completely destroyed the “Old Hall of Malpas,” the venerable residence of the Breretons of Shocklach, who resided here, for a few generations, in a style of knightly splendour. One of their menials, who was doubtless a person of considerable importance in this mansion, is thus noticed in the parish register of burials, “1572, Jan. 7, Tho. Boswell, beyng the Foole of the Hall.”

Malpas suffered severely from the plague in the early

part of the seventeenth century. In 1604, June 17, there occurs an entry in the parish register of the death of “Dominick, a gentleman that dyed at Mrs. Brereton's, of Edge, of the plague of pestilence,” and on the 22d of the same month, another entry of Thomas Plymley, servant to Mrs. Brereton, of the same malady.

In 1625 the pestilence appears in a more horrible form. The entries commence with the deaths of Thomas Jefferie, servant, Thomas Dawson of Bradley, and Richard Dawson his son, buried in the nights of the 10th and 13th of August; after which occurs the name of Ralph Dawson, also son of Thomas, who “came from London about the 25th of July last past, and being sicke of the plague, died in his father's howse, and infected the saide howse, and was buried as was reported neare unto his father's howse.” Then follow the burials of Thomas Dawson, August 15, at three o'clock after midnight, Elizabeth, his daughter, Aug. 20, and Anne, his wife, the same day.

The next entry, as has been justly observed by Mr. Lysons^m, presents this calamity in a most awful and horrific view, from the circumstance of a man being induced to dig his own grave, under the conviction that the slender and sickly remnant of his own household were unable to provide him with the rites of sepulture.

“Richard Dawson, brother to the above-named Thomas Dawson of Bradley, being sicke of the plague, and p'ceyveing he must die at y^t time, arose out of his bed, and made his grave, and caused his nefew, John Dawson, to cast strawe into the grave, w^{ch} was not farre from the howse, and went and layd him down in the sayd grave, and caused clothes to be layd uppon, and so dep'ted out of this world; this he did because he was a strong man, and heavier than his said nefew and another wench were able to bury. He died about the xxivth of August. Thus much was I credibly told he did 1625.”

“John Dawson, sonne of the above-mentioned Thomas, came unto his father when his father sent for him, being sicke, and haveyng layd him down in a dich, died in it the xxixth daye of August, 1625, in the night.

“Rose Smyth, servant of the above-named Thomas Dawson, and the last of y^t howsehold, died of plague, and was buried by Wm. Cooke, the vth daye of September, 1625, near unto the saide howse.”

From the following entries it appears that the plague continued its ravages to the middle of October.

1625, 9th Oct. Mawde, the wyfe of Henry Clutton. Her husband and sister buried her.

A childe of Henry Cluttons, that died as it is thought of plague, buried xiiiiith daye of October, 1625. Its aunt and another wench buried it. Nihil pro eccl'ia.

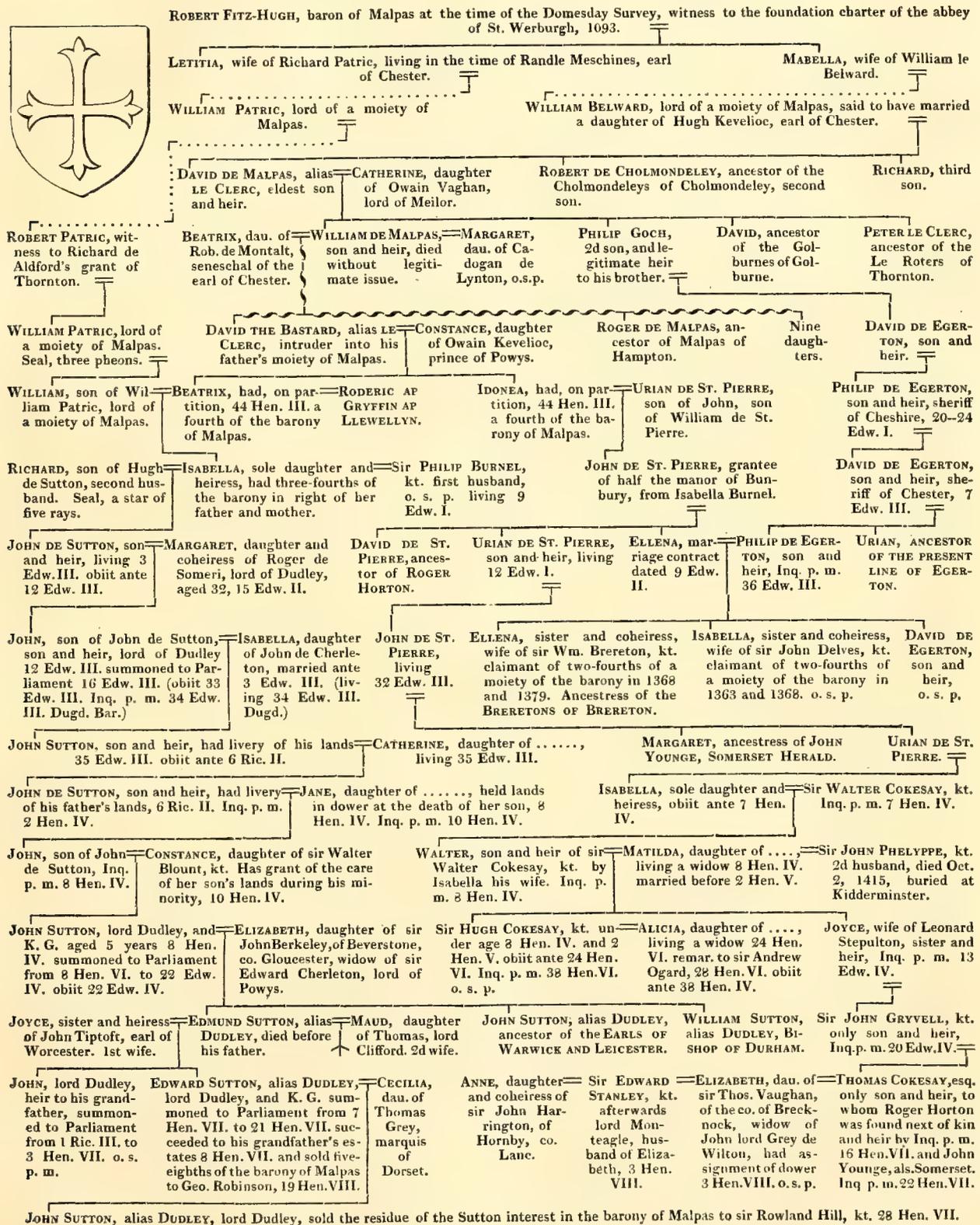
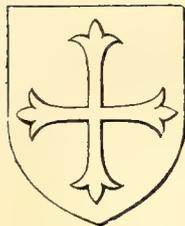
¹ Worthies of Devon, 245. Edit. 1701.

^m Magna Britannia, II. 845.

BARONS OF MALPAS.

Compiled from Evidences in the Exchequer of Chester.

ARMS, generally attributed to the Barons of Malpas, Argent, a cross patonce Azure.

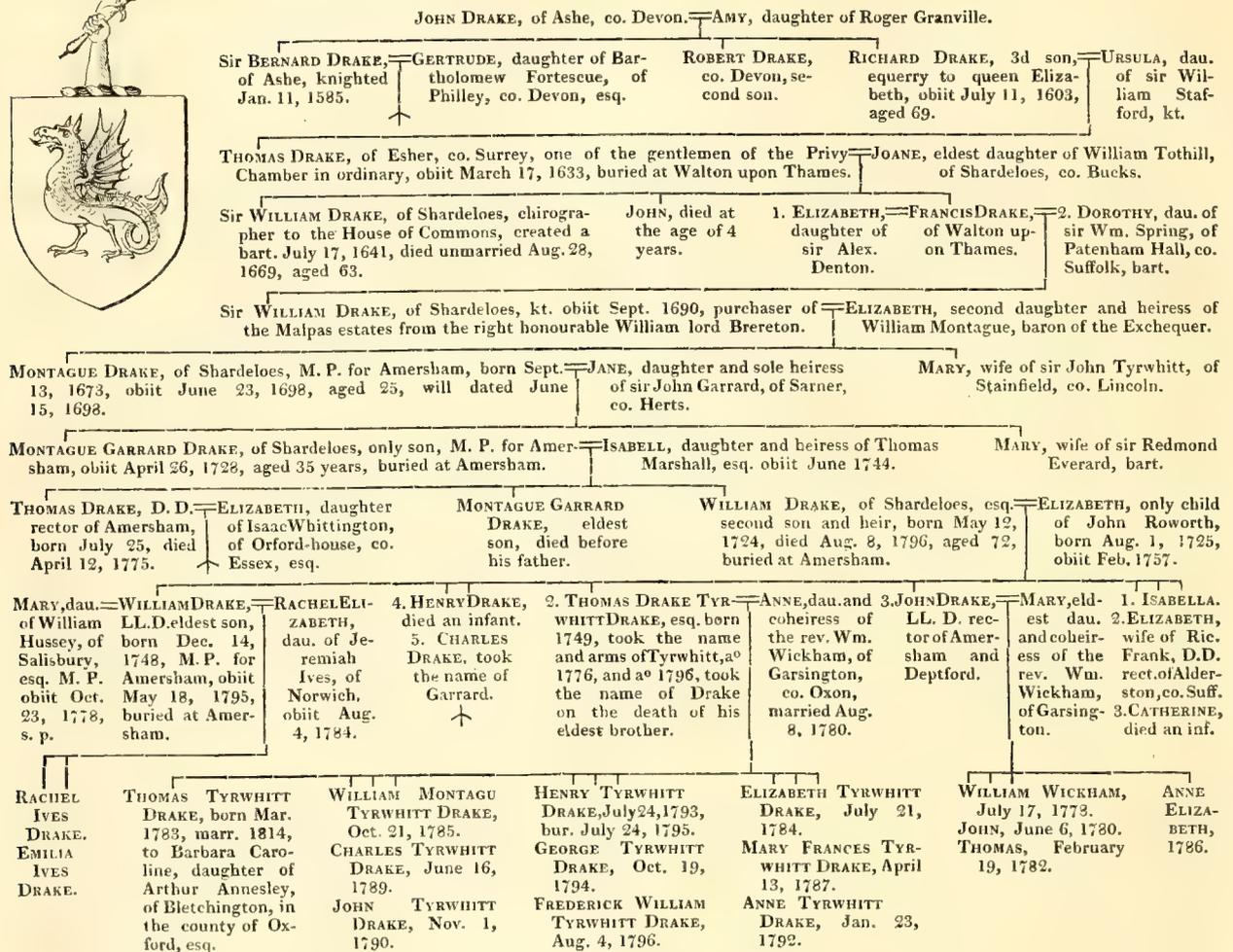


DRAKE, OF MALPAS AND SHARDELOES.

From the Records of the College of Arms.

ARMS.—Argent, a wyvern, Gules.

CREST.—On a wreath, a cubit arm, naked, proper, holding a battle-axe Sable, headed Or.



ABSTRACT OF EVIDENCES relative to the preceding DESCENT of the BARONY of MALPAS,

Arranged under the several Shares.

MALPAS SHARE.

Suits relative to the Bastardy of David de Malpas.

Plac. ap. Cest. 37 Edw. III. Between John Delves and Isabella his wife, plaintiffs, and John de Brunham, junr. one of the trustees of John de St. Pierre, relative to a moiety of a fourth of the said barony; the former of which parties in their plea state, that William son of David le Clerc died seized of a moiety in the reign of Hen. III. which William dying issueless, his right descended to his brother and heir Philip, from whom it passed lineally through David, Philip, David, and Philip, to David, whose sister and coheir Isabella, wife of John Delves, now claimed the same; and it was alledged on the other side, that William, son of David le Clerc, had issue David, who was father of Idonea and Beatrix, between whom the manor was divided on their father's death, on which the bastardy becoming the point at issue, the jurors find that the said David was a bastard, and Isabella recovered her right accordingly.

Plac. ap. Cest. 38 Edw. III. The said John and Isabella recovered another fourth of a moiety of the said barony from John, son of John de Sutton.

Plac. ap. Cest. 2 Ric. II. William, son of William Brereton, failed in an attempt to recover from Walter de Cokesay, knight.

Plac. ap. Cest. 2 Ric. II. Walter de Cokesay failed in an attempt to recover from Jo. de Mascy de Tatton, chev'r, and others, trustees.

Plac. ap. Cest. 25 Hen. VI. William Brereton, esq. failed in another suit against Jo. de Sutton. These several suits were exemplified under the seal of the earl-dome, 20 Jan. 19 Hen. VIII.

The other evidences of the Malpas family will be found in the account of Egerton.

PATRIC SHARE.

Letitia de Malpas, in whose right the Patrics possessed a moiety of the barony, occurs in the charter of Randle Meschines to the abbey of St. Werburgh.

Robert Patric occurs as witness to Richard de Aldford's grant of Thornton.

Willielmus Patric dedi, &c. Nicholao fratri meo burgagium Hugonis Pigot, &c. in Malopassu. Test. D'no Hugone de Cholmondeley, Will'mo Taylart, Hugone

Lambert, Petro Janitore, &c. Seal, 3 dart heads, circumscribed Sigillum Will'i Patric. Erdeswick's Staff. p. 114.

William, son of William Patric, by deed without date. Witness, Thos. Patric, knight. Harl. MSS. 2074. 148.

9 Edw. I. Philip Burnel, and Isabel his wife, daughter and heir of William Patric, quit-claim the manors of Salghton, Huntinton, Cheveley, and Bochton, to Simon abbot of St. Werburgh. The same subsequently give a fountain in Christleton, to the same. P. 17, Leger Book of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965.

Same date. Roderic ap Griffin, and Beatrix his wife, confirm this gift of the well, and all other donations of the said Philip and Isabel. Ibid.

Richard son of Hugh de Sutton gives lands to John de Hole and Matilda his wife, in the time of Robert de Holand, justice of Chester. Seal, a star of five rays.

SUTTON SHARE.

35 Edw. III. Nov. 1. A pardon to Richard de Stafford, Nicholas de Lich', and William Dynsel, chaplains, for purchasing from Richard de Duddlegh, and Isabella his wife, their manors of Shocklach and Malpas, and the advowson of Malpas, with liberty to grant the same to John Sutton, chev'r, and Katherine his wife, and the heirs of their bodies.

17 Edw. II. John de Sutton, son of Richard de Sutton, lord of Malpas and Shocklach, gives to David de Egerton, and Isabella his wife, all his right to lands in Duckington. Given at Malpas, 17 Edw. fil. E. Reg. Seal, a cross fleury.

41 Edw. III. Nov. 10. A prdon to John de Sutton of Duddlegh, for alienations of three parts of Malpas barony, and lands in Cheshire, paying a fine of 200l.

3 Edw. III. Licence of Edward king of England to John, son of Richard de Sutton, to encoff John de Hildesleigh, clerk, with the Castle and Hundred of Malpas, and the manors of Shocklach, Bradley, Agden, and half of Church Christleton, in trust, to grant the same to John de Cherleton, for his use for life; remainder to John, son of John, son of Richard de Sutton, and Isabella his wife, daughter of the said John de Cherleton.

6 Ric. II. May 13. Enrollment of a mandate to the eschætor to deliver to John, son of John de Sutton, of Dudley, all his father's lands, which after his death had been taken into the king's hands.

Inq. sup. extent. p. m. Joh. Sutton, 2 Hen. IV. John de Sutton held the castle of Malpas, and half the castle of Shocklach, a moiety of the whole barony of Malpas, and a fourth part of another moiety, with its appurtenances, from the lord earl of Chester, per baroniam, according to the quantity. Val. per annum, beyond reprises, xx marks; and also a moiety, and a fourth of a moiety of the advowson of the church of the same. Val. nihil, being now vacant.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. IV. John de Sutton, chev'r, held a moiety of the castle of Malpas, and a moiety and a fourth part of a moiety of the barony and advowson of the church of the same, except one third of the same moiety, which Jane, widow of John de Sutton, chev'r, father of the aforesaid John de Sutton, held in dower, the reversion of which belonged to John, son of the aforesaid John. All which were held from the earl of Chester, in capite per baroniam, according to quantity, and valued at fifty marks, excepting wardships, marriages, reliefs, and escheats, &c. belonging to the same. John, son of John de Sutton, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. IV. Jane, widow of sir John Sutton, knight, held in dower after the death of her husband, a third part of a moiety, and a fourth part of a moiety of the entire barony and advowson of Malpas, from the earl as in the preceding Inquisition, with lands in Malpas, Bradley, Agden, Newton, Tushingham, Shocklach, Wigland, Fulwich, Oldcastle, Tilston, and Christleton. John, son of the said Jane, by her husband John, next heir.

10 Hen. IV. Jan. 10. Grant to Constance, widow of John de Sutton, of her husband's lands during the minority of his son and heir John.

10 Hen. VI. 21 Sept. Enrollment of licence to sir John de Sutton, knight, to grant his manors of Malpas, Shocklach, Bradley, and Agden, and the Hundred of Malpas, the advowson of Malpas, half the manor of Church Christleton, a quarter of the manor of Row Christleton, &c. to trustees in fee, in trust to reconvey the same to sir John Sutton, knight, and Elizabeth his wife, Thomas bishop of Worcester, John earl of Arundel, sir Maurice Berkeley, knight, and others; remainder to the heirs of the bodies of the said John and Elizabeth; remainder to the right heirs of the said John.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VII. John Sutton, chevalier, held in demesne, as of fee, the castle of Malpas, and half the castle of Shocklach, with a moiety, and a fourth part of a moiety of the entire barony and advowson of Malpas. Edward Sutton, son of Edmund Sutton, chevalier, lately deceased, son of the said John Sutton, next of kin and heir.

8 Hen. VII. Nov. 2. Enrollment of a mandate to the escheator, to deliver all the castles and lands late belonging to John Sutton, within the county of Chester, to Edward Sutton, son of Edmund Sutton, chevalier, deceased, son of John Sutton.

Plac. ap. Cest. coram Thomâ Kebelle et Joh'e Mor-daunt, just. Cest. 15 Hen. VII. Sir Edward Sutton, lord of Dudley, claims to have view of frank pledge, with amercements, &c. in the manor of Malpas, and in its appurtenances, Shocklach, Shocklach Ovyat, Grafton, Stretton, Barton, Cholley, L. Aldersey, Broxton, Bickerton, Carden, Edge, Agden, Wigland, Chidlowe, Newton by Oldcastle, Horton by Tilston, Higher Fulwich, Lower Fulwich, Tushingham, Macefen, and Bradeley; and claims also in the same to have infangtheof, outfangtheof, and pelf, and to have gallows, pillory, tumbrell, and thew; and claims to have in the said manor the castle of Shocklach, fortified, ditched, and enkernelled, and to have a certain toll there for himself and William Brereton: and claims in right of his view of frank pledge, the regulation of bread and beer, amercements for effusion of blood, hue raised, obstruction of ways, dilapidation of bridges, sale of corrupted flesh, fish, or other victuals, and all offences on the king's highway by land or by water; and that breaches of the peace, and hamesoken, shall be presented by his bedell; and claims to punish bakers, brewers, and scolds, by amercements for the three first offences, but for the third to punish bakers by the pillory, brewers by the tumbrell, and scolds by the thew, that is by placing them in a certain seat called "a dokyn stole;" and claims infangtheof, outfangtheof, wayf, and pelf (the two latter of which he defines in the same manner with Done's claim in Eyre, given under Delamere), and claims jointly with William Brereton to have a fair and market at Malpas, and claims to have view of frank pledge in Church Christleton, Row

Christleton, and Little Christleton, with the same privileges as in Malpas.

Plac. ap. Cest. 19 Hen. VIII. (Exemp. 18 Dec. 35 Eliz.) between sir Edward Sutton, knight, lord of Duddlegh, demandant, and John Elyott, sheriff of Chester, tenant of the manor of Malpas and lands in divers townships, and a moiety, and a third part of a moiety of the barony and advowson, which John Hildesley, clerk, gave to John, son of John, son of Richard de Sutton, and the heirs of the said John by Isabella his wife, daughter of John de Cherleton, and which the said Edward Sutton lord of Dudley, claims and recovers as son and heir of Edmund, son of John, son of John de Sutton and Isabella aforesaid. This claim omits three descents.

28 Hen. VIII. (Exemp. 12 Aug. a^o pr'd'to.) A plaint between Rowland Hill, plaintiff, and sir John Dudley and Jane his wife, deforciant; and also a fine levied between the same of the manors of Pecforton, Byckley, Oldcastle, Shocklach, and Malpas, 40l. rent in divers townships, and the advowsons of Malpas and Tilston, to the use of the said Rowland and his heirs.

19 Hen. VIII. George Robinson, &c. obtained of Edward Sutton lord Dudley, the manor and castle of Malpas, with 40 messuages, 40 tofts, with 10,000 acres of various kinds of land and 20l. rent, in Malpas, alias Castle Malpas, Oldcastle, Bradley, Aggeton, Tushingham, Macefen, Hampton, Eggerton, Edge, Wigland, Nether Fulwich, Over Fulwich, Barton, Grafton, Shocklach Oviat, Church Shocklach, Broxton, Stretton, Bulkeley, Larton, Ebnall, Over and Nether Cawarthen, Aldersey, Tilston, Cholley, Horton, Weston, Chidlow, and Bickerton, and half the barony of Malpas, and the fourth part of the other half of the barony; also the advowson of half the church of Malpas, and the advowson of the third part of the other half of that church, to him and his heirs.

HILL AND CORBET SHARE.

4 Eliz. Aug. 17. Exemplification at the instance of Reginald Corbet, of a fine levied 3 Eliz. between sir Thomas Leigh, knight, and John Hare, gent. plaintiffs, and sir Rowland Hill, knight, deforciant, of the manor and barony of Malpas, and the manors of Pecforton, Norbury, Alhurst, Nantwich, and Darnhall, and the advowsons of Tilston and Malpas.

9 Eliz. Before the death of sir Reginald Corbet, knight, one of her majesty's justices of the pleas, sir Rowland Hill, knight, citizen and merchant of London, being seized of the barony of Malpas, and the manors of Malpas and Darnall and other lands, did, 2d Dec. 3 Eliz. levy a fine of the whole (except Darnall) to the use of himself; remainder to the use of William Hill, clerk, rector of Stoke; remainder to the said Reginald Corbet, and Alice his wife, niece and kinswoman of the said sir Rowland, in special tail; remainder to the use of the said Alice, in fee; and as to Darnall manor to the use of himself; remainder to his kinswoman Alice Needham for life; remainder in fee to the said Alice, as appears by an indenture dated 16 Sept. 2 Eliz. between the said sir Rowland on the one part, and sir Thomas Leigh, knight, and John Hare of the other part, by virtue of which sir Reginald and Alice became finally possessed of the barony and other premises, and Alice was left survivor, by whom sir Reginald had Richard Corbet, esq. his heir.

9 Eliz. May 15. Exemplification at the instance of William Gatewood, esq. and Alice Corbet widow of

Reginald Corbet, esq. of a fine levied of the said manors between the said parties, a^o 2 Eliz.

25 Eliz. Sept. 1. Alice Corbett, of Stoke upon Tern, co. Salop, settles remainder of his estate, with manor of Pecforton, Darnhall, and premises in Whitegate on her son, Peter Corbett, esq.

25 Eliz. 20 Dec. The said Alice Corbett releases the same to her son.

30 Eliz. Jan. 14. Enrollment of an indenture made Jan. 14, 30 Eliz. between Richard Corbett of Stoke upon Tern, co. Salop, esq. and sir Randle Brereton of Malpas, whereby Richard Corbett sells to sir Randle Brereton, his fourth part of the barony, and all his messuages, lands, tenements in Malpas, Edge, Horton, Cudington, Agden, Bradley, Barton, Tushingham, Cholmondeley, Overton, Larton, Chorleton, and Stockton, which the said Alice died possessed of, with market, court, fair, &c. and the advowson of alternate presentation to the higher rectory of Malpas, saving the manors of Oldcastle, Shocklach, and Fulwich, to the said Richard, other than the court leet, view of frank pledge, &c.

ST. PIERRE AND COKESAY SHARE.

32 Edw. III. Nov. 28. Edward earl of Chester grants to Robert de Halghton the office of constable of Beeston, and receiver of the issues of the lands and tenements of John de St. Pierre, durante bene placito. Salary 4l. a year.

35 Edw. III. Nov. 10. Similar grant to John de Brundelegh.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. IV. Walter de Cokesey, chevalier, held by courtesy after the death of Isabella his wife, as of her inheritance, the eighth part of the manor of Malpas cum pert. with the advowson of the fourth part of the church of the same, and the chapel of Herthull, held from the prince as earl of Chester, in cap. per baroniam, according to quantity, the reversion of the same being settled on Walter, son of the aforesaid Walter and Isabella. Val. per annum, xxxivl.; also the manors of Bykelegh and Pecforton, and lands in Shipbrooke, Davenham, Leftwich, and Stanthorne, held in right of the said Isabella, and the reversion settled as before mentioned. Walter de Cokesay, son of the aforesaid Walter and Isabella, next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. IV. Walter, son of Walter de Cokesay, knight, held in demesne as of fee, an eighth part of the manor of Malpas, with a fourth part of the advowson belonging thereto, from the earl of Chester, in cap. per baroniam, according to quantity. Val. per annum, xxxivl.; also the manors of Bykelegh and Pecforton, a fourth part of the manors of Beeston and Spurstow, half the manor of Bunbury, and lands in Shipbrook, Davenham, Leftwich, Stanthorne, Anderton, Fadelegh, and Halghton. Hugh, son of the said Walter, next heir.

2 Hen. V. Sept. 5. Enrollment. The king grants to sir John Phelypp, knight, the custody of the manors of Bykelegh and Shocklach (which Matilda, widow of sir Walter Cokesay, knight, held in dower) during the minority of Hugh the son and heir of the said sir Walter.

20 Hen. VI. 20 Oct. Enrollment. The king, in consideration of 20 marks, grants to John Throgmorton, and other trustees, in trust to reconvey the same to sir Hugh Cokesay, and Alicia his wife, in special tail, the manors of Pecforton, Bykelegh, Oldcastle, and Shocklach, and a moiety of the manor of Malpas.

24 Hen. VI. 11 March. Enrollment of a mandate to

the escheator, to deliver to Alicia, widow of sir Hugh Cokesay, the manors of Bycklegh, Pecforton, Oldcastle, and Shocklach, of which he died seized, in special tail, jointly with Alicia his wife.

26 Hen. VI. Aug. 28. Enrollment. The king for a fine of 20 marks, grants to sir Andrew Ogard, knight, and Alicia his wife, widow of sir Hugh Cokesay, knight, a licence to convey their estate in the manors of Pecforton, Bykelegh, Oldcastle, and Shocklach, and half the manor of Malpas, to Richard earl of Salisbury. Thomas lord Scales, and others, to hold the same for the life of the said Alicia.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Sir Hugh Cokesay, knight, and Alicia his wife, held in demesne, as of fee, of the feoffment of John Throgmorton and others, the manors of Peckforton, Bykelegh, Oldcastle, and Shocklach, and a moiety of the manor of Malpas. Joyce, wife of Leonard Stepulton, sister and heir.

Inq. p. m. 13 Edw. IV. Joyce, wife of Leonard Stepulton, held in demesne as of fee, an eighth part of the barony of Malpas, and a fourth part of the advowson of the church thereof, and of the chapel of Herthull, from the earl of Chester, as in the preceding Inquisitions, value per annum xxl. also the manors of Bykelegh and Pecforton, a fourth part of the manors of Beeston and Spurstow, half the manor of Bunbury, and lands in Shipbrooke, Davenham, Leftwich, Stanthorne, Anderton, Halghton, and Fadylegh. John Gryvell son and heir.

13 Edw. IV. Aug. 26. Enrollment of a mandate to the escheator to deliver to sir John Gryvell, kt. son and heir of Jocosa, widow of Leonard de Stepulton, all the lands of which Jocosa died seized in the county of Chester.

Inq. p. m. 20 Edw. IV. Sir John Grevell, kt. died seized in demesne as of fee, of the manors, lands, and advowsons, specified in the Inquisition after the death of Joyce Stepulton. Thomas Cooksey son and heir.

20 Edw. IV. Sept. 13. Enrollment of a mandate to the escheator to deliver to Thomas Cokesey, esq. son and heir of sir John Grevell deceased, all the lands specified in the preceding *Inq. p. m.* after the death of Joyce Stepulton.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VII. Sir Thomas Cokesey, kt. held in demesne as of fee, the manors, lands, and advowsons specified in the Inquisition after the death specified in the preceding *Inq. p. m.* after the death of Joyce Stepulton. Roger Horton, next of kin and heir, being son of William, son of Alice, daughter of John, son of Robert, son of David, son of John, father of Urian, father of John, father of Urian, father of Isabella, mother of Walter, father of Joyce, mother of John, father of the aforesaid Thomas Cokesay.

19 Hen. VII. May 12. Enrollment of Prince Henry's grant to sir Randle Brereton, knight, of the stewardship of all the lordships of sir Thomas Cokesay, knight, *durante bene placito*.

21 Hen. VII. 26 July. Enrollment of the king's licence to sir Roger Horton, knight, as next of kin and heir of sir Thomas Cokesay, knight, to enter upon all his estates, or those of sir John de St. Pierre, and the reversion of such as Katherine widow of sir Edward Stanley, and widow of sir Thomas Cokesay, knight, held in dower.

21 Hen. VII. 26 July. Enrollment of a pardon of John Younge, alias Somersett, for entering on the estates aforesaid.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. Agreeing with the preceding Inquisition after the death of sir Thomas Cokesey in all

particulars, except that John Younge, alias Somersett, is found next of kin and heir, as descendant of Thomas, son of Margaret, daughter of John de St. Pierre, father of Isabella, mother of Walter, ancestor of sir Thomas Cokesay, as stated in the *Inq. p. m.* 16 Hen. VII.

23 Hen. VII. 12 May. Enrollment of *Inq. p. m.* 16 Hen. VII. finding Roger Horton heir.

24 Hen. VII. 3 Nov. Exemplification of a fine levied 23 Hen. VII. between Edmund Dudley, esq. Richard Dudley, clerk, and others, plaintiffs, and Roger Horton, and Jane his wife, deforciant, of 300 messuages, 3 mills, 200 acres of land, 500 acres of meadow, 1000 acres of pasture, 500 acres of wood, 500 of furze and bruary, 200 of moor and marsh, and 20l. rent, in Pecforton, Bickley, Oldcastle, Malpas, Shocklach, Barton, Horton, Wichalgh alias Fulwich, Cuddington, Halghton, Bradley, Beeston, Spurstow, Bunbury, Cholmondeley, Edge, Overton, Agden, Larkden, Chorleton, Tushyngnam, Stockton, Tyldeston, Caldecote, Hetherston, and Snabbe, in the county of Chester, and of the advowson of Tyldeston church, to the use of the said Edmund Dudley, Richard Dudley, and others, and the heirs of the said Edmund for ever; which exemplification was made at the request of Nicholas Faryngton.

BRERETON OF SHOCKLACH AND MALPAS SHARE.

17 Hen. VIII. Sept. 1. Enrollment of the will of sir Randle Brereton, of Malpas, knight, whereby it appears that he had suffered a recovery of his manors of Malpas and Shocklach, 100 messuages, 40 tofts, 4 mills, 2160 acres of various kinds of land, 4 wich houses, and 40s. rent in Halghton, Egerton, Edge, Bickerton, Broxton, Duckington, Cuddington, Chorleton, Church Shocklach, Ovyat, Overton, Lee, Newbold, Church on Heath, Rowton, Wichalgh, Wigland, Agden, Tussyngnam, Macefen, Foulewich, to sir Henry Wyat and sir Richard Cholmondeley, to hold to them and their heirs to perform his will.

For further particulars of this share, see Shocklach.

BRERETON OF BRERETON SHARE.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VI. Sir William Brereton, of Brereton, died seized, inter alia, of a fourth, and a moiety of a fourth of half the manor of Malpas, &c. William Brereton, esq. son and heir, under age.

16 Hen. VI. Feb. 8. A pardon for William, son of William, son of sir William de Brereton, for entries made after Oct. 13, 13 Hen. VI. into a fourth part of the manor of Malpas, a moiety of another fourth part, and other lands of which sir William Brereton, died seized, the said William, son of William, son of sir William Brereton, being then a minor.

21 Hen. VI. Feb. 16. Enrollment of a deed, by which Ranulph de Brereton, esq. grants lands in Wigland and Little Edge, to trustees for the life of Emma, daughter of sir John de Caryngton, knight.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VI. Ellen, wife of sir Gilbert Halsal, and widow of sir William Brereton, held divers lands in dower out of the lands and tenements of sir William Brereton, the reversion of which belonged to William, son of William, son of sir William Brereton, knight, aforesaid.

23 Hen. VI. April 8. Enrollment of a mandate to deliver to William de Brereton, his lands in Brereton, a third part of a fourth part of the advowson of a moiety and of another half fourth of a moiety of the advowson of Malpas, and of the advowsons of Tilston and Herthull, and the services of Hugh Peshall, which were held

for life by Ellen, wife of sir Gilbert Halsall, widow of sir William Brereton, father of William, father of William Brereton last mentioned.

Inq. p. m. 2 Ric. III. Sir William Brereton, knight, held inter alia, a fourth part of a moiety, and a moiety of another fourth part of a moiety of the manor of Malpas, and the advowsons thereunto belonging of the fourth presentation of Malpas, the alternate presentation of Tilston, and the petty canonry in the College of St. John at Chester, on part of which, namely lands in Droitwich, Cudington, Shocklach, and Caldcote, Matilda, late wife of the said sir William Brereton, and widow also of sir William Bothe, knight, had assignment of dower by settlement, dated June 13, 19 Edw. IV. Val. per annum, xl. William Brereton, esq. son and heir.

3 Ric. III. June 10. Enrollment of a mandate to the escheator, to deliver the same to William Brereton, esq. son and heir of sir William Brereton, knight, as per *Inq.* 2 Ric. III.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. William Brereton, esq. held in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, a fourth, and half a fourth of the moiety of the manor of Malpas, with the

fourth successive presentation to the church of Malpas, and the second to that of Tilston, from the king as earl of Chester, per baroniam. Value, per annum, 40l. William Brereton, esq. next of kin and heir.

11 Eliz. June 28. Enrollment of mandate to deliver to George Brereton, son and heir of Richard Brereton, esq. deceased, lands in Malpas, Bradley, Agden, Edge, and Oldcastle.

8 Car. I. Enrollments. William lord Brereton, Aug. 1, 17 Eliz. suffered a recovery of his manors of Brereton, Malpas, &c. &c. with lands and advowsons thereunto belonging; and by deed 15 Jan. 41 Eliz. settled the same to the use of himself for life, remainder as to a third, comprized in recovery or not, to the use of John Brereton, esq. son and heir apparent, and the heirs of his body, with other remainders over; another third to trustees to raise 1000l. a-piece for each of his daughters; remainder as before. John Brereton, esq. died before his father, leaving his son William Brereton, a minor, afterwards lord Brereton, who charged all his lands in Cheshire, Staffordshire, and Flintshire, with an annuity of 300l. per annum, to his mother lady Anne Brereton.

RECTORS OF THE HIGHER AND LOWER MOIETIES OF MALPAS.

INSTITUTED.	HIGHER MOIETY.	LOWER MOIETY.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
Living 1285.	Willielmus de Audelym.	Leodegarus de Nottingham.		
1298.		Willielmus de Duyn de Brichull.	D'nus Ric. de Sutton, miles.	
1319, 7 id. Nov.		Thomas de Turville, acolithus.	D'nus Jo. Sutton, miles.	P. m. Will'i Duyn
	Philippus de Turville.			
1337, 12 kal. Aug.	Edmundus le Botiler.		Joh'es de Sc'o Petro.	P. m. Phil. de Turville.
1348, 3 id. Maii.		Humphredus de Chertilton, cap's.	D'nus Jo. de Cherleton, D'nus de Powys.	P. m. Tho. de Turville.
1360, vel ante.		*Will'mus de Cherleton, subdiac.		
1361.		M'g'r Jo. de Cudyngton, pr'b'r.	Jo. fil. et h. Joh'is de Sutton, defuncti.	
1363, 10 kal. Dec.	*Thomas de Delves, pr'b'r.		Henricus de Delves, atorn. Jo'is de Delves, militis.	
1371.	Jo. Gurmunchester.		Edw. f. p'mog. co. Cest. rac'o'e custod. terr. et hered. Jo. de Sutton, mil. defunct.	P. m. Tho. de Delves.
1380.	Simon Clemens.		Walterus de Cokesay, miles.	Causâ permutationis.
1384, 7 kal. Ap.	Hugo, fil. Davidis de Malpas.		W'mus fil. D'ni Will'mi de Brereton.	P. m. D'ni Simonis Clementis.
1389, Aug. 2.		Joh'es de Hinckley, pr'b'r.	D'nus Jo. de Sutton de Malpas.	P. m. Jo. de Cudyngton.
	Willielmus Cristendone.			
1391, Dec. 10.	Joh'es de Hinckley, pr'b'r.		Jo. de Sutton de Duddleley, miles.	Post lib. resign. Will'i Cristendone.
1392.		Thomas Hilton.	D'nus Jo. de Sutton, miles.	P. lib. resig. Jo. de Hinckley.
1393, March 8.	Thomas Hilton.		Ricardus II. co. Cest.	Raco'e recuperat. contra Jo. de Hinckley.
1395, Oct. 29.	Ricardus Coningston.		D'nus Jo. de Sutton, miles.	Causâ permutat. cum Tho. de Hilton.
1404.	Ricardus Downe.		Joh'es Sutton, miles, D'nus de Duddely.	P. lib. resign. Ricardi Coningston.
1406, Dec. 18.	Johannes Leyott, Dec. Bacc. Adamus de Ireland, cl'us.		D'nus Joh'es Sutton, baro de Duddleley.	P. resign. Ricardi Downes, ult. rect.
		*Ricardus Wodewarte.		
1435.	Joh'es Browe, cl'us.		H. Rex rac'o'e custod. terr. et her. Will. de Brereton.	Raco'e recuperat. versus Joh'em de Sutton et Ad. de Ireland, cl'um.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1447, July 28.	*Adamus de Ireland, pr'br.	D'nus Joh'es de Sutton, d'nus de Dudley.	P. m. R. Wodewarte.
1448, March 25.	*Reginaldus Newton.	D'nus Joh'es de Sutton, d'nus de Dudley.	P. m. Ad. de Ireland.
1456, Feb. 27.	Thomas Eggecombe. Will'mus Dudley, cl'us.	Joh'es, d'nus de Duddeley.	P. m. Tho. Eggecombe.
1466, Dec. 10.	Urianus Davenport, cap's.	Ranulphus, fil. Ran'i de Brereton, hac vice patronus.	P. m. Joh'is de Browe.
1475, Aug. 12.	Ricardus Martyn.	Joh'es, d'nus Dudley.	P. resig. W'i Dudley.
1476, June 16.	Will'mus Chapman, M. A.	Joh'es de Dudley, d'nus de Dudley.	R. resig. R. Martyn.
1492, Oct. 2.	Joh'es Harvey, pr'b'r.	Edw. Dudley, d'nus de Dudley.	P. m. Will. Chapman.
1499, Dec. 14.	Henricus Raynford, Bacc. Decret. Jo. Brereton, cl'us.	Ranulphus Brereton de Malpas, miles, hac vice pat.	P. resign. Hen. Raynford.
1502, March 26.	Thomas Brereton.	Edward Sutton, lord Dudley.	Res. of John Brereton.
1511, Nov. 29.	Richard Horner.	Edward Sutton, kt. lord of Dudley.	Death of Tho. Brereton.
1542, Feb. 23.	John Brereton.	John Brereton.	Death of John Brereton.
1542.	William Hill.	Peter Brereton.	Death of John Brereton.
1571, ante.	*John Barlow. *Lionel Sharpe.	The King. Richard Brereton and others, patrons hac vice.	
1604, ante.			
1603, Nov. 5.	Robert Gittins.	William Brereton.	Resignation.
1623, Nov. 4.		The King.	
1623, Feb. 2.		Edw. Wright, esq. and others, hac vice.	
1624, Feb. 21.	Thomas Bridge, M. A.	William Brereton, esq.	Res. of Rob. Gittins.
1652, ante.			
1655, ante.	Geo. Mainwaring.		Ejection of T. Bridge.
1660.	Thomas Bridge, M. A.	Restored on the dispossession of G. Mainwaring.	
1680, July 8.	William Dod, A. M.	Thomas Dod, gent. hac vice, by grant of sir William Drake, kt.	Resig. of William Holland.
1683, Sept. 29.	Richard Wright.	Hugh, viscount Cholmondeley.	Death of Thomas Bridge.
1711, Nov. 1.	Thomas Sandys, A. M.	Jane Drake.	Death of R. Wright.
1713, Nov. 21.	Henry Moore, D. D.	The earl of Cholmondeley.	Death of Thomas Sandys.
1716, Aug. 4.		Jane Drake.	Death of Wm. Dod.
1719, Jan. 16.		William Turton, S. T. P.	Cession of Tho. Field.
1728, Sept. 13.		William Taylor, A. M.	Death of William Turton.
1751, Jan. 2.		Thos. Townson, B. D.	Death of Wm. Taylor.
1770, July 24.	Reginald Heber, A. M.	Wm. Drake, esq.	Death of Hen. Moore.
1793, Feb. 11.		Geo. Allanson, A. M.	Death of Tho. Townson.
1802, July 29.		William Wickham Drake, A. B.	Res. of George Allanson.
1804, May 3.	Philip Egerton, A. M.	Thos. Drake Tyrwhitt Drake, esq. Eliz. Egerton, spinster, hac vice.	Death of Reginald Heber.

HIGHER RECTORY.

^b The earliest rectors of this parish, whose names have descended to the present period were *William de Aude-*

lym and *Leodegarus de Notingham*. They are inserted on the authority of a licence to Hugh de Cholmondeley, (dated 1285) to provide a chaplain for his domestic

^b In the compilation of the account of the Rectors of Malpas, the author has to acknowledge the assistance which he has derived from the communication of an important memoir on the subject by archdeacon Churton, the substance of which has been incorporated in those parts of the biography which are marked by inverted commas; and for those names in the table which have an asterisk prefixed, he is indebted exclusively to this communication.

oratory, as mentioned at large in the account of Cholmondeley. William de Audelym, who is first named, was most probably of the Higher Rectory.

Thomas de Delves, fourth on the list of incumbents of this rectory, "had a commission to grant licences for the performance of divine service in every decent oratory throughout the diocese, 2 non. Sept. 1366. He had also, two months afterwards, (5 id. Nov.) licence to choose a confessor to absolve him of his sins (peccatis), and, at the same time, another licence to absolve all and singular his parishioners of their stains (maculis).^c His humility and charity suggesting, perhaps, in the instruments, a stronger term for his own infirmities, and a more lenient one for those of his flock."

Hugh, son of David de Malpas, instituted in 1384, was nephew of Hugh de Malpas, parson of Barthomley, and son of the manerial lord of Hampton and Bickerton, in the first of which townships will be found a pedigree of this illegitimate line of the baronial house of Malpas.

"*Richard Conyngston, LL. D.* who, in 1395, exchanges with Thomas Hilton, gave for his moiety a canonry of Lincoln, and the prebend of Carleton cum Thurleby in that cathedral. The said Conyngstone, in 1397, as vicar general to the bishop, granted a dispensation of marriage between Robert de Sutton and Catherine Spurstowe; and in 1404 he exchanged with Richard Downe, rector of Brandesburton in the diocese of York, to which he was instituted on the presentation of the provost of the collegiate church of St. John in Beverley, June 24, 1404. Richard Conyngston, LL. D. (the same person doubtless) canon and prebendary of the collegiate church of St. John in Chester, exchanged with Nicholas Tidde, canon of the chapel of the Virgin Mary and English Saints, in York, May 2, 1405."

John Leyott (1406) was presented, March 19, 1392, to the living of Coddington, by the abbot of St. Werburgh, which he resigned to a successor of both his names, Oct. 8, 1394, previous to being collated to the deanery of the collegiate church of St. John in Chester. He held this deanery to the time of his decease, together with the rectories of Malpas and Bangor, and was buried at Hale in Lancashire, where the following inscription is preserved on his tombstone.

^d Hic jacet Mag'r Joh'es Leyott, Dec. Baccalaureus, Decanus Cestr's, rector eccl'iar' de Malpas et Bangor, qui primu' hic liberam sepulturam a Summo Pontifice Urbano Sexto sumptibus suis p'priis in Curiâ Romana impetravit. Anno D'ni tempore Ric'di Et quicumque dixerit devotè pro ejus animâ Pater noster et Ave habebit ccc dies indulgentiæ ejus animæ. Cujus a'i'æ p'p'tietur Deus. Amen.

Urian Davenport, (1466) appears from this name to be a son of the knightly family of Davenport, but is not identified by any of the pedigrees of its numerous lines. He "was also vicar of Acton, and died July 28, 1495, as appears by his epitaph, still in all its material parts legible, circumscribed on the verge of a white gravestone, in the pavement of the Cholmondeley chancel."

John Brereton, the only incumbent who appears to have had possession of both Moieties at the same time, was third son of sir Randle Brereton, of Shocklach, and held, at different periods, St. Mary's in Chester, Astbury, and Bebington.

^c Lichf. Reg. IV. f. 14. b.

^d This inscription was communicated by a friend, and as there were several errors in the abbreviations, which required correction, it is probable that it may not agree *literatim* with the original.

^e Birch's Life of Prince Henry, p. 62.

^f Anthony Wood, Vol. II. 335. Edit. Bliss.

Thomas Brereton, who died possessed of the Higher Rectory in 1511, was his younger brother.

"*John Barlow* appears in an entry of the oldest parochial register, of the baptism of his son Randle, Jan. 31, 1571-2. He was buried April 28, 1595, and is styled John Barlow, clerk, late parson of Malpas and of Warmingham."

Lionel Sharpe is inserted in the preceding list, in the interval of eight years between the death of Barlow and the institution of Robert Gittins, on the authority of Anthony Wood, (Fasti Oxon. I. 211.) who notices among the admissions at Oxford in 1618, Lionel Sharpe, D. D. of King's College, Cambridge, "now or lately" rector of Malpas, and formerly chaplain to the earl of Essex, in whose treasons he had been engaged.^e Another author of accurate research, also describes him of Malpas: "Sharpe was chaplain to prince Henry, and addressed a Latin letter to his highness on the subject of the Powder Plot, the day after the discovery of that horrible design^f; and on the 9th of Nov. in the same year, was collated to the archdeaconry of Berkshire, which preferment he enjoyed until his death in 1630." He published in 1612, "Oratio funebris in honorem Henrici Walliæ Principis;" Lond. 4to. Novum Fidei Symbolum, sive de novis, &c. Ibid. 4to. and Speculum Papæ, &c. Ibid. 4to. These two last were translated into English under this title, "A Looking Glass for the Pope, wherein he may see his own face, the express image of Antichrist; together with the Pope's New Creed, &c. in two Dialogues. By Edward Sharpe." London, 4to. 1616, and reprinted *ibid.* 1623. He also published several sermons^g.

More particulars of this rector may be found in Cabala, edit. fo. 376, and in Wood's life of John Hoskyns, in conjunction with whom Dr. Sharpe was committed to the Tower, June 14, 1614.

Thomas Bridge, incumbent of the Higher Rectory during the troubles of the great rebellion, was ejected from his living, but restored in 1660. His descendant, the Rev. Ralph Bridge, M. A. now fills (1816) and has filled the office of curate to the same church for forty years. Mr. Bridge, who was also vicar of St. John's, Chester, "rebuilt the Parsonage, and gave 50l. towards erecting the grammar-school, and 50l. to the poor. He died aged 82, and was buried Oct. 7, 1682, having been rector nearly 58 years." A fine portrait of Mr. Bridge is in possession of his descendant.

During the ejection of Bridge, the office was served by *George Mainwaring*, a native of Wrenbury, and member of the University of Cambridge, chaplain to sir Henry Delves, afterwards rector of Baddeley, and chaplain to sir T. Mainwaring. Mainwaring in his turn was ejected at the Restoration. Calamy's account of him, to which it would be uncharitable to refuse credence, is, that he was exemplary for plainness, integrity, and charity, and constantly gave all the milk of his dairy on Sunday to the Malpas poor^h. The question of its accuracy is only hinted at, from its being strongly opposed by local tradition.

"*Richard Wright*, B. D. instituted nearly a year after the death of Bridge, was a benefactor to the school of Malpas, and was succeeded by

"*Thomas Sandys*, M. A. who died Aug. 12, 1713, and was interred at Malpas.

^f Printed by Birch, App. No. V.

^h Nonconformists' Memorial, I. 265.

"*The hon. and rev. H. Moore*, son of the earl of Drogheda, instituted 1713, was chaplain to queen Anne, and had the rectory of Wilmslow, in this county, which he held with Malpas. He departed this life at a very advanced age, in 1770, in London, where latterly he generally resided, having been blind for several years previous to his death."

"*Reginald Heber*, M.A. previously Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, was presented by William Drake, esq. in exchange for Chelsea with Mr. Drake's brother, Dr. Thomas Drake, of Amersham. He was the second son of Thomas Heber, esq. of Marton Hall, in Yorkshire, where he was born, Sept. 4, 1718. From Manchester school, he was entered a commoner of Brasenose College, Oxford, March 4, 1747, and was chosen Fellow, Nov. 15, 1753. In July 1766, on the decease of his brother without issue male, the Vernon estate at Hodnet in Shropshire, devolved to him, as did also the family estate in Yorkshire in 1803, on the death of his brother's widow, Mrs. Heber, of Weston, in Northamptonshire.

Dec. 5, 1766, he was inducted into the valuable living of Chelsea, which had several years before been purchased for him by his brother, and another kind relative. In 1770, as has been said, he exchanged this living for Malpas, where he built an excellent new rectorial house on a new site, commanding a most extensive view of Flintshire and Denbighshire, and some other counties. Mr. Heber married April 15, 1773, Mary third daughter and coheirress of Martin Baylie, M. A. rector of Kelsal and Wrentham, in Suffolk, who died in January following, leaving him an infant son, Richard Heber, esq. now of Hodnet and Marton, and M. A. of Brasenose College. He married to his second wife, July 30, 1782, Mary eldest daughter of Cuthbert Allanson, D. D. rector of Wath in Yorkshire, by whom he had Reginald Heber, M. A. a commoner of Brasenose College, Oxford, afterward fellow of All Souls College, and now rector of Hodnet; Thomas Cuthbert Heber, M. A. third son, fellow of Brasenose, who died 1816; and one daughter, Mary.

Mr. Heber died Jan. 10, 1804. He has an elegant copy of English verses, in the Oxford Verses on the King's Accession, published in 1762, but without his name; "An Elegy written among the Tombs in Westminster Abbey:" printed for Dodsley; inserted also, but without his knowledge, in Pearch's Collection."

His eldest son, Richard Heber, well known in the literary world, and described under the character of *Atticus* in the "Bibliomania" of Dibdin, edited in early life an elegant edition of Silius Italicus. His second son Reginald, is author of the Bampton Lectures of 1815, of three compositions which successively obtained the University Prize—"Carmen Seculare," "Palestine," and an "Essay on the Sense of Honour;" and of several minor poetical productions which have been published collectively.

LOWER RECTORY.

"*Thomas de Turville* had licence to study one year, Feb. 8, 1322, at the instance of Philip de Turville, probably his brother, rector of that name."

"*William de Cherleton*, rector de Malo passu, sub-deacon, had leave of studying two years, on the ides of January 1360-1." His successor

Cudyington, or Kydyngton, most probably an Oxfordshire man, "as he died at Erdynton (Yardynton, or Yarnton, near Woodstock), on Monday the morrow of St. James, 1389. He also had leave of absence for five years, 4 kal. Maii 1362, and for four years on the nones of October 1367."

"*William Duddeley*, clerk, was instituted at Coventry, 1456-7, Feb. 7, on the presentation of John lord of Duddeley. According to one of the customs of the church of Rome, he promised upon oath to pay a pension to Newton, who resigned, at the discretion of the bishop, who fixed the sum at 9l. sterling, per annum.

William Dudley was an instance of personal merit and illustrious birth, shedding a mutual lustre on each other. He was third son of John Dudley, the eighth baron Dudley, by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of sir John Berkeley, of Beverstone, in Gloucestershire, kt. widow of sir Edward Cherleton, knight, lord of Powys. From John, the ninth lord Dudley, his elder brother, descended the earls of Warwick and Leicester. He received his education in University College, Oxford, and was admitted to the academical degrees of Bachelor (1453-4) and Master (1456-7) with peculiar marks of favour and distinction^l. His grace for M. A. was pronounced by the chancellor in person, Neville bishop of Exeter, afterwards lord chancellor of England, and the most magnificent archbishop of York.

His institution to Malpas took place within a month after his having proceeded M. A. and he was ordained deacon on the title of his benefice in June following^k. In 1466 (Nov. 24.) Kemp, bishop of London, collated him to the rectory of Hendon, in Middlesex, and promoted him successively to the prebends of Cadington Minor in St. Paul's (Nov. 28, 1468), Newington (Aug. 15, 1471), Brownswood (Feb. 20, 1472-3), and the archdeaconry of Middlesex, Nov. 16^l, 1475. In the stall of Newington, and in the archdeaconry, he was succeeded by Richard Lichfield, a memorable benefactor to the university of Oxford, to whom he had himself succeeded in Cadington Minor. In Brownswood he succeeded Alcock, bishop of Ely, the munificent founder of Jesus College, Cambridge.

In the mean time he had received, and was daily receiving, substantial proofs of the favour of his sovereign, Edward the Fourth. He was dean of the king's chapel, and in that quality, when the king intended "in his roiall person to passe over the see ayen his auncient enemy of France, he, together with cardinal Bouchier, archbishop of Canterbury, and others, was enfeoffed with certain royal manors, parcel of the duchy of Lancaster, for the performance of his majesty's will^m. In 1471, the king gave him the deanery of the collegiate church of St. Mary Magdalen, in Bridgenorthⁿ; and a prebend of St. Mary's College in Leicester, August 2, 1472, when he was chosen dean within the month^o; in 1473, he was chosen dean of Windsor^p; had the prebend of Dynre in the church of Wells, 1475-6^q, succeeding in that stall to cardinal Morton, archbishop of Canterbury; and in October following was promoted to the bishopric of Durham, and consecrated the ensuing year. The final honour, as far as we have discovered, which awaited him was, that in 1483, he was elected chancellor of the university of Oxford. The letter addressed to him on that occasion is still extant among the archives of the university."^r

^l Reg. A. a. f. 80. b. f. 94. f. 121.

^k Reg. Lichf. XI. f. 110. b. 111.

^l Newcourt Repert. i. 81.

^m Feb. 23, 14 Edw. IV. Rolls, vol. vi. page 122. This enfeoffment is referred to, and Dudley again mentioned, 22 Edw. IV. *ibid.* p. 209—214, and in the act of resumption, 1 Hen. VII. *ib.* p. 211.

ⁿ Tanner, Not. Mon.

^o Harl. MSS. 6952. 219.

^p Dec. 4, 1473. Le Neve.

^q Ath. Oxon. i. 642.

^r Reg. F. Ep. 316. Oct. 20. 1483.

Thomas Collier occurs in the register, as rector of the Lower Mediety, on the occasion of his daughter's marriage, Oct. 2, 1604; and he is ascertained to have survived to June 24, 1622, by a lease of his tithes to the rector of Coddington for the yearly sum of *three pounds*. Harl. MSS. 2103. p. 73.

Thomas Dod, D. D. Collier's immediate successor, and son-in-law, was representative of the family of Dods, of Shocklach, nephew of John Dod, archdeacon of Richmond, and elder brother of John Dod, the Decalogist, and entered a pedigree in the Visitation of 1613, which with some additions from Harl. MSS. 2119. will be found in the account of Shocklach. Dr. Dod was chaplain to the king, archdeacon of Richmond, dean of Rippon, prebendary of Chester, and rector of Astbury; most of which preferments generally follow his name in the Register, on the most trivial occasions. Webb notices him as having preached before the king, at Nantwich, in his progress through Cheshire in 1617. He was buried at Malpas, Feb. 10, 1647-8, having married two wives, of whom the first was Thomasine, daughter of Thomas Collier, rector of Malpas, married Oct. 1604, by whom he had issue, Thomas born the January following, and Mary. He married, 2dly, Dorothy, daughter of Hugh Bromley, of Hampton, gent. who died issueless.

William Holland, who occurs in the Register on the occasion of his marriage with Cicely, daughter of Alexander Walthall, of Wistanston, esq. Feb. 27, 1654-5, as "minister of God's word at the lower rectory of Malpas," the seldom-failing designation of a puritan. His loyalty and orthodoxy may, however, be presumed from his having been selected to preach at the death of a distinguished loyalist, the founder of the house of Vale Royal, a sermon yet extant³, replete with beautiful descriptions of the virtues and sufferings of the deceased, but reprobating with the most incautious zeal, the "heresies, schisms, and personated holiness" of the ruling party in the greatest plenitude of their power. Mr. Holland was a contributor of 100l. to the poor of Malpas. It does not appear that he was connected with the Hollands of Heaton and Denton, who intermarried at this time with the Dods of Edge, in this parish; indeed the extreme fullness and accuracy of an entry made by that family in Dugdale's Lancashire Visitation of 1664, which omits all notice of the rector of Malpas, renders the supposition nearly impossible.

William Dod, successor to Holland, was second brother of Randle Dod, of Edge, esq. on whose decease s. p. in 1786, the family estate devolved to him. "He was educated at Wadham College, Oxford, and re-built the lower parsonage of Malpas in 1698."

William Turton, B. D. was buried at Malpas, June 30, 1728.

William Tayler, M. A. previously "student of Christ Church, Oxford, was presented by the dean and chapter of that cathedral in 1717, to the curacy of Daventry, in Northamptonshire, which he held, together with Malpas, until his death, which happened at Bath, July 11, 1750. He was succeeded by

Thomas Townson, B. D. a native of Much Lees, in Essex, of which place, his father, John Townson, M. A. was rector. From Felsted school in that county, he was

entered a commoner of Christ Church, March 13, 1733, chosen demy of Magdalen College, 1735, and fellow 1737. In 1747, he was presented to the vicarage of Hatfield Peverel, in Essex; and 1749 was senior proctor of the University at the opening of the Radcliffe library. "In the same year he resigned Hatfield, and was presented to the rectory of Blithfield, in Staffordshire, by sir W. W. Bagot, bart. whose eldest son William, afterwards created lord Bagot, was one of Mr. Townson's pupils in Magdalen College."

In 1750, he was presented by William Drake, esq. to the lower rectory of Malpas, between which place and Blithfield he divided his residence, until the year 1759, when he resigned the latter living to the rev. Walter Bagot, M. A. son of his deceased patron.

In 1767 and 1768, he published three short anonymous pamphlets in the controversy occasioned by archdeacon Blackburne's book, called the Confessional; and in the autumn of 1768, went abroad with the eldest son of his patron, Mr. Drake.

"In 1788, his Discourses on the Gospels were published at Oxford, under the superintendence of the rev. Thomas Winchester, D. D. rector of Appleton, Berks. This 'capital performance,' as bishop Lowth styled it, had for a series of years engaged his attention; and the University of Oxford, to express in the strongest manner their approbation of the work, and respect for the author, unanimously conferred on him the degree of D. D. by diploma, Feb. 23, 1779." Two years after this he was collated by his diocesan bishop Porteus, to the archdeaconry of Richmond.

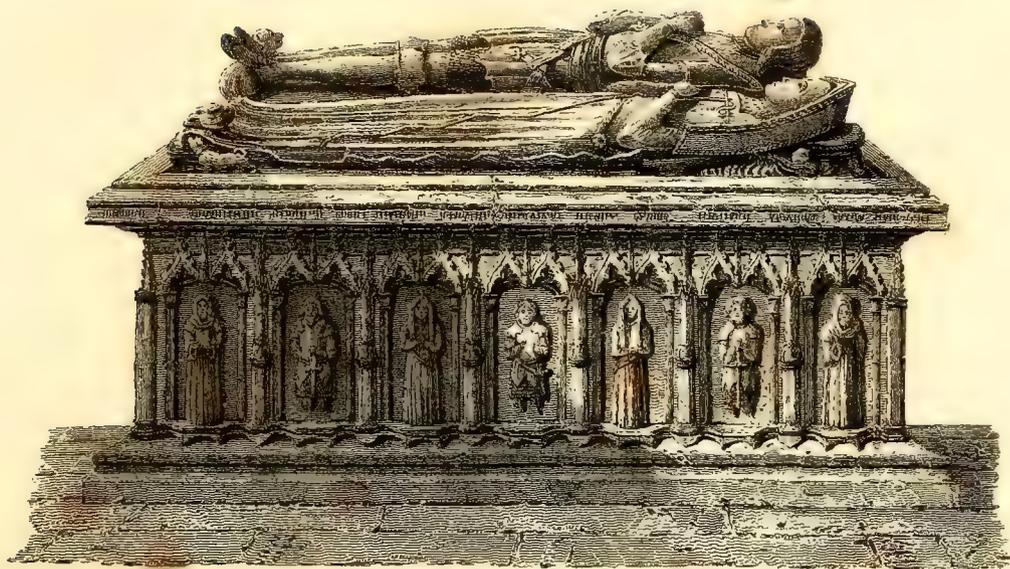
"On the death of Dr. Wheeler, regius professor of divinity, at Oxford, in 1783, lord North having received his majesty's commands 'to look out for a proper successor,' requested Dr. Townson to accept the situation, 'which,' said his lordship, 'by the public testimony of the University of Oxford, and by the general consent of all who are acquainted with you, you are the properest person in England to fill.' What was thus honourably offered, was modestly declined, from a consciousness 'that he was now so far in the vale of life, that he was not equal to the exertions which a faithful discharge of the duties of his office would require.'

"Dr. Townson's final work was 'a Discourse on the Evangelical History, from the Interment, to the Ascension, of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.' This was begun in 1778, as soon as the Discourses on the Gospel were published; and the important subject engaged his best thoughts and attention during the fourteen succeeding years of his life. The revised manuscript was given up for publication the very day before his death, which to the great regret of all who knew him, took place on Sunday evening, April 15, 1792. He was interred, agreeably to his own directions, in the churchyard of Malpas."

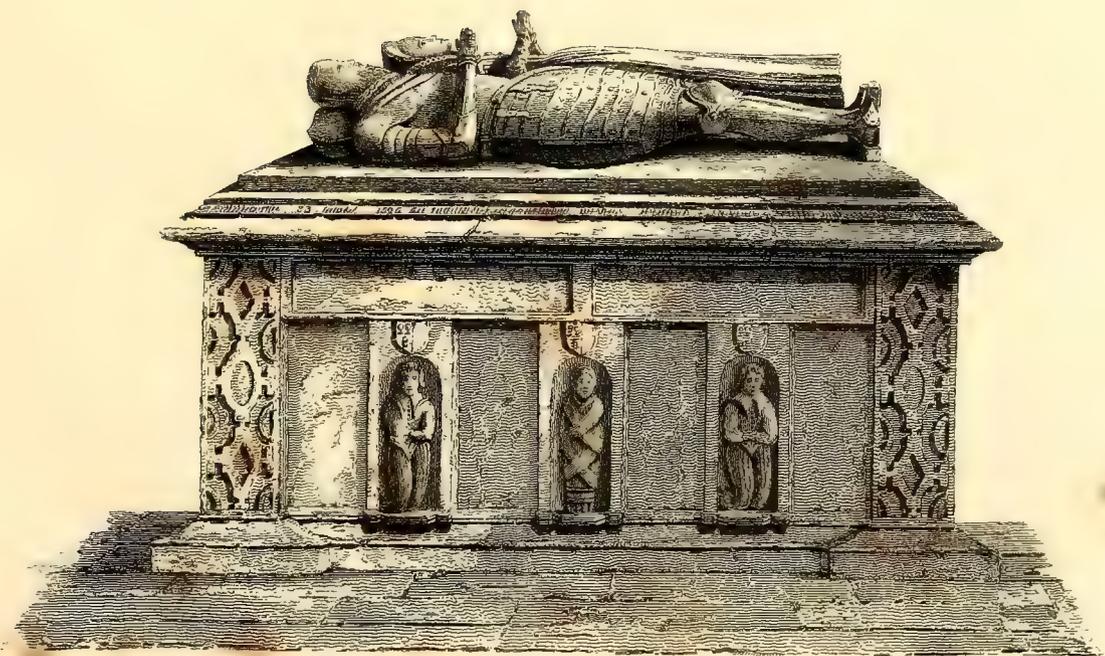
"His Discourse on our Lord's Resurrection, was published in 1792, by the care of John Loveday, D. C. L. according to the wish of the author: of whom an account was prefixed: and in 1810, his collected works were published in two volumes, 8vo. together with a revised account of the author, by Ralph Churton, M. A. rector of Middleton, Cheney, co. Northampton, and archdeacon of St. David's, a native of this parish."

³ In the possession of archdeacon Churton. It is in the hand writing of Katherine, daughter of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. and mother of Arthur Mainwaring the poet.

⁴ The entire materials of this sketch of Thomas Townson, as well as the parts marked by inverted commas, are abstracted from the communications of archdeacon Churton.



MONUMENT OF SIR RANDLE BRERETON, MALPAS.



Geo. Pickering del^s

Wm Finden sculp^s

MONUMENT OF SIR HUGH CHOLMONDELEY, MALPAS.



CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Oswald.

Tax. Eccl. 26l. 13s. 4d.

Val. Eccl. First Portion, with St. Chad's Chapel,
48l. 8s. 4d.

Second Portion, with Whitewell Chapel, 44l. 19s. 2d.

The Church of Malpas is a handsome specimen of the enriched Gothic of the later part of the reign of Henry VII. and consists of a low tower, nave, chancel, and side aisles, which terminate in two chancels erected by the Cholmondeleys of Cholmondeley, and Breretons of Shocklach and Malpas Hall. The windows are large, and well calculated for a brilliant display of that essential accompaniment of Gothic architecture, with which the taste and piety of earlier ages decorated the Cheshire churches in profusion. They are, however, too large to be filled, as they now are, with common glass, and cast a cold and cheerless air of nakedness on the whitewashed walls.

The roof is of carved wood; the intersection of the beams ornamented with foliage, and each square formed by this intersection, filled with a quatrefoil.

An arch in the steeple formerly exhibited the great western window to the church, but the lower part is now concealed by a projecting gallery, erected by sir Robert Cholmondeley in 1612. Under this gallery stands a font of grey marble, given by the late Philip Egerton, of Oulton, esq.

The side aisles are divided from the nave by six lofty arches, resting on clustered columns. In the wall of the north aisle are three pointed arches, under one of which is a flat stone ornamented with tracery, and near them another stone, on which is a cross fleury fitché, which was probably removed from beneath these arches.

The *Cholmondeley chancel* is divided from the north aisle and the nave by a rich Gothic screen of oak, round the upper part of which is inscribed, "Orate pro bono statu Richardi Cholmundeleigh, et Elizabeth uxoris ejus, hujus sacelli factores, anno domini millesimo quingentesimo quarto decimo.

In this chancel is the sepulchral monument of sir Hugh Cholmondeley the elder, and his son, the younger sir Hugh, consisting of an alabaster altar tomb, with the following inscription. "Hugo Cholmundelei de Cholmundelei senior, miles, Walliæ de Marg' vice p'ses, sextus vicecomes, mortem obiit, aº ætatis suæ 83, aº d'ni 1596, et hac humo sepelitur: filiusq' heres ejus Hugo Cholmundelei miles, annum agens 50, diem clausit ultimum, aº domini 1601, et hic jacet; uxorque ejus do'i'a Maria, quæ post viri obitum propter charum illius in se amorem hoc erigi fecit monumentum aº do'i 1605.

On the tomb is a figure of sir Hugh in a complete suit of plate armour, a ruff round his neck, and his head resting on a helmet. His lady is represented, also recumbent, at his side: her head reposing on two pillows, a ruff round her neck, and chains dependant from her neck to her waist.

On the south side are two kneeling figures of children in niches, between which, in another niche, is an infant in swaddling clothes; at the west end is a shield of the arms of Cholmondeley (10 quarterings) impaling Holford (4 quarterings). Cholmondeley, 1st, two esquire's helmets in chief, and a garb in base, Cholmondeley; 2d, lozengy a bend fretty, Cheney; 3d, a

chevron between three cocks, Capenhurst; 4th, quarterly in the 2d and 3d, a fret, Dutton; 5th, on a bend, three escarboucles, Thornton; 6th, a cross engrailed, Ermine, Kingsley; 7th, a saltire, Hellesby; 8th, a chevron between three garbs, Hatton; 9th, a star of eight rays within the horns of a crescent, Minshull; 10th, two bends. Impalement of Holford, 1st and 4th, a greyhound statant, Holford; 2nd, a chevron between three text T's, Toft; 3d, a chevron between three bull's heads, Bulkeley.

Above this is a mural monument, inscribed:

To the memory

of

the Rt. Hon. Mary, Viscountess Malpas,
wife of

the Rt. Honble. Lord Viscount Malpas,
daughter of

the Rt. Honble. Sir Robert Walpole,
Knight of the Garter.

She died at Aix in France, Dec^r. yº 21, 1731,
in the 26th year of her age.

Arms, Cholmondeley impaling Walpole, Or, on a fesse between two chevronels, Sable, three cross crosslets of the first.

The Brereton chancel now passes by the name of Egerton's chancel, having passed with the heir general of Brereton of Shocklach and Malpas to the Egertons of Ridley. In consequence of this the crest of Egerton of Egerton has been recently improperly painted on the door of the chancel.

It is inclosed by a screen of carved oak, round the upper part of which is inscribed, Pray good people for the prosperous estate of sir Rondulph Brereton, of thys werke edificatour, wyth his wyfe dame Helenour, and after thys lyfe transytorie to obteyne eternal felicitie. Amen. Amen.

In this chancel is an altar-tomb of white alabaster, which has been originally painted and gilt, round the edges of the slab runs the following inscription:

Hic jacent Randulfus Brereton, Miles Baronit' ac Camerar' Cestr', et D'na Elynora uxor ejus, qui quidem Randulfus et Elynora du' i' humanis vixerunt, hanc tumbam fieri fecerunt, scilicet in festo Sc'i Michaelis Archangeli, Anno d'ni millesimo, quingentesimo, vicesimo secundo, quorum a'i'abus p'pitietur Deus. Amen.

One side of the tomb, and end of the tomb, are concealed by the wall to which it has been removed; on the other side are seven figures in niches, under very elegant Gothic canopies, as represented in the annexed engraving; and on the slab are the recumbent figures of the founders of the oratory, sir Randle Brereton, of Malpas and Shocklach, and his lady, Eleanor, daughter of Peter Dutton, of Hatton, esq. beautifully executed in white marble. The knight is in plate armour, with a collar of SS. a lion at his feet, and his head reposing on his helmet, with the crest of Brereton. The lady's head reposes on a double cushion, supported by a mutilated figure in a robe; her hair bound with a narrow ribband, appears under a veil, and the lower part of her mantle is guarded by a small dog on each side, as is usually the case in the monumental figures of females of this and the preceding century. The cords which hold her mantle over the breast, are tastefully drawn together on the waist, and terminate in tassels at the knee.

There are two piscinas in the south wall of the chancel, and some larger niches, the purposes of which are not known.

In the chancel are twelve ancient oak stalls, and in the south wall two niches for the officiating priests. The wainscot within the communion rails was given by Montague Gerard-Drake, esq. in 1720.

Over the altar is a fine painting of Peter's Denial of Christ by Hayman, given by Assheton Curzon, esq. afterwards lord Curzon, in 1778.

Under the altar is a vaulted room, probably originally used as a secure place for depositing the church plate, and other valuables.

In the tower are six bells^u, new cast in 1808. The inscriptions on four of the five old bells were as follows: the first is important, as it is most probably the date of the re-erection of the church. On the great bell, "Sir Randle Brereton, kt. chamberlin of Chester, gave this bell in 1508. On the second, in capitals, Gloria Deo in excelsis. On the third, in Longobardic capitals, Ave Maria, Gracia plena, tecum Dominus: before this, was a cross patonce, said by Erdswick to be the genuine antient bearing of the Suttons, which makes it probable that this bell belonged to the former church. On the fourth, Omnia propter seipsum creavit Dominus. 1624.

It remains to notice the monumental inscriptions, which were transcribed and communicated by archdeacon Churton.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

On an escutcheon fixed to the upper pillar in the north aisle, on three scrolls, one on each side of the arms, the other below:

HEERE vnder lyeth the
bodyes of Robert Alport
of Overton in y^e county of
Chester, esq. who married

ANNE one of y^e daughters of s^r
Tho. Mainwaringe of Peever b^t.

by whom she had issue Mary y^t ob^{it}
yonge; Rich. Anne, and Jane, s^vived y^m.

SHE died 30th December and was buried
4th of January, 1686. Aged 32. He died 27th of Jan.
and was buried y^e 1st
of Feb. an'o 1686. Aged 28.

Virtus vivet.

Arms, Overton impaling Mainwaring. Overton, Gules, six pears slipped, 3, 2, 1, Or; on a chief of the second, a crescent Sable for difference. Mainwaring, Argent, two bars Gules. Crest, on a wreath Gules and Or, a man's hand Gules, holding a pear slipped Or, the stalk Sable.

Carved in stone beneath, two lion's gambes, chevron wise, between three lures. Crest, a lure on a wreath.

In the middle aisle, on a brass plate, in Roman capitals:

Heere lyeth interred the
body of Standley Burroughes
gent. chiefe steward to
the Right Hon'ble Robert
Viscount Cholmondeley,

^u Information of archdeacon Churton.

* The epitaph is concise, apposite, and striking; which, tradition says, the subject of it well deserved. He took into his service a little boy, named William Povey, to give him his horse, saying, "If (as the father feared) he is too little to bridle him, he must get into the manger. And if he is a good boy, and lives with me till I die, I will settle an annuity of 10l. a year on him for life." A grant to that effect was accordingly made and kept in his hands, till, upon occasion of sickness, he ordered it to be given up to Povey; saying, "If I die, it is his; and if I live, we shall never differ about it." This Povey, who died in 1723, aged 94, was one of three persons employed in the Grand Rebellion to bury plate under the gravel walk at Bickley Hall (where Robert earl of Leinster viscount Cholmondeley lived), and to put firkins of money into what have since, from that circumstance, been called "the money pits." Upon searching for these treasures afterwards, the plate was safe, but the money was gone. Povey used, in later life, to read Sanderson's History of the Rebellion, and weep over it, well remembering those days of trouble. Information of his daughter, Mary Betteley, who died a widow, and upwards of fourscore, in 1782. Communicated by archdeacon Churton.

who after a faithfull
discharge of anothers
trust, perfected the
account of his owne dayes
October the 12th, in the
yeare of our Lord 1653.*

Arms, Burroughs, on a fess indented three annulets, in chief a crescent for difference, impaling quarterly, 1 and 4, a cross engrailed, counterchanged per pale.

Adjoining Mr. Dod's pew, on a brass plate, in Roman capitals:

Ranulphus Dod, Armiger,
de Edge, in com. Cest. Dominus
suis aliisq. exoptatissimus
mortales exuvias

(quas saxo hoc textit Vidua mœstissima)
deposuit

Junii 16, An'o Dom. 1679, ætatis suæ 46.

Arms, party per pale, Argent, a fess between two barrulets wavy Gules, three crescents Or, for Dod; impaling five fusils in cross, for Essington.

Crest, on a wreath a garb Or, a serpent, winding round it and piercing it, Vert.

In Mr. Dod's pew, quarterly, carved in wood and gilt, 1 and 4 arms of Dod as above; 2 and 3, party per fess, an eagle displayed, Edge. Crest, Dod, as before.

Over the pew, adjoining the Egerton chancel, on boards, in a frame:

M. S.

Joannis Dod de Broxon, Armig. pacis publicæ
apparatissimi custodis, privatæ gravis et fœlicis arbitri:
cui fortuna pares et gloria alios habemus:
virtutibus forsân neminem.

Erat enim rerum et virorum prudens:
et secundis temporibus dubiisq. rectus:
quo nemo cultior, nemo melior, nemo dignior immortalitate:
sic integer ille.

Amicorum, liberorum, annorum, et famæ satur
obiit September xiii. m.dc.xc.

et mortuus adhuc loquitur.
Paucis post annis charissima conjux F. D. fatis etiam
cessit

et vicino in sepulchro mariti jam claudit latus:
Arcta nimis tabula, et demortua virtutibus impar:
non dat cæteris locum:

Brevi, et vixit bene, et obiit Jan. 31^o. mḏcciv.

The arms fixed above the monument are: Ermine, on a fesse between two barrulets wavy Gules, three crescents Or, for Dod of Broxton, impaling, party per chevron, Sable and Gules, three goat's heads erased Argent, attired Or, langued Gules, for Shallerden.

Two crests, 1st, on a wreath a cubit arm proper, holding a pick-axe Sable, handle Or, Dod; 2nd, on a wreath, a goat's head erased Argent, attired Or, langued Gules, Shallerden.

On a brass plate in the aisle, in Italics.

HERE lyeth Franck Shallerden,
relict of John Shallerden, of the

county of Kent, esq. whose sole daughter and heires, John Dod, of Broxon, esq. married; she dyed March 1st, 1680.

HERE lyeth interred the body of Thomas Clutton, esq. late of Chorlton, who departed this life, Decemb. the 20th, Anno Dom. 1729, in the 63d year of his age.

Near the desk, in Italics, some parts nearly worn out:

[Here lyeth the body of] Tho. Bu[lkeley, of Bu]lkeley: gent. who dy[ed] day of Februa[ry, Anno D]om. 170[] in y^e [] of his age.

And also, in Roman letters:

Robt. Bulkeley, junr. who departed this life April y^e 4th, 1735, aged 2[] years, 10 months, and two days.

Adjoining the above, in Roman capitals.

Here lyeth the [b]ody of Richard Bulkeley, y^e 3d son of Tho. Bulkeley of Bulkeley, gen. who dyed in Ch[ester], the 18 day of June, Anno Dom. [1]708, in y^e 18 year of his age.

On a brass plate in the same stone:

Also Eliz. widow of Thos. Bulkeley, late of Bulkeley, gen. who died Sept. 17, 1730. Likewise Margt. daughter of the s^d Thos. and Eliz. who died May 18, 1731.

Adjoining, nearer the chancel, in capitals as above:

Here lyeth the body of Elizabeth, late wife of Thomas Bulkley of Bickerton, gen. who dyed the 12 day of October, an^o Dom. 1681.

Etat. sve 28.

West of the desk (still in the middle aisle):

Here lyeth [waiting for] a happy resurrection, the body of Eli[zabeth] wife of Thomas W[hitney] of Malpas, gent. who departed this life

December y^e 12th, Anno Dom. 1740, in y^e 20th year of her age.

Round the border of a flat white stone in the north-west corner of the Cholmondeley chancel in black letter:

Hic jacet corpus Vriani Davenport, quondam rectoris de Malpas et vicarii de Acton, qui quidem vicarius obiit vicesimo octavo die mensis Julii anno d'ni mill^{mo} cccc lxxxv^{to}. Cuius a'i'e propitietur d's. Amen.

On the stone, circumscribed as above, is the effigies of a clergyman, the lines (as the letters are also) filled with

black, but now almost obliterated, his head resting on a cushion with eight tassels.

Contiguous to this, on a brass plate in a blue marble slab, in black-letter:

PHILIPP de Egerton sez fe'mez et cez enfauntez gilount icy Dieu de lo' almes eit mercy.

In the church-yard, almost contiguous to the end of the chancel:

M. S.

Here lyeth the body of the Reverend Tho. Sandys, M. A. rector of y^e higher rectory of Malpas: who departed this life y^e 12th day of August, in y^e 68th year of his age, and of our Lord 1713.

Here lyeth allso the body of Hannah his wife: who departed y^s life y^e 21st day of y^e same month, in y^e 65th year of her age.

On a flat stone, near the chancel door, in capital letters:

T[homas] Caldwell
S[erian]t of the In-
[ner Temp]le, esq. son
[of Christ]opher
[Caldw]ell, of Hubbock
to[n]n in Ireland.
D[ied Aug]ust the 12,
16[]7, [a]nd lyes
he[re] buried.

On a head-stone:

In
memory of Samuel
Hopley, poet, late of
Duckington, who left this
life in hope of a better, Septem.
the 11th, 1769. Aged 66.

In the chancel, on a flat stone adjoining the south wall, above the first step in the chancel, in capitals:

Hea[re ly]
ethe the
bodie of
Roger Br
ereton of
Hoton, sq
uiar, bu
ried the 25
of Maye
1590.

On the next stone but one, in capitals, the letters filled with black:

[Hic jacet]
... icia Alexand
ri Walthall
nuper de Wus
ton in comit.
Cestr. Armigeri
relicta quæ
obiit x Decemb.
A° Dⁱ MDCLX.

On a plain white marble slab, against the south wall of the chancel:

The Reverend Thomas Townson, D.D.
Archdeacon of Richmond,
whose remains are interred, as he directed,
near the north wall of the church yard,

was sometime Fellow of
St. Mary Magdalen College, Oxford,
and more than forty-one years Rector of
the lower mediety of this parish ;
where constant attention
to the temporal wants and spiritual welfare
of every rank,
joined with benignity of mind,
and courtesy of manners,
gained him universal esteem
and cordial affection.

He was learned, humble, pious :
his writings were distinguished by
classical elegance, sound argument,
evangelical purity :

his devotion
was fervent without enthusiasm,
his liberality
inexhaustible, yet studiously concealed ;
his cheerfulness invariable,
and his countenance heavenly.

His life and death were alike edifying,
the one was piety, the other peace.
He expired full of hope in Jesus Christ,
on Sunday evening, April 15, 1792,
aged 77 years.

On a flat stone in the chancel, in capitals :

HERE lyeth the body of Judeth Dod, wife of Thomas
Dod of Shocklach, gentleman, who decessed the
. . . day of January, 1651.

On a white marble, fixed to the wall above the com-
munion table.

M. S.

Bridgettæ Kinaston,
quondam uxoris Joh'is
Kinaston de Morton in
com. Salop. arm. quæ obiit
8 die April. anno 1664, et
hic jacet sepulta.
Et Dominæ Judithæ Bridgman,
eorum filiæ et cohæredis,
quæ obiit 12 Julii eodem anno
et sepulta jacet Oxonii
Joh'es Bridgman, Armiger, hoc
pietatis et officii sui erga
charissimos parentes
monumentum
posuit.

Below, on a flat stone in the pavement of the chan-
cel, is inscribed in capitals :

BRIDGETTA Kinaston de Morton, vidua venerabilis et
pia, obdormivit in D'no 8 April, 1644. Resurgam.

In the pavement of the chancel, in part covered with
a pew :

HEARE liethe the bodie of Robart Leeche, Doctor of
Lawe and chancelor to the Bushope of Chester, who
died the th'rde daye of November, Anno Domini 1587.

Sara Leech, died 28 J 165 . .

In the south aisle, a mural monument of free stone
painted, ornamented with a cherub on each side, wings
gilded ; below, a death's head ; a branch of palm on each
side, gilded. The shield for the inscription oval, convex.

In hopes of a
blessed resurrection
near to this place lyeth interred the

body of John Stockton, of Kiddington in this
county, esq. who changed this life for a
better, on the 18th day of Oct. in the year of our
Lord God 1700, and in ye 56th year of his age.

To his lamented loss, for time to come,

His mournfull widdow consecrates this tomb.

Above, these arms. Gules, a chevron checky Argent
and Azure, between three mullets Or, for Stockton, im-
paling sinister, Argent, a pale Sable. Crest destroyed.

On a brass plate in the aisle, in capitals :

Memoriæ sacrum.

Stocktonus pacis semper placidissimus autor

Sub duro situs hic marmore pace fruor.

Ætas illæsa vidui tricesima famâ,

Florentem sobolem patre cadente videt

Discede's lachrymas, quot pax si abitura reliqui

Cælo pacificis præmia pacto fero.

Eugenio patri posuit Eugenius filius.

Obiit 2 die Decembris, Anno Domini 1610.

Arms, a chevron vary Argent and Azure, between
three mullets.

On a smaller brass plate in the same stone, in capitals :

Here lyes buried Owen

Stockton, gent. who deces-

sed the second day of December,

1610, and John Stockton his

eldest sonn, who decessed

the eighteenth day of June,

1643.

Nearer to the Egerton chancel, on a brass plate, in
capitals :

Here lyeth interred the bodie

of that vertuous ladie Dame

Alice Brereton, late wife

to sir Thomas Brereton, knight,

who departed this life the

xii day of September, 1622.

THE RECTORS of Malpas, in addition to the TITHES of
their own parish, have the tithes of part of the hamlet
of Bechin in the parish of Coddington. They have
also a yearly pension of 20s. yearly issuing from the
Grafton hall estate in the parish of Tilston.

Impropriations of tithes are claimed by the marquis
of Cholmondeley in Cholmondeley and other townships,
by sir J. G. Egerton in Egerton, and by T. C. Dod, esq.
in Duckington and Edge, but are at present likely to
be a subject of legal discussion.

The corn tithes of the parish are valued annually ;
there is a small modus for hay.

CHARITIES.

^a The grammar-school of Malpas was founded partly
by subscriptions, and partly by a benefaction of Hugh,
first earl of Cholmondeley, who took the money raised
by the subscribers, amounting, with his own benefac-
tion of 200l. to 536l. 11s. and charged an estate in
Malpas, called the Old Hall, with a rent charge of 25l.
for the use of the schoolmaster, to whom he also gave a
house and school-room, with an adjoining tenement.
The earl of Cholmondeley appoints the master, but the
right of appointment lapses to the trustees after a certain
time. The school is free only to the heirs of the sub-

^a Communicated by archdeacon Churton.

scribers. The school was rebuilt in 1795. The room is used now as a dining-room for boarders, who are taught in a building erected by the present master on his own premises.

^b Another school was founded by Richard Alport, of Overton, esq. who by will dated Dec. 16, 1719, left 500*l.* to establish a charity-school at Malpas, for the education of boys and girls. The trustees, William Dod of Edge, Edward Wright of Stretton, and John Puleston of Pickhill, esqrs. built with that sum a school, and purchased in Overton a farm of between fifty and sixty acres. The rents thereof have hitherto supported the school in educating a very small number of children, but by establishing the national system, the present trustees hope to be able to educate all the poor children of this extensive parish.

^c A hospital was founded here by sir Randle Brereton of Shocklach, about the reign of Henry VIII., to which the indigent were admitted at the discretion of the head of the family, as permanent founder. Sir Thomas Brereton, kt. further endowed the same, 1 Car. I. with a sum charged on his estate at Newton in this parish.

^e The present hospital, or alms-house, on the south side of the church street, was built in the year 1721 by Hugh, earl of Cholmondeley, for the reception of six poor persons, who have each a separate dwelling and garden, and a small weekly allowance, which is paid out of the estate in Newton (now the property of Mr. Drake) on which it was originally charged by sir Thomas Brereton. The poor persons are nominated by the earl of Cholmondeley.

^d Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor, who died in Jan. 1748-9, bequeathed 500*l.* for the purpose of clothing poor men and women of the townships of Malpas and Edge. With this sum, 771*l.* stock in the Old South Sea Annuities was purchased. For some time the expenditure of the dividends was interrupted. The dividends accumulating in that interval were invested in the same stock, and being added to the original capital, the annual produce from the whole is 27*l.* The rectors of Malpas for the time being are trustees. Mrs. Taylor was sister to the late Thomas Dod, esq. of Edge, and wife to the rev. William Taylor, rector of the lower mediety of Malpas.

^d Dr. Thomas Townson, archdeacon of Richmond, and rector of the lower mediety of Malpas, who died in April 1792, left 500*l.* stock in the Old South Sea Annuities: the dividends he ordered to be applied principally to the educating and clothing of poor children, after the respective deaths of certain annuitants. There was an interval in which the application of the dividends due to the charity, from local circumstances, was interrupted. The accumulated dividends in this case likewise were added to the original stock, and the

yearly income from this bequest, at present, regularly expended for the children, is 9*l.* 4*s.* One annuitant yet survives, at whose death 7*l.* 10*s.* per annum will fall to the charity. The rectors of Malpas are the trustees.

^d There are many smaller legacies and donations, the produce of which is distributed in doles to the poor of the parish at large, or of some particular townships, which are specified in the parliamentary return.

CHAPELS.

There are two chapels in this parish, Whitewell chapel in Iscoyd, distant about five miles, and Chad chapel in Tushingham, about three miles from the church. Neither of them has any salary or endowment belonging to it; they are served alternately by the rectors or curates, and divine service is performed in one of them morning and afternoon, on all Sundays except when there is a sacrament at the church. Both the chapel-yards, within the last thirty years, in consequence of the increase of population, have occasionally been used as places of sepulture. The first person interred at Whitewell was the rev. Richard Congreve. A mural monument of white marble within the chapel (near his grave in the chapel-yard) has the following inscription, written by Dr. Townson, who was his contemporary at Christ Church, and intimate friend through life.

Near this place lie the remains
of the rev. Richard Congreve, A. M.
son of John, grandson of Richard Congreve, esquires,
of Stretton and Congreve in Staffordshire,
who departed this life, in hope of a blessed resurrection,
through the mercies of God in his Redeemer Jesus Christ,
July 27th, 1782, aged 68 years:
esteemed and regretted by all who knew him
for his benevolence, liberality, and diffusive charity.
Martha his wife, daughter of Mr. Jones of Fynnant,
by whom he left three children,
William, Richard, and Mariamne,
hath placed this small token of her tender regard
for the memory of a kind and affectionate husband.

Chad chapel in Tushingham is a mean small building of brick. In the conveyances of the manor, as hereafter mentioned, the chapel was conveyed with the estate, and was claimed in consequence thereof, by Susanna, daughter of Thomas Churton, gent. then seized of the manor, in 1716. After a short dispute, the chapel, which, from the appropriation of the seats, was of no value, was abandoned to the rectors, whose successors have since retained undisturbed possession.

EGERTON.

THE Domesday Survey omits mention of this township, but there can be no doubt of its being comprehended within the limits of the original barony of Malpas.

In the preceding account of that district, it has been stated, that, according to the most probable tradition,

the Norman grantee, Robert Fitz-Hugh, left two daughters, the younger of whom, Mabilia, brought a moiety thereof in marriage to William Belward, on the decease of whose descendant, William de Malpas, without legitimate issue, his base son David possessed himself of the barony, to the prejudice of his eldest uncle, Philip,

^b Communicated by T. C. Dod, esq.

^d Communicated by the rev. Ralph Bridge, M. A. curate of Malpas.

^c Communicated by archdeacon Churton.

surnamed Goch. From this Philip the township of Egerton has descended to sir John Grey Egerton, bart. who, by the decease of the late earl of Wilton, has become heir male of the antient family which derive their name from this manor.

Philip Goch most probably received from his brother the manor of Egerton, but it is clear that a considerable portion of his lands were the gift of another family, which settled here, and assumed the local name. Their representative, David, son of Wyan de Egerton, by deed without date, granted lands here to Philip, son of David de Malpas. "*Test. Willielmo de Malo passu et David filio suo;*" and by another deed he afterwards granted to the said Philip all his lands "*infra has divisas de Egerton, scilicet de rivulo de Hanton, usq. ad rivulum molendini de Egerton.*" From the designation of David the witness, it seems as if the Egertons had not ventured on questioning his legitimacy in the life of his father^a. The said Philip de Malpas, son of David de Malpas, by deed without date gives all his lands in Cheshire to David his son, except the lands which he has settled on his son Hova, and also to the same David all his lands of Egerton and Sandhull. Witness, Alan le Zouche, just. Cest. David de Malpas, and Hamo de Masey. Seal, an arrow with the point downwards between two pheons^b.

David de Malpas, son of Philip by Catherine Hul-ton, received by deed without date from Amicia, widow of Randle de Thorneton, all her lands in Crowton, in frank marriage with Cecilia her daughter^c.

Philip de Egerton, issue of this marriage, and sheriff of Cheshire 23 and 24 Edw. I. married Margaret, daughter of Catherine de Wrenbury, with whom he had lands in Wordhull, in frank marriage, by deed of the said Catherine without date^d.

David, son of Philip de Egerton, contracted with John de St. Pierre, that his son and heir, Philip, should marry Ellena, daughter of the said John. Marriage portion 80 marks, to be returned if Ellena died before consummation. Dated at Egerton, 9 Edw. II. Monday after the Epiphany^e.

Philip de Egerton, after the death of Ellena de St. Pierre, married Matilda, daughter of . . . , and vested his lands in trust in William, son of Stephen Dodd, of Edge, who makes the following settlement, which identifies Urian, ancestor of the present line of Egerton, as a younger brother of this Philip.

"Ego Willielmus filius Stephani Dodd de Edge, dedi Philippo de Egerton et Matild. uxori suæ, et hered. masc. de corp. p'd'ti Philippi, tot. terr. quæ tenent. ex dimiss. meâ in Edge, &c. reman. David. fil. David. de Egerton, fr'i d'ci Phi. et pro defectu reman. Uriano de Egerton, fr'i d'ci David. et post mortem p'd'corum Phi. Matildi's, Davidis, Uriani, remanere Margaretæ sorori p'd'ti Phi. remanere rectis heredibus anted'ci W'i, fil. Stephani Dodd. Dat. apud Egerton, 29 Edw. III." ^f

The said Philip de Egerton, 20 Edw. III. gives to Geoffry de Denston, and John de Wiggington, chaplains, the manor of Egerton and Wichalgh, with all his lands and tenements in Bykerton, Malpas, Chidlowe, Wigland, Chester, Hoole, and Over. Seal, *a lion rampant between six pheons*, circumscribed "*Sigillum Philippi de Egerton;*" which manors and estate the said chaplains release to David, son of Philip de Egerton and Isabel his

wife, in the same year. And in the following year, Philip de Egerton gives to David his son, and Isabella his wife, daughter of Hugh de Venables, 20l. rent. Seal as before^g.

Inq. p. m. 36 Edw. III. Philip de Egerton died seized of 15 acres of land in Wordhull, which he bought from Hugh de Wordhull, and had settled the preceding manors and estates, except Wichalgh, on himself for life, remainder to David his son, and the heirs of his body by Isabella his wife; remainder to the heirs of Philip, and had settled the manor of Wichalgh on himself for life, and Ellen his wife, remainder as before.

David de Egerton dying issueless, was succeeded by his sisters, Ellen and Isabella, the latter of whom also dying issueless, after recovering a fourth part of the barony of Malpas, from the heirs of David the Bastard, her property underwent a triple division. A part vested in her sister Ellena, wife of sir William Brereton, in whose right the Breretons became representatives of the Egertons, as far as concerned the barony of Malpas, and finally recovered their entire moiety^h; another small share went to Hugh, son of David de Malpas, of the base line; and the manors of Egerton and Wichalgh, with other estates, by virtue of a settlement, 37 Edw. III. passed to Philip, son of Urian de Egerton, ancestor of the present family, whose connection with this house, as younger brother of Philip de Egerton, father of the co-heiresses, has been already identified. From this point to 21 Jac. I. the descent of the estates of the Egertons of Egerton, will be traced by the following extracts from the records of Chester Exchequer.

19 Ric. II. April 13. Enrollment of a mandate to the escheator to deliver to Philip de Egerton, son and heir of Urian de Egerton, certain messuages and lands in Malpas, Aggeton, Wygland, Masefen, Bykerton, Newton, Tussyncham, Over Fulwich, and Nether Fulwich, together with the homages and services of Hugh, son of Roger de Malpas, and others, as parcel of the fourth part of the manor of Malpas; and also the manors of Egerton and Wichalgh, and certain messuages, lands, mills, rents, &c. in Bykerton, Malpas, Chidlowe, Chester, and Hole, which descended to the said Philip after the death of Isabel, the wife of sir John Delves, knight, who died seized thereof, without any issue of her body.

Also to deliver other estates of the said Isabel, including the manor of Duckington, to William, son of sir William Brereton, and other lands to Hugh, son of David de Malpas.

Inq. p. m. 24 Hen. VI. In the 37th year of king Edward the Third, a fine was levied on the manors of Egerton and Wichehalgh, and 28 messuages, a windmill, and certain rents in Bykerton, Malpas, Chydlowe, Chester, and Hole, to the use of David, son of Philip Egerton for life; remainder to sir John de Delves, kt. and Isabella his wife, in special tail male; remainder to Urian de Egerton, in tail male, with other remainders. After the death of the said David, and of the said sir John de Delves, and Isabella his wife, who died without leaving any issue male; and also after the death of the said Urian, the said manors and other premises came into the possession of the said Philip Egerton, esq. as son and heir of the said Urian, who died seized thereof in tail male, leaving his son, sir John Egerton, his heir.

The said Philip Egerton also died seized in tail, of a

^a Egerton deeds in the possession of the Breretons. Harl. MSS. 2074. 144.
^f Harl MSS. 2074. 147.

^g Ibid.

^b Ibid.

^c Ibid.

^d Ibid.

^e Ibid. 146. b.

^h Vide Malpas.

third part of a moiety of a fourth part, consisting of messuages, lands, and tenements, in Masefen, Bykerton, Newton, Tussyncham, Over Fulwiche, and Nether Fulwiche, which were granted to the said Isabella de Delves, in tail male, with a like remainder to the said Philip Egerton.

24 Hen. VI. March 10. Enrollment of a mandate to the escheator to deliver to John de Egerton, son and heir of Philip de Egerton, all his lands in Cheshire, including the manor of Egerton, except certain lands and rents therein, and in Bykerton, and Wichalgh, parcel of the said manor, lands in Chidlow, and Hole; a third part of a fourth part of the manor of Malpas, which passed to the said Philip on the death of Isabella Delves, by virtue of a writing by sir John de Mascy, knight, who granted the same, under the description of lands, &c. in Malpas, Agden, Wigland, Macefen, Bickerton, Newton, and Tussingham, and a moiety of the brinepits in Over and Nether Fulwich, to the said Isabella, in fee tail, with remainder to Philip, son of Urian de Egerton aforesaid.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Sir John Egerton, knight, son of Philip Egerton, esq. deceased, died seized in tail male of the manors of Egerton and Wichehalgh, and of divers messuages, lands, and rents, in Bykerton, Malpas, Chydellow, Chester, and Hole, by virtue of a fine levied a° 37 Edw. III.; also of lands in Hole, a fourth part of the manor of Hampton, and a third part of a moiety of a fourth part of the manor of Malpas, except 6 messuages, and 100 acres of land, parcel of the same manor. Philip de Egerton, son and heir.

38 Hen. VI. May 16. Enrollment of a mandate to the escheator, to deliver the same to Philip de Egerton.

Inq. p. m. 13 Edw. IV. Philip, son of sir John Egerton, knight, died seized in tail male, and in fee, of the manors, messuages, and lands last mentioned, leaving John Egerton his son and heir, a minor.

Inq. p. m. 1 Ric. III. John Egerton, esq. held in fee when he died, the manor of Egerton, a rent issuing out of Hole, a rent in Oldcastel, Wychehalgh, and Tussyncham, messuages in Nantwich, Norbury, Edge, Kidington, and Edlaston, a fourth part of Tussyncham ferry, with the advowson of a fourth part of Malpas church.

1 Ric. III. Aug. 10. Enrollment of a grant from the king to Richard Cholmondeley, of the custody of the estates of the aforesaid John Egerton, with the reversion of such lands, &c. as Margery, mother of the said John, and Elizabeth his widow, held in dower, out of the inheritance of Philip his son and heir, with the wardship and marriage of the said Philip.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. Margery, widow of Philip Egerton, esq. died seized for life, as her dower, of messuages and lands in Malpas, Masefen, Wichehalghe, Chidlowe, Fulwiche, Bickerton, Hampton, Hole, and Chester, with reversion to Philip Egerton, esq. son of John, son of Philip aforesaid.

1 Hen. VIII. June 27. Enrollment of a mandate to the escheator, to deliver the same to Philip Egerton, esq.

Inq. p. m. 26 Hen. VIII. Philip Egerton, esq. granted his manor of Egerton, and all his messuages, lands, and tenements in Egerton, Hampton, Wichalgh, Netherwiche, Fullwiche, Chidlow, Agden, Bradley, Malpas, Bickerton, Edge, Norbury, Olton, Budworth, Cleys, Wordhull, Calveley, Nantwich, Kelsal, Pole, Hole, Macefen, Sutton, and Chester, com. Cest.; and in Levynghon, com. Stafford, to George Bothe, of Dun-

ham Massey, esq. and others, to the uses contained in a settlement made by the said Philip, upon one part, and sir Randle Brereton, of Malpas, knight, in consideration of a marriage intended to be had between Philip Egerton, son and heir of the said Philip, and Eleanor daughter of the said sir Randle Brereton, knight.

Inq. p. m. 6 Eliz. Sir Philip Egerton, knight, held the manor of Egerton, and lands in Wichalgh, Bickerton, and Malpas, from the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, in capite, by military service, as the fourth part of a knight's fee. value, per annum, 34l. 13s. 1½d.; also the manor of Olton, and lands in Hampton, Egerton, Bradley, Chidlowe, Nantwich, Flaxyards, Poole, Calveley, Agden, Dirtwich, Netherwich, Tilston, Heath, Newton, and Oldcastle. He died July 5, 5th Eliz. John Egerton son and heir.

By *Inq. p. m.* 33 Eliz. John Egerton last named, died March 3, 33 Eliz. and left issue, John Egerton, esq. son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 21 Jac. I. Sir John Egerton, knight, died seized of the manors of Egerton, Hampton, Bickerton, Olton, Wichalgh, and Bradley, with lands in those townships, and Malpas, Agden, Droitwich, Chidlow, Tilston, Kelsall, Peele, and Budworth, Heath, Calveley, Rushon, Eaton, and Netherwich. Rowland Egerton son and heir.

Rowland Egerton was created a baronet, April 15, 1617, and by his wife Bridget, daughter and finally co-heiress of Arthur lord Grey de Wilton, had issue sir John Egerton, of Farthingoe, bart. (the immediate ancestor of the late earl of Wilton), and sir Philip Egerton, knight, second son, who inherited the Cheshire estates. From this sir Philip, the manors of Egerton and Oulton have descended to sir John Grey Egerton, baronet, according to the pedigree given in the account of Oulton.

The township of Egerton lies immediately adjacent to Cholmondeley, about one mile north-east of the thirteenth mile stone, on the Whitchurch road from Chester, in a low, sequestered situation, on the banks of a small rivulet, which is one of the sources of the Weever. Oulton was selected as the residence of the manorial lords of this place in Leland's time, and Egerton Hall, after being long abandoned to decay, is now completely destroyed, and its moated area, of about a statute acre, is levelled with the plough. Within this moat, which is supplied by the stream before mentioned, stands the antient chapel of Egerton, retaining its pointed east window, and fragments of architecture which indicate its original purposes, but completely desecrated, and used as a common barn.

The eldest line of this family, as mentioned in the account of Malpas, exercised an office of more importance than any of the functions of their barony, that of serjeant of the peace of Cheshire in fee. This office was wrested from them by the heirs of the illegitimate line, who held it in equal moieties.

The colours of the antient coat, Gules, 3 pheons, Argent, are said to have been changed by Urian de Egerton, who is further said¹ to have received the lion rampant, as an augmentation, for his services in the Scotch wars. It appears, however, from the preceding documents, that the lion was used by his elder brother Philip, and affixed to two deeds, 20 and 21 Edw. III.

Sir John Egerton, grandson of Urian, was slain at the battle of Blore Heath, on the part of the duke of Lancaster.

¹ Brydges' Edit. of Collins's Peerage, V. 531.

The annexed pedigree brings down the main stem of Egerton, from its separation from the parent house of Malpas, to the termination of the direct male line in the late earl of Wilton. The higher descents will be found in the account of Malpas, and the branch of the present

possessor of Egerton, who is now heir male, in the account of Oulton.

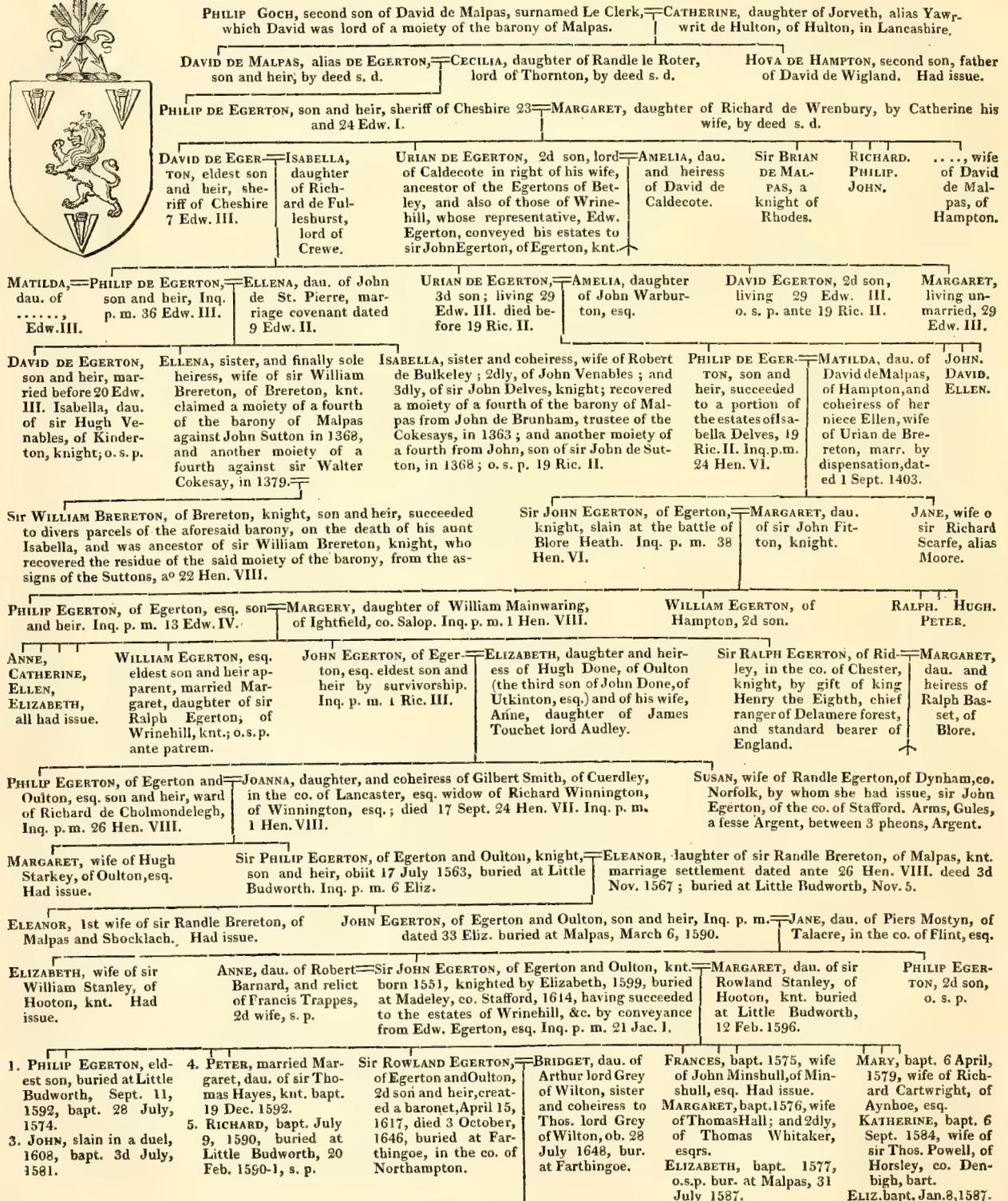
The jurisdiction of the leet of Egerton, extends over Egerton, Tushingham cum Grindley, Wichhalgh, Macefen, Chidlow, Larton, and Bradley Green¹.

EGERTON, OF EGERTON.

From the Records of the College of Arms and the Exchequer of Chester, and the Parochial Registers.

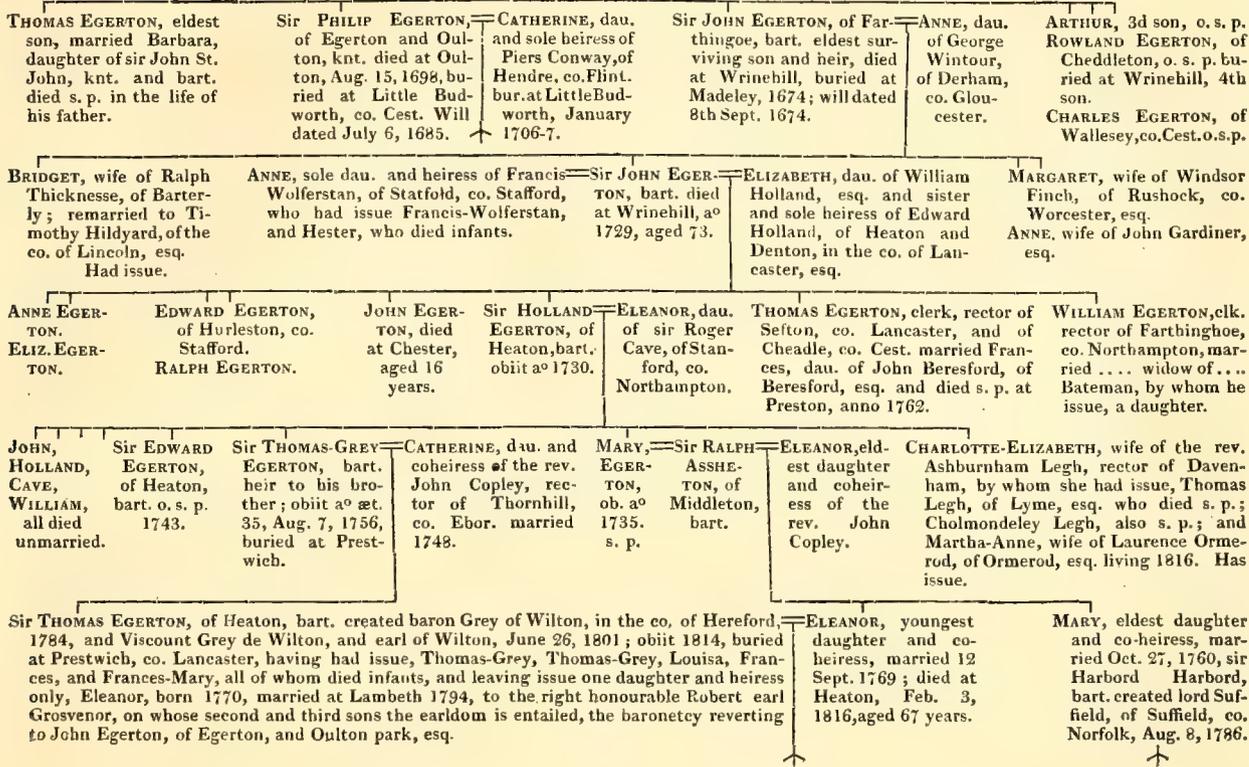
Arms. Argent, a lion rampant Gules, between three pheons Sable.

Crest. On a wreath three arrows, two in saltier, and one in pale, Or, headed and feathered Sable, bound with a ribbon Gules.



¹ Information of Philip Humberstone, esq.

a



CHOLMONDELEY.

IMMEDIATELY adjacent to Egerton, lies the township of Cholmondeley: both townships were component parts of the barony of Malpas, granted out at a very early period to younger brothers of the lords of that fee, and vested at the present day in the heirs male of those grantees. The descent of Cholmondeley is however much more direct than that of Egerton, and it is still honoured with the residence of its noble proprietors. The place is thus described in Domesday.

“Isdem Robertus tenet Calmundelei; Edwinus et Dot, liberi homines, tenuous pro II maneriis: ibi II hidæ geldabiles. Terra est IV carucarum; Edwinus et Drogo tenent de Roberto: in dominio est una caruca et v. servi, et unus villanus et III bordarii, et unus præpositus, et faber cum una caruca: et silva ibi una leuva et dimidia longitudine et una latitudine: ibi tres haiæ; tempore R. Edwardi valebat XIII solidos, modo VI solidos et III denarios, habet dimidiam leuvam de plano.”

It does not appear that the interest which the subtenants possessed was of long duration.

Cholmondeley was included in that share of the barony which, after the death of Robert Fitz Hugh, passed to the Belwards, and, by the concurrent testimony of all genealogists, was granted by William Belward to his youngest son,

Robert, who assumed the local name, and was father

of Hugh de Chelmondelegh and Simon de Christelton, as appears by a deed entered in the Leger Book of the abbey of St. Werburgh, whereby the said Simon quits claims to his nephew, Robert de Chelmondelegh, all his lands in Christelton which he had by gift of Hugh, brother of the said Simon^a.

Hugh de Chelmondelegh, is said^b to have married Felice, a base daughter of Randle Blundeville, and to have had by her a daughter of the same name. He was certainly father of Robert and Richard de Chelmondelegh, and lived in the time of Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester, who occurs as witness to a deed whereby Randle, the before-mentioned earl, releases the said Hugh from suit to the hundred of Broxton for lands in Cholmondeley^c.

Robert de Chelmondelegh, son and heir of Hugh, as by deed of Simon de Christelton, gave to the abbey of St. Werburgh, the lands therein before-mentioned, together with his body, to be buried in the said abbey: which donation was confirmed by his brother Richard^d. He is stated in the MS history of the Cholmondeley family to have married Beatrix, daughter of Urian St. Pierre, and by her to have been father of Richard. This marriage is incongruous in point of time; and a second marriage with Weverilla, daughter of David de Malpas, by whom he is said^e to have had Agnes, ancestress of the Broxtons, is liable to a similar objection.

^a Leger Book, 39 b. Harl. MSS. 1965.

^b Collins on the authority of the Cholmondeley Pedigree, vol. IV. Edit. 1768.

^c Ibid.

^d Leger Book, as before.

^e Malpas Pedigree, Harl. MSS. 1535.

Richard de Chelmondeleghe, son and heir of this Robert, married Margery, daughter and finally coheir of Richard de Kingsley, forester of Delamere. By this marriage the Cholmondeleys obtained no share of the forestership, nor are they noticed among the descendants of the coheirs in Richard Done's claim in Eyre 31 Edw. I. from which circumstances the alliance has been doubted. It has been, however, abundantly proved, by the deeds given in the account of Kingsley^f, that Margery, one of the coheirs, did marry a Cholmondeley, and, by a deed^g seen by sir Peter Leycester, it appears that the Cholmondeleys inherited from this marriage a moiety of Barterton. From sir Peter Leycester's abstract of that deed, it would seem that Margery married Hugh, grandfather of the Richard to whom the authorities of Collins and the most respectable genealogies assign her, and with whom she agrees best in point of time. The difficulty can only be reconciled by supposing Leycester to have fallen into a clerical error, and that in abstracting the charter (of which he does not give the words) he inverted the names, and ought to have written, "Margery gave to *Hugh* her son, whom she had by *Richard* her husband," instead of making Richard succeed to her lands as son by Hugh. It has been ascertained that *Robert*, and not *Richard*, was the eldest son of Hugh de Cholmondeley alluded to, which strengthens this conjecture.

Hugh de Chelmondeleghe, son and heir of Richard (by whatsoever marriage) had license for a chapel at Cholmondeley from the rectors of Malpas, 13 Edw. I.^h and survived to 6 Edw. II. when holding the office of deputy serjeant of the peace under the barons of Malpas, he presented in that capacity, at Chester castle, the head of David le Cooper, who had suffered death by decollation for burglaries in Burwardsley and Cholmondeleyⁱ. Hugh de Chelmondeleghe married Catherine, daughter of William de Spurstow, by whom he had issue Richard, whose son Richard died without issue; William, who was found heir to the said Richard by Inq. 35 Edw. III.; Robert, ancestor of the Cholmondeleys of Chorley; and Thomas, styled son of Hugh de Cholmondeley in a deed of lands in Burton, 1325^k.

Richard de Chelmondeleghe, son and heir, succeeded to his father's estates before 13 Edw. II. in which year he had two suits at Chester with the abbot of St. Werburgh, relative to the boundaries of their respective manors of Christleton and Salghton fee^l. 31 Edw. III. in plea to a quo warranto, he claimed view of frankpledge and court-leet, with other privileges, for his manor of Cholmondeley, and courts for trial of all kinds of pleas within his manors of Cholmondeley and Christleton^m. He was succeeded by Richard his son and heir, (by Matilda his wife), who died issueless.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Richard, son of Richard de Cholmondeleghe, held in demesne as of fee, two parts of the manor of Cholmondeleghe, (of which Matilda, widow of the father of the said Richard, son of Richard, held 4 messuages and 60 acres of land in dower) by the services of the sixth part of a knight's fee. William, son of Hugh de Cholmondeleghe, next of kin and heir.

William de Chelmondeleghe married Elizabeth, daughter of sir William Brereton, of Brereton and Malpas, knight, by his second wife, Margaret Done. He died before

49 Edw. III. in which year sir William Brereton, in consideration of 166l. 3s. 4d. had a grant from the Black Priace, as earl of Chester, of the wardship and marriage of Richard, son of the said William, with the reversion of the dower of Matilda, widow of Richard de Cholmondeley (as in the preceding Inquisition), and the marriage of Katherine and Margery, daughters of the said William.

Richard de Cholmondeley, son of William, married first Anne, or Agnes, daughter of sir John Bromley, of Badington; and 2dly, Alice, daughter and heiress of Richard de Henhull, who was found heir to her father, by Inq. 2 Ric. II. by the first of whom he was father of

William de Cholmondeley, who died in his father's lifetime 10 Hen. V. leaving issue by his wife, Maud, daughter and heiress of sir John Cheyne, of Willaston, Richard son and heir, and John, ancestor of the Cholmondeleys of Coppenhall.

Richard de Chelmondeleghe, son and heir, 10 Aug. 1 Ric. III. had a grant of the custody of lands, wardship, and marriage of Philip, son of John Egerton, esq. and the reversion of lands held in dower by Margery the mother, and Elizabeth the widow of the said John. He was "one of the justices of Chester, before whom fines were levied, 4 and 22 Edw. IV. and 2 Hen. VII.; and left issue by his wife Ellen (daughter of John Davenport, of Davenport, esq.) Richard son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VII. Richard Cholmley, held the manor of Cholmley from sir Thomas Cocksey, knight, by the service of the sixth part of a knight's fee, value, per annum, xli.; also the manors of Chorley, Wrenbury, and Capenhurst, and lands in Malpas, Lacketon, Bickerton, Edge, Hampton, Rowton, Wirreswall, Bradley, Tushingham, Norbury, Wordley, Haughton, Fadley, Ebnall, Tattenhall, and Hawarden. Richard Cholmley, son and heir.

Richard Cholmondeley, (heir by this Inquisition), in plea to a quo warranto, 15 Hen. VII. claimed by his feoffees, a prescriptive right to view of frankpledge, &c. for his manor of Cholmondeley, and acquittance from attendance at the earl's court, and the hundred court of Dudestan, and from finding one judger in the same, by charter of Randle Blundeville. He left issue, Richard, son and heir, by Elinour, his wife, daughter of sir Thomas Dutton, knight, and sister and coheir of John Dutton, of Dutton, esq. His figure was painted, and was lately remaining, in the windows of the church of Badiley, kneeling before a desk, with the family arms, and the usual request of intercession for the soul of Richard de Cholmondeley.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VIII. Richard Cholmondeley, esq. held the manor of Cholmondeley, from the heirs of—Dudley, esq. by the services of the sixth part of a knight's fee, value, per annum, 17l.; also the manors of Capenhurst, Chorley, and Aston, and the lands noticed in the last Inquisition, and others in Wicksted, Broughton, Kinnerton, and Church Minshull, total value, 107l. 8d. He died on the Wednesday after the Assumption, 9 Hen. VIII. Richard Cholmondeley, son and heir, aged seven years.

Richard Cholmondeley (heir by this Inquisition) is stated by Collins to have been one of the justices before whom fines were levied, for the county of Chester,

^f p. 44.

^g Harl. MSS. 2079. 124.

^h Collins, IV. 213. Ed. 1768. The Cholmondeleys of Chorley will be noticed under that township, together with the Whitby branch.

ⁱ Collins, IV. 217.

^m Ibid.

^g Leycester, p. 221.

ⁿ Enrollments in Chester Castle.

^h See the account of the Chapel.

^o Fines *ibid.* quoted by Collins, IV. 218.

from 17 Hen. VII. to 24 Hen. VIII. He was the founder of the Cholmondeley chancel in Malpas church, and married twice, having by his first wife the issue described in the following pedigree. The genealogies, with almost uniform incorrectness, have made him father of sir Hugh Cholmondeley the elder, who is ascertained by the following Inquisition, to have been his younger brother. He had also three sisters, and a third brother, Randle Cholmondeley, who died issueless April 5, 1563, educated at Lincoln's Inn, and Lent reader of that society, 6 Edw. VI. having been previously elected Autumn reader, the year preceding, when he did not read on account of the pestilence. In 4 and 5 Phil. and Mary, he was double reader thereof, and recorder of the city of London. In the following year he was elected serjeant at law, and in the first year of Elizabeth, was treble reader, and called to be serjeant at law, by the queen's writ^p.

Inq. p. m. 30 Hen. VIII. Richard Cholmondeley, esq. held the manor of Cholmondeley from Rowland Hill, esq. by fealty, and 12d. rent, value, per annum, 27l.; also lands in Capenhurst, Upton, Chorley, Malpas, Edge, Rowton, Werswall, Bradley, Tushingham, Macefen, Norbury, Wordhull, Haughton, Northwich, Ebnall, Tattenhall, Kinnerton, Hawarden, Church Minshull, Aston, Hellesby, Weverham, Chester, and Egerton, total value, 93l. 10s. 4d. Obiit Feb. 9, 30 Hen. VIII. Hugh Cholmondeley, brother and heir, aged upwards of 25 years.

After this period, the history of the house of Cholmondeley becomes closely united with that of its country. Hugh Cholmondeley, who thus succeeded to his brother, attended Edward Seymour, earl of Hertford, in his expedition into Scotland, and with seventeen other gentlemen of this county received the honour of knighthood from him at Leith in 1544; and in 1557, he furnished at his own cost 100 men, who marched against the Scots, under the command of the earl of Derby, to relieve Berwick from a siege, with which it was threatened^q. His services to the county, and his private worth have been already described^r in a preceding part of this volume, and his monument, in the account of the church of Malpas. The following Inquisition gives the list of his numerous Cheshire estates, and the marriages and issue of this and the following generations are incorporated with the pedigree subjoined.

Inq. p. m. 39 Eliz. Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, knight, held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Cholmondeley, with its appurtenances, view of frank pledge, three mills, &c. &c. from the manor of the barony of Malpas, by military service, as the sixth part of a knight's fee; also the manor, or barony of Wich Malbank, the manors of Bickley, Norbury cum Althurst, Aston juxta Mondrem, half of Church Minshull, two parts of Capenhurst, the manors of Barksford, Newbold, Edlaston, and Little Mouldsworth, and lands in Henhull, Barton, Larkton, Bickerton, Edge, Ebnall, Hampton, Malpas, Tushingham, Macefen, Stockton, Cuddington, Tilston, Horton, Duckington, Carden, Stretton, Haughton, Rowton, Worswall, Bradley, Spittle Boughton, Fadiley, Wolstanwood, Haslington, Badington, Chowley, Great Aldersey, Plumley, Northwich, Worleston, Wrenbury, Audlem, Swanbach, Egerton, Burwardsley, Golborne Bellow, Church Shocklach, Oviatt, Sounde, Church and Monke Copnall, Woodbank, Little Christleton, Spittle

in Wirral, Hoole, Backford, Newhall, Aston juxta Wrenbury, Cholmeley House in Chester, with numerous messuages, the manors of Hinton and Mudford, co. Somerset; Hinton, co. Salop; and Worthenbury, in Flintshire. Obiit January 6, 39 Eliz. Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, knight, son and heir, aged upwards of 46 years.

^s *Sir Hugh Cholmondeley* was knighted in his father's life-time, in the year of the Spanish invasion. He was heir (according to Fuller) of his father's virtues, as well as of his estate, and gave many proofs of an honourable benevolence, and a steady adherence to the Protestant interests. Before he was of age, he marched at the head of 130 men, raised at his father's expence for the suppression of the rebellion in the North, begun under the earls of Westmorland and Northumberland, for the restoration of the Romish religion. He was sheriff of Cheshire, and twice Escheator, and in 42 Eliz. was joined in a special commission with lord chancellor Egerton, and Thomas lord Buckhurst, lord treasurer of England, for the suppression of schism. In the great hall at Vale Royal, is preserved his portrait, with that of his lady, denominated by James II. "the best ladie of Cheshire," who will be noticed with more propriety in the account of her manor of Holford.

The issue of this marriage, in addition to Hatton Cholmondeley, who died issueless, and three daughters, were, Robert earl of Leinster, whose illegitimate son, Thomas Cholmondeley, succeeded to the Holford estate; Hugh Cholmondeley, immediate ancestor of the present marquis of Cholmondeley; and Thomas Cholmondeley, third surviving son, the founder of the family of Vale Royal.

The *Inquisition* after the death of sir Hugh, taken 43 Eliz. recounts the estates mentioned in the preceding Inquisition, together with another moiety of Church Minshull, and the manor of Chorley, and lands in Wistaston, Alsager, Pulcroft, Whitepoole, Whorepoole, Barretspoole, Stockton, Stretton, and London. Total value, 220l. 19s. 3d. He died the 23d of July, 43 Eliz. leaving Robert Cholmondeley his son and heir, aged 17 years, the 16th of July preceding.

Robert Cholmondeley was created a baronet, June 29, 1611, and in 1628 was elevated to the peerage, by the title of Viscount Cholmondeley, of Kellis, in the kingdom of Ireland. He highly distinguished himself as a zealous loyalist and gallant soldier, in the succeeding troubles, most particularly by his conduct in a skirmish on Tilston Heath, and in the raising of several companies of foot, which were of essential use in the battle of Kinton. These services, with his sufferings and losses, are recounted in the patent of the English barony conferred on him, 21 Car. I. by the title of lord Cholmondeley, of Wich Milbank, to which was added, on the 5th of March following, the title of earl of Leinster.

After the overthrow of the royalists, he was suffered to compound for his estates, at the heavy price of 7,742l. and retired to Bickley Hall, in Cheshire, where he spent the greater part of the residue of his life. He died without lawful issue, in the year preceding the return of his sovereign, and from some disputes relative to the defraying of the expences of his funeral by the heirs of his real or personal property^t, his body was left uninterred for the space of one year, when it was carried to the family vault at Malpas, on the first anniversary

^p Collins, vol. IV. 219.

^q Strype's Memorials, 433.

^r Collins, vol. IV. p. 222, who quotes the several authorities.

^s Webb's Itinerary of Broxton hundred, p. 326 of this volume.

^t Archdeacon Churton's MSS.

of his decease, Oct. 8, 1660, with the splendour and attendance which the change in the times permitted, and which his virtues and exertions deserved.

The portraits of the earl and countess of Leinster are preserved at Vale Royal.

Robert Cholmondeley, son of his third brother, inherited the estate, and was raised to the peerage, by the former title of lord Cholmondeley, of Kellis. A fine picture of the character of his excellent lady is given in her funeral sermon, preached in 1691, by Samuel Cathal, rector of Tilston, who was educated under the patronage of lord Cholmondeley at Christ Church and Brasenose. March 29, 1681, he was succeeded by his eldest son,

^u *Hugh viscount Cholmondeley*, who was created lord Cholmondeley, of Nantwich, April 10, 1689, with limitation to his brother, as a reward for his opposition to the unconstitutional conduct of James II. He was sworn a privy counsellor, Dec. 27, 1706, constituted comptroller of his majesty's household, April 22, 1708; and treasurer of the same, Oct. 6, following, and was also constituted lord lieutenant, and custos rotulorum of the county and city of Chester, and lord lieutenant of North Wales, previous to which, by patent, Dec. 27, 1706, he was created viscount Malpas and earl of Cholmondeley, with the same limitation as in his former title. He was displaced from these offices and trusts in 1713, but restored on the accession of George I.

^x *George second earl of Cholmondeley*, succeeded to the title on the death of his brother in 1724. He was educated at Christ Church in Oxford, and was made a cornet of horse in 1685, and one of the groom's of the bedchamber on king William's accession. At the battle of the Boyne he commanded the horse grenadier guards; and particularly distinguished himself, and was wounded at the battle of Steenkirk, in August 1692. In 1607, he was made brigadier-general of horse, and in the first year of queen Anne, major-general of her majesty's forces, and governor of the forts of Tilbury and Gravesend. In these offices he was continued by George I. on his accession, and on Feb. 15, 1714-15, was constituted captain and colonel of the third troop of horse guards. On the 15th of March following he was created baron of Newborough in the kingdom of Ireland, and on July 2, 1716, was advanced to an English peerage by the title of baron of Newburgh, in Anglesea.

After the succession of lord Newburgh to the title and estate of his elder brother, his majesty was pleased to appoint him lord lieutenant of the county and city of Chester, and custos rotulorum of the said county, and also lord lieutenant of the six counties of North Wales. To these offices his majesty added, in 1725, the appointment of governor of Kingston upon Hull; in 1732, that of general of horse; and in the same year, that of governor of the island of Guernsey. The earl of Cholmondeley died May 7, 1733, leaving issue George, his successor, and James Cholmondeley, a general in the army^y, who succeeded to the estates of the Savages, by marriage with lady Penelope Barry, the heiress of that family. These estates have since passed by settlement to the issue of his elder brother.

George third earl of Cholmondeley, was a member of the House of Commons for two parliaments previous to his succession to his father's title, being elected for East

Loe, in 1724, and for Windsor, in 1727. He was installed one of the Knights Companions of the Order of the Bath, on its revival in 1725, and in 1727 was appointed master of the robes to his majesty. On the accession of George the Second, he was constituted one of the commissioners of the admiralty, and governor of Chester; and on the establishment of the household of Frederick late prince of Wales, was appointed master of the horse. After succeeding to the title, his lordship was appointed lord lieutenant of North Wales, and lord lieutenant, custos rotulorum, and chamberlain of the county of Chester^z. In May 1735, he was constituted one of the commissioners of the treasury, and sworn of the privy council. On Dec. 10, 1743, he had a grant of the office of keeper of privy seal, and on resigning it, on Dec. 27, 1744, was appointed joint vice treasurer, receiver general, and paymaster of Ireland, and treasurer of war in the same kingdom. In 1745, his lordship raised a regiment of foot for his majesty's service, of which his son, lord Malpas, was the lieutenant-colonel. After the accession of his present majesty, he was continued in his post of lord lieutenant, custos rotulorum, and vice admiral of Cheshire, governor of Chester castle, steward of the royal manor of Sheene, and one of his majesty's privy council.

George James, the present marquis of Cholmondeley, succeeded his grandfather in 1770, his father, George, lord viscount Malpas, having died in 1764. For some years he was lord lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county of Chester, and governor of Chester castle. His lordship on June 14, 1782, was appointed his majesty's envoy extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the court of Berlin. On April 25, 1783, he was appointed captain of the yeomen of the guard, which he retained till 1804, and was at the same time sworn a privy-counsellor. On the death of the late Horace earl of Orford, he succeeded to the antient Walpole estates, and on Sept. 30, 1815, was elevated to his present rank in the peerage, by the titles of Marquis of Cholmondeley, and earl of Rocksavage. His lordship is chamberlain, and vice-admiral of the palatinate, lord steward of the royal household, and judge of the Marshalsea and Palace Court.

Cholmondeley Hall was re-built by sir Hugh Cholmondeley the younger, in the reign of Elizabeth. It was a quadrangular half-timbered building, projecting at each story. Over an escocheon of the family arms and quarterings, carved in the wainscot, over the hall door, was cut in wood, "The house was then built by William Fawkoner, master of the Carpentry and Joynery worke, 1571." On a carved beam were the letters S. H. C. K.—M. C. the initials of the founder Sir H. C. Knight, and Lady Mary his wife^a.

At the beginning of the eighteenth century, the north side was taken down, and the east and west sides lengthened, altered, and cased with stone, under the direction of sir John Vanbrugh. Views of the several fronts of this building, with a plan of the park and pleasure grounds, will be found in the *Vitruvius Britannicus*. The architecture was sumptuous, but the elevation was very disproportionately low, and the situation damp and flat in the extreme.

^u Collins, IV. 225.

^x Ibid. 226.

^y See the account of Rocksavage.

^z So Collins, but his appointment of chamberlain of Chester was in 1735, and query whether the words following this sentence, "in May 1735." were not severed from it by an error of the press.

^a Archdeacon Churton's MSS.

This building was taken down by the present marquis, and in 1801, the foundation was laid of the present fabric, which was finished in 1804. Cholmondeley castle, as it is termed, is built in the pointed style, and occupies an insulated elevation, which, but for its immense proportions, might be mistaken for the keep of a Norman fortress. It commands a view of a rich well-wooded country, in which the Lake of Barmere is a conspicuous object. The hall is a noble apartment, on the sides of which are a library, and state bed-room, and in front a saloon, decorated with rich painted glass, and opening to spacious dining and drawing rooms.

In these rooms are the following paintings :

In the Hall—the Marquis, and his Steward, Mr. Stephens, by Finlater. In the Saloon—Venus attired by the Graces, a copy from Guido by Romanelli. In the Dining-room—a portrait of Earl Hugh; Sir Robert Walpole and his Lady, copied from a painting at Houghton; Prince Rupert, by Sir P. Lely; Lady Cholmondeley, daughter of Sir Robert Walpole, a copy from Houghton; the present Marquis, Hoppner; the Earl of Rocksavage, Finlater; the late Lord Malpas, drawn at Geneva; his Father, the 3d Earl; a Holy Family, by Rubens's Master; the Death of Germanicus; Christ on the Mount, by Paul Veronese; St. Andrew; and Italian Ruins, by Le Brun.

Cholmondeley Hall was garrisoned by 400 royalists in 1643, who were here attacked and worsted by the parliament forces from Nantwich, in April in that year, with the loss of 50 men killed, and 600 horses, which were carried off to Nantwich. Some of the soldiers slain in this skirmish were buried at Malpas, April 22. On the 24th of the same month, the cavalry from Cholmondeley retaliated, by plundering the environs of Nantwich, in the absence of sir William Brereton^b. The Parliament obtained possession before November 12th, in that year, when they dispatched a party to assist the garrison at Tarvin^c. The royalists again obtained possession, but were finally expelled on June 30, 1644, in the manner thus described by Burghall.

^d “Sunday. They marched towards Cholmondeley house, with three or four pieces of ordnance, and four cases of Drakes, where two Nantwich companies, volunteers, guarding the great piece of ordnance, met them; and before the break of day, they planted all their great pieces within pistol-shot of the house, and about three or four in the morning, after they had sum-

moned them, they played upon it, and shot through it, many times, and they in the house shot lustily at them with their muskets. The besiegers playing still on them with their ordnance, and small shot, beat them at last out of the house into their works, where they continued their valour to the utmost, themselves being few, killing four or five more of them, and major Pinkney, a brave commander: but being too weak to hold out any longer, about one in the afternoon, they called for quarter, which was allowed, and Mr. R. Horton, captain of the house, let down the drawbridge, and opened the gates; when the earl of Denbigh, colonel Booth, and the rest entered, and took the captain, and all the rest prisoners, about sixty-six, with all their arms and provisions.” After this the Parliament appear to have maintained undisputed possession.

At Cholmondeley is a domestic Chapel, which has been established upwards of five hundred years. The original grant of the foundation in 1285, from which the following copy was taken, was in the possession of the late dean of Chester in 1815, and had two seals of green wax appendant of the rectors of Malpas. That of William de Audelym exhibited a man's arm and hand, on which was perched a falcon; that of Leodegarus de Notingham, was simply a pheon; the writing round was illegible.

“Omnibus Cr'i fidelibus ad quos præsens scriptum p'rvenerit Will's de Audelym et Leodegarus de Notingham, rectores ecclesie de Malo passu, salt'm in d'no. Nov'itis nos concessisse Hugoni de Chelmundeleg' q'd possit h'ere cap'llm idoneu' celebrantem divina in capella sua de Chelmundeleg' salva indemnitatem matric. ecclesie n're de Malo passu. Ita q'd cap'll's si quis ibid'm fuerit divina celebr'ns non se intromittat de aliquibus matrici ecclesie n're spectantibus. In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti scripto sigilla n'ra apposuimus. Salt'. Dat' apud Malum passum die lune in crastino S'ci Martini anno Gr'e milesimo ducentesimo octogesimo quinto.”

“Cholmeley chappel (according to sir P. Leycester) was sumptuously repaired by Robert earl of Leinster in 1652:” it has been again recently fitted up by the present marquis, for the purposes of divine service.

The court of Cholmondeley is a court leet and baron, and is held annually at Cholmondeley. Its jurisdiction extends over the townships of Cholmondeley, Bickley, Bulkeley, Norbury, Wrenbury, and Chorley.

^b Burghall's Diary, p. 911. 8vo. Hist. of Cheshire, 1778.

^c Ibid. p. 923.

^d Ibid. p. 935.

CHOLMONDELEY OF CHOLMONDELEY.

From Inquisitions, the Records of the College of Arms, and the Parochial Registers.

ARMS. Gules, in chief two esquire's helmets, proper, garnished Or, in base a garb Or.

CREST. A demi-griphon rampant Sable, beaked, winged, and membered Or, grasping an esquire's helmet, proper, garnished, Or.

SUPPORTERS. On the dexter side a griphon Sable, beak, wings, and fore-legs, Or. On the sinister, a wolf of the second, gorged with a collar, per flew, vair.

MOTTO. "CASSIS TUTISSIMA VIRTUS."



ROBERT DE CHOLMONDELEGH, second son of William Belward, lord of a moiety of the barony of Malpas.

Sir HUGH DE CHELMUDELEGH, kt. son and heir per cart. without date of Robert, son of Lidulph de Twemlowe, living in the time of Philip de Orreby, just. Cest. SIMON DE CHRISTLETON.

ROBERT DE CHELMUDELEGH, son and heir, buried in the abbey of St. Werburgh. RICHARD DE CHELMONDELEGH, second son. FELICIA.

RICHARD DE CHOLMONDELEGH, son and heir. MARGERY, sister and coheir of Ranulph de Kingsley, and daughter of Richard de Kingsley, living 29 Hen. III.

RICHARD, eldest son and heir apparent, o. s. p. HUGH DE CHOLMONDELEGH, living 13 Edw. I. and 6 Edw. II. deputy serjeant of the peace for the county of Chester. CATHERINE, daughter of William de Spurstow.

RICHARD DE CHOLMONDELEGH, son and heir, obiit ante 25 Edw. III. MATILDA, dau. of living 35 Edw. III. WILLIAM DE CHOLMONDELEGH, heir to his nephew 35 Edw. III. died before 49 Edw. III. ELIZABETH, daughter of sir William Brereton, of Brereton, kt. ROBERT DE CHOLMONDELEGH, ancestor of the Cholmondeleys of Chorley and Whitby. THOMAS DE CHOLMONDELEGH, living 1325.

RICHARD DE CHOLMONDELEGH, o. s. p. Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. CATHERINE and MARGERY, under age 49 Edw. III. ANNE, daughter of sir John Bromley of Badington, first wife. RICHARD DE CHOLMONDELEY, under age, and ward of sir William Brereton 49 Edw. III. living 2 Ric. II. ALICE, daughter and heiress of Richard de Henhull, living 2 Ric. II.

WILLIAM DE CHOLMONDELEY, son and heir. MAUD, daughter and heiress of sir John Cheyney, of Willaston, kt. by Maud, daughter and coheir of Thomas de Capenhurst.

RICHARD CHOLMONDELEY, of Cholmondeley, esq. son and heir. Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VII. ELLEN, daughter of John Davenport, of Davenport, esq.

RICHARD CHOLMONDELEY, of Cholmondeley, esq. died 9 Hen. VIII. Inq. p. m. the year following. ELINOUR, daughter of sir Thomas Dutton of Dutton, sister and coheir of John Dutton, esq.

ELIZABETH, dau. of sir Roger Corbet, of Moreton Corbet, co. Salop, kt. RICHARD CHOLMONDELEY, of Cholmondeley, esq. son and heir, aged 7 years, 10 Hen. VIII. Inq. p. m. 30 Hen. VIII. died without male issue. ELIZABETH, dau. of sir Randle Brereton, of Malpas, kt. ANNE, daughter and coheir of sir George Dorman, of Malpas, bur. at Malpas, April 18, 1571. Sir HUGH CHOLMONDELEY, of Cholmondeley, kt. heir to his brother, aged 25 years, 30 Hen. VIII. died Jan. 6, 1596, bur. at Malpas, Jan. 31, Inq. p. m. 39 Eliz. MARY, dau. of sir William Griffiths of Penryn, kt. s. p. bur. at Malpas, Oct. 21, 1588. RANDLE CHOLMONDELEY, serjeant at law. o. s. p. CATHERINE, wife of Richard Prestland. AGNES, wife of Randle Mainwaring. URSULA, wife of Thomas Stanley, of Weaver, esq.

MAUD, wife of sir Peter Newton, kt. Sir HUGH CHOLMONDELEY, of Cholmondeley, born 1552, M. P. co. Cest. 1585, knighted on the Spanish Invasion, 1588, sheriff of Chesh. 1589, died at Cholmondeley, July 23, buried at Malpas, Aug. 12, 1601. MARY, sole daughter and heiress of Christopher Holford, of Holford, esq. born at Holford, bapt. at Nether Peover, Jan. 20, 1562-3, died at Vale Royal, Aug. 15, 1625, buried at Malpas, Aug. 16, 1625. FRANCES, wife of Thomas Wilbraham, of Woodhey, esq. RICHARD, buried at Malpas, June 29, 1587., o. s. p.

ROBERT CHOLMONDELEY, of Cholmondeley, son and heir, born at Crouchend near Highgate, co. Middlesex, June 17, 1584, created a baronet June 29, 1611, sheriff co. Cest. 1620-1, M. P. co. Cest. 1625, created viscount Cholmondeley of Kellis in Ireland, 1628, baron Cholmondeley of Wich Malbank in England, Sept. 1, 1645, and earl of Leinster in Ireland, March 5, 1646, died at Cholmondeley Oct. 8, 1659, bur. at Malpas, Oct. 8, 1660. CATHERINE, dau. of John, lord Stanhope of Harrington, died at Cholmondeley, June 15, 1657, bur. at Malpas, July 3, 1657. s. p. HATTON CHOLMONDELEY, 2d son, born at Islington, Aug. 17, 1587, baptized Aug. 28, 1587, died in London, s. p. FRANCIS, fifth son, died young. HUGH CHOLMONDELEY, of Knight's Grange, esq. 3d son, born at Holford, baptized at Nether Peover, July 24, 1591, died at Bodville castle, Sept. 11, 1655, buried at Malpas. MARY, dau. of sir John Bodville, of Bodville castle, kt. co. Caernarvon. THOMAS CHOLMONDELEY, of Vale Royal, esq. 4th son, born at Holford March 2, 1594-5, sheriff co. Cest. 1638, died at Vale Royal, Jan. 3, 1652-3, buried at Minshall, Jan. 6, 1652. ELIZABETH, sole daughter and heiress of John Minshall, of Minshall, esq. by Frances, dau. of sir John Egerton, of Egerton and Oulton, kt. died at Vale Royal, buried at Minshall, Sept. 25, 1661. MARY, wife of sir George Calveley, of Lea, kt. LETTICE, wife of sir Richard Grosvenor, of Eaton, first bart. bur. at Eccleston, Jan. 20, 1611-12. FRANCES, wife of Peter Venables, esq. baron of Kinderton.

THOMAS CHOLMONDELEY, of Holford, esq. ROBERT CHOLMONDELEY, of Cholmondeley, esq. son and heir, created viscount Cholmondeley of Kellis, Mar. 29, 1661, died 1681. ELIZABETH, daughter and coheir of George Cradock, of Caverswall castle, co. Stafford, esq. buried at Malpas, Feb. 28, 1691-2.

ELIZABETH, 2d wife of John Egerton, of Egerton and Oulton, esq. o. s. p. HUGH CHOLMONDELEY, eldest son and heir, created lord Cholmondeley of Nantwich, April 10, 1689, and viscount Malpas and earl of Cholmondeley, Dec. 27, 1706, died unmarried Jan. 18, and was bur. at Malpas, Feb. 30, 1724-5. ROBERT CHOLMONDELEY, 2d son, died at Westminster, bur. in Westminster abbey, Feb. 14, 1678, s. p. GEORGE CHOLMONDELEY, third son, second earl of Cholmondeley, created baron of Newborough in Ireland, March 15, 1714-15, and baron of Newburgh in Anglesea, July 2, 1716, died at Whitehall, May 7, buried at Malpas, May 17, 1733. ELIZABETH, dau. to the Heer Van Baron Ruytenburgh, by Arme Elizabeth, dau. of Louis de Nassau, lord of Beverkerk, naturalized by act of parliament 1703-4. RICHARD CHOLMONDELEY, 4th son, buried in Westminster Abbey, 1680.

a											
MARY, born March 9, 1713-14, o. s. p. buried at Malpas, April 23, 1783.	GEORGE CHOLMONDELEY, 2d son and heir by survivorship, born Jan. 2, 1702-3, third earl of Cholmondeley and K. B. died June 10, 1770, and buried at Malpas June 21st following.	MARY, only daughter of sir Robert Walpole, K. G. first earl of Orford, married Sept. 14, 1723, died Feb. 21, 1731-2, at Aix in France, aged 26 years.	JAMES CHOLMONDELEY, eldest son, born Nov. 30, 1700, died young.								
ELIZABETH, born May 28, 1705, marr. Jan. 23, 1731, to Edward Warren, of Poynton, co. Cest. esq. buried at Stockport, Dec. 22, 1762.			JAMES CHOLMONDELEY, 3d son, a general in the army, marr. Penelope, sole dau. and heiress of James, fourth earl of Barrymore, by his wife Elizabeth, dau. and heiress of Richard Savage, earl Rivers, o. s. p. Oct. 13, 1775.								
HENRIETTA, born Nov. 26, 1701, o. s. p. bur. at Malpas, May 21, 1769.											
GEORGE CHOLMONDELEY, lord viscount Malpas, eldest son and heir apparent, born Oct. 17, 1724, died before his father, March 15, 1764.	HESTER, daughter and heiress of sir Francis Edwards, of Grete and of Shrewsbury College, co. Salop, bart. married Jan. 19, 1746.	ROBERT CHOLMONDELEY, 2d son, born Nov. 1, and bapt. Nov. 28, 1727; in holy orders, rector of St. Andrew's, Hertford, and Hertingfordbury in the same co. and auditor-gen. of his majesty's revenues in America, died June 6, 1804.	MARY, dau. of . . Wofingham, esq. marr. Nov. 30, 1746, died Ap. 4, 1811.	FREDERICK CHOLMONDELEY, third son, died April 27, 1734, buried at St. Martin's in the Fields.	A daughter who died soon after her birth.						
HESTER CHOLMONDELEY, only dau. born at Burhill, in Surrey, 1755, married Sept. 6, 1773, to William Clapcot Lisle, esq. by whom she had issue a daughter, wife of the right hon. sir Charles Arbuthnot, K. C.	GEORGE JAMES CHOLMONDELEY, only son and heir, fourth earl of Cholmondeley, born April 30, 1749, created marquis of Cholmondeley, and earl of Rock-savage, co. Cest. Sept. 30, 1815.	GEORGIANA CHARLOTTE BERTIE, daughter of Peregrine, third duke of Ancaster, and sister and coheir of Robert, fourth duke of Ancaster, born August 7, 1764, married April 25, 1791.	GEORGE JAMES CHOLMONDELEY, esq. born Feb. 22, 1752, baptized at St. George's Hanover-sq. March 20, a commissioner of the excise.	HORACE CHOLMONDELEY, born Feb. 18, 1753, bapt. March 16, at St. George's Hanover-sq. died young, and was buried at Teddington.	ROBERT FRANCIS CHOLMONDELEY, born June 24, 1756, baptized July 22, at St. George's, Hanover-square.	FREDERIC CHOLMONDELEY, died an infant.	MARY HARRIET, born Ap. 4, 1754, bapt. at St. James's, Westminster, killed by the overturning of the princess of Wales's barouche, 1806.	JANE ELIZABETH, born Oct. 22, 1758, baptized at St. George's, Hanover-square, died young.	MARGARET, born July 8, 1761, bapt. Nov. 20, at St. George's Hanover-square, died an infant.	HESTER FRANCES, born July 8, 1763, bapt. Aug. 2, at St. George's Hanover-square, married December 3, 1783, to William Beltingham, esq.	CHARLOTTE, died an infant.
CAROLINE, second daughter of lieutenant-gen. Colin Campbell, governor of Gibraltar, married Oct. 20, 1812, died in London, October 12, 1815, buried at Malpas, s. p.	GEORGE JAMES, earl of Rock-savage, eldest son and heir apparent, born Jan. 17, 1792.	WILLIAM HENRY CHOLMONDELEY, second son.	CHARLOTTE CHOLMONDELEY, only daughter, living unmarried 1816.								

HAMPTON.

HAMPTON is thus noticed in Domesday, among the possessions of the barons of Malpas, under whom one moiety was retained by the Saxon proprietor Edwin, as subtenant.

“Robertus tenet Hantone, et Edvinus et Drogo de eo; isdem Edvinus tenuit pro ii maneriis, et liber homo fuit: ibi ii hidæ geldabiles; terra est iv carucarum: ibi sunt iii hospites nil habentes: ibi silva v acris longa, et ii lata. Totum tempore R. Edwardi valebat v solidos, modo ii solidos, et unum Sprevarium^a reddit.”

The interest which Edwin was suffered to retain was probably of short duration. After the division of the barony, Hampton passed with the moiety possessed by the Belwards; and one-eighth thereof was granted by William Belward (father of David the Bastard) to his uncle Richard, in exchange for an eighth of Duckington. Test. D'no Hugone de Cholmondlegh: seal, 3 pheons, circumscribed Sig. W. de Malopassu^b.

Richard, among other issue, was father of Margaret, wife of — de Hampton, who was issue of a branch which assumed the local name, and must be distinguished from the issue of Hova de Hampton, descended from Philip Goch. William de Hampton, of this family, lord of Hampton and Bickerton, granted to David de Bickerton certain lands here, anno 1318^c.

The manors of Hampton and Bickerton were shortly afterwards vested (most probably by marriage with an heir general of this William de Hampton) in a family who bore the name of Malpas, and descended from Roger, an illegitimate son of William Belward.

Hugh de Malpas, rector of Barthomley, had licence for divine service in the oratory within his mansion at Hampton, 1364-5. His younger brother, David de Malpas, was father of Hugh, rector of Malpas, who succeeded

to a portion of the Egerton estates, on the death of Isabella Delves, 19 Ric. II. and of David de Malpas, whose daughter and coheir Matilda married Philip Egerton, of Egerton. A dispensation was granted for this marriage in 1403, and it is most probable that Matilda's grandfather David had married an Egerton, which would account for the succession of her uncle to a portion of the estates of the legitimate line.

The male line of this family terminated 8 Hen. V. in David de Malpas.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. V. David, son of John de Malpas, held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Bickerton, from John Sutton, by military service, value 9l. 4s. per annum; also the manor of Hampton, from the same by the same, value 14l. 3s.; also lands in Bickerton, Church en Heath, Ebnall, Broxton, Malpas, Edge, Great Aldersey, and Crooke Aldersey, and Crowne Mosse, and Mulnefield in Bickerton. Ellen and Catherine sisters and coheirresses.

^d During the minority of these sisters, the king (Nov. 3, 8 Hen. V.) granted their lands and tenements to Randle Brereton. Catherine died before 11 Hen. VI. (as by *Inq. p. m.*) and 11 June 20 Hen. VI. a mandate was issued to the escheator to prove the age of Ellen, then wife of Urian Brereton. Ellen also dying s. p. her estates were divided among her four surviving aunts and coheirresses, the eldest of whom Matilda, wife of Philip Egerton, of Egerton, had a fourth of the manor of Hampton, and lands in Bickerton, which were inherited by sir John Egerton her son, as appears by Inquisition after his death, 38 Hen. VI.

The estates of the Egertons in Hampton and Bickerton are not termed manerial in the subsequent Inquisitions, until 21 Jac. I. when they occur as the manors of those townships, in the Inquisition after the death of

^a One sparrow-hawk.

^b Egerton Deeds. Harl. MSS. 2074.

^c Williamson's Vill. Cest. p. 184.

^d From records in Chester Exchequer.

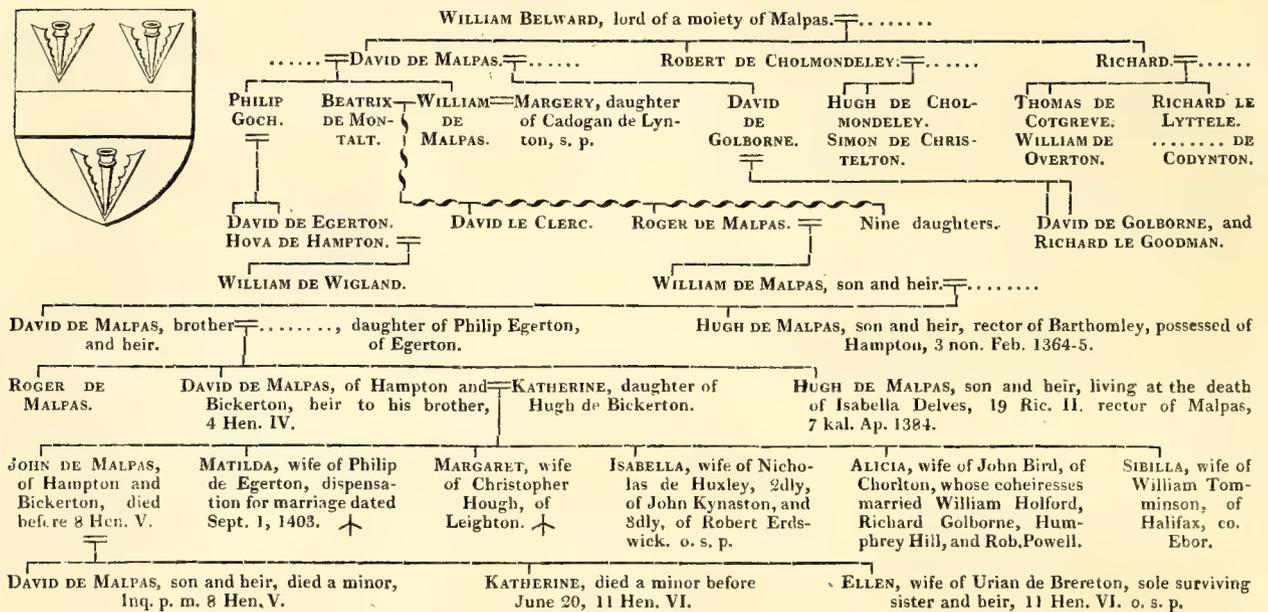
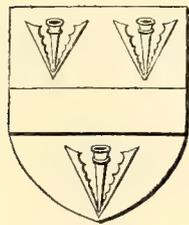
sir John Egerton, who inherited from the match of his ancestor with Matilda de Malpas, who was finally coheir to her brother's daughters. From that period they have descended, with the other Cheshire estates, to sir John Grey-Egerton, bart. who is now lord of Bickerton, but alienated Hampton to the late Ambrose Brookes, gent. in whose sisters and coheirresses, Sarah, widow of Robert Brassy, gent. and Martha

Peers, of Broxton, it is now vested in undivided moieties.

In the following pedigree of this illegitimate branch of the house of Malpas, the collateral lines have been introduced to a certain extent, for the purpose of exhibiting the celebrated variety of local and other names adopted by this family, which the larger pedigrees of Malpas and Egerton did not admit.

MALPAS OF HAMPTON AND BICKLEY.

ARMS. Sable, a fesse Argent between three pheons of the second.



A branch of the family of Bromley settled in this township, about the reign of Richard III. in the person of Nicholas Bromley, second son of Roger Bromley, of Mitley. Five descents afterwards Hugh Bromley allied himself with the heiress of a younger son of the Egerton family, and most probably obtained thereby the Hampton Hall estate, which passed in marriage with the heiress of his family to Peter, whose grandson Wil-

liam dying issueless, the same was inherited by his sister's son, Randle Hopley, who assumed the name of Dod in 1744.

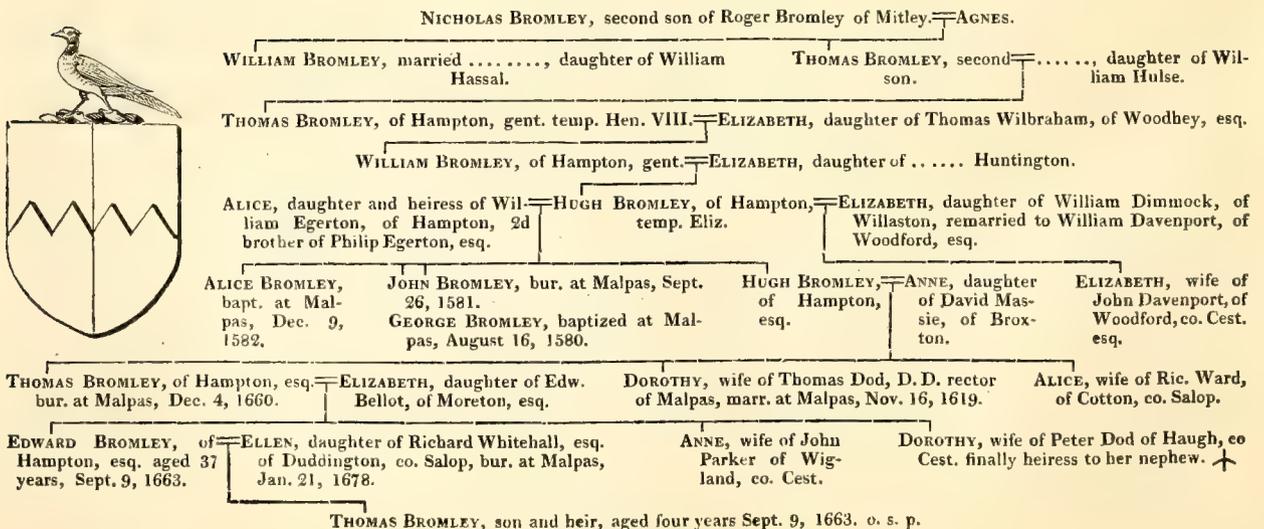
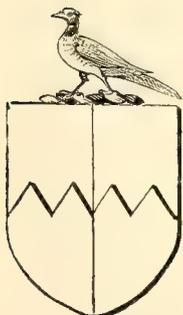
This estate was shortly after purchased by William Hanmer, esq. of Hanmer and Iscoyd, whose only daughter Esther brought the same in marriage to Asheton Curzon lord Curzon, who is the present proprietor.

BROMLEY OF HAMPTON.

From Booth's Pedigrees, Dugdale's Visitation of 1663, and the Parochial Registers.

ARMS. Quarterly, per fesse indented Gules and Or.

CREST. On a wreath, a pheasant cock proper.



BICKERTON.

IN the time of Edward the Confessor, Bickerton was possessed by three thanes, Dot, Edwin, and Ernuin, all of whom were ejected at the Conquest, to make way for the subtenant of the Norman baron of Malpas.

“Isdem Robertus tenet Bicretone, et Drogo de eo. Dot, Edvinus, et Ernuinus, III Taini, liberi homines pro III maneriis tenuerunt: Ibi III hidæ geldabiles. Terra est IV carucarum: ibi sunt III hidæ geldabiles. Terra est IV carucarum: ibi sunt tres villani cum unâ carucâ. Silvæ dimidia leuva. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat XI solidos. Wasta fuit, et est ex maxima parte.”

The Hamptons are the first lords that appear in any regular document. 2 Edw. II. William de Hampton was sued by Hugh de Bickerton, and Ellen, widow of William de Bickerton, for a reasonable portion of 400 acres of various kinds of land in Bickerton. From the Hamptons the manor passed to the family of Malpas of Hampton, as mentioned in that township, and descend-

ing with that manor to the Egertons, is now possessed by sir John Grey-Egerton, bart.

The Bickertons were settled here as early as the reign of king John, when Kenwrec, son of Alexander de Bickerton, grants an assart in Bickerton wood, with a warranty against *all men of peace*, in a charter witnessed, among others, by William de Malpas, and Philip Goch his brother^a. The arms of Bickerton, Argent, on a chevron Sable, 3 pheons of the first, were either a badge of affection and dependency, or indicate connection with the barons of Malpas.

The Broxton range of hills assume their highest elevation in this township, and present a fine range of rocky cliffs and mountainous defiles, over which the naked summit of Raw Head is most conspicuous. On the top of another hill, is the British fortress called Maiden Castle, which has been noticed in the Introduction to this Hundred.

AGDEN, AND BRADLEY.

BOTH these places are omitted in the Domesday survey. They are situated adjacent to Tushingham, about seventeen miles from Chester, in the angle which the parish forms, on the Shropshire border. They were part of that portion of the barony, which fell to the share of the Suttons, and are noticed in the Inquisition after the death of Jane, widow of sir John Sutton, 10 Hen. IV.

and a licence of alienation to sir John de Sutton, 10 Hen. VI. Both were subsequently included in the successive alienations from the Suttons to the Brereton, and from lord Brereton to sir William Drake, and are now the property of his representative Thomas Tyrwhitt Drake, esq. They contain nothing worthy of farther notice.

CUDDINGTON.

THIS unimportant township is thus noticed in Domesday, as part of the estate of the baron of Malpas.

“Robertus tenet Cuntitone. Ulvoi superior^b tenuit: ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est una caruca: ibi sunt II bordarii, cum II bobus arantes. Valet XVI denarios; wasta fuit.”

After descending through the Suttons and the Brereton, this manor was alienated with the rest of the Brereton Share to sir William Drake, and is now vested in Thomas Tyrwhitt Drake, esq.

Webb is mistaken in calling the Brereton of Cuddington *an antient branch* of the house. They originated in Owen Brereton, of Barhill (or Barrel), an illegitimate son of the second Randle Brereton, of the Shocklach family, whose son, Ralph Brereton, settled in this township, on marrying Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of — Orton, of Cuddington. In Webb's time, they had been settled here three generations, and continued resident a few generations afterwards in considerable respectability.

NEWTON.

LIES south-west of Malpas, adjacent to that township and Cuddington, on the border of Flintshire, and is included in the manors possessed by Thomas Tyrwhitt

Drake, esq. having been purchased with his other parts of the barony, by his ancestor sir William Drake, from the Brereton.

^a Late in the possession of John Drake, esq. of Bredon, and communicated by archdeacon Churton.

^b Referring to the previous mention of this Ulvoi in Shocklach.

^c Leicester's MS. Pedigrees, 117.

DUCKINGTON.

EDWIN, the Saxon lord of this place, Edge, and many neighbouring townships, was suffered to retain possession of this manor, under the new Norman lord Robert Fitz Hugh.

“Robertus tenet Dochintone, et Edwinus de co. Ipsemet tenuit, ut liber homo: ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est II carucarum; wasta est.”

17 Edw. II. John, son of Richard de Sutton lord of Malpas and Shocklach, gives to David de Egerton and Isabella his wife, all his right to lands in Duckington.

The next notice of Duckington, is in a mandate to the escheator, 19 Ric. II. after the death of Isabella Delves, coheiress of the eldest line of Egerton, directing him to deliver this manor, with other lands, parcel of the barony

of Malpas, to her nephew William Brereton, of Brereton.

In the Inquisition after the death of sir William Brereton, 22 Hen. VII. the manor of Dokinton is stated to be held in fee tail from the king, as earl of Chester, by military service, value, per annum, vii.

The manor was vested in this family in 1662, and was shortly afterwards sold to sir William Drake, from whom it has descended to the present proprietor, Thomas Tyrwhitt Drake, esq.

The township consists of a few farm-houses, scattered along the side of a sequestered lane under the Bickerton hills, about twelve miles from Chester, adjacent to the road to Whitchurch.

BICKLEY.

BICKLEY, the largest township in extent in Malpas parish, and the second in point of population, is very pleasantly situated on the Shropshire border, contiguous to the noble lake of Barmere. It is thus described in Domesday, among the possessions of the Norman lord of Malpas.

Robertus tenet Bichelei, et Fulco de eo. Vodeman tenuit, et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est III carucarum; in dominio est una caruca, et præpositus, et II bordarii cum una caruca. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat v solidos, modo VIII solidos; wasta invenitur.

In the first divison of the barony, Bickley fell to the share of the Belwards, and being obtained by David de Malpas, passed successively to Urian de St. Pierre with Idonea de Malpas, and to sir Walter Cokesay with Isabella de St. Pierre.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. IV. Walter Cokesay, ch'v'r, held by courtesy, after the death of Isabella his wife, inter alia, the manor of Byklegh from the Prince as earl of Chester, by military service. Value per ann. 32l.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. IV. Walter, son of sir Walter Cokesay, kt. held inter alia in demesne as of fee, the manor of Byklegh from the Prince as earl of Chester in cap. Value per ann. 32l.

2 Hen. V. Custody of the said manor and other estates granted to sir Hugh Phelypp, kt. during the minority of Hugh, son of sir Walter Cokesay. The three following documents relative to this manor (20, 24, and 26 Hen. VI.) will be found, with several others, among the deeds of the St. Pièrres and Cokesays, under Malpas.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Sir Hugh Cooksey, kt. and Alicia his wife, died seized in fee of this manor, and other estates, held as before. Value per ann. 41l.

Inq. p. m. 13 Edw. IV. Joyce, wife of Leonard Stepulton (heir by the last *Inq.*) died seized in fee, inter alia, of the manor of Bickley, held as before, as the third part of a knight's fee. Value per ann. 13l. 6s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 20 Edw. IV. Sir John Gryvell, kt. (heir by the last *Inq.*) died seized in fee of the said manor and other estates, held as in the last *Inq.* Val. 13l. 6s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VII. Sir Thomas Cokesey, kt. (heir by the last *Inq.*) died seized in fee of the said manor, &c. held as before as one knight's fee. Val. 32l.

From the heirs of sir Thomas Cokesey, Bickley, with other manors, was purchased, 23 Hen. VII. by Edmund Dudley (as more fully mentioned in the preceding abstracts from Chester records above referred to); and having vested, by purchase or grant after his attainder, in the elder line, was passed over by fine, 28 Hen. VIII. by sir John Dudley, kt. and Jane his wife, to sir Rowland Hill, kt.

The manor of Bickley (or Bickley and Hetherson, as then called) was soon after severed from the share of the barony with which it had previously descended, and which passed to the Corbetts of Stoke, and was given by sir Rowland Hill in marriage with his ^a niece, Anne, daughter of George Dorman of Malpas, to sir Hugh Cholmondeley of Cholmondeley the elder, from whom it has lineally descended to the marquis of Cholmondeley, the present proprietor.

Bickley Hall was a handsome old structure, in a fine situation, and was taken down a few years ago, being ruinous with age. The rooms were low, but large; on one of the gables was the date 1641, and over the hall fire-place 1608. The upper end of this apartment was raised, as in college halls; and here, so late as the year 1789, was standing, probably the identical table of solid oak, at which the earl of Leinster and his friends dined in the middle of the preceding century. Before the demolition of the building, the room was shewn in which the body of this loyal earl was laid, during the twelvemonth ^b which elapsed between his decease in 1659, and his burial in 1660.

In a curious pamphlet, intituled as undermentioned ^c, is given an account, here subjoined, of a subsiding of

^a MSS. communicated by archdeacon Churton.

^b *Ibid.*

^c “The late dreadful and most admired calamity of a parcel of land and many great oaks and other trees, sunk many yards under ground into so deep a water that the tops of the oaks are not to be seen, together with a great quantity of land and other trees that are daily falling, and the thundering noise that is made at the time of their most terrible fall, near unto the parish of Bulkeley, about nine miles from Chester, it being part of the land of the lord Cholmley. This strange accident happened on the 8 day of July, 1657. London, printed for Thomas Vere and Will. Gilbertson. 1657.” 12mo.

the earth in this township, on the 8th of July, 1659. The account is incorrect in one particular, by styling the *township* of *Bickley* the *parish* of *Bulkeley*.

“ On Wednesday, July the 8th, about 3 of the clock in the afternoone, there happened a very rare and memorable thing at Bulkeley, some nine miles off from Chester: a parcel of land belonging to the lord Cholmley did sink into the earth. It was a little rise of land higher than the rest; there were goodly oaks upon it; which were ten yards high in the body, (so the letters do expressly mention) before you come unto the branch; these with some other trees did sinke downe with the earth into a water prepared to receive them underneath: the fall they made was hideous, representing thunder, or the roaring of a well-laden canon; it is certified that although those trees were of a great height, yet the waters they fell into are so extremely deep, that there is not so much as a branch, or a top sprigge of any of them to be seen; in the mean time this earth that sunk down into the deep, did, by its ponderous fall, gain such an advantage on the earth round about it, that it is all crackt and full of flawes, and when any piece of it doth follow the temptation of the other that is already sunk, and is tumbling down after it, there is heard a noise like to the report of a cannon at some great solemnity. There come multitudes of people of all sorts, although in time of harvest, to be spectatours of it. At the first they were afraid to come near it, but, one taking encouragement from another, some at last were perswaded to go to the brink and mouth of the hollow, and one or two were let down with ropes to see what they could discover: they were neither of them let down farr, but they importunately called to be plucked up again; they discovered, as they said, a great flood of water, and they heard a noise agreeable thereunto; but not any thing of the trees, either root branch or top, is to be seen. This argues the water to be of an extream depth, and so the hollow discent into it is conceived to be, which by the reverberation of the air is the occasion of the hideous noise that is made when any ponderous substance is falling down into it. Great pieces of earth and trees of a great proportion do daily fall, and the ruins every day are more threatening than before.”

The chasm is now called the Barrel fall, and is situated in the Barrel farm in Bickley, a quarter of a mile south of Bickley hall, in a small elevation, or bank, whence the ground declines both ways from the end of the fall. From present appearances the ground might at first be a quarter of an acre in extent. It is now quite dry, and nearly grown up with weeds and brush-wood.

The Wrights, afterwards of Stretton, were resident for several generations in this township after their emigration from Yorkshire; and here also were settled a branch of the Ball family, originally of Fushingham.

An estate in Bickley, called the Snabb, (noticed among the Malpas deeds by that name, in a fine 23 Hen. VII.)

now the property of the marquis of Cholmondeley, has a particular claim to notice, as the birth-place of the rev. Ralph Churton, M. A. rector of Middleton Cheney, and archdeacon of St. David's, the biographer of the Founders of Brasen Nose, to whom the author is proud of this opportunity of returning his acknowledgments, for much valuable assistance and information.

In a field in this township, belonging to lord Kenyon, and adjoining to the Barrel Farm before-mentioned, were found, in 1812, two inscribed copper tablets, containing a decree of Trajan, in favour of certain veterans serving in Britain, in eleven alæ, and four cohorts, under the proprætor Q. Neratius Marcellus. The tablets are deposited in the British Museum, and have been elegantly engraved in the *Reliquiæ Britannico-Romanæ* of Lysons, who gives the inscription thus, after supplying a few deficiencies.

Imp. Cæsar divi Nervæ f. Nerva Trajanus Augustus, Germanicus Dacicus, Pontifex Maximus, Tribunic. Potestat. VII Imp. IIII Cos. V. P. P. Equitibus et Peditibus qui militant in alis quatuor, et cohortibus decem et unâ, quæ appellatur I Thracum, et I Pannoniorum Tampiana, et II Gallorum Sebosiana, et Hispanorum, Vettonum C. R. et I Hispanorum et I Valcionum Milliarum, et I Alpinorum, et I Morinorum, et I Cugernorum, et I Baetasiarum, et I Tungrorum Milliarum, et II Thracum, et III Bracar. Augustanorum, et IIII Lingonum, et IIII Delmatarum, et sunt in Britannia, sub I. Neratio Marcello, qui quina et vicena plurave stipendia meruerunt, quorum nomina subscripta sunt, ipsis liberis posterisque eorum civitatem dedit, et conubium cum uxoribus quas tunc habuissent cum est civitas iis data, aut si qui cœlibes essent, cum iis quas postea duxissent, dumtaxat singuli singulas.

A. d XIV K. Febr.

M. Laberio Maximo II. } Co.
Q. Glitio Atilio Agricola II. }

Alæ I Pannoniorum Tampianæ, cui præest C. Valerius Celsus Decurioni Reburro Severi f. Hispan. Descriptum et recognitum ex tabula Anea quæ fixa est Romæ in Muro post Templum [Divi Aug]us[ti] ad Minervam.

Q. Pompei Homeri	C. Vettiæ Modesti.
C. Papi Eusebetis.	P. Atini Hedonio.
T. Flavi Secundi.	Ti. Claudi Menandri.
P. Cauli Vitalis.	

On the subject of these plates, the learned editor observes, that the *Tabulæ Honestæ Missionis* have always been held in high estimation by antiquaries, not only on account of the valuable historical information to be derived from them, but also for their rarity, not more than ten sets of them having been hitherto discovered, or at least published^d; and that the present are particularly important, as they serve to throw considerable light on the Military establishment in Britain during the reign of Trajan, of which no mention is made by any Roman historian^e.

^d The most antient are those containing a Decree of the emperor Claudius, described in the preface to the first vol. of the Catalogue of the Antiquities of Herculaneum. Naples, 1755. Fac similes of two found at Castello a Mare near Naples (Stabium) in 1688, containing a decree of Galba are contained in Maffei's *Istoria Diplomatica*, 1728, and Gore's *Inscriptiones Antiquæ Florentiæ*, vol. I. 257. Another of Galba, in the same form, but with names of different veterans, found in the same place in 1728, is given in Muratori's *Nov. Thesaur. Inscip.* I. 307.—Four are preserved in Gruter's *Corpus Inscriptionum*, vol. I. part II. 173, 174, and 175; one of which is of Vespasian, two of Domitian, and one of Trajan.—Fragments of two tablets, containing a decree of Hadrian, were discovered in Ecclesfield near Sheffield, and an inaccurate copy of the inscription communicated to the Society of Antiquaries.—Two tablets, containing a similar decree of Hadrian, were found in Hungary in 1723, and deposited in the Imperial collection at Vienna. The inscriptions are published in Eckhel's *Sylloge Numorum vel Anecdotorum*, p. 114. Extracted from Mr. Lysons' note.

^e Horsley, in his *Britannia Romana*, says that “the silence of the Roman Historians with respect to Britain, may be extended from the year of our Lord 85, when Agricola was recalled by Domitian, to the year 120, when Hadrian is said to have come over into Britain. It appears from these decrees that there was a large military force in this island during the reign of Trajan. Mr. Lysons' note.

BULKELEY.

BULKELEY is a sequestered and beautiful township, situated about twelve miles south-east of Chester, in the line between Bunbury and Malpas, shaded on the north-west by the Bickerton Hills, and sloping in verdant and well-timbered inequalities of surface to the banks of one of the feeders of the early course of the Weever. It is unnoticed in Domesday, but must almost necessarily have been then comprehended in some of the surrounding manors of Robert Fitz Hugh.

The earliest lord who has occurred is Robert de Bulkeley, living at least as early as the close of the twelfth century, whose four daughters quitclaim lands in Prestland to their brother William, in 1233^a. Robert Bulkeley, son and heir, by deed without date^b, had grant of lands in Bickerton from John Laverkedone, or Larkton, and had issue three sons, William, Thomas, and Peter Bulkeley. The last of whom was the ancestor of the Bulkeleys of Woore. Thomas, the second of these sons, has been confounded in Leicester's MS pedigrees, with William, son of Robert, before-mentioned, and the whole subsequent ramification of this widely-spreading family, has been strangely confused, but it is presumed that the annexed pedigree exhibits the clearest arrangement which can be formed, and it is the result of much labour and collation.

William, the first son of Robert Bulkeley, according to nearly all the Cheshire pedigrees^c, was father of six sons, who varied their names and arms, and were severally the founders of many sub-divisions of the family, as specified in the pedigree. William, the eldest of these sons, had a share of the manor, which passed in marriage with his sole daughter and heiress, Alice, to Thomas Holford, of Holford, esq. with whose descendant, Mary Holford, it passed in marriage to sir Hugh Cholmondeley, of Cholmondeley, about 1580, from whom it has regularly descended to the present marquis of Cholmondeley.

David Bulkeley, the sixth son of William Bulkeley, had also lands in Bulkeley from his father, by deed 1332^d, which estate will be noticed hereafter. It was reputed a share of the manor in 1662^e, but those privileges are now disused.

The residue of the manor is supposed to have vested in Thomas Bulkeley, younger brother of the elder William, father of the six sons before mentioned, and son of Robert Bulkeley. He had two sons^f, Roger and Richard. From Roger, lands have descended to his present representative Richard Brassey, of Cotton Abbots, of which hereafter. This estate, like that of David Bulkeley, was considered manerial in 1671, but has long ceased to be reputed such.

The estate of Richard (undeniably manerial) after continuing in the male line five generations, passed in marriage with Maud, daughter and heiress of William de Bulkeley, to William Tattenhall^g, in which family it continued until Eleanor, daughter of Thomas, and sister and coheiress of Ralph de Tattenhall, brought it in the time of Henry the Eighth, in marriage to sir Hugh Calveley, of Lea, knight^h.

Inq. p. m. 5 and 6 Philip and Mary. Sir Hugh Calveley, of Lea, knight, held (inter alia) in demesne, as of fee, by law of England, after the death of Eleanor his

wife, daughter and heiress of Thomas Tattenhall, esq. the manor of Buckley, but from whom the jurors know not. Value, per annum, *ivl. iis. ivd.*

Inq. p. m. 27 Eliz. Sir George Calveley, of Lea, knt. (heir by the last Inquisition), held, inter alia, the manor of Bulkeley, as before. Value, *ivl. viis. vid.*

Inq. p. m. 5 Jac. I. Hugh Calveley, esq. (heir by the last Inquisition) held, inter alia, "manerium suum de Bulkeley, in Bulkeley," from sir William Brereton, of Brereton, knight, as of his barony of Malpas, by services unknown. Value, per annum, *xxxxs.*

Sir George Calveley, of Lea, knight, son and heir by this Inquisition, is ascertained by Inquisition 18 Jac. I. to have died seized of the said manor, and to have settled it, by indenture, dated April 1, 9 Jac. I. on the heirs male of his body, with other remainders over. Hugh Calveley, esq. son and heir.

The remainder of the descent of this share of the manor is supplied by deeds in the possession of the marquis of Cholmondeleyⁱ. Sir Hugh Calveley enters into articles with Mrs. Elizabeth Booth, for his part of the manor, 12 Nov. 1646, and enfeoffs her with the manor, Dec. 30 following. The said Elizabeth, being then wife of Richard lord Byron, joins him in mortgaging the estate to — Nevitt, 21 Dec. 1658; after which follows a feoffment from lord Byron and his lady to lord Cholmondeley, with lease for a year and release, dated 7 July 1659: an assignment of mortgage from Mr. Nevitt, dated July 12 following, and a covenant from sir George Booth (father of lady Byron) for levying a fine of the manor, to lord Cholmondeley, and his heirs, dated July 15, 1659.

By this purchase, and the subsequent disuse of manerial rights by the heirs of David and Roger Bulkeley, the entire manor vested in the Cholmondeleys.

It remains to speak of those branches of Bulkeley, which still possess the portions of the township, to which manerial rights were antiently reputed to be attached.

David de Bulkeley, by marriage with the heiress of William de Bickerton, obtained lands in that township, which with his Bulkeley estate, descended in the direct line to Thomas Bulkeley, who was buried at Malpas in 1666, aged 40 years: his great grandson, Thomas Bulkeley, dying issueless in 1802, bequeathed his estate in Bulkeley, to the younger son of his sister, Thomas Orton, who is the present proprietor. The house in this estate, called Bulkeley Hall, is a substantial brick mansion.

Roger de Bulkeley's estate, passed through the Hadleighs to Hamon de Bresci, as stated in the pedigree annexed. The Bressies continued resident there in great respectability, for two centuries and a half; and their lineal representative Richard Bressie, entered his pedigree in sir William Dugdale's visitation in 1663, being then aged 28 years. The family have retained their property, but have gradually sunk to the rank of yeomanry, and are now represented by Mr. Richard Brassey, of Cotton Abbots, grandson of the before-mentioned Richard, and proprietor of the Bressie estate in this township.

The tenants of the manor of Bulkeley attend at the court leet of Cholmondeley.

^a Vide p. 138.

^b Booth's Pedigrees.

^c Booth's Pedigrees, Harl. MSS. 1535, &c.

^d Booth's Collections.

^e Villare, Harl. MSS. 2010.

^f Leicester's MS. Pedigrees.

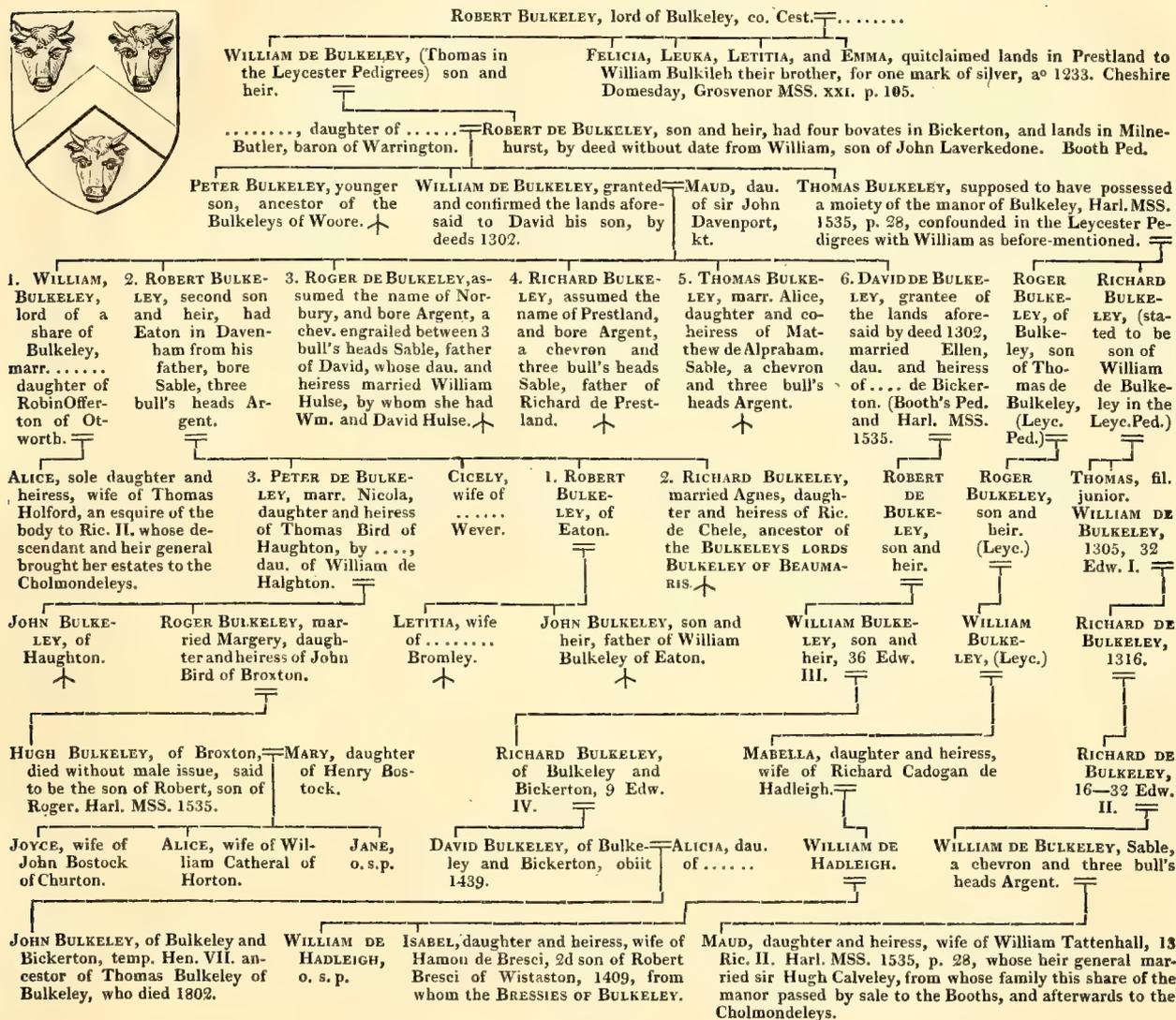
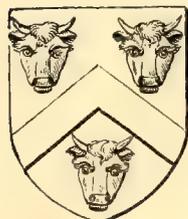
^g Harl. MSS. 2119. 60. b.

^h Vill. Cest. p. 189. For an account of the Tattenhalls see the township of Harthill.

ⁱ Communicated by Mr. Stephens of Cholmondeley castle to the late Dean of Chester.

BULKELEY OF BULKELEY.

ARMS. Argent, a chevron Sable between three bull's heads of the second.



LARTON, OR LARKTON,

Is an inconsiderable collection of huts, scattered on the south-east side of the Bickerton Hills. It gave name to a family about the time of king John, and has been vested for several centuries in the Cholmondeleys of Cholmondeley being noticed under the general description of lands in Larketon, in the Inquisition after the death of Richard Cholmeley, 4 Hen. VII. It is now vested in the marquis of Cholmondeley, to whose court leet of Cholmondeley, the tenants of this manor owe suit and service, and also attend the court of Egerton. Unimportant as this township now seems, it engrosses

the following long notice in the Domesday survey, among the estates of Robert Fitz Hugh. "Robertus tenet Lavorchedone, et tenent Edwinus et Drogo de eo. Isdem Edwinus tenuit; liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est trium carucarum: ibi est unus homo, et reddit XII denarios, et unus bordarius reddit duos solidos. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat octo solidos; habet quatuor leuvas longitudine, et totidem latitudine." The possession of Edwin and Drogo, as subtenants under the Norman lord, does not appear to have been of any continuance.

TUSHINGHAM CUM GRINDLEY.

This township is distant seventeen miles south-east of Chester, on the Whitchurch road, and on the extreme limits of the county, towards Shropshire. The higher part of the township commands a magnificent prospect of the broad and fertile vale, which intervenes between

Cheshire and Shropshire, and is enlivened by a view of Barnere. Tushingham, at the time of the Domesday survey, was the property of Robert Fitz Hugh, lord of Malpas. "Robertus tenet Tusigeham, et Humfridus de eo.

Ernuin liber homo tenuit : ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est in carucarum ; in dominio est una, cum uno bordario : silva dimidia leuva. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x solidos ; modo iv solidos ; wasta fuit."

The principal estate, which has since been reputed manerial, was the property of the Stocktons, of Stockton, in the reign of Edward the Second, and was held under the barony of Malpas.

4 Edw. II. William, son of David de Stockton, obtained against David de Stockton, and Wenthilia his wife, five messuages, and lands in Little Christleton and Tussingham^a.

5 Edw. III. Isabella, daughter and heiress of William de Stockton, married Robert de Eaton, whose descendant John de Eaton, had issue Johanna, wife of Ralph Grosvenor, esq. who received with her the estates of the Stocktons and Eatons, in the reign of Henry VI.

Inq. p. m. 34 Hen. VIII. Richard Grosvenor, esq. held five messuages, and one cottage in Tussingham and Gryndley, from William Brereton, esq. in socage. Value, per annum, viii. vis. vii. d.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Thomas Grosvenor, of Eaton, esq. held the manor of Tussingham from William Brereton, esq. and Alicia Corbett, as of their barony of Malpas, in socage, by fealty.

March 15, 1631. Sir Richard Grosvenor of Eaton, bart. assures to sir Richard Brooke, of Norton, bart. and others, their purchase of the manor of Tussingham^b, and other lands. This must have been rendered void ; as in 1636, sir Richard Grosvenor sells the said manor to Thomas Nevett, goldsmith and citizen of London, for 600l. ^cIn this conveyance is included "all that chapel of Tussingham, commonly called or known by the name of Chad Chapel, with one yard thereunto belonging."

In 1715. Edward Halsey, gent. seized of a portion of this manor, as devisee of John Nevett, purchased the residue of the manor from the other heirs and devisees of the said John Nevett for 1100l. by two successive

purchases, in which the chapel was included. The said Edward Halsey, in 1716, conveyed his right in the manor to Thomas Churton, of Whitchurch, gent. from whom it devolved to Susanna Churton his heiress, who, in 1778, set up, but afterwards relinquished, the claim to the chapel of Tussingham, which has been noticed under the ecclesiastical department of this parish.

The manor is now vested in Daniel Vawdrey, esq. who occasionally resides at Tussingham House in this township, and who purchased the said manor from Josiah Boydell, esq. of Killendre, near Wrexham, by whose father the same had been bought from the Churtons.

In Harl. MSS. 2002, will be found many documents relative to Willey Moor, in this township (inclosed in or about 1790), which was claimed by the Cholmondeleys as part of the manor of Bickley ; but in a suit at Chester, 9 Jac. I. was finally determined to belong to Tussingham.

Tussingham antiently gave a local name to a resident family. By *Inq. p. m.* 6 Hen. V. it appears that John de Tussingham died seized of lands here, of the value of xvs. per annum, leaving William de Tussingham his son and heir ; and 10 Edw. II. William Browe of Tussingham, obtains from John, son of Hugh de Tussingham, and Eve his wife, ^d1 messuage and 3 acres of land cum pert. situated therein.

This estate was passed over by fine to Nicholas Peu, chaplain, anno 20 Edw. II. ^eby the celebrated warrior and friend of sir Hugh Calveley, sir Hugh Browe, knt. and Blanche his wife. It remained vested in the Browes for several generations, as appears by a fine, 10 Hen. VII. ^fwhen Thomas Lewis chaplain obtained from Hugh Browe 3 messuages, and 146 acres of land and wood, with 10s. rent in Alpraham and Tussingham.

Grindley is a hamlet of this township, and is included in the manor of Tussingham, for which a court has been held at irregular periods. The tenants of the manor attend the court of Egerton.

WICALGH.

THE manor of Wichalgh, which is unnoticed in Domesday, was parcel of that part of the barony of Malpas, which became the property of the Belwards, but does not appear to have been ever obtained by David de Malpas the Bastard, being possessed by Philip de Egerton, 20 Edw. III. previous to the suits which his daughters and coheirresses had with the representatives of the said David, and being included in lands, which (conformably to the uses of a fine, 37 Edw. III.) passed successively to David, son of the said Philip Egerton, to his sister Isabella Delves, and after her decease s. p. to Philip Egerton, of Egerton^a, as stated in the *Inq.* after the death of the said Philip Egerton, 24 Hen. VI.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Sir John Egerton, knight, held in demesne, as of fee tail, to himself and the heirs male of his body, inter alia, the manor of Wichalgh.

Inq. p. m. 13 Edw. IV. Philip Egerton held in demesne, as of fee tail, inter alia, the said manor.

Inq. p. m. 1 Ric. III. John Egerton, esq. held the said manor, by tenure unknown to the jurors, valued

with lands in Oldcastle, Tussingham, and Hoole, at 57l. 0s. 2d.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. Margery, widow of Philip Egerton, esq. died seized of lands in this township, held in dower.

Inq. p. m. 26 Hen. VIII. Philip Egerton, esq. vested in trustees his lands in Wichalgh, &c.

The said manor and lands occur in the Inquisitions after the deaths of sir Philip Egerton, 6 Eliz. John Egerton, esq. 33 Eliz. and sir John Egerton, knight, 21 Jac. I.

The manor of Wichalgh, following the disposition of the Cheshire estates, passed from the elder line to the Egertons of Oulton, and descended to the present sir John Grey-Egerton, bart. by whom it was conveyed in 1800^b, to the trustees of James Brodhurst, esq. and has recently passed under the settlements created by his will, to Thomas Jenks, of Bene't College, esq. who has assumed the name of Brodhurst.

The manor is within the leet of Egerton.

^a Williamson's Collections, p. 8.

^b Harl. MSS. 2002, 415.

^c The rest of the descent of the manor was extracted from title deeds by archdeacon Churton.

^d Williamson.

^e Ibid.

^f Ibid.

^a Vide deeds in Egerton township.

^b Information of Philip Humberstone, esq.

CHIDLOW.

THIS township is omitted in Domesday. The paramount lords, as may be gathered from homages, and the tenure specified in the Inquisitions, were the family of Strange of Blackmere, under whom Chidlow appears to have been held by the Pulfords of Pulford.

^cIn the reign of Edward the First, Griffin Warren (base son of William Plantagenet, sixth earl of Warren and Surrey), and Isabella his wife, sister of Robert de Pulford, did homage for the manors of Stretton and Chidlow, first to Eleanor widow of Robert le Strange, and daughter and heiress of William de Albo Monasterio, or Blanchminster, and then to Robert de Pulford, who had enfeoffed Isabella with the said manors.

^dJohn de Warren, sixth in descent from the said Griffin, had two daughters and coheiresses, the eldest of whom, Margaret, brought Chidlow in marriage to William Mainwaring, ancestor of the Mainwarings of Ightfield, in whom a mesne interest continued to be vested, as appears by the following Inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. George Mainwaring, esq.

held inter alia, the manor of Stretton on the Hill, and 11s. rent in Chidlowe, (rendered by Philip Egerton, esq.) from George earl of Shrewsbury, as of his manor of Blackmeire, in socage, by the render of xiiid. Value, per annum, xvii. John Mainwaring nephew and heir.

This acknowledgment from Philip Egerton was paid in consideration of an estate in Chidlow, which is noticed in nearly all the settlements and Inquisitions given in the account of that family, and which is uniformly described as held from the Mainwarings of Ightfield, but not termed manerial.

The said estate, which is now reputed the manor of Chidlow, descended with the other Cheshire property of this family to the Egertons of Oulton, and was sold in 1800^e by the present sir John Grey-Egerton, to the late Charles Goodwin, esq. of Farndon, under whose will it is now vested in Hugh Maxwell Goodwin, esq. in right of his wife, the daughter and heiress of Walter Thomas, of Chester, merchant, and niece of Mr. Goodwin.

The manor is within the leet of Egerton.

STOCKTON AND MACEFEN.

THE Domesday survey takes no notice of these townships. Stockton was antiently possessed by the local lords, to whom it gave name, who held it under the barony of Malpas. William, son of David de Stockton, is noticed in the account of Tushingam, as living 4 Edw. II. The direct line of this family terminated in an heir female, Isabella, daughter of William de Stockton, and wife of Robert de Eaton, 5 Edw. III. The Stocktons of Stockton bore, Vert, three stocks of trees erased Argent. A family of the same name, but assuming different arms, settled in Cuddington, of whom some memorials will be found among the Malpas monuments.

Stockton is omitted in the Inquisitions of the Eatons, but occurs as follows in those of their successors, the Grosvenors of Eaton.

Inq. p. m. 16 Edw. IV. Ralph Grosvenor held by courtesy, of the inheritance of Jane his late wife, daughter and heiress of John Eyton, inter alia, one messuage and lands in Stockton, from John Grevell, by the render of vi d. Value 20s.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VII. Robert Grosvenor, esq. held inter alia, in demesne as of fee, one messuage and lands in Stockton, from the heirs of sir Thomas Cooksey, by the render of vi d. Value, per annum, iv marks.

Inq. p. m. 34 Hen. VIII. Richard Grosvenor held as

before in Stockton, from the heirs of sir Thomas Cooksey. Value, per annum, 1v l.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Thomas Grosvenor, of Eaton, esq. held one messuage in Stockton.

The manor or reputed manor of Stockton, descended to the late earl Grosvenor, and was alienated by him about thirty years ago, to the father of lord Kenyon, the present proprietor^f.

Lord Kenyon possesses also, by conveyance from the said earl Grosvenor to his father, the manor of MACEFEN, a very inconsiderable township, adjacent to Tushingam, the early history of which is involved in obscurity, excepting that it was clearly a component part of the barony of Malpas, as appears by the plea of Edward Sutton lord Dudley, to a quo warranto 15 Hen. VII. It is most probable that it passed to the Stocktons in the same manner with Tushingam, and descended through the Eatons to the Grosvenor family. It occurs in 1629, among the estates of sir Richard Grosvenor, then assigned by him to Roger Hurleston, for discharge of his debts^g; and in 1671 it is noticed in a Villare of Broxton Hundred, as a manor possessed by sir Thomas Grosvenor^h.

The tenants of Macefen attend the leet of Egerton, those of Stockton the leet of Malpas.

^c Williamson's Villarel, p. 60.

^d Watson's Earls of Warren, I. 215.

^e Information of Philip Humberstone, esq.

^f Lysons's Magna Britannia, vol. II. 684.

^g Harl. MSS. 2002. p. 323.

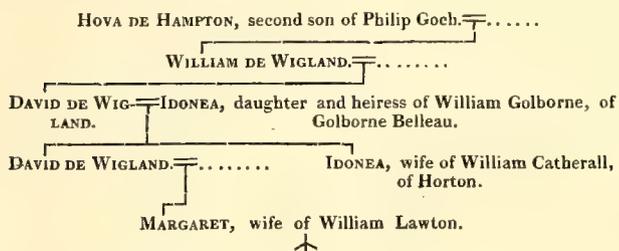
^h Harl. MSS. 2010.

WIGLAND.

THIS township is passed over in silence by Domesday, but it may be clearly collected that it was an original part of the barony of Malpas, the lords of the several shares thereof being specified in the Inquisitions as the persons under whom estates were held in Wigland, by William Rathebone, 2 Hen. IV.; John Rathebone, 9 Hen. IV.; Richard Grosvenor, 34 Hen. VIII.; and Edward Golborne, 20 Eliz.

Hova de Hampton, second son of Philip Goch, the younger brother of William baron of Malpas, had a son William, who assumed his name from his lands in this township, and was father of David de Wigland, which David, or his son of the same name, by *Inq. p. m.* 35 Edw. III. died seized of lands in Bradley and Malpas, Oldcastle mill, two parts of a salt-work in Fulwich, and half the manor of Wigland, except 30 acres, held from Philip de Egerton. Total value 68s. 4d.

The following short pedigree of this family is given in Harl. MSS. 1535.



Isabella, daughter of William Lawton of Wigland, shortly afterwards married sir Ralph Bostock of Bostock, whose grandson Ralph Bostock died seized of this manor.

Inq. p. m. 22 Edw. IV. Ralph Bostock, esq. held in demesne as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Wigland, with lands and messuages therein, and in Fulwich and Bradley, but from whom the jurors knew not. Val. 13l. 17s. 2d.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VIII. Elizabeth, widow of Ralph Bostock, held inter alia, 20 messuages and one mill in Wigland, with lands in Malpas, Iscoyd, Agden, Chidlowe, Cuddington, and Fulwich, from sir Edward Sutton, kt. in socage by the render of 9d. Value viil.

The reversion of which lands belongs to sir Randle Brereton.

Wigland is afterwards enumerated among the appendages to the barony of Malpas, possessed by sir Randle Brereton of Shocklach, in *Inq. p. m.* 9 Jac. I.

The descent of the manor is now lost for a short time, but it appears again at the close of the sixteenth century, in the possession of the Fletchers of Lichfield, (who probably purchased it from the heirs of the Breretons) and on the death of John Fletcher, esq. without issue male, vested by settlement, with other Cheshire property, in his nephew, Thomas Wicksted, of Nantwich, esq. the son of Grissel, daughter of Charles Fletcher, esq. and wife of Thomas Wicksted. On the decease of the said Thomas Wicksted in 1814, the said manor and other property passed under his will, dated July 16, 1803, to his great nephew, Charles Tollet, of Betley, esq. who assumed by royal sign manual the name and arms of Wicksted, and is the present proprietor.

In this township is DIRTWICH, called also FULLWICH, a corruption of FOULWICH, which will be found noticed in numerous deeds and Inquisitions abstracted in the preceding account of Malpas. It is proved by the Inquisition after the death of David de Wigland, that salt was made here at least as early as the 35th Edw. III.

ⁱ Leland notices at "the Dyrte wiche a new pitte besyde the old decayed," and again says, ^k "ther be a ii or iii, but veri litle salt springs at Dertwiche in a low botom, wher sumtimes salt is made."

The following curious extract is from Burghall's Diary :

Aug. 28, 1643. Captain Croxton and captain Venables, with their companies and others, went to Durtwich, and cut in pieces all their pans, pumps, salt-pits, and works, and carried some of their pans off; so their salt-making was spoiled, which served Shrewsbury and many other places of the kingdom. The provocation to this was, that lord Capel had issued a proclamation that none under his command should fetch any salt from Nantwich^l.

Salt is now made in these works, as in the other wiches of this county.

CHORLTON JUXTA MALPAS.

THE earliest account of this township is given by Dr. Williamson in his Villare^m, that Urian St. Pierre, and Margery his wife, were capital lords hereof 16 Edw. I.; and that John de St. Pierre died seized of the homage and service of John de Orreby for this manor, 18 Edw. I. It appears to have been afterwards a portion of that part of the barony which passed to the Breretons of Brereton, after being recovered from the St. Pierres by Isabella Delves, as it was certainly vested in this family as paramount lords in the time of Henry VI. It is subsequently lost in the confusion of the breaking up of the barony, but is stated by Dr. Cowper to have been purchased by the Pulestons of Emral, in whose

representative, sir Richard Puleston, bart. the capital lordship is now vested, and the tenants of this manor attend to render suit and service at his court of Shocklach.

Under the Breretons a branch of the Bird family were established as mesne lords, and terminated in coheireses temp. Henry VI. as appears by the following Inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 13 Hen. VI. John Bryde held in demesne as of fee the manor of Chorlton, from William, son of William Brereton, by military service, also lands in Shocklache, Horton, Burwardesley, and Cudington. Katherine, Margaret, Agnes, and Alicia, next of kin and heiresses.

The Birds were succeeded by the Cluttons, who

ⁱ Itin. 7. f. 22.

^k Ibid. 5. f. 82.

^l History of Cheshire, 8vo. vol. II. p. 18.

^m In account of Chorlton.

settled here in the reign of Henry VIII. in the person of Roger, third son of Owen Clutton of Carden, by his wife Margery, daughter of Humphrey Wilbraham of Burland, descended from Roger de Clutton, living in the time of Henry III. whose posterity obtained a considerable estate in Clutton, by the marriage of Margery, daughter and coheiress of William Cawarthyⁿ. Owen Clutton is described as manerial lord of Chorlton in the Villare of 1671^o, and his estate is now vested in his descendant and representative Thomas Chorlton Clutton, esq.

Chorlton Hall, the property of Mr. Clutton, is a

ruinous mansion, half timbered, moated, and finished with gables; it has no appearance of having ever been a fabric of much consequence, and is situated in a dull unpleasant part of the parish.

At a short distance from Chorlton Hall, is a mansion on a rising ground; immediately fronting Overton Scar, which was the residence of a branch of the Mainwaring family in the seventeenth century. It has been recently repaired and modernized, and is the property and residence of — Benyon, esq. Over the lintel of one of the doors, is inscribed, “in the life time of George Manwaringe. 1660.”

OLDCASTLE.

OLDCASTLE is situated south-east of Malpas, immediately on the Welsh frontier, from which it is divided by a small brook, from the banks of which the ground rises into a number of small hills and inequalities, on the summit of one of which are indications of the works of an ancient fortress, from which the township indisputably derives its name. It cannot be as easily determined whether the post was one of the chain of forts erected on the Welsh confines after the Norman conquest, or whether it is the site of an earlier fortress. No records of any kind have occurred which describe it in existence.

After the subdivisions of the barony of Malpas, Oldcastle passed to the St. Pierres, and from them to the Cokesays, who held it from the king in capite. It occurs in an escheator's warrant to deliver lands to Alicia, widow of sir Hugh Cokesay, 24 Hen. VI.; a licence of alienation to the same Alicia and her second husband, sir Andrew Ogard, 26 Hen. VI.; the Inquisition after the death of the said Alicia, 38 Hen. VI.; and all the successive Inquisitions given among the documents of this family in the account of Malpas, down to 23 Hen. VII. when it occurs in the enrollment of an *Inq. p. m.* 16 Hen. VII. finding Roger Horton heir to the Cokesay estates, and in the same year the estates

of the Cokesays in Oldcastle are transferred by fine to Edmund Dudley, esq. the fiscal judge. After his attainder, as previously mentioned in the account of Malpas, the greatest part of his Malpas estates passed to the elder line of the Dudleys, and the manor of Oldcastle is particularized among the Malpas estates transferred by fine by sir John Dudley, and Jane his wife, 38 Hen. VIII. to sir Rowland Hill^p.

After the dispersion of the Hill property, Oldcastle passed to the Alports of Overton, and was in possession of John Alport of Overton, a minor, in 1671^q.

It is now the property of John Whitehall Dod, of Clevely in the county of Salop, esq. representative of a younger branch of the family of Dod of Edge in this parish.

In 1644 Oldcastle heath was the scene of a conflict between a party of royalist cavalry, who had been driven out of Lancashire, and were two thousand five hundred in number, and about nine hundred of the parliament troops from Nantwich. The royalists fled, leaving colonels Vane and Conyers dead on the field, with sixty common men, and twenty-five prisoners, including two majors, three captains, and a lieutenant. Only one man, lieutenant-colonel Jones, was wounded on the side of the parliament^r.

OVERTON.

THE Domesday survey notices Overton, among the estates of Robert Fitz Hugh, the Norman lord of Malpas, as follows:

“Isdem Robertus tenet Overton. Ulvoi tenuit, liber homo fuit: ibi una hida et dimidia geldabilis. Terra est ii carucarum, in dominio est una: silva ii acris longitudine, et una latitudine. Valebat v solidos; modo vi solidos.”

The manor of Overton, or a considerable portion thereof, was vested in David de Golborne, half brother of Philip Goch, and consequently son of David de Malpas, lord of a moiety of the barony. This family assumed their name from their manor of Golborne David, in the parish of Handley, which also received from this proprietor the addition to its own name which it now retains. The direct male line of David terminated in

sir William Golborne, knt. who married one of the daughters and coheiresses of sir Peter Thornton, of Thornton, in Edisbury Hundred.

Inq. p. m. 33 Edw. III. William Golborne, chevalier, held in demesne, as of fee, from the earl of Chester, in capite, a seventh part of two parts of all the lands and tenements of sir Peter Thornton, knight, in Kingsley, Norley, Onston, Cudington, Newton, Acton, Picton, Stoke, Pulton Lancelyn, and Arowe, in right of his wife Margaret, and jointly with his wife, a fourth part of Burwardsley, and the entire manor of Golborne David; also the half the vill of Overton, from sir John de St. Pierre, knight, by the render of a sparrow hawk, or 12d. per annum. Val. per ann. vi marks; val. tot. 9l. 9s. 3d. Johanna and Elizabeth daughters and coheiresses.

The eldest of these coheiresses married Roger Vena-

ⁿ Clutton Ped. Harl. MSS. 2119. ^o Harl. MSS. 2010. ^p For particulars of these transfers, see the Malpas deeds of the Suttons and St. Pierres. ^q Harl. MSS. 2010. ^r Burghall's Diary. Hist. of Chesh. vol. II. 937.

bles; the second married — Goodman, according to the Cheshire pedigrees. Elizabeth occurs again as follows.

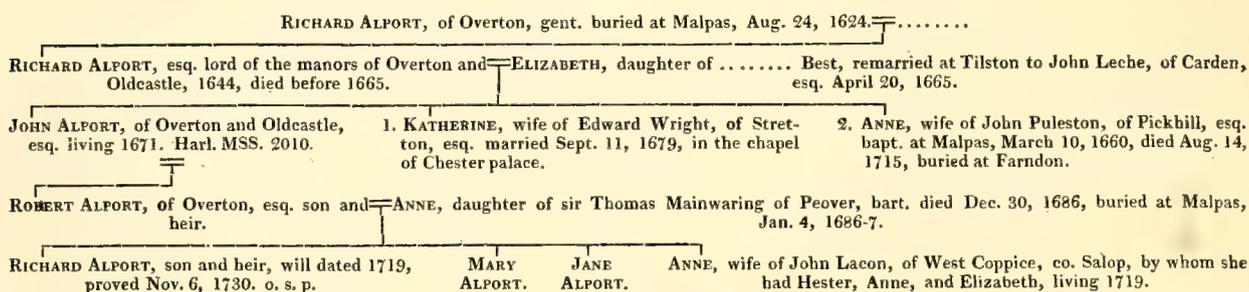
Inq. p. m. 13 Ric. II. Elizabeth daughter of William de Golborne, held in fee tail, lands and tenements in Overton, from sir William Cokesey, knight, and Isabella his wife, by the render of one sparrow hawk, or xiii. on the feast of St. Oswald the King, for all services, value, per annum, 5 marks; also the manor of Golborne David, a fourth of Burwardslegh, and Green Wall in Doddleston, and conjointly with her late husband Roger Venables, Light Aspes in Church Minshull. Hugh Venables son and heir.

This Hugh Venables dying issueless, settled his estates on William Venables, of Kinderton; and the estate is not afterwards noticed as manerial, in the Inquisitions of that family.

The manor of Overton occurs as such in the possession of Richard Alport, esq. in 1644, but the descent

of it to this family is altogether obscure. It may be stated as matter of certainty, that the paramount royalty was vested in the St. Pierres and Cokesays, whose Malpas property, including lands in Overton, was purchased from their heirs by Edmund Dudley, after whose attainder the greater part of these estates vested in the elder Dudleys, and was sold by them 23 Hen. VIII. to sir Rowland Hill. Whether the manor of Overton passed in the same manner, or not, is uncertain; but it is clear that Oldcastle did, which vested at this time by the aforesaid purchase in sir Rowland Hill, and became the property of the Alports, about the time when they first appear seized of Overton.

The descent of the manor in this family is traced by the following pedigree. They assumed as armorial bearings Gules, 6 pears, 3, 2, and 1, Or, on a chief of the second a crescent, Sable.



Richard Alport bequeathed his lands to his three nieces, and, among other legacies, a rent charge of 40s. per annum to the curates of Malpas, for daily service in their church in the week preceding the Sacrament Sunday, 500l. for the establishment of a school at Malpas, and 50l. to the Blue Coat School at Chester.

The manor of Overton was sold after his decease to col. Herbert Lawrence, whose son, Charles Lawrence, esq. sold the same in 1739^s to William Chesshyre, of Hallwood, esq. son and heir of the rev. Rob. Chesshyre, A.M. vicar of Runcorn, who left one daughter, Arabella, wife of Arthur Rawdon, esq. uncle of the earl of Moira.

The executors of the said William Chesshyre sold the manor to Thomas Prescott, of Chester, merchant, who served the office of high sheriff, in 1756, under whose will Overton passed to his nephew, sir George Beeston Prescott, bart. and was sold by him, under the provisions of an act of Parliament, in 1802, to Matthew Gregson, of Liverpool, esq.^t

Overton Hall stands in a low, sequestered dingle, but the high grounds behind it command a fine view of the Vale of Chester. The moat inclosed an area of about an acre, great part of which is now filled up. In front of the house, there is a very old pointed arch of stone over the moat. The present building is chiefly a modern farm-house; a small part of the old house remains half-timbered and projecting in the higher stories.

Overton Scar, nearly adjoining, is one of the abrupt precipices in which the line of the Edisbury and Broxton Hills uniformly terminate towards the sea. A part of the rock forms a vast cavern, which until late years was celebrated as the haunt of a numerous tribe

of gipsies. These visitants have been lately expelled by the hand of the law, in consequence of their frequent mal-practices in the neighbourhood; the cavern is inclosed, and plantations of firs and larches almost conceal its aperture.

It remains to speak of the Golbornes of Overton, a branch of the manerial proprietors of the same name, who settled in this township on lands which they acquired with a coheirress of Cawarden, and were living here at the visitation of 1566, when they entered the pedigree subjoined. Their connection with the manerial lords of Golborne and Overton, is more than doubtful; but their descent, as far as it goes, is highly respectable. The following pedigree has a few additions from the following Inquisitions. Their arms vary little from those of the Birds, of which family they married a coheirress, with whom they had considerable estates.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VIII. Richard Golborne, of Overton, held five messuages in Overton, from Philip Eger-ton, in socage, value, per annum, ivl. and lands in Chorlton, Tilston, Carden, Haslington, Edge, Norbury, Fadiley, Wich Malbank, Church Copenhall, and Aston. He died on Monday before the feast of St. Michael, in the said year, leaving Richard, son of his brother William Golborne, next of kin and heir, aged 11 years. Val. tot. 16l. 16s. 8d.

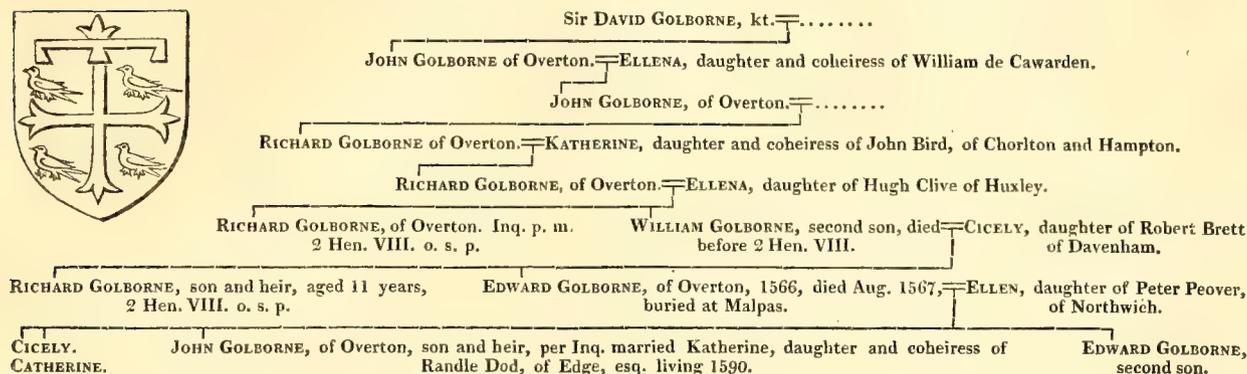
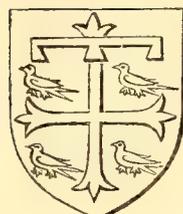
Inq. p. m. 10 Eliz. Edward Golborne held a capital message in Overton, in Chorlton, from William Breton, esq. by military service, value, per annum, vl. with lands in Wich Milbank, Aston, Overton, Carden, Edge, Norbury, Copnall, Wigland, Northwich, and Tilston. He died Aug. 28, 9 Eliz. John Golborne son and heir.

^s Information of Matthew Gregson, esq.

^t Information of Matthew Gregson, esq.

GOLBORNE OF OVERTON.

ARMS. Argent, a cross patonce Gules, between four martlets of the second, over all a label of the second.



BROXTON.

THE county of Chester has few districts more likely to arrest the attention of the traveller, from mere natural beauties, than the township of Broxton. The immediate foreground is rich in timber, and luxuriant in verdure, and as the road ascends the pass of Barnhill, the magnificent vale of Chester, with the estuaries and the Welsh mountains, opens with a grandeur which the other views from the neighbouring hills rarely attain. The scenery then changes to a style of landscape not often met with in this county. The road winds between rocks and antient oaks, which cast their branches over the road, and occasionally give a glimpse of the rich valley before mentioned, and at other times a near view of precipitous elevations of the Bickerton Hills, whose bare and abrupt crags, crowned with the earthworks of a British fortress, close the immediate foreground. To the left the eye commands the long line of the broken terminations of this mountainous range, with minor well-wooded elevations scattered below, over which the prospect extends to the distant forest hills, rising from the great vale, which intervenes between the districts of Broxton and Edisbury.

To the right of this road, are three antient halls, formerly seats of considerable branches of the families of Dod, Bird, and Massie, which will be described after the descent of the manor, of which the Norman lord of Malpas was grantee.

“ Idem Robertus tenet Brosse, et Rogerus Picot de eo. Brismere et Raven ii liberi homines tenuerunt pro duobus maneriis: ibi v hidæ geldabiles. Terra est vi carucarum. In dominio est una caruca, et tres villani, cum una carucâ. Silva unius leuvæ.”

Gilbert de Pichot (a descendant of the Norman mesne lord?) married Margaret de Rullos, representative of Ibert the Norman grantee of Waverton, Eaton, and Clotton^a. Estates, which were subsequently termed the manors of Waverton and of Broxton, but in antient deeds are called the third of the former, and the eighth of the latter, passed at an early period from the Pichots to the Pulfords of Pulford.

John de Pulford died s. p. per Inquisition 35 Edw. III. leaving Joanna his sister and heir, which Joanna,

40 Edw. III. being then wife of Thomas, son of John de Belgreave, obtained by fine from John Beeston, and other trustees, the manors of Pulford and Buyrton, &c. and homages, rents, and services in many townships, among which are specified those of John, son of Thomas le Byrd, of Broxton. The said Joanna afterwards married sir Robert Grosvenor, of Holme, from whom and his wife Joanna, 20 Ric. II. Ralph Leicester, senior, obtained by fine, as trustee, the 8th part of the manor of Broxton; which sir Robert Grosvenor, by Inquisition 20 Ric. II. left issue Thomas, his son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VI. Thomas le Grosvenor, chevalier, held in demesne, as of fee, an eighth part of the manor of Broxon, cum pert. from sir John de Sutton, knight, in socage, val. 53s. 4d.

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. IV. Robert Grosvenor, esq. (son and heir by the last Inquisition) held, as in the preceding Inquisition, an eighth part of the manor of Broxon, and left five daughters and coheiresses, the eldest Elizabeth, being wife of Peter Dutton, younger son of Edmund Dutton, of Dutton, esq. and founder of the Hatton branch of this family.

The manor occurs in the Inquisitions of this family, as follows.

Inq. p. m. 24 Eliz. Ralph Dutton, of Hatton, held inter alia, the manor of Broxton, from William Brereton, esq. as of his manor of Malpas, value, per annum, 14l. 15s. 6d. and the manor of Bolsworth, value, per annum, 40s.

Inq. p. m. 3 Jac. I. Rowland Dutton, of Hatton, esq. held, as in the last Inquisition, the manor of Broxton, value 10l. 15s. 6d. and that of Bollesworth, value 40s.

The manor of Broxton passed from this family to the Massies of Coddington, by settlement of Dorothy, daughter and heiress of Peter Dutton, of Hatton, esq. and wife of John Massie, of Coddington, esq. from whose grandson by a former marriage, Thomas Massie, esq. it passed by sale to Philip Egerton, of Oulton, esq. in whose son, sir John Grey-Egerton, it is now vested. No lands were attached to the manor, at the time of sale.

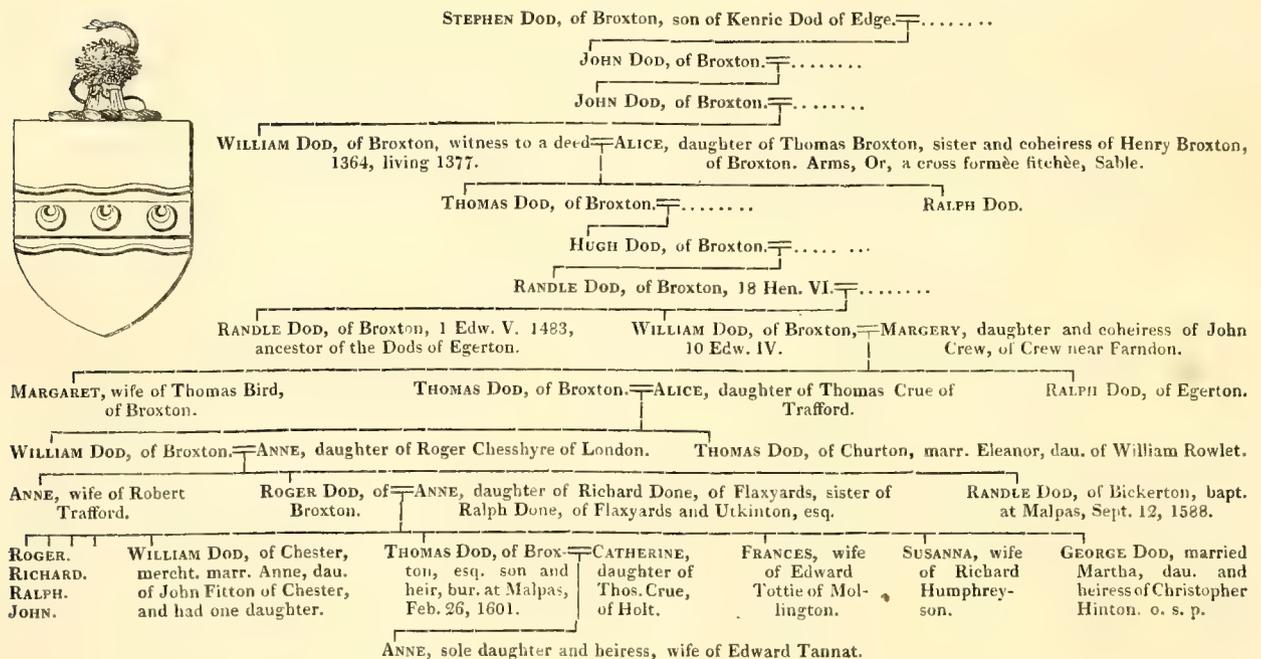
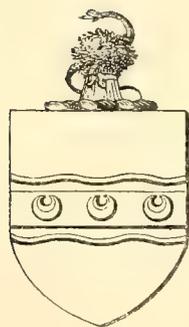
^a See the particulars of this descent given at length in the account of Waverton, in this Hundred.

The HIGHER HALL of Broxton is situated on the verge of the Broxton Hills, commanding a most delightful and extensive prospect. It is composed of plaister and timber, and is now partly modernized. This estate and the adjoining one, were the property of a family who bore the local name at an early period, and passed with the daughters and coheireesses of Thomas de Broxton to the families of Dod and Bird. William Dod (possessed of the Higher Hall, in right of his wife,) was descended

from the Dods of Edge, agreeably to the pedigree annexed, which brings down his descendants to Thomas Dod, who died in 1601, leaving a daughter and heiress, Anne wife of Edward Tannat, of the family of Aber-Tannat, in Shropshire. Edward Tannat, esq. grandson of this Edward, sold the Higher Hall estate to sir Philip Egerton, of Oulton^b, knight; and the same is now vested in his descendant and representative, sir John Grey-Egerton, bart.

DOD OF BROXTON.

ARMS and CREST as Dod of Edge.



IMMEDIATELY north of the Higher Hall estate is an antient stone mansion, situated on very elevated ground, near the junction of the roads from Chester and Holt, which for many generations was the residence of the Birds of Broxton. This estate also was originally in the Broxtons, and passed with Mabell, daughter and coheireess of the before-mentioned Thomas de Broxton, about 1338, to David le Bird, whose family had previously been settled in the township, and were a younger branch of the Birds of Chorlton.

The following extracts from the deeds of this family, whose pedigree has been much mangled by Booth, and the other Cheshire compilers, were taken from their evidences in 1691, and are preserved in Harl. MSS. 2038. They agree with the entry in the Visitation of 1613.

Hugh, son of Richard le Bird, purchased lands in Broxton of divers persons, of sir Ralph Vernon, knight, of Christian, daughter and heiress of William de Broxton, of Henry de Bontishall, of Roger de Domville, of Philip de Caurthyn, of William de Churton and others.

Henry de Bontishall gave, in fee, to David, son of Richard le Bird, of Broxton, and his heirs, one messuage upon Hobcliffe, without date.

Henry, son of Thomas de Broxton, gave to Hugh, son of David le Bird de Broxton, and to Agnes his wife, daughter of William de Bickerton, and their heirs, two sections of land in Broxton, dated 1329.

John, son of Hugh le Bird, was possessed of certain lands in Chouleggh, by gift of David, son of Uchtred le

Bird, of Broxton, anno 1331, and leased lands in Broxton to Richard and William his brothers, 5 Edw. III.

Hugh, son of David le Bird of Broxton, gave to David his son, and Mabell his wife, the daughter of Thomas de Broxton, one messuage and lands in Broxton, by deed 1338.

David le Bird, of Hampton, gave to David, son of Hugh le Bird, lands in Edge, &c. dated 1364.

Margery le Bird, releases to Hugh, son of David le Bird, &c. 1369.

Margery, daughter and heiress of John Bird, in her widowhood, 11 and 14 Ric. II. enfeoffed all her lands in Broxton and Newton, unto John, son of Peter Bulkeley, of Haughton, who settled the same on her for life; remainder to Robert de Bulkeley her son and heir.

John, son of Thomas del' Hall, releases to John, son of David de Bird, of Broxton, all his right and claim in those lands, which Hugh le Bird, grandfather of the said John, bought of Henry, grandfather of John, son of Thomas del Hall, 7 Hen. IV.

Henry Bird, of Broxton, makes attornies, John Massey, of Coddington, John Kingsley of Chester, and John Jackson of Aldersey, to give seisin to John Dutton of Hatton, and divers others, of all his lands, &c. in Broxton, and elsewhere in the county of Chester, 8 Edw. IV.

Thomas Bird, of Broxton, gent. enfeoffs sir Randle Brereton, knight, and others, of all his lands in Broxton, Burwardsley, Barton, Carden, Aldersey, Horton, Tilston, and Edge, to the use of George, son and heir of Peter, son and heir of the said Thomas, 19 Hen. VIII.

^b Cowper's Broxton MSS.^c Cowper's Broxton MSS.

George Bird, of Broxton, enfeoffs Richard Clive, esq. and others, with all his lands in Cheshire, to the use of Thomas Bird his son and heir apparent, 3 Eliz.

Thomas Bird enfeoffs Henry Leicester and William Bulkeley, with lands for the use of Jane his wife, and the issue of their bodies lawfully begotten, 7 Eliz.

From this point the pedigree is continued to the termination of the family in Charles Bird, in 1724, from

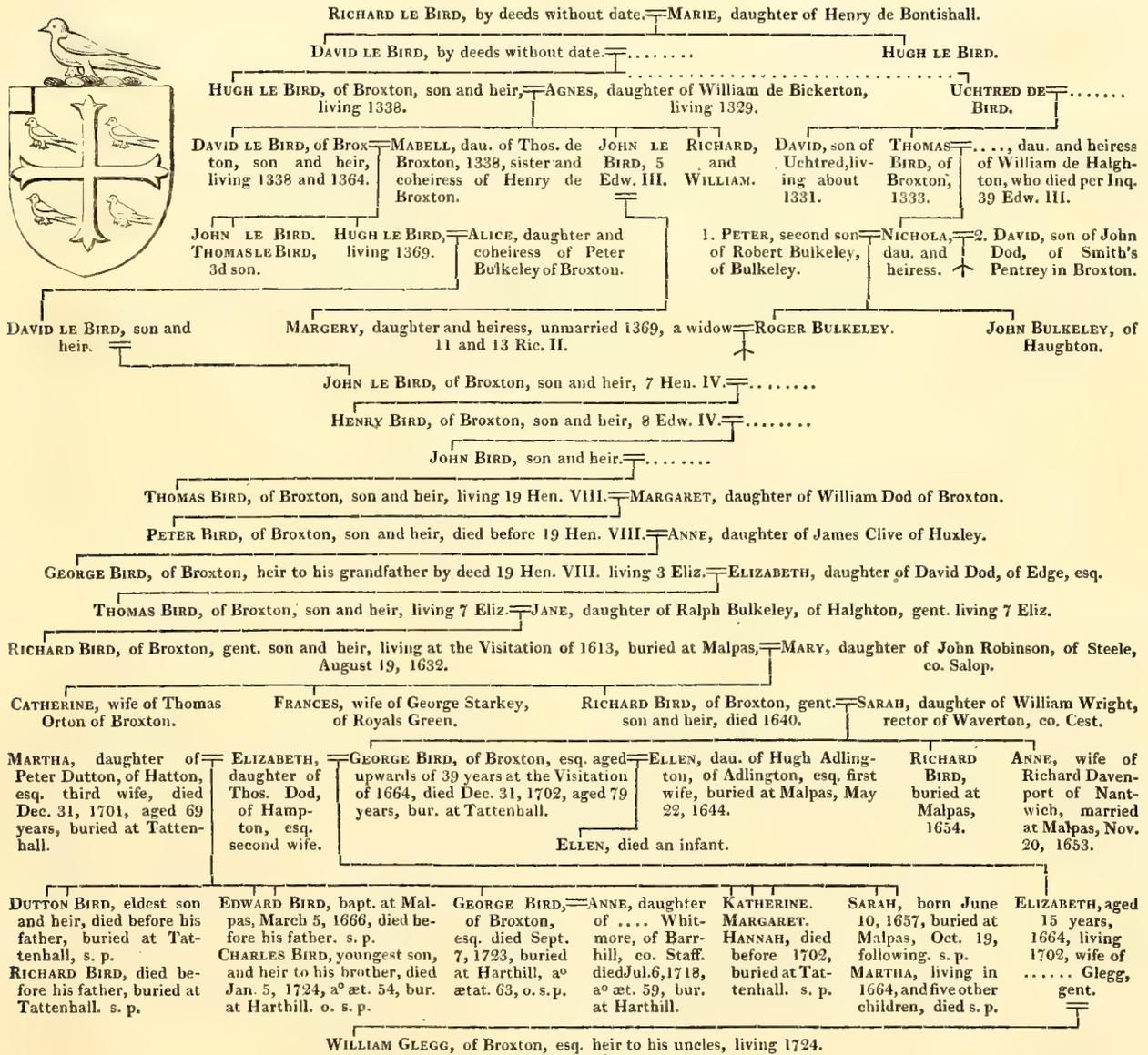
the Visitations of 1613 and 1664, and the monuments of the family at Tattenhall, and Harthill. The estate then passed to the nephew of Charles Bird, William Glegg^d, from whom it passed to his nephew Edward Glegg, who sold it to James Tomkinson, of Nantwich, gent. from whom it was purchased by John Egerton, jun. esq. son of John Egerton, of Oulton, esq. It is now vested in sir John Grey-Egerton, bart.

BIRD OF BROXTON.

From the Visitations of 1613 and 1664, with additions from original deeds (Harl. MSS. 2038. 163. b.) Monuments, and Parochial Registers.

ARMS. Argent, a cross patonce Gules, between four martlets of the second a canton Azure.

CREST. On a wreath a martlet Gules.



The LOWER HALL of Broxton, is situated at about a field's distance to the right of the road leading from Holt to Whitchurch, on elevated ground, but under the line of the Broxton Hills. It is a picturesque old mansion of timber and plaister, finished with gables, and large bay windows, and approached by a court and stone gateway. The Massies, its proprietors^e, branched out from the Coddington family, in the time of Hen. VIII. and continued seated here to the commencement of the eighteenth century, when the estate was sold by Hugh Massie, to John Dod, esq. a descendant of the Dods of Edge^e. This branch of the Massies were of

great respectability, and (as appears by *Inq. p. m.* 8 Eliz.) had estates in eleven townships of Cheshire, and the manors of Halghton and Yale in Denbighshire.

On the decease of John Herbert Dod, of Lower Broxton, without issue, this estate vested in his sister Anna-Christiana^f, wife of William Farrel^g, of Chester, esq. after whose decease it^h was sold by his three daughters and coheiresses, wives of major Henchman, Mr. Cotgreave and Col. Bonnor of Chester, to the late Philip Egerton, of Oulton, esq. whose son sir John Grey-Egerton is the present proprietor.

^d Cowper's Broxton MSS.

^e Ibid.

^f Buried at St. John's, Chester, 16 Feb. 1764, aged 63.

^g Buried *ibid.* 29 Jan. 1775, aged 86.

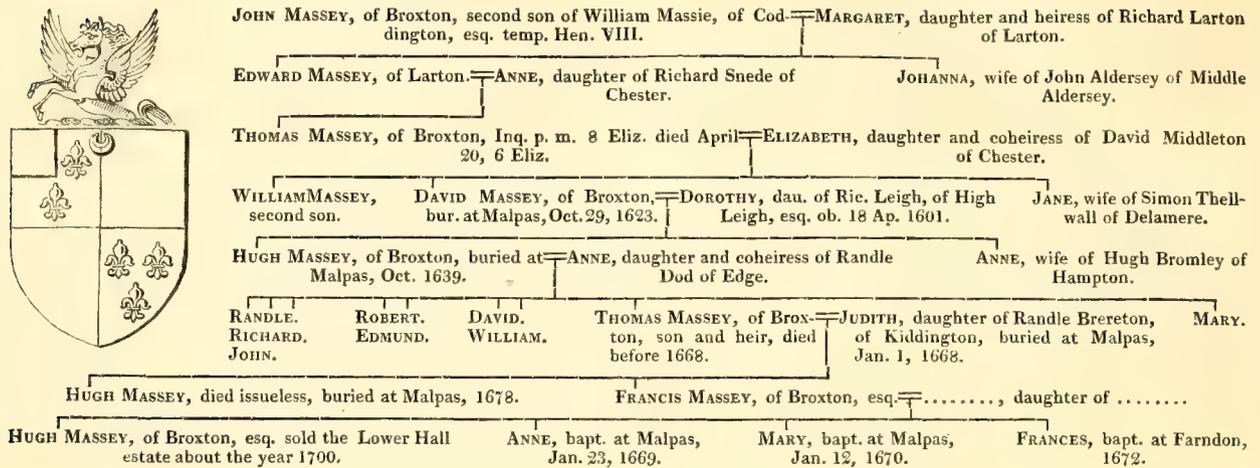
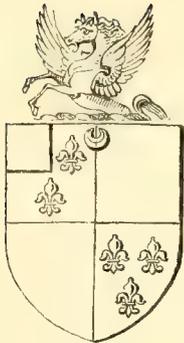
^h Information of T. C. Dod, of Edge, esq.

MASSEY OF BROXTON.

From Booth's Pedigrees, Harl. MSS. 1535, and the Parochial Registers.

ARMS, as Massie of Coddington, a crescent for difference.

CREST. A Pegasus' head erased at the neck, party per pale Gules and Or, wings counterchanged.



Smith's Pentrey, or Smithfield, in Broxton, was for many generations the residence of a branch of the Dods of Edge, who branched out from that house in the time of Edward the Third, and were remaining here at the Visitation of 1613. This branch changed the field of their coat to Ermine, and the crescents from Or to Argent; and adopted as crest, a naked cubit arm, brandishing a smith's hammer, Sable.

Two other seats remain to be noticed. The Oaks,

and Bolesworth, each of which gave name to an antient family. Richard, son of Geoffry de Okes, appears in a deed, 54 Hen. III. The Dods were the next possessors, after which the Oaks descended by heirs general through the Claytons and Stocktons to the family of Thicknesse of Balterley, who possessed it in the last century. It has since passed through several alienations.

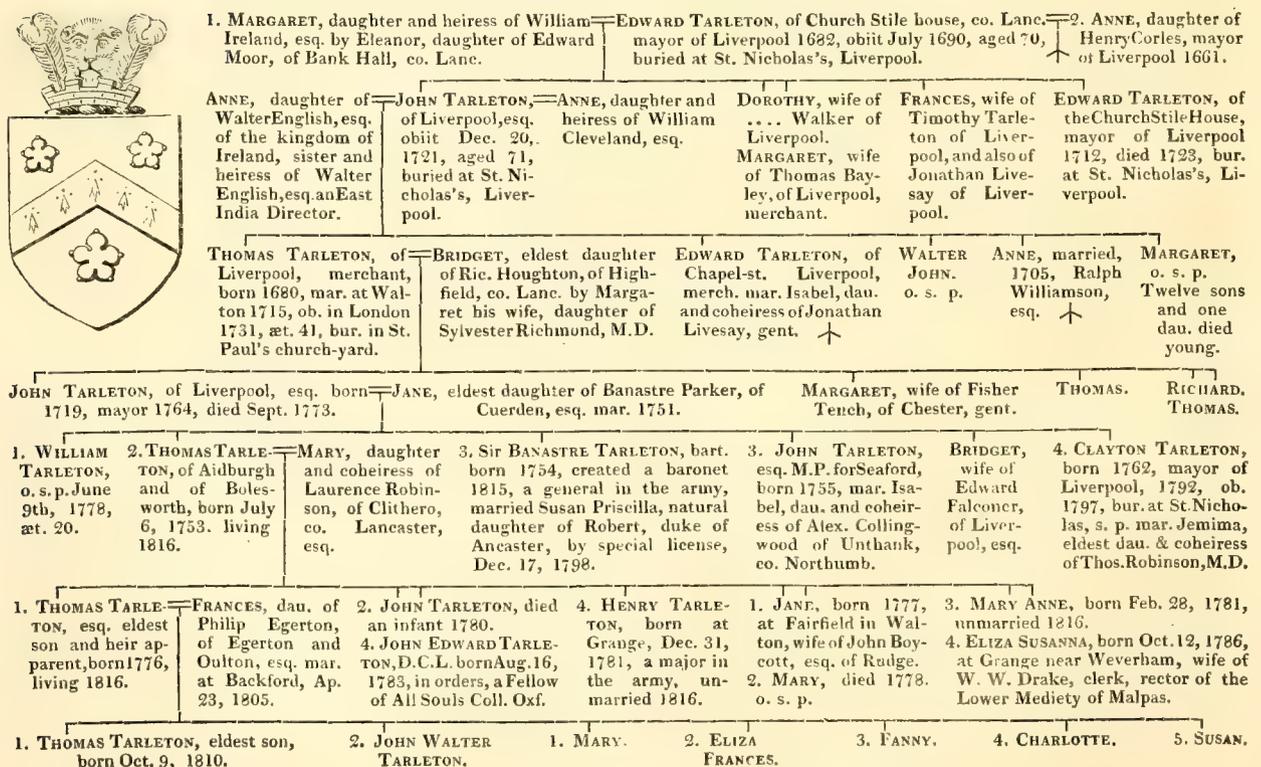
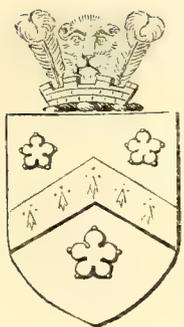
Bolesworth has recently become by purchase the property of the Tarleton family.

TARLETON OF BOLESWORTH.

From the records of the College of Arms.

ARMS. Gules, a chevron Erminois, between three cinquefoils Or.

CREST. On a wreath over a mural crown Gules, between two feathers Argent, a tiger's head proper.



The Hamlet of Bolesworth has been noticed as a manor in the extracts from the Inquisitions of the Dutton family, and was alienated by them to a family of the name of Browne, before 1671^f. This hamlet antiently gave name to the Bolesworths, who bore Ermine, on a chevron, Gules, 3 escallops, Argent^g.

James Tilson, esq. (a descendant from Henry Tilson, chaplain to lord Strafford, and afterwards bishop of Elphin,) purchased an estate in this hamlet in the middle of the last century, on which he built a spacious mansion, in imitation of the pointed style, to which he gave the name of Bolesworth Castle. Mr. Tilson being afterwards appointed consul at Cadiz, his house and estate were pur-

chased in 1763, by John Crewe, esq. son of Joseph Crewe, D. D. rector of Astbury and Muccleston, and father of the late viscountess Falmouth, by whom they were re-sold to Oswald Moseley, esq. son of sir John Moseley, of Rolleston, bart. The same were again sold in 1805 by sir Oswald Moseley, bart. to Thomas Tarleton, esq. the present proprietor and resident.

Bolesworth Castle, by subsequent purchases has become the head of an extensive domain. It is seated high among the Broxton hills, commanding in front a magnificent prospect towards Chester and the Welsh mountains, and the natural disposition of the ground behind it is unusually varied and romantic.

E D G E.

THIS manor occurs among the estates of Robert Fitz Hugh, in two distinct notices, co-extensive probably with the antient divisions of Great and Little Edge. Edwin, a Saxon thane, was allowed to retain possession of both.

“Isdem Robertus tenet Eghe. Edvinus tenuit et adhuc tenet de Roberto, liber homo fuit: ibi II hidæ et dimidia geldabiles. Terra est una caruca; moræ sunt ibi. In dominio est una caruca, et III servi. Silva II acris longitudine, et una latitudine. Wasta fuit et invenitur, modo valet IV solidos.”

“Isdem Robertus, et Edvinus de eo, tenet Eghe, et tenuit ut liber homo: ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est una caruca: wasta est. Silva ibi duabus acris longitudine, et una latitudine, val. XII denarios.”

This Edwin before the Conquest was sole proprietor of eight manors, and lord of a moiety of four, and a third of another. From these he was ejected, with the exception of Duckington, Hampton, Larton, Cholmondeley, and the Edges; in the four first of which he maintained a temporary possession as subtenant. In Edge he appears to have been more fortunate.

The paramount royalty descending from Robert Fitz Hugh to the Egertons and Breretons, and passing from them by sale to sir William Drake, with other parts of the barony, is vested in his representative T. D. Drake, esq. No mesne rights are now exercised or claimed, but an estate, described in antient deeds as the seigniorship of Edge, and possessed by the Dods from the time of Henry the Second, is attended with a singular combination of circumstances, which seem to connect its descent with the estate possessed here by Edwin the Saxon.

Hova, son of Cadwgan Dot, the founder of this family, about the time of Henry the Second, settled in this township, in consequence of marriage with the daughter and heiress of the lord of Edge, with whom he had a fourth of the manor^a. The name of the proprietor whose daughter Hova married does not appear, *but it is probable that he was the son of Edwin*, who, as before-mentioned, was allowed to retain possession, though it is certainly very short of actual proof. Presuming this descent, it is impossible to overlook the following particulars.

Dot, the Saxon lord of sixteen manors, either exclusively, or of a considerable proportion thereof, was joint lord of Cholmondeley, Hampton, Groppenhall, and two-thirds of Bickerton, *with this very Edwin*. Dot

was ejected from all his manors, and the circumstance of the *heiress of the relics of Edwin's lands* matching herself with a man who bore the name of one so closely connected with her apparent ancestor, (prefixing thereto the addition of a name derived from the land to which that friend of her ancestor would be most likely to fly for shelter,) seems to make this marriage the result of old family friendship and alliance, and to lead to a deduction of Cadwgan Dot, from the Dot of Domesday. A descent in the male line from a Saxon, noticed in that record, would be unique in this county.

The Dod pedigree entered by baron Dod, in the visitation of 1613, gives four descents after Cadwgan, and again commences with Hova Dod, after which it proceeds in a clear descent. A pedigree attested by sir Richard St. George, in the possession of the family, fills up this interval, by simply drawing a line across the chasm, which sir Richard St. George left in his official entry in the books of the College of Arms; but it is observable that the names of two undoubted descents living at this time are altogether omitted. The names of these are, Thomas son of Stephen Dod, trustee of the manor of Utkinton 3 Edw. III. and William, son of the same Stephen Dod, who grants in 29 Edw. III. lands in Edge to Philip de Egerton, which are most probably the lands now possessed there by the Egertons. These names are inserted with dotted lines in the chasm which occurs in the official pedigree, as their existence at that period is clearly proved, and the other names given by Randle Holme, are an apparent repetition of preceding generations, and rest on no regular authority.

The fifth name after that of Hova, with whom the pedigree recommences, is that of sir Anthony Dod, one of the heroes of Agincourt, knighted by king Henry on that glorious field. He died on his return homewards, and was interred in the cathedral of Canterbury.

David Dod, son of sir Anthony, was one of the Cheshire gentlemen who signed the supplication to Henry the Sixth, respecting the liberties of the Palatinate.

The Inquisitions commence with his grandson.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. John Dod held in demesne, as of fee tail, two messuages, lands, and two mills, in Great and Little Edge, from the King in socage, by the render of xxd. for all secular services and demands, as of a third part of the barony of Malpas, late belonging to sir Thomas Cokesey, knight, (to whom no heir was

^f Harl. MSS. 2010.

^a Pedigree entered in sir Richard St. George's Visitation of 1613.

^g Smith's Ordinary of Arms, in the Vale Royal.

found, and which was held by him from the King) value, per annum, viii. David son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 19 Eliz. Randle Dod held as in the last Inquisition, from Alicia Corbett, widow, value viii. ; also other lands in Edge, value, iiii. xs. ; lands in Barton, viii. and one close called Troutfield, in Little Edge, from the Queen as of her earldom of Chester, by reason of an exchange between sir William Brereton and David Dod deceased. He died May 22, 18 Eliz. Urian Dod, son and heir, aged upwards of eighteen years.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. Urian Dod, gent. held the lands mentioned in the preceding Inquisition, other lands in Great Edge, val. vs. ; and also the manor of Willaston,

in Shropshire, held from George earl of Salisbury, by fealty only, value vi. : died 18 July 22 Eliz. Anne, Katherine, Margaret, Alice, and Elizabeth, sisters and heiresses.

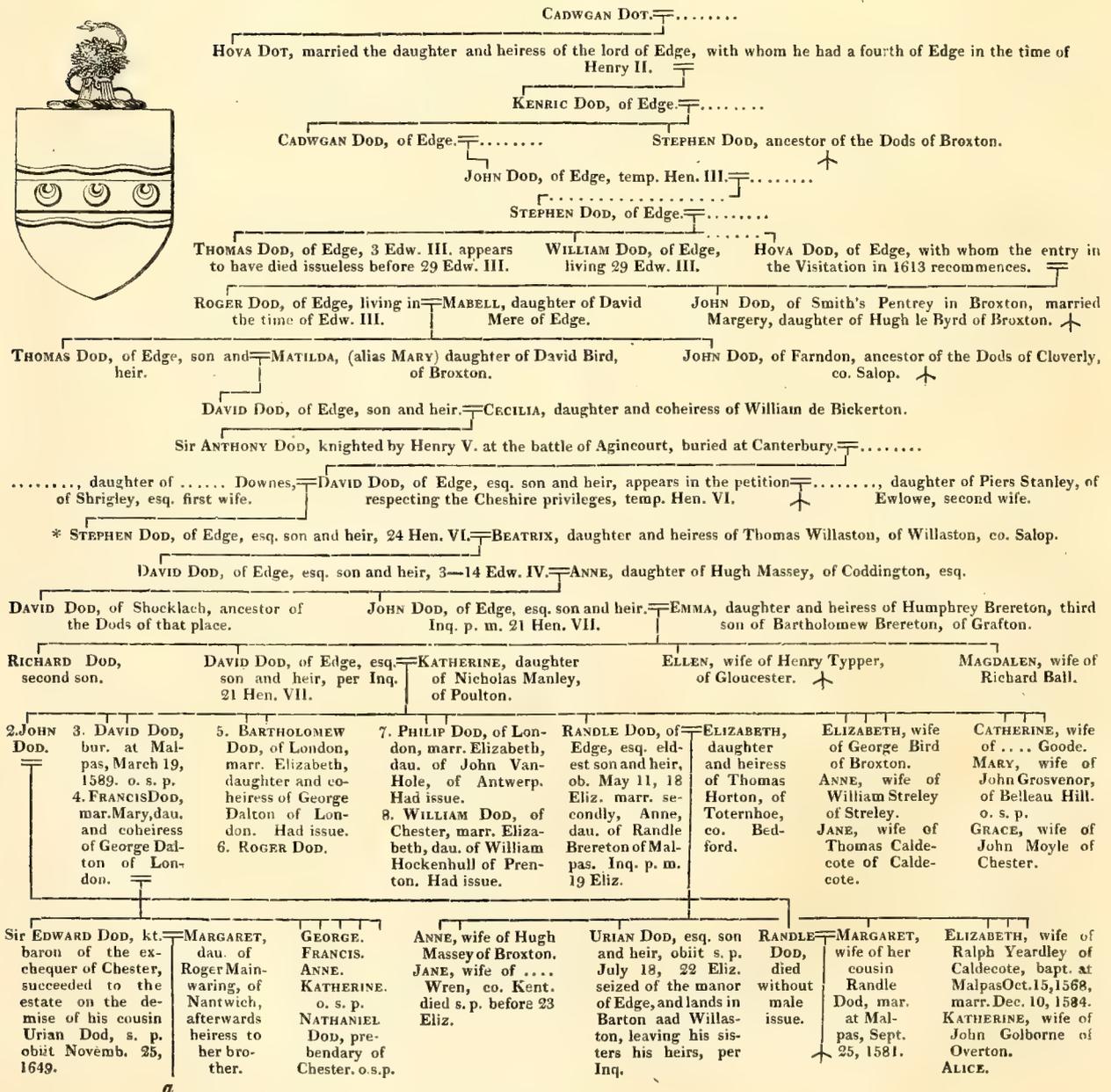
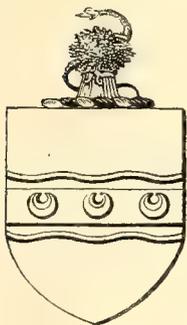
The elder line terminating thus in heirs female, the estate of Edge passed to the nephew of Urian Dod, sir Edward Dod, knight, from whom it has descended in the male line to the present proprietor. The Dods of Edge are the parent stem of the numerous and widely scattered branches of that name, and in addition to their Cheshire estates, formerly possessed considerable property in Shropshire, Bedfordshire, and other counties.

DOD OF EDGE.

From the Inquisitions p. m. the Visitations and Parochial Registers, and a vellum Pedigree Roll by sir Richard St. George Norroy, in the possession of T. C. Dod, esq.

ARMS. Argent, on a fesse Gules, between two cotices wavy Sable, three crescents Or.

CREST. On a wreath, a serpent Vert, issuing from and piercing a garb Or.



* Omitted in the Visitation and in the Pedigree by Sir Richard St. George.

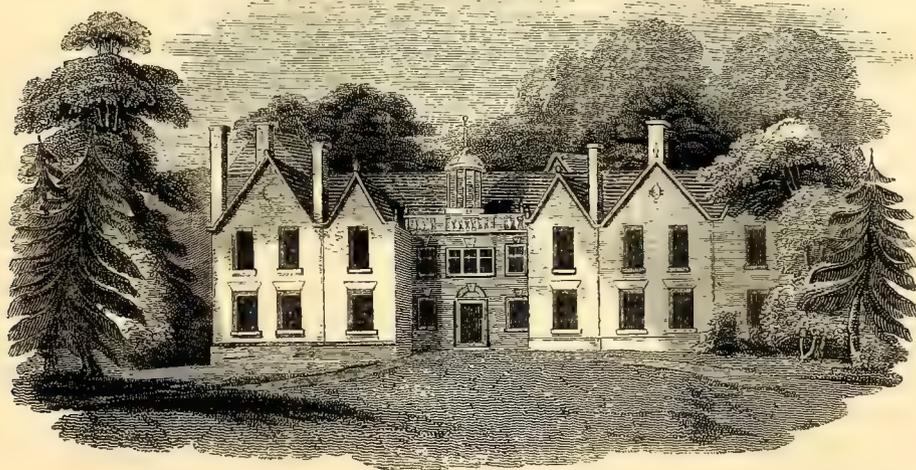
a

EDWARD DOD, bapt. at Malpas, Jan. 1, 1622, a captain in lord Cholmondeley's regiment, bur. in Chester cathedral, Feb. 27, 1643.	JOHN DOD, bapt. Nov. 5, 1617, buried Jan. 9, 1617-8, at Malpas.	THOMAS DOD, of Edge, esq. bapt. at Malpas, Sept. 7, 1604, died Jan. 1, 1653-4, bur. at Malpas, Jan. 4, following.	ANNE, daughter of Edward Holland, of Denton co. Lanc. esq. bur. at Malpas, Feb. 12, 1680.	ELIZABETH, bapt. at Malpas, July 10, 1616, wife of Hugh Maurice of the Farme, co. Salop.	MARGARET, bapt. at Malpas, July 27, 1603, buried there June 26, 1603.	MARY, buried Nov. 8, 1608.
THOMAS DOD, of Ormskirk, gent. bapt. at Malpas, July 19, 1633, presented his nephew William Dod to the rectory of Malpas, July 8, 1680.	WILLIAM DOD, a posthumous son, bapt. at Malpas, April 3, 1654.	2. HESTER, dau. of Wm. Essington, of the city of London, merchant, buried at Malpas, March 22, 1693.	RANDLE DOD, of Edge, esq. eldest son and heir, aged 31 years, July 29, 1664, buried at Malpas, June 19, 1679.	1. BARBARA, dau. and coheir of William Morgell, of Gray's Inn, London, second son of John Morgell, of Moston, esq.	ANNE, bapt. at Malpas, Ap. 13, 1635, wife of William Gamul, of Crabwall, co. Cest. JANE, wife of Henry Crewe, clerk.	DOROTHY, wife of Wm. Doley, of the city of London. MARY, wife of . . . Brown, buried at Malpas, May 1, 1678.
RANDLE DOD, of Edge, esq. eldest son and heir, born Nov. 16, 1656, bapt. at Malpas, buried there Nov. 12, 1686, o. s. p.	WILLIAM DOD, clerk, rector of the Lower Mediety of Malpas, succeeded his brother in the Edge estate, buried at Malpas, Aug. 1, 1716.	ELIZABETH, dau. of . . . Entwisle, of Foxholes, co. Lanc. esq. buried at Malpas, Sept. 25, 1700.	BARBARA, born June 22, 1654, bapt. at Malpas, bequeathed her estates of Childer Thornton and Boughton, to the minor canons of Chester cathedral, by will dated May 22, 1703. o. s. p.	ANNE, born May 7, 1655, bapt. at Malpas, buried at Malpas, June 24, 1666.	ELIZABETH, wife of John Leigh of Edenhall, co. Cumberland, married at Malpas, Aug. 31, 1685.	
WILLIAM DOD, of Edge, esq. eldest son and heir, born April 6, 1686, sheriff of Chesh. 1735, bur. at Malpas, Jan. 16, 1739, s. p.	RANDOLPH DOD, bapt. at Malpas, July 20, 1690, bur. there June 9, 1772, o. s. p.	THOMAS DOD, of Edge, esq. heir by survivorship, baptized July 5, 1688, died Decem. 30, 1759, buried at Malpas.	REBECCA, daughter of . . . Crewe, of Crewe near Farn-don, and of Holt, co. Denbigh, esq. marr. at Chester cathedral, June 28, 1748, died June 26, 1778, buried at Malpas.	RICHARD DOD, bapt. at Malpas, Feb. 22, 1693, o. s. p. EDWARD DOD, bapt. at Malpas, April 22, 1697, bur. Aug. 23, 1697, s. p. BENJAMIN DOD, bapt. May 24, 1698, o. s. p. ROBERT DOD, bapt. Aug. 8, 1699, bur. Jan. 15, 1705, at Malpas, o. s. p.	ANNE, bapt. Oct. 9, 1691, wife of Wm. Dimmock, of St. Dionis Backchurch, London, married at Malpas, June 23, 1734. DOROTHY, bapt. April 15, 1695, bur. at Malpas Aug. 30, following. MARY, bapt. May 14, 1696. ELIZABETH, bapt. June 20, 1689, wife of the rev. John Taylor, rector of Malpas, buried 1748.	
WILLIAM DOD, second son, bapt. at Malpas, 1757.	THOMAS CREWE DOD, of Edge, esq. eldest son and heir, baptized at Malpas, July 11, 1754, living 1816.	ANNE, fourth daughter of Ralph Sneyd, of Keel in the co. of Stafford, esq. living 1816.	REBECCA, wife of William Mostyn Owen, of Woodhouse, co. Salop, and of Brung-wyn, co. Montgom. living a widow 1814. †	ANNE SOBIESKI, wife of Robert Watkin Wynne, of Plas Newydd and Gaithmaillo, co. Denbigh, esq. living a widow 1814. †		
1. CHARLOTTE. 2. LOUISA, died young. 3. ANNE.	THOMAS DOD, eldest son and heir apparent, bapt. at Malpas, July 8, 1794, died young.	JOHN ANTHONY DOD, eldest surviving son and heir apparent, baptized at Malpas, Jan. 1, 1799.	4. HARRIOT. 5. FRANCES ROSAMOND. 6. SOBY REBECCA.			

Near one extremity of the Dod estate in Edge, in a place called the Hall Heys, are vestiges of a mansion, which was most probably the earliest residence of the family. The lines of the moat surrounding the square site are now perfect.

The present mansion is of considerable antiquity, but has been so repeatedly altered in various styles, that no date can be inferred from its architecture. This house has also been moated, and stands very low, the ground sloping to it in almost every direction; at the back

is a park-like enclosure, ascending gently to a terrace, on the summit of a rocky eminence, well planted with trees, through the interstices of which the eye commands the higher Broxton and Bickerton hills behind, and in front, the Clwydian range, with loftier mountains above them, seen over the broad vale of Chester. On the right the estuaries appear in the distance, and on the left, is a boundless continuation of the magnificent vale below, broken in some places by the Montgomeryshire hills, and completely losing itself in the distance.



Shocklach.

THIS parish comprises three townships, Church Shocklach, Shocklach Oviatt, and Caldecote, which are situated on the Welsh frontier, and consists mostly of rich meadow ground, on the bank of the Dee, which does not, however, form the boundary, either of the parish or the county, as a small portion of Shocklach parish lies on the left bank of the river, and a considerable space between another part of Shocklach and the river, is occupied by a portion of the parish of Worthenbury, in Flintshire. On the Cheshire side the boundaries are formed by the parishes of Malpas, Tilston, and Farndon.

CHURCH SHOCKLACH, AND SHOCKLACH OVIATT.

THESE townships are comprehended in one manor, and have descended by the same title. They are noticed under one head in Domesday, as the property of Robert Fitz Hugh, lord of Malpas, who had dispossessed Dot, the Saxon proprietor.

“Isdem Robertus tenet Socheliche, et Drogo de eo. Dot, liber homo tenuit: ibi III hidæ geldabiles. Terra est IV carucarum. In dominio sunt II, et II villani, cum una carucâ: ibi dimidia acra prati. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat VIII solidos; modo XII solidos.”

After the death of Robert Fitz-Hugh, the manor of Shocklach appears to have passed with that share of the barony, which came through the illegitimate line to the Suttons and St. Pierres, who consequently held it in moieties, although it is called the manor of Shocklach in the deeds of each family.

17 Edw. II. John, son of Richard de Sutton, grants Duckington, as lord of Malpas, and Shocklach^a.

3 Edw. III. John, son of Richard de Sutton, has licence to enfeof John de Hildesleigh, with the manor of Shocklach, and other estates.

35 Edw. III. Richard de Stafford and others have a pardon for purchasing Shocklach and other manors from Richard de Duddelegh, with liberty to grant the same to John Sutton.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen IV. Jane, widow of sir John Sutton, knt. held in dower, inter alia, lands in Shocklach.

10 Hen. VI. Sir John de Sutton had licence to settle, among other manors, that of Shocklach.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VII. John Sutton, chevalier, held inter alia, half the castle of Shocklach.

15 Hen. VII. Sir Edward Sutton lord of Dudley, in plea to a quo warranto, claims the right of including Shocklach within the jurisdiction of the leet and privileges of the manor of Malpas.

Shortly after this, the St. Pierre share of the manor of Shocklach devolved to the Suttons, after the death of judge Dudley, who had purchased the same with other parts of the barony of Malpas, from the heirs of the Cokesays: the particulars of the descent of this share will be found among the deeds and Inquisitions of the Cokesays and St. Pierres, in the preceding account of the barony of Malpas.

28 Hen. VIII. Sir John Dudley, knight, and Jane his

wife, pass over by fine, Shocklach and other manors, to Rowland Hill (afterwards knighted.) These manors, by virtue of the settlement made by sir Rowland Hill (mentioned under Malpas), devolved finally to sir Richard Corbett, of Stoke, son of Alicia, niece of the said sir Rowland Hill, who sold the same, 14 Jan. 14 Eliz. to sir Randolph Brereton, knight.

The Brereton property shortly afterwards devolved by an heir female to the Egertons of Ridley, and their interest in the paramount rights of the barony of Malpas, as already mentioned, was sold by the issue of this marriage, 11 Car. I. to Richard King; but the manor of Shocklach was now separated from the property, with which it had previously descended, and in the general wreck of the estates of the Ridley branch of Egerton, passed by purchase to the Pulestons of Emral. It is now vested in sir Richard Puleston, of Emral, bart. sole issue of Richard Price, esq. by his second wife Anne, daughter and sole heiress of John Puleston, of Emral, esq.

The jurisdiction of the court of Shocklach extends over the townships of Horton, Chorlton, Cuddington, and Wigland; but the lord of the court owes suit and service to the superior manor of Malpas.

The Breretons of Malpas and Shocklach, separated from the elder line in the person of sir Randle Brereton of Ipstones, issue of sir William Brereton of Brereton, by a second marriage. This family, from their residence at Malpas Hall, and large possessions within the barony, have been occasionally confounded with the elder line of the Breretons, barons of Malpas.

Sir Randle Brereton, grandson of the founder of this line, was chamberlain of Chester, 19 and 20 Hen. VII. and one of the knights of the body to Henry VII. In the 21st of the same reign he was chamberlain, and held that office 26 years, to the 23d of Henry the Eighth, by which monarch he was made a knight banneret, as a reward for his conduct at Terouenne and Tournay. He built the Brereton chancel, in the church of Malpas, 1522, where he was buried, and left issue nine sons and three daughters. Sir Richard and sir Urian Brereton, his 2d and 9th sons, were severally founders of the families of Brereton of Tatton and Hondford. Sir William Brereton, his 7th son, who succeeded him as cham-

^a See the Sutton deeds in Malpas.

berlain of Chester, 23 Hen. VIII. was groom of the chamber to Henry the Eighth, and being accused of criminal intercourse with Anne Boleyn, was brought to the block, May 17, 1536.

The direct male line terminated in sir Randle Brereton, knight, in 1611, who died possessed of the undermentioned estates, which his daughter brought in marriage to sir Richard Egerton of Ridley, a man possessed of equally splendid property, nearly the whole of which was squandered and alienated by their son. It must be observed, that the following Inquisition was afterwards traversed, on account of its describing the estate of sir Randle, the barony of Malpas, which estate was determined to be only a portion thereof, after several hearings and adjournments.

Inq. p. m. 9 Jac. I. Sir Randle Brereton, of Malpas,

knight, held the barony of Malpas, with its appurtenances, and manors, messuages, saltworks, mills, &c. in Malpas, Cuddington, Wigland, Over and Nether Fulwich, Bradley, Agden, Chidlow, Tussingham, Masefen, Hampton, Larkton, Great and Little Edge, Overton, Chorlton, Bickerton, Broxton, Cawarden, Tilston, Horton, Barton, Aldersey, Crook Aldersey, Coddington, Clutton, Lea Newbold, Chrisleton, Shocklach Oviatt, Church Shocklach, Caldecot, Crewe, Church on Heath, Rowton, Wichehalgh, Cholmundeleg, Stockton, and Acton, value, xli.; and one message and lands in Cholley, value vs. He died May 8th preceding. Mary, wife of sir Richard Egerton, daughter and heiress, and aged upwards of thirty years.

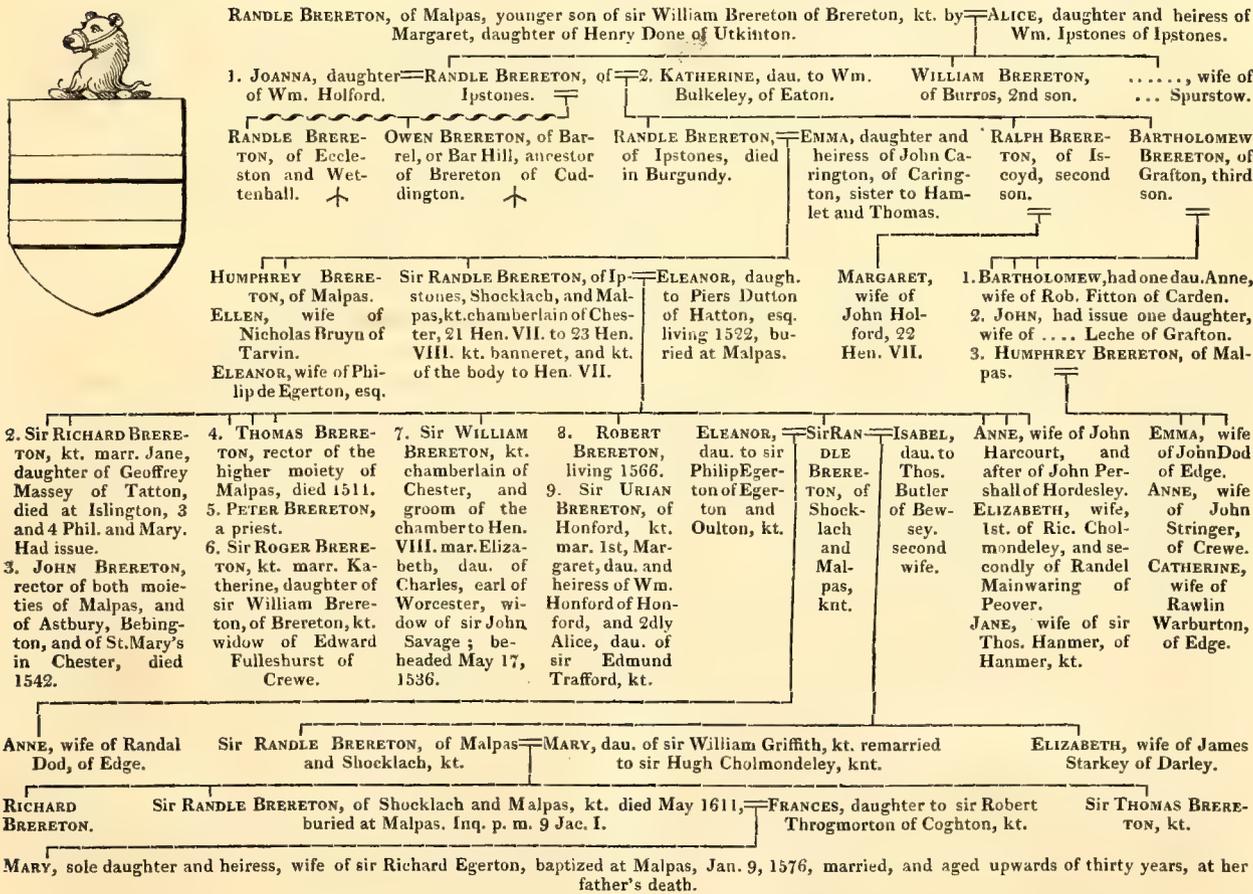
The "fair and goodly seat" of sir Richard Egerton, Shocklach Hall, is now completely destroyed.

BRERETON OF SHOCKLACH, AND MALPAS.

From the Cheshire Pedigrees, the Inquisitions, and Parochial Registers.

ARMS. Argent, two barrs Sable.

CREST. On a wreath a bear's head erased proper, muzzled Or.



Two other families remain to be noticed, as resident here--the Shocklaches of Shocklach who became extinct at an early period--and the Dods of Shocklach, (who branched out from the Edge family, about the latter end of the fifteenth century), a family of very respectable secondary rank, which gave a dignitary to the cathedral of Chester, Thomas Dod, who was possessed of the family estate, and was archdeacon of Richmond, dean of Rippon, and rector of Astbury and Malpas, in the account of the incumbents of the latter of which, will be found a brief memorial of him.

John Dod, usually called the Decalogist, was uncle of the last mentioned divine, and has obtained a place in the General Biographical Dictionary of Chalmers, where an ample account of him will be found. Suffice it here to say, that he was the youngest of seventeen children, and born at Shocklach in 1547. In 1581 he was entered of Jesus College, Cambridge, where he was elected fellow in 1585, and was incorporated M. A. at Oxford, in the same year. He was twice silenced for non-conformity, and during his suspension, published his Commentary on the Decalogue and Proverbs, in

1606, in conjunction with one Robert Cleaver. He was afterwards presented by the Knightleys to the living of Fawsley, in Northamptonshire, where he died, and was interred, in 1645. Dr. Wilkins, afterwards bishop of Chester, was his grandson, and born in his house in 1614. His sayings became proverbial in Northamptonshire, and remained so for above a century, being printed on a broad sheet, and hung in almost every cottage.

The character of this excellent man is thus drawn by

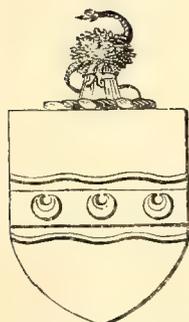
Fuller. "In him the old Puritan seemed to expire, and in his grave to be interred. Humble, meek, patient, charitable, as in his censures of, so in his alms to others. Would I could truly say but half so much of the next generation."

The annexed pedigree of the Dods of Shocklach, is extracted, excepting a few additions, from the visitation of 1613, after which they appear to have become extinct, or to have changed their residence.

DOD, OF SHOCKLACH.

From Harl. MSS. 2119. p. 182, the Visitations, and Parochial Registers.

ARMS, as Dod of Edge, for difference a mullet.



DAVID DOD, of Shocklach, younger son of David Dod of Edge, esq. by Anne, daughter of Hugh Massey, of Coddington.

DAVID DOD, of Shocklach, son and heir.

DANIEL DOD, of Shocklach, son and heir. ALICE, daughter of Wilbraham. EDWARD DOD, of Shocklach green, second son, vide Harl. MSS. 2119. p. 180. Janyon, of Shocklach green.

JOHN DOD, of Shocklach, son and heir. ELLEN, daughter of John Wright of Bickley.

JOHN DOD, of Jesus college, Cambridge, married Anne, dau. of Dr. Bound, of Hanwell in Middlesex, and afterward dau. of Cleiton, of Stratford-le-Bow, minister of Fawsley, died 1645. WILLIAM, an attorney in London. PETER DOD, of Shocklach, living at the Visitation of 1613. KATHERINE, daughter of Thomas Ball of Bickley. ALICE, wife of John Poney, and 2dly of Probyn. ELLEN, wife of Philip Catherall of Horton. wife of Hynson of London. wife of Hugh Yardley of Shocklach. Ten other children.

JOHN DOD, a scholar at Cambridge, 1613, junior proctor of the University, 1614. RICHARD DOD, an attorney in the King's Bench. DOROTHY, daughter of Hugh Bromley of Hampton, mar. Nov. 16, 1619, buried at Malpas, Dec. 23, 1623. THOMAS DOD, D.D. bap. at Shocklach, Dec. 4, 1576, aged 35 years 1613, archdeacon of Richmond, dean of Rippon, rector of Astbury and Malpas, bap. at Shocklach, Dec. 4, 1576. bur. at Malpas, Feb. 10, 1647-8. THOMASINE, dau. and heiress of Thos. Collier, rector of Malpas, 2d wife, married at Malpas, Oct. 2, 1604. GRACE, wife of John Moyle of Chester. ANNE, bap. at Shocklach, Dec. 14, 1586, buried May 9, following.

THOMAS DOD, of Shocklach, gent. son and heir, aged upwards of 6 years 1613, baptized at Malpas, Jan. 12, 1605. JUDITH, daughter of George Croxton, of Ravenscroft, esq. MARGARET.

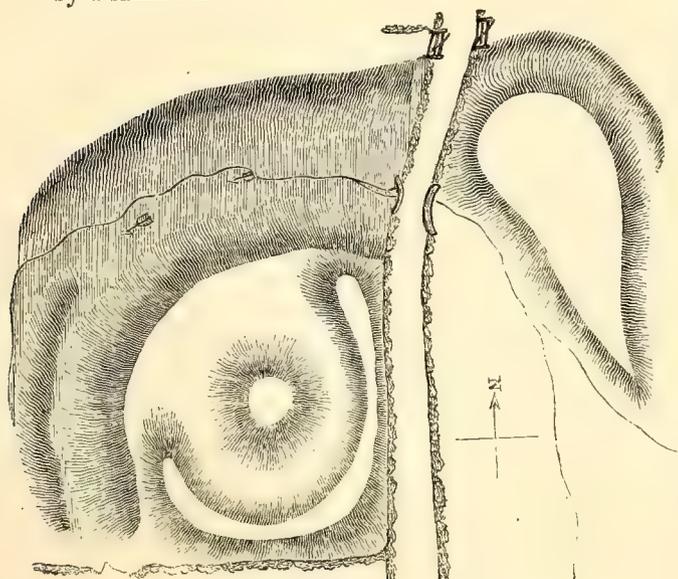
THOMAS DOD, son and heir. THOMASINE. ELIZABETH.

Shocklach Castle formed an important link in the chain of Cheshire fortresses, between Aldford and Malpas. In the plea of lord Dudley, 15 Hen. VII. he claims the right of maintaining this castle, fortified, ditched, and enkernelled. It does not exactly follow, that it then was in that state of defence; but as the castle of Malpas is altogether passed over in the same plea, this may, with probability, be supposed to have been in repair at a later period than the superior fortress.

The earthworks of the keep are still very strong, and occupy an important pass, near the church, where the present road to Chester crosses a deep ravine, watered by a small brook.

Pennant altogether mistakes the nature of the works. "Nothing, excepting a foss, marks the place of this fortress. On the opposite side of the road, is a vast mount; probably of far greater antiquity than the castle, and exploratory, commanding a great view around."

The foss here mentioned is an entrenched platform, separated from the keep by the brook, and present road. It has been levelled in part for the purposes of a garden, and it may be doubted, whether it ever formed any part of the castle, or whether it is a fragment of some antient work protecting the line of communication between the northern and southern Watling Streets, which passed through Shocklach. The other works are like those of Pulford, and occupy about a statute acre; the brook and ravine, winding in a semicircular form, make a strong defence on the north-west, and a huge mound, also semicircular, completes the lines to the south and east, being about ten yards in width on the summit, but much wider at the base, and very much extended where the ends meet the bank of the ravine. In the centre is the mound, which once formed the basis of the great tower of the Norman Keep, mistaken by Pennant for an exploratory mount. It is circular, and about twenty feet in perpendicular height, the sides very considerably sloped, so that the actual ascent measures on the side nearest the brook, where the foss is deepest, nearly twenty-five yards. It is commanded by no superior elevations, and when its advantages of situation, were strengthened with natural thickets, and surrounding morasses, the fortress must have been nearly impregnable.





CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Edith.
Augmented Curacy. Certified Value, 36l.

The living of Shocklach, is an impropriation which belonged to the college of St. John, in Chester, and was valued at 6l. in the minister's accounts, 4 Edw. VI. For the last two centuries it has passed with the manerial estate, the possessor of which presents to the curacy. The church itself is a small picturesque building of red stone, consisting of a body and chancel, and a small baptistery at the west end, containing an ancient font. There is no other object of curiosity, excepting the south doorway, which is semicircular, and decorated with

Saxon ornaments, of which a better idea will be formed from the annexed vignette, than from any description.

The value of Shocklach curacy, as arising from augmentation, glebe, stipend, and surplice fees, is stated in the Parliamentary Returns, ordered to be printed April 17, 1810, as 100l. 15s. per annum.

The amount of sundry bequests, given to the poor of Shocklach parish, inserted in the Parliamentary Returns printed 1816, are a rent charge of 10l. bequeathed by Valentine Broughton 1603; 14l. annual interest of money vested in the hands of Mrs. Anne Bennion; the interest of 3l. given by Joan Roden; and 1l. per annum paid to the poor of Caldecot by Mr. Larden.

The Registers, which have been transcribed in a beautiful old hand, commence in 1538.

CALDECOTE.

CALDECOTE is thus noticed in Domesday.

"Isdem Hugo (filius Osberni) tenet Caldecote. Ulgar presbyter, et alii III teini, tenuerunt pro III maneriis, et liberi fuerunt: ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est II carucarum. Ipsæ ibi sunt, cum uno Radman, et II villanis, et III bovariis: ibi dimidia piscaria. Tempore regis Edwardi fuit wasta, tamen reddebat II solidos: modo xv solidos."

The rights of Hugh Fitz Osberne, were shortly afterwards vested in the barons of Malpas, and being transferred among the latest arrangements of that complicated lordship to the Brereton of Brereton, passed in the sale of their share to the Drakes of Shardeloes, to whose court this township now owes suit and service.

Under this barony a mesne manor was held by the first line of the Caldecotes, which passed with Amelia, daughter and heiress of David de Caldecote, about the time of Edward II. to Urian de Egerton, second son of Philip de Egerton, who became the ancestor of the *Egertons of Caldecote*, and Haselwall, afterwards divided into the branches of Betley and Wrine Hill. This line has been much mistated in the Cheshire pedigrees, as will appear by a collation with the following documents.

William de Egerton, son of Urian, married Eustasia, daughter and coheir of Ralph de Haselwall, by whom he had issue Ralph de Egerton, found heir to his

mother, by Inquisition, 35 Edw. III. after the death of her second husband, John de Barnston.

1298. Ralph de Egerton had licence to found an oratory, in his manor houses of Haselwall, and Caldecote.

Inq. p. m. 31 Hen. VI. Roger de Egerton, inter alia, gave for certain trusts, &c. to William More dean of Stafford, and others, his manors of Smallwood, Newbold, Caldecot, Wistanston; and his part of the manor and advowson of Haselwall, and all his lands, &c. in the county of Chester, which William More was then seized of. Hugh Egerton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. Hugh Egerton gave to feoffees the following manors and lands, Smallwood and Newbold Astbury, half of Wistanston, and lands therein, saltworks in Wich Malbank, lands in Spurstow, Aldlym, Halghton, Checkley, Wrinehill, Farndon and Crue, and one capital messuage, cum pert. in Calcott, held from William Brereton, of Brereton, and valued at vii. per annum. John Egerton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. VIII. John Egerton esq. held the manor and advowson of Haselwall, and lands in Caldey, the manor of Smallwood and Newbold Astbury, and lands in Wistanston, Wich Malbank, Haughton, Spurstow, Wrynehill, Wrineford, Farndon, Crue, Caldcott, and Shocklach, the last held as in the preceding Inqui-

sition. He died on the Thursday before Easter, leaving his daughters Elizabeth and Isabella, severally aged 25 and 21 years, and Hugh Willobie son of his daughter Ellen, aged 6 years, next of kin and heirs.

This Inquisition is repeated in nearly the same words, 17 Hen. VIII.; but by another Inquisition, 10 Hen. VIII. Randle Egerton appears to have obtained possession as heir male, and died on Thursday before the feast of St. Barnabas, seized of all the lands in the preceding Inquisition; the manor and half the advowson of Wisterton, and lands in Checkley, valued at 74l. 18s. leaving John Egerton his son and heir, aged 13 years.

1 and 2 Philip and Mary. Sir Ralph Egerton of Wrinehill, knight, representative of the Caldecote family, passed over by fine his estates in Caldecote, and the greater part the townships before mentioned in two portions, the first to John Yardley, gent. (of whose family hereafter) the second, and by far the largest portion to his superior lord sir William Brereton.

In the later changes of the barony a considerable interest in Caldecote fell by purchase^b to the Pulestons of Emral, and remains now vested in their representative sir Richard Puleston, bart. A part of their estate is however inherited by an earlier title, as Richard de Pulesdon obtained lands here and in Shocklach, from Thomas de Shocklach, 2 Ric. II^c.

In addition to its manerial lords, Caldecote was the residence of two respectable families, the Caldecots, a later race of that name, and the Yardleys.

The latter family settled here in the time of Henry the Sixth, in the person of Thomas Yardley, a younger brother of Oliver Yardley, of Yardley or Yeardesley, in Macclesfield Hundred. Within two generations this house divided itself into two branches, settled at Caldecote and Farndon, the first of which obtained the share of the Egerton property before mentioned. These families entered their pedigrees in the visitation of 1613, and assumed different arms. The 1st, Argent, on a chevron, Azure, three garbs, Or, on a canton, Gules, a fret, Or. The Farndon branch adopted a very unusual bearing, referring most probably to some antient office within the forest of Macclesfield. Azure, a stag courant,

Or, pursued by two staghounds, all in bend, and arranged at random.

The Caldecotes require more particular notice. They were, most probably, a junior line of the antient mesne lords of Caldecote, and entered a pedigree in the visitation of 1613, commencing with David de Caldecote, living about the time of Edward IV. and bearing the antient christian name of the old manerial proprietors. David had issue, Robert, father of Thomas Caldecote.

Inq. p. m. 24 Eliz. Thomas Calcott held messuages and lands in Calcott from the Queen, as of her earldom of Chester, by military service, as parcel of the barony of Malpas, according to the quantity of the same, value 3l. 6s. 8d.; also lands and tenements in Barton and Farnedon: died 7th November 23 Eliz. Randle Calcott son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 30 Eliz. Randle Calcott died seized of the messuages and lands recited in the last *Inq.* 9th of July, 29 Eliz. Thomas Calcott son and heir.

This Thomas Caldecot had issue five sons living, and infants at the Visitation of 1613, all of whom are stated by Dr. Williamson to be dead without legitimate issue before 1701. Their estate, with Caldecote Hall, passed by purchase to the Lardens, and is now vested by descent in John Larden of Chester, esq.

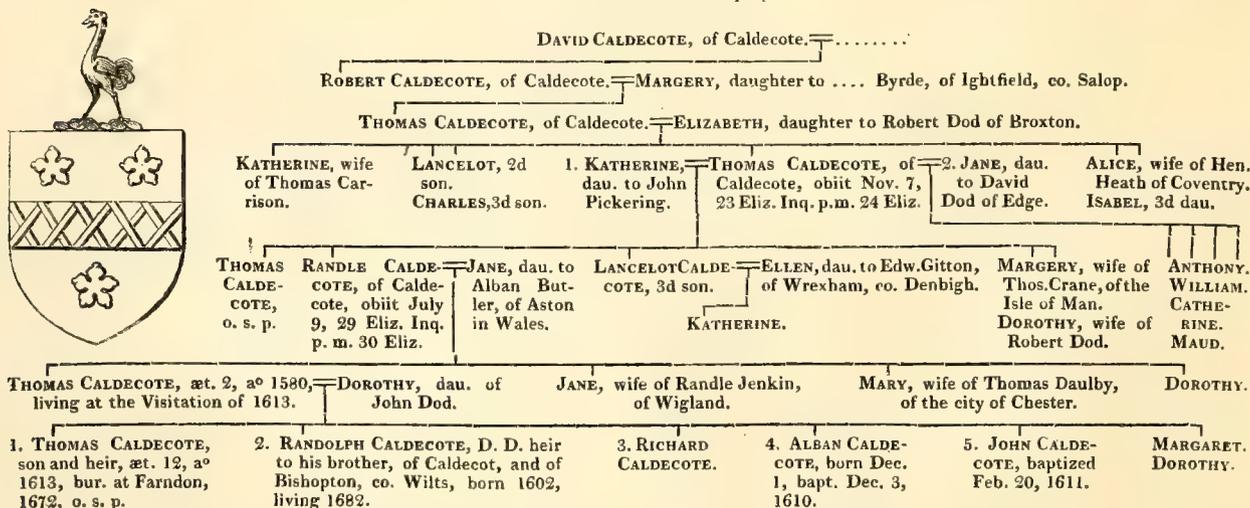
The male line of this family is in all probability represented by the Caldecotes of Holbrook Grange in Warwickshire, of whose family, formerly settled at Catthorpe in Leicestershire, the reader will find a pedigree in Nichols's History of that County. The immediate proof of connection is wanting, but this deficiency is in a great measure supplied by the following curious certificate of the last heir male of the Caldecotes of Cheshire.^d

"These are to certify whom it may concern, that I, Randolph Caldecott of Caldecott, D. D. of Chester, now of Bishopton, co. Wilts. D. D. aged 80, have often heard, and do faithfully believe, that Thomas Caldecott, of Catthorpe in the county of Leicesters, esq. is descended from our foresaid family, in witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 14th Sep. 1642. Randolph Caldecott."

CALDECOTE OF CALDECOTE.

ARMS. Argent, a fesse Azure, fretted Or, between three cinquefoils Gules.

CREST. On a wreath an ostrich proper.



^b Cowper's Broxton MSS.

^c Williamson's Collections, p. 29.

^d See Nichols's Leicestershire, under Catthorpe in Guthlaxton Hundred.

Tilston.

THE townships of Tilston, Carden, Grafton, Horton, and Stretton, are comprehended within this parish, which is bounded by the contiguous parishes of Malpas, Shocklach, Farndon, Coddington, Handley, and Harthill. It is situated partly in a cold monotonous flat, and partly among the lower elevations of the Broxton Hills.

TILSTON.

TILSTON, from the following description, appears to have been the most important and populous vill within the barony of Malpas, with the exception of Christleton, at the time of the Domesday Survey.

“Isdem Robertus tenet Tillestone, Edwinus comes tenuit. Ibi iv hidæ geldabiles: Terra est viii carucarum: in dominio est una, et ii servi, et iv villani, et ii bordarii, et iv radmans, et præpositus, et faber; et molinarius, cum iv carucis, inter omnes: ibi molinum de viii solidis. De hac terrâ tenet Radulphus dimidiam hidam de Roberto, reddendo vi solidos, et viii denarios.

“Totum tempore R. Edwardi, valebat vi libras, modo xxx solidos. Wasta invenitur; habet unam leuam longitudine, et aliam latitudine.

“De hujus manerii terra calumpniatur episcopus de Cestre, unam hidam; sed comitatus non testificatur eam de episcopatu suo.”

In the following subdivisions of the barony, Tilston appears first to have become the property of the Belwards, and next of the intruder David the Bastard. After the partition between his coheirs, the manor, and the advowson which uniformly accompanied it, fell to the share of the St. Pierres exclusively, and descended from them to the Cokesays, from whom one portion was wrested by Isabella Delves, as part of that moiety of a fourth of the barony of Malpas which she recovered from them.

These shares (which are very unequal) subsequently descended with the respective portions of the barony to which they were attached, and which have been already repeatedly traced. The unrecovered share, being purchased from the heirs general of Cokesay by Edmund Dudley, vested afterwards in the Suttons, and passed through the families of Hill, Brereton of Shocklach, and King, to the Cholmondeleys, in whom it continued until it was alienated by the present marquis of Cholmondeley to John Leche, of Carden, esq. The other share, namely, that recovered by Isabella Delves, passed in right of her sister Ellena to the Breretons of Brereton, and in the Inquisition after the death of sir William Brereton, kt. 22 Hen. VII. the advowson of the alternate presentation to the church of Tilston is denominated a portion of his fourth part of the barony of Malpas, held from the king as earl of Chester. The same subsequently occurs in the Inquisitions of the family, and finally was alienated by William lord Brereton to the Drakes of Shardeloes, in whom it remains vested. It is now reputed eleven-twelfths of the manor^a.

The township of Tilston is within the jurisdiction of the leet of Malpas.

A family of the name of Tilston resided here at an early period. William de Malpas, capital lord, released to Eynion, son of Richard de Tilston, for his homage, those lands in Tilston, which he had of the gift of Eynion ap Cadwgan.

The Tilstons sold their lands piecemeal to Robert and John de Codington, whereupon, in the time of Edward the Second, a partition of the wastes was made between John de Codington and Leuca his wife on the one part, and William le Waren, Hugh his brother, and Robert de Codington, jun. on the other part. The Codingtons were consequently mesne lords at this period^b.

Inq. p. m. 28 Edw. III. Richard de Codington held lands in Tylston from John de St. Pierre, val. 13s.; also the sixth part of Tylston mill, parcel of John de St. Pierre's share of the barony of Malpas, from the earl of Chester in capite, val. 4l. 5s. 0½d.; also lands in Malpas, Caurden, and Cudington. John de Codington son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 24 Edw. III. John, son of John de Codington, held lands in Tilston from John de St. Pierre, by the render of vi d. and lands in Aldford, Codington, Chirton, Hanley, Clotton, Clutton, Church Christleton, Barton, and Cudington. Isabella and Cecilia wife of Randle de Stoke, next of kin and heiresses.

This Cecilia is misnamed Beatrix in Booth's pedigrees, which has been inadvertently followed in the Beeston pedigree. The same collections incorrectly describe this John as son of Robert de Codington. Cecilia had issue by her husband one daughter and heiress, Isabella, who married William de Beeston, and was ancestress of that branch which terminated in a heir female, who married sir Roger Aston of Aston^d.

The village of Tilston consists exclusively of farm-houses and labourers' cottages. It lies in a low sequestered district under the Broxton Hills, amidst shady lanes, and contains, with the exception of its church, no object of interest or curiosity.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Mary.

Tax. Eccl. P. N. 6l. 13s. 4d. Val. Eccl. 12l. 2s. 11d.

The descent of the advowson has been already given in that of the manor, the successive changes of which will be illustrated by the names of the patrons in the

^a Information of the rev. W. Drake.

^c This *Inq.* though later in date than the following, refers to an earlier generation.

^b Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^d Vide Beeston and Aston pedigrees.

following list of incumbents. Each of the shares of the manor, though very unequal, possesses an alternate right of presentation.

The church itself is a respectable and venerable fabric of red stone, now grey with age, pleasingly embosomed in trees. It consists of a tower, nave, chancel, and small north chancel appropriated to Stretton Hall, the date of which is given in the following inscription.

Edwardus Wright, arm.
hanc cancellam propriis
sumptibus edificavit,
A. D. 1659.

In the chancel, and other parts of the church and church yard, were the following memorials of the Leches of Carden and of Stretton, 1814.

HERE lie the remains of Mary Leche, daughter of John Hurleston, of Newton, esq. wife of John Leche, of Carden, esq. mother of twelve sons and five daughters: died Dec. 29, 1763, aged 52.

HERE lyeth the body of Katherine Leche, who was one of the daughters of Edward Wright, esq. of Stretton, and widow of the rev. Thomas Leche, formerly rector of this parish: she died 30th January, in the 71st year of her age.

HERE lyeth interred the body of Thomas Leche, rector of Tilston, who departed this mortal life, Aug. 14, A. D. 1719.

BENEATH lie the remains of John Leche, esq. of Stretton, died 7th April 1785, aged 66.

IN memory of Margaret Leche, wife of major John Leche, of Stretton, who died Jan. 7, 1806, aged 66.

The windows contain numerous fragments of stained glass. Dr. Cowper mentions a kneeling figure of Henry Waterford (instituted 1411), in the north window, habited in his clerical dress, and underneath, Orate pro Henrico de Waterford.

In 1625 the church contained the following coats in painted glass, which are described in a volume of church notes. Harl. MSS. 2151. 105.

1. Argent, 2 barrs, Sable, for Brereton.
2. Gules, 3 bendlets, Argent, for Malvoisin, impaling Sable, a lion rampant, Argent, within an orle of cinquefoils, Argent, for Clifton.
3. Sable, an antient sling in bend, Argent, between 2

pheons, Argent, for Carden, impaling Malvoisin as before.

4. Quarterly, 1 and 4 Ermine, on a chief indented, Gules, 3 ducal coronets Or, for Leche of Carden; 2 and 3 Carden as before, impaling, quarterly 1 and 4, Gules on a bend engrailed, Argent, between 2 cinquefoils Or, three tigers' heads, Vert, for Aldersey; 2 and 3 gironny of six pieces, Ermine and Sable, an eagle displayed, Or, for Goodman.

In the windows on the north side.

1. Quarterly, 1 and 4, Chequy Argent and Sable for Warren; 2 and 3 Argent, 2 barrs Gules, for Mainwaring, impaling, Or, a raven Sable, for Corbet.

2. Carden as before, impaling Malvoisin as before. Crest, on a wreath a bear's head and neck erased, Sable, pierced with an arrow, headed Sable, feathered Argent, underneath, "Orate pro bono statu Ricardi Carden Capellani, Diaconi Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Cestriæ, qui istam fenestram fieri fecit, A. D. 1547."

3. Leche quartering Carden, Malvoisin and Mainwaring as before. Crest, a cubit arm proper, the hand grasping a leech, Vert.

4. Azure, 2 barrs, Argent, on a canton Sable, on a chevron Argent, between three pheons of the second, three mullets of the first for Hill; underneath, "Rowlandus Hill, patronus medietatis hujus ecclesiæ parochialis de Tilston, et benefactor ad reedificationem hujus prædictæ ecclesiæ præcipuè."

On the timber of the gallery, Dutton with a crescent for difference, quartering Warburton and Warburton antient, with the initials P. W. and A. W. 1618, referring to judge Warburton of Grafton.

The Registers commence in 1558.

The rector has the entire tithes of the parish^e.

^eThe charities consist of

A rent charge of 5l. per annum, for the instruction of poor children, given by deed by Mr. Bradshaw.

A similar rent charge bequeathed by Mr. Fitton, for the relief of the poor.

A rent charge of 1l. 14s. 8d. given by deed by Mr. Wright in 1679, the produce distributed in bread to the poor of this parish and Malpas.

And 156l. given or left by persons unknown, the interest of which is distributed to the poor.

RECTORS OF TILSTON.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1301, 6 kal. Feb.	Henricus de Blechley.	Urianus de Sc'o Petro.	
1304, 7 id. Feb.	Ricardus de Blechley.	Urianus de Sc'o Petro.	Res. H. de Blechley.
1336, 6 kal. Nov.	Petrus Grey, capell's. Willielmus de Brumbrough.	D'nus Jo. de Sc'o Petro miles.	
1349, 4 kal. Aug.	Hugo le Wolesham.	Jo. de Sc'o Petro miles.	P. m. W'i de Brumbrough.
1349, 3 kal. Nov.	Rogerus Torthwin.	Jo. de Sc'o Petro miles.	
1361, 12 kal. Dec.	Nicholas Pennevelt, capell's.	Edw. p'mog. P. Wall. co. Cest.	
1404, May 2.	Robertus Stafford, capell's.	D'nus W. Brereton miles.	P. m. N. Pennevelt.
1411, Aug. 7.	D'nus Henricus Waterford, pr'b'r.	Hugo Cokesey miles.	
1455, June 11.	Thomas Twemlowe, cl'us.	W's Brereton, armig'r.	P. res. Henrici Waterford.
1497, July 25.	Robertus Cliffe, LL. B. John Orton. John Baker.	Jacob. Stanley, cl'us, hac vice per concess. Tho. Cokesay mil.	P. m. T. Twemlowe.
1558, Aug. 8.	John Die.	Thomas Butler, chaplain, and others by assignment of William Brereton.	Death of John Baker.

^e Information of archdeacon Churton.

^f Parliamentary return of Charities, printed 1816.

INSTITUTED. ¹	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1573.	Robert Watson.		
1603, March 9.	Robert Kinge, A. M.	Ralph Mayfield.	Res. of R. Watson.
1629, ante.	Randle Catherall.		
1631, March 10.	Essex Clerke, A. M.	The King, during the minority of Lord Brereton.	
1653.	George Bonniman, A. M.		Intruded during the Usurpation.
1668, Sept. 11.	Thomas Brancker, A. M.	William Lord Brereton.	
1677, Oct. 15	Samuel Catherall, A. M.	Robert Viscount Cholmondeley.	Death of T. Brancker.
1684, March 1.	Sylvan Vaughan.	William Drake.	Death of S. Catherall.
1691, August 4.	Foulk Rutter.	Hugh viscount Cholmondeley.	
1708, Nov. 2.	John Needham, A. M.	Jane Drake.	Death of F. Rutter.
1710, June 2.	Thomas Leech, A. M.	The earl of Cholmondeley.	Death of J. Needham.
1719, Sept. 24.	James Richardson, A. M.	Jane Drake.	Death of Tho. Leech.
1773, Dec. 15.	Thomas Edwards, A. M.	The earl of Cholmondeley.	Death of Richardson.
1798, Feb. 1.	William Garnett, A. M.	Tho. D. Tyrwhitt Drake, esq.	Death of rev. sir Thomas Edwards, bart.

Robert Kinge was lecturer of Chester cathedral, and *Essex Clerke*, one of the prebendaries. From some informalities he was instituted at least thrice to this rectory.

Randle Catheral, "preacher of God's word," occurs in the register, on the baptism of his daughter Anne, in 1626.

Thomas Brancker (instituted by Richard archbishop of York, in the vacancy of the see of Chester), was son of Thomas Brancker, B. A. of Exeter College, Oxford, in which college he obtained a fellowship, which he lost from non-conformity after the Restoration. He was afterwards reconciled to the church, and was episcopally ordained, and made minister of Whitegate. Brancker was author of a piece in Latin, on the Doctrine of the Sphere, in 1662, and published in 1668, in quarto, a Translation of Rhonius's Algebra, under the title of "An Introduction to Algebra." His proficiency in the mathematics and chemistry procured him the patronage of lord Brereton, on whose presentation he was instituted to Tilston. Afterwards he was chosen head master of the free school of Macclesfield, where he spent the remainder of his life, which was terminated by a short illness in 1676. His body was interred in the church of Macclesfield, where a monument, inscribed as follows, was erected to his memory.

By permission
of the Hon. Richard Legh, of Lyme, esq.
Near this place lie deposited
in belief of a blessed resurrection
the remains of
Thomas Brancker, M. A.
fellow of Exon College in Oxford,
rector of the parish of Tilston,
late most worthy master
of the royal school of Macclesfield.

He was well skilled
in the sacred and other languages ;
a lover
and ornament
of natural philosophy, mathematics, and chemistry,
which he pursued with reputation,
under the auspices
of the hon. sir Robert Boyle.
The sanctity of his life
was only equalled
by his extraordinary courtesy :
in short
he was a most accomplished man.
He was born A. D. 1635,
and died Nov. 26, 1676.

Samuel Catheral, was son of Samuel Catheral, minister of Handley, and supposed by Anthony Wood to have been a descendant of the Catherals of Horton in this parish. He was admitted of Christ Church, as servitor to Hugh Cholmondeley, son of Robert viscount Cholmondeley of Kellis, agreeably to an antient custom for gentlemen of large fortune, to take with them to the university a young man of liberal education as servant, who was matriculated and educated as other academics. Catheral removed to Brasenose : he published in 1692, in 4to. a sermon preached at the funeral of his patron's lady, viscountess Cholmondeley, at Malpas, on the last day of February 1691-2, in which he styles himself M. A. Chaplain to the right honourable Viscount Cholmondeley. The sermon is dedicated to "the Honourable Madam Egerton," only daughter of lady Cholmondeley, at whose request it was published ; and the author, who was selected for the purpose by lady Cholmondeley herself, draws at considerable length, a portrait of female excellence, and private worth, which her descendants have great reason to be proud of.

CARDEN.

THE Domesday Survey passes over Carden, as well as all the other component townships of this parish, with the exception of Tilston itself, in the original vill of which they were probably comprehended. There can, however, be no doubt of Carden then forming a part

of the barony of Malpas, the lords of which are described as superior lords of Carden in the early Inquisitions^a, and the leet of which still extends over this township.

A family, which assumed the local name of Cawar-

^a Inq. p. m. Ric. de Cudington, 28 Edw. III.

den, or Cawarthyn, settled here before the reign of Hen. III. and terminated in the direct male line, about the time of Hen. IV. in William de Cawarden, who left four daughters and coheireses, who brought their estates in the families of Leche, Fitton, Golborne, and Clutton, the two first-named of which became severally possessed of *Lower* and *Over Carden*, into which the present township was then divided.

Thomas Fitton, of *Over Carden* and Sutton, husband of Isabella de Cawarden, was third in descent from Hugh Fitton, second son of John Fitton of Bollin. His descendant, Francis Fitton, was aged 19 years at the Visitation of 1613, and Owen Fitton was possessed of *Over Carden* in 1672^b. Shortly afterwards the estate passed by sale or marriage to the Bradshaws of Pennington in Lancashire, and after an intermediate sale to Joseph Worrall, attorney at law, was sold in severalties. The distinctions of *Over* and *Lower Carden* are now unknown, the manor of *Lower Carden* extending over the whole township.

John Leche, of *Lower Carden*, husband of Eleanor de Cawarden, who, according to some pedigrees, was a younger brother of the family of Leche of Chatsworth, lived in the time of Henry IV. two generations further back than the pedigrees usually place him, which omit mention of his son and grandson. There is also a material variation between the higher generations of the Chatsworth Leches, as given in these pedigrees, and in an abstract of deeds (Harl. MSS. 2119. 50), from which (if correct) it appears that the family were settled in *Carden* as early as 20 Edw. III. when Eva, widow of Hugh de Warin, releases lands in *Caurthin* to John Leche, and Lucy his wife, her sister, which John is said to be father of John Leche, surgeon to Edward III, who, by pat. 50 Edw. III. was grantee of *Castle Warin* and other lands in *Kildare*, and was father of David, the father of John Leche, to whom Jane, wife of John Preston, delivers lands in *Carden*, 2 Hen. IV. and who obtained the *Lower Carden* estate in marriage with Eleanor de Cawarden as before mentioned.

^c John Leche had issue by Eleanor Cawarden, John del' Leche, to whom, and to Maud his wife, Howell de Eton and Ellen his wife, release lands in *Clutton*, *Carden*, and *Aldersey*, 18 Hen. VI. The said John Leche and Maud his wife, (widow of Thomas de *Carden*) and the said Howell and Ellen hold lands for life in *Tilston*, *Carden*, and *Clotton*, and grant the same in trust to *Berneston de Churton*, 31 Hen. VI.

John Leche of *Carden*, son of the preceding, occurs in a deed, with Isabel his wife, daughter and heiress of William Johnson of *Farndon*, 1 Edw. IV. 1461, and 14 Edw. IV. occurs again in a certificate under the hands of Thomas lord Stanley, justice of *Chester*, sir William Stanley, knt. and others, stating what lands of inheritance he was then seized of, and that his dwelling-house was burnt with great substance of goods, and all his

evidences. He survived to 7 Hen. VII. when he was aged 82 years, and settles lands in *Malpas* and *Horton* on John his son and heir apparent, 2 Ric. III. Witness, Ran. Brereton, Ric. Cholmley, Urian Davenport, parson of a moiety of *Malpas*, and others.

John Leche, son of the preceding, appears in a covenant with George Mainwaring, of *Ightfield*, esq. respecting the marriage of the said John, with Margaret, daughter of the said George, before St. Andrew's day next, Sept. 10, 18 Edw. IV.

John Leche, son of the said John and Margaret, survived to 6 Edw. VI. 1552, as appears by will dated in that year, mentioning the several relatives to whom that date is affixed in the pedigree annexed, and dying without issue, was succeeded by his nephew,

John Leche, son of Henry Leche, agreeably to a settlement 27 Hen. VIII. when he was married to Jane, daughter of Robert Fitton, of *Carden*. This John Leche, by *Inq. p. m.* 13 Eliz. died seized of one capital, and other messuages in *Carthen*, held from the heirs of William de *Carthen*, by 1d. rent. val. 53s. 4d. and lands in *Farndon*, *Clutton*, and *Malpas*. He died June 11, 11 Eliz. John Leche, son and heir.

This last John Leche, by will dated 1591, settles his estate on John his son and heir, with the exception of certain lands which he leaves to his wife Ursula, daughter of John Mainwaring, of *Drayton*, co. *Salop*.

John Leche, issue of this marriage, married Alice, daughter of William Aldersey of *Chester*, (marriage covenant dated June 6, 1613), and had issue John Leche, aged 50 years at *Dugdale's* Visitation in 1664, from whom the present proprietor William Leche, esq. is the fourth in descent, and, it may be observed, is the only possessor of *Carden*, in a pedigree of thirteen generations, who has not borne the name of John.

The situation of *Carden* is eminently beautiful. The grounds lie under the higher range of the *Broxton Hills*, but command, nevertheless, a rich and extensive prospect towards *Chester* and the *Welsh hills*. On the higher parts of the estate, the rocks of *Carden cliff* and the woods mingle together in the most picturesque manner, and below them lies the venerable mansion-house, embosomed in timber, and presenting a very perfect specimen of the antient timber buildings of the county. ^d The house was plundered by the parliament troops on June 12, 1643. One woman servant was killed in the assault, and Mr. Leche and others taken as prisoners to *Nantwich*.

The Leches of *Nantwich* and *Mollington* were younger branches of this family: the two authors mentioned in the extract from Anthony Wood in the note below^e, were most probably of some of these houses, but have not been clearly identified.

A court is held by Mr. Leche for the manor of *Carden*, which is also within the jurisdiction of the leet of *Malpas*.

^b Harl. MSS. 2010.

^c The abstract of deeds from which this descent is compiled, are preserved in Harl. MSS. 2119. 50.

^d Burghall's Providence Improved. Hist. of Cheshire, ii. 915.

^e John Leech, a Cheshire man, born, or at least descended from an antient family, in that county, spent some time in *Oxon*, particularly in *Brasenose College*.

"Having a natural propensity to learning, he took upon himself to be a schoolmaster; and such a one he was, that his equal could hardly be found in his time. He took great delight in that employment, educated many generous youths, and others who afterwards became famous in their generations, and for their use wrote,"

A Book of Grammar Questions, printed in 1628, being the 2d or 3d edition, and often reprinted, dedicated to Mr. George Digby, son and heir of sir John Digby, kt. vice chamberlain of his majesty's household, and afterwards earl of *Bristol*, which sir John had been his pupil about the year 1592. He also published, under the name of Johannes Leechæus, a Collection of Epigrams, printed at *London* in 1622-3, 8vo.

Another John Leech, son of a gentleman in *Cheshire*, was admitted of *Brasenose College* as commoener in 1582, and completed his degree in *Arts* July 13, 1590. He is supposed by Anthony Wood to be a distinct person from the John Leech before mentioned, and to have been a divine who was author, among other sermons, of one preached at the funeral of the Lady Marys Grace, *Lond.* 1607, 8vo. and also of an Elegy printed at the end of the same. *Athenæ Oxon.* I. 486.



Geo. Pickering delin^s

Lond. Pub. Feb^r 1817, by Lockington & C^o

Chas^r Heath sculp^s

GRAFTON HALL.

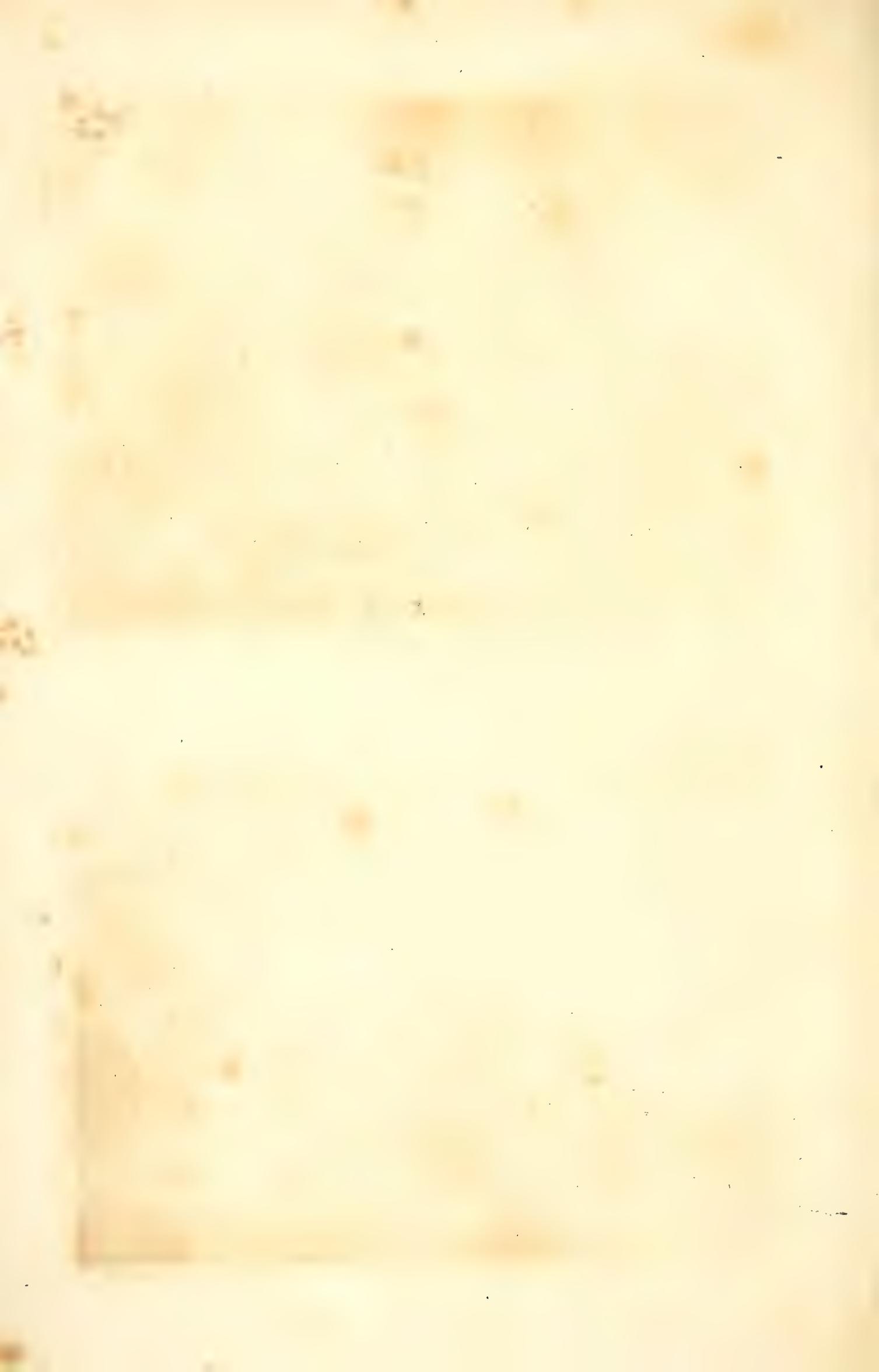


Geo. Pickering delin^s

Lond. Pub. Feb^r 1817, by Lockington & C^o

Chas^r Heath sculp^s

CARDEN HALL.



LECHE OF CARDEN.

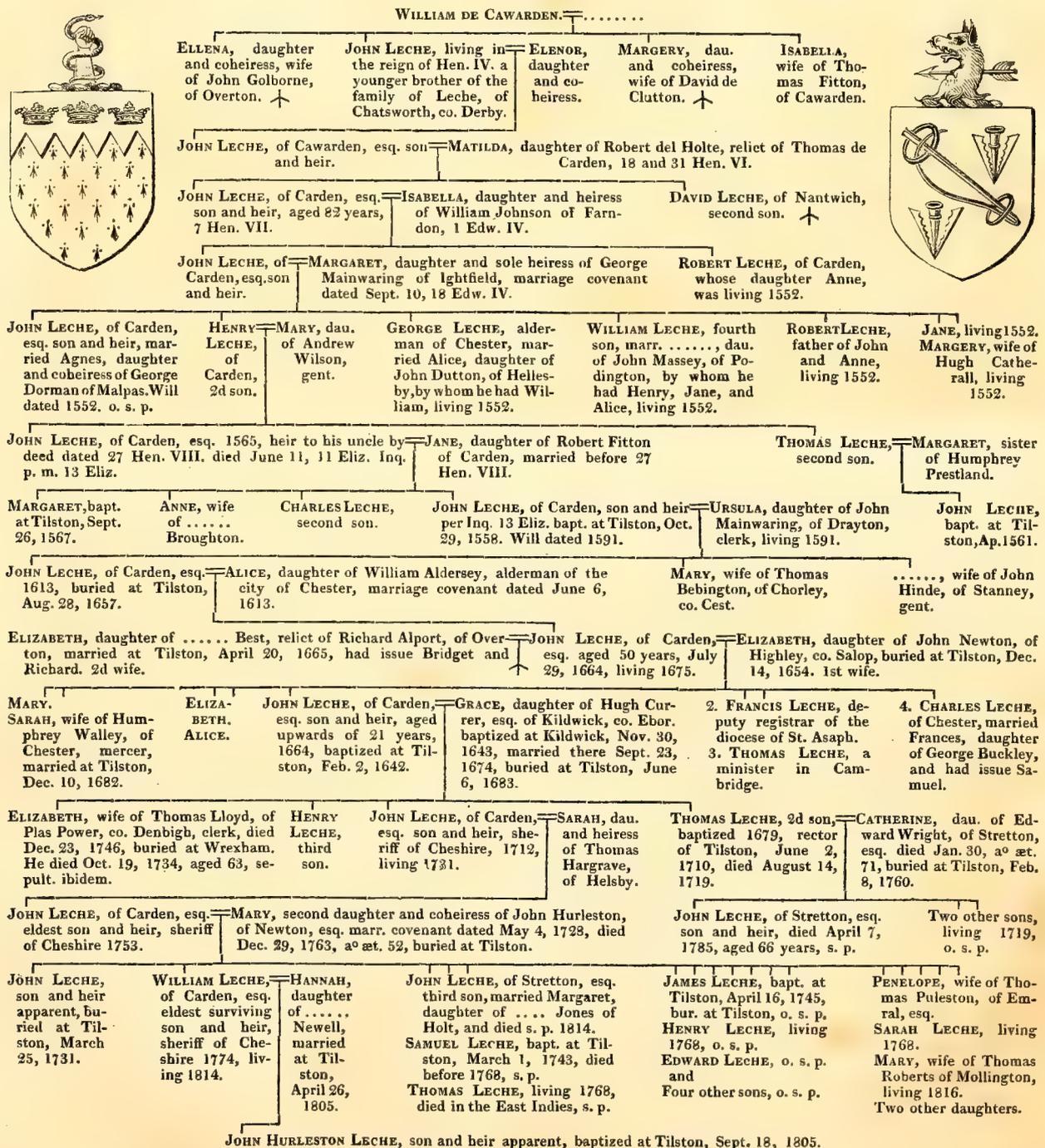
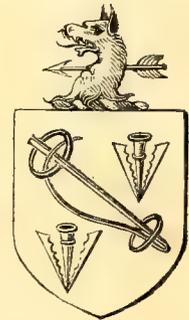
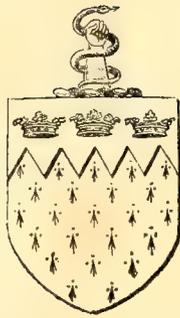
From Harl. MSS. 2119, the Visitations, and the Parochial Registers.

ARMS OF LECHE. Ermine, on a chief indented Or, three ducal coronets Gules.

CREST. On a wreath a cubit arm proper, the hand grasping a snake Vert.

ARMS OF CARDEN. Sable, a sling between two pheons Argent.

CREST. On a wreath a wolf's head Sable, erased, pierced fesseway, sinister with an arrow Argent.



GRAFTON.

THIS township is omitted in Domesday, but it was unquestionably a portion of the barony of Malpas, which is recognized as the paramount lordship in the Inquisitions relating to Grafton. In lord Dudley's plea to a quo warranto, 15 Hen. VII. it is claimed to be within the leet of Malpas, but that jurisdiction is now disused.

Grafton gave name to a family 6 Edw. III. William de Grafton obtained from John Welin, the manor of Grafton cum pert. viz. two parts in possession, and the reversion of the third part, which William de Coton, and Isabel his wife, held in dower, of the estate of the said John, to William for life, remainder to William his son, then to David, and then to the right heirs of William^a.

The last William de Grafton's daughter and heiress (or coheires) Maud, married, first David de Crue, and secondly Ralph de Milneton.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. V. David de Crue, of Sonde, held lands and messuages in Grafton from John Sutton, baron of Malpas, in capite for life only, also lands in Stretton, Sonde, Worleston, Aston, and Cholmondeston. Val. tot. 11l. xiiiiis. Thomas, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. V. Thomas, son of David de Crue of Sonde, held in demesne as of fee, one messuage and lands cum pert. in Grafton, from John de Sutton, baron of Malpas, in cap. by military service. Val. per ann. xxviii. viiiid. William le Ward of Horton, kinsman, and one of the coheirs of the said Thomas.

William Ward, found coheir by this Inquisition, was son of Mabot, one of the sisters and coheires of William, son of William de Milneton, the issue of Maud de Grafton's marriage before mentioned. The other coheires, were Margaret, wife of John Massey, Elena, wife of Ralph Brown, and Alice, wife of Oliver Newton. The manor of Grafton passed finally to the issue of the first of these, and continued in her descendant to the reign of Elizabeth, when it was alienated by Gerard Massie, B. D. then rector of Wigan, who was afterwards nominated by James I. to the bishopric of Chester, but died before consecration.

44 Eliz. Peter Warburton, justice of the King's Bench, obtained by fine from Gerard Massie, S. T. P. 16 messuages, 16 gardens, and 940 acres of various kinds of lands in Grafton, Golborne-Belleau, Broxton, Milton, &c.

Inq. p. m. 20 Jac. I. Sir Peter Warburton, kt. one of the justices of the King's Bench, died seized of the manor and hall of Grafton, with 280 acres of land therein, and in Broxton, held from sir William Brereton, kt. as of his manor of Malpas in socage by fealty, one-eighth of the manor of Stretton, and other lands.

Elizabeth, wife of sir Thomas Stanley of Alderley, was sole daughter and heiress, and from her the manor of Grafton has descended to the present proprietor, sir John T. Stanley, bart. The entire township forms a single farm.

The Hall of Grafton, erected by sir Peter Warburton, is a stately building of brick, finished with bay windows, gables, tall chimneys, and turrets, exhibiting a

fine specimen of the domestic architecture of the early part of the seventeenth century. The annexed engraving will give a better idea of it than verbal description.

Its founder's connection with the Arley family is unsettled as to the precise point of separation, but the general fact of descent appears certain. Some pedigrees describe him as representative of an illegitimate branch, but the number of descents in this account is irreconcilable with the corresponding ones in the Arley pedigree. He used the arms of that family, (Dutton, Warburton, and Warburton ancient) with a variation in the usual arrangement, giving precedence to the Dutton coat instead of the modern coat of Warburton, and introducing two filial distinctions, a martlet in the centre of the shield, and a crescent in the centre of the first quarter. To these he added a more important difference, giving the first quarter of the Dutton coat as ermine.

^bIn a grant of the site of the late house of the Grey Friars, in Watergate-street, to Peter Warburton, of Arley, esq. and Thomas Wilbraham, esq. in 1579, it is described as being then the residence of Peter Warburton, esq. and in 1589 he is also described as living in what appears to be the same mansion, and is called the Black Hall in the Watergate-street.^c Between these dates, on Sept. 25, 1584, the earl of Derby, in a letter to the mayor of Chester, recommends Mr. Peter Warburton, "learned in the law," to be an alderman of that city. Harl. MSS. 2173.

^dIn the 40th of Elizabeth, he is styled serjeant at law, in a conveyance of a moiety of the manor of Thornton le Moors. He was now most probably acquiring considerable sums by his practice in the law, which, between this period and 15 Jac. I. he vested in successive purchases in Tilston, Shocklach, Chester, Caldecot, Farndon, Worthenbury, Northwich, and other places, in addition to those of Thornton and Grafton before-mentioned.

On the 24th of November, 1601, he was appointed one of the justices of the King's Bench, by pat. 43 Eliz. and his appointment was renewed April 21, 1603, by pat. 1 Jac. He was afterwards a judge of the Common Pleas.

Sir Peter Warburton died at Grafton Hall, Sept. 7, 1621, and was buried close to the altar-rails at Tilston. He had three wives, 1st, Margaret, daughter and sole heiress of George Barlow, of Dronfield Woodhouse in the county of Derby, esq. married at Frodsham, Oct. 4, 1574, by whom he had Elizabeth, aged four years at the Visitation of 1580, sole heiress by survivorship, and Margaret, who died an infant. He married, 2dly, Elizabeth, daughter and coheires of sir Thomas Butler, of Bewsey, kt. baron of Warrington, by whom he had no issue, as appears by her funeral certificate subscribed by the judge in 1598, as well as by the one subjoined. His third wife, Alice, daughter and coheires of Peter Warburton, of Arley, esq. also died issueless.

From the first of these marriages the Stanleys inherited estates in Derbyshire, which were sold for the purpose of purchasing the manor and advowson of Nether Alderley, and an estate in that township.

^a Villare Cest. under Grafton.

^b Original at Alderley.

^c MS communications by sir J. T. Stanley, bart.

^d See p. 16.

The pedigree following brings down the descent of the antient lords of Grafton, to the vender of that manor to sir Peter Warburton, and the note subjoined^e contains the funeral certificate of the judge, extracted from the records of the Herald's College. It is presumed no

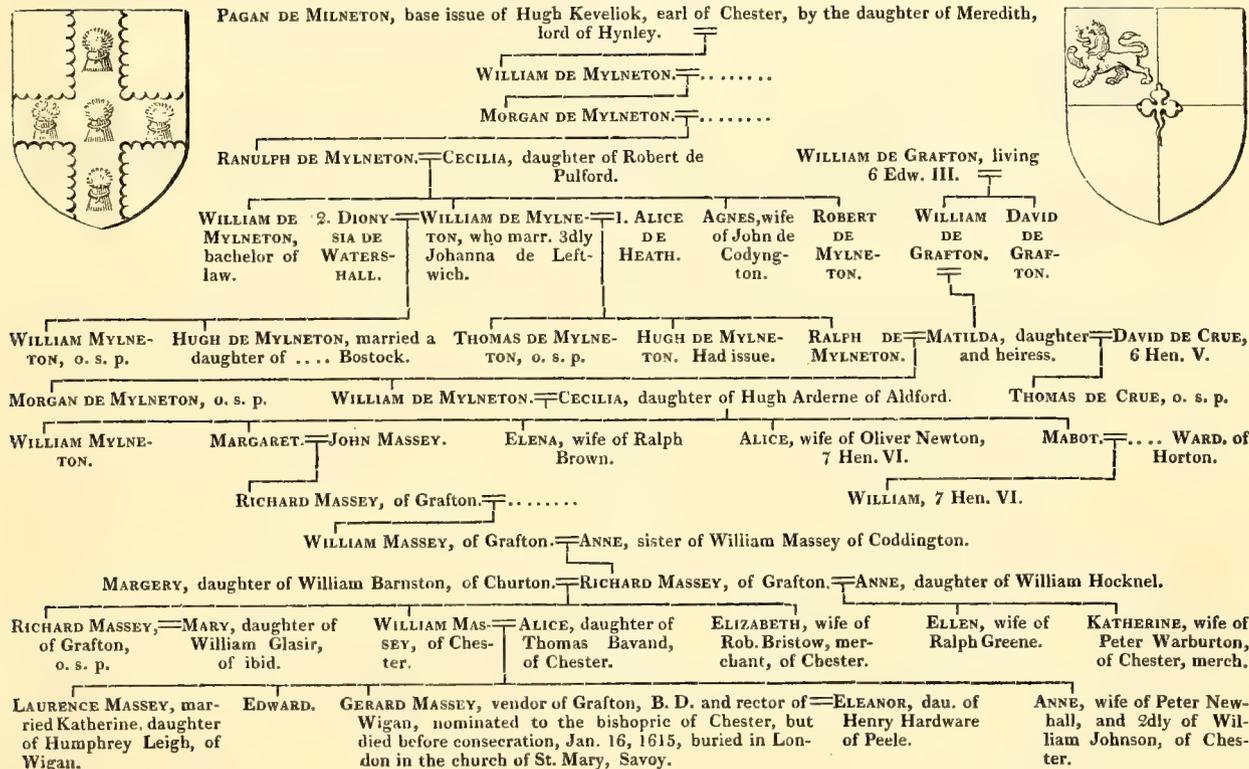
lover of the preservation of legitimate descent will peruse it without a conviction of the great value of such authentic documents, and a regret that a recent attempt to renew the custom has so unfortunately failed of success.

GRAFTON, MILNETON, AND MASSEY, OF GRAFTON.

From Harl. MSS. 1535.

ARMS OF MASSEY. Quarterly, Gules and Or, in the first quarter a lion passant Argent, for difference a trefoil Vert.

ARMS OF MILNETON. Argent, on a cross engrailed Azure, five garbs Or.



^e Funeral certificate of sir Peter Warburton, kt. copied from the original in the College of Arms, and communicated by sir J. T. Stanley, bart.

"Sir Peter Warburton, of Grafton, in com. Cest. kt. one of the judges of the Common Pleas, departed this mortal life at his house at Grafton, 7 Sep. 1621, and lieth buried at Tilston church in the said county. He married to his first wife, Margaret, daughter and sole heir to George Barlow, of Dronfield Woodhouse in Derbyshire, gent. by whom he had issue two daughters, Elizabeth, eldest daughter and now heir to the defunct, of the age of 44 years, or thereabouts, at the time of her father's death. She married sir Thomas Stanley, of Alderley, kt. by whom she had issue, one son and four daughters. Thomas, their son and heir, of the age of 24 years at the time of his grandfather's death; Mary Stanley, eldest daughter; Margaret, 2d daughter; Frances, 3d; and Alice, 4th. Margaret, 2d daughter of the defunct, died young.

The said defunct married to his second wife, Elizabeth, daughter and one of the heir of sir Thomas Butler, of Bewsey, kt. baron of Warrington, by whom no issue.

He married to his third wife, Alice, one of the daughters and coheirs of Peter Warburton, of Arley, esq. by whom sans issue.

This certificate was taken at Chester, on the 13th day of January, 1621, by Randle Holm of the city of Chester, Deputy for the office of Arms, and certified under the hand of Elizabeth lady Stanley, sole daughter and heir of the defunct. Signed, ELIZ. STANLEY."

HORTON.

THE manor of Horton, although unnoticed in Domesday, may be presumed to have been an original component part of the barony of Malpas. It is claimed by lord Sutton, as subject to the jurisdiction of his court, in his plea to a quo warranto 15 Hen. VII.* and after many successive transfers of the complicated severalties of that barony, appears among the manors conveyed by sir Richard Corbett of Stoke, 30th Eliz.^b to sir Randolph Brereton, of Malpas and Shocklach. It appears to have been subsequently considered dependant on the court of Shocklach, and is now vested in sir Richard Puleston, bart. the proprietor of that manor.

An estate, or according to some a mesne manor, was held under this barony by one Griffith, about the time of Henry III. whose descendants, according to Dr. Williamson, assumed the local name, and divided into two branches. The estates of one line passed by an heir female to a younger branch of the Alderseys, and those of the other line became vested in John Catherall, in

right of his wife, Alice de Horton, about the time of Edward I. This family were a younger branch of the Catherals of Catheral in Lancashire, and continued settled at Horton for fifteen generations, until the estate was sold by Dutton Catheral, towards the close of the seventeenth century, to Mr. Dod, a linen-draper of London, who was in possession in 1701^c. The annexed pedigree brings down the descent of the family from their settlement in Horton to this alienation.

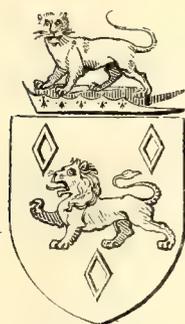
Horton Hall, the seat of the Catherals, stands in a low unpleasant part of the parish, close to the highway. It is built with timber, the interstices of which are filled as usual with wicker-work and plaster, and the roof finishes with gables: the approach is by a stone gateway. The whole fabric is in an extreme state of dilapidation, but nevertheless preserves the appearance of having been once a respectable mansion, although only of a secondary rank.

CATHERAL OF HORTON.

From Harl. MSS. 1532. Booth's Collections, the Visitations of 1613 and 1663-4, and the Tilston Registers.

ARMS. Azure, a lion passant Or, between three mascles of the second.

CREST. On a chapeau Azure, turned Ermine, a wild cat statant proper.



JOHN CATHERAL, of Kiddington and Horton, co. Cest. descended of the Catherals of Catheral, in Gars-tang, co. Lanc. — ALICE, dau. and heiress of HORTON, 30 Edw. I. — DAVID, son of Jovard, son of Griffin de Shocklach.

JOVARD. — GRIFFIN.

WILLIAM HORTON, of Cuddington and Horton, 11 Edw. II. to 4 Edw. III. — , dau. and heiress of Jovard de Shocklach.

HUGH CATHERAL, 2d son, marr. , dau. of , of Stockton. — WILLIAM CATHERAL, 43 Edw. III. — IDONEA, dau. of David, son of William de Wigland. — MARGARET, wife of William, son of David de Broxton.

DAVID CATHERAL, of Horton and Cuddington, 43 Edw. III. — MARGERY, dau. and heiress to Kenrick Elcock.

JOHN CATHERAL, 2 Ric. II. and 13 Hen. IV. — JOHANNA, dau. to Thomas Hall, sister and heiress to John Hall, who held lands in Horton.

WILLIAM CATHERAL, temp. Hen. VI. died before 4 Hen. IV.

JOHN, alias JENKYN CATHERAL, 2d son. — ELLEN, — RALPH CATHERAL, of Horton, 24 Hen. VI. and 4 Edw. IV. — MARGARET, daughter and heiress to David, son of William Horton, lived 29 Hen. VI.

MARGARET, wife of Thomas Tattenhall. — , wife of Ralph Alphington, of Alphington. — WILLIAM CATHERAL, of Horton, 14 Edw. IV. 2 Ric. III. — ALICE, dau. and heiress to Hugh Bulkeley, of Broxton, 14 Edw. IV.

WILLIAM CATHERAL, 3d son, executor to his mother. — RALPH CATHERAL, of Broxton, 2d son, 22 Hen. VIII. marr. Margaret Sparke, of Bickerton, aunt to L. C. Egerton's mother, and was ancestor of a branch settled in Broxton. — HUGH CATHERAL, of Horton and Broxton, 22 Edw. IV. — MARGERY, dau. to John Leeche, of Carden. — ELEANOR, wife of Randle Dod, of Barton; 2d, of ... Hutchins; 3d, of ... Barlow. — ALICE, wife of John Yardley, of Shocklach.

ALICE, wife of Robert Johnson, of Stretton. — THOMAS CATHERAL, 3d son, married Joan, dau. to David Povey, and had issue Philip, John, Ralph, Marg. and Jane. — WILLIAM CATHERAL, steward to the earl of Shrewsbury. — ELLEN, dau. of ... Bird, of Ightfield, by whom he had two daughters. — JOHN, alias JENKYN CATHERAL, of Horton and Broxton, 35 Hen. VIII. bur. 15 Nov. 1558. — ELIZ. dau. of David Povey, of Shocklach. — ELIZ. wife of John Carden, of Caldecote. — MARGARET, wife of William Hesketh, of Stretton; 3dly of Dod; 3dly of Rd. Prestland.

ELLEN, wife of Henry Whitby, of Tattenhall. — WILLIAM CATHERAL, 3d son. — RICHARD, 2d son. — AVICE, dau. of Michael Cartwright, of Royston, in Cambridge-shire. — JOHN CATHERAL, of Horton and Broxton, 35 Hen. VIII. Bur. 14 June 1592. — JOAN, dau. to Rt. Maddocks, of Crewe, ob. 1602. — MARGARET, wife of John Griffith, of Hanmer. — ALICE, wife of Robt. Tattenhall of Peckforton.

HENRY. — RANDLE, 3d son, bapt. at Tilston, March 26, 1562, living 1613. — JOAN, dau. and sole heir of Richard Johnes, co. Oxon, son of William Johnes, of Thornbury, co. Glouc. — THOMAS, 2d son. — JANE, dau. and coheir of Peter Astell, of Golborne. — JOHN CATHERAL, of Horton and Broxton, g. v. — ANNE, dau. and co-heiress of W. Probyn, of Oldcastle, bur. at Tilston, 1636. — JANE, wife of Ralph Povey, of Shocklach. — ELLEN, wife of Anthony Cotton, of Huntinton.

JAMES, EDMUND. — — RANDLE CATHERAL, rector of Tilston. — JOHN CATHERAL, of Horton, buried at Tilston, Dec. 9, 1658. — ANNE, daughter of John Edwards of Cheveley, co. Cest, buried at Tilston, Dec. 9, 1658. — FRANCES, wife of Randle Turner, of Carden.

ANNE, bapt. at Tilston, Feb. 13, 1626; died an infant. — THOMAS, bapt. Feb. 3, 1642, buried at Tilston, March 15, 1658. — JOHN CATHERAL, of Horton, et. 33 years, 9th February, 1663. — ALICE, daughter of Peter Dutton, of Hatton, married at Tilston, July 9, 1655. — ANNE, wife of Geo. Payne, of Whitchurch. — ELIZA, wife of Roger Downward, of Cuddington, co. Cest.

MARTHA, bapt. at Tilston, Nov. 1669. — ALICE, buried at Tilston, Nov. 2, 1672. — ELIZABETH, bapt. at Tilston, June 1664, buried July 5, following. — MARY, bapt. at Tilston, Feb. 7, 1660, aged 3 years at the Visitation of 1663-4. — DUTTON CATHERAL, son and heir, et. 7, ann. 1669, sold the Catheral estate. — RICHARD. JOHN, bapt. at Tilston, Sept. 29, 1657. — SAMUEL, bur. at Tilston, Nov. 24, 1658. — CHARLES, bapt. at Tilston, Feb. 25, 1662. — SAMUEL CATHERAL, buried at Tilston, 1677.

^a Malpas deeds.

^b Ibid.

^c Williamson's Vill. Cest. in Horton.

STRETTON.

The earliest lords of this manor that have occurred were the Stranges of Blackmere, mesne lords under the barony of Malpas, but having under them the Pulford's of Pulford.

9 Edw. I. Elenor, widow of Robert le Strange, confirmed to Isabella, wife of Griffin de Whitchurch, all the lands, &c. which she had of the gift of Robert de Pulford, in Stretton and Chidlow. This confirmation was ratified by Roderic Fitz Griffin, and Beatrix his wife; from which, as well as the following inquisition, it appears that Stretton had originally been dependent on the barony of Malpas.

Griffin de Whitchurch, husband of Isabella, was Griffin Warren (base son of William Plantagenet earl of Warren), who afterwards did homage as mentioned in Chidlow, for that manor and Stretton, to Elenor le Strange, and his brother in law Robert de Pulford.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. V. John, son of Griffin de Warren, held in capite, from John, son of John de Sutton, chevalier, the manor of Stretton juxta Tylston by military service, value, per annum, xl.; also lands in Broxton Cholley, and Cyssey. Griffin Warren son and heir.

The direct line of this family (of whom an account will be found in Watson's House of Warren) terminated in an heiress, Margaret, daughter of John de Warren, and wife of William, second son of Randle Mainwaring, of Peover, from whom came the Mainwarings of Ightfield, who inherited Stretton and other estates by this marriage. The Mainwarings continued in possession until 38 Hen. VIII. when Richard Wright, esq. serjeant at arms, Arthur Starkey, esq. and Thomas Barnston, obtained from sir George Manwaring and Anne his wife the manor of Stretton, &c. by Tilston, for 2000l.^b

On the division of this purchase, the manor passed to the Leches of Carden, who are the present proprietors; but the Stretton Hall estate was retained by Richard Wright^c.

Inq. p. m. 6 Oct. 4 Jac. I. Richard Wright, gent. held six messuages, and 340 acres of land in Stretton, from Thomas lord Ellesmere, chancellor of England, as of his manor of Blackmere, value 40s. per annum; also lands in Hampton, Bickley, and Marbury, total value 3l. 15s. 7d. died 23 August.

3 Jac. I. Edward Wright son and heir, aged 20 years, 6 months, and 5 days, at the taking of the Inquisition.

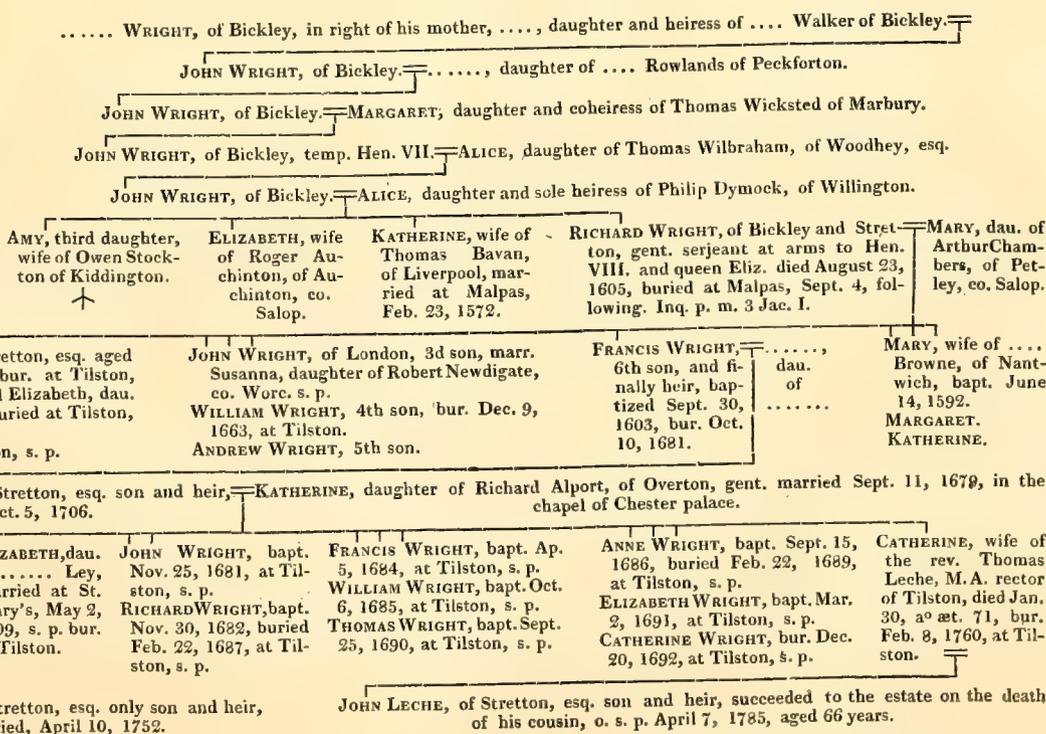
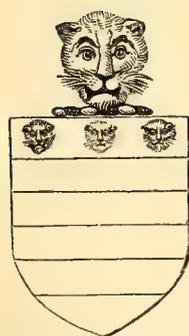
Richard Wright, first of Stretton, was representative of a family which came originally out of Yorkshire, and had settled in Cheshire, six descents previously, on marrying the heiress of the Walkers of Bickley. The direct line of the family terminated in 1752, in Edward Wright, of Stretton, esq. whose father was author of the elegant and well-known "Observations made in Travels through France, Italy, &c."

The Stretton Hall estate now passed to John Leche, esq. son of Thomas Leche, rector of Tilston, by his wife Catherine, aunt of Edward Wright, the last possessor, which John Leche dying issueless in 1785, the said estate passed to his cousin John Leche, a younger brother of Carden, who dying also issueless in 1814, it passed to his elder brother William Leche of Carden, esq. in whom it is now vested.

Stretton Hall is a respectable mansion situated in well-wooded grounds near the road from Barnhill to Holt. The township is supposed to derive its name from a Roman road, as mentioned in the Introduction to this Hundred.

WRIGHT, OF BICKLEY AND STRETTON.

From Booth's Pedigrees, Cowper's Broxton MSS., and the Malpas and Tilston Registers.
 ARMS. Barry of six pieces Azure and Argent, in chief, three leopards' heads of the second.
 CREST. On a wreath a leopard's head cabossed Argent.



^a Williamson's Collections, p. 1.

^b Ibid. p. 88.

^c Cowper's Broxton Collections, p. 15.

Harthill.

HARTHILL.

THE manor of Harthill is not noticed in Domesday ; but unquestionably formed a part of the original barony of Malpas, and after the subdivisions of that barony, vested, together with the advowson of the rectory, in the St. Pierres, under whom it was held at any early period by a family that assumed the local name, and terminated in an heir general who married Thomas, or Tomlyn Tattenhall, and brought this manor into that family.

The following extract from Harl. MSS. 2119. 60. b. deduces the descent of this family and manor to the termination of the male line, about the time of Henry VIII.

Out of an old writinge of Mr. Hugh Calveley of the Ley.

“ Mem. 11 Jan. 16 Hen. VII. William Tattenal of Harthill hereafter declareth his pedigree of his inheritance in Harthill, and other places in the county of Chester. Imprimis, the said William sheweth, that one Edwin Harthill was inheritor and lord of Harthill, and had a son and heir called David, who married one Sara, sister to one Tho. Tuchet lord of Tattenhall, and the said Thomas gave to the said David and Sara all the lands and tenements of the said William, lying in Siddenhall, which David and Sara had issue Richard Harthull, and the said Richard had a son called Tho. and the said Tho. had a son called Richard, and the said Richard had a son called Wilcocke Harthull, and the said Wilcocke had a daughter and heiress, called Cicely, which married to Tomlyn Tattenhall, and they had an heyre, called Wilcock Tattenhall, which Wilcock was married to Maud, daughter to Wilcock Bulkeley, and the heyre of his inheritance, which Wilcock and Maud had issue a son and heir called Thomas Tattenhall, which Thomas was married unto Margaret, daughter and heyre unto Jenkyn Heyre, sumtyme of Barrat’s Poole, which Thomas and Margaret had a son and heyre called William Tatnall above-named, which William married one Emma, daughter and one of the heyres of Randle Cotgreave, and had issue by her Thomas and Rafe, which Thomas is heyre apparent, and married unto one Margaret, daughter to Hugh Bulkeley, of Woore.”

Thomas Tattenhall, last named in this paper, had issue Ralph, who died without issue, and one daughter (who was finally heir), Eleanor, wife of sir Hugh Calveley of Lea. The Inquisition after his death is the first notice of this manor which occurs in the records now remaining in Chester Castle.

Inq. p. m. 5 and 6 Philip and Mary. Sir Hugh Calveley, knight, held in demesne, as of fee, by law of England, after the death of Eleanor his wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Tattenhall, esq. inter alia, the manor of

Herthill, with its appurtenances, value, per annum, 3l. 12s. 4d.

Inq. p. m. 31 Aug. 27 Eliz. Sir George Calveley, knt. died, seized inter alia, of the said manor ; but from whom held the jurors know not, value 3l. 12s. 4d.

Inq. p. m. 5 Aug. 5 Jac. I. Hugh Calveley, esq. held inter alia, the said manor, from William Brereton of Brereton, as of his manor or barony of Malpas, by services unknown, value, per annum, 40s.

Inq. p. m. April 12, 18 Jac. Sir George Calveley, of Lea, kt. died seized inter alia of the said manor, and 1st of April, 9 Jac. levied a fine of the same, to the uses mentioned in an indenture made the 9th of April following, between himself on the one part, and sir George Leycester, of Tofte, kt. and Robert Cholmondeley, esq. of Cholmondeley, on the other part, viz. to the use of himself and his heirs male, remainder successively to the heirs male of the bodies of his father and grandfather, remainder to his own right heirs for ever. Val. of the said manor, 22s. 10d. per ann.

In the division of the estates of the Calveleys of Lea, between the coheireses of that family, Harthill passed to the Cottons of Combermere, from whom it was purchased by Oswald Moseley, of Bolesworth, esq. son of sir John Moseley, of Rolleston, bart. and was sold in 1813, together with the estate of Bolesworth to the present proprietor, Thomas Tarleton, esq. under the powers of an act of parliament obtained by sir Oswald Moseley, bart. son of Oswald Moseley, esq. before-mentioned*.

The tenants of the manor of Harthill attend Mr. Tarleton’s court-leet for Tattenhall.

The situation of Harthill is eminently picturesque and beautiful. It is seated high among the Broxton hills, commanding the vale of Chester, the Welsh hills, and the estuaries, and is backed behind by Raw Head and other mountainous elevations. There is a considerable quantity of wood in the immediate foreground, and the surface is broken into exquisitely beautiful inequalities and winding defiles. The village is chiefly stone built, and has an air of substantial comfort and cleanliness.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to All Saints.

Augmented Curacy. Certified Val. 18l.

The living of Harthill is a donative in the gift of Thos. T. Drake, esq. in right of his share of the barony of Malpas, having been attached to that share of the said barony, which was purchased from the heirs general of

* Information of Philip Humberston, esq. agent of Mr. Tarleton.

the Cokesays by Edmund Dudley, and passing afterwards by successive purchases to the Suttons and Bretons, was sold by the latter to sir William Drake of Shardeloes.

The chapel of Herthill occurs in an order of archbishop Peckham, about chapels, 13 kal. Dec. 1280, Dugd. Mon. Ang. III. 227.

1319, 6 id. Nov. William Juggs and Isolda his wife, in right of the dower of the said Isolda (apparently widow of Urian de St. Pierre), present John de Stonlee, chaplain, after the death of John de Potyngton.

1344, kal. Dec. Sir John de St. Pierre presents John Bachelor.

1345, 6 non. Maii. The same presents "D'num Rog'm Forthwynd."

1349, 3 id. Nov. The same presents Thomas de Belew, on the resignation of Forthwynd.

On the death of this Thomas de Belew, Hugh de Malpas, of Hampton, and sir William Breton, knight, heirs by settlement to Isabella Delves, who had recovered a portion of the St. Pierre share of the barony from the Cokesays, constituted David del Malpas their attorney, in a plea against Walter de Cokesay, chevalier, and Isabella de St. Pierre, his wife, and Nicholas de Vernon, chevalier, claiming for the said William and Hugh, the right of presenting to the chapel of Herthull, when the said William appearing in person declined proceeding: and the said Walter and Isabella, by their attorney, and Nicholas de Vernon in person, having appeared in the county court of Chester, before John de Holland justiciary, William and Hugh not appearing were non-suited: the defendants recovered by default, and an injunction was made to the bishop of Lichfield, to admit the presentation of the said Walter and Nicholas, in Lent 1383-4^b. Accordingly 1384, 17 kal. Ap. Walter de Cokesay and Isabella his wife present Philip de Staunton, on the death of Thomas de Belew.

The advowson of this chapel is afterwards expressly mentioned in the Inquisition after the death of sir Walter Cokesay, 7 Hen. IV. together with his share of the advowson of Malpas, as being held by him in capite, from the Prince, per baronium.

The descent of the advowson, subsequent to this Inquisition, has been already stated, and the list of curates, from the commencement of the Chester Registers, will be found in the decorations of the chancel.

The church of Harthill stands on an elevated knoll, in the most picturesque part of the village, overhung by a steep hill, planted with firs, and is a long low building of stone, without aisles, lighted with large square-headed bay windows. The chancel is separated from the body of the church by a large wooden screen, along which is painted, "This church was builded upon the Devoc'on of the Cuntrye, by the labor and travell of Ed. Tanat, Jo. Dod, Tho. Bulckley, Gra. Weston, P. a^o 1609.

The ceiling of the church is coved, and supported by wooden brackets, on which are carved and painted the arms of Herthull, Egerton, Bulkeley, Dod, and Page, and the crests of Dod and Calveley.

These are all the antient decorations; but the heraldic taste of the late incumbent, added largely to their number, with the following arms and inscriptions.

On the brackets supporting the roof, the names and arms of the superior lords the barons of Malpas.

Robert Fitz-Hugh, baron of Malpas, 1072. Argent, a cross patonce, Azure.

William Belward, baron of Malpas, 1101, Gules, three pheons, Argent.

St. Urian St. Pierre, knight, 1340, Argent, a bend Sable, over all a label of three points, Gules.

Sir Walter Cokesay, knight, 1398, Argent, on a bend Azure, three cinquefoils, Argent.

In front of the screen, the arms and names of the successive lords of Harthill.

Edwin de Herthull, 1250; Thomas de Tattenhall, 1346; Sir Hugh Calveley, knight, 1528; sir Robert Cotton, bart. M. P. 1705; John Crewe, esq. 1776; Oswald Moseley, esq. 1776; and Thomas Tarleton, esq.^c

On the other side the screen, the names of the successive curates, since the rebuilding of the church, with their arms, or those of families bearing their names; in the following order.

Ralph Weston, 1609; Or, an eagle displayed, Sable.

Ralph Wright, A. M. 1641; Azure, three barrs, Argent, in chief three leopards heads, of the second.

Lambert Alston, A. M. 1677; Azure, ten stars, Argent, 4, 3, 2, and 1.

Robert Harrison, 1701; Gules, an eagle displayed, Or, and a chief, Azure.

Thomas Porter, A. B. 1705, Argent, a parrot with wings displayed, Gules, perched on the stump of a tree erased proper.

Thomas Pulford, A. M. 1730; Sable, a cross patonce, Argent.

Edward Dutton, A. M. 1760; arms and crest of Dutton, quartering Hatton of Hatton.

George Turner, A. M. 1773; Argent, 2 barrs, Gules, in chief three martlets, Sable.

George Harper, A. M. 1779; Gules, a cross, Argent; Crest, a cross Argent, within a celestial crown.

And last Hugh Cholmondeley, A. M. 1801; arms and crest of Cholmondeley of Vale Royal.

William Wickham Drake, A. M. was licensed as curate, May 7, 1816, after the death of the Dean of Chester, on the nomination of Thomas Tyrwhitt Drake, esq.

Every pew in the church has the name and arms of the owner, and the name of the tenement to which it is attached painted on the wood; and over the screen are the arms of the patron, Drake of Malpas and Shardeloes, with numerous quarterings.

The church contains only one monument, which is of white marble, attached to the south wall; arms, Bird of Broxton, marshalled very incorrectly with those of his father's three wives, and those of his own. The three first occupy the impalement, and the fourth is in base, below his own, parted fesse ways.

Bird of Broxton, Argent, a cross patonce, Gules, between 4 martlets of the second; a canton, Azure. Crest, on a wreath, a martlet, Gules.

1st wife of his father. Adlington, Azure, a cross crosslet, Or.

2d wife of his father. Dod, Argent, on a fesse, Gules, between 2 barrulets wavy, Sable, three crescents, Or.

3d wife of his father. Dutton, Quarterly, Or and Gules, in 2d and 3d quarters, a fret Argent.

His own wife. Whitmore, Sable, an inescoccheon, Argent, fretty Sable, in the first fret a quarterfoil, Or;

The Inscription is as follows.

^b Archdeacon Churton's MS. from Bostock's Collections. Harl. MSS. 139. f. 180.

^c It appears unnecessary to give the verbal blazon of the arms, as they will be found in the respective pedigrees.

Hic mortales
 in ultimum diem reposuit exuvias
 Georgius Bird, de Broxton, in com. Cest. arm.
 Non uno nomine desideratus,
 quippe qui vixerat amicis admodum jucundus hospes,
 non inhonestus artifex,
 summaque in pauperes misericordia, in universos
 charitate,
 in ecclesiam reverentiâ, in regem constantiâ spectabilis.
 Annam antiqua Whitmoreorum de Barr Hill,
 com. Stafford: familiâ oriundam,
 pari pietatis ingenio felicem, non indignam tali viro
 uxorem,
 in æterna cœlestum gaudia secutus,
 nullâque ditatus prole,
 fratrem Carolum heredem reliquit,
 solo natu minorem,
 jam suis accumulatum.
 Hic { obiit { Jan. 5. } A. D. { 1724, } ætat. { 54. }
 Ille { Sept. 7. } { 1723, } { 63. }
 Illa { July 6. } { 1718, } { 59. }
 Gul. Glegg, gen. mœrens nepos,
 M. S. P.

CHARITIES.

The following charitable gifts and bequests, recited on a painted board, were recovered by the exertions of the late incumbent.

10l. bequeathed by dame Mary, widow of the late sir Hugh Calveley. The interest to be given by the minister and churchwardens to the poor attending church.
 10l. given by Richard Stockton of the Oak to the same uses.

6l. 16s. 4d. per annum, to be given to the poor on St. Andrew's day. A rent charge bequeathed by Richard Whitfield, 1711.

1l. 13s. per annum, to be given to the poor on St. Thomas's day; a rent charge bequeathed by Thomas Bebington of Harthill, 1733.

In the Parliamentary Returns ordered to be printed April 17, 1810, the value of augmentation, tithes, house, glebe, and surplice fees, are estimated at 122l. 10s.

The Registers commence in 1730.

Part of Bunbury Parish.

BURWARDESLEY.

ROBERT Fitz Hugh, baron of Malpas, is described as lord in the Domesday survey.

"Isdem Robertus tenet Burwardeslie, et Humphridus de eo. Aluric, Colbert, et Ravenchal tenuerunt pro III maneriis, et liberi homines fuerunt: ibi III hidæ geldabiles. Terra est III carucarum; ibi III bordarii cum una caruca, et silva una leuva longa, et dimidia lata. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat II solidos; modo V solidos; wasta fuit."

"De hac terra una hida fuit ablata ab ecclesiâ Sanctæ Werburgæ, hanc vendiderunt præpositi comitis Edwini et Morcari, cuidam Ravenchel."

This hide described as a third of the manor, which had been thus taken from St. Werburgh by Ravenchel, and given, after his ejection, to Robert Fitz Hugh, was restored to the monks of St. Werburgh, as "tertiam partem de Berwardsley," in the charter of 1093, and constitutes the basis of the present manor.

Alured de Cumbray held this third part of the manor, under the abbot by the render of vs. and it was subsequently confirmed by Robert de Hastings to Roger de Cumbray his son, by a curious charter, of which the following abstract is extant in the chartulary of the abbey^a.

"R' de Hastings Abbas Cestr' dedit Rog' de Cu'brey Burwardsleyam q' Alferedus p'r suus tenuit de Eccl'ia S'c'e Werburg' p' v s' in f'o S'c'i Martini p'solve'd', ita q' p'fat' R' veniet p' r'onabile' su'monic'o'm ad fortiam'tu' curie Abb'is, v'l si ip'e venir' no' possit, senescallus suus p' eo veniet, et si contig'it duel-

lum p'venire de t'r'a illa, duellu' fiet i' cur' Abb'is, et em'dac'o duelli erit Abb'is, siv' p' concordia' siv' al'r duellu' terminet', ex quo semel armati cur' intrav'int^b."

Alice eldest daughter and coheir, brought her father's interest in Burwardsley, in marriage to Robert Touchet, lord of Tattenhall, to which Burwardsley was afterwards considered an appendage. Having passed by the same steps as that manor, it is now vested in Thomas Tarleton, of Bolesworth, esq. in whose leet of Tattenhall this vill is included.

A mesne manor existed at an early period; two-fourths of which were held under the Touchets, severally by the Spurstows and Golbornes.

One-fourth of Burwardsley (value xxviii. vii. d.) was held by William Spurstow, as by *Inq. p. m.* 35 Edw. III. and the same occurs in an Inquisition, 21 Hen. VI. after the death of Henry de Spurstow, held as in socage, by render of vs. and valued at xxxs. per annum.

Another fourth of Burwardsley was held by the Golbornes of Golborne David.

^b 18 Edw. II. William, son of Thomas de Golborne, grants all the lands and tenements with their appurtenances in Burwardsley, which he held of the gift of the said Thomas, for the term of 39 years. This estate was held under the Touchetts, and is called a fourth of the manor.

In an Inquisition, 33 Edw. III. after the death of William Golborne, and another Inquisition, 13 Ric. II. after the death of Elizabeth his daughter, widow of

^a Williamson's Vill, Cest.

^b Ibid.

^c Harl. MSS. 1965, p. 19.

Roger Venables, sir Thomas Venables of Kinderton, and Thomas his son, sold this estate, 6 Eliz. for 200l. to sir Hugh Cholmondeley of Cholmondeley^a.

Burwardsley lies immediately north-east of Harthill, and consists exclusively of farm houses and cottages, scattered among the defiles of the hills. A small chapel was built here on the waste, by subscription, and consecrated in 1735. The principal contributor was — Kiffin, a baker. It has been augmented by queen Anne's bounty; and the value of augmentation, glebe,

stipend, and surplice fees, was returned 40l. 15s. 8d. in the Parliamentary Returns ordered to be printed April 17, 1810.

The minister is nominated by the trustees of the chapel.

In the Parliamentary Return of charitable donations (printed 1816) are specified lands bequeathed by Richard Whitfield and Thomas Bebbington, the rents of the same being severally 6l. 14s. and 1l. per annum, which are distributed yearly to the poor of Burwardsley.

Tattenhall.

Comprehends three townships only, Tattenhall, Golborne Belleau, and Newton.

TATTENHALL.

TATTENHALL is placed in Domesday at the head of the possessions of the baron of Nantwich.

“*Willielmus Malbedeng tenet de Hugone comite Tatenale. Ernuin tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi v hidæ geldabiles. Terra est vi carucarum. In dominio est una, et ii villani et ii bordarii habent aliam, et unus francigena tertiam. Ibi una leuva silvæ. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos, modo xxvi; wasta fuit.*”

The manor of Tattenhall shortly after this vested in the Touchets, and was confirmed by Randle Gernons, earl of Chester, to Henry Tuchet, to hold the same, as freely as his father Henry, or grandfather Jocelyn, had ever been possessed thereof.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VII. Sir John Touchet, knight, lord Audley, held in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Tattenhall, cum pert. and the advowson of the church of Middlewich, from the Prince as earl of Chester, in socage by fealty, value, per annum, 20l.

James Touchet lord Audley, found heir by this Inquisition, was attainted and beheaded, 12 Hen. VII. whereupon the manor was forfeited to the crown, and the descent is lost for two generations.

Inq. p. m. 2 and 3 Phil. and Mary. Sir Richard Cotton, knight, held the manor of Tattenhall from the King and Queen in capite, as the 40th part of a knight's fee, value, 31l. 11s. 10½d.

42 Eliz. George Cotton, esq. and Richard his son, passed a fine of the manor of Tattenhall, and 40 messuages, &c. to Ralph Egerton, esq. for 1000l. From the Egertons Tattenhall passed by sale to sir John Crewe, of Utkinton, who devised it to the Crewes of Crewe, from whose representative John Crewe, of Crewe, esq. (since raised to the Peerage) it was purchased by Thomas Tarleton, of Bolesworth, esq. the present proprietor.

The leet of Tattenhall extends over the entire parish (Tattenhall, Golborne Belleau, and Newton), and is attended also by the tenants of the manors of Burwardsley, Harthill, Chowley, and Huxley^b.

A family, which bore the local name, inherited estates here from the Herthulls, and are further noticed in the township of that name. Thomas Tuchett lord of Tattenhall granted these lands in free marriage with Sara his sister to David son of Edwin de Herthull, by deed witnessed by Simon Tuchett, and Henry vicar of Tattenhall, and gave other lands to the same and their heirs, by deed witnessed by Warin de Croxton.

The Bostocks of Bostock had also an estate here, which passed about the time of Hen. VI. to Henry Bostock of Huxley, whose second son Richard became the ancestor of a family, which had been settled here for five generations in 1628.

Tattenhall is situated about one mile to the left of the eighth mile-stone on the Whitchurch road, and consists almost exclusively of farm houses, forming a considerable village. The seat of the Bostocks, a brick building with gables and large bay windows, at the south-west end of the village, is now a part of the estate of the manorial proprietor.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Alban.

Tax. Ecc. P. N. 6l. 13s. 4d. Val. Eccl. 13l. 17s. 6½d.

The church of Tattenhall consists of nave, chancel, side aisles, and a handsome tower containing five bells, the aisles are divided from the body of the church by four pointed arches on each side, the roof coved and supported by ribs of carved oak.

In the east window of the south aisle, and the chancel window, are fragments of very rich stained glass, a large portion of which was removed by the last incumbent to make way for the erection of wainscot within the altar rails. The perfect part consists of rich tabernacle work, a figure of St. Alban, and the arms of Touchet of Tattenhall, Ermine, a chevron Gules.

^a Williamson's Villare Gest.

^b Information of Philip Humberstone, esq.

On the south side of the altar rails is a marble mural monument inscribed

In memory of
the rev. Samuel Davie, M.A.
rector of this parish forty and one years,
constant and exemplary in the duties of his office,
performed almost without a curate,
and in the exercise of all those virtues that contribute
to the true benefit and praise of men.
He was pious, humane, just, and charitable.
In the nearer alliances of husband, father, and friend,
amiable and sincere;
and through health and innocence attained
a chearful old age.
The fairest monument of himself
he hath left in the hearts of those who survive him;
his memory here needed no other,
did not this serve to render him
of perpetual use,
for unto every one of you, being dead, yet he speaketh,
preaching still the great lesson of mortality,
and the duty of preparing for
another life.
He died Oct. 19, A. D. 1742, aged 72.
He married Mary, daughter of Robert Hyde, esq. of
Barrow.

By her he had two children, Margaret and John.
They all survived him.

Opposite to this is another mural monument of marble,
inscribed:

Near
the remains of his worthy parent,
lyes interred the body of John Davie, A. M.
late fellow of Brazen-nose College, Oxford,
afterwards rector of St. Mary's, Whitechapel,
London.

One in whose character
the gentleman and clergyman appeared
happily united.

He was grave without severity,
pious without affectation,
easy without levity,
charitable without ostentation,
generous without pride;
in the exercise of his function conscientious,

in his doctrines orthodox, in his address engaging,
in his disposition humane.
He knew how to win the affections of his acquaintance,
without losing their esteem,
and to conform to the various characters in human life,
without departing from his own.
He lived an example universally admired,
and died universally lamented,
Aug. 9, 1756,
aged 46.

Arms, Argent, a chevron between 3 mullets Gules.

Under the monument of Samuel Davie, is a memorial
of the rev. William Southcoat, many years curate
of Tattenhall, who died May 21, 1760, aged 46 years;
and near it a brass plate, inscribed as follows.

Arms, Party per pale, Bird impaling three coats; Bird,
a cross patonce between 4 martlets, and a canton. Crest,
on a wreath a martlet. In the impalement, in chief a
cross fleury, Adlington; under it, on a fesse between two
cotices wavy, three crescents, Dod. In base, quarterly,
in the 2d and 3d quarters a fret, Dutton.

Here lyeth the body of George Bird, of Broxton, gent.
who died 31st Dec. 1702, aged 79. He had three wives;
the first was Ellen, daughter of Hugh Adlington, of Ad-
lington, by whom he had one daughter. The second
was Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Dod, of Hampton,
esq. by whom he had also one daughter. The third was
Martha, daughter of Peter Dutton, of Hatton, esq. by
whom he had fifteen children. She died 31 Dec. 1701,
aged 69, who with two sons, Dutton and Richard, and
three daughters, Katherine, Margaret, and Hannah, lie
here also interred; Elizabeth by the second wife,
George and Charles by the third, surviving.

The church is apparently of the same date with that
of Handley. On a shield in the tower are the initials of
M[aria] R[egina] A[n]gliæ].

The church and tithes of Tattenhall were given by
William Malbedeng, the Norman grantee, to the abbey
of St. Werburgh. After the dissolution the advowson
of the rectory was attached to the bishopric of Chester
by Pat. 33 Hen. VIII. in which it remains vested.

The tithes are entirely the property of the rector, but
a modus is paid for hay, the validity of which was de-
termined by a law-suit between the late rector and his
parishioners.

RECTORS OF TATTENHALL.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1300, 2 id. Feb.	M'r. Ricardus de Brichull.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	
1301, 6 kal. Feb.	Henricus de Waleton.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	
1319, kal. Jan.	Thomas de Modburlegh.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	
1327, 4 id. Ap.	M'r. Stephanus de Horsley.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	P. m. T. de Modburlegh.
1351.	Robertus de Huxlegh.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	
1368.	Thomas Day.		
	Rogerus de Knightley.		
1381.	Johannes Plumer.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	Causâ permutat. cum Rog. de Knightley.
1418, Apr. 18.	Ricardus Bull. Johannes Walter.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	Res. Joh'is Plumer.
1457, Jun. 28.	Robertus Baguley, cap's. Jacobus Pemberton.	Laur. Booth, cl'us, hac vice.	P. m. Jo. Walter.
1478, Aug. 9.	Ricardus Oldham.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	P. m. Jac. Pemberton.
1506, Feb. 28.	Ralph Sneyde, LL.B. Ralph Wilmesley.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	P. m. Ric. Oldham.
1578.	Edmund Wilmesley.	The same E. Wilmesley.	Res. of R. Wilmesley.
1582, Oct. 2.	Edmund Stuveng.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of E. Wilmesley.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1621, July 28.	William Billinge.	The Bishop of Chester.	
1623, March 1.	Bartholomew Cade.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of W. Billinge.
1625, May 9.	Charles Knott. Edward Moreton.	The Bishop of Chester.	Res. of Barth. Cade.
1675, July 29.	Henry Newcome.	The Bishop of Chester.	
1701, Dec. 3.	Samuel Davie, A. M.	The Bishop of Chester.	
1743, April 16.	Samuel Peploe, LL. B.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of Samuel Davie.
1781, Nov. 30.	George Markham, A. M.	Archbishop of York.	Death of Samuel Peploe.
1816, Feb. 5.	James Thomas Law, A. M.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of Geo. Markham.

Edward Moreton was a prebendary of Chester cathedral, where further mention will be found of him.

Samuel Davie is noticed among the monumental inscriptions; and *Samuel Peploe*, a great benefactor to this parish, in the list of the archdeacons of Richmond.

CHARITIES.

The charitable benefactions to this parish are numerous. Twenty-seven of them (according to the Parliamentary Return printed 1816) have been sunk in the purchase of an estate of 300l. vested in trustees, excepting the sum of 45l. for which the parish pays interest. The produce of the rent and interest is expended in clothing and educating poor children.

The other charities in the same Return are, bequests of lands by Robert Farral and Richard Whitfield (the

rents of which amounted annually to 13l. 6s. 4d.) for the relief of the poor.

A sum of 60l. in the hands of Mr. John Larden, bequeathed in 1742 by the rev. Samuel Davie, for apprenticing poor boys to farmers.

A sum amounting with accumulation to 13l. in the hands of Mr. George Peck, bequeathed by Mr. John Handley in 1724, for the relief of the poor of Newton.

A sum of 9l. 10s. given by Dr. Peploe, for the clothing of one person alternately in Golborne Belleau and Newton, in the hands of Mr. John Larden.

200l. bequeathed by the same, now in the 3 per cent. consols, and producing 10l. 0s. 10d. distributed to poor attending church and not receiving alms.

An annual benefaction of 8s. bequeathed by Hugh Dod in 1652.

GOLBORNE BELLEAU, OR BELLOW.

THIS township is noticed in Domesday as the property of William Malbedeng, baron of Nantwich, and was probably a moiety of that vill of Colburne, the other half of which was granted to Osbern Fitz Tezzon.

"Isdem Willielmus tenet Colburne. Loten tenuit. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est una caruca, quæ est in dominio, et II bovarii cum uno villano, et III bordarii: Ibi molinum hiemale. Valebat v solidos, modo vi solidos. Wasta invenitur."

The paramount royalty has passed with Tattenhall, in which manor this vill is included. A mesne manor was at an early period the property of the family of *Belleau*, or *de Bella Aqua* (now vulgarly corrupted into *Bellow*), afterwards of the Golbornes, and passed with Margaret, daughter and heiress of David de Golburne, of Golburne Belleau, in marriage to sir Simon de Hatton,

of Hatton in Waverton, about the time of Henry II. It then passed by marriage to, and descended through, the Vernons, to the Duttons of Hatton, and is thus noticed in their Inquisitions.

Inq. p. m. 24 Eliz. Ralph Dutton, of Hatton, held inter alia, the manors of Golburne Belleau and Rushall, from George Cotton, esq. as of his manor of Tattenhall, by ivs. rent. Value, per annum, 13l. 6s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 5 Jan. 3 Jac. I. Rowland Dutton, of Hatton, esq. held inter alia, the manors of Golborne Belleau and Rushall, from Ralph Egerton, of Ridley, esq. as of his manor of Tattenhall, by 5s. rent. Value, per annum, 20 marks.

This mesne manor is now disused. Rushall Hall, a farm-house within a moated site, is the property of Miss Gifford, of Nerquis.

NEWTON.

THE remaining township of this parish is reputed a component part of the manor of Tattenhall.

Handley.

CONTAINS only two townships, Handley and Golborne David, both of which are situated on the Whitchurch road, at the distance of about seven miles south-east of Chester.

HANDLEY.

HANDLEY was of the fee of the ancestor of the Boydells of Doddleston, at the Conquest.

“Osbernus filius Tezzonis tenet de Hugone comite Hanlei. Grinchel tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est iv carucarum. In dominio est una caruca et dimidia, cum uno servo et ii villanis, et uno bordario; habent unam carucam. Tempore R. Edwardi, valebat xiiii solidos, et tres denarios; modo xv solidos.”

The manor continued in the direct male line of the Boydells^a, until the reign of Edward III. when Handley became the property of Howel ap Owain Voyl, or Vaghan, nephew of William Boydell, who died seized of the same, holding it in capite from the Earl.

23 Edw. III. William, son of Howel, assumed the name of Boydell, but his male line again failing in the person of his grandson Robert, Handley passed in marriage with Robert's sister and coheirss Margaret, to Hugh Reddish, in the time of Henry VI. and was alienated by this family; and a portion thereof was the property of the Calveleys of Lea, most probably by purchase, before 7 Hen. VIII.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VIII. Hugh Calveley held messuages and rents in Hanley, from the King as Earl of Chester in capite, as a moiety of a knight's fee, subject to a rent of x marks, value nihil.

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VIII. Sir George Calveley, knt. held as in the preceding Inquisition, value 3s. 4d.

Inq. p. m. 5 and 6 Phil. and Mary. Sir Hugh Calveley, knight, held as in the preceding Inquisition, value, 3l. 17s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 27 Eliz. Sir George Calveley, knight, held inter alia, the manor of Hanley, a messuage called Clayley, and lands in Hanley and Milton, as in the preceding Inquisition, value 13l. 7s. 3d.

Inq. p. m. 5 Aug. 5 Jac. I. Hugh Calveley, esq. held the manor of Hanley, &c. as in the preceding Inquisition, value 3l. 7s. 8d.

On the partition of the estates of the Calveleys of Lea^b, between the Cottons of Combermere, and Leghs of Lyme, Handley became the property of the latter family, and under the will of the late Thomas Legh, esq. is now vested in his natural son, Thomas Legh, of Lyme, esq. M. P.

Calveley Hall, on Milton Green^c in this township, had formerly a domestic chapel, and was the occasional residence of the Leghs. It has been recently much altered, but in 1814, contained a very handsome wainscotted apartment, fitted up by the last lady Calveley, as appeared by her arms over the mantlepiece. The ceiling was ornamented with figures and flowers, hanging in detached festoons. This room communicated with another, hung with tapestry, now removed to Lyme.

The leet of Handley extends over the townships of Golborne David and Aldersey.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to All Saints.

Discharged living. Certified Val. 47l. 9s. 4d.

The church of Handley was given to Chester abbey, by Alan de Boydell, and confirmed by William his brother, and subsequently by John Boydell.

A pension of eight shillings, issuing from the same, was also given by Helto de Boydell, and confirmed by William de Boydell.

The rectory escaped appropriation by the monks, and after the dissolution the advowson thereof was confirmed by Pat. 22 Eliz. to the dean and chapter of Chester cathedral, in whom it continues vested.

The church consists of a nave without side aisles, chancel, and tower. The chancel has been recently rebuilt, the nave is of various ages, the door ways have semicircular heads, the roof is of timber resting on carved brackets.

The tower was built in 1512, as appears by the following inscription on the south side.

Hoc ca'panile f'c'm e' a' d'ni m
cccc xii° tp'e R'c'i raulinso.
rectoris ac pro o'ibus b'n'facto
ribus ejusdem orate.

On a brass plate in the wall above the altar, in black letter, is this inscription.

Memorandu' that Mr. Thomas Venables, first sonne of Thomas Venables, esquier, of Kinderton within the countie of Chester, begotten onne the bodie of Eliza-

^a For an account of the Boydells see Doddleston.

^b See Lea.

^c Milton Green, antiently called Milneton, gave name to a family descended illegitimately from Hugh Kevelioc, the pedigree of which has been given at page 387.

beath, daughtare of sir William Breerton, knight, within the saide countie, dyed in his minoritie, in the life time of his sayd father, and was buryed here in Haundley church, in the said countie of Chester, the xiith daye of October, 1572.”

An inconsiderable sum arising from the interest of parish legacies, is distributed annually. The Registers commence in 1570.

The rector has all the tithes; but the Golborne Hall and the Golborne Bridge estates pay a modus for hay.

The charities consist of a variety of small benefactions, the amount of which has been made up 80l. by the parish. The interest of this sum (4l.) is distributed annually to the poor.

RECTORS OF HANDLEY.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
	Willielmus Peaton.		
1313, Dec. 2.	Galfridus de Meoles, preb'r.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	P. m. William Peaton.
1320, ante.	Thomas de Aston.		
1349.	Rogerus de Popehull.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	
1361.	M'r. Johannes de Whitefield.		
	Johannes de Houdon.		
1380.	Willielmus Rachdale.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	Res. Jo. de Houdon.
1394, Ap. 9.	Jo. de Castro cl'us.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	
	Johannes de Hawarden.		
1405.	Willielmus de Croft.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	P. m. Jo. de Hawarden.
	Johannes Holland.		
1465, Oct. 20.	Johannes Moone, cap.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	P. m. Jo. de Holland.
1512, ante.	Richard Rawlinson.		
1591, Dec. 30.	Andrew Bernard.		
1597, Dec. 28.	Thomas Higginson.		
1598, Oct. 17.	William Leigh, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	
1599, Feb. 26.	John Arson.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Res. of W. Leigh.
1643, Dec. 27.	Samuel Catheral.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	
1684, May 26.	Dudley Garencieres.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Sam. Catheral.
1702, May 22.	Thomas Burroughs, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of D. Garencieres.
1703, May 15.	Robert Shaw, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of T. Burroughs.
1709, Nov. 26.	John Dockerill, A. B.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Robert Shaw.
1730, July 1.	Robert Fogg, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of J. Dockerill.
1735, Dec. 27.	Thomas Ince, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Robert Fogg.
1766, April 30.	William Smith, D. D.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Thomas Ince.
1787, Feb. 12.	George Travis, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of William Smith.
1797, April 5.	Thomas Ward, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of George Travis.

Thomas de Aston had licence to absent himself from his living, for purposes of studying, in 1320.

Richard Rawlinson, who was also rector of Eccleston, is inserted in this list, on the authority of the inscription of the steeple of Handley.

William Leigh, who was also rector of Standish in Lancashire, was the author of a sermon preached at the funeral of Katherine Brettergh, previously noticed^c.

Samuel Catheral was father of Samuel Catheral, rector of Tilston, who has been there mentioned. His succes-

or Dudley Garencieres, was the only minor canon of Chester cathedral that obtained a prebendal stall.

Dockerill, Fogg, and Ince, were also minor canons of Chester. Their successors will be found noticed among the dignitaries of that cathedral.

Only one of these rectors appears to have been buried at Handley, who (most probably in consequence of some sudden casualty) died Dec. 30, 1597, two days after his institution.

GOLBORNE DAVID.

THIS township was part of the fee of Osberne Fitz Tezzon.

“Isdem Osbernus tenet Colburne. Edvinus tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est III carucarum; in dominio est una, et unus villanus, et unus bordarius; ibi una acra prati. Valuit et valet XVI solidos.”

It is uniformly stated in the Inquisitions to be vested

in the successors of the Boydells, as in right of their manor of Dodleston, but it is now included in the leet of the court, which their successors hold for their manor of Handley. The mesne manor was granted to David, son of David de Malpas, from whom its name assumed the present addition, and who in his turn adopted the local name of the township.

^a *Inq. p. m.* 33 Edw. III. William Golborne, cheva-

^c p. 174. note.

^a See the Inquisitions at length in Overton.

lier, held inter alia, jointly with his wife Margaret, from Howell ap Owain Voyl, this manor, as part of his manor of Dodleston, by military service, value, per annum, cs.

Inq. p. m. 13 Ric. II. Elizabeth, daughter of William de Golborne, chevalier, held in fee tail inter alia, the manor of Golborne David, from Thomas, son of William Boydell, value, per annum, x marks. Hugh Venables son and heir.

This Hugh Venables dying issueless settled his estates on his cousin William Venables, baron of Kinderton, 10th Henry V.* In the Inquisitions of this family the mesne manor of Golborne David is noticed as follows.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. Thomas Venables, esq. held inter alia, the manor of Golborne David, from the heirs

of William Boydell, of Dodleston, by military service, value 10l.

Inq. p. m. 32 Hen. VIII. Sir William Venables, knt. held inter alia, lands in Golborne David, as before, as the fourth part of a knight's fee, value 26s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. Sir Thomas Venables, knight, held inter alia, the manor of Golborne David, as before, as the third part of a knight's fee, value 13l. 6s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 22 Ap. 4 Jac. I. Thomas Venables, esq. held inter alia, the manor of Golborne David, from Thomas Marbury, esq. as of his manor of Dodleston, as the third part of a knight's fee, value, per annum, x marks.

This mesne manor is now unknown, and the township is reputed to consist of freeholders only, who owe suit and service to Mr. Legh's court at Handley.

Coddington.

THIS parish consists of three townships only, Coddington, Aldersey, and Chowley. It occupies a sequestered, and uninteresting flat part of the Hundred, situated under the Broxton Hills, about eight miles south-east of Chester, between the Whitchurch turnpike road and the Dee.

CODDINGTON.

BEFORE the Norman conquest, Coddington contained three manors, held by three distinct proprietors, who were all ejected. The whole was retained by the earl at the time of the Domesday survey, and appears to have comprehended Eggerley, which with Bechin, still a component part of Coddington, makes up the three Saxon manors.

“Ipse comes tenet Cotintone. Ernui et Ausgot et Dot tenuerunt pro III maneriis. Ibi II hidæ geldabiles. Terra est IV carucarum. In dominio est una et II bovarii, et V villani, et unus bordarius, et unus radman, et unus francigena cum II carucis. Ibi Molina et XII acrae prati.”

The manor was afterwards the property of a branch of the House of Malpas, who assumed the local name. The barons of Montalt appear however to have been the paramount lords, and the original grantees. The manor is ascertained by the Inquisitions to have been held under their successors; and their ancestor, Hugh Fitz Norman, granted the church of Coddington to Chester abbey before 1093.

The Codingtons were succeeded by the Botilers. Sir Ralph Botiler held one knight's fee in Coddington, and Bechin, 6 Edw. I.; and 14 Edw. II. sir Ralph Botiler was presented for making a mill pool in Coddington^a.

Inq. p. m. 34 Edw. III. Hawise le Botyler, held in demesne as of fee, the vill of Codington, from William le Botyler, of Wemme, chevalier, as half a knight's fee, value per annum, 20 marks; and the said William held the same from William de Montacute, earl of Sarum, as of his castle of Hawarden; and the said William holds

the said castle from the earl of Chester, in capite, by military service: and the said Hawise holds also a place called Bechen, parcel of the said vill, in demesne, but not in fee, and whether from the lord of Hawarden, or not, the jurors know not, value 13s. 4d. Edward, son of John le Botyler, next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VI. Philip, son of Ralph le Botiler, held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Hawarden, from Henry late king of England, father of the reigning king, as of his manor of Hawarden, by knight's service, value, per annum, vii.; and also the manor of Bechen from Hugh de Calveley, as of his manor of Lee, by services unknown, value, per annum, viii. vis. vii. Edward le Botiler son and heir.

18 Hen. VI. William Massie purchased from sir Philip Boteler, the manors of Coddington, Bechin, Eggerley, &c. subject to a rent of 25 marks, per annum, which by a subsequent deed, 8 Hen. VIII. was fixed at 40 marks^b.

William Massie, purchaser of Coddington, was third son of Hugh Massie, who had previously settled here in consequence of a marriage with the Bolds of Coddington. His father's parentage has long been a matter of dispute, some of the pedigrees making him a younger son of sir John Massey of Tatton, who died 8 Hen. V. and others of sir John Massey of Puddington, who fell at the battle of Shrewsbury in 1403. The probabilities are in favour of the Tatton branch, as far as can be argued from correspondence of dates, and no stress can be laid on a subsequent settlement made by John Massie in the 16th century, whereby he settled Coddington in remainder on the Puddington family, in the event of

* Leicester's MSS.

^b A marginal note in Mr. Stone's of Coddington's copy of the Villare, written by himself, referring to two deeds then (1739) in the possession of the relict of W. Massie, esq. of Coddington.

^a Williamson Vill. Cest.

his issue failing, as this settlement overlooked acknowledged nearer relations, the Massies of Broxton, and the Massies of Eggerley.

The purchaser of Coddington and Bechin had also lands in Eggerley, Church on Heath, Aldersey, Crue, Handley, Cuddington, Chorlton, Churton, Barton, Clutton, Carden, and all Pepper (Pipard) street, in Chester, which he divided 3 Edw. IV. between his eldest son, Morgan Massie of Eggerley, and his second son, John Massie of Coddington^c.

Inq. p. m. 2 Edw. VI. Roger Massye of Coddington, esq. (fourth in descent from this John) held the manor of Coddington, and lands in Betchton (Bechin) from the lord Dacres, as of his manor of Wemme, by fealty, and the render of a rose yearly, value *iii*l.; also lands in Barton, Clutton, Farndon, Churton, Cuddington, Burwardsley, Edge, Aldersey, and Milton: died 20 Ap. 24 Hen. VIII. John Massye senior son and heir.

This John Massie made the settlement of his estates before referred to, on his sons John and William, with remainders in default of issue male (passing over his

daughters Jane and Margaret, with portions of 300l. each), successively to George Massey of Puddington; for default, &c. to his brother John Massey of Coghall; and for default, &c. to William Massey of Chester.

From John Massie the elder of these sons the manor of Coddington has descended, according to the pedigree annexed, to the present proprietor, the rev. Richard Massie, A. M. No court is held for the manor; but it includes the hamlet of Bechin.

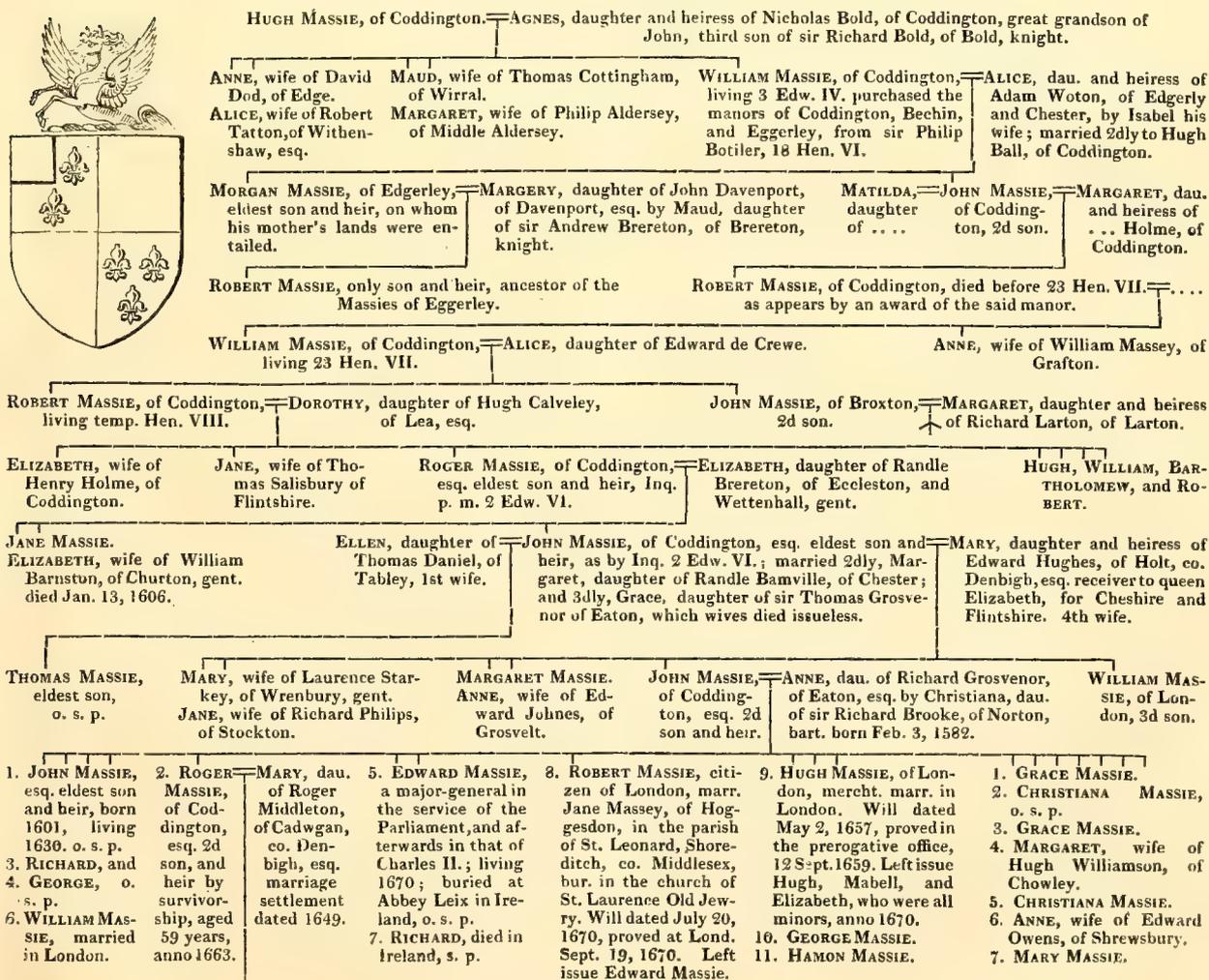
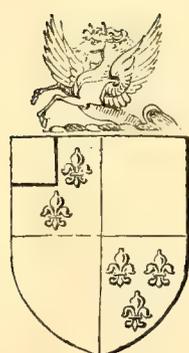
The Hall, an ancient timber building, is entirely taken down. It stood a short distance north-west from the church, where the garden walls and gates are remaining, which mark the site, but are not in themselves of any curiosity or antiquity. In a field opposite is an immense tumulus, composed of red sand, about 26 yards in height, and 100 yards in circumference at the base. A considerable portion of it has been removed, but it has not been penetrated to the centre. Nothing was discovered in this operation which can lead to any conjectures as to the object or the period of its formation.

MASSIE OF CODDINGTON.

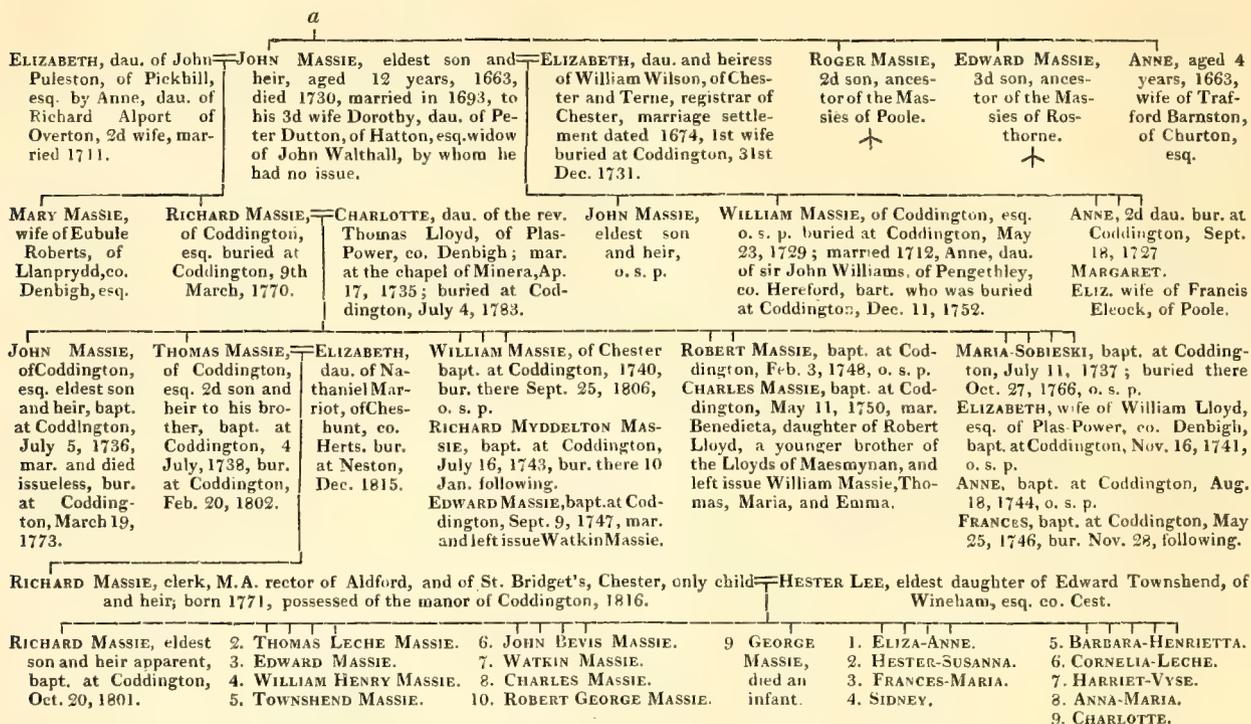
From Deeds, Visitations, Inquisitions, and Parochial Registers.

ARMS. Quarterly Gules and Or, in 1st and 4th quarters, three fleurs de lis, Argent. For difference a canton, Argent.

CREST. On a wreath, a demi pegasus with wings displayed, quarterly Or and Gules.



^c Williamson, Vill. Cest.



EDWARD MASSIE, fifth son of John Massie of Coddington, esq. by Anne, daughter of Richard Grosvenor, esq. of Eaton, was a distinguished character in the civil disturbances of the seventeenth century. He served in the royal army in the expeditions against Scotland, and in the beginning of the troubles attended at York, with intention to serve the king. "But finding himself (says Clarendon) not enough known there, and that there would be little gotten but in the comfort of a good conscience, he went to London, where there was more money, and fewer officers," and being made Lieutenant-colonel to the earl of Stamford, was by him appointed governor of the city of Gloucester^e.

The reader will find in Clarendon, at greater length than the limits of this History will allow, the device by which colonel Massie inveigled the king to undertake in person the siege of Gloucester, by the promise of a surrender. His majesty in consequence sat down with his army in view of the city, on the 10th of August 1643, and in reply to his summons received only an insolent defiance from two messengers sent by the colonel, "with lean, pale, sharp, and bad visages, indeed faces so strange and unusual, and in such a garb and posture, as made at once the most severe countenances merry, and the most cheerful heart sad^e." The return of these messengers was followed by the firing of the suburbs, and a siege commenced, which was protracted by the military skill and obstinate valour of the governor, until he was relieved by the earl of Essex, who found him reduced to one barrel of powder, and all things answerable. To this defence, which gave the parliament time to recover their broken spirits and forces, may be attributed, adds Clarendon, "the greatness to which they afterwards aspired^f."

For this service colonel Massie had the thanks of both Houses, and a donation of 100l. above the arrears of his pay, and afterwards obtained the rank of major-general, but, according to Clarendon, lost his command in consequence of the self-denying ordinance, in 1645^g.

In this year, however, under the designation of Col. Massie, he twice occurs in official contemporary publications, the first of which is an account of his engagement with prince Rupert's forces at Ledbury, April 22, 1645, where Massie uniformly charged in person at the head of his troops. In his account of this battle, he says, "Prince Rupert sent me word by my trumpeter that I sent, that in the fight he sought me out, but knew not till after, no more than I knew him. But it seems we charged each other, and he shot my horse under me, and I did as much for him. At that charge many commanders of theirs fell." Colonel Massie in this letter suppresses mention of his having been wounded, and at one time completely surrounded by the enemy. The success at Ledbury was followed on the 26th of May, by the capture of Evesham, which was stormed with great gallantry in five places at once by the Parliament forces under this officer.

In 1647 Massie was one of the officers employed by the city to enlist new forces, during the differences between the army and Parliament, after the seizure of the king's person^h. In these discussions he took an active part, and obtained a leading influence in the House of Commons, strongly opposing the intentions which were now manifested by Cromwell and his army, in consequence of which, after the imprisonment of the king in Hurst castle, and the subsequent entry of the army into London, he was committed to prison with other officers of the Presbyterian party, members of that house. Massie, however, had the address to make his escape into Holland, and the boldness to present himself to the prince as a sufferer for the king his fatherⁱ. After this he joined with Poyntz, in publishing a declaration of their motives, drawn up with great moderation and firmness.

The sincerity of general Massie appears not to have been doubted, and his interest and abilities were not to be neglected; accordingly he retained his rank, and commanded a regiment of horse under the duke of Buckingham; and in the king's march to Worcester,

^d Clarendon, II. 313, 3vo edit. 1717.

^e Ibid. 315.

^f Ibid. 343.

^g Ibid. 629.

^h Ibid. IV. 51.

ⁱ Ibid. 240.

from his connection with the presbyterians of Lancashire, was sent one day's march in advance of the royal army, to give notice of the king's coming, and to draw the gentry to attend upon him. In this new cause were displayed his wonted activity and industry; but having secured a pass in the neighbourhood of Worcester, he attempted to follow up an advantage of little importance, and receiving a dangerous wound, was prevented from exerting his services in a moment of the greatest need to the king^k.

After the capture of Worcester, Massie in the first instance effected his escape, and rode six miles with the king, "but not being able to keep pace any longer with him, the king took his leave with tears trickling down his cheeks, saying 'Farewell my dear and faithful friend, the Lord bless and preserve us both!' and so they parted." The major-general wheeled off by way of Bromsgrove, but being unable from the anguish of his wounds and excessive weariness, to travel further, he threw himself on the mercy of the countess of Stamford, and was received as a prisoner at Broadgate manor. From hence lord Grey of Groby (with whom lady Stamford had interceded for the captive) directed his removal to Leicester, where his wounds were dressed, which were supposed mortal, and an account of his death was actually published in a tract, intitled "The declaration of major-general Massey upon his death bed at Leicester," from which these particulars were taken.

The last effort of Massie was an unsuccessful attempt to seize Gloucester for the king, at the time when sir George Booth and various loyalists attempted the seizure of Chester, and other strong holds, of which the design on Chester alone was executed. Clarendon attributes the failure of these designs in some degree to the errors caused by a stormy and tempestuous night in which the attempts were made, to which circumstance, however, Massie was indebted for his personal safety. He had been seized by a troop of horse, and was conveyed by them towards his prison, being bound on his horse before a trooper. In the darkest part of the night, in a wooded and hilly defile, he contrived to throw the soldier from his horse, and disentangling himself from his hold, by means of his strength and agility secured his retreat into the woods^l.

General Massie was living in 1670^m, and was buried at Abbey Leix, in Irelandⁿ. There is an engraved portrait of general Massie in Riecraft and Leicester's Surveys, and a whole length prefixed to a tract on the military government of Gloucester. There is also a fine painting of him, which was formerly preserved at Coddington Hall^o, but is now in the possession of William Massey, of Poole, esq. a collateral descendant of the Coddington family.

^k Clarendon, III. p. 399, 407.

^l Ibid. p. 666, 671.

^m Harl. MSS. 2119. Massie Pedigree.

ⁿ Among the tracts in the British Museum are the following rare ones relating to General Massie. Proceedings of G. M. touching the King of Scots, 4to. Lond.—An Invitation to Soldiers to serve under col. M. 4to. Lond. 1645.—An order for paying col. M. 20,000, fol. Lond. 1645.—Copy of his Letter respecting the fight between col. M. and Prince Rupert, at Ledbury, 4to. Lond. 1645.—Declaration of col. M. and col. gen. Poyntz, 4to. Lond. 1647.—G. M. Bartholomew fairings, 4to. 1647.—An Outcry against the speedy hue and cry after G. M. and col. Poyntz, 4to. 1647.—Virtue and valour vindicated, or the late hue and cry after G. M. and Poyntz retorted, 4to. London, 1647.—Arraignment of G. M. and others, 4to. 1647.—A message sent from Scotland to G. M. 4to. Lond. 1648.—Declaration to the City and Kingdom from G. M. and others, 4to. Lond. 1648.—Declaration of the grounds and reasons moving G. M. and others to take up arms, 4to. 1650.—Declaration and Speech of col. Massey, concerning enthroning the K. of Scots, 4to. Lond. 1650.—Declaration on his death bed, 4to. Lond. 1651.—The Reformados righted (an answer to "G. M's. Bartholomew Fairings") 1647.—Corbet's historical relation of the Military Government of Gloucester, 4to. 1645.—True relation of the manner of taking Evesham, 4to. Lond. 1645.—Verses on the Siege of Gloucester and col. Massey, 1644.—Nine Tracts relating to the Siege of Gloucester. 1643-47.—Impeachment of maj. gen. Massie and others, 4to. Lond. 1647.

^o Information of the rev. Richard Massie of Coddington.

^p The following descent of Bechin is abstracted from Cowper's Broxton Collections, p. 24. b.

^q Harl. MSS. 1965. 24.

Adjacent to Coddington lies the Hamlet of BECHIN, which appears to have been one of the three manors forming the original Saxon vill of Coddington, and which descended through the Botilers to the Massies, as already stated.

^p It was purchased, 5 Car. I. from John Massie, esq. by Thomas Wilbraham, whose son sold it to colonel Roger Whitby, from whom it descended to his grandson, Roger Whitby, esq. on whose death without issue, this estate with other possessions came to sir John Mainwaring, of Peover, bart. in right of his wife Elizabeth, daughter of colonel Whitby before-mentioned. From them it descended to their son sir Thomas Mainwaring, bart. who bequeathed all his estates to his wife Martha, daughter of William Lloyd of Halghton, in Flintshire, esq. Lady Mainwaring afterwards married Edmund Mainwaring, of Whitmore, esq. whom she also survived, and bequeathed her estates, subject to the payment of debts, charges, and legacies, to James Mainwaring, esq. baron of the Exchequer of Chester, who sold the estates in Bechin, June 20, 1747, to the rev. Thomas Ince, M. A. rector of Handley, grandfather of Townsend Ince, of Christleton, esq. the present proprietor.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Mary.

Tax. Eccl. P. N. 6l. 13s. 4d. Discharged Living, Val. Certif. 46l. 12s. 5d.

It has been already mentioned that Coddington had not been granted out by the earl at the period of the Domesday survey, from the silence of which the non-existence of a church may be inferred. By the following extract from the foundation charter of Chester abbey in 1093, it appears that between the time of the survey and that year, a church had been founded, and that this church has been granted to that abbey by Hugh Fitz Norman, called in Domesday Hugh de Mara, who was now unquestionably the immediate manerial lord.

"Hugo filius Normanni, et Radulphus frater ejus de-derunt partem suam de Lostokey, et ecclesiam de Contintuna, et terram ecclesie, et decimam illius villæ, et de Lai similiter. Teste Willielmo Malbedeng et aliis."

Possession of the church is afterwards confirmed to this abbey, by a charter preserved among a series of grants from the Montalts, in the abbot's chartulary^q.

The rectory of Coddington, which was never appropriated, escaped the fate of the greater part of such possessions of the abbey of St. Werburgh, as were granted to the dean and chapter of Chester cathedral, and the advowson thereof was confirmed to them in their second

charter, by patent dated 19 Dec. 22 Eliz. The dean and chapter are the present patrons.

The church of Coddington is a low mean building of red stone, surmounted with a wooden bell tower. It consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, which are divided from the body of the church by three highly pointed arches, resting on cylindrical pillars with capitals. At the end of the south aisle is a lancet window, and in the north aisle is a small chancel belonging to the Massies of Coddington, in which is fixed their armorial shield and crest, impaling Gules, 3 towers Argent, for Williams.

In the south wall of the chancel is a piscina. A marble monument attached to the opposite wall, is inscribed

Edward Lewis, M. A. rector of
Waterstock and Emington in the
county of Oxford 59 years, was the
second son of John Aldersey,
by his first wife Anne, the daughter of
Edward Daxon, A. B. rector of this parish.
He died Nov. 3, in the 85th year of his age,

and was buried at Waterstock, 1784.

Neighbour dispatch,
to-morrow may be too late,
God grant us a happy meeting.

† In 1580, the arms and crest of the Massies of Coddington, as now borne, were painted in the glass of the windows, with the following inscriptions.

ORATE pro beato statu Johannis Massie et Matildæ uxoris ejus, et Margeriæ quondam uxoris ejus.

ORATE pro beato statu Rogeri Massye et Elizabethæ uxoris ejus.

The rector has the tithes of Coddington, with the exception of a part of the hamlet of Bechin, which pays a composition to Malpas. He has two-thirds of those of Aldersey, and a moiety of those of Chowley.

The amount of charitable donations is at present only 41l. the interest of which is distributed to the poor.

The rectory house stands pleasantly on the bank of a small brook, looking towards Carden and the Broxton Hills, and is immediately adjacent to the east end of the church. The Registers commence in 1724.

RECTORS OF CODDINGTON.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1281.	Hugo de Cestria.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	
1300,	Robertus de Pulford.		
1305, 8 kal. Jan.	Willielmus de Bruera.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	
1313, 2 kal. Feb.	Galfridus de Meoles.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	
1338.	Guido de Newton, sub dec.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	
1356.	Willielmus Wenlocke de Salop.		
1380, Aug. 20.	Alanus de Gauley.		
	David de Grafton.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	Causâ permut. Alani de Gauley.
1392, Mart. 19.	Johannes Layot.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	P. m. D'ni de Grafton.
1394, Oct. 8.	Johannes Layot.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	P. res. Jo. Layot.
1422.	Johannes Sumptor, cap's.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	
	D'nus Jo. de Sc'o Petro.		
1438, Maii 24.	Willielmus ap Ithell.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	P. m. D'ni Jo. de S'co Petro.
1470, Jun. 1.	Thomas Twemlowe, dec. bacc.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	Res. W. ap Ithell.
1497, circa.	Johannes Keverden.		
	Thomas Porter.		
1508, Oct. 30.	John Ledsham.	Abbot of St. Werburgh.	Res. of Thomas Porter.
	John Fellorn.		
1558, Jan. 25.	Hugh Dodd.	Ralph Dutton.	Death of John Fellorn.
1580, Sept. 22.	Thomas Williamson.		
1612, Oct. 18.	Thomas Rycroft.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	
1642, Dec. 12.	Richard Vaughan.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	
1670, Dec. 23.	Edward Daxon.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Edward Daxon.
1710, March 7.	John Stones, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of John Stones.
1736, April 5.	Roger Hughson, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Roger Hughson.
1748, June 24.	Edward Mainwaring, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Cession of said Edw. Mainwaring.
1755, Feb. 5.	Edward Mainwaring, A. M.	The Bishop of Chester.	
1781, March 29.	John Briggs, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of E. Mainwaring.
1781, Dec. 4.	Thomas Pearce, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Res. of John Briggs.
1795, July 1.	Thomas Trevor Trevor, LL.B.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Res. of Thomas Pearce.
1803, June 4.	Unwin Clarke, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Cession of T. T. Trevor.
1806, Jan. 23.	Thomas Maddock, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Cession of U. Clarke.
1808, Dec. 26.	Unwin Clarke, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Cession of Tho. Maddock.

The first on this list of rectors, *Hugo de Cestria*, is inserted on the authority of Stones's MSS. and was instituted by Hugh bishop of Coventry, on the presentation of Geoffry abbot of St. Werburgh, on the condition of paying the annual pension of 2l. to the church of Farn-don, and the pension to the abbot.

Robert de Pulford, a relative and trustee of the Pulfords of Pulford, has been previously noticed in trust deeds of Stretton and other manors. He appears as rector of Coddington in the following deed. "Ego Robertus de Pulford R. eccl. de Coddinton, dedi Isabellæ sorori meæ totam terram meam de Cisseleya, habend. eidem Isabellæ et hered. suis inter Griffinum de Warrenia et ipsam legitimè procreatis⁵."

Guido de Newton occurs also in the list of rectors of St. Peter's in Chester; *John Layot*, or *Leyott*, in the list of rectors of Malpas and deans of St. John's college; and *Thomas Twemlowe*, who died in 1497, in those of the rectors of Tilston and Astbury.

John Stones, M. A. was minor canon and sacrist of Chester cathedral, and a laborious antiquary, although his merits are somewhat overrated by Dr. Gower, who places him "at the head" of those of his own "age and century⁶," which gives him a very undue preference to

Dr. Cowper of Overlegh, and Dr. Williamson. The collections of Mr. Stones are chiefly contained in two small quarto volumes, in the custody of the Dean and Chapter of Chester. A third volume (a large folio) was bequeathed by him to the rectors of Coddington for the time being, with a charge written in the volume, that if it should fall into other hands, the persons obtaining it would restore it, as they expect justice in this world, or mercy in another. After this tremendous anathema, it is somewhat singular that the following leaves should almost exclusively be blank paper. The contents of the quarto volumes are chiefly transcripts from the Harl. MSS. and are of considerable value; but they can scarcely be deemed worthy of the eulogium which has been bestowed upon them, of being altogether ore of the richest and purest gold, selected from the antiquarian mine, with consummate judgment and an intimate knowledge of the subject⁷.

A memorial of Mr. Stones will be found in the list of the monumental inscriptions in the north aisle of the choir of Chester cathedral.

Roger Hughson was a minor canon of the same cathedral, and all the succeeding incumbents occur in the lists of its dignitaries.

ALDERSEY.

LIKE the preceding township, forming an original part of the great barony of Malpas, as may be inferred, (notwithstanding the silence of Domesday), from the paramount rights noticed in the Inquisitions.

The mesne manor was the property of a family which assumed the local name, and about the time of Hen. III. divided into two branches. William, eldest son of Hugh de Aldersey, had then one moiety, which passed by an heir general to Hatton of Hatton. Adam de Aldersey, second son, had another moiety, which has descended in the male line to the present proprietor.

The Hatton Share was passed over by fine, by John de Hatton, to his son-in-law Ralph Vernon, 35 Edw. I. together with other appurtenances of the manor of Hatton, and again passed with Petronilla, daughter of Ralph, grandson of the said Ralph Vernon, to Hugh Dutton. In the Inquisitions of this family it is loosely described as the entire manor.

Inq. p. m. 24 Eliz. Ralph Dutton, of Hatton, held, inter alia, the manor of Great Aldersey, from William Brereton, as of his manor of Malpas, by services unknown, val. vl. os. viiij.

Inq. p. m. 25 Jan. 3 Jac. I. Rowland Dutton, of Hatton, esq. held the manor of Great Aldersey, Middle Aldersey, and Crooke Aldersey, as in the preceding Inquisition, value as before.

This moiety has been long united to the other by sale from the Duttons of Hatton to the Alderseys, as asserted by Mr. Stones in a marginal note to Williamson's *Villare*, on the authority of a deed, then (1739) in possession of Mr. Massie of Coddington, of which he omits to mention the date.

The distinction of Middle Aldersey is now obsolete. The vill consists of Great and Crook Aldersey, which form one manor, for which a court is held by Mr. Aldersey; but the tenants owe suit and service also to Handley. The manerial proprietor is almost the exclusive land owner, and is also the impropiator of one-third of the tithes.

Leland notices salt works in this township. There is a brine spring of sufficient strength to leave an occasional incrustation on the banks; but from the distance of coal, salt has not been made here for many years.

Aldersey Hall, a handsome mansion, which has recently undergone considerable improvements, is situated in low grounds, looking toward the Broxton Hills. In the following pedigree of its proprietors, will be found the name of Thomas Aldersey, the benefactor to the church and school of Bunbury, who has been already noticed in that township, and that of William Aldersey, to whose researches the Vale Royal is indebted for a corrected list of the mayors of Chester. From this family also was maternally descended a learned and worthy divine, Robert Markham, M. A. fellow of Brasenose college, and afterwards rector of Whitechapel, born at his father's rectory house of Tarporley, and briefly noticed in the account of the incumbents of Tarporley, and Whitegate. A memoir of this excellent man is given in Nichols's *Literary Anecdotes of the Eighteenth Century*. His precise connection with the Alderseys is not ascertained, but the relationship was always acknowledged, and his mother is stated, on her husband's monument at Tarporley, to be "ex antiqua de Aldersey familia oriunda⁸."

⁵ House of Warren, I. 216. ⁶ Gower's *Prospectus*, p. 58.

⁷ Ibid.

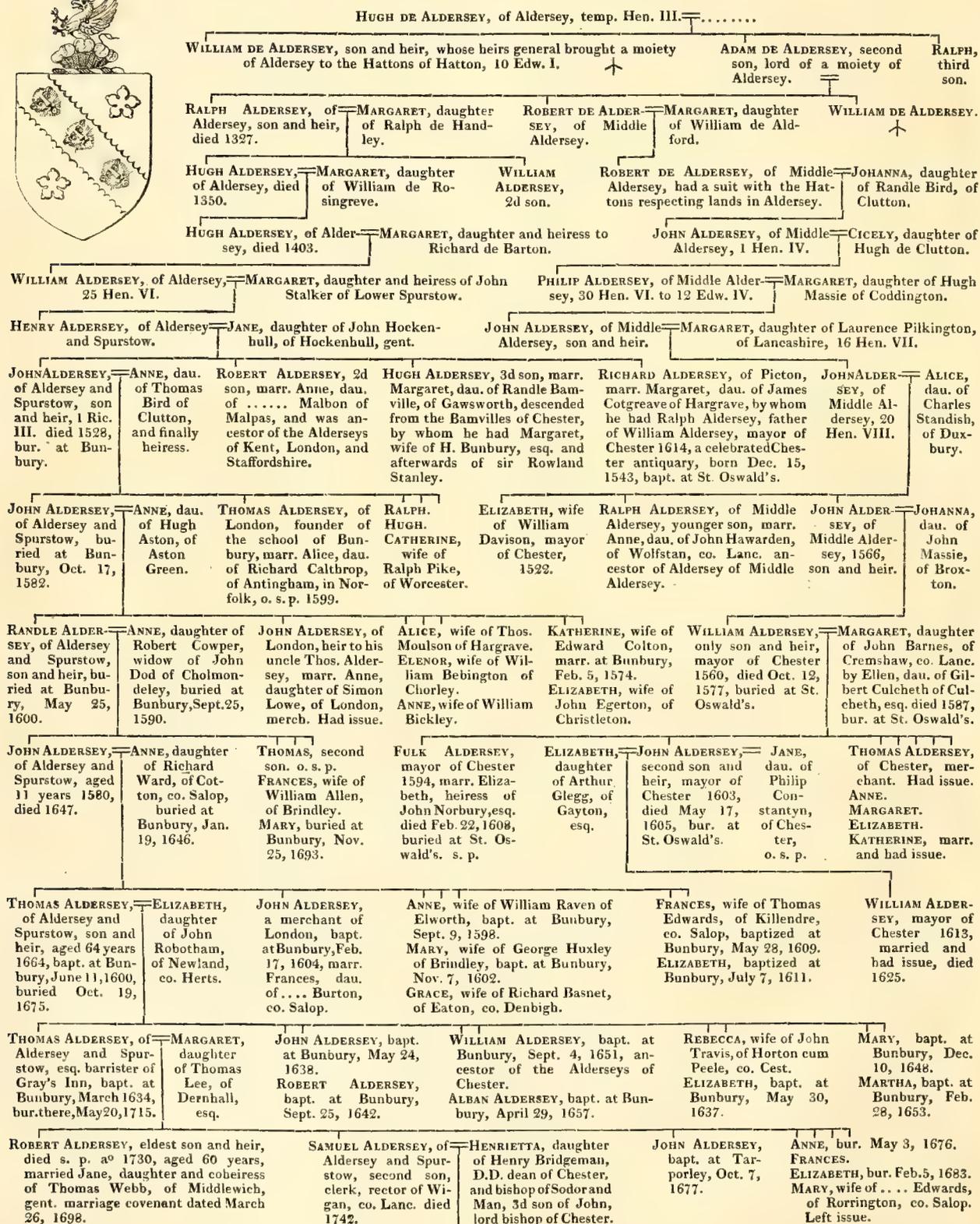
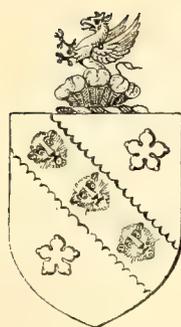
⁸ Vide pp. 69, 126, and 128. of this volume.

ALDERSEY OF ALDERSEY.

From the Visitations and Parochial Registers, and the information of the family in the later descents.

ARMS. Gules, on a bend engrailed Argent, between two cinquefoils Or, three leopard's heads cabossed Vert.

CREST. On a wreath, a demi-griffon segreant Gules, beaked and armed Or, issuing from a plume of five ostrich feathers Or.



a

1. THOMAS ALDERSEY; bapt. at Bunbury, Aug. 5, 1703, died an inf.	3. JOHN ALDERSEY, bapt. at Bunbury, Nov. 21, 1705, o. s. p.	6. BRIDGEMAN ALDERSEY, married Nancy, dau. of Foote Gower, M. D. and had issue Maria, who mar. and died in Liverpool, leaving a daughter, Isabella.	CHARLES CATHERINE, youngest dau. of sir Charles Erskine, of Alva in North Britain, bart. o. s. p. v. second wife.	5. SAMUEL ALDERSEY, of Aldersey and Spurstow, esq. died Feb. 1802, bur. at Bunbury.	MARGARET, youngest daughter and coheirress of Cornelius Hignett, of Darland, esq. died Jan. 1783, buried at Bunbury.	1. ANNE, bapt. at Bunbury, Nov. 8, 1706, marr. 1st, ... Kynaston, by whom she had issue John Kynaston, M. A. Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford; and 2dly, ... Holt, esq.	2. JANE, wife of ... Lancaster.	3. MARGARET, wife of .. Hesketh, had a son who died unmarried.	4. ELIZABETH, died unmarried.
ROBERT ALDERSEY, of Aldersey and Spurstow, esq. born April 1738, a bencher of the Inner Temple, died unmarried Nov. 19, 1802, and was buried in the Temple church.	CATHERINE ALDERSEY, died unmarried.	SAMUEL ALDERSEY, of Aldersey and Spurstow, esq. second son, died Aug. 24, 1803.	ELIZABETH, only child of William Wotton, of Haddenham, co. Bucks.	Other children died in their infancy.					
SAMUEL ALDERSEY, of Aldersey and Spurstow, esq. sheriff of Cheshire 1816, unmarried.	THOMAS ALDERSEY, unmarried 1816.	CATHERINE, unmarried 1816.	MARGARET, unmarried 1816.	ELIZABETH, unmarried 1816.	MARGARET MARIA, died an infant.				

CHOWLEY.

THE baron of Malpas was the Norman grantee of this township.

“ Isdem Robertus tenet Celelea, et Mundret de eo. Uleve tenuit et libera fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est una caruca: ibi est cum ii radmans. Silva dimidia leuvâ longa et dimidia acra lata, et ii haia. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat x solidos, modo v solidos. Wasta invenitur.”

The Pulfords of Pulford, who had considerable estates in Broxton, Stretton, Chidlow, and other neighbouring townships, had an early interest in Chowley. Hugh de Pulford, 18 Edw. I. died seized, inter alia, of the eighth part of this manor, held from the heirs of William Patrick's share of the barony of Malpas, as the eighth part of a knight's fee^a. Joan, heiress of this family, brought her estates in marriage to the Grosvenors of Holme; after which Chowley occurs as follows in their Inquisitions.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VI. Thomas le Grosvenor held, inter alia, in demesne as of fee, a fourth part of the manor of Cholley, from sir John Sutton, knight, in socage, by services unknown, value, per annum, xxs.

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. IV. Robert Grosvenor, esq. held as before, the same from the same, value as in the preceding Inquisition.

After the termination of the direct male line of this family, this share of Chowley passed with Elizabeth Grosvenor in marriage to Peter Dutton of Hatton, who inherited other portions thereof through the Vernons, from the Hattons of Hatton^b. His descendants Ralph Dut-

ton, and Anne his wife, passed a fine of this manor, anno 9 Eliz.

Inq. p. m. 24 Eliz. Ralph Dutton of Hatton, held, inter alia, the manor of Cholleggh, val. per annum, viil. ivs. iid.

Inq. p. m. 15 Jan. 3 Jac. I. Rowland Dutton of Hatton, esq. held inter alia, the manor of Cholley, cum pert. from sir William Brereton, knight, as of his manor of Malpas, by services unknown, val. per annum, beyond reprises, viil. ivs. iid.

In the reign of Charles II. Peter Dutton of Hatton, esq.^c sold the said manor to Thomas Knevet, of London, who gave it in marriage with his daughter to Peter Calf of Tottenham High Cross, co. Middlesex. By bequest of the son of this proprietor it was devised to Edward Donne, of Shrewsbury, and passing in marriage with his daughter to Thomas Gardiner, of Shrewsbury, esq. barrister at law, was sold by his family to John Crewe, esq. of Bolesworth^d, and passed with Bolesworth to the Moseleys.

In 1807, a portion of the lands of Chowley were purchased by Thomas Tarleton, esq. from the devisees of Oswald Moseley, esq. and a larger portion by Stephen Leake, of Chester, esq. which has been recently re-sold to William Leche, of Carden, esq. in whom and in Mr. Tarleton, these estates, including a moiety of the tithes of their respective portions, are now vested. The manor of Chowley is disused as a distinct manor, and the tenants attend Mr. Tarleton's court at Tattenhall.

^a Cowper's Broxton Collections, p. 26.

^b John, son of Hugh de Hatton, anno 1322, brought an assize against Robert, son of Hugh de Pulford, and Jone his wife, for a house, two hides of land, and their appurtenances in Cholley. Williamson's Vill. Cest. For further notices, see the deeds in Hatton.

^c Cowper's Broxton Collections, p. 26.

^d Ibid. and Lysons's Magna Britannia, vol. II. 644.

Farndon.

FARNDON parish is separated from North Wales by the Dee, and is bounded on the Cheshire side by the parishes of Shocklach, Tilston, Coddington, St. Oswald's, and Aldford. It contains four townships, Farndon, Barton, Clutton, and Crewe, and a moiety of Churton.

FARNDON.

FARNDON occurs in two notices in Domesday.

The bishop of Chester, as he is there termed, held one part before and after the Conquest. It is almost unnecessary to say, that this description applies to the bishop of the see of Lichfield, who had then a cathedral at Chester. The other part of Farndon held by Bigot, is noticed under Aldford.

"Ipse episcopus tenet Ferentone, et tenuit tempore R. Edwardi. Ibi iv hidæ geldabiles. Terra est v carucarum. In dominio sunt ii, et vii villani cum una caruca. Silva ibi unius leuæ longitudine, et dimidii leuæ latitudine.

"De hac terra tenent ii presbyteri unam hidam et dimidium de episcopo. Ibi una caruca in dominio: et ii francigenæ, et ii villani, et unus bordarius cum una caruca et dimidio et iv servis. Presbyter villæ habet dimidium carucæ, et v bordarios cum una caruca. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xl solidos, modo lx solidos: wasta est."

This part of the Norman Ferentone, is probably co-extensive with the present manor of Farndon.

In the Inquisition after the death of William bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, 11 Hen. VII. he is stated to have held the manor of Farndon from the Lord Prince as Earl of Chester, in right of his bishopric, value, per annum, 10l. 9s. 8d.

The manor of Farndon, which includes a moiety of the township of Churton, is held on lease from the said bishopric by Roger Barnston, of Churton, esq. who holds a court leet and court baron for the same.

Farndon is built on a red rock over the Dee, which is crossed below the town by an antient bridge of eight arches, particularly noticed in Webb's Itinerary, and represented in the annexed engraving. The town of Holt occupies the opposite bank of the river, which is in Flintshire. Farndon is a considerable thoroughfare, being situated on one of the roads from Chester to Malpas, and on a much more considerable one which branches off from the London road at Barnhill, and proceeds through this town and Holt to Wrexham. The adjacent country is rich and well wooded, commanding a fine view of the Welsh and Cheshire Hills, and greatly enlivened by the beautiful stream of the Dee.

John Speed, author of the Theatre of Great Britain, the History of Great Britain, and a Collection of Scriptural Genealogies, was born at Farndon in 1552. His merits are too well known to be here particularized, and

secured the friendship and patronage of some of the most learned men of his age. He was buried at St. Giles's, Cripplegate, in 1629, where his monument, with a bust of the historian, is still remaining. There is also an excellent print of him by Savery. An interesting life of Speed will be found in the Biographia Britannica of Kippis, and in the Biographical Dictionary of Chalmers. His monumental inscription is as follows:

"Piæ memoriæ charissimorum parentum, Johannis Speed, civis Londinensis, mercatorum scissorum fratris, servi fidelissimi regiarum majestatum Elizabethæ, Jacobi, et Caroli, tunc superstitis. Terrarum nostrarum Geographi accurati, et fidi antiquitatis Britannicæ Historiographi, Genealogiæ sacræ elegantissimi delineatoris. Qui postquam annos 77 superaverat, non tam morbo confectus, quam mortalitatis tædio lassatus, corpore se levavit Julii 28, 1629, et jucundissimo Redemptoris sui desiderio sursum elatus, carnem hic in custodia posuit, denuo cum Christus venerit, recepturus."

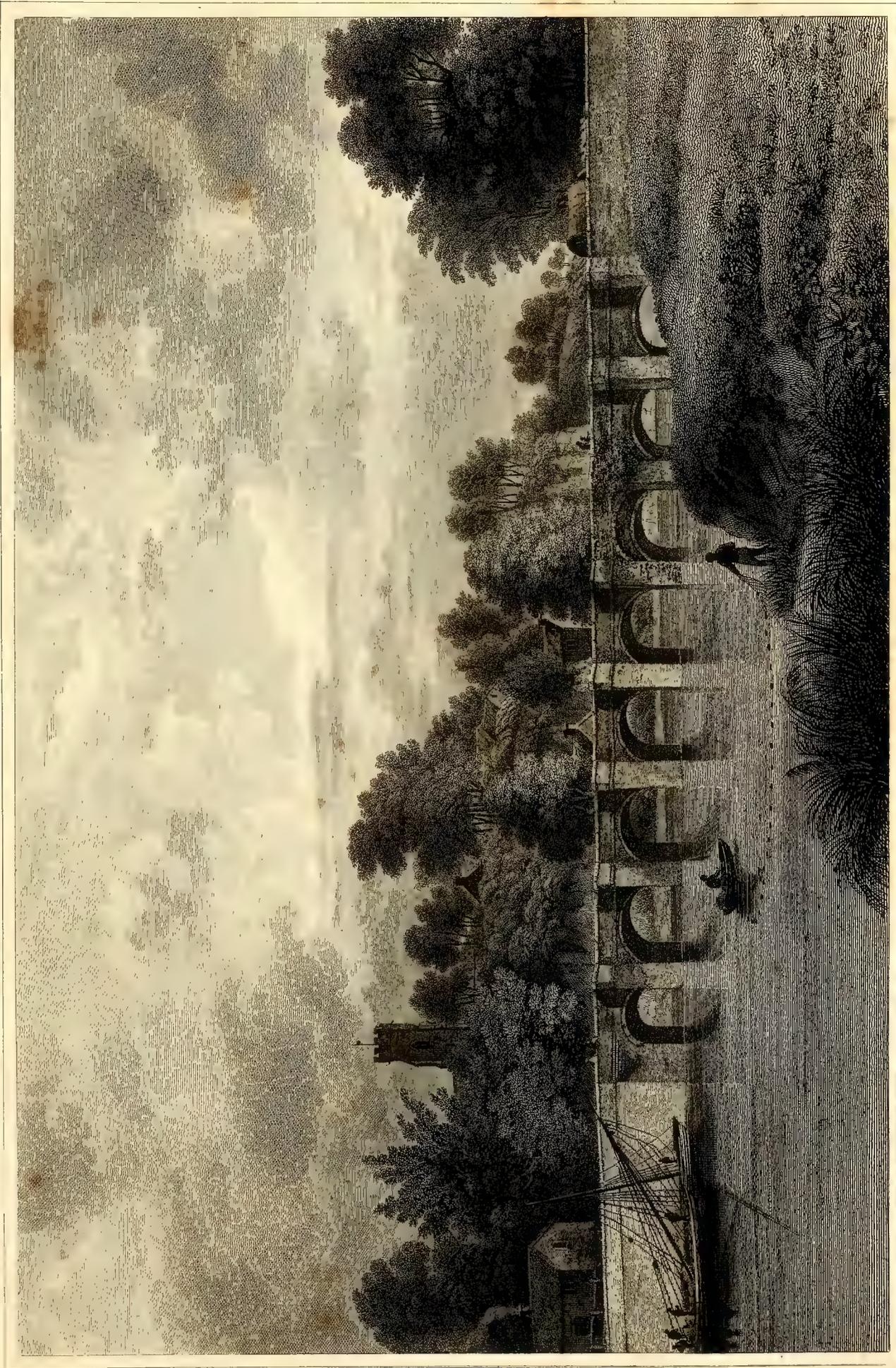
On the other side of him,

"Susannæ suæ suavissimæ, quæ postquam duodecim illi filios et sex filias pepererat, quinquaginta septem annos junctis utriusque solatiis cum illo vixerat, liberos gravi et frequenti hortamine ad Dei cultum sollicitaverat, pietatis et charitatis opere quotidiano præluxerat; emori demum erudiit suo exemplo. Quæ septuagenaria placide in Christo obdormivit, et fidei suæ mercedem habuit, Martii vigesimo octavo, A. D. M.DC.XXVIII."

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Chad.

The church of Farndon is an impropriation, the property of earl Grosvenor, who appoints the curate. The clear value of Augmentation, Stipend, and Surplice fees, was returned as 72l. 1s. 10d. in the Parliamentary Returns ordered to be printed in 1810. The impropriator has the great tithes of Farndon, the moiety of Churton within this parish, and Clutton. The great tithes of Barton are the property of lord Kenyon, by purchase from the Grosvenor family; and those of Crewe are the property of Mr. Richard Brown, by purchase from the present sir John Egerton, bart. who bought them, together with the royalty of that township, from lord Crewe. It appears from the Domesday, that there was a church here at the Conquest. The unappropriated

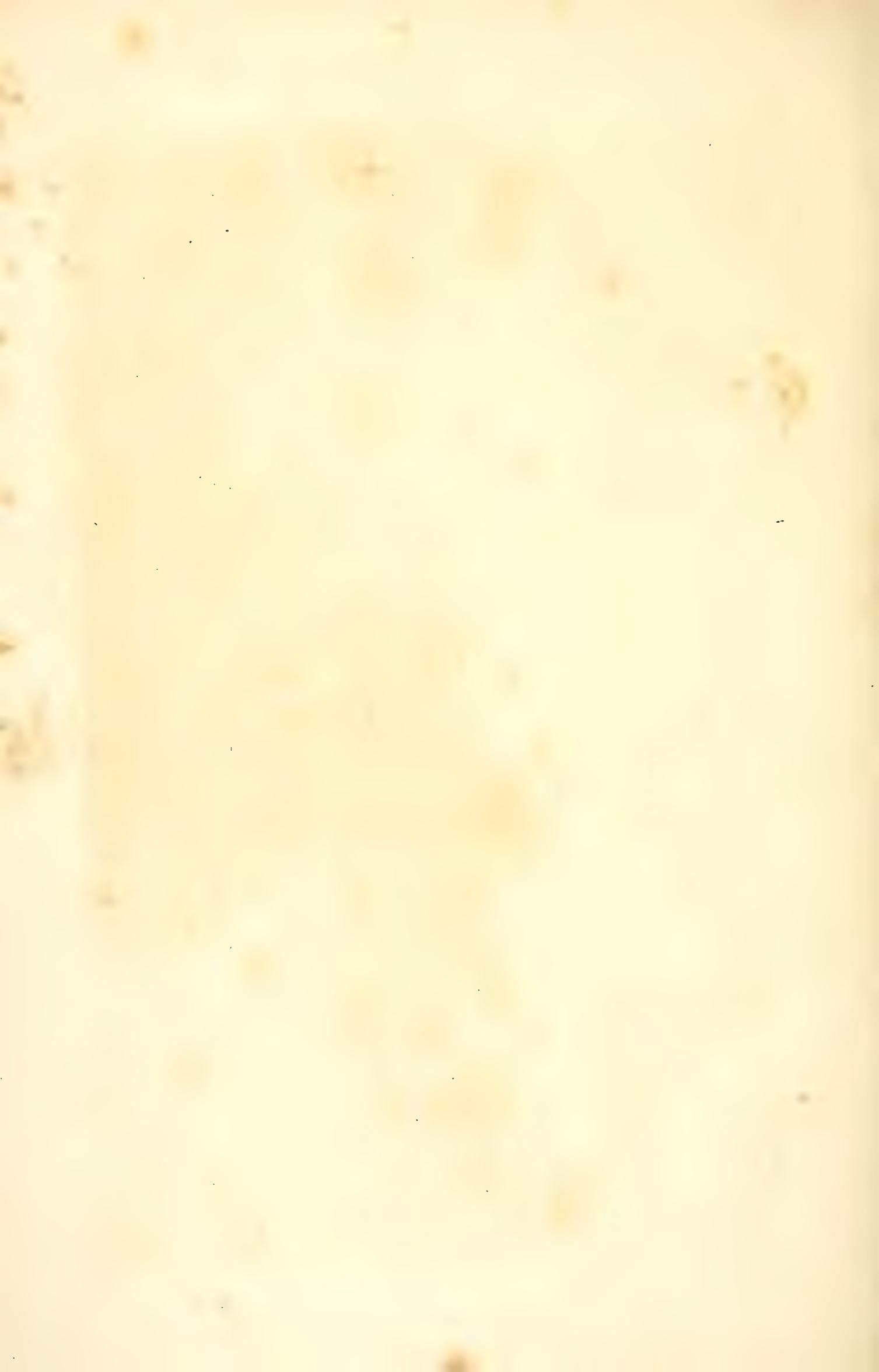


Geo. Eyre & Co. Lith.

Printed and Published by Longman, 4, 7, & 9, St. Paul's Church-Yard, London.

Price 10s. 6d.

FAIRFORD.



rectory was the property of St. John's collegiate church in Chester^a, and valued at 16l. 4 Edw. VI.

The church consists of a tower, nave, chancel, and side aisles, and stands on a rock of red sand stone, rising from the banks of the Dee. The pointed style is the general character; but the building has been altered at various times, and is much injured in appearance by a modern porch in a very incongruous style. The body of the church is separated from the side aisle by five highly pointed arches, resting on cylindrical columns. An inscription at the west end states, that the church being ruined, was repaired, and the bells new cast, in 1658. It is stated by Dr. Williamson to have been made a garrison in 1641. At the end of each aisle are chancels: that at the end of the south aisle has long been the property of the Barnstons, to whom the other also has recently passed by an exchange of lands with the Massies of Coddington, its former proprietors. In this chancel is a marble mural monument, inscribed

In hope of a blessed and joyful resurrection, are laid underneath this, y^e bodies of John Puleston, of Pickhill, esq. and Anne his wife, the second daughter of Richard Alport, of Overton, esq.; she dyed the 14th of August, 1715, and he died the 14th of January, 1721.

They were interred here by the leave of their son in law, John Massie, of Coddington, esq.

Here also lies by the leave of her nephew, Richard Massie, esq. the body of Hester Janns, y^e youngest daughter of the aforesaid John Puleston, esq. and relict to the rev. Mr. Thos. Janns, late rector of Hordley, in Shropshire, she died y^e 12th of Oct. 1732.

With earnest desire their bones may remain unremov'd to y^e last day, this monument is erected by Mrs.

Anne Madockes, in memory of her dear and very valuable father, mother, and sister.

Arms. Puleston impaling Overton; Sable, three mullets Argent, for Puleston; Gules, 6 pears, 3, 2, 1, Or, and a chief of the second for Overton.

Crest. On a wreath a demi lion rampant, Argent, holding in the dexter paw a mullet, Argent.

Near this is an achievement with the same coat, impalement, and crest.

Against the east wall of the church, contiguous to the Barnston chancel, is a painted monumental tablet of wood, inscribed

William Barnston, of Churton, esq. had to wife Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Roger Massy, of Coddington, esq. Obit (ille) 21 July 1620: obiit (illa) 13 Jan. 1606.

Arms. Barnston, impaling Massie. Barnston, quarterly; 1 and 4, Vert, a fesse dancette, Ermine, between 6 cross crosslets fitchè, Or, Barnston. 2 and 3, Gules, a cross patonce, Or, between 4 trefoils slipped of the second, Manning. Massie, quarterly, Gules and Or, in the 1st and 4th quarters, three fleurs de lis, Argent. A crescent for difference.

Under this a similar tablet inscribed,

Near this lie the remains of John, son and heir of William Barnston, of Churton, esq. who died May 8, 1661; he married Alice, sole heiress of Thomas Trafford, of

Bridge Trafford, esq. by whom he had issue one son, Trafford Barnston; she married to her second husband, the honourable Richard Savage, by whom she had one son, who became earl Rivers. She died Oct. 23, 1666, and was buried at Pleminstall, near Chester.

Arms. Barnston as before; on an escocheon of pretence, Argent, a cross engrailed, Sable, for Trafford.

Under this is a third tablet, inscribed

Here lie the remains of William Barnston, of Churton, esq. He married Dorothy Brooke, daughter of Thomas Brooke, of Little Sankye, esq. ancestor to sir Richard Brooke, of Norton, knight. He was a person of great worth and integrity, ventured his life and fortune with king Charles the First; was sent prisoner from Oxford to London, where he continued till he paid his composition for his estate. He died 8 March 1664.

Arms. Barnston, impaling Brooke. Barnston, quarterly, 1 and 4 Barnston as before; 2 Manning as before; 3, Azure, between two leopards, Or, on a fesse of the second, a cross patee Gules, between two crescents of the third. At the sides of the shield the crests of Barnston and Brooke.

Round the chancel are hung four achievements.

The first for Roger Barnston, esq. Quarterly, Barnston and Trafford, bearing the arms of his first wife, Jane Gregge, (Or, three trefoils slipped Sable, between two chevrons of the second,) on an escocheon of pretence, and impaling the arms of his 2d wife, Mary, daughter of sir John Williams, and widow of John Hurleston, esq. viz. Gules, three towers, Argent. Crest. On a wreath, a horse's head erased Ermine, mane Or.

The 2d for the first wife of Roger Barnston, prebendary of Chester. Arms. Barnston impaling Marsh, Gules, a horse's head coupè Argent, between three cross crosslets fitchè, Argent. Crest. Barnston.

The 3d for prebendary Barnston, consisting of the arms and crest of Barnston, between two shields. The dexter composed of the arms of Barnston impaling Marsh as before, the other composed of Barnston impaling the arms of his second wife Anne Egerton, of Oulton.

The 4th consists of the arms and crest of Robert Barnston, esq. impaling those of his wife Elizabeth, daughter of sir Whitmore Acton, bart. Gules, two lions passant, Argent, between nine cross crosslets, fitchè, Or.

^b At the middle of the seventeenth century, three very antient monuments existed in this church. The first represented a knight in mail armour, recumbent, his head resting on a lozenge-formed cushion, and his feet on a dog, his helmet conical, and his shield emblazoned, a bend cotised, and circumscribed with the words "Hic jacet Patriceius de Bartun. O'p'eo," which identify him with the neighbouring family of Barton of Barton.

The second monument consisted of a similar recumbent figure, except that the head was bare, and rested on a conical helmet. The shield was emblazoned with a lion rampant sinister, circumscribed in longobardic characters. Hic jacet Madocus . . . daur.

The third figure was cut on a flat stone. The arms a lion rampant.

During some late repairs of the church, the workmen of the impropiator discovered these figures carefully interred near the east end of the church. They were formed of white stone, differing materially from the

^a The church with its perquisites were leased by the dean and chapter of St. John's to John Dutton of Hatton, anno 1449, for nine years, at 15 marks per annum. The deed with seal appendant, in the possession of W. Massie, of Coddington, esq. 1739.

^b Harl. MSS. 2151.

stone of the country, and two were instantly ground down and sold for white sand. The first escaped uninjured, and is now reared up under the tower. It is accurately represented in the plate of funeral monuments, at page 142.

°In the windows were formerly the arms of Leche of Carden, Hurleston, and Bostock of Churton. The latter circumscribed "Orate pro bono statu Joh'is Bostock et Matild' uxoris ejus, qui hoc opus vitreu." The arms given for Leche were the antient allusive coat now used as the crest of that family.

In the Barnston chancel are the arms of Gregge of Hapsford, and a curious historical subject, which was rescued from a state of extreme decay, and repaired at the expence of the late dean of Chester. It is represented in the annexed engraving, on a scale reduced about two-thirds from a fac-simile drawing, which was executed under the inspection of the dean, when the glass was in his possession.

The painting is divided in twenty compartments. The four centre ones are strewn with weapons and military trophies, in the angle of one of which is a representation of sir Francis Gamul, of Buerton, knight, a constant attendant on Charles I. at the siege of Chester. The badge of baronetcy is given in the arms, and agrees with the general tradition of sir Francis having been raised to that rank by his sovereign; but Le Neve is of

opinion that the matter was proceeded no further in than issuing the warrant for the patent^d. Over these compartments are four smaller ones: the first is broken, the second contains the representation of Richard Grosvenor, esq. (afterwards the second baronet) who raised the posse comitatus of Cheshire in 1644, being sheriff in his father's life-time; the third that of sir William Mainwaring, slain at the siege of Chester; and the fourth that of William Barnston, of Churton, esq. another suffering loyalist, noticed on one of the adjoining monuments. The ensign in one of the lower compartments is unknown. In the others are figures of pikemen, musqueteers, and musicians in the equipments of the time.

There is a school in Farndon, built in 1629. The master's salary is about 14*l.* per annum, with a small croft and garden.

The charities are stated on the church board, and consist of a benefaction of 20*l.* by sir Richard Grosvenor to the poor of Farndon, and various benefactions to the parish poor, amounting to 110*l.* exclusive of 18*l.* for communion plate. Part of this money is vested in land, and the rest is placed out on securities, the interest whereof is distributed yearly at Christmas to the poor.

The registers, which are very much injured, commence in 1603.

CHURTON.

FROM the division of this town between the manors of Aldford and Farndon, which have been severally traced, little remains to be spoken of it under a distinct head. It gave name at an early period to a family who made several donations of lands to the abbey of Pulton, which are noticed in the abstracts from the Chartulary of Dieulacres, subjoined to the accounts of Pulton.

The Bostocks spoken of by Webb, have long ceased to have any interest in the township. The Barnstons were of Churton, at least as early as the reign of Henry the Sixth, when Urian de Bernston appears as a trustee in the deeds of the Leches of Carden. The earlier

generations were of Barnston in Wirral, and superior lords of Capenhurst in that Hundred. Churton Hall, the former residence, and the property of this family, is an antient timber mansion, environed with stately trees, and though long abandoned to farmers, retaining much of its former respectable appearance. The adjacent village is a long straggling line of farm houses and cottages, intermixed with orchards and gardens, on the road leading from Aldford to Farndon at a short distance from the bank of the Dee. In the centre of the village are the steps of an antient cross, which marks the boundaries of the manors of Aldford and Farndon.

BARNSTON OF CHURTON.

Arms. Azure, a fesse dancette Ermine, between six cross crosslets fitchèe, Or.

Confirmed in the Visitations of 1613, and 1663-4.

HUGH DE BERNSTON, lord of a moiety of Barnston, 21 Edw. I. 

HUGH DE BERNSTON, lord of a moiety of Barnston, temp. Edw. II. 

ROBERT DE BARNSTON, possessed of lands in Barnston and Haselwall, 27 Edw. III. 

JOHN DE BARNSTON, tenant by courtesy, of the manors of his late wife Eustatia, daughter and coheirress of Ralph de Haselwall, and widow of William de Egerton, Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III.

ROBERT BARNSTON, of Churton, 3 Ric. II. 

RALPH BARNSTON, of Churton, 5 Hen. IV. 

..... BARNSTON, of 

MARGERY, daughter and heirress, 27 Hen. VI.

URIAN DE BERNSTON, of Churton, 27 Hen. VI. trustees of the estates of the Leche family in Carden, 31 Hen. VI.

CATHERINE, daughter of Edward de Crew, of Crew, near Farndon.

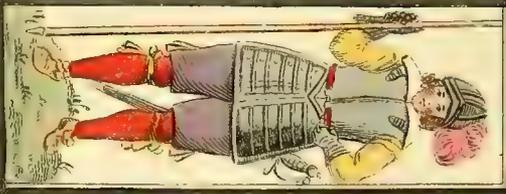
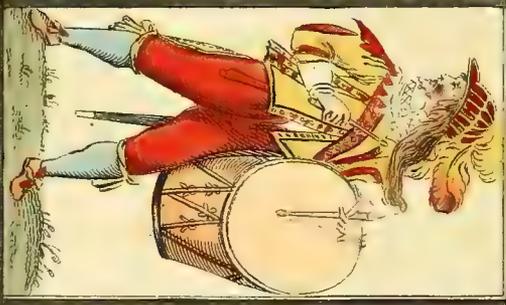
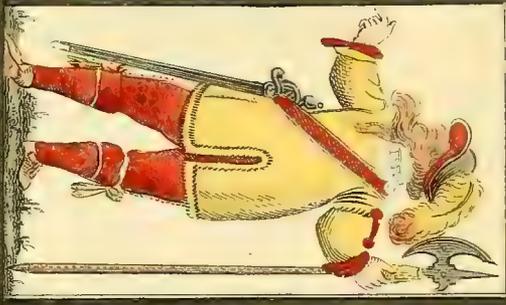
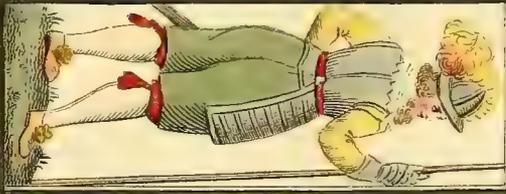
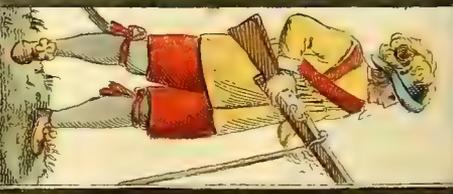
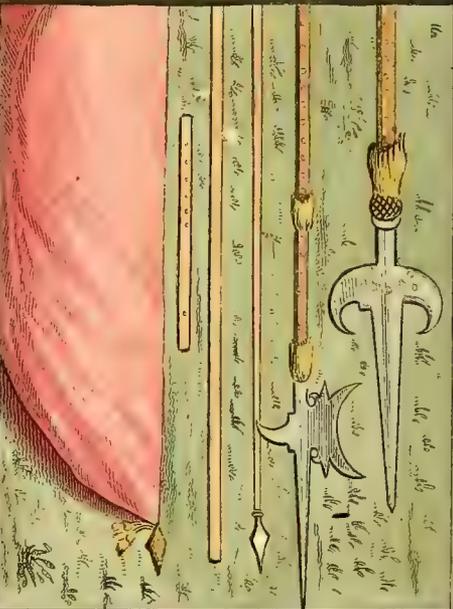
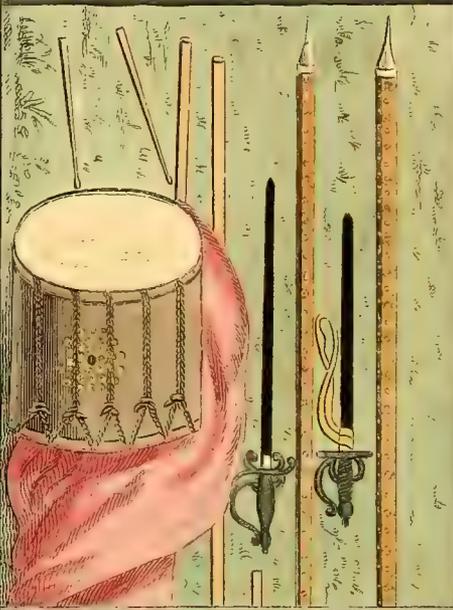
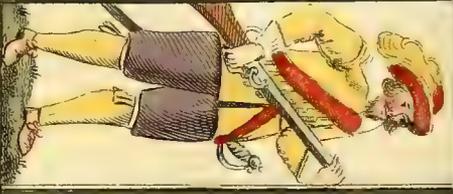
THOMAS BARNSTON, of Churton, temp. Hen. VII. 

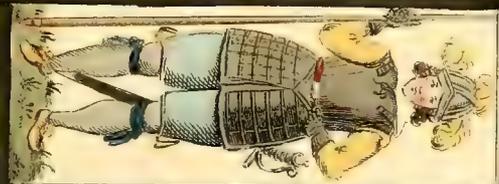
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^c Harl. MSS. 2151.

^d Le Neve's MSS. in the possession of Ralph Bigland, esq. Norroy.







PAINTED GLASS

IN A

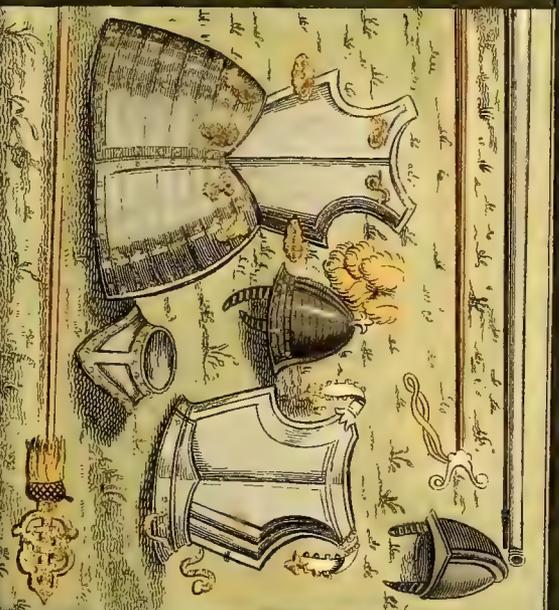
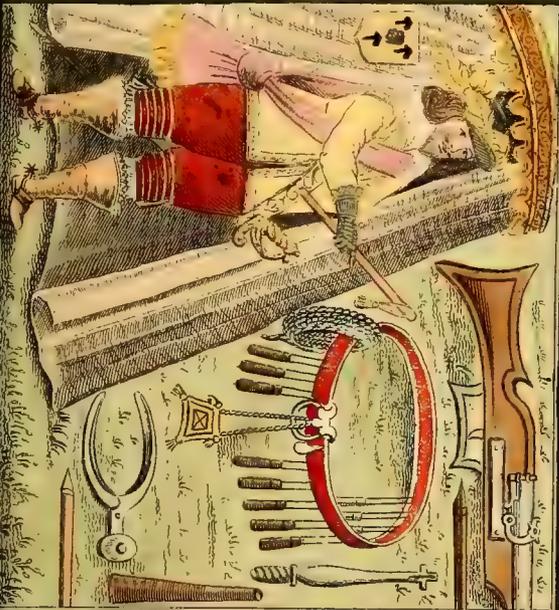
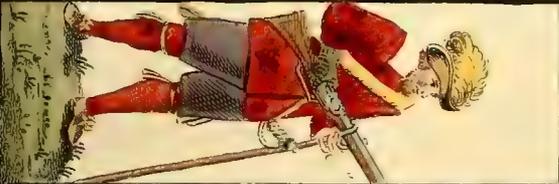
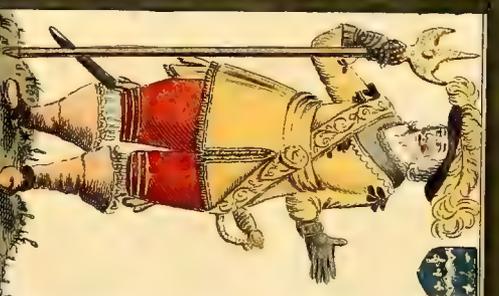
WINDOW

OF

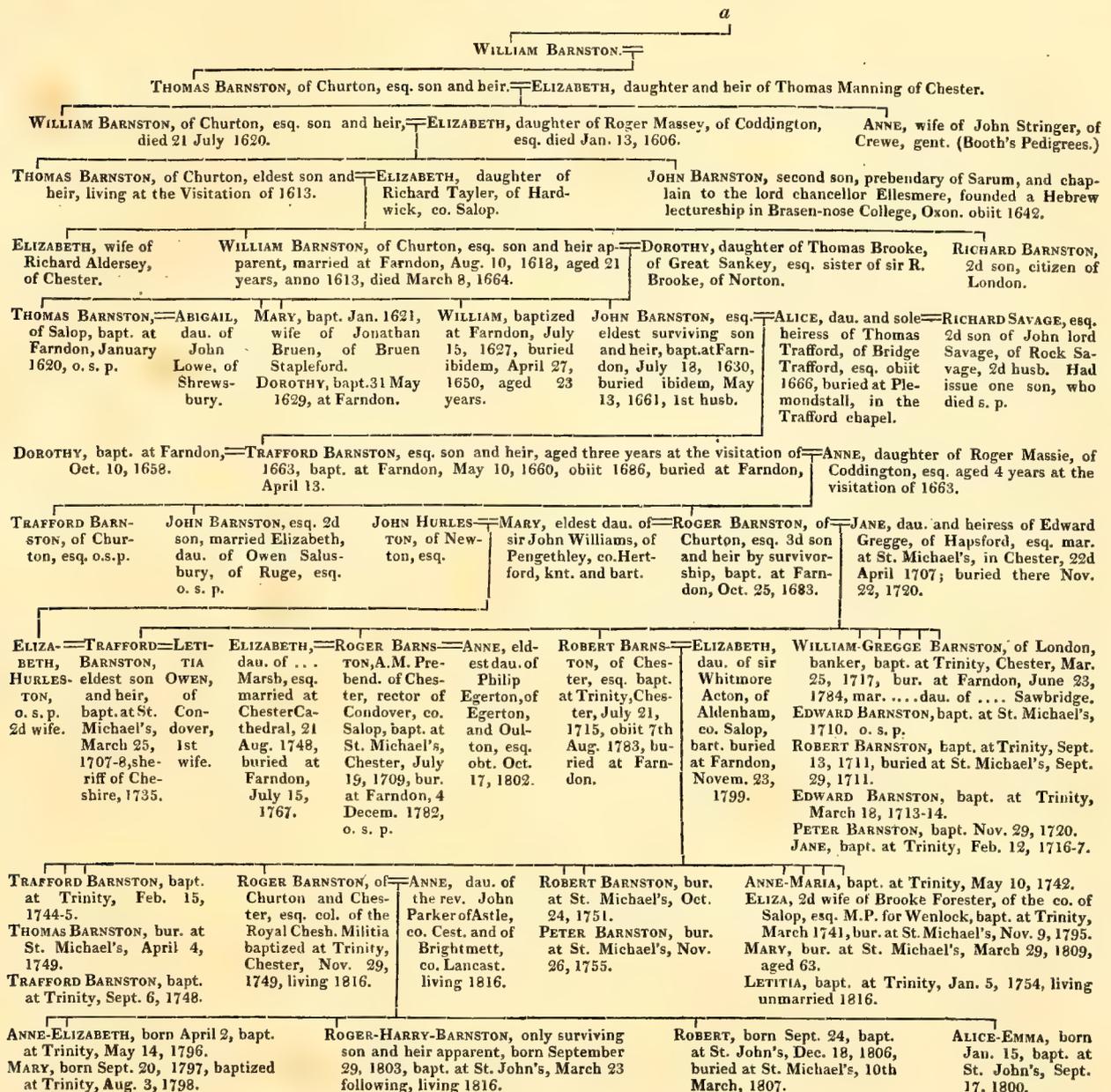
FARNDON CHURCH

Containing Portraits
of Cheshire Gentlemen
who attended K Charles I.
at the Siege of Chester.

*From a drawing contributed by
the very Rev. Hugh Robinson Esq.
Dean of Chester.*







BARTON.

BARTON was antiently considered to be included within the jurisdiction of the barony of Malpas^a, and was vested at an early period in local lords who assumed the name, and were connected by marriage with the line of the barons of Malpas.

The first of these is Patrick de Barton, who married Sibilla, daughter of David de Golborne, and had issue, David de Barton, and Patrick, wife of John de Larkinton.

9 Edw. II. Richard de Blechelegh, obtained from David de Barton, the third part of the manor of Barton for life, remainder to Patrick de Barton, then to the right heirs of David. The monument of this Patrick de Barton is remaining almost entire in the church of Farndon.

The Bartons appear to have become extinct at an early period, and Barton occurs only among the villis enumerated as portions of the barony of Malpas, to the reign of Elizabeth, when lands in Barton appear in the Inquisition after the death of sir Hugh Cholmondeley, 39 Eliz. and his son of the same name, 43 Eliz. consisting of two messuages, two cottages, and 136 acres of land, held under the barony of Malpas. The manor of Barton afterwards became the property of this family, and was purchased from the present marquis of Cholmondeley, by William Leche, of Carden, esq. who is the present proprietor.

A court is held for the manor. There is no hall, or other object of interest.

^a Vide Malpas Deeds.

CLUTTON.

WILLIAM Fitz Nigell baron of Halton, held this town at the Conquest.

“ Isdem Willielmus tenet Clutone. Edwardus et Ulinchit pro II maneriis tenuerunt, et liberi homines fuerunt. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est II carucarum, in dominio est dimidia caruca, et unus francigena cum III villanis habet dimidiam carucam. Ibi dimidia acra prati. Silva dimidia leuva, tempore R. Edwardi valebat XX solidos; modo VIII solidos.”

Under the barons of Halton, Clutton was held by the Montalts. Robert de Montalt occurs as mesne lord in the feodary of that barony, temp. Edw. I. and Thomas de Weever appears as mesne lord on the renewal of that feodary, temp. Hen. VI.^a

^bAbout this time the manor became the property of the Cluttons, who had been settled in the township as early as 21 Edw. I. William de Clutton (*Inq. p. m.* 7 Hen. VI.) held an estate in Aldersey, another called the Acres, and a third estate in this township, held as of his manor of Shawe, by which Dr. Williamson understands Shaw Green, in Higher Clutton.

^c8 Eliz. Thomas Massie held this manor with lands here from the Queen, as of her manor of Halton, as the sixth part of a knight's fee. This family was succeeded by the Bromleys, who retained possession to the beginning of the seventeenth century, when the manor was sold by Thomas Bromley, of Hampton, esq. to Richard Williamson, gent. one of the proctors in the arches,

whose grandson Richard Williamson (buried at Malpas circa ann. 1723), joined with his eldest son in selling the estate to John Leche, of Carden, esq. in whose representative William Leche, esq. it is now vested. A court is held for the manor.

Dr. Edward Williamson, younger brother of the vendor of the manor, was one of the most laborious, and certainly the most intelligent of the Cheshire collectors. His Villare Cestriense exists in many MS Copies. A large portion is transcribed in Cole's MSS. Another copy by Bassano was presented by Mr. Lysons to the British Museum, and a third was transcribed and continued to 1739, by John Stones, M. A. rector of Codrington. Dr. Gower is mistaken in describing this work as arranged under Hundreds and Parishes, its order being simply the alphabetical series of townships^d. The general collections of Dr. Williamson were arranged after his decease, by Dr. Cowper, in one folio volume, closely written in a diminutive hand, with numerous abbreviations. These collections commence with the 29th year of Hen. III. and proceed in regular series through fines, charters, and Inquisitions, to 7 Car. I. It is only a well-merited praise of this book to say, that its contents are more really useful and important to an investigator of Cheshire antiquities, than all which the successive generations of the Randle Holmes have treasured up in their three hundred volumes.

CREWE, OR CRUE.

CREWE is thus noticed among the estates of the baron of Malpas.

“ Isdem Robertus tenet Creuhalle, et Eli de eo. Ipsemet tenuit et liber homo fuit: Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est una caruca. Ibi est in dominio cum II bordariis et dimidia piscaria. Valet X solidos; wasta fuit et sic invenitur.”

Of the descent of the manor little can be said, beyond what is stated in Dr. Williamson's Villare, and the Cheshire pedigrees. It is said in a paper signed by sir John Crewe, of Utkinton, that the antient lords, who bore the local name, were descendants of sir Thomas Crewe, of Crewe, in Nantwich Hundred. They became extinct in the direct line, about Henry the Fourth's time, in the person of Jenkin Crewe, whose coheirs,

Margaret and Alice, married severally, Walter Dod of Broxton, and Thomas Bird, whose grandson John Bird, had two daughters, who again divided their estates between the families of Stringer and Catherall. Another estate, the property of Chester abbey, was sold 24 Eliz. to John Beverley, esq.

At the beginning of the eighteenth century, the manor was the property of Mr. Thomas Crewe of Holt, and sold by him to sir John Crewe of Utkinton, under whose will it passed to the Crewes of Crewe, in Nantwich, and was purchased from the present lord Crewe, by sir John Grey-Egerton, bart. together with the tithes of the township. The manor has since been sold by sir J. G. Egerton, to Mr. Ambrose Dutton, and the tithes to Mr. Richard Brown, the present proprietors.

KINGS MARSH. (EXTRA-PAROCIAL.)

KING'S MARSH, OR OVER, an extra-parochial township, is situated between the parishes of Farndon and Shocklach, on the bank of the Dee, nearly opposite to Holt Castle. The manor is the property of Mr. Thomas Spurstow Moulson, in right of his mother, eldest daughter, and finally co-heiress of George Spurstow, esq. supposed to be descended from a younger branch of the Spurstows of Spurstow.

This was one of the three sanctuaries established within the antient earldom; and by an Inquisition taken

before Hugh de Audelegh, Just. Cest. on Sunday after the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula, 7 Edw. II. it was found “ that a certain large piece of waste, called Overmarsh, was in antient times ordained for strangers, of what country soever, and assigned to such as came to the peace of the earl of Chester, or to his aid, resorting there to form dwellings, but without building any fixed houses, by the means of nails or pins, save only booths and tents to live in.”^e

^a Vide Halton.

^b Vill. Cest.

^c Ibid.

^d Gower's Sketch of Materials for a Hist. of Cheshire.

^e Cowper's Chester MSS. vol. i. p. 41.

Aldford

IS situated on the right bank of the Dee, three miles south of Chester. It contains Aldford, Buerton, Eggerley, and half of Churton.

ALDFORD.

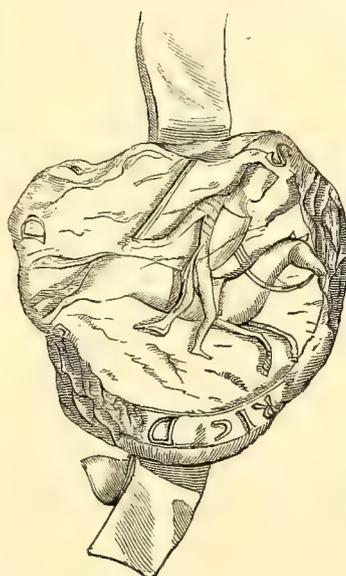
ALDFORD is unnoticed in the Domesday Survey by its present name, which is evidently derived from a local circumstance, an important ford of the Dee, which its castle was erected for the defence of, and which communicated its name to that castle, and to the church and village erected under its walls for protection from the incursions of its Welsh neighbours.

It must, however, though unnamed, have formed at this period a portion of the estates of Bigot, consisting of Lea, Thornton, Mobberley, Norbury, Siddington, Rode, Congleton, Sandbach, Sutton, Wimboldsley, Wever, and moieties of Over Alderley and *Farndon*. These estates which form a total superior to some of the baronies, and have precedence in Domesday of the barony of Kinderton, were exclusively the property of Bigot at the Conquest, and the greater part thereof, with the townships taken out of them, formed afterwards the basis of the fee of Aldford. The vill last mentioned, the moiety of *Farndon*, was perhaps nearly co-extensive with the present Aldford, which joins up to the other moiety of *Farndon*, still the property of that bishopric to which it belonged before the Conquest, and divides with it, both in manor and parish, the township of Churton.

Bigot tenet de Hugone comite Ferentone. Edwinus comes tenuit. Ibi iv hidæ geldabiles. Terra est viii carucarum. In dominio sunt ii, et vii villani, et iii bordarii cum ii carucis. Ibi molinum et piscaria cum ii piscatoribus, et una acra prati. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xl solidos, modo vi libras. Wasta invenitur.

“The lord of Aldford” is ascertained by an enrollment in the Cheshire Domesday, to have had a contest respecting Sandbach church with Randle Gernons in the time of king Stephen^a. Aldford was about this time formed into a vill by its present name, and had lords who bore that name, the successors of Bigot, by a title not at all accounted for, but most probably by female descent. Robert de Aldford, in the time of Hen. II. married Mary (or Sarah according to some pedigrees) daughter of Richard Fitz Eustace, baron of Halton. It is most likely that in or near this reign the castle was erected, which became the head of the several manors originally possessed by Bigot, which had much about this time been granted out to various proprietors, and now formed component members, holding by military service, from the great fee of Aldford, which was held in capite from the earldom by Richard de Aldford in the time of king John.

A profusion of deeds of this Richard de Aldford exist among the Cheshire collections, and will be found in the accounts of Thornton, Mobberley, &c. and



in the chartulary of Pulton. It is most probable that he was of the Audley family, from his grants of lands in Aldithel' to the monastery of Pulton, and from the arms which he adopted (Gules, fretty Ermine) which vary little from the coat of the Audleys. The annexed seal is copied from an original confirmation charter by him relative to Mobberley, which will be found in the deeds of that priory.^b

Richard de Aldford was succeeded in his fee and castle of Aldford, between the 10th of king John and the 13th of Henry III. by sir John Arderne, to the account of whose probable relationship to his predecessor nothing can be advanced beyond what has been stated under Alvanley. There can be little doubt that he was either son or son-in-law, and the probabilities seem to be in favour of the former, and also to point to the identity of Richard de Aldford with Richard de Harderna. Sir John Arderne had a confirmation of Aldford fee, with its numerous privileges, in the charter subjoined, in which the usual long recital of obsolete terms is somewhat enlivened by the lord of Aldford's privileges, of “free duel in his court, and ordeal by fire and by water.”

Ranulph' comes Cest. Constabulariis, Dapifero, Justiciario, Vicecomiti, Baronibus, Militibus, ballivis, et omnibus fidelibus presentibus et futuris, cartam hanc inspecturis, salutem. Sciatis me dedisse concessisse, &c. Johanni de Arderne militi meo, pro homagio et servitio suo, totum feodum de Aldeford cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, cum soke et sack, toll et theme, infangtheof et outfangtheof, et libertate duelli habendi in curiâ suâ, et cum juisio^c ignis et aquæ, et cum omnibus libertatibus et aisiamentis intra villam et extra villam, et cum advocacione ecclesiarum et capellarum, et cum omnibus prædicto feodo de Aldeford pertinentibus. Scilicet cum

^a The enrollment is of the time of Randle Blundeville. Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5.

^c Judgement, or *juise*, a word which occurs in Chaucer, corrupted from *judicium*.

^b Communicated by Wm. Hamper, esq.

servitiis, consuetudinibus, et demandis, mihi et heredibus meis pertinentibus; videlicet, in putura servientium per totum feodum de Aldeford, quam scilicet puturam habui servientium meorum; et cum clausurâ haiæ, quam scilicet clausuram de prædicto feodo de Aldeford habui ad haiam meam de Macclesfeld claudendam, et cum garetroth, et Streetward, Renegild, Firthmote, et cum tolneto de toto feodo de Aldeford cum pertinentiis per totam Cestreshire, tum infra nundinas, quam extra: habendum et tenendum, &c.

Concessi etiam eidem Johanni de Arderne et heredibus suis, sive ejus assignatis, ut teneant prædictum feodum de Aldeford de me et heredibus meis, libere et quietè de secta comitatûs vel hundredi et wichmote, et de auxliio Vicecomitis, et de assisis, et de supra assisis, et summonitionibus, et de secta placitorum forestæ, et de omnibus placitis et querelis mihi et heredibus meis pertinentibus: exceptis tantum placitis ad gladium meum pertinentibus; faciendo mihi et heredibus meis servitia duorum feodorum militum intra divisas Cestriæ pro omnibus servitiis mihi et heredibus meis pertinentibus. Et ego Ranulphus et heredes mei, præfato Johanni de Arderne, et heredibus suis, vel assignatis suis, dictum feodum de Aldeford cum pertinentiis et omnibus libertatibus, contra omnes homines et feminas warranzabimus.

His testibus, Philippo de Orreby tunc justiciario meo, Rogero de Montealto seneschallo meo, Henrico de Audelegh, Warino de Vernon, Willielmo de Venables, Hamone de Massy, Rogero de Meingarin, Roberto Patricio, Waltero de Leynet, Petro clericus meo, Hugone, Thoma, Henrico, et Gilberto Dispensatoribus^a.

In the direct line of the Ardernes of Aldford and Alvanley, this fee descended to the time of Edw. III. when sir John Arderne, who died without legitimate issue, settled Aldford with several of its members on his son Thomas, issue by his wife Ellen, but clearly born before marriage, as stated in Alvanley on the authority of the wording of these settlements, of the Inquisitions on sir John's death which find his brother Peter his heir, and the claim by which Peter recovered the manor of Alvanley as heir male.

With this Thomas de Arderne commences a new family, from whom the title runs clear to the present period.

Inq. p. m. 49 Edw. III. William Trussel, chv'r, holds the manor of Northrode from Thomas de Arderne, in capite by military service as of his manor of Aldford; and Thomas Arderne holds the said manor of Aldford cum pert. from the earl of Chester in capite by military service.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. IV. John de Ardren held the manors of Aldford, Alderley, and Ecchells, with the advowsons of Aldford and Alderley, and a rent of x marks issuing from Upton, holding Ecchells from the lord le Strange as of his manor of Dunham, val. 50l., and Aldford from the earl of Chester in capite, val. 40l. The rest illegible.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VI. John de Arderne, chv'r, and Margaret his wife, held the manor of Aldford with appendant advowson, and the manors of Alderley and Ecchells of the feoffment of John Pigott. Value of Aldford 40 marks, held with advowson from the king as earl of Chester in capite. No heir expressed.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. IV. Thomas Stanley, of Elford, esq. died seized of no lands whatsoever, held from the king

or any one else, having married Maud, daughter and heiress of sir John Arderne, kt. seized of the manors of Aldford, Alderley, and Ecchells cum pert. and after the death of the said Maud, having only held the same by courtesy, with remainder to their son sir John Stanley, kt. The said John son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 16 Edw. IV. Sir John Stanley, of Elford, kt. held the manor and advowson of Aldford from the prince as earl of Chester, in capite by mil. serv. Value 22l. 11s. 6d. The manor and advowson of Alderley, the manor of Ecchells, and rents in Upton and Chester. John Stanley, esq. son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. John Standley, esq. held the manors and advowsons of Aldford and Alderley, and manor of Ecchells, from the king as earl of Chester by military service. Value 106l. 6s. 8d. died Nov. 21, last past. Christopher Savage, son and heir of Anne, one of the daughters and coheiresses of the said John; Anne, daughter and coheiress of Margery, another coheiress; and Elizabeth, late wife of William Farr, the third coheiress, next of kin and heirs, aged severally 12, 7, and 40 years.

^b The manor of Aldford, with its dependencies, shortly afterwards was vested in sir William Stanley of Holt, after whose attainder and execution, it was purchased from the crown by sir William Brereton, seventh son of sir Randle Brereton of Shocklach, who was himself attainted and beheaded in 1546.

^c The manor which thus became again forfeited to the crown, was granted by the king to Edward Peckham his cofferer for 30 years, subject to a rent of 100l. per annum, with reversion to Margery Moreton, one of the gentlewomen of the queen's chamber, subject to 60l. rent per annum, which grantees dying shortly after, king Philip and queen Mary, (a^o 3 and 4) sold this manor and dependencies to sir Edward Fitton and Robert Tatton, esq. The same vested afterwards in the Fittons, and by will of the last sir Edward Fitton, it passed, after much litigation^d, to his nephew, Charles lord Gerard, afterwards earl of Macclesfield, by partition between whose heirs-general, wives of the duke of Hamilton and lord Mohun, it became the property of the latter. Aldford then passed to his second wife with his other estates, and was sold by her third husband, col. Mordaunt, to sir Richard Grosvenor of Eaton, in whose grandson, earl Grosvenor, it is now vested.

The village of Aldford is a picturesque assemblage of farm-houses, cottages, and orchards, on the road from Chester to Farndon, occupying a rising ground between the Dee and a small stream which descends from the Broxton hills, and is here crossed by a handsome bridge. Below the town is the ford from which it derives its name, crossing the Dee under the park of Eaton. On an elevation above are the earth-works of the castle of Aldford, erected for the defence of this important point, the antient communication between the northern and southern Watling Streets, and once repaired and garrisoned by the tenants of its various dependencies.

The form of the castle is singular, and appears to have been intended to imitate that of a harp. The outer court is triangular, with the exception of a corner rounded off by the moat of the keep; the three sides are about 130, 120, and 55 yards in length, and are defended by a fosse about 20 yards wide where it has not been altered; in the north-west angle is the keep, a

^a This charter is given in Vernon's Collections, Harl. MSS. 2074. 173. Woodnoth's Collections, p. 57, and in a plea to a quo warranto, Harl. MSS. 2115.

^b Vill. Cest.

^c Ibid.

^d See more on this subject in the account of Gawsorth in Macclesfield hundred.

raised mount forty yards in diameter, perfectly circular, and surrounded by a moat forty yards wide, separating it from the other works. The keep is called by the country people the Blobb Hill, and the lower court the Hall Croft, being the site of a mansion built by the successors of the Ardernes, but now destroyed. A subsequent building, called Aldford Hall and Mockbeggar Hall, which is of no curiosity or interest, stands south of the village, and was an occasional residence of the Fittons and Gerards.

The original jurisdiction of the fee of Aldford was probably coextensive with the possessions of Bigot already mentioned. At a later period it is stated (in Harl. MSS. 2074. 173.) to have extended over Nether Alderley, Siddington, Yeaton, Norbury, Offerton, Torkington, Charlston, Mobberley, Ollerton, Sutton, Occleston, Wimbaldesley, Bagulegh, Thornton, half of Farn-don, and Weever. The present court is an ordinary court leet and court baron. The freeholders of Thorn-ton and Elton are summoned to attend, but have distinct juries impanelled for each township.

A family who assumed their name from this town-

obit 1^{mo} die Jan. anno { æræ Christianæ 1727,
 { ætatis suæ 80.

Vixi et quem dederat cursum Deus ipse peregi.
 Some indifferent English lines have been added.

The following church notes were taken in 1629.

In an old window on the north side of the church, a very antient representation of a female figure kneeling, the surcoat emblazoned with the arms of Arderne, and before her the figure of a bishop.

In the steeple window the arms of Arderne, the cross-lets botonée. This difference is observable. It is most probably the coat assumed by the illegitimate line.

In the east window of the choir, Fitton of Gawsworth, (Argent, two chevrons and a canton Gules) with seven quarterings, impaling Holcroft, 1 and 4, Argent, a cross engrailed Sable, within a bordure of the second, for Holcroft; 2, Argent, a squirrel seiant Gules, Rixton; 3, Argent, an eagle with wings displayed Sable, preying on an infant proper, swaddled Gules, Culceth.

The middle window on the south side was divided into five compartments.

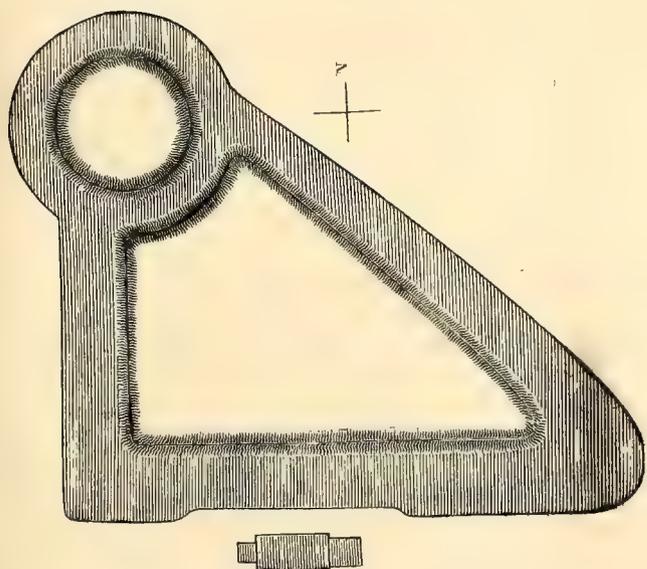
In the centre division, the arms of Calveley, Quarterly, 1 and 4, Argent, a fesse Gules, between three calves rippant Sable, Calveley; 2 and 3, Argent, on a bend sable, three mascles Or, for Huberk: Crest, a calf's head Sable, ducally gorged Or.

The two next divisions, on the right hand, were occupied with an armed figure kneeling before a desk, habited in a surcoat emblazoned with the arms before-mentioned, behind whom were the figures of his four sons also kneeling; and the two divisions on the left, with those of a female before a desk, with six daughters behind her all kneeling: the surcoat of the lady emblazoned with the arms of Dutton, Quarterly Argent and Gules, in the 2d and 3d quarters a fret Or, a crescent for difference.

Under the whole line of figures, "Of your charity pray for the good estate of sir George Calveley and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Piers Dutton of Hatton, who was at the cost of glasinge this windowe, anno m^occcc^oxxxiii^o."

In another window, on the south side, the arms of Arderne and Calveley.

In the church-yard near the dial, a recumbent figure of a female, the hands clasped in prayer, the head resting on an oblong cushion. This effigy is of red stone, and still in existence, but nearly covered by the turf of the church-yard.



RECTORS OF ALDFORD.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1317, kal. Feb.	Gilbertus de Arderne. Willielmus de Burstone.	Edw. co. Cest. propter custod. Joh'is fil. Joh'is de Arderne.	
1332, 3 kal. Oct.	Robertus de Elmswall.	D'nus Jo. de Arderne miles.	Res. Will. de Burstone.
1349, id. Julii.	Nicholaus de Yvinche.	Jo. de Ardenna miles, et Elena uxor.	P. m. Rob'ti de Elmswall.
1349, 4 id. Jan.	Rogerus de Hallford, pr'b'r. Willielmus de Bromburgh.	Thomas de Ardena.	P. m. Nicholai de Yvinche.
1377.	David de Grafton.		Res. Will'i de Bromburgh.
1409, 9 Octob.	Ricardus Wosthed.	Ricardus Chaderton, scutifer, hac vice.	
1430.	Robertus Blundell, cap's.	Thomas Stanley, arm'r.	
1459, Maii.	Johannes Lathom, pr'b'r. John Lane.	Thomas Stanley, arm'r.	
1580, April 18.	Thomas Johnson. Christopher Goodman. Samuel Lloyd.	Edward Fitton.	Death of John Lane.
1631, Feb. 18.	John Bradwell.	William Moreton.	
1672, Aug. 30.	Edward Mainwaring.	Charles lord Gerard of Bran- don.	
1675, Nov. 23.	Bryan Chetwynd.	Cha. lord Gerard of Brandon.	
1675, March 13.	William Shippen, A. M.	The same.	
1677, Feb. 18.	Peter Leigh.	The same.	Cession of Wm. Shippen.
1728, June 17.	Robert Roberts.	Richard Whitehead.	Death of P. Leigh.
1769, March 7.	George Taylor, A. M.	Richard lord Grosvenor.	Death of R. Roberts.
1811, Jan. 28.	Richard Massie, A. M.	Robert earl Grosvenor.	Death of G. Taylor.

The first of this list, an unidentified scion of the Arderne family, occurs as rector of Aldford, in a grant of lands in Chorlton to the abbey of St. Werburgh.

Christopher Goodman, who was archdeacon of Richmond, and displaced from Aldford for non-conformity, is noticed at greater length in the account of the dignitaries of his cathedral. He died 4 June 1603, aged 85.

Edward Mainwaring was also vicar of Wybunbury.

Peter Leigh, who has been noticed among the monumental inscriptions, was also vicar of St. John's in Chester.

William Shippen, afterwards S. T. P. and rector of Stockport, was father of William Shippen, a celebrated political character during the administration of sir Robert Walpole, and was brother of Dr. Robert Shippen, Principal of Brasenose College. A further notice of

this incumbent will be found in the list of rectors of Stockport.

George Taylor, of Maridge, co. Devon, held the rectory of Church Eaton with this living, and was chaplain to George II. He died Nov. 9, 1810, aged 80 years, and was buried in the middle aisle of Lichfield cathedral.

The advowson of the rectory has been uniformly attached to the manor. The rector has the tithes of all the townships, with the exception of a modus for hay.

Buerton pays hay tithe and agistment.

There is a school, recently built at the expence of lord Grosvenor, and supported exclusively by the inhabitants. The charitable benefactions amount to 113*l.* vested in the 5 per cents. in the names of earl Grosvenor, the rector, and Mr. Palin, the interest of which is given to the poor^g.

BUERTON.

At the earliest period in which mention is made of this vill, it occurs as held by the Pulfords of Pulford under the Ardernes, 34 Hen. III. and is stated to be held by the service of repairing the fortifications of their castle of Aldford, in an Inq. 15 Edw. I.^a

^b *Inq. p. m.* 18 Edw. I. Hugh de Pulford died seized of this manor, holding it of sir Peter de Arderne, by suit to Aldford, and providing one foot soldier to do ward at the castle of Aldford, at the cost of the said Peter.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. John de Pulford held the

manor of Buerton, from Thomas de Arderne, chv'r, by military service, val. cs.

^c The manor subsequently passed in marriage with Joan, daughter and heiress of sir Robert Pulford, to Robert le Grosvenour of Holme, who obtained the same by fine 8 Ric. II.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VI. Thomas le Grosvenour, chv'r, held inter alia the manor of Buerton in demesne as of fee, from John Stanley, esq. and Maud his wife, in right of the said Maud, as of their manor of Aldford, by fealty and suit to Aldford court, val. 8*l.*

^g Information of the rev. Thomas Edwards, M. A. curate of Aldford, and the Parliamentary Return.

^a Villare Cest.

^b *Ibid.*

^c *Ibid.*

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. IV. Robert Grosvenor, esq. held inter alia the manor of Buerton as before. Val. per ann. viiil.

Agnes, daughter and coheirss of this Robert, brought Buerton in marriage to sir W. Stanley of Hooton.

Inq. p. m. 12 Hen. VIII. Anne Stanley, widow, held in dower the manor of Buerton from the king by escheat, as of his manor of Aldford, by suit to that court and fealty. Val. iil.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VIII. William Stanley, esq. held inter alia the same as aforesaid. Val. 33l. 13s. 4d.

Inq. p. m. 11 Jac. I. William Stanley, esq. held messuages and lands in Buerton from Edward Fytton, esq. as of his manor of Aldford, as before. Val. 33l. 13s. 4d.

From this period Buerton has passed with Hooton, and is now vested in sir T. S. M. Stanley, bart. There is a site of an antient moated mansion on the edge of the township, immediately adjacent to the chapel of Bruera.

EGGERLEY.

THIS township is unnoticed in Domesday, but there is every reason to believe that it was combined with Coddington and Bechin in forming the Norman vill of Coddington, which is stated to have consisted of three Saxon manors. Like those places it was originally vested in the Montalts, as appears by a grant from Ralph de Montalt to Hermiwyn his freeman, of eight bovates here, adjoining to Lai or Lea. It was afterwards in the Botilers of Wem, and was purchased from that family, together with Coddington, by William Massie, 18 Hen. VI.

On the partition of the estates of this family, temp. Edw. IV. between the sons of this William, Eggerley was allotted to the eldest son, Morgan Massie, who became founder of the Massies of Eggerley, in whom the manor remained vested to the time of Charles II., when it was purchased from them by Samuel Smallwood, gent. whose lineal descendant, Thomas Smallwood, gent. was proprietor in 1759^d. It was shortly afterwards purchased by the rev. Thomas Ince, in whose grandson, Townsend Ince, of Christleton, esq. it is now vested.

Part of the Parish of St. Oswald.

EIGHT of the component townships of the Chester parish of St. Oswald's are situated in this hundred; Church en Heath, Lea cum Newbold, Saughton, Huntinton, Boughton, Bache, Newton, and Wervin. The four first form the chapelry of Bruera. The vicar of St. Oswald's provided also formerly an officiating priest in Boughton, and the abbot of St. Werburgh supplied a third priest for the chapel of Wervin, as noticed under those townships.

By an ordination of Simon de Baliden, after the appropriation of the vicarage of St. Oswald, and the chapels of Bruera and Wervin^a, it was fixed that the vicar of St. Oswald should provide at his own charge one clerk and one chaplain for divine service in the chapel of Bruera.

The Chapelry of Bruera.

THE chapel of Bruera appears first in a confirmation by Pope Honorius III. about 1220; some parts of the present church are perhaps a century older. It consists of a nave and chancel without side aisles, and a south chancel separated from the nave by an obtusely pointed arch; the nave and chancel are divided by a massy semicircular one, sprung from four cylindrical shafts with capitals. The south entrance has been under a massy porch. The door-way is now a pointed arch formed under a semicircular one with chevron mouldings. Stones carved with early Norman patterns are worked into various parts of the building.

In the north chapel (appropriated to Saughton hall) is a pyramidal mural monument inscribed,

To the memory of
sir Ellis Cunliffe, of Saughton, baronet,

on whom his God bestowed every earthly blessing,
excepting bodily health.
Obliged on this account to remove for some years into
the milder climates
of Europe,
he returned to England with health improved,
his solid understanding untainted with folly,
his morals uncorrupted by vice,
his religious principles undebased by libertine or super-
stitious communications,
and with a steady attachment to
his king and the liberties of his country.
Being such a man,
he was unanimously elected, in the year 1755,
to represent in parliament
the commercial town of Liverpool,

^d Cowper's Broxton MSS.

^a Chartulary of St. Werburgh, b. b. Harl. MSS. 1965.

and served his constituents and his country with so much integrity, assiduity, and success, for he was neither venal nor factious, that in the year 1761 he was again elected to the same important trust, which he as faithfully discharged till disabled by bodily infirmities.

Since, after a slow and languishing decay, he died on the 16th of October, 1767.

He left issue two daughters by his wife, Mary, youngest daughter of Hen. Bennet, of Moston, esq. who, to manifest her regard and gratitude to the best of husbands, has erected this.

Over the inscription is a figure of death, represented by a winged boy holding an inverted torch, supporting a medallion with a bust of the deceased. Over it the arms of Cunliffe, Sable, three conies current Argent; crest, on a wreath a greyhound seiant Argent. On an escocheon of pretence, Gules; three demi-lions Argent, in the centre a crosslet bottonée fitchée Or, for Bennet.

At the side of this is a corresponding monument by Nollekens, with another medallion, containing a bust of sir Robert Cunliffe, supported by a winged boy;

over which are the arms of Cunliffe, as before, impaling Wright. Inscription as follows:

Erected by conjugal gratitude to the memory of sir Robert Cunliffe, of Saughton, bart. who departed this life in the year 1778, aged 58 years.

He married, from sincere affection and disinterested esteem, Mary, daughter of Ichabod Wright, of Nottingham, esq. who, with one son and three daughters, survived him, regretting their loss, but resigned to the will of God.

For pious and humane through the whole course of life he so discharged the connubial, social, and parental duties,

as truly to deserve this comprehensive character,

HE WAS A GOOD MAN.

The ground on which the chapel of Bruera is built, is now reputed part of the township of Saughton.

The only charity within this chapelry, specified in the parliamentary returns, is a legacy of 5*l.* by lady Calvey in 1705, vested in parish securities, the interest of which is distributed yearly to the poor.

CHURCH EN HEATH.

THE antient deeds of the abbey of St. Werburgh, and the Inquisitions, are almost uniform in the orthography of this little township, which, though vulgarly corrupted to "Churton Heath," is a literal translation of the name of the adjoining chapel, *Capella super Brueram*.

^a 31 Edw. I. John, son of William del Heath, gave his manor of Church en Heath to Robert Bulkeley. This passed afterwards to the Malpas family, and David son of John de Malpas, held lands here under sir John Sutton, 11 Hen. VI.

^b 15 Hen. VII. Morgan Massie obtained by fine from Hugh Cornedow and George Bostock, one messuage and 74 acres of land cum pert. to him and his heirs for 2*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per ann. This estate continued in the Massies of Eggerley to the time of Charles II. when it was

purchased by ^c Mr. Colley, a nonconformist minister, ancestor of Mr. Colley, the present proprietor of this little township, which contains only 120 statute acres, forming one farm.

^d A small tenement in this township, adjacent to the chapel, was given to Chester abbey by Roger de Montalt, at the time of his receiving the extorted grant of Lea, the tithes of Hawarden, and other estates^e. It is most probable that this is the land surrounding the chapel, which is now reputed part of the township of Saughton.

Church en Heath owes suit and service to Saughton court, and is not now reputed to possess any privileges, as a distinct manor.

LEA CUM NEWBOLD.

THE earl of Chester retained one moiety of this township at the Domesday survey, and the other moiety was then granted to Bigot, forming a portion of those towns which constituted the fee of Aldford, the subsequent property of the Aldfords and Ardernes.

"Ipse comes tenet Lai. Godvinus liber homo tenuit. Ibi una hida et dimidia geldabilis. Terra est iv carucarum, in dominio est una, et ii bovarii, et viii villani, cum una caruca: ibi una acra silvæ.

"Isdem Bigot tenet Lai. Ansgot tenuit ut liber homo. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est ii carucarum: ibi sunt ii bordarii, et una acra prati. Valet ii solidos; wasta fuit."

Lea afterwards became the property of the Montalts, but only as mesne lords. Hugh Fitz Norman, their collateral ancestor, gave the tithes of it to Chester abbey before 1093.

^f 6 Edw. I. Robert de Montalt died seized, inter alia, of Lea, holding that part of it on the north side of Lea Brook (the Earl's Share) from the abbot of Chester, who held it of the King, in free alms, and all on the south side from Peter Arderne, lord of Aldford (Bigot's Share) by the render of 18*d.* per annum.

The progress of these subinfeudations is very remarkable. William de Montalt (rector of Neston, temp. Ric. I. and brother of Robert de Montalt, seneschal of Chester)

^a Vill. Cest.

^c Vide Neston.

^b Ibid.

^e Information of Mr. Colley.

^f Villare Cest.

^d Vill. Cest.

gave Le Lay to the abbot of St. Werburgh^g, by a charter confirmed by Randle Gernons, which abbot would of course hold the gift, not from the grantor, but in free alms from the Earl, as fixed by the foundation charter.

Roger de Montalt afterwards (as mentioned in Neston) took forcible possession of the abbot's church there, and extorted from him, among other lands given as the price of restitution, the manor of Lea. His descendants would consequently hold the same from Chester abbey, by virtue of this new subinfeudation, that is, the representatives of the original grantor would become the tenants of the former grantee, which fully explains the apparent confusion of the Inquisition 6 Edw. I.

Lea, having passed to the Crown by settlement of Robert de Montalt, the last baron, passed with the other possessions of the Montalts, in the grant to William Montacute, earl of Salisbury, by whom it was with them granted, 22 Edw. III. to sir John Wingfield, and being then severed from the rest of the barony, granted to David de Calveleg, after whose decease it was held for life by his widow Mabella de Calveleg.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Mabella de Calveleg held for life, the manor of Lee, cum pert. by the demise of John de Wingefeld, chevalier, from the Earl of Chester, in capite, by military service, with reversion to Hugh Calveleg and his heirs, value, per annum, xl.

The celebrated sir Hugh Calveley, found heir by this Inquisition, was descended as follows from the Calveleys of Calveley.

David de Calveley, second son of Kenric de Calveley, and the first Calveley of Lea, married two wives, Johanna, and Mabella already mentioned. By the first of these he was father of sir Hugh Calveley, as appears by the following abstract of a grant to his mother.

"Hugo filius Davidis de Calveleg, &c. Johannæ matris meæ terr. &c. in Calveleg. Test. Petro de Calveleg, Willielmo de Bulkeleg, Davide filio Davidis de Calveleg." 29 Edw. III.

Sir Hugh Calveley (Hugo de Calveley, chevalier, senr.) died issueless, on the feast of St. George 1394, seized of the manor of Lee, cum pert. value xxi. per annum, holding the same from the Earl of Chester, in capite, by military service, and leaving David, son of Hugh de Calveley, his kinsman and heir. *Inq. p. m.* 17 Ric. II.

This heir was his great nephew, son of Hugh, son of his brother David, as by the following evidences. 16 Ric. II. Hugo de Calveleg, junr. miles, concessi, &c. Hugoni seniori, mil. duas partes omnium terr. quas David de Calveleg, pater meus, perquisivit de Johanne Hole de Hole Hey, &c. Seal, a fesse between three calves passantⁱ.

Inq. p. m. 17 Ric. II. Hugh de Calveleg, chevalier, junr. held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Mottram, and lands in Calveleg, with the exception of one-third of Mottram, held in dower by Agnes widow of David de Calveleg, and died on Monday, after the feast of Pope St. Leo. David de Calveleg son and heir.

Lea is unnoticed in this Inquisition, the elder sir Hugh being yet living; Mottram Andrew was his mother's inheritance, and had been settled previously on Thomas Mynshull vicar of Tarvin, as trustee, by his father David^k.

The descent runs clearly through the successive Inquisitions after this period.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. IV. David, son of Hugh de Calveleg, knight, (the heir of his father and great uncle

by the two Inquisitions 17 Ric. II.) held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Lee, from Elizabeth countess of Sarum, as of her manor of Hawarden, by military service, value, per annum, xxi.; also the manor of Mottram Andrew, and lands in Calveleg, Prestland, and Badylegh. Hugh Calveleg brother and heir.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VI. Hugh de Calveleg held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Lee, from the King as Earl of Chester, in capite, by military service, value 18 marks; and the manor of Mottram Andrew. Hugh de Calveleg son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VII. Sir Hugh Calveley, knight, held in demesne as of fee, two-thirds of the manor of Lee, from the Prince as Earl of Chester, by the service of two parts of a knight's fee, value 8l. with lands in Beeston and Calveley. Hugh Calveley son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. Margaret, wife of Hugh Calveley, knight, held the manor of Mottram Andrew, from the King as Earl of Chester, by military service, value, per annum, 18l. 12s.: died on Sunday after the feast of St. Barnabas, 1 Hen. VIII. Philip, son of John Egerton, son of the said Margaret, next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VIII. Hugh Calveley held two parts of the manor of Ley (as in his father's Inquisition) val. 13l. 6s. 8d.; also the manor of Mottram Andrew, and lands in Beeston, Presland, Calveley, Wich Malbank, Badeley, and Hanley: died Thursday after the feast of St. Peter, 7 Hen. VIII. George Calveley, son and heir, aged upwards of 35 years.

Inq. p. m. 13 Hen. VIII. Christiana Calveley, widow, held lands in dower in Lee, Bechin, and Chester: died Feb. 8, 13 Hen. VIII. George Calveley son and heir, aged 50 years.

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VIII. Sir George Calveley, knight, held the manor of Ley from the King as Earl of Chester, by military service, value 40l. the manor of Mottram Andrew, and lands in Hanley, Bunbury, Presland, Badeley, Stoneley, Calveley, Wich Malbank, Beeston, Bechin, and Eggerley, total value, 83l. 19s.: died on Sunday after Ascension day. Hugh Calveley son and heir, aged 30 years.

Inq. p. m. 5 and 6 Phil. and Mar. Sir Hugh Calveley, kt. held the manor of Lea from the king and queen by military service, val. per ann. 37l. 13s. 4d. exclusive of lands held for life by Hugh Calveley, val. 30s. also the manors of Mottram Andrew, Buckley, and Harthill, and lands and reversions in Hanley, Milton, Presland, Stoneley, Badeley, Beeston, Cleyley, Calveley, Wich Malbank, Bechton, Eggerley, Barretspoole, Hurleston, Aston, Littleton, Newton, Sydnal, and Droytewiche. Died on the Sunday before St. George's day. George Calveley son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 27 Eliz. Sir George Calveley, kt. held the manor of Lea as before, value 26l. 15s. 4d. the manors of Mottram Andrew, Buckley, and Harthill, and lands in all the townships of the last Inq. and in Whorepoole, Egerton, Horton, Scalford, and Saxbye, co. Leic. and Grimston, co. Flint; died Aug. 5. Hugh Calveley, brother and heir.

Inq. p. m. Aug. 5, 5 Jac. I. Hugh Calveley, esq. held the manor of Lea as before, value 13l. 6s. 8d. the manors of Mottram Andrew, Hanley, Buckley, and Harthill, lands in the townships of the last Inq. and in Saughton, Huxley, Aldersey, Farndon, Churton, and Bunbury, val. tot. 49l. 10s. 4d.; died March 1, 3 Jac. I. George Calveley, son and heir, aged upwards of 30 years.

^g Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965. 2 b.

^h Harl. MSS. 2038. 23.
5 o

ⁱ Ibid.

^k Ibid.

In this sir George's Calveley's son, sir Hugh Calveley, the male line of this antient family ended¹, and the estates were divided between the families of his sisters, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Cotton, of Combermere, esq. and Lettice, wife of Thomas Legh, D.D. third son of Peter Legh, of Lyme, esq. In the division of the estates the manor of Lea with the lands north of the brook passed to the Cottons, those south of the brook to the Leghs of Lyme. The first of these shares was sold by the late sir Robert Salusbury Cotton, bart. to Mr. Joseph White of London, and the other is now vested in Thomas Legh, of Lyme, esq. M. P.

The hall has been replaced by an ordinary farm-house. The moat is remaining.

The pedigree of Calveley of Lea is graced with the name of one of the most distinguished warriors of the time, SIR HUGH CALVELEY, KNIGHT, eldest son of David Calveley of Lea, by his first wife Johanna, as stated in the preceding evidences.

Sir Hugh first appears in history as one of the thirty combatants engaged in a battle with thirty Bretons, in 1351^m, for the purpose of deciding some differences, which had arisen out of the disorders committed by the English after the death of sir Thomas Daggeworth. The battle was determined upon by the marshal de Beaumanoir, governor of Josselin, and the English commander at Ploermel, supposed to have been sir Richard Greenacreⁿ, of Merlay, a Lancashire knight, who fell in the contest. It may give some idea of the ferocity of the combatants, to say, that when the marshal de Beaumanoir, desperately wounded, was quitting the field to quench his thirst, he was called back with an exclamation of, "Beaumanoir, drink thy blood, and thy thirst will go off!" The greater part of the English were slain, and sir Hugh was carried a prisoner to Josselin. The site of this contest, between Ploermel and Josselin, is marked by a cross still existing^o, and is called "Le Champ des Anglois."

The next appearance of sir Hugh is in 1364, at the battle of Auray, decisive of the contest between John de Montford and Charles le Blois, for the dutchy of Brittany. Froissart introduces him as objecting to the command of the rear guard, and entreating with uplifted hands, that for the love of God, he might not have that service. Satisfied, however, by the explanations of sir John Chandos, who protested with tears that no other man was equal to the service, he accepted the command, and was materially instrumental in the event, by the discipline he preserved, and his support of the division of Montford, under a desperate charge of his antagonist^p.

His next service is of little respectability, as a captain of the free companies, composed partly of the soldiers of the late war, and partly of banditti, who had enlisted in the service of Henry of Trastamare, against Pedro of Castille, surnamed the Cruel. The Prince of Wales however joining the opposite party, sir Hugh followed his example, and under his old commander, sir John Chandos, again obtains Froissart's honourable mention in the bloody battle of Navarete, fought on April 3, 1367.^q

This predatory warfare appears to have suited our hero, for shortly after, we find him at the head of 2000 banditti, in the territories of the earl of Armagnac, making disastrous war, and doing great damages."

In 1377, according to Holinshed, sir Hugh Calverlie "was sent over to Calis, to remain upon safe keeping of that town as deputie there." In the same year (on the same authority) "comming one morning to Bulougne, he burnt certeine ships, which laie there in the haven, to the number of six and twentie, besides two proper barks, and having spoiled and burnt the most part of the base towne, returned to Calis, with a rich bootie of goods and cattell."

In the same year he also recovered the castle of Marke, which had been betrayed by "certeine Picards stipendiarie soldiers in the said castell."

1378. Sir Hugh "slept not on his businesse. Shortlie after Christmasse he spoiled the towne of Estaples, the same daie the fair was kept there. The sellers had quicke utterance, for that that might be carried awaie, the Englishmen laid hands on." Holinshed adds, that a threat of burning the town, enforced the redemption of the rest.

1379. Sir Hugh Calverlie and sir Thomas Percy, as admirals of England, convoyed the duke of Brittany to a haven near St. Maloes. The armed ships having entered, the gallies laden with the property of the duke and his suite were suddenly attacked by French vessels, "but sir Hugh, with his archers, caused the master of the shippe, even against his wille, to return againe to the rescue. Through the manful prowess of sir Hugh the gallies were repelled, for, according to his wonted valiancie, he would not returne till he saw all other in safetie."

In 1380 he encountered the tremendous storm which destroyed a large portion of the expedition to Brittany, in which he and sir John Arundell had a principal command. "Some writers," says Holinshed, "impute this calamitie to light on the said sir John Arundell and his companie, for the lascivious and filthie rule which they kept before their setting forth, in places where they laie till their provision was readie; who not content with that which they did before they took ship, in ravishing men's wives, maids, and daughters, they carried them aboard, that they might have the use of them whilst they were upon the sea, and yet, when the tempest rose, like cruel and unmerciful persons, they threw them into the sea, either for that they would not be troubled with their lamentable noise and crieng, or for that they thought so long as they had such women aboard with them, whom they had abused so long, God would not cease the rage of the tempest." Sir John Arundel perished with twenty vessels and a thousand men. Sir Hugh himself, (as Froissart informs us) with seven of his sailors only, out of the whole vessel, took to the masts and cables, and were dashed on shore by the violence of the storm. He was now governor of Brest, and in this year accompanied the earl of Buckingham in his expedition into France.

The crusade of the bishop of Norwich against the Clementists, brings sir Hugh Calveley once more forward, an opponent of his leader's measures in the cabinet, but a vigorous supporter in the field, until after a series of successes, his troops were surprised in Bergues by the French king, with superior numbers, and sir Hugh, abandoning the contest as hopeless, returned to Calais, while the royal army of France, amounting to twenty-six thousand men at arms, was defiling before it.

¹ In Harl. MSS. 5955. is a print of the funeral procession of this sir Hugh, from a plate presented by lady Calveley for the illustration of the Academie of Armory.

^m Johnes's Froissart. i. 371. 4to edit.

ⁿ Called Brembo in the Breton Chronicles: see a note on this subject by J. C. Brooke, Somerset Herald. Archæol. vi. 148.

^o Ibid. where there is a plate of the Cross.

^p Johnes's Froissart, i. 651.

^q Ibid. p. 734.

^r Ibid. ii. 666.

The reader will find in Froissart's picture of the reluctant abandonment of Bergues^s, one of the finest paintings by his romantic and chivalrous pencil. It is indeed observable that he rarely touches on sir Hugh Calveley, without bringing him out into the very foreground of his living pictures.

None of the blame attending on the failure of this expedition appears to have fallen on sir Hugh Calveley. Holinshed particularly specifies the honourable patronage of the duke of Lancaster, and it is certain that he retained to his decease the government of Guernsey, and the care of the royal castle and park of Shotwick, an office which, since the subjection of Wales, had ceased to be of any military importance, but which was considered an office of dignity as late as the time of James I.

The Lea estate had devolved to sir Hugh Calveley as early as 35 Edw. III. and the property derived from his various offices, and the fruits of his early predatory warfare, must have been enormous. He is stated to have devoted a part of these to the foundation of a hospital in Rome, in 1380, in conjunction with sir Robert Knolles and sir John Hawkwood, and he now determined to sanctify the end of his days by an act of similar piety in his native county. Accordingly, having purchased from the Bunburies and St. Pierres their alternate

interest in the rectory of the parish church of the elder branch of his family, he obtained the royal licence (March 12, 10 Ric. II.) for appropriating the same to the use of a master and six chaplains of a college, which he had resolved to found at Bunbury. A writ dated the year preceding, now remaining in the exchequer of Chester, for the delivery of timber from Delamere forest, ascertains the building to have been then in progress; and it is most probable that the fabric was completed before the decease of the founder, on the feast of St. George in 1394. His body was interred in the chancel of his college, where his armed effigies still reposes on one of the most sumptuous altar tombs which his county can boast.

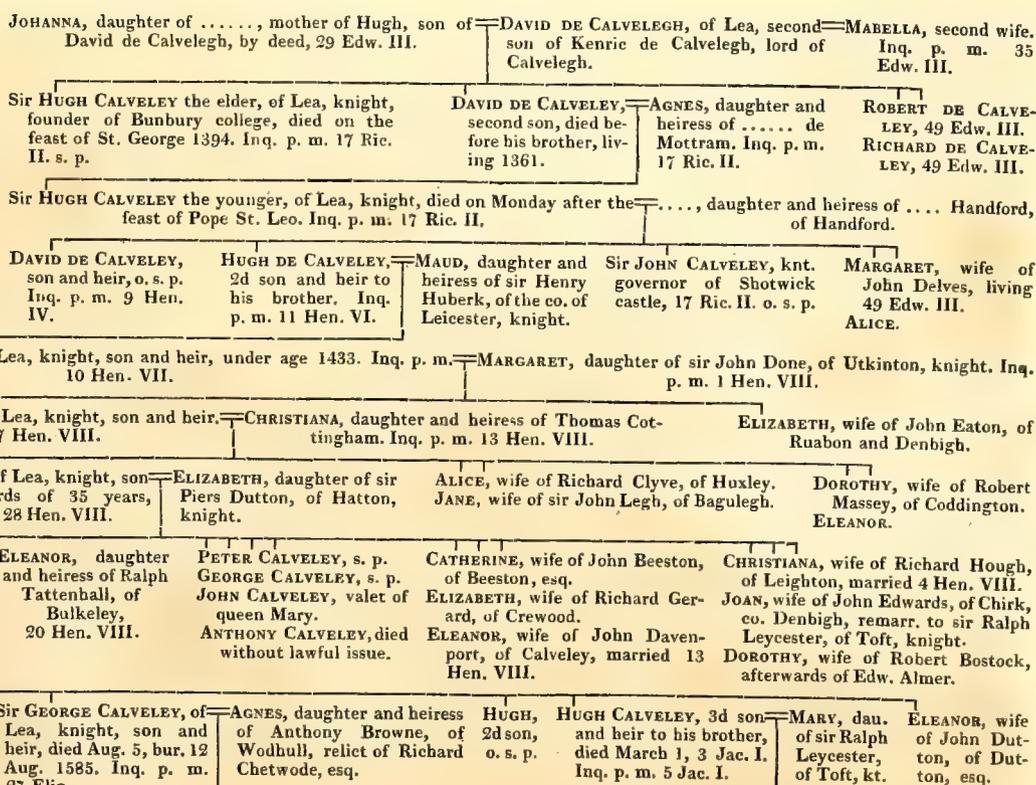
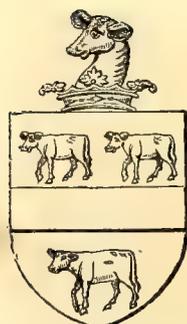
It has been said, and generally believed that sir Hugh married a queen of Arragon. Fuller, in 1662, says "*it is most certain*, her armes being quartered on his tomb." The arms are certainly *not* quartered on the tomb, and under these circumstances it appears wholly unnecessary to enter into a serious refutation of a vulgar tradition. The reader, however, may find the possibility of there being any queen of Arragon whom sir Hugh could marry, well controverted in the Magna Britannia of Lysons. It is most probable that he never did marry, and it is certain that he died issueless^t.

CALVELEY OF LEA.

From Leycester's MS Pedigrees, Parochial Registers, and the Inquisitions post mortem.

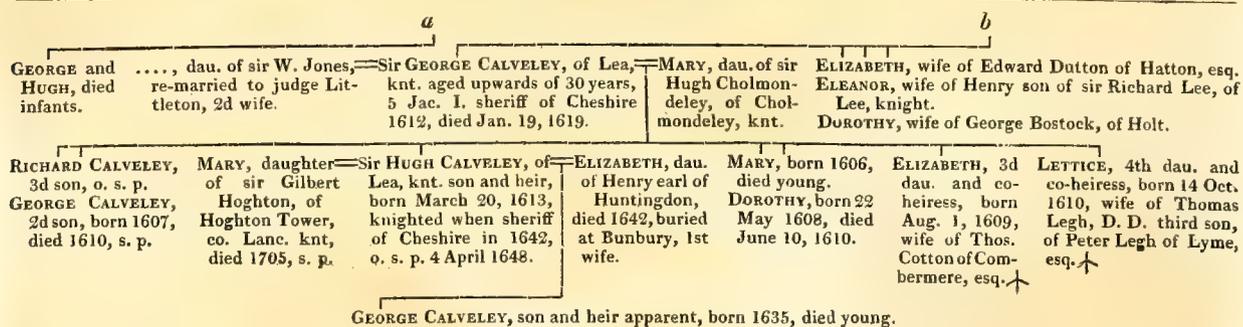
ARMS. Argent, a fesse Gules, between three calves trippant, Sable.

CREST. A calf's head proper, issuing from a ducal coronet, Or.



^s Johnes's Froissart, ii. 694. 4to edit.

^t The pedigrees appear to have fallen into an error on this point, in consequence of a mistake which has crept into several abstracts of the Cheshire Inquisitions, making David found heir to sir Hugh Calveley, son of *this sir Hugh*, instead of *sir Hugh Calveley the younger, his nephew*. The statement here given among the abstracts of Calveley Inquisitions, is taken from the original Inquisition remaining in Chester Exchequer.



SALGHTON OR SAIGHTON.

THE secular canons of St. Werburgh held this manor oefore the Conquest, and retained it at the Domesday survey.

"Ipsa ecclesia tenet Saltone, et tenuit tempore R. Edwardi: ibi ii hidæ geldabiles. Terra est viii carucarum. In dominio est una caruca et unus servus et ix villani cum v carucis. Valuit et valet xl solidos."

The manor was subsequently confirmed by Hugh Lupus, in 1093, to the Benedictine monks of St. Werburgh, and is said to have been requested from the convent by his successor earl Richard; to which Henry Bradshaw, in his life of St. Werburgh, adds, that the earl, exasperated by the refusal of the abbot, threatened the dissolution of the monastery on his return from Normandy, and imputes to the impiety of this intention the shipwreck which overwhelmed that earl in the English channel, with the prime nobility and the heir apparent of England.

The Patricks, barons of Malpas, afterwards intruded themselves into this manor, Huntinton, Cheveley, and Boughton, and maintained possession until they extorted from the abbot an agreement to pay 200l. sterling, in consideration of which Philip Burnel, and Isabel his wife, in the court at Westminster, on the octaves of St. Martin 9 Edw. I. released and quitclaimed to abbot Simon their right in the same. Robert Burnel, bishop of Bath and Wells, afterwards releases the monks from payment of this sum due to himself, and his nephew Philip Burnel, in consideration of their providing two chaplains to pray for the soul of the said Philip in their monastery for ever^a.

After the dissolution the manor was confirmed by Pat. 22 Eliz. to the fee farmers, among the other abbey lands which had been extorted from the dean and chapter by sir Richard Cotton; and in the division of these, Saughton became the property of sir George Beverley, of Huntinton, knight, from whom it passed by purchase to Henry Harpur, esq. who died without surviving issue.

Anne, daughter and coheiress of Peter Harpur, brother and heir of the purchaser, had issue two daughters, whereof Anne married Edward Spencer, citizen of London, from whom the estate descended to John Spencer, whose widow and devisee Margaret (daughter of the rev. Samuel Davie, A. M.) brought the same in marriage to

her second husband, the rev. Richard Williams, rector of Hawarden. From Richard Williams, son of this proprietor, it was purchased by Thomas Brock, of Chester, esq. attorney at law, and has passed under his will to the present possessor, John Brock Wood, esq. only son of his eldest sister^b.

The court of Saughton Fee includes the township of Huntinton, and the hamlet of Cheveley, with the suit and service of the tenants of the manor of Lea, and of Church en Heath.

The abbot of St. Werburgh, 28 Hen. III. had charter of free warren in Saughton, Huntinton, and Cheveley, and had licence by patent, 22 Ric. II. to fortify this manor house of Saughton. By another patent dated 15 Sept. 6 Hen. VIII. John abbot of St. Werburgh had licence to make a park of 1000 acres in Huntinton, Cheveley, and Saughton. This project was most probably put a stop to by the Reformation.

Saughton Manor House, with its demesne, was severed from the manor after the confirmation of the extorted lands to the fee farmers, and in the division of those lands fell to the Calveleys, who held it for several generations. During the usurpation the sequestrators sold it to Charles Walley, of Chester, publican, whose great grandson, John Walley, dying without issue, it was purchased from his widow and executrix about 1755, by Foster Cunliffe, esq. grandfather of sir Foster Cunliffe, of Saughton and Acton, bart. the present proprietor^c.

Salghton was one of the three castellated residences of the abbot of St. Werburgh. Little of the original building besides the great gateway is remaining, which was built by Simon Ripley, about 1489. Its materials are red stone, venerably grey with lichens. The exterior arch is pointed; beyond this are several others of various forms, but more rounded, and the slide for the portcullis is very perfect. On the west side of the gateway, under a projecting window, is carved a wolf's head (much resembling that dug up in the Chester chapter house, marked with the initials of the builder of this gateway) over which is a figure of the Virgin, under a canopy of shrine work. At this side is also a tall slender turret, containing a spiral staircase. The whole forms an interesting specimen of the link between the antient castellated and domestic architecture^d.

^a Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965, 16 b. and 17.

^b Dugdale's Visitat. Cest. 1663-4, Cowper's Broxton MSS. and the information of Francis Barker, esq.

^c Cowper's Broxton MSS. p. 34. The antient manor house is now more generally known by the name of SAUGHTON GRANGE.

^d In the library of the British Museum, is a rare tract, the purport of which is altogether unintelligible, entitled, "Letter of a sad Tragedy by Prince Griffin, at Sayton, neere Chester, and his several attempts against the lady Caufley, and the bloody murder for which he is fled into Scotland. London, printed for A. C. and A. W. 1648."



Geo Pickering del^s

Lond. Pub. Feb^r 1857 by Luckington & Co

Cha^s Heath sculp^s

MALPAS CHURCH.



Geo Pickering del^s

Lond. Pub. Feb^r 1857, by Luckington & Co

Cha^s Heath sculp^s

SAUGHTON GRANGE.



a					
<p>MARY, daughter and coheir, married Nov. 30, 1709, to Hugh Foulkes, of Llechred, co. Denbigh, esq. (son and heir of Robert Foulkes, of Llechred, esq. by Jane, daughter of Edward, second brother of sir Amos Meredith, bart.) who was baptized at St. Mary's, July 3, 1673, and buried there August 6, 1731.</p>		<p>CATHERINE, daughter and coheir, married at Trinity, Chester, April 16, 1704, to the Rev. William Sherwin, first son of William Sherwin, bedell of divinity at Oxford.</p>		<p>THOMAS HAND, of Chester, only son, o. s. p. mayor of Chester, 1701.</p>	
Thomas Sherwin, esq. under secretary at war, 1756.					
<p>ROBERT FOULKES, of Llechred, Chester, and Boughton, esq. second son, and heir by survivorship, married Oct. 18, 1739, buried at St. Mary's, Oct. 20, 1787.</p>	<p>SUSANNA, daughter of Edward Hincks, of Chester, esq. born in Chester, May 15, 1715, bapt. at St. Peter's, May 27, bur. at St. Mary's, Dec. 13, 1797.</p>	<p>1. ROBERT, bapt. at St. Mary's, Nov. 15, 1710, buried there, Feb. 8, 1711-12. 3. HUGH, bapt. at St. Mary's, Feb. 6, 1714-15, buried there, Sept. 28, 1719. 4. PETER, baptized at St. Mary's, April 27, 1716.</p>	<p>1. CATHERINE, bapt. at St. Mary's, Oct. 9, 1712. 2. MARY, bapt. at St. Mary's, Sept. 27, 1713, bur. there Feb. 2, 1714-5.</p>		
<p>MARY, eldest daughter and coheir, born 5th, and bapt. 12th Nov. 1745, married at St. Oswald's, Aug. 24, 1775, to William Currie, of Chester, M. D. third son of William Currie Carlyle, of Bridekirk, co. Dumfries, esq. buried at St. Mary's, Jan. 2, 1813.</p>			<p>SUSAN, second daughter and coheir, born Feb. 5, 1747, died unmarried Dec. 30, 1770, buried at St. Mary's, Jan. 5, 1771.</p>		
<p>1. ROBERT FOULKES, dau. of Stuart, of Chester, Oct. 23, 1776.</p>	<p>ELIZABETH, dau. of Thomas Highlord Ravenscroft, of Davenham, esq. married at St. Martin's, Chester, May 15, 1806.</p>	<p>WILLIAM CURRIE, 2nd son, M. A. of Brasenose College, Oxford, in orders, born March 29, baptized May 11, 1790.</p>	<p>SUSAN CURRIE, born April 25, bapt. at Trinity, Chester, June 17, 1778. MARY CATHERINE, born Feb. 4, baptized at St. Oswald's, March 30, 1780, married to Townsend Ince, of Christleton, esq. and died Aug. 26, 1815, leaving issue one son, Townsend Ince.</p>	<p>ELIZABETH, born June 7, bapt. at St. Oswald's, Chester, Aug. 13, 1782, marr. to John Williams, of Gwersylt, co. Denb. esq. JANE, born Oct. 2, bapt. at St. Oswald's, March 11, 1788.</p>	
<p>ELIZA ELEANOR, born July 6, bapt. at St. Oswald's, Nov. 6, 1808.</p>	<p>MARY, born Aug. 13, 1809, bapt. at St. Oswald's, Oct. 13, 1809.</p>	<p>SUSAN FRANCES, born Aug. 14, 1810, bapt. at St. Oswald's, Oct. 13, 1815.</p>	<p>ROBERT FOULKES CURRIE, only son, born Dec. 3, 1811, bapt. at St. Oswald's, Oct. 13, 1815.</p>		

No manerial privileges are claimed or exercised in Boughton.

From the endowment of the vicarage of St. Oswald, it appears that the vicar was bound to maintain a chaplain, who should perform service four days in the week with him at St. Oswald's, and three days "in capella de Boughton^b." This cannot relate to the chapel of the Hospital of St. Giles in the adjacent extra-parochial township of Spital Boughton, which was unconnected

with St. Oswald's, and had an independent foundation; and it is obvious that there must have been an ancient chapel of ease in this township, as well as in Church en Heath, and in Wervin.

Boughton lies in the immediate suburbs of Chester, and a part of it, forming a continuation of the streets of that city, is situated on a steep hill adjacent to the Dee, which makes a beautiful bend round the Earl's Eye below.

NEWTON JUXTA SUTTON.

"WILLIELMUS filius Nigelli tenet de Hugone comite Newentone, Erne tenuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est III carucarum. In dominio sunt II, et IV bovarii, et VI villani cum una carucâ. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat XX solidos, et post X solidos, modo XX solidos."

This township was subsequently given by this grantee^c to the abbey of St. Werburgh, with the services of Hugh Fitz Odard, ancestor of the Duttons, due for lands here which long were possessed by that family. Other lands were added by Philip, son of Hamon Fitz Wido, surnamed de Newton; and^d William the chaplain, his son, gave the homages and services of Robert de Newton, and Richard the clerk. The said Philip confirmed also a former donation by Richard de Pinchebec.

The abbot of St. Werburgh claimed here 31 Edw. III. his usual privileges of infangtheof, wayf, stray, and chattels of natives and fugitives. Newton was included within the jurisdiction of his leet of Upton, and valued at 18l. 17s. 4d. in the valuation at the Dissolution^e.

After that period it was granted like the township of Wervin to the dean and chapter of Chester, and passed in the same manner to the Hurlestons, and after the

death of Charles Hurleston, esq. became the property of his niece Anne, who married to her second husband Henry John Needham lord viscount Kilmorey. It is now the property of the present viscount Kilmorey.

Newton Hall, the residence of the later generations of the Hurlestons, is a brick building with a high Dutch roof, the situation flat and uninteresting.

Another House in this township is the property of Henry Hesketh, esq.

Flookersbrook, a suburb of Chester, is partly in this township. The principal estate herein was sold by John Massey of Kelsall, 37 Hen. VI. to John Bruen; and Richard Bruen, of Tarvin, conveyed it 5 Hen. VII. to Thomas Barrow of Chester, whose son's daughter brought it in marriage to the Sneyds. From this family it was purchased by the Smiths of Hough, in Wybunbury, and again sold by sir Thomas Smith to John Anderson of Chester, whose great nephew was possessed of it in 1701^f. It has since been broken up into severalties. Flookersbrook Hall, the seat of the Smiths, was burnt down by the garrison of Chester during the siege by sir William Brereton.

^b Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965, and Harl. MSS. 2103. 168.

^c Charter recited in earl Richard's confirmation, Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965

^e Augm. Off. Comput. Ministr.

^f Williamson, Villare Cest.

^d Ibid. p. 28.

BACHE.

RICHARD, second earl of Chester, gave the mill of this place by charter to the monastery of St. Werburgh, the abbots of which had also the manor, and continued immediate lords thereof to the dissolution, when the dean and chapter succeeded them and possessed the same, until it was extorted from them by sir Richard Cotton. Under these successive lords the mesne manor was held by a very respectable and antient family, the Chauntrells of Bache.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VI. William Chantrell held in joint feoffment, with Alice his wife, messuages and lands, cum pert. in Bache, Newton and Upton, by services unknown, from the abbot of Chester, value eight marks; also lands in Dunham Massey, Hale, Altrincham, Stokeport, Offerton, Bradley, Newton, Ashton, Kelsal, Tranmore, Kirkby in Walley, and Bebington, an eighth part of the vill of Pulton Secum, a fourth of Liskard in Wallesey, and Newton in Wirral. John Chantrell son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 21 Edw. IV. Alicia Dodd, widow of William Chantrell, held in dower lands in Dunham, Hale, and Altrincham, and in joint feoffment with the said William, lands in Bache, Newton, Upton, and Stokeport. Robert Chantrell kinsman and heir.

Inq. p. m. 18 Hen. VII. Robert Chauntrell held in demesne as of fee, lands in the townships named in the last Inquisition, and also in Tranmore. William Chauntrell son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VIII. William Chauntrell, esq. held a fourth part of the manor of Dunham Massie, Hale, and Altrincham, and lands in Sale, Stokeport, Bache, Newton, Upton, and Chester, val. tot. 42l. 13s. 4d.; died 30 June 11 Hen. VIII. Robert Chauntrell son and heir, aged 22 years.

Inq. p. m. 32 Hen. VIII. Robert Chauntrell, esq. held the manor of Bache, and lands in Newton and Upton from the King by fealty, and the render of a rose on St. Werburgh's day, value 23l.; also lands in Dunham Massie, Hale, Altrincham, and Sale, value 54l. 6s. 8d.: died Dec. 3, 32 Hen. VIII. Laurence Chauntrell son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 1 Eliz. Laurence Chauntrell of Bache, held the manor or capital messuage of Bache, with lands, &c. from the heirs of sir Richard Cotton, by services as

in the last Inquisition, and other lands in Hale: died 6 Sept. 6 Mary. William son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 28 Eliz. William Chauntrell of Bache, held the manor and capital messuage of Bache, as in the preceding Inquisition, value 47l. 0s. 4d.; and lands in Upton, Hale, Dunham Massie, Altrincham, Bromhill, Sale, and Moreton: died 18 Nov. 26 Eliz. William Chauntrell son and heir.

From this William Chauntrell the manor passed by sale to Robert Whitley, gent. and afterwards, by marriage with his sister and coheir, and partly by purchase, to William Crompton, alderman of Chester, whose grandson Robert Crompton, was lord in 1702. The said Robert dying without male issue, his daughter and heiress brought the same in marriage to Edward Morgan of Golden Grove, co. Flint, esq. about 1716^a.

From the Morgans the manor of Bache was purchased by the late Samuel James Brodhurst, of Chester, esq. under whose will, after vesting in two previous devisees who died s. p. it has recently become the property of Thomas Jenks, esq. of Bene't College, Cambridge, (son of the Rev. Daniel Jenks) who has assumed the name of Brodhurst^b.

Bache Hall, the residence of Hugh Robert Hughes, esq. is pleasantly situated on a gentle rise at the distance of one mile from Chester, and environed with respectable timber; below the house is a rocky valley, from which the township derives its name^c, and through which a small brook passes, which formerly joined the estuary below, in a part which is now protected from the waters by the Dee embankment.

Bache Hall was a parliament garrison, and destroyed during the siege of Chester.

On the opposite side of the stream before mentioned is a mill, which most probably occupies the site of one granted by earl Richard to St. Werburgh's abbey in the twelfth century. It has been recently sold to Mr. Brodhurst, under the land-tax act, by the dean and chapter of Chester cathedral, to whom it was granted in their first charter, together with the pool, and the fishery therein, and subsequently regranted to them, having been reserved by the crown, in the confirmation to the fee farmers of the most considerable parts of the lands extorted by sir Richard Cotton.

WERVIN.

THE Norman baron of Nantwich, and the seculars of St. Werburgh, held this place in unequal shares at the Domesday survey.

"Ipsa ecclesia tenet Wivevrene, et tenuit tempore R. Edwardi. Ibi una hida et duæ partes unius geldabiles. Terra est III carucarum. Ibi IV villani et II bordarii habent unam carucam et dimidium. Ibi dimidium acræ prati. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xxx solidos, modo xx solidos.

"Isdem Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Wivrevne. Colbert tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi tertia pars unius hidæ geldabilis. Terra est una caruca; ibi sunt II villani cum dimidia carucâ. Valebat VIII solidos, modo IV solidos."

The entire manor of "Wervena" was confirmed by Hugh Lupus to the abbey of St. Werburgh, with the other estates of the secular canons of that monastery, by a charter witnessed by William Malbedeng (who

^a Vill. Cest.

^b Information of Philip Humberstone, esq.

^c Vide Whitaker's Glossary to Piers Plowman, relative to Bache, the Saxon denomination of a valley. It has been supposed to be derived from the British adjective Bach, little, which is incompatible with its antient appellation *la* Bache, still preserved in the present usual name "the beach."

had probably resigned his share) and inserted in the great charter of 1093. This donation was increased by grants of lands in the same from the Titheringtons and others, of which notices will be found in the account of that family, and the abstract of the chartulary of St. Werburgh^a.

By the abbot's plea to a quo warranto, 31 Edw. III. it appears that Wervin was included in the jurisdiction of Upton court, and his lands here were valued at 11l. 18s. 8d. at the dissolution. The manor was subsequently granted to the dean and chapter of Chester in their first charter, but falling into the hands of sir Richard Cotton, was exchanged by their second charter for fee farm rent, anno 22 Eliz. It had then been alienated to the Hurlestons of Picton, in whom it continued until the failure of the male line, in Charles Hurleston, esq. when it fell to the share of his niece and coheiress Elizabeth, wife of Trafford Barnston, esq.^b After her decease s. p. it passed to her niece Mary, daughter of John Leche of Carden, esq. and now wife of Mr. Thomas Roberts of Mollington, in whom it remains vested.

Here has been from a very early period an antient CHAPEL, the revenues of which were confirmed to Chester abbey by pope Honorius. It has been already noticed, in a deed extracted from the chartulary of that abbey^c; and by another deed preserved in the same, it

appears that its appropriated revenues were given by abbot Roger (1240—1249) for the support of the kitchen on encreasing the number of monks to forty. The minister was paid by the abbey, and not by the vicar of the parish, as appears by the endowment of St. Oswald's, and the valuation of Chester abbey at the dissolution, when the chapel was served by Ralph Crowett at 3l. 6s. 8d. per annum.

Among the conditions on which the dean and chapter obtained their second charter (Pat. 22 Eliz.) is enumerated the allowance of the sum before mentioned to an officiating minister here. The chapel has however been long desecrated; it is at present used as a common shed for cattle: but the exterior is venerable and picturesque: a beautiful quatrefoil-headed window remains on the north side, and the rest of the building is mantled over with the most luxuriant ivy. It stands on a bank sloping to the valley, which divides Wirral from Broxton and bounds this township on one side, the other side of the township extending to the Gowy.

Wervin occupies the northern angle of Broxton Hundred. It lies among roads almost impassable, and has been long abandoned to farmers, but it contains some beautiful situations, commanding the bend of the Mersey, and a vale which opens southwards, under Moston, to a noble prospect of the Clwydian Hills.

^a See documents appended to the account of Chester abbey.

^b See pedigree in Picton.

^c In the account of Stoke.



Christleton.

THIS parish is situated on the Whitchurch road, and separated from the City Liberties by the intervention of Boughton only. It contains five townships, Church Christleton, Row Christleton, and Little Christleton (commonly called Christleton, Rowton, and Littleton), Abbots Cotton, and Cotton Edmunds. On the east it abuts on the Gowy, which separates it from that part of Tarvin parish which lies in Edisbury Hundred; and on the Broxton side it is bounded by the parishes of Plemondstall, Guilden Sutton, St. Oswald's, Aldford, Waverton, and Tarvin.

CHRISTLETON.

THIS manor is described as follows in Domesday, as parcel of the Norman barony of Malpas, at which time it appears to have been inferior in consequence only to the head of the barony itself, which it greatly exceeded in population.

"Isdem Robertus tenet Christetone. Edwinus comes tenuit. Ibi vii hidæ geldabiles. Terra est xiv carucarum. In dominio sunt una caruca, et ii ancillæ, et xii villani, et v bordarii, et ii præpositi cum viii carucis. Ibi molinum de xii solidis, et ii radmans ibi.

"De hoc manerio tenet Ranulfus de Roberto duas hidas reddendo ei xii denarios. Totum tempore R. Edwardi valebat vi libras, modo valet iii libras. Wasta invenitur: habet ii leuvas longitudine et unam latitudine."

^aShortly after, (before 1093) Robert Fitz-Hugh gave to the abbey of St. Werburgh "Capellam de Christleton, et terram capellæ, et terram cujusdam Rustici, et ipsum Rusticum." This grant was extended by Letitia de Malpas, daughter of Robert, who gave to the same abbey Christleton itself, together with Bechin, in a charter confirmed by Randle Gernons^b; but this later grant of the manor must have been shortly resumed, as Philip Burnel, and Isabel^c his wife, in right of their manor of Christleton, parcel of the barony of Malpas, confirm to the monks of St. Werburgh, a fountain in Christleton, from whence water was carried by pipes to the abbey cloisters; and this donation is afterwards confirmed by Beatrix, mother of Isabella, and her second husband Roderic ap Griffin.

Shortly after, a portion of the Malpas estate here, vested in a branch of the Cholmondeleys, who assumed the local name, and these estates vesting again in the elder line were granted to Chester abbey^d.

The manor however passed to the Birmingham, together with that of Tilston Fearnall, also parcel of the barony of Malpas, but the cause and manner of this alienation is unknown.

^eWilliam de Birmingham, 11 Edw. I. had a charter of free warren in all his lands in Christleton.

Temp. Edw. II. William de Birmingham gave the said manor to his son William, to endow Isabel, daughter of sir Thomas de Estley.

After this, Christleton appears to have become united

again with the barony of Malpas. 34 Edw. III. John de Delves (husband of the coheiress of the legitimate line) obtains from Foulk de Birmincham a third of Christleton; and previous to this, 3 Edw. III. John de Sutton vested in trustees, what he terms a moiety, and a fourth, of the manor of Christleton^f.

The next lords were the Browes. 20 Ric. II. Nicholas Pen, chaplain, obtained of sir Hugh Browe, knight, and Blanche his wife, the manors of Boardslegh and Church Christleton, 34 messuages, 1 mill, 1 salt work, 332 acres of divers kinds of land, and 4l. rent in Barrel, Tussingham, Macefen, Bickley, Tilston, Malpas, Edge, Littleton, Fulwich, Church Christleton, Hole, Rowton, and Coton^g.

This possessor was attainted by Henry IV. and according to Dr. Williamson, "y^s King gave all his lands in Cheshire to J^{no} Mainwaring, 18 Aug. 4 H. IV. who gave y^m to sir Tho. Grosvenour, who feoff'd divers Chaplains therewth, who feoff'd therewth Jⁿ de Kingsley, esq. who 14 Hen. VI. enfeoffed Randle, son of W^m. Mainwaring, and others therewth, to the use I suppose of his d. or s^c. Catherine, who brought these lands, &c. to — de Macclesfield, and Jⁿ Macclesfield, son of Cath. de Kingsley, past over this manor, &c. 10 H. V. and Ralph son of Jⁿ de Macclesfield, sold it 21 H. VI. to Humphrey earl of Buckingham^h."

ⁱThis account is in part contradicted by a deed, whereby Robert, son of sir Hugh Browe, knight, and Margery his wife, enfeoff Robert Maderer chaplain, 2 Hen. V. with the manor of Christleton, and lands in all the townships of that parish, and in Hoole. The manor however ultimately vested in the Staffords; and ^k sir William Sneyd, 1 and 2 Philip and Mary, obtained from Henry lord Stafford and Ursula his wife, a variety of messuages, &c. and 900 acres, and 20s. rent in Church Christleton, Boughton, Littleton, and Hoole, to him and his heirs.

^lJune 12, 15 Jac. I. Ralph Sneyd of Keel, esq. and Ralph his son and heir apparent, sold the said manor of Christleton to sir John Harpur, of Swarston, co. Derby, whose representative sir Henry Harpur, bart. sold the same in or about the year 1771 to Thomas Brock of Chester, esq. attorney at law, under whose will the same passed to John Brock Wood, esq. only son of his eldest sister and the present proprietor^m.

^a Foundation Charter, Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965.

^b Pat. 11 Edw. I.

^c Williamson's Fines, p. 17. and 26.

^d Ibid. 77.

^e Vill. Cest.

^f Ibid.

^g Ibid. p. 17.

^h Ibid. p. 39.

ⁱ Ibid. 31.

^j Vill. Cest.

^k Williamson's Fines, 38.

^l Information of Francis Barker, esq.

The court leet of Christleton includes Row Christleton and Little Christleton, which form one manor, and are commonly called Littleton and Rowton.

Christleton is situated between the Whitchurch and Forest roads, almost contiguous to the suburbs of Chester. It was occupied by the Parliament army during the siege of Chester, and was almost entirely destroyed by fire. In Birch lane in this town was an antient seat of the Bavands, the last of whom Robert Bavand, esq. M. D. dying issueless in 1741, his estates came to his sister the relict of John Nicholls, M. D. which she bequeathed to her sons John Nicholls, esq. Surgeon-General of the forces in Ireland, and Edward Nicholls mayor of Chester 1747: this estate has passed by will to William Richards, esq. attorney at law, the present proprietor. The house is taken down.

Another residence is the property of Bell Ince, esq. by inheritance from the Townsends of Christleton, who purchased from the Egertons; and a modern mansion, called Christleton Hall, is the property of his brother Townsend Ince, esq.

CHURCH.

The church of Christleton is most probably coeval with the Conquest, although unnoticed in Domesday; it has been already stated to have been granted under the description of Capella de Christleton to the abbey of St. Werburgh before 1093, by Robert Fitz Hugh.

The church continued vested unappropriated in the abbey of St. Werburgh to the dissolution. After this event the advowson fell to the Cottons, and was confirmed to the fee farmers, by Pat. 22 Eliz.: before 1598, it became the property of the Mostyns of Mostyn in Flintshire, who are the present patrons.

The rectory house is a respectable building, in the village, surrounded with extensive walks and grounds and stately timber, which gives its appearance a high degree of respectability.

The present fabric of the church consists of a stone tower in the style of the early part of the 16th century, and a nave with chancel and side aisles, rebuilt with brick. The body of the church resembles that of Backford in its exterior, but is altogether inferior to it in internal arrangement, and contains nothing deserving of notice.

"In 1590, 12 Nov. Randle Holme made notes of the following monuments:

On the window over the high altar three shields of the royal arms of England.

In the south aisle in glass these coats. Quarterly, Argent and Sable, a cross patonce counterchanged, for Eaton, impaling, Azure, 2 barrs Argent for Venables, and Argent, a bend Sable between 3 pellets for Cotton, impaling Venables as before. Underneath "Orate pro bono statu Will'i Venables, et Katherinæ uxoris ejus qui istam fenestram fieri fecerunt. A.D. 1526."

In a chapel on the north side the church, a chevron between three bull's heads cabossed for Bulkeley, and Argent two barrs Sable for Brereton. Underneath, "Orate pro animabus Thomæ Bulkeley, armigeri, et Elinoræ uxoris ejus, qui istam fenestram fieri fecit A° Dni 1525."

In another window in the same chapel, Gules, in chief 2 esquire's helmets Argent, and in base a garb, Or, in the centre point a besant, for Cholmondeley; and the coat of Brereton as before. Underneath "Orate pro animabus Hugonis de Cholmondley, arm. et Elinoræ uxoris ejus qui istam fenestram fieri fecit 5° die Aug. a° Dni 1525."

To this note is added in another hand. "Mr. Will'm Vernon's note. The lord viscount Cholmley upon this writing claimed the said chappell; but Mr. Thomas Partington in the minority of Peter Venables, his majestie's ward, recovered the same to his great charge and expence."

The Registers commence in 1697.

The charities, specified in the latest parliamentary return (printed in 1816) were reduced to 46l. the interest of which was distributed to the poor.

RECTORS OF CHRISTLETON.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1319, idus Dec.	Symo Pitt, presb'r.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	
1358, 5 non. Maii.	Willielmus Abell, presb'r.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	
1361, idus Sept.	Joh'es Salghall, presb'r. Willielmus de Hodinton.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	
1378, ult. Maii.	Rogerus de Davenport. Rogerus de Bermouth.		
1385.	Willielmus Pette.		Permut. cum Rog. de Bermouth.
1392, 17 Maii.	Willielmus de Swynerton. Robertus Maderer, cl'us.	Edwardus Rex.	Res. Will'i de Swynerton.
1444, 12 Julii.	Thomas Maderer, prb'r.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	P. m. Rob'ti Maderer.
1446, 8 Maii.	Joh'es ap Griffin ap W'm.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	P. m. Tho. Maderer.
1508, August.	John Fowler. William Collingwood.	Abbot of St. Werburgh.	Death of —
1560, Dec. 14.	William Babington. Robert Ireland.	George Dutton.	Death of W. Collingwood.
1598, Jan. 28.	Richard Hughes.	Thomas Mostyn.	Death of Rob. Ireland.
1616, Dec. 5.	Edmund Scoles.	Thomas Mostyn.	Death of Rich. Hughes.
1619, Feb. 10.	Ludovic Lloyd.		
1634, Aug. 1.	William Mostyn.	Rogerus Mostyn.	R. of Lud. Lloyd.
1669, March 10.	Thomas Weston.	Rogerus Mostyn.	Death of W. Mostyn.
1688, Oct. 8.	Thomas Clopton, A. M.		

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1717, April 24.	Philip Egerton, D. D.		
1727, May 8.	Philip Smallbridge, A. M.	Roger Mostyn.	Death of Ph. Egerton.
1752, March 28.	Roger Mostyn, A. M.	Sir Tho. Mostyn, bart.	Death of P. Smallbridge.
1775, May 5.	Thomas Mostyn, A. M.	Sir Roger Mostyn, bart.	Death of Roger Mostyn.
1809, May 6.	Griffith Lloyd, A.M.	Sir Tho. Mostyn, bart.	Death of Tho. Mostyn.

Walker mentions the ejection of — *Morston*, by one *Samuel Slater*, in 1655, meaning doubtlessly *William Mostyn*, who appears to have been restored. Calamy also mentions — *Edwards* of Christleton, as a sufferer for nonconformity.

Philip Egerton, D. D. who was also rector of Astbury, was ancestor of the present family of Egerton and Oulton. *William Collingwood*, *Roger Mostyn*, and *Thomas Mostyn* were prebendaries of the first stall of Chester cathedral.

ROWTON AND LITTLETON,

(CORRUPTIONS of RowChristleton, and LittleChristleton,) are included in the manor of Christleton.

Rowton gave name to a sanguinary battle between general Poyntz and sir Marmaduke Langdale, in which the earl of Lichfield lost his life, with many other persons of distinction. The king was partly present in the battle, and partly a spectator of it from the walls of Chester, and after its unfortunate result abandoned the city to its fate.

Rowton Heath was also the place of meeting for a considerable proportion of Cheshire gentry, who assembled to declare in favour of a free parliament, at the time of the rising of sir George Booth in favour of Charles II.

The Hignetts have been settled in Rowton for nearly two centuries. One of this family, William Hignett, was slain on the royal party in the battle which has been just mentioned. By will of Ralph Hignett, esq. dated 1786, on the death of John Hignett, esq. last heir male of this family, and brother of Ralph, the Rowton estate passed to John Litherland, esq. eldest son of Nathaniel Litherland, by Sarah sister and heir of John Hignett before mentioned, which John Litherland has assumed the name of Hignett, and is the present proprietor. With this estate was incorporated in 1787, a small estate which had been possessed some time by the Brosters of Rowton^a, who entered a pedigree and had confirmation of arms in the visitation of 1663-4.

ABBOT'S COTTON

WAS antiently called Cotes and Ordrick's Cotes, under which names it is distinguished in the recital of several minor donations of lands in the Abbey Chartulary, Harl. MSS. 1965, p. 39.

The manor itself was a component part of the original vill of Christleton, and derived its name from its inhabitant Ordric, most probably one of the XII villans noticed there in Domesday. This Ordric was given, (totidem verbis) together with his estate, by the baron of Malpas to Chester abbey. "*Chotam Ordrici ipsumque Ordricum et quendam campum junctum huic chotæ et Cryn.*"

The temporal estates of the abbot in "Crystelton," chiefly lying in this township, were valued at the dissolution at 12l. 16s. 8d. After the dissolution Cotton Abbots was granted to the bishop of Chester, by Patent 33 Hen. VIII. and resumed before 38 Hen. VIII. by the Crown.

^bOn the eve of the dissolution, 26 Hen. VIII. John abbot of Chester, leased the conventual lands here to Foulk Dutton (afterwards mayor) of Chester, for 89 years, which lease was confirmed by the dean and chapter of Chester. A. D. 1558, Catherine, daughter and heiress to the last of this branch of the Duttons, brought these lands in marriage to Thomas Daniel of Over Tabley, which afterwards became the possession of sir Thomas Smith of Hatherton, and were sold to John Anderson of Chester, from whom they were purchased by colonel Roger Whitley. 26 Oct. 1695, Colonel

Whitley leased this estate to Joshua Horton for three lives, which Joshua, being convicted of high treason, for keeping a press and implements for coining, April 10, 1700, his interest herein became forfeited to the crown, and was granted July 26, 5 Anne, to sir Salathiel Lovell baron of the Exchequer, whose son Henry Lovell, esq. sold it to William Dixon, of London, gent. in 1723, from whom it was purchased by Ralph Bridge, of Huxley, gent.

On the determination of this interest, the capital messuage and lands vested in the heiress of colonel Whitley, then relict of sir Thomas Mainwaring, of Bad-diley, bart. (as mentioned in Lache^c) whose devisee's executor, James Mainwaring, esq. baron of the Exchequer of Chester, sold the same to Ralph Leycester, of Toft, esq. whose son George Leycester, esq. conveyed the same to Thomas Brock, of Chester, esq. attorney at law, under whose settlements, and the will of his brother Richard Brock, rector of Davenham, this manor has passed to the eldest son of his eldest niece Thomas Clutton, esq. who has assumed the name of Brock, and is the present proprietor. This settlement will be found at length in the account of Hockenhull^d.

The township is situated about four miles east of Chester on the bank of the Gowy, and consists chiefly of rich meadow land. The hall is an ordinary farmhouse. Cotton Abbots is now included under the same court leet with Cotton Edmunds.

^a Information of Mr. John Litherland, of Liverpool, solicitor.

^b The following descent from Cowper's Broxton MSS. p. 36.

^c Vide St. Mary's Parish.

^d Information of Francis Barker, esq.

COTTON EDMUNDS.

THIS manor was the property of a family who assumed the local name as early as the reign of Henry the Third, and they held this place immediately from the Earldom, with the exception of a portion called Cotton Wood, which was purchased by William de Cotton from sir John Sutton baron of Malpas, and is valued at xxs. per annum in the Inquisition after his death, 4 Ric. II. This Richard was father of Edmund de Cotton, whose name is yet preserved in the designation of the township.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VII. Richard Cotton, esq. held inter alia, in demesne as of fee, the manor of Cotton Edmunds, with a close called Cotton Wood, from the King as Earl of Chester, in capite by military service, value, per annum, xl.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. Thomas Cotton, esq. held inter alia, the manor of Cotton as before, value, per annum, xl.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. VIII. Jane Cotton, widow of Thomas Cotton, held the manor of Cotton as before, value

vii. and lands in Oscroft and Milton. Maud, Eleanor, Katherine, and Isabella, daughters and coheirresses, severally aged 30, 28, 27, and 24 years.

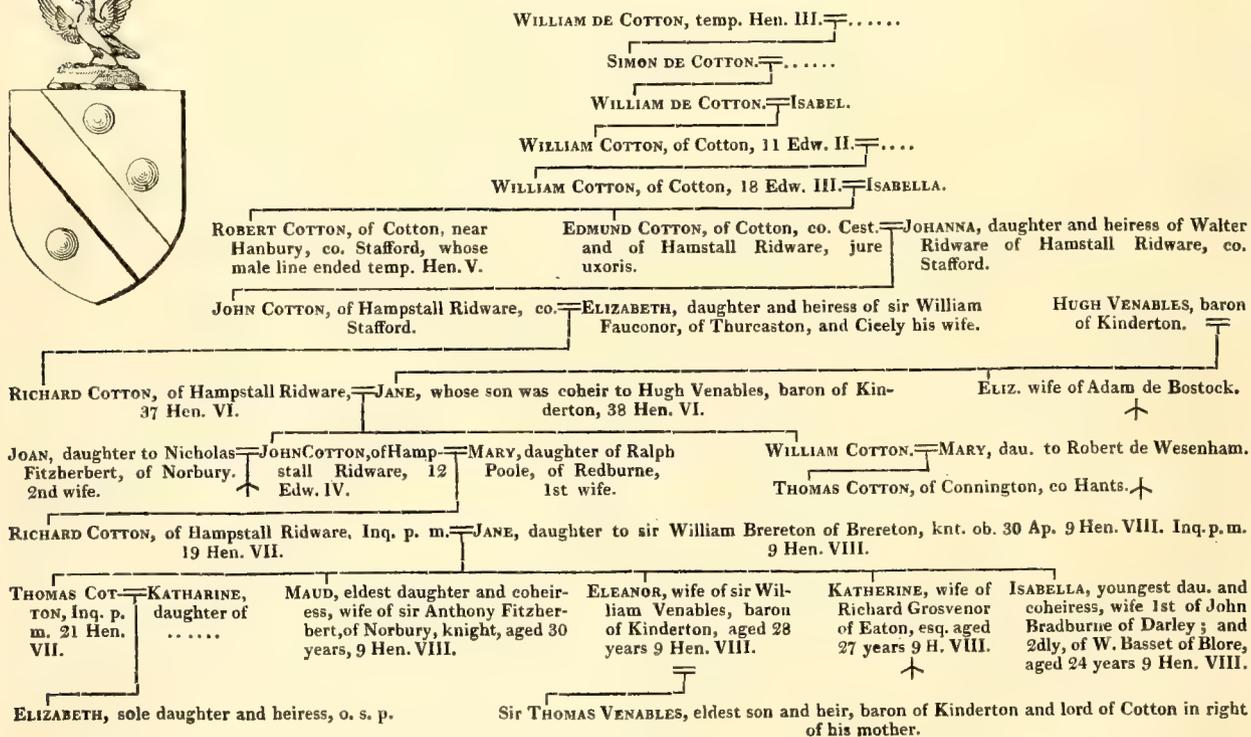
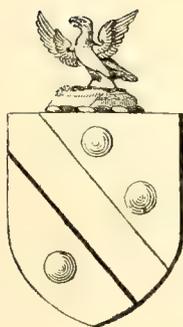
Cotton Edmunds, vesting in the second of these coheirresses, wife of sir Thomas Venables, baron of Kinderton, descended with that barony to the Vernons, and was sold by the late lord Vernon to Thomas Brock, esq. from whom it has passed in the same manner as the preceding township to Thomas Clutton Brock, esq. the present proprietor. It is included under the same leet with Cotton Abbots, and is situated in flat ground on the north side of the Chester canal, about three miles south east of Chester. The hall, called Cotton Hook, is an ordinary farm-house.

The connection of the Cottons with the barony of Kinderton, which is enumerated among their estates in the *Inqs. p. m.* 19 and 21 Hen. VII. by virtue of the marriage with Jane sister and coheirress of Hugh Venables baron of Kinderton, will be noticed in the account of that barony.

COTTON OF COTTON EDMUNDS.

ARMS. A bend Sable, between three pellets Sable.

CREST. On a mount Vert, an eagle rising Or.



Waverton

COMPREHENDS three townships only, Waverton, Hatton, and Huxley, which occupy a flat and very uninteresting part of the Hundred, about five miles south-east of Chester, situated on the banks of the Chester canal, and extending along the Gow.

WAVERTON.

ILBERTUS tenet de Hugone comite Wavretone. Eruin tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi III hidæ geldabiles. Terra est IV carucarum. In dominio est una, et III francigenæ cum III villanis habent III carucas. Tempore Regis Edwardi valebat xx solidos, et post VI solidos, modo XVI solidos.

This Ilbert, as mentioned in the account of Clotton^a, was probably father of Richard de Rullos, the ancestor of Robert de Rullos, whose daughter Margaret brought the capital lordship in marriage to Gilbert, son of Robert Pichot, who granted, jointly with his wife, a moiety of the manor of Waverton, and the manor of Hatton, in the time of Ralph Mainwaring, justice of Chester, to Hugh, son of Simon de Hatton, subject to the render of two marks per annum^b.

Another portion of the place was held under the Pichots by the Wavertons, and alienated by them to the Pulfords of Pulford, as appears by two documents in the Chartulary of St. Werburgh^c, by the first of which, Robert, son of William Pichot, grants to the abbot thereof the homage and service of Hugh de Waverton for his lands in Waverton and Hatton, and by the second of which, Robert de Pulford, clerk, the rector of Coddington^d (who had done homage to abbot Simon instead of Hugh de Waverton, and was probably trustee of the Pulfords of Pulford) enters into an agreement with the abbot respecting the waste between Cotes and Waverton.

Of the *Pulford* share the following notices have occurred :

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. John de Pulford held inter alia a third part of a moiety of the manor of Warton from the abbot of Chester, by the render of 1¼d. or a pair of gloves, per ann. Val. cs.

40 Edw. III. Johanna, sister and heiress of this John, obtains by fine, inter alia, rents in Waverton. She was then wife of Thomas de Belgreave^e, and afterwards married sir Robert Grosvenor of Holme.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VI. Thomas le Grosvenor, of Holme, ch'vr, held inter alia in demesne, as of fee, from the abbot of Chester in socage by the render of three-farthings. Val. per ann. cs.

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. IV. Robert Grosvenor, esq. held

inter alia, as before, a third part of the manor of Waverton cum pert. from the abbot of Chester. Val. cs.

Elizabeth, eldest coheiress of this Robert, married Peter Dutton of Hatton, in whom a moiety of the manor had previously been vested by descent from the Vernons and Hattons. He probably by this marriage became possessed of the other share, as the *entire* manor is subsequently described in the Inquisitions as the property of his descendants.

The *Hatton* share has descended as follows :

^f 35 Edw. I. Ralph de Vernon (husband of Matilda de Hatton) obtained from (her father) John, son of Hugh de Hatton (grantee of Waverton) inter alia, lands cum pert. in Waverton.

^g 13 Edw. II. Robert de Vernon, and Anabilia his wife, obtain, from Hugh Venables, lands in Waverton.

^h 19 Edw. II. the same Robert Vernon obtains from Robert Chamberlain and others, inter alia, the fourth part of the manor of Waverton.

ⁱ 10 Hen. VI. Robert Alby, vicar of Tarvin, obtains of Hugh de Dutton, sheriff, and Petronilla his wife, (heiress of the Vernons of Hatton) inter alia, lands cum pert. in Waverton.

1464. Peter Dutton, grandson of this Hugh by Petronilla Vernon, married Elizabeth, eldest daughter and coheiress of Robert Grosvenor, in whom the residue of the manor was vested.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VIII. Sir Piers Dutton, kt. held, inter alia, lands in Waverton.

Inq. p. m. 24 Eliz. Ralph Dutton, esq. (3d son of sir Piers) held, inter alia, the manor of Waverton from the heirs of John Pigott, by the render of one sparrow-hawk, or 12d. per ann. Value 13l. 6s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 3 Jac. I. Rowland Dutton, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Waverton, as in the preceding *Inq.* Value per annum xx marks.

The Dutton estate in Waverton finally passed in marriage, with the other estates of the Duttons of Hatton, to John Massie, of Coddington, esq. and it is now vested in his great grandson, the rev. Richard Massie of Coddington, descended from the issue of a former marriage, as more fully stated in the pedigrees of Dut-

^a Vide p. 176, in which page, col. 1, line 14, the reader will have the kindness to supply a clerical omission, which was unobserved in arranging the transcripts from the Villare, and will read "Margaret, daughter of Robert de Rullos, a descendant of Richard de Rullos before-mentioned." The immediate connection is not ascertained, but Robert de Rullos was most probably fourth in descent from Richard, and must be distinguished from Robert de Rullos, son of Richard, who confirms his father's grant of Greaseby to the monks of Chester, as stated in p. 271.

^b Villare Cest.

^c Harl. MSS. 1965, 25 b. and 39.

^d Ibid. p. 39, and Villare Cest.

^e Williamson's Collections, p. 27.

^f Ibid. p. 5.

^g Ibid. p. 13.

^h Ibid. p. 14.

ⁱ Ibid. p. 40.

ton of Hatton and Massie of Coddington. No court is held for the manor.

An estate in Waverton is the property of earl Grosvenor, in right of which he claims a share of the manor^k, but whether inherited or not from his ancestor Ralph Grosvenor, younger brother of Robert Grosvenor, esq. in whom a share of this manor was vested, has not been ascertained. It has been already observed, that, after the marriage of Peter Dutton with Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Robert Grosvenor, the Dutton interest in Waverton is denominated the manor, whereas it was previously only called a share of the manor, from which it would seem that the Duttons had the Grosvenor share. The laxity of the Inquisitions on this point is however extreme in all cases. On this estate is a quarry of red stone of several acres in extent, which supplies a great proportion of the stone used by the city of Chester and its vicinity.

CHURCH.

In the confirmation charter by Hugh Lupus, in 1093, of the grants to the abbey of St. Werburgh, it is recited

that Richard de Rullos, (supposed son of the Norman grantee) gave Ecclesiam et decimam de Waverton, ¹Hetone, et Clottone, et molendini Clottonæ. The church was therefore most probably built between the completion of the Domesday Survey (in which it is unnoticed) and this period.

The abbots continued patrons to the dissolution, after which the advowson of the rectory was granted to the bishop of Chester, by pat. 33 Henry VIII. whose successors continued patrons to the year 1755.

Mortuaries on the death of every rector or vicar were antiently due to the archdeacon of Chester, and passed to the bishop of the see under the grant of the appurtenances of that archdeaconry, by pat. 33 Henry VIII. In 1755 it was enacted by parliament that those grievously oppressive heriots should cease, and that, in lieu thereof, the rectory of Waverton, after the next vacancy, should be appropriated to the bishop of Chester for the time being, and that the parochial duty should be performed by a perpetual resident curate, with the allowance of a sufficient stipend.

RECTORS OF WAVERTON.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1293, ante.	Willielmus de Brichull.		
1304, 13 kal. Junii.	Willielmus de Blechley.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	
	Jordanus de Hulme.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	
1353.	Henricus de Ashton.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	Permut. cum J. de Hulme.
1361.	Willielmus de Mere.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	Causâ permut.
	Thomas Masey.		
1464, April 19.	Johannes Hulme.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	P. m. Tho. Masey.
1467, Jan. 26.	Johannes Goodfellow, LL.B.	Abbas S'cæ Werburgæ.	P. m. Jo. Hulme.
1492, Mart. 25.	Robertus Tatton, Pr'b'r.	Willielmus Tatton, hac vice.	P. m. Jo. Goodfellow.
	John Strange.		
1553, April 10.	Thomas Lynsey.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of John Strange.
1556, Nov. 15.	Reginald Watson.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Res. of Thomas Lynsey.
1576, Jan. 26.	William Wright.	The Bishop of Chester.	
1583, Sept. 28.	Henry Livesay.	The Bishop of Chester.	
1632, Feb. 5.	George Snell, D. D.	The Bishop of Chester.	
	John Marygold.		
1696.	Dudley Garenquieres, A. M.	The Bishop of Chester.	
1702, May 6.	John Brett, A. M.	The Bishop of Chester.	Death of D. Garenquieres.
1714, March 12.	John Prescott, A. M.	The Archbishop of York.	Death of John Brett.

William de Brichull occurs, as "r'r eccl'ie de Waverton," in a deed with John, son of Hugh de Hatton, Harl. MSS. 2038. He was probably of that branch of Vernon which assumed the name of Brichull, and has been noticed in the account of Haselwall. Ralph de Vernon and Patrick de Haselwall occur as witnesses.

Snell has before appeared in the list of rectors of Wallesey and archdeacons of Richmond. *Dudley Garenquieres* was also rector of Handley and a prebendary of Chester.

Calamy mentions *John Marygold*, as being dispossessed of this living for non-conformity.

Waverton church, which is in the style of the reign of Henry VIII. is built of red stone, and consists of a substantial tower, nave, and side aisles divided from the body by three low pointed arches. The nave has a

handsome carved wooden roof, dated 1635. The chancel has been pulled down, which gives the building an unpleasant effect, from the disproportion of the length of the church to the height of the tower. Over the west door are the arms of Dutton and Hatton quarterly.

In Harl. MSS. 2151, 103, are church notes, taken in 1572, mentioning a cross in the church-yard, with the arms of Brailsford, Vernon, and Hatton, and shields in the windows with the royal arms, and those of Clive of Hatton. The same MS. gives an account of the places of burial of several descents of the Duttons and Hattons in the choir and south chancel, which are incorporated with their pedigree. There are now no monuments worthy of notice.

In Harl. MSS. 2103, p. 58, is a recommendation from George Snell, rector of Waverton, to John, bishop of Chester, to confirm to John Tilston, of Huxley, esq. a

^k Information of earl Grosvenor.

¹ Incorrectly printed *Hotone* in sir P. Leicester, p. 110.

"chaplett or oratorie," built lately by him on the north side of the east end of the church, July 28, 1640, with this note in the hand-writing of the bishop.

The Pallace, 29 Aug. 1640.

Let an act be sped for the use of this place to Mr. John Tilston, and the owners of his house at Huxley, to bury, sitt, stand, or kneel in, during divine service in the church of Warton.

Jo. Cestr.

The Registers commence in 1582.

In the parliamentary returns of charities, printed 1816, the charitable benefactions are stated to amount to 135l. 10s. the product of which was distributed to the poor of the parish, generally, in money and bread, with some small exceptions in favour of the poor of particular townships.

HATTON.

HATTON is omitted in Domesday, being most probably included in the original vill of Waverton, with which it descended to Robert de Rullos, and passing in marriage with his daughter Margaret, to Gilbert, son of Robert Pichot, was granted by the said Gilbert and Margaret to Hugh, son of Simon de Hatton, in the time of Ralph Mainwaring, justice of Chester, as mentioned in the preceding account of Waverton.

This Simon de Hatton was younger son of sir Hugh de Hatton, of Hatton in Daresbury, from which he derived a name happily coinciding with that of the settlement of his son's family. Hugh Hatton had issue John Hatton son and heir, in whom the immediate male line became extinct. The celebrated sir Christopher Hatton, and other branches, descended from Hugh Hatton, a younger brother of this John.

By a plea, 10 Edw. I. for the wardship of John, son of Hugh de Hatton, it appears that he held a moiety of this township from the heirs of Richard and Roger de Clotton, and the other moiety from Hugh de Pulford, John de Messington (or Mersington) and Sybilla his wife. Clotton and Messington were the representatives of the Wavertons, lords of Clotton, by grant from the Pichots, the paramount lords of Waverton and Hatton. Pulford's connection with the manor has been noticed in Waverton.

Matilda, daughter and heiress of John de Hatton, married Ralph Vernon, who 35 Edw. I. under the name of Rad. de Vernon, sen. obtained from John, son of Hugh de Hatton and Maud his wife, the manor of Hatton, and 267 acres of land cum pert. in Waverton, Brox (Broxton, the Domesday Brosse), Cholleghe, Aldersey, Birches, and Bolesworth, and the third part of the manors, lands, and tenements, which Robert de Huntington and Christian his wife held in dower^a.

^b 13 Edw. II. Robert de Vernon (son of Ralph) and Anabilia his wife, appear in a fine of lands in Waverton; and the same Robert de Vernon, 19 Edw. II. recovers the fourth part of the manor of Hatton, and lands in Christleton, against Robert Chamberlain, &c. Ralph Vernon, son of this Robert, had issue Petronilla, daughter and heiress, who brought her estates in marriage to Hugh Dutton, representative of a younger branch of the Duttons of Dutton.

10 Hen. VI. Robert Alby, vicar of Tarvin, obtained of Hugh de Dutton, sheriff of Cheshire, and Petronilla his wife, the manor of Hatton cum pert. 27 messuages, 18 tofts, and 1204 acres of land in Waverton, Cholleghe, Little Christleton, and Aldersey.

Inq. 21 Edw. IV. Peter Dutton, junior, esq. and Robert Huxley, yeoman, both late of Hatton, were outlawed for felony, before Thomas lord Stanley, kt. chief justice of Chester, and the said Peter held on the day of his outlawry, 12 messuages and 320 acres in Waverton and Norbury near Marbury.

This Peter Dutton, dying before his father, left issue sir Piers Dutton, of whom hereafter. He recovered the greater part of the estates of the Duttons of Dutton from the coheiresses of that family as heir male^c, and was afterwards outlawed, but is described in an *Inq. p. m.* 37 Hen. VIII. as dying seized of numerous estates, to which his grandson, John Dutton of Dutton, succeeded, being son of his eldest son Hugh Dutton. The Hatton estates omitted in this Inquisition, with the exception of some lands in Waverton, were given by sir Piers Dutton to his second surviving son, Ralph Dutton of Hatton, to whom they were confirmed, with some exceptions, in 1512, after being contested by the elder line of Dutton of Dutton^d.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. Ralph Dutton of Hatton held the manor of Hatton from the queen in socage, by the render of xiiid. per annum, value 20l. also the manors of Waverton, Golborne Belleau, Rushall, Broxton, Bolsworth, Cholleghe, and Great Aldersey, and lands in Pulford, Tatnall, Hargreve, Kettleshulme, Merbury, Norbury, Great and Little Barrow, Allostocke, Nether Peover, Alvandley, and Elton, died June 26, 23 Eliz. Rowland Dutton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 5 Jan. 3 Jac. I. Rowland Dutton, of Hatton, esq. held the manor of Hatton from the king, as of the late priory of St. John of Jerusalem in England, in socage as before; also the manors mentioned in the last Inquisition, and lands in Pulford, Tattenhall, Newton juxta Tattenhall, Norbury, Milton, Allostock, Nether Peover, Alvandley, and Elton. Val. tot. 79l. 13s. died Feb. 18 last past. Edward Dutton son and heir, aged upwards of 25 years.

^e This Edward Dutton died June 1620, seized in fee of Hatton and Waverton, and by indenture, dated Sept. 20, 1619, had conveyed the same to several uses, remainder to his son Peter Dutton for life, remainder to the sons of Peter Dutton by Margaret his wife, remainder to Peter's heirs male, remainder to Edward Dutton, remainder to the heirs male of Rowland Dutton his grandfather, remainder to Ralph Dutton grandfather of Edward, remainder in fee to John Dutton, of Dutton, esq.

Peter Dutton, grandson of Edward, who was aged 13 years, 8 months, and 2 days at his father's death,

^a Williamson's Collections, p. 5.

^b *Ibid.* pp. 13 and 14.

^c See Dutton in Bucklow Hundred.

^d *Ibid.*

^e The rest of the descent is abstracted from deeds communicated by the rev. R. Massie of Coddington.

made a settlement, after his marriage with Katherine Reynell, and died Aug. 12, 1669.

On the death of his sons without issue, the estate became vested in Dorothy his daughter, who married John Walthall, esq. after whose death without issue she married John Massie, of Coddington, esq. to whom she conveyed the estates by indenture dated July 28, 1699, with remainder, after her decease without issue, to John Massie in fee.

After her death without issue, and a subsequent conveyance from John Massie to his sons by another marriage, William and Richard Massie, the estate was claimed by the son of her uncle, Thomas Dutton, as heir male, but was finally confirmed to the Massies, and sold by John Massie, esq. April 17, 1699, to the hon. George Cholmondeley, great grandfather of George James, marquis of Cholmondeley, the present proprietor. No court is held for the manor.

The only name in the Dutton pedigree which requires particular notice, is that of SIR PIERS DUTTON of Dutton and Hatton, son of the Peter Dutton who suffered outlawry 21 Edw. IV. He possessed very extensive property by the union of the Dutton and Hatton estates, rebuilt Dutton hall in a magnificent style in 1539, in the 35th Hen. VIII. served the office of sheriff, and in the following year appears as one of the king's special commissioners in the valuation of Vale Royal^f. Sir Piers Dutton was evidently deeply engaged in the management of the dissolution, and a letter of his is yet extant, written in the year of his shrievalty (Harl. MSS. 604, 20) stating his arrest of the abbot of Norton, and two of his servants, Randle Brereton, baron of the Exchequer of Chester, and John Hale, merchant, whom he would convey to London with other traitors whom he meditated the seizure of. This was most probably an official seizure, but the rest of the letter shows considerable intrigue, and contains a recommendation of Randle Wilmyslow, a monk of Vale Royal, to the government of another religious house, as a proper instrument for effecting a surrender. In this agency he of course became connected with the desperate characters which the expected distribution would draw to the scene of plunder, and under the protection of his own power, and court favour, ventured on the enormities and abuse of office specified in the petition of sir John Done, subjoined.

The allegations against sir Piers Dutton, contained in Harl. MSS. 283, p. 17, and above-referred to, are as follows:

The petition is from sir John Done to the king, against sir Piers Dutton, then sheriff, and Rauf Manw'ng his undersheriff, stating that they have incurred various forfeitures by their misconduct, and requesting that the same may be examined into by John Baker, the king's attorney-general, or referred under letters of commission to Robert earl of Sussex, "now abidenge in these p'ties."

The articles of complaint attached to this petition, state that the said sheriff and undersheriff "entendinge undue preventment of inquest for mayntenance of such p'sons to whom they have been affectionate," have returned the servants of the said sir Piers Dutton as jurors, and thereby, under the statute 23 Hen. VIII. have incurred penalties to the amount of 160l.

That the said parties have incurred under the same statute other penalties, by receiving sums of money for the returning of writs.

That sir Piers Dutton, under colour of a rangership of Mara and Mondrem, had killed one buck, "oon stagge of a harte," and three does, in harness, by day and by night.

That he excited a riot of fifty persons against the servants of sir John Done, kt. the king's forester, and "lettede them to fetch in a stagge of a harte which by chance was gone out of the said forest."

That he had sent two of his servants, George Holford and Ralph Manw'g, accompanied by William Glasyer, to one Peter Feldaye, a prisoner in the castle of Chester, to offer him a pardon if he would impeach Pyers Bruen, one of the servants of the said sir John Done, which he refused, saying "he knew nothing of the said Bruen but a trewe gentilman;" notwithstanding which the said Piers, bringing Feldaye before the king's council suborned him to impeach the said Bruen, for the malice he bore against sir John Done and his servants, and caused his imprisonment in the tower for the space of xviii weeks.

And that for colouring the premises, and other injuries done to the king's subjects in the said county, he had obtained a writ of supersedeas, so that no one could sue the said sheriff or his servants within the said county for any matter or cause.

It does not exactly appear when the matter was brought to hearing, but if sir P. Leycester's ^g date of the valuation of Vale Royal is correct (36 Hen. VIII.) he was employed in that office the year following. The ultimate result was however his outlawry, as appears from an entry in Harl. MSS. 433, 77 b. stating "Alianore Dutton, the wif of Piers Dutton, hathe a prive seal to the eschætor of the countie palatyne of Chester to remove his hands from the possession of such lands and ten'ts as was seised to the king's behoof upon an outla'ry of the said Piers; and he thereof not seased at the day of promulgac'on as evydently it is p'ved." It is, however, clear from the contests respecting sir Piers Dutton's settled estates, that his outlawry was subsequently reversed.

The township is situated in a flat country, about six miles from Chester, to the left of the Barnhill road. The hall is environed by a square moat about twenty yards wide, and containing about a statute acre. On the west side of the moat are the remains of five most magnificent oak trees: they are all of nearly one size, the largest measures 20 feet in girth at the height of a yard from the base, and 26 feet at the base.

The hall appears to have been quadrangular, but not more than a fourth part is standing, built of timber, wicker-work plastered over, and brick within, and some mixture of stone-work towards the moat.

The drawbridge leads to a lofty gateway, opening with strong folding doors to the court within. The roof of the gateway is composed of massy beams, carved in a good style at the intersections.

Over the entrance is a figure of St. George and the Dragon, over which the family arms have been emblazoned. A little higher up the plaster conceals an immense bay window. The gable with which this part terminates is surrounded with vine-leaves boldly carved. In the centre of the gable are two small windows joining each other, the oak mullions of which terminate in elegant cinquefoil heads; the windows project on two brackets resembling the pendants in a roof of the time

^f See p. 91, and Harl. MSS. 2060, 212.

^g Harl. MSS. 2060, 212.

of Henry the Seventh. It is much to be regretted that this beautiful entrance is so much disfigured by plaister, as to be an unfit subject for the pencil.

Over a door in the quadrangle is the date 1597, with the initials of Rowland Dutton and his lady, Eleanor Scriven.

DUTTON OF HATTON, AND HATTON OF HATTON.

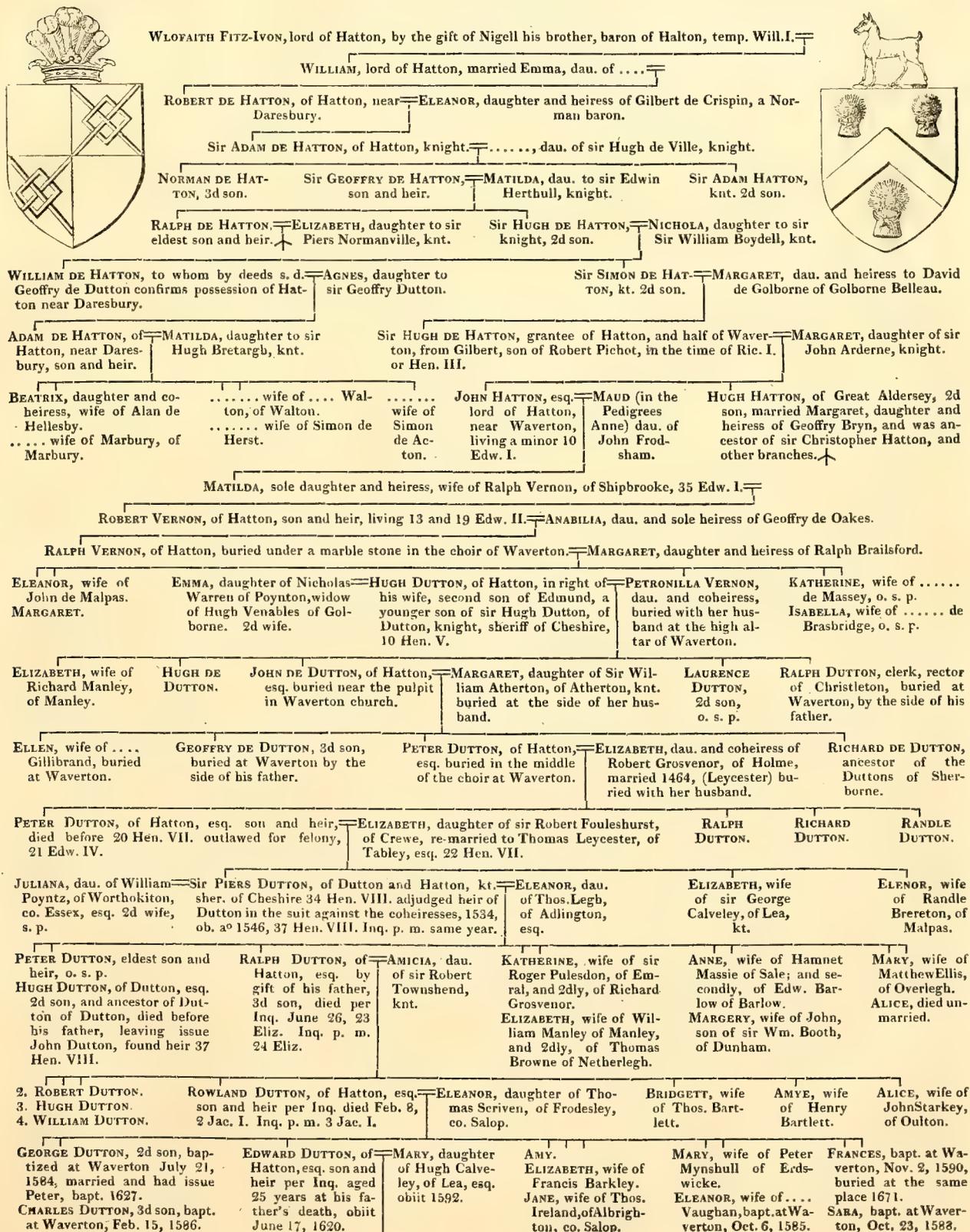
From the Visitation of 1613, and No. 1535. Harl. MSS. Continued from the Inquisitions and Parish Registers, the entries of the Benefactors to the College of Arms, a MS Pedigree by sir Peter Leycester, and Family Papers in the possession of the rev. R. Massie of Coddington.

ARMS. Dutton of Hatton, Quarterly, Argent and Gules, in the 2nd and 3d quarters a fret, Argent.

CREST. A plume of 5 ostrich feathers, Gules, Azure, Or, Vert, and Tenné, issuing from a ducal coronet.

ARMS. Hatton of Hatton, Azure, a chevron Or, between three garbs of the second.

CREST. On a wreath a hind statant, Or.



a							
2. THOMAS, bapt. at Waverton, Nov. 11, 1605.	PETER DUTTON, of Hatton, esq. son and heir, aged 12 years at the Visitation of 1613, sheriff 1630, bur. at Waverton, Aug. 13, 1669.	MARGARET, dau. of Thos. Hayes, lord mayor of London, (Benef. vol. 2, Coll. Arm.)	ELEANOR, bapt. at Waverton, March 11, 1609, wife of Richard Bressie of Bulkeley. Had issue.	JANE, bapt. at Waverton, July 14, 1611, wife of Arthur Davenport, 2d son of Geo. Davenport, of Calveley, esq.	ALICE, bapt. at Waverton, Feb. 28, 1615.	ANNE, wife of John Bostock.	ELIZABETH, bapt. at Waverton, April 7, 1618.
1. EDWARD DUTTON, of Hatton, esq. eldest son and heir, bapt. at Waverton, Oct. 1, 1623, bur. there, June 18, 1677.	4. THOMAS, bapt. at Waverton, Sept. 7, 1630, married Mary, dau. of Ric. Houlden, and had issue Thos. and Edward Dutton; buried at Waverton, Dec. 10, 1677.	6. HENRY, bapt. at Waverton, July 23, 1637.	PETER DUTTON, of Hatton, esq. second son and heir to his brother, baptized at Waverton, July 23, 1625, sheriff 1653, bur. April 9, 1696.	CATHERINE, dau. of sir Thomas Reynolds, (sir P. Leycest. MSS.) of Weybridge, co. Surrey, buried at Waverton, May 29, 1680.	ELIZABETH, ALICE, bapt. at Waverton, June 9, 1634, wife of John Catheral of Horton, married at Tilston, July 9, 1655.	MARTHA, born 1633, wife of George Bird, of Broxton, esq. obiit Dec. 31, 1701, buried at Tattenal, a ^e æt. 69.	MARY, bapt. at Waverton, May 31, 1628, wife of John Madox of Row Christleton.
3. ROBERT, baptized at Waverton, Jan. 23, 1626, married daughter of Bartridge.	5. ROWLAND, bapt. at Waverton, July 2, 1635.	7. RICHARD, married Alice, dau. of Birkenhead of Barrow.					
1. PETER, eldest son, died an infant.	3. EDWARD, died young.	ELIZABETH, sister and coheirress, living 1699.	DOROTHY DUTTON, sister and coheirress, wife of John Massie of Coddington, in conjunction with whom she sold the manor of Hatton, being then widow of John, eldest son of Richard Walthall of Wistaston.	FRANCES, o. s. p. ante 1699.			
2. THOMAS, attained 21 years, and died s. p.	4. PETER DUTTON, of Hatton, esq. inherited and o. s. p.	CATHERINE, sister and coheirress, living 1699.					

HUXLEY.

IN the foundation charter of the Benedictine monastery of St. Werburgh, Huxley (Hodesleia) is enumerated among the estates of their predecessors, the secular canons, which had been confirmed to the monastery, but it is omitted in the enumeration of those estates in the Domesday survey.

About the reign of Henry III. the abbot and convent of St. Werburgh enfeoffed William de Hockenhull with the manor of Hockenhull, with a reservation of certain estovers, and a rent of four shillings, which were exchanged in 1279, for a rent of XLIVS. as mentioned more fully in Hockenhull.

One moiety of the manor was granted by this William to his brother *Richard*, ancestor of the *Huxleys of Huxley*, and another moiety, which was given by William to his younger son Simon, and which, by Simon's death without issue, passed to his elder brother Robert, was given by Robert to his brother Hugh, who assumed the name of Huxley, and was ancestor of a *second family of that name and place*.

These moieties are now united in the possession of the Wilbrahams of Rode, by the following descents.

The share of Richard de Okenhull, or Richard de Huxley, as he is more generally called, descended in the direct male line to Ralph Huxley, who sold the same in the reign of Elizabeth, to Ralph Tilston, a lawyer, who was also descended in the female line from this family^a. After the death of Ralph Tilston (son or grandson of the preceding Ralph), his brother John Tilston settled the same on Tilston Bruen, son of his daughter Mary, by deed dated 2 July 1622. John Bruen of Stapleford, esq. (son of Tilston Bruen) made a settlement of the manor of Huxley in 1692, previous to his marriage with Honour, daughter of sir Francis Winnington, of Stanford Court, in the co. of Worcester, knight. After the termination of the male line of this family, Huxley passed by sale in Chancery (probably about March 24, 1753, the date of the sale of Duddon, another part of the Bruen estates) to Randle Wilbraham, of Rode, esq. from whom they have descended with Rode; to the present proprietor.

The share of Hugh de Huxley, which continued in the male line for three generations only, became vested in Robert de Huxley, who 6 Edw. III. settled the manor

of Huxley, and lands in Fulke Stapleford, by fine, on himself and his wife Isabel, remainder to Ellen his daughter and her heirs, remainder to the issue of ^bRichard de Hockenhull (husband of Margaret his second daughter), remainder to Henry son of Henry de Clive, remainder to his right heirs. Ellen the eldest coheirress died s. p. The Hockenhulls inherited lands in Huxley, but most probably alienated the manor to the issue of the third coheirress, wife of Henry Clive, in whose descendants it was afterwards vested.

This Henry de Clive is stated in some pedigrees to be descended from Warin de Clive, of Clive in Northwich Hundred, said to have been a younger son of Liulph de Twemlowe, thereby adding another to the numerous branches of the Croxton family, already noticed in the account of Winnington.

The male line of this family is represented by the earl of Powis, whose ancestor Ambrose Clive of Styche, esq. was brother of Joshua Clive, of Huxley, esq. with whose daughter and heiress this moiety of Huxley passed in marriage to Thomas Wilbraham, of Townsend, esq.

Inq. p. m. 2 Ric. III. James Clyve, of Huxley, held the manor of Huxley and lands therein, and one water mill, from the abbot of Chester, in socage, by services unknown, value, per annum, xxv marks; also lands in Sydnall, Newton juxta Tattenhall, Clyve, Waverton, Rowton, Chester, Fulk Stapleford, Bruen Stapleford, and Hockenhull. Richard Clyve son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VIII. Richard Clyffe, esq. held the capital messuage of Huxley, from John abbot of St. Werburgh, by fealty and 44s. rent, and lands as before, excepting Bruen Stapleford, and adding Hargrave.

Inq. p. m. 5 Eliz. Richard Clyve of Huxley, esq. held the manor and water mill of Huxley, from George Cotton, esq. as of his manor of Salghton, in socage by fealty, and 44s. rent, value, per annum, 18l. 13s. 4d. with lands in Fulk Stapleford, Newton, Sydnall, Waverton, Clyve, Davenham, Ryshall, Hocknell, Rowton, and Hargrave: died Oct. 14, 4 Eliz. Richard Clyve son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 3 Dec. 15 Eliz. Richard Clyve of Huxley, the manor, &c. of Huxley, from George Calveley, esq. as of his manor of Saughton on the Hill as before, and

^a Among the Harl. MSS. is a minute deduction of the title by Mr. Ralph Tilston, from which he compiled the upper part of the following pedigree. More of this family will be seen under Hockenhull, and some of their deeds in the chartulary of Pulton abbey.

^b John, Roger, William, and Gilbert, in Williamson's Abstract; but qu. whether Thomas the eldest brother is not omitted?

lands in Wrenowes, Hargreave, Brin Stapleford, Hocknell, Rowton, Sydnall, Newton, and Waverton: died 27 April last past. George Clive son and heir, aged 14 years and 3 days. The Inquisition recites a long settlement for provision for Jane, widow of Richard Clive, and Rachel, Judith, Sarah, and Hester, his daughters, of whom Sarah only had then deceased.

This Richard Clive was treasurer to Richard Cotton, knight, and keeper of the records of the king's expences about the towns of Bononia and Newport, from 8th July 8 Hen. VIII. to Aug. 15, 4 Edw. VI. His eldest son sir George Clive, was knighted in the field by William Fitz-William lord deputy of Ireland, Aug. 4, 1583. He was chancellor of the exchequer of Ireland, and

a lord of the privy council, and made supervisor of the river Shannon, on the resignation of sir Edward Waterhouse. Robert Clive (younger son of Richard) was clerk of the cheque to Edward VI. His eldest daughter was of the bedchamber to Queen Elizabeth, and dying unmarried was buried at the Queen's expence.

Sir George Clive was father of Joshua Clive, with whose daughter and heiress Rachel, this part of Huxley passed, as before mentioned, to Thomas Wilbraham, esq. and having since passed with the Rode estate, in Northwich Hundred, to the younger line, has descended to the present proprietor Randle Wilbraham, of Rode, esq. in whom the estates of both lines of Huxley are thus vested.

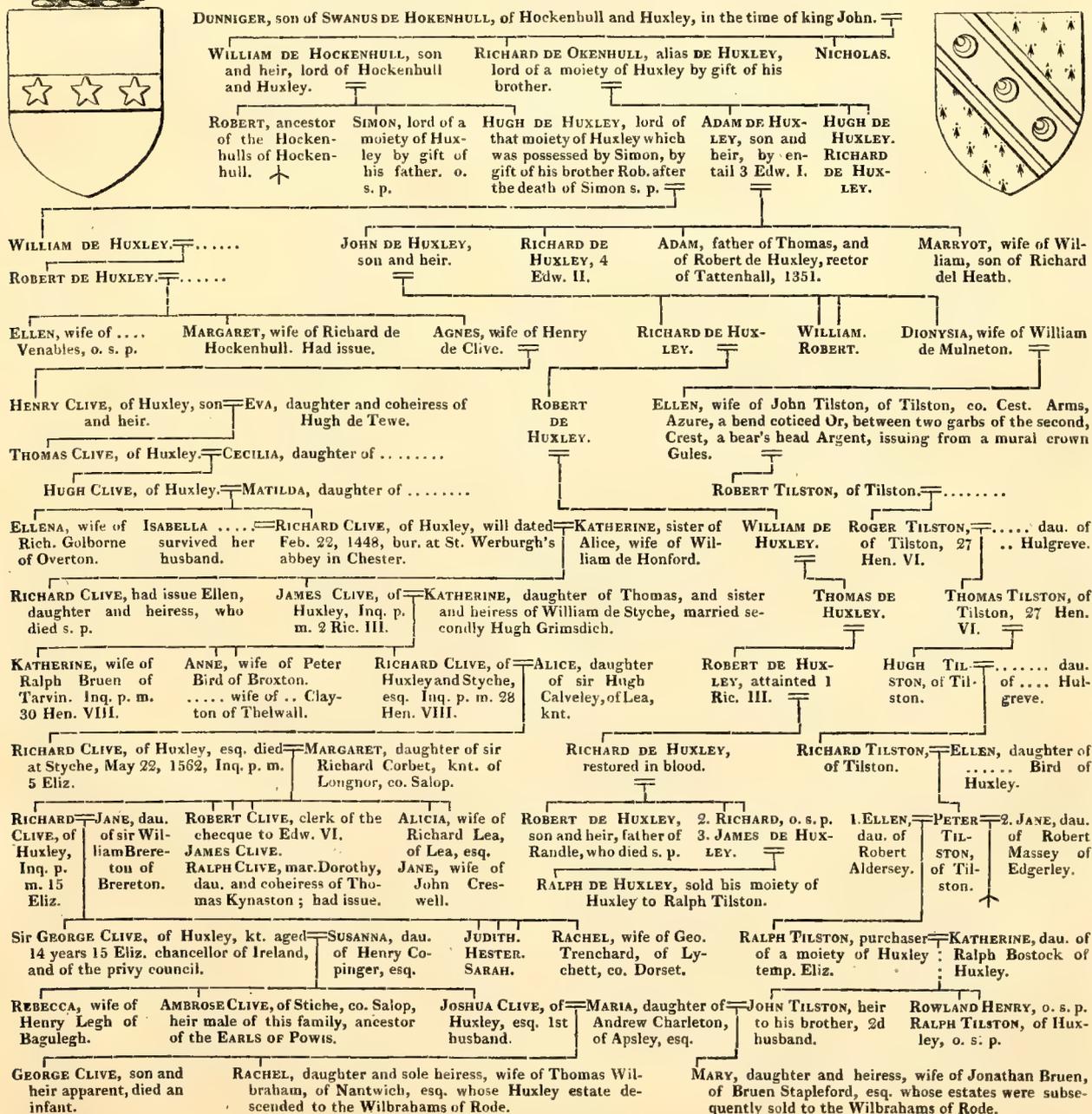
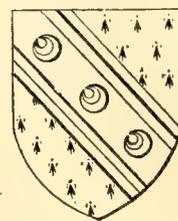
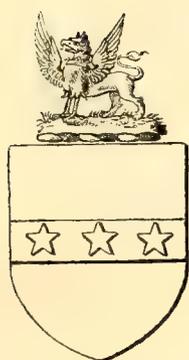
HUXLEY, CLIVE, AND TILSTON, OF HUXLEY.

From original Evidences, the Cheshire Pedigrees, and the Inquisitions p. m.

ARMS. Huxley of Huxley, Ermine, on a bend coticed Gules, three crescents Or.

ARMS. Clive of Huxley, Argent, on a fesse Sable, three mullets Argent.

CREST. On a wreath, a griffin with wings expanded Argent, ducally gorged Or.



The manor of Huxley was included with that of Shotwick in the abbot's fee of *Salghall*^d; the early connection of which manors has been noticed in Hockenhull^e. The tenure under *Salghton*, noticed in the Inquisitions, most probably originated in some clerical error. It is at present included within the leet of Tattenhall.

Lower Huxley Hall, the property of Randle Wilbraham, esq. occupies a moated site near the Gowy. This mansion was garrisoned by colonel Croxton, during the siege of Chester, Sept. 5, 1644^f. The higher Hall passed to the Cholmondeleys from the Savages, with the other estates of that family, and is said to have been purchased by them in the reign of queen Elizabeth^g, from a younger branch of Hockenhull, most probably descended from Richard Hockenhull, younger son of John Hockenhull, of Hockenhull, whose ancestor Richard de Hockenhull obtained lands here with Margaret Huxley. This house is said to have been tenanted by the Birkenheads of Backford (who also married the heiress of a collateral line of Huxley); and their entries of baptisms, which appear in the Registers of Backford after 1605, occur previous to that date in those of the parish church of Waverton.

From some antient law papers preserved among the

Harl. MSS. it appears that, a^o 13 Edw. II. William de Huxley, indicted for breaking into and robbing the Castle of Halton, pleads that he is a clerk, and ought not to answer in that court, on which proclamation was made to ascertain whether he was claimed by the bishop, and no claim being made, the jurors find, that with other robbers and felons he had broken into the said Castle, and carried away divers goods, of which the said William had to his share one basnet (*bacinetum*), value 6d.; and the said William is a common robber, and part of a gang of other robbers.

This curious document relates most probably to some native of the township, who had assumed the local name, but whom there are no grounds for identifying with the antient and respectable family of its mesne lords.

In Watson's History of Halifax, is a pedigree of the Tilstons of Huxley, which differs in some particulars from the descents of that family incorporated with the preceding pedigree, on the authority of the Harl. MSS. 1535, and other Cheshire Collections. In Watson's pedigree, Thomas Tilston (27 Hen. VI.) is altogether omitted, and Hugh Tilston is said to have a younger brother Richard, who is stated to have been ancestor of John Tillotson archbishop of Canterbury.

Part of Tarvin Parish.

FULK STAPLEFORD.

DOMESDAY notices only one township of this name, which was granted at the Conquest to Radulphus Venator, who was lord of this place only, within the limits of the present Cheshire, but had a grant of Broche-tone, and Sutone, within the limits of a forest which the earl had formed on his Welsh border, within the Hundred of Atiscros. The following description probably includes Bruen Stapleford in Edisbury.

“Radulfus Venator tenet de Hugone comite Stapleford. Ulsi tenet et liber homo fuit. Ibi ii hidæ geldabiles. Terra est iii carucarum. In dominio est una, et unus radman, et ii villani, et v bordarii cum iii carucis. Silva ibi ii acris longa, et una lata. Ibi molinum. Valuit et valet xvi solidos.”

The descendants or successors of Radulphus Venator assumed the local name, and continued in possession to the time of Richard I. when William de Stapelford alienated the manor by the following charter, enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday.

a “Omnibus, &c. Will'us filius Will'i de Stapelford, sal't'm. Noverit universitas vestra me vendidisse Philippo de Orreby boscum meum de Stapelford, et capitale mansum quod habui in villâ de Stapelford, et cum tota placeâ et universis edificiis. Hiis test. Warino de Vernun, Will'mo de Venables, Rogero de Montealto, sen'o Cestr. Rogero de Meinwar. Ricardo filio Lidul-

phi, Will'mo de Malopassu, Ricardo de Perpunt tunc Vic. Cestrescir, Roberto Brun de Stapleford, et Thoma et Herberto de Orreby.”

This Philip de Orreby, who was justice of Chester in the time of king John, had issue by Alicia his wife, daughter of sir Thomas Bamville of Storeton, Philip de Orreby, whose daughter and heiress married Walkelin de Arderne, and Fulco de Orreby of Stapleford, justice of Chester, 45 Hen. III. from whom the township received its additional name. Herbert de Orreby, uncle of these brothers, was ancestor of the Orrebies of Gawsworth, whose arms, Argent, 2 chevrons Gules, a canton of the second, were adopted by the Fittons on succeeding by marriage to their inheritance^b.

The issue of sir John Orreby (son of Fulk), who was summoned to Parliament by Edw. II. terminated in Mary, wife of John lord Ross of Hamlake, when this manor passed to Richard Corbett, of Leighton, great grandson of Alicia, wife of Peter Corbett, and sister of sir John Orreby before mentioned.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. IV. Mary, widow of John Ross of Hamlake, held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Fulk Stapleford, from the King as earl of Chester, in capite, by military service, value 8l.; also the manors of Walgherton, Hatherton, and Church Coppenhall. Richard de Corbett next kinsman and heir.

^d Abbot's plea to a quo warranto, 31 Edw. III.

^a Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5. p. 99.

^b See pedigree in Gawsworth. The Orrebies of Alvanley bore, Erm. three chevrons Gules, on a canton of the 2nd a lion passant, Or, as appears by an old seal; but the coat usually assigned them has six chevrons. Fulco de Orreby adopted, on his marriage with a daughter of the Strange family, a coat resembling their arms, viz. Gules, two lions passant, Argent, a label for difference.

^c p. 170.

^f Burghall's Diary, 937.

^g Lysons's Magna Britannia, II. 810.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. IV. Richard, son of John Corbett of Leghton, held in demesne as of fee tail, the manor of Fulk Stapleford as before, value xvii. ; and the manors of Walgherton, Hatherton, and Church Copenhall. Alicia, wife of William Brereton of Brereton, sister, and heiress of the manor of Fulke Stapleford.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VI. Alicia, widow of John Stretley, held in demesne as of fee, two-thirds of the manor of Foulke Stapleford, from the Prince as Earl of Chester, as two-thirds of a knight's fee, by the render of one sore sparrow hawk, or xiid. per annum : val. cs. William Brereton of Brereton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 Ric. III. Sir William Brereton, knight, held, inter alia, Stapleford Parke, from the King as Earl of Chester, as the 24th part of a knight's fee : Val. 13s. 4d.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. Sir William Brereton, knut. held inter alia, the manor of Foulke Stapleford (with the advowson of a prebend, called the Petit Canonry, in the collegiate church of St. John the Baptist at Chester, belonging to this manor), and its appurtenances, excepting the mill, and lands therein, from the King as Earl of Chester, by military service : Val. xli.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VIII. John Bruyn of Stapleford, esq. held inter alia, the site of the manor of Fulk Stapleford, lately received in exchange from sir Andrew Brereton, and held from the King as Earl of Chester, as the 6th part of a knight's fee : Value 10l. 3s.

The Bruens had previously an estate in this township, noticed in their Inquisitions. The manor of Fulk Stapleford continued vested in their representatives to the middle of the last century, when it was sold in chancery, with their other estates, to Randle Wilbraham, of Rode, esq. grandfather of the present proprietor, of the same name and place.

An estate, which still retains the name of Brereton Park, was severed from the manor, and became the pro-

perty of the Walls in the seventeenth century, and was purchased from Nathaniel Wall, esq. by sir John Warden, of Chester, bart. from whom it has descended through the Beauclerk family to George Harley Drummond, of Stanmore, esq. according to the pedigree given in the account of Burton^c.

Stapleford is situated on the bank of the Gowy, adjacent to the ford which gives name to it.

In HARGRAVE STUBBS, a hamlet of this township, are a school and chapel, founded by sir Thomas Moulson, knight, and afterwards lord mayor of the city of London. The School-house and Chapel form one building, of red stone, situated on a common adjacent to the Gowy. In the chapel are a few memorials, which are not of sufficient importance to be preserved, with the exception of the following inscription, cut in the stone, "Thomas Moulson alderman of the city of London, built this chapel at his own cost and charge, A. D. 1627."

Bishop Gastrell mentions several small donations in addition to the founder's endowment, which had been chiefly lost, including a bequest of 50l. from Mr. Blease, a minister of Hargrave^d. The founder originally conveyed lands to trustees for the yearly payment of 40l. to the curate, 20l. to the schoolmaster, and 40s. to the clerk. The lands have been lately let for 252l. per annum, and the trustees are empowered by a late order from Chancery, to raise the minister's salary to any sum not exceeding 150l. the schoolmaster's to any sum not exceeding 60l. and the clerk's to 10l. the remainder to be applied to such charitable purposes as the trustees shall think proper. The trustees are the bishop and dean of Chester for the time being, the right hon. earl Grosvenor, Randle Wilbraham, of Rode, esq. the rev. John Oldershaw, vicar of Tarvin, and the rev. Richard Massie of Coddington^e.

The Registers commence in 1631.

Guilden Sutton.

GUILDEN SUTTON.

THIS parish contains one township only. The church formed part of the endowment of the college of St. John in Chester, and is valued at 11l. among the possessions of that college, in the Ministers' accounts in the Augmentation Office, 4 Edw. VI.^f Falling into lay hands after the dissolution, it became the property of the Hardwares of Peele and Bromborough.

42 Eliz. Peter Warburton, esq. serjeant at law, obtained of Henry Hardware, esq. and others, the rectory of the church of "Golden Sutton," and all tithes, oblations, &c. arising within the parish, for 100l.

Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of sir Peter Warburton, brought the said rectory in marriage to sir Thomas Stanley, of Alderley, bart. which descended with the other estates of the family to the present sir John Tho-

mas Stanley, bart. who sold the same with a farm in 1810, to the rev. R. E. Warburton of Norley, retaining the nomination of the curate.

The church has been nearly rebuilt by sir John Stanley. It is a plain building of brick, consisting of a body and chancel, without side aisles. The Registers begin in 1595.

On a brass in the chancel is inscribed :

Here lyeth interred the body of Mr. Thomas Whythead, who deceased December the third 1640.

On a painted board fixed on the south wall :

Near this place lieth interred the body of Robert Whitehead, of Gilden Sutton, gent. who died March 20, 1693 ; he married Anne Jones of Kilkin, by whom he had issue 2 sons and 2 daughters, viz. Hannah, bapt.

^c P. 179.

^d Gastrell Not. Cest.

^e Information of the rev. John Oldershaw, 1814.

^f A portion of the corn tithes belonged to Norton priory, and were valued at 2l. per ann. Comput. Ministr. 28 Hen. VIII.

April 28, died an infant 1663; Ann, born April 15, 1664, married to Richard Robinson of Boughton, and died Jan. 31, 1690; Thomas, born May 9, 1666, died unmarried Dec. 20, 1705; George, born Jan. 14, 1668, died Aug. 16, 1672; all which are interred near this place; as also Hannah the surviving issue of the said Richard Robinson, and Anne his wife, being married to Thomas Brescie, of Teverton, gent. died without issue, March 11, 1709.

Arms. Whitehead impaling Brescie. Whitehead Sable, a chevron Or, between three bugles strung of the 2d. Brescie, quarterly, 1. and 4. Quarterly indented per fesse, Sable and Argent, in the 1st quarter a mallard Argent, for Brescie; 2 and 3, Gules, a border Ermine.

The early history of the manor, if any such exists, is involved in obscurity. A survey of the Cheshire manors, Harl. MSS. 2115, states Guilden Sutton to consist exclusively of freeholders. The reputed manerial estate is the property of the rev. R. E. Warburton, in right of his wife Emma, daughter and heiress of James Croxton, esq. who purchased the same from the heirs general of the Booths of Woodford. The Croxtons, whose pedigree will be found in the account of Norley^a, were possessed of estates here previous to this purchase, and resided in the township.

James Croxton of Guilden Sutton, esq. served the office of sheriff in 1750.

Plemondstall.

THIS Parish comprehends four townships, Bridge Trafford, which has been already described in Edisbury Hundred, Mickle Trafford, Hoole, and Picton. The church stands in the township of Mickle Trafford, there being no township of the name which the parish and the church are distinguished by, a circumstance unusual in Cheshire.

CHURCH

Dedicated to St. Peter.

Tax P. N. 12l. Val. Eccl. 6l. 13s. 4d.

The church of Plemondstall was originally a rectory in the gift of the monastery of St. Peter and St. Paul at Shrewsbury. It subsequently became the property of the College of St. John^b in Chester, which had licence from Richard bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, to appropriate the rectory in 1393, and this was followed by the endowment of the vicarage in 1403, with a pension of 40 marks.

After the dissolution, the appropriated rectory, (which, in the Ministers' accounts, Augmentation Office, is valued at 18l. 10s. 4 Edw. VI.) fell into the hands of the Marburies, from whom, according to Gastrell, it was purchased by bishop Bridgeman, in whose descendant lord Bradford, it is now vested. The ministers have been licensed as perpetual curates since the dissolution.

The rector has the corn tithes of the whole parish. Picton and Bridge Trafford are covered by a general modus for hay; and there also is a modus of 16d. per Cheshire acre in Hoole and Mickle Trafford^c.

RECTORS OF PLEMONDSTALL.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1297, ante.	Ricardus Bernard.		
1304, 3 Nov.	Johannes Purpare, subdec.	Abbas et Conv. Salop.	
1305, non. Aug.	Will'mus de Bromyard, prb'r.	Abbas et Conv. Salop.	
1314, 3 id. Dec.	Jo. de Esseby de la Zouche, prb'r.		Res. W'i de Bromyard.
1329, ante.	Johannes de Stonehall, camerarius Cest.		
1337.	Johannes de Ashley.		Causâ permutat.
1342.	Walterus de Ollye.		

VICARS OF PLEMONDSTALL.

1404.	Willielmus Troghford, cap's.	Jo. Leyot, dec. Eccl. S'ci Joh'is Cest.	
	Tho. Burwe.		
1459, 6 Nov.	Johannes Lenald, prb'r.		
1485.	Willielmus Gray, prb'r.	Tho. Willey, Dec. Eccl. S'ci Joh'is Cest.	
1495, 7 Dec.	Thomas Reynolds, prb'r.	Tho. Modesley, S. T. P. Dec. Eccl. S'ci Jo. Cest.	P. m. W'i Gray.
1359.	Ralph Dewring.		
	William Plumtre.		
1545.	James Walker.	George Astley, Robert Parker, and Ralph Massey.	Death of William Plumtre.

^a P. 68.

^b Gastrell erroneously says St. Werburgh.

^c Information of Charles Hamilton, esq. The rector of Plemondstall made an agreement with the abbot of St. Werburgh, respecting the tithes of Hoole in 1297, extant in the Chartulary of that abbey.

The church of Plemondstall is situated about half a mile south of the road from Chester to Frodsham, on the bank of the Gowy, in a singularly retired spot, surrounded by rich watered meadows, and environed with firs. It is apparently of the age of Henry the Eighth, and consists of a nave and chancel, with an aisle on the north side, separated from the body by a range of six obtusely pointed arches. The chancel is divided from the body of the church by a wooden screen, and a chapel of the Trafford family is divided off from the east end of the aisle in a similar manner.

All the windows appear to have been decorated with rich painted glass. The date of 1500 is remaining in the windows of the Trafford chapel, and in a window adjoining the pulpit on the south side are some brilliantly coloured figures, in a kneeling posture, "of Thomas Smyth and Merget hys wyf," with seven sons and four daughters severally kneeling behind them.

The roofs of both the nave and aisle are composed of arched timbers springing from brackets. Externally both these parts of the edifice terminate in gables; the western gable of the aisle has been squared to support a wooden belfry. What gives the church a singular appearance is a large raised platform under the outside of the east window, in the centre of which is erected a small tomb, the sides carved to represent skeletons, and the ends ornamented with palms, the purport of which is explained by a mural monument attached to the south side of the window.

In this vault lies the body of
Elizabeth,

wife of Charles Hurleston, of Newton, esq.
youngest daughter and coheir of Thomas Lander,
of Newhall, in the county of Lancaster, esq.
by Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Downes,
of Shrigley, in the county of Chester, esq.

She was beautiful in her person,
discreet in her behaviour,
a dutiful daughter, an observant wife,
and had she lived a few weeks longer,
might have been a happy mother.
She died 19th November, 1727,
aged 32.

Over it are the arms of Hurleston impaling Lander, three stars between two bendlets dancette.

The following memorial is inscribed in the Trafford chapel under the arms of Barnston and Savage, arranged paleways, with Trafford on a shield of pretence.

Here lyes the remains of Alice Trafford, sole heiress to Thomas Trafford, of Bridge Trafford, esq. who first married John Barnston, of Churton, esq. by whom she had one only son Trafford Barnston; and after married the hon. John Savage, of Rock Savage, by him she

left one only son, John earl Rivers. She departed this life the 23d of October 1666."

This John earl Rivers never assumed the title, and died s. p.

On the north side of the communion table is a third monument, of white marble, the inscription of which authenticates the marriages of four generations of the Hurlestons.

Underneath lie interred
John Hurleston, of Picton, esq.
and Anne his wife,
daughter of Thomas Wilbraham,
of Woodhey, in this county, esq.

Here also lie John Hurleston, their son and heir,
and Mary his wife,
daughter of Thomas Leigh,
of Adlington, in this county, esq.

Here also lie Charles Hurleston, esq.
their son and heir, and Anne his wife,
daughter of sir Geoffry Shakerly, of Hulme, in this
county, knight.

Underneath also lie John Hurleston,
of Newton in Chester, esq. son and heir of the
above mentioned Charles and Anne,
who died 12th Aug. 1720.

He left issue by Mary his relict,
eldest daughter of sir John Williams
of Pengethly in the county of
Hereford, knight and baronet, four daughters,
Anne, Mary,
Penelope, and Elizabeth."

Arms. Hurleston. Hurleston impaling Shakerley, and Hurleston impaling Williams, Gules, three towers embattled, Argent.

The following memorial, extant in Harl. MSS. 2151. is now destroyed.

Hurlston with two quarterings impaling Wilbraham of Woodhey, quartering Wilbraham, Overton, and Dutton. Crest, an ermine statant.

Neere unto this place, lyeth interred the bodies of John Hurleston, of Picton, esq. who died the 29th day of October 1669, aged 79 yeares; together with his loving wife Anne, the daughter of Thomas Wilbraham, of Woodhey, esq. who died the 12th of October 1669, aged 79 years; they lived together husband and wife 60 years, and had stillborne and christianed 19 children, of which John his son and heir, Peter, Stephen, Frances, and Grace, only survived him.

Two tablets suspended in the church record some parish donations, most of which have been lost, but a school is still maintained for the education of four poor children, the master of which is appointed by the church wardens.

The parish Registers commence in the year 1558.

MICKLE TRAFFORD.

This township at the Domesday survey formed part of Wilaveston or Wirral Hundred.

"Ipse comes tenet Traford. Ordin tenuit, liber homo fuit. Ibi ii hidæ geldabiles. Terra est vi carucarum, in dominio sunt ii, et ii servi, et iv villani, et ii bordarii cum una caruca. Tempore Regis Edwardi valebat c solidos, modo xl solidos: wasta invenitur."

Mickle Trafford afterwards became a component part of the manor of Dunham on the Hill, the property

of the Fitzalans, and being alienated by their coheirs to William Troutbeck, temp. Hen. VI. passed in marriage with his great grandson's daughter and heiress Margaret, to sir John Talbot, knight, in whose descendant and heir male the earl of Shrewsbury, it is now vested. The several steps of this descent will be found identified by deeds and inquisitions in the account of Dunham.

HOOLE

HAS descended in precisely the same manner with Mickle Trafford, as a component part of Dunham, from the Fitzalans, through the Troutbecks, to the Talbots ancestors of the earl of Shrewsbury, in whom it is now vested. The particulars of this descent will be found in Dunham.

The Bunburys of Stanney held an estate here under the Troutbecks and Talbots from an early period.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VI. Richard Bunbury held lands inter alia, in Hole and Hole-Hey, from sir William Troutbeck, knight, in socage, by fealty, and by suit to Dunham court, value 52s. per annum.

The same estates occur in the Inquisitions after the death of Richard Bunbury, 32 Hen. VIII. Henry Bunbury, 38 Hen. VIII. and Thomas Bunbury, esq. 44 Eliz. Hoole Hall which was the favourite seat of the family, and is particularly eulogized by Webb, was burnt to the ground by the parliament troops during the siege of Chester.

^a The greatest part of this estate was sold in 1757, by sir William Bunbury, bart. to the rev. John Baldwin, who afterwards took the name of Rigby. The same was again sold in 1800, by Thomas Baldwin, esq. eldest son of the said John Rigby, to the rev. Peploe Ward, D. D. who is the present proprietor. The site of Hoole Hall on this estate is still marked by strong stone foundations, adjacent to the village of Hoole, near the second mill stone on the Frodsham road.

A handsome and substantial mansion, the property of John Oliver, esq. called Hoole Hall, was built by the late rev. John Baldwin, upon land belonging to his wife and her sister Mrs. Burroughs, and has since become the property of Mr. Oliver, by purchase from Mrs. Fairfax, to whom the same was sold by Thomas Baldwin, esq.

Another seat, called Hoole House, now in the occupation of the lady of sir John D. Broughton, bart. was built about 1760, by the late William Hamilton, esq. on land formerly purchased from Roger Comberbach, esq. and is now become the property of Charles Hamilton, esq. his son.

A third seat called Hoole Lodge, is the property of the earl of Shrewsbury, under whom it is held on lease for lives by Charles Hamilton, esq. It is considered to be the antient manor house of Hoole.

These residences are all contiguous to the turnpike road, which winds along their plantations. The rest of the township contains several minor estates, and subur-

ban villas, the necessary consequence of its contiguity to Chester.

It remains to state that Hoole Heath is said to have been originally one of the three sanctuaries for the reception of *Criminals*, which were permitted by the earls of Chester within their palatinate^b. Its privileges appear, however, to have been of a more limited nature, by an Inquisition taken 13 Edw. III. by six men selected from the citizens of Chester, and six others chosen from the inhabitants of the county (Harl. MSS. 2057. 125.) which states that they had ridden the boundaries of "Hole Heth," and they find it to have been holden of the Erl of Chest' and his predecessors time out of mind, and "that in tyme of warr in Walles, *all lawfull (men ?) of the Erl of Chest. and all other men l'v'ng in peas of our sovreyn Lord the Kyng of Englonde*, and the said Erl of Chest. were wont to have refuge and recept on Hole Heth w^t they' goods, necessayres, and beasts, by an yer and one day; and that the comynaltie of the citie of Chest. of right, and of tyme out of mynde ought to have comen pastur upon Hole Heth to theyr bests in all tyme of the yere; and say also that the meares and bondes of Hole Hethe do begyn from the yate called Chest'r Yate, nygh Flokersbroke, and so foloyng Flokersbroke unto Wysnaysich, and so foloyng Wysnaysich nere a c'teyne place wher a grange of the p'sons of the church of Plemondestow sometyme beyng; and so foloyng nere a — that Robt. of Whitmore sometyme dyd breke, and so foloyng nere Houghshey ay'nst Pykton Dale unto Saltesway, whych is the Kyng's Highway ner Chest'r to lede the hoost^c of our sovreyn Lord the Kyng in tyme of warre unto Shotwyk Ford; and so foloyng beyond Saltesway unto Sasse Diche, and so unto the Town of Newton, and unto the Yate of Rob't the sonne of Cislie Newton, whych sometyme was called the Shepe Yate, for whyche yate the said Rob't gave money to the Kep'r of the Towne of Hole for the time beyng, and so foloyng from the said yate, by the old heys of Newton unto Flokersbroke."

The rest of the Inquisition contains only the names of the abbot of Chester, the Whitmores, Bruchulls, and others, who had made inclosures on Hoole Heath "to the gret hurt, and gret exheredition of the easement of the holl citie of Chest'r."

Many documents relative to the abbot of St. Werburgh's claims on this heath, and his adjacent property, occur in the abbey chartulary, Harl. MSS. 1965.

^a The following modern information communicated by Charles Hamilton, esq.

^b The others were Rudheath and Overmarsh.

^c The word appears to be Horse, in an ancient copy of an Inquisition taken temp. Edw. I. Harl. MSS. 2115. which otherwise agrees almost verbatim with the one given above.

P I C T O N .

RICHARD VERNON, baron of Shipbrook, was the Norman grantee of this township, which, like Trafford, formed part of Wilaveston or Wirral Hundred.

“ Isdem Richardus tenet Pichetone. Tochi tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est III carucarum. In dominio est una, et II bovarii, et unus radman, et III bordarii cum una caruca; ibi dimidia acra prati. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat XL solidos, et post V solidos; modo XX solidos.”

Richard de Vernon gave the tithes of this vill to the abbey of St. Werburgh, before the charter of 1093, and Warin Vernon, by a deed preserved in the Chartulary^a, gave IVS. issuing from the mill of Picton.

By *Inq. p. m.* 6 Hen. IV. Richard de Vernon baron of Shipbrook (beheaded after the battle of Shrewsbury), is found to have died seized of half this manor; and by another Inquisition, 10 Hen. IV. he is found to have died seized of the entire manor held from the king in capite, as parcel of the barony of Wich Malbank.

^b 5 Hen. VI. John le Verney, and other trustees, gave to John Savage, and Ellen his wife, Picton and other manors, held in dower by Margaret, of Ralph Vernon, to him and his heirs for ever.

The manor of Picton afterwards descended with the other estates of the Savages, and was included in a re-

covery suffered by sir John Savage, 42 Eliz. and in the Inquisition after the death of his father, 40 Eliz.

About this time the manor of Picton passed to the Hurlestons, who are described in the pedigrees as having been settled at Hurlestone Hall, in Lancashire, from the time of Edw. III. but may be supposed to have derived local appellation from estates in Hurleston in Cheshire (which was a manor of the Savages and Vernons, and generally accompanies Picton in the Inquisitions), and to have given their name to the seat in Lancashire before mentioned. This family considerably increased their estate by the purchase of the manors of Newton, Wervin, and Idenshaw, from sir Richard Cotton, and continued settled at Newton and Picton, until the death of Charles Hurleston, esq. in 1734. On a consequent partition of the estates between his four nieces, Picton became the property of Mary, wife of John Leche of Carden, esq. in whose son William Leche, esq. it is now vested.

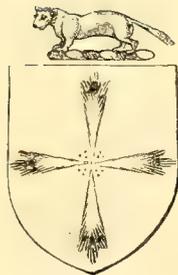
The township is situated on the marshes near the Mersey, about three miles north-east of Chester, in a cold, flat, clayey soil; and in roads, appearance, and inhabitants, may be safely said to present a complete picture of barbarism.

HURLESTON OF HURLESTON, PICTON, AND NEWTON.

From Visitations, Monuments, and Parochial Registers.

ARMS. Argent, four ermine's tails in cross Sable.

CREST. On a wreath an ermine passant Argent.



THOMAS HURLESTON, of Hurleston, co. Lanc. gent. — ELIZABETH, daughter to Adam Birkenhead, of Huxley, esq.

4. HUGH HURLESTON, of the county of Bedford. †	2. RANDAL, mar. Margaret, widow of ... Longland.	RICHARD HURLESTON, of Picton, co. Cest. gent. bur. at Plemondstall, Dec. 14, 1589.	ELIZABETH, dau. to James Shallcrosse of Manchester, buried at Plemondstall, Feb. 7, 1584.	ANNE, wife of ... ALICE, wife of Richard Nuttal of Cattenhal.
HUMPHREY, bapt. at Plemondstall, July 5, 1564, o. s. p. buried at Plemondstall, August 20, 1576.	RANDAL and WILLIAM, o. s. p.	MARY, dau. of Lawrence Smith, kt. 1st wife.	JOHN HURLESTON, of Hurleston and Picton, buried at Plemondstall, Nov. 14, 1593.	JANE, dau. and coheirress to George Massey, of Puddington, esq. remar. to John Done, of Utkinton, esq. at Burton, 1600, bu. at Plemondstall 1618.
ELIZABETH.	JOHN HURLESTON, of Picton, esq. marr. 1609, died Oct. 29, 1669, aged 79 years, buried at Plemondstall, Nov. 3, 1669.	ANNE, dau. to Thomas Wilbraham, of Woodhey, esq. died Oct. 12, 1669, aged 79 years, sep. ap. Picton.	DOROTHY, wife of Thos. Longworth, of Longworth, co. Lanc. remarr. to sir Peter Pindar, of Idenshaw, bt.	ELIZABETH, wife of Edward Cotton of Cotton. MATILDA, wife of Rich. Brereton of Eccleston, married Jan. 11, 1573, at Plemondstall.

RICHARD, buried May 27, 1617.	PETER, living 1669.	JOHN HURLESTON, eldest son and heir, bapt. at Plemondstall, Nov. 5, 1618, buried at Plemondstall, July 23, 1687.	MARY, daughter of Thomas Leigh, of Adlington, co. Cest. esq. marr. at Trinity, May 11, 1657, buried at Plemondstall, Feb. 5, 1693.	GRACE, living 1669. FRANCES, wife of Lawrence Booth, of Twemlowe, esq. †	ELIZABETH, bapt. Aug. 10, 1617.	MARY, buried April 10, 1613.	ANNE, bapt. Aug. 29, 1613.	ELIZABETH, bapt. May 7, 1627.	MARY, sep. Sept. 25, 1634.
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CHARLES HURLESTON, of Picton, esq. son and heir, bur. at Plemondstall, Sept. 14, 1706. — ANNE, daughter of sir Geoffrey Shakerley, of Hulme, co. Cest. kt. buried at Plemondstall. — ELIZABETH, wife of William Brock, of Upton, buried at St. Mary's, Nov. 8, 1735.

CHARLES HURLESTON, of Newton, esq. last heir male, heir to his brother, sheriff of Cheshire 1727, bur. Oct. 12, 1734: mar. at Brereton, co. Cest. April 6, 1723, Elizabeth, dau. and coheirress of Thos. Lander, of Newhall, co. Lanc. by Elizabeth, dau. of Edward Downes, of Shrigley, esq. o. s. p. buried at Plemondstall, Dec. 1, 1727.	GEOFFREY HURLESTON, sep. ap. Plemondstall, Nov. 28, 1683.	JOHN HURLESTON, of Newton, near Chester, esq. son and heir, died Aug. 12, 1720, buried at Plemondstall.	MARY, eldest dau. of sir John Williams, of Pengethly, co. Hereford, kt. and baronet, bur. at Plemondstall, Aug. 14, 1723, re-married to Roger Barnston, esq.	CATHERINE, bur. at Plemondstall, July 25, 1684. ANNE, buried at Plemondstall, June 19, 1685. JANE, bapt. at St. John's, Chester, Sept. 20, 1688.	MARY, buried at Plemondstall, Sept. 26, 1695. CATHERINE, bur. at Plemondstall, Aug. 12, 1699. ANNE, bur. at Plemondstall, Nov. 9, 1699.	FRANCES, buried at Plemondstall, Jan. 13, 1702. ANNE, bur. at Plemondstall, July 5, 1704. ELIZABETH, buried October 28, 1704.
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CHARLES HURLESTON, buried at Plemondstall, Nov. 29, 1711, s. p.	JANE, buried at Plemondstall, Sept. 1, 1718.	ANNE, wife of Geoffry Shakerly, of Chester, esq. and 2dly, of John Needham, lord viscount Kilmorey, married 1738.	MARY, wife of John Leche, of Carden, esq. coheirress to her uncle; marriage covenant dated May 4, 1728, died Dec. 29, 1763, buried at Tilston.	PENELOPE, buried at Plemondstall, Aug. 14, 1723, o. s. p. ELIZABETH, second wife of Trafford Barnston, of Churton, esq. sheriff of Cheshire 1735, o. s. p.
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^a Harl. MSS. 1965, 39 b.

^b Leycester, p. 231.

Part of Backford Parish.

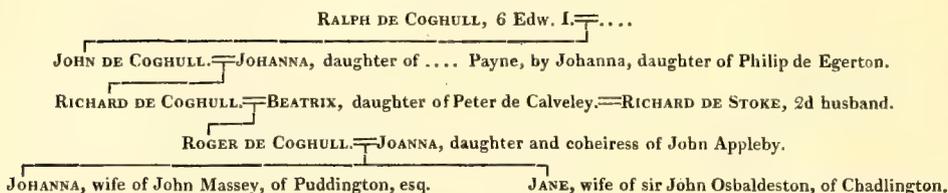
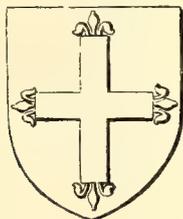
COGHALL, OR COGHULL.

THIS township is unnoticed in Domesday. It was most probably retained by the earls for a considerable period, and first granted out to the Coghulls, who were certainly immediate tenants of the earldom. Ralph de Coghull occurs as lord, 6 Edw. I. His great grandson,

Roger de Coghull, was one of the forty-three Cheshire gentlemen who were summoned by Edward the Black Prince, 14 Edw. III. to do homage for lands which they held as tenants in capite. The pedigree to this point is given as follows by the Cheshire collectors.

COGHULL OF COGHULL.

ARMS. Argent, a cross fleury, Sable.



The share of the second of these coheirs was alienated, and purchased^r by the trustees of Whitchurch school, in whom it is now vested.

The share of the elder sister is thus noticed in the Inquisitions of her husband's family.

Inq. p. m. 5 Edw. VI. Sir John Massie of Puddington, knight, held a moiety of the manor of Coghull, and rents and messuages therein, from the King as Earl of Chester, in socage: value 5 marks.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. William Massey, of Puddington, esq. held a moiety of the manor of Coghull, from the Queen as of her Earldom of Chester, in capite, as the hundredth part of a knight's fee, by military service: value, per annum, 3l. 6s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 24 Sept. 10 Jac. I. John Massey, esq. held a moiety of the manor of Coghull, from the Prince as Earl of Chester, as in the last Inquisition: Value, per annum, 3l. 6s.

This moiety of the manor passing with the bulk of the Puddington estates to the Stanleys, is now vested

in sir Thomas Stanley Massey Stanley, of Hooton, baronet.

The township contains only two houses, and is let in two farms. The farm house on sir Thomas Stanley's estates, though mostly rebuilt, contains portions of an old timber house, which in the reign of Elizabeth, was the residence of John Massey, esq. who succeeded in 1600, on the death of his brother, to the Puddington estates. It is seated on a pleasant eminence, commanding a fine view of the Mersey, and backed by tall timber, and for nearly two hundred years has been held under the Masseys and Stanleys by the Ameries, a respectable yeomanry family, who are the present lessees and occupants.

A steep sandy hill in this township, which is a considerable thoroughfare towards Chester, has the name of the *Butter Hill*, from a tradition that the Wirral market-people deposited their butter and other commodities here, when the plague at Chester forbade their nearer approach to the city.

^r Temp. Edw. VI. with a sum left by sir John Talbot, parson of Whitchurch, being then rented at 13l. per annum. Lysons's Mag. Brit. II. 497.

Part of St. Mary's Parish.

CONSISTING of Moston, Upton, Claverton, and Marleston cum Lache, the two last of which are situated on the west side of the Dee.

MOSTON.

It has been already observed in the account of Backford, that this township was antiently included in that parish, although now considered part of the parish of St. Mary's. It is placed in Wirral hundred in the index to the chartulary of St. Werburgh. The manor became at an early period the property of the abbots of St. Werburgh, who, in the quo warranto 31 Edw. I. claimed here their usual privileges of infangtheof, wayf, stray, and chattels of natives and fugitives, and view of frankpledge for this manor at their leet of Upton. The abbey estate here was valued at viii. in the ministers' accounts at the dissolution.

After the dissolution, the grant to the dean and chapter, and the subsequent extortion by sir Richard Cotton, Moston, at the granting of the second charter 22 Eliz. was confirmed to Ralph Rogerson and John Ashton, fee farmers, in equal moieties. Ashton sold his share in or about 42 Eliz. to John Morgell, gent. registrar of the diocese of Chester, by whom Rogerson's share was purchased shortly afterwards.

^a 1718, Elizabeth, sister and heiress of William Morgell, sold these estates to Methusalem Jones, of Underdale, co. Salop, gent. who conveyed the same in 1722 to Henry Bennet, of Chester, esq. who was mayor in 1716, and sheriff of the county in 1734^b, and died in 1741, having had issue five daughters, Elizabeth, wife of John Williams, of Botelwyddan, esq.;^c Sarah and Jane, who died unmarried; Anne, wife of John Townshend, of Hem House, esq.; and Mary, wife of sir Ellis Cunliffe, baronet. After his decease the manor was purchased, in 1789, from the coheirs by William Massey, of Chester, esq. attorney at law, in whose natural son, Richard Massey, esq. it is now vested. The hall of Moston, mentioned by Webb as the "delicate house of brick" lately built by Mr. John Morgell, has been recently taken down. It was a tall building, with a front terminating in five gables, and stood on a pleasant knoll, in the middle of a large ley for cattle, which occupies the greatest portion of the township.

UPTON.

The earl reserved this manor at the Conquest.

"Ipse comes tenet Optone. Edwinus comes tenuit. Ibi iv hidæ et dimidia geldabiles. Terra est xii carucarum. In dominio est una et duo bovarii et xii villani, et ii radmans cum v carucis. De hac terra hujus manerii tenet Hamo ii partes unius hidæ, et Herbertus dimidiam hidam, et Mundret unam hidam. Ibi sunt in dominio iv carucæ, et viii bovarii, et ii villani, et ii bordarii cum una caruca. Ibi una acra prati. Totum manerium tempore R. Edwardi valebat lx solidos, modo dominium comitis xlv solidos valet, hominum ejus xl solidos."

From this survey it appears that Upton was at this time head of several dependent estates, the probable foundations of those manors which afterwards rendered suit here to the abbot's court. The lands of Hamo were apparently Lea, a member of this manor, which Hamo de Masci included in his manor of Barford soon after the Conquest, and which had not obtained a distinct name when his descendant afterwards gave lands there to the abbey of Chester.

The tithes of Upton were given to Chester abbey by Hugh Lupus in the great charter of 1093, and the manor was given by Randle Meschines, on the occasion of

his removing earl Hugh's body to the chapter house. A confirmation of this grant by Randle Gernons is extant in the Chartulary^a.

The abbot had here his usual privileges (infangetheof, wayf, stray, and chattels of natives and fugitives), and view of frank pledge at his court here, of the residents in Upton, Moston, Croughton, Wervin, Lea, Newton, and Boughton^b.

After the dissolution, and the struggles between the dean and chapter and sir Richard Cotton, the lands were confirmed to various fee farmers, by Pat. 22 Eliz. the most considerable of whom were the Brownes and the Brocks, the latter of whom were the manerial proprietors.

Inq. p. m. 29 July 4 Jac. I. Robert Brocke, gent. held the manor of Upton, and lands in Upton, Moreton, Newton, and Moston, from the Queen as of her manor of East Greenwich, in socage by fealty, but not in capite; Value, 6l. 13s. 4d.: also lands in Cotton Edmunds, and Abbots Cotton, Christleton, Roe Christleton, Little Christleton, and Chester: Val. tot. 8l. 6s. 8d.: died 30 Dec. 1 Jac. I. William Brocke son and heir, aged 12 years, 8 months, and 1 day at taking of the Inquisition.

The male line of the Brocks terminating in William

^a Cowper's Broxton Collections.

^a Harl. MSS. 1965. 2. See the account of Earl Randle Gernons, vol. I.

^b Quo warranto, 31 Edw. III.

Brock, esq. in 1734, the manor of Upton passed to his eldest sister Elizabeth, wife of John Egerton, of Oulton, esq. and now forms a part of the jointure of her daughter-in-law, the relict of the late Philip Egerton, esq.

The pedigree of the Brownes is recited on one of the monumental tablets, given in the account of St. Mary's

church. The celebrated sir Thomas Browne, author of the *Vulgar Errors*, was of this family.

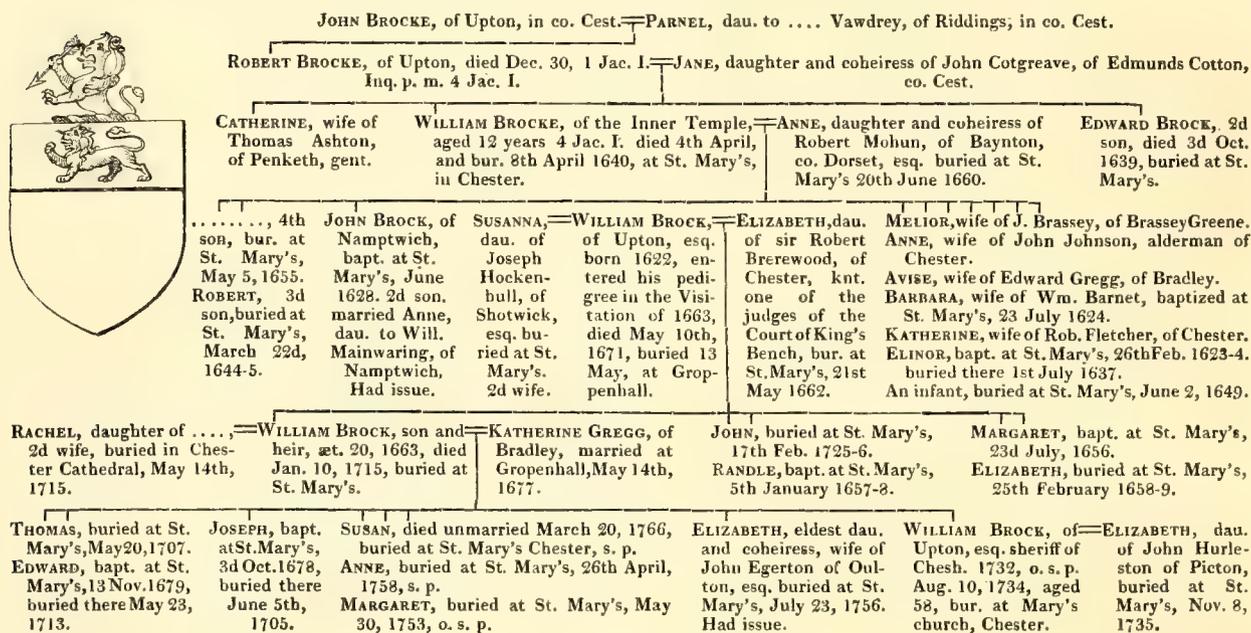
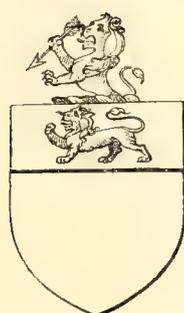
Upton is now exclusively inhabited by farmers. There are some remains of the Hall, a brick building with large stone bay windows, which was garrisoned by the Parliament troops during the siege of Chester.

BROCK OF UPTON.

Compiled from the Visitation of 1663, Monuments, and Parochial Registers.

ARMS. Gules, on a chief Argent, a lion passant, Gules.

CREST. A demi lion rampant, Gules, in the dexter paw a dart, Or, feathered Gules. Allowed by Dugdale 1663.



CLAVERTON.

CLAVERTON forms part of the suburbs of Chester, and is situated immediately adjacent to the city liberties, across the Dee, and contiguous to Handbridge. It is, however, one of the townships of the county, although included within the manor last mentioned, at the leet of which its constables are sworn.

At the Domesday Survey Claverton formed an independent vill, and was part of the possessions of Hugh Fitz Osberne, predecessor of the Pulfords.

Isdem Hugo tenet Claventone. Osmer tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi ii hidæ geldabiles: terra est ii carucarum; una est in dominio, et ii bovarii, et iv villani habent aliam, cum iii bordariis: ad hoc manerium pertinent in civitate viii burgenses, et iv ultra aquam, et reddunt ix solidos et iv denarios.

The next notice of Claverton is in an

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. when John de Pulford died seized, inter alia, of a place called Clareton, leaving Joan his daughter and heiress.

The said estate in Claverton occurs, 40 Edward III.

among manors and lands settled by the said Joan, then wife of Thomas de Belgreave^d. The said Joan afterwards marrying sir Robert Grosvenor of Holme, suffered a joint recovery with him of this and other manors, 12 Ric. II.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VI. Thomas le Grosvenor, chv'r, held, inter alia, 1111 acres of land in Clav'ton from the King in capite by military service.

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. IV. Robert Grosvenor, esq. held as in the last *Inq.* inter alia.

Inq. p. m. 21 Edw. IV. Jane, widow of Robert Grosvenor, held in dower, inter alia, two selions of land in Claverton, by the service of the hundredth part of a knight's fee, from the Prince as earl of Chester in cap. Value xiiis. per annum.

In the partition of the Grosvenor estates, Claverton passed with Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of this Robert Grosvenor, to Peter Dutton, of Hatton, esq. grandfather of sir Piers Dutton, of Dutton and Hatton, after whose decease and the subsequent dispute between

^b Ibid. See Mr. Bennet's monument in the account of St. Peter's, Chester.

^c Mr. Williams, who was a Welsh judge, was inadvertently called sir John Williams, p. 236, in the account of Whitby, the sale of which should also have been stated to have been, not by the husbands of the coheirresses, but their representatives, viz. John Townshend, esq. son of the one, and sir John Williams, bart. grandson of the other.

^d Williamson's Collections, p. 27.

his descendants, the Claverton estate was awarded by the earl of Leicester to John Dutton, of Dutton, esq. July 5, 14 Eliz. 1572^b.

Inq. p. m. April 25, 7 Jac. I. John Dutton, of Dutton, esq. held, inter alia, 80 acres of land in Claverton from the King as earl of Chester in capite, as the 30th part of a knight's fee. Value per annum, beyond reprises, viii.

From the Duttons, Claverton passed by marriage to the Gerards, and the principal estate therein was possessed by Digby lord Gerard in 1701^c. The greatest part of the township is now the property of earl Grosvenor, by purchase of his family; but the only manerial rights known or exercised, are those of the paramount royalty of Handbridge^d.

MARLESTON CUM LACHE.

THIS township formed two distinct manors at the time of the Domesday Survey, Leche and Merlestone, both situated in Atiscros hundred. The first had been the property of the seculars of St. Werburgh, the second was that of the baron of Nantwich.

Ipsa ecclesia tenuit Leche; ibi una virgata geldabilis; terra est dimidia caruca; wasta fuit et est.

Willielmus filius Nigelli tenet Merlestone; Erne tenuit: Ansgordus tenet de Willielmo, et habet ibi dimidiam carucam; ibi una virgata terræ geldabilis, ibi unus servus est. Wasta est, modo valet iv solidos.

The first of these fell into the hands of the earl, and one moiety was given by Randle Gernons to the abbey of Basingwerk^e.

The whole was afterwards held by the Blunts under the earls. Roger Blunt held the manor of Marlestone cum Lache from the earl, by paying 1d. into the exchequer, and also one carucate of land in Lache, containing 40 acres, each acre being worth vid. Katherine, daughter and heiress. *Inq. p. m.* 23 Edw. III.

This manor subsequently was the property of the Benedictine nunnery of St. Mary in Chester, and after the dissolution was granted to the Breretons of Hondford.

The said manor, with lands in Handbridge, was conveyed, in 1654, by sir William Brereton, to Thomas Minshull, apothecary, subject to certain long terms in the same, granted by the said sir William Brereton, which became vested in col. Roger Whitley, whose eldest daughter and coheir, Elizabeth, brought the same in marriage to sir John Mainwaring, of Peover, bart.

By will dated 1725, sir Thomas Mainwaring, of Baddely, bart. (son of the said sir John and Elizabeth) devised his interest in this manor, &c. to his wife Martha, late Lloyd, who, after the death of her husband, married Edward Mainwaring, of Whitmore, esq. and becoming again a widow, by will dated Dec. 20, 1740, devised all her lands, &c. in the city and county of

Chester, to James Mainwaring and Rowland Cotton, esqrs. in trust, for sale, to pay her debts, and the residue after payment of the same, to the said James Mainwaring.

James Mainwaring devised the same to his son James Mainwaring, esq. which James Mainwaring the younger, in 1748, gave the greater part of his lands, including the aforesaid interest, to his son Charles Mainwaring, esq. who purchased the perpetuity of the same, in 1773, from Roger Ayton, esq. and Sarah Blackburne, mortgagee. The said Roger Ayton was seized of the same in right of his wife Barbara, who after the death of her son, Thomas Samuel Mynshull, succeeded thereto by settlement of her first husband Thomas Mynshull, son and heir of Richard, brother and heir of Thomas, eldest son of Thomas Mynshull, apothecary, to whom the same was conveyed by sir William Brereton as before mentioned. The manor is now the property of James Mainwaring of Bromborough, son of Charles Mainwaring before mentioned. The manerial privileges are confined to the appointment of a gamekeeper. The estate, as parcel of the lands of Chester Nunnery, is tithes free.

Lache Hall, which was occupied as a garrison by sir William Brereton during the siege of Chester, was sold by his family to the Manleys of Monksfield (a younger branch of the family of Manley of Poulton), whose descendants resided here in great respectability for several generations, and sold their estate to Mr. John Snow, an alderman of Chester, about the middle of the last century.

The Trussels had also an antient estate in this township, which passed, for a considerable length of time, with the serjeancy of the East Gate, and the manor of Blacon.

This township lies in a flat unpleasant situation, about two miles south-west of Chester, immediately contiguous to the principality.

GLOVERSTONE.

IMMEDIATELY adjacent to the parish church of St. Mary, are the extra-parochial district of CHESTER CASTLE, and the township of Gloverstone, forming part of the county, but surrounded by the city liberties, and situated within the city walls.

The first of these will be found noticed at length in

the account of the City, from which its local situation renders its description inseparable; and the second is only remarkable from being the place where the convicts capitally condemned, are delivered up, by the constable of the castle, to the city officers, for execution.

^b Leicester in Dutton, p. 258.

^c Cowper's Broxton MSS. p. 7.

^e Villare Cest.

^d Information of John Finchett, esq.

^f From the abstract of title communicated by Henry Potts, esq.

Eccleston.

IN this parish are comprehended two townships only, Eccleston, and Eaton with the hamlet of Belgrave.

ECCLESTON

Is placed in Domesday at the head of the list of the baron of Kinderton's estates.

Gislebertus de Venables tenet de Hugone comite Ecclestone; Edvinus tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Ibi v hidæ geldabiles: terra est vi carucarum; in dominio est una, et ii servi, et iv villani, et unus bordarius cum una carucâ; ibi navis, et rete, et dimidia acra prati. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat x solidos, modo l solidos; wasta fuit.

The manor descended with the barony of Kinderton, and is noticed as follows in the Inquisitions.

Inq. p. m. 20 Ric. II. Hugh de Venables held, inter alia, the advowson of the church of Eccleston from the King as earl of Chester in cap. Value xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. IV. Richard de Venables of Kinderton held, inter alia, the advowson of the church of Eccleston as parcel of the barony of Kinderton, also the manor of the same. Value xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. V. Hugh de Venables of Kinderton held, inter alia, the manor of Eccleston with the advowson of the church, from the King in capite. Value xxl.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Sir Hugh Venables, kt. held, inter alia, the manor and advowson of Eccleston from the Prince as earl of Chester in capite.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VII. Richard Coton (cousin, and one of the coheirs of sir Hugh Venables, by the preceding Inquisition) held, inter alia, the manor and advowson of Eccleston, and lands therein, from the King as earl of Chester in capite: Value xxiiii.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VII. William Venables, of Kinderton, esq. (heir of sir Hugh Venables by settlement of his great uncle Henry Venables) held, inter alia, in demesne as of fee, the manor and advowson of Eccleston, from the Prince as earl of Chester: Value per annum xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. Thomas Cotton, esq. (son of the preceding Richard Coton) held, inter alia, the manor of Eccleston from the King as earl of Chester in capite: Value per annum 23l. Elizabeth daughter and heiress.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. Thomas Venables, esq. (son of the preceding William Venables) held, inter alia, the manor and advowson of Eccleston from the King as earl of Chester in capite: Value 17l. 6s. 8d. William Venables son and heir.

This William Venables married Elinour, sister and coheir of Thomas Cotton before mentioned, the rival candidate for the barony of Kinderton, whose daughter Elizabeth died without issue.

Inq. p. m. 32 Hen. VIII. Sir William Venables, kt. held, inter alia, the advowson of Eccleston, and lands

therein, from the King as earl of Chester, as the moiety of a knight's fee: Value per annum xli. xviii. viii.

Inq. p. m. 4 and 5 Phil. and Mar. Catherine, widow of sir William Venables, (a second wife) held, inter alia, lands in Eccleston from the King and Queen in capite, as of their earldom of Chester, as half a knight's fee: Value per annum 10l. 2s. 10d.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. Sir Thomas Venables, kt. held, inter alia, from the Queen, as parcel of his barony, the manor and advowson of Eccleston, together with the hamlet of Belgreave: Value per annum 11l. 17s. 6d.

Inq. p. m. April 22, 4 Jac. I. Thomas Venables, of Kinderton, esq. held, inter alia, the manor and advowson of Eccleston, with the hamlet of Belgreave, from the King as earl of Chester, as before: Value per annum 9l. 17s. 6d.

From this period the manor descended regularly with the barony of Kinderton, and having passed to the Vernons, was sold in 1758, by George Venables Vernon, esq. to sir Richard Grosvenor, of Eaton, bart. from whom it has descended with Eaton to the present earl Grosvenor.

A court leet and court baron are held at Eccleston for this manor, and those of Eaton and Poulton.

An illegitimate branch of Brereton, whose pedigree has been given in the account of Wettenhall in Edisbury hundred, had an estate in this township for several generations. Another estate also, noticed in the Inquisitions of the Bostocks of Bostock, was inherited by them from Elizabeth, aunt and coheir of sir Hugh Venables.

The village of Eccleston is beautifully situated on the bank of the Dee about two miles south of Chester. The elegant new church, the grounds of the parsonage, a few other substantial buildings, grouping with the trees and cottages, and above all an attention to cleanliness in the inhabitants, powerfully aided by the dryness of the soil and the slope of the ground, give to the village a very unusual air of respectability and comfort. The traces of the branch of the Watling street which passes through this township, and the tumulus adjacent to the church, have been noticed in the Introduction to the Hundred.

CHURCH.

The church of Eccleston is a rectory, the advowson of which has uniformly descended with the manor.

The present church has been recently rebuilt by earl Grosvenor in a most sumptuous manner, after the de-

signs of Mr. Porden. The materials are red stone from an adjoining quarry; the fabric consists of a light tower with pinnacles, battlements, and buttresses, of three stories; a nave without side aisles, on each side of which are three acutely pointed windows; two transepts, and a small chancel, the exterior of which forms three sides of an octagon. The communion table is placed in the centre between two gothic niches, and over it is a painting of the Nativity by Polidoro Caravaggio.

In the south transept is the vestry, over which is the pew for the Grosvenor family. The opposite transept is the mausoleum of the same family. The antient monuments having been removed when the former church was pulled down, the names of the persons interred are preserved in the following inscription, cut in capitals in white marble, which covers all the north end of the transept under the window.

IN THE VAULT BENEATH ARE DEPOSITED THE REMAINS OF RICHARD EARL GROSVENOR, CREATED BARON GROSVENOR OF EATON, APRIL 1761, AND EARL GROSVENOR VISCOUNT BELGRAVE, 1784: HE DIED AUGUST 1802, AGED 71.

ALSO THE REMAINS OF

SIR RICHARD GROSVENOR OF EATON, IN THE COUNTY OF CHESTER, KNIGHT AND BARONET: HE DIED SEPTEMBER 14TH, 1645, AGED 61.

ROGER GROSVENOR, ESQ. GRANDSON OF THE ABOVE SIR RICHARD, DIED AUGUST 22D, 1661, AGED 33.

SIR RICHARD GROSVENOR, KNIGHT, AND 2ND BARONET, SON OF THE ABOVE SIR RICHARD, BURIED JANUARY 31ST, 1664, AGED 60.

HUGH GROSVENOR, FOURTH SON OF SIR RICHARD, BURIED FEBRUARY 17TH, 1698, AGED 61.

SIR THOMAS GROSVENOR, 3D BARONET, SON OF ROGER GROSVENOR, BURIED JULY 2D, 1700, AGED 44.

CATHERINE, DAUGHTER OF SIR RICHARD GROSVENOR, 4TH BARONET, BURIED JUNE 12TH, 1718.

JANE, FIRST WIFE OF SIR RICHARD GROSVENOR, BURIED FEBRUARY 6TH, 1719.

MARY, RELICT OF SIR THOMAS GROSVENOR, BURIED JANUARY 15TH, 1729, AGED 65.

DIANA, SECOND WIFE OF SIR RICHARD GROSVENOR, BURIED FEBRUARY 28TH 1729, AGED 27.

SIR RICHARD GROSVENOR, SON OF SIR THOMAS, AND 4TH BARONET, DIED JULY 12TH, 1732, AGED 44.

SIR THOMAS GROSVENOR, 5TH BARONET, BROTHER TO SIR RICHARD, DIED AT NAPLES, BURIED MAY 28TH, 1733, AGED 40.

DOROTHY, WIFE OF THOMAS WARRE, ESQ, BURIED AUGUST 30TH, 1736.

THOMAS WARRE, ESQ. BURIED AUGUST 7TH, 1745, AGED 72.

SIR ROBERT GROSVENOR, 6TH BARONET, BROTHER TO SIR THOMAS, BURIED AUGUST 12TH 1755, AGED 60.

DEBORAH, WIFE OF THOMAS GROSVENOR, ESQ. BURIED APRIL 22D, 1771, AGED 33.

MARY, DAUGHTER OF SIR ROBERT GROSVENOR, BURIED FEBRUARY 14TH 1774, AGED 38.

JANE, RELICT OF SIR ROBERT GROSVENOR, AND DAUGHTER OF THOMAS AND DOROTHY WARRE, BURIED MAY 25TH, 1791, AGED 86;

AND OF

THOMAS GROSVENOR, ESQ. SECOND SON OF SIR ROBERT AND BROTHER OF RICHARD EARL GROSVENOR, BURIED FEBRUARY 26TH, 1795, AGED 62.

AND

ELIZABETH GROSVENOR HIS SISTER, BURIED DECEMBER 20TH 1805, AGED 67.

N. B. THE TWO FIRST BARONETS REPRESENTED THE COUNTY

AND THE THIRD BARONET AND ALL HIS MALE DESCENDANTS

THE CITY OF CHESTER IN PARLIAMENT.

In the window over this are the arms of Grosvenor, together with the several quarterings claimed by that house: Mobberly, Downes, Pulford, Phesaunt, Eaton, Stockton, Coton, Rudware, Waltheof, Basing, Falconer, Thurcaston, Venables, Vernon, Davies, and Warre; at the sides of the last coat, are the original coat of Grosvenor, Azure, a bend Or, and the same coat, with the brisure awarded by Richard II. when the simple coat was confirmed to the Scroops, a bordure Argent.

The roof is vaulted; the tower contains six new bells.

Eccleston church may be classed among the happiest imitations of Gothic architecture. The resemblance is perhaps weakened by the substitution of slender iron work for stone mullions in the windows, which, though elegant in design and beautifully executed, is too slender when contrasted with the general proportions.

The situation of the church-yard is beautiful; on a dry rock above the Dee, and adjacent to the grounds of the parsonage, without the intervention of any object which could displease the most fastidious eye. It is observable that it has become such a favourite place of interment for the citizens of Chester, that it has been found necessary to place a heavy charge on opening

graves for strangers, to secure sufficient room for the parishioners.

The following account of monuments, as they existed in the old church, Sept. 15, 1572, is extracted from Harl. MSS. 2151, 63.

In Eaton chappell, in the west window of the same, are these coates and subscriptions. A large shield containing Eaton and Grosvenor quarterly, (*Eaton in the 1st and 4th quarters*) impaling a shield composed of the arms of Rudware, Waltheof, Falconer, and Venables, with Coton on a shield of pretence. Crest, a falcon with wings displayed Gules, beaked and belled Or. Underneath, Of your charitie pray for the good state of Richard Grosvenor de Eaton, armig. and Katherine his wife, the which did make this window, A. D. 1538.

On either side the armes abovesaid are these figures in the glasse. On the right hand, a male figure habited in a tabard emblazoned with the arms of Eaton, with five male figures kneeling behind him; over his head: S'cus Georgius Ora pro nobis. On the left hand, a female figure in a hood and dress emblazoned with the arms of Rudware, and twelve female figures kneeling behind her. Two were in the habit of nunnes. The one had a crosier staffe in her armes, for she was lady

of the nunnes in Chester, and the other was of the same house with her.

In another place of the said chappell window, the same coats quarterly, with this writing under it: *Orate pro animâ Ricardi Grosvenor de Eaton, armigeri, qui obiit 27° die mensis Julii, A. D. 1542.*

In another place Legh of Adlington with four quarterings, impaling a shield unknown. This coat for Legh, quarterly, 1st and 4th, Azure, three ducal coronets Or, in the centre point a bezant (Corona of Adlington, adopted by Legh); 2d, Azure, two bars Gules, over all a bend componè Or and Gules, Legh, proper coat; 3d, Argent, a cross patonce Sable, Legh, antient. Underneath: *Of your charitie pray for the soul of Thomas Leigh, of Adlington, esq. which died the 17th day of May, 1548.*

In the north window is the figure of a bishoppe, in his habite and crosier staffe, and on the rochet is this coat, Argent, a chevron Sable, between three crosses patee fitchee Sable, and on the welt, S'cus Chadda Lichfield: *Ep'us.*

In another window, on the north side of Eaton chappell, are two kneeling figures, with eight sons and four daughters; no arms; subscribed, *Of your charitie pray for the soules of Rafe Rogers, maior of the citey of Chester, and Lucey his wife; anno 1534.*

In a window on the south side of the church, two figures kneeling before desks, the tabard of the man emblazoned with the arms of Danyell. No inscription.

On a grave-stone by the altar, the recumbent figure of a man in plate armour, the inscription mutilated, — “who dyed the 17th day of August, A. D. 1548.”

On the screen that parts Eaton chappell from the church, these armes cut in wood, very auntient; Stanley, quartering Latham and Man.

On several grave-stones in the chancel:

1606. *Joh'es Frodsham cl'us hic jacet. obiit Maii XI.*

HERE lyeth interred the body of Maud, the wife of Richard Brereton, esq. who died the 17th day of March, anno 1616, haveing had between them 8 sonnes and 8 dau'rs, being dau. to Richard Hurleston, of Picton, esq.

HERE lyeth the body of the said Richard Brereton, who died the . . . day of . . .

In the same collection is a rude drawing of a large altar and mural monument in a mixed style, profusely decorated with arms and quarterings of the Grosvenors, and inscribed:

D. O. M.

To the pious memoriall
of his deare parents, Richard
Grosvenour, esq. with Christian
dau' to Richard Brooke, esq.
and Jane, dau. to sir Thomas
Vernon, kt. his virtuous wives, as alsoe
to the like memoriall of Lettice,
dau. to sir Hugh Cholmondeley, kt.
Elizabeth, dau. to Thomas Wilbraham,
esq. and Elizabeth, yet living, daugh-
ter and heire to sir Peter Warber-
ton, kt. one of the judges of the
Common Pleas, wives to sir Richard
Grosvenor, kt. and bart. the
saide sir Richard their thrice
affectionate sonne and husbände,
dedicates this monument,
anno domini
1624.

On the slab of the altar tomb were the recumbent figures of sir Richard and one of his wives, with ruffs, their hands clasped and their heads reposing on cushions. Sir Richard was habited in plate armour, with spurs, and the arms of Grosvenor on his breast. The sides of the tomb were ornamented with four niches, filled with kneeling figures, over which was inscribed, “one sone and 2 dau'rs of sir Richard and Elizabeth his wife; 2 sones and 2 dau'rs of sir Richard and Lettice; fourteen dau'rs of Richard and Christian; three sones of Richard and Christian.”

This monument is stated to have been much defaced in the wars about 1643.

THE following five inscriptions, of later date, on monuments existing in the former church, are transcribed from Mr. Crane's account of the parish of Eccleston, the first of which relates to the widow of an intelligent Chester antiquary.

I. THE memoriall of the just shall be blessed. Pro. x.

Thou shalt go to thy grave in a full age, as a ricke of corne cometh in due season into ye barne. Job v.

Heare lyeth

interred the bodie

of Mrs. Elizabeth Rogers, one of the daughters of John Deane, of Wallingford, in the countye of Barkshire, gent. and late wiffe to that reverend man of God Mr. Robert Rogers, Batchlor of Devinitie, archdeacon of Chester, and one of the prebendes of the cathedrall church of the same, with whom she lived xxvi yeres, a rare wiffe and godly matron; by whom she had x sonnes and v daughters: after whose death she remained a devout widdow unto the time of her death, being xxii yeares: whose holy liffe, love to her husband and childderen, liberallitie to the poore, bountifull hospitalitie, helpinge of the poore in sicknes and diseases, a rare gift of God, Christian charitie towards all, with her truly religeous liffe both in counsell and practise, shined in her plentifully all her dayes, to God's glorie and now to her endles eternitie. Who departed this liffe in a good age, the xi day of December, Anno Domini 1617, and in the Lxxii yeare of her age.
Hodie mihi, cras tibi.

On each side of the monument were armorial shields. On the dexter side, Argent, a mullet Sable, charged with a martlet Or, for difference, on a chief Or, 3 fleurs de lis Gules. On the sinister side, Azure, five etoiles Gules, on a chevron Or, between three wolves' heads erased of the third.

II. Juxta S. E.

Joannes Okes, Wottoniâ in Agro Gloucestr. oriund.

Aulæ Sti. Edmundi Oxon. A. M.

ob ampliatam ibid. 20 librar. donaria bibliothecam merito commemoratus:

quî animarum curæ in ecclesiâ de White-gate annos circ. 24 fideliter inservivit.

Pauperes (stipe 20 librar. ijsd. porrectâ) gaudebant benefactore,

nec fidelem parochiani pastorem desiderabant;

donec, jure jurando duriusculo urgente, vir, in Ecclesiam Anglicanam et Regem

fidei semper immotæ,

pulsus ab eâ recessit ANOMOTOS.

In ædibus Valle-Regalibus annos 44

Doctus ille ac pius,

vitæ illibatae, morumque suavissimorum,
sacellani munus exequendo ornavit.
20 libr. in pauperes, et bibliothecam suam
in usum popularium suorum Wottoniæ
erogavit, et ex testamento dicavit.
Etonam tandem Grosvenorum
a Francisco Cholmondeley, ar.
(cui summum semper honorem præstitit)
accersitus lubens transivit anno 1707.
Ubi vitâ forsân (penates etsi inter uberrimos)
austerâ magis quam morbo confectus,
interiit 2 die Nov. 1710, ætat. 65.
Dictus Franciscus Cholmondeley
M. B. M. P.

III. Hic jacet corpus Henrici Wigley
S. T. B. coll. div. Joh. Evang. Cantab.
olim soc. et
de Eccleston venerabilis past.
Lucerna ardens lucensq; erat :
sed, proh dolor! infesta febre
jam adumbratur,
et
vertitur in cineres,
qui modo flamma fuit.
Ob. 27 Apr. anno ætatis suæ 39no,
annoq; Dom. 1701.

IV. Hic jacet Alicia Cawdrej, quæ è
vivis excessit Aug. 30, 1693.
Saxum, tuere sacros cineres
tibi creditos a manibus
profanis, ad justorum
resurrectionem.
Et matris cineres, et filii (ex
priori matrimonio natu
minimi) Ant. Wigley, M. D.
filii æque matri chari, et in matrem
pii; medici eruditi, seduli,
fœlicis; qui licet assidue

a divitibus peteretur, egenis
tamen æque operam impendebat;
quos non modo in depellendis
morbis, sed etiam in sublevanda
paupertate, multum et sæpe
et secreto juvat: at cum ipse (heu!)
semper valetudine laboraret,
tandem corporis viribus (animo
aliorum saluti intento) non
sufficientibus, multum deploratus
obiit Apr. 27^o, anno 1712,
ætatis suæ 35.

V. Hic jacet Elizabetha, filia natu
minima Left. Oldfeld, in com. Cest.
arm. et uxor revd. Tho. Aubrey,
hujus ecclesiæ rect. expectans
beatam resurrectionem. Ob. Nov.
19, ætat. 48, A. D. 1738.
Cujus ad dextram repositæ sunt reliquiæ
revdi. Thomæ Aubrey, A. M.
qui, Dei gregem ei commendatum
annis quinquaginta quatuor
quum prompto animo pavisset,
Christi in manus spiritum deposuit
die 2do. Junii A. D. 1758, ætatis suæ 81mo.

The rector has the tithes of the whole parish, with
the exception of a hay modus in one farm in Belgrave,
some meadows in Eaton, and other lands in the new
park. Before the destruction of the weir, he had also
as his tithe the twentieth salmon taken therein.

The charitable benefactions (the greater part of which
were given by the Grosvenor family) are stated cor-
rectly in the parliamentary return as amounting to 222l.
of which 42l. (for which the parishioners pay interest)
has been sunk in the repairs of the church. The residue,
with an additional benefaction of 50l. by Mrs. Elizabeth
Grosvenor, is vested in the hands of earl Grosvenor, and
the interest given to the poor on St. Stephen's day.

RECTORS OF ECCLESTON.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1299, 15 kal. Junii.	Willielmus de Lancaster. Johannes de Venables.	Prior et Conv. Lancast.	
1304.	Ricardus de Vernon.	D'nus Hugo de Venables, miles.	Res. Jo. de Venables.
1310, 17 kal. Jan.	Robertus de Dutton, acolithus.	Hugo de Venables, miles.	
1328, 3 id. Julii.	Willielmus de Wever, cl'us.	Hugo de Venables, miles.	P. m. Rob. de Dutton.
1328, 9 kal. Sept.	D'nus Hugo de Dutton, cap's.	Hugo de Venables, miles.	Res. W. de Wever.
1337, 8 id. Dec.	Henricus de Haydock, acolit. Hugo de Derby.		
1355, 8 kal. Nov.	Walterus D'amory, pr'b'r.	D'nus Hugo de Venables, miles.	P. m. Hugonis de Derby.
1363, 18 kal. Feb.	Rogerus Parde, cap's.	D'nus Hugo de Venables, miles.	
1371, 9 kal. Ap.	Ricardus de Eccleston.	Catherina rel. D'ni Hugonis de Venables.	
1392, Jun. 1.	Ricardus Twozereold, pr'b'r.	Margareta, rel. D'ni Hugonis de Venables.	
1425.	Joh'es de Mapilton. Ricardus de Dutton.		
1438.	Johannes Hulme.	Hugo Venables.	Permut. cum Ric. Dutton.
1443, Mart. 28.	Thomas Clarke. Robertus Norley.	Hugo Venables, baro de Kind.	
1500, Aug. 18.	Ricardus Rawlinson.	Tho. Venables de Kinderton, armiger.	P. m. Roberti Norley.
	William Wright.		
1616, Jan. 16.	William Harrison.	Richard Wilbraham, esq.	Res. of Will. Wright.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1625, March 25.	Alexander Clarke.	The King, during the minority of Peter Venables.	
1670, ante.	William Bispham, A. M.		Death of Wm. Bispham.
1685.	Ralph Lowndes.		Deprivation of Ralph Lowndes.
1690, July 30.	Henry Wigley, A. M.	Montague Venables Bertie, lord Norreys, and Anne his wife.	Death of H. Wigley.
1701, Sept. 30.	Samuel Tilley, A. M.	The Earl of Abingdon.	Death of Sam. Tilley.
1704, June 12.	Thomas Aubrey, A. B.	The Earl of Abingdon.	Death of Tho. Aubrey.
1758, Aug. 17.	Robert Massie, A. M.	Sir Richard Grosvenor, bart.	Death of Robert Massie.
1776, May 17.	Charles Mytton.	Lord Grosvenor.	Death of Charles Mytton.
1801, Oct. 2.	Charles Mytton, A. M.	Earl Grosvenor.	

Richard Rawlinson was also rector of Handley, and was living in 1512, as appears by an inscription on the steeple of that church.

"*William Harison*, parson of Eccleston," died Feb. 19, 1624, and was buried at Eccleston. His successor, *Alexander Clarke*, appears for the last time in the Registers in 1635.

William Bispham, a great sufferer in the civil disturbances of his time, occurs among the prebendaries of Chester cathedral.

Ralph Lowndes was deprived on refusing the oaths at

the revolution, and continued a nonjuror until his death on Aug. 31, 1727^z.

Henry Wigley, and *Thomas Aubrey*, were severally buried at Eccleston, May 1, 1701, and June 5, 1758. Further notices of both will be found among the monumental inscriptions.

The late rector, who was of the family of Mytton of Halston, in the county of Salop, was father of the present incumbent, and held the curacy of Farndon for a short time with Eccleston. He died Sept. 5, 1801, and was buried on the 10th of Sept. following, at Halston.

EATON.

BEFORE the Norman Conquest this township contained two manors, the property of distinct Saxon proprietors, both of whom were ejected to make way for Ilbert, one of the minor Norman grantees, who has been already noticed in the account of his manors of Clotton and Waverton. There was also an estate on the bank of the Dee here (hereafter mentioned) held by earl Edwin, and reserved by Hugh Lupus at the Conquest. The interest of Ilbert in the township of Eaton is described as follows in Domesday.

"Isdem Ilbertus tenet Etone. Alnod et Ervin pro II maneris tenuerunt, et liberi homines fuerunt. Ibi II hidæ geldabiles. Terra est III carucarum. Ibi est unus villanus, cum una carucâ. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos, modo ix solidos, et iv denarios; wasta fuit."

In the account of Waverton, the manner in which a share of that vill passed through the families of Rullos and Pichot to the Pulfords, has been already traced. Eaton passed also to the Pulfords (probably by the same descent), and was possessed by Hamo de Pulford, in the reign of Hen. III.

^a54-5 Hen. III. The said Hamo de Pulford and Mabilia his wife settle half of Eaton and all their lands in Burwardsley, on Richard their son, and Cecily his wife daughter of Robert de Huxley. Ric. Wilbraham, Vic. Cest.

This Richard adopted the local name of Eaton, but his successors retained his paternal coat, parting the colours quarterly, and counterchanging the charge. He had issue Richard, on whose widow Agnes, he settled 40 acres of land, parcel of the manor of Eaton, for life, remainder to her son Robert, who by *Inq. p. m.* 6 Edw. II. was found heir to his grandfather, who is described as Richard son of Hamon^b.

Robert de Eaton, in plea to a quo warranto, claims to hold, by prescription of himself and his ancestors having held the same beyond legal memory,

The serjeancy of Dee from Eton Weir to Arnoldsheyre (a rock opposite Chester castle, now called Arnold's Eye) by the service of clearing the river from all nets improperly placed there, and to have a moiety of all nets forfeited, and of the fish therein, as far as stall nets are placed, viz. from Dee Bridge to Blakene, and from thence to Arnoldsheyre to have one out of all the nets taken and all the fish therein, and to have a ferry boat at Eton over the water, for which he shall be paid by the neighbours according to their pleasure, but shall receive from every stranger if he has a horse and is a merchant, one halfpenny; if not a merchant, the payment to be at his option.

And to have toll from every "flote" at Eton passing through his weir "de prima knycke unum denarium qui vocatur hachepeny, et de qualibet knycke sequente, unum quadrantem," and to have waifs and wrecks on his manor of Eton, and two stall nets and two free boats on Dee. Harl. MSS. 2022. p. 88.

Robert de Eaton, by Isabella his wife (5 Edw. III.) daughter and heiress of William de Stockton^c, had issue Richard son and heir, with whom the series of the Inquisitions, now remaining in Chester exchequer, commences.

Inq. p. m. 3 Ric. II. Richard de Eaton held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Eaton, cum pert. from the King as Earl of Chester, in capite, by grand serjeancy: Val. x marks: and lands in Burwardslegh and Fulke Stapleford. John de Eaton son and heir.

This John de Eaton, 12 Hen. IV. is^d commanded by a warrant from Prince Henry to clear all obstructions in

^z Cowper's Broxton MSS.

^a Williamson's Vill. Cest. and Fines, p. 2.

^b Vill. Cest.

^c Vide Stockton and Tushingam, pp. 364, and 365.

^d Grosvenor Deeds. Harl. MSS. 2022, 86.

the Dee, and to bring the forfeited nets to the castle of Chester, as "Custos ripariæ aquæ de Dee," the title by which the serjeant of Dee is uniformly designated in similar warrants to Ralph Grosvenor, 19 Hen. VI.; Ralph Grosvenor, 12 Edw. IV.; Robert Grosvenor, of Eton, 5 Hen. VII.; Robert Grosvenor, esq. 14 Hen. VII.; Richard Grosvenor, esq. 20 Hen. VIII.; and Richard Grosvenor, 24 Hen. VIII.

25 July 3 Hen. V. John, son of Richard de Eton, grants to Richard Twozereold, parson of Eccleston, and Richard de Lymne, chaplains, his manor of Eton, with lands in Hargreve, Burwardslegh, Fulwiche, Chester, and Tussyngham, two fishing stalls in Dee, and all his liberties therein from Eton Weir to Arnoldeshere. *Seal, a fesse dancette*. Crest, a ship.

35 July 3 Hen. V. The said chaplains regrant the said premises to John, son of Richard de Eton, and Johanna his wife; remainder to their lawful issue; remainder to Ellen, wife of John de Manlegh, and the heirs of her body; remainder successively to Robert and Hamon base sons of Richard de Eton, and the heirs male of their bodies; with similar remainders to John, son of William de Hawarden, and Henry, son of Ralph de Salusbury. *Seal, a cross fleury*. Crest, a wolf's head erased.

1 Hen. VI. Saturday after the feast of St. George. John, son of Richard de Eton, and Robert de Eton, invest the said premises in trustees, the survivor of whom, Gilbert de Salbury, 22 Hen. VI. settles the same on Ralph Grosvenor, esq. and Johanna his wife; remainder to the heirs of the body of the said Johanna; remainder to Robert de Eton, the heirs male of his body, and the heirs male of Henry de Salusbury.

This Johanna, according to the Cheshire pedigrees, was daughter of John, son of John de Eton before mentioned. Her husband Ralph Grosvenor, was second son of sir Thomas Grosvenor, of Holme, and finally heir male of his elder brother sir Robert Grosvenor of Holme, among whose daughters and co-heiresses^u, the principal part of the possessions of this celebrated knightly family were divided. The further descent of Eaton is traced by the Inquisitions, as follows.

Inq. p. m. 16 Edw. IV. Ralph Grosvenor held by law of England, of the inheritance of Johanna, his late wife, daughter and heiress of John de Eyton, the manor of Eyton, cum pert. from the Prince as Earl of Chester, in capite, by serjeancy as the 33d part of a knight's fee; Value, per annum, x marks: also lands in Burwardsley, Stockton, Hampton, and Wigland. Robert Grosvenor son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 34 Hen. VIII. Richard Grosvenor, esq. (son of Robert before mentioned) held the manor of Eaton, the toll of the ferry, the fishery, a free boat, and 40 messuages therein, as before, as the 20th part of a knight's fee; Value 26l. 13s. 4d.: also lands in Burwardsley, Hargreave, Huxley, Doddleston, Tussyngham, Bryndley, Stockton, Hampton, Wigland, and Oldcastell: Total value, 46l. 11s.; died July 27, 34 Hen. VIII. Thomas Grosvenor son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Thomas Grosvenor, esq. (son of Thomas before mentioned) held the manor of Eaton, with certain messuages, a free ferry, and the serjeancy of Dec, by services unknown, from the Queen as of her earldom of Chester; Value 3l. 6s. 8d.: and also the manors of Tushingham, Belgreave, and Thurcaston, half the manor of Doddleston, and lands in Stockton, Droyt-

wyche, Wigland, Shocklach, Hampton, Edge, Horton, Kyddington, Ouldcastle, Hargreve, Burwardsley, Greenwall, Pulton, Pulford, Gorstilow, Rowton, Oscrofte, Kynarton, Bromfeild, Gresford, and Barton, right of common in Burton, co. Denbigh, and coal mines in Wrexham; he died 12th Nov. 21 Eliz. Richard Grosvenor, esq. son and heir.

Richard Grosvenor, esq. found heir by this Inquisition, was sheriff of Cheshire 44 Eliz. and entered the family pedigree in the Visitation of 1613. He was succeeded in 1619 by his eldest son Richard Grosvenor, esq. born 1584. The genealogical particulars of the preceding and following descents, and the alliances of the collaterals, will be found in the pedigree subjoined, and leave the account of the successive individual representatives more clear and unembarrassed.

Richard Grosvenor, esq. last mentioned, was knighted 17 Jac. I. and created a baronet, Feb. 23, 1621-2. He filled the office of sheriff of Cheshire 22 Jac. I. and that of sheriff of Flintshire, the year following, and had the honour of representing the county of Chester in the Parliaments called 18 Jac. I. 2 and 3 Car. I. In 1645, he was succeeded by his eldest son,

Sir Richard Grosvenor, second baronet, connected by near relationship with the most distinguished loyalists of the county of Chester, and an active leader and severe sufferer in the royal cause. During the life-time of his father, he had called out the posse comitatus in 1644, as sheriff of Cheshire, to oppose the Parliament army under lord Fairfax, and after a series of loyal exertions was ejected from Eaton, and having suffered a sequestration of his estate, was sheltered in the house of a neighbouring gentleman until the restoration. His sequestrations and sufferings were shared by his eldest son, Roger Grosvenor, esq. who, on the eve of the intended insurrection in 1659, was prepared to act upon his majesty's orders, with sir Richard Wynne, of Gwydir, and his kinsman sir Thomas Middleton, of Chirk, and Edward lord Herbert, of Cherbury. Both parties survived the restoration, when the name of the son was entered in the list of the Cheshire knights of the intended order of the Royal Oak, his estate being then 3000l. per ann. Roger Grosvenor having died before his father,

Sir Thomas Grosvenor, third baronet, succeeded to the title and estates of his grandfather, sir Richard, in 1664, was mayor of Chester in 1684, sheriff of the county 1688, and representative of the city of Chester in the Parliaments called 31 Car. II. 1 Jac. II. and 1, 7, and 10 Will. and Mary. By his marriage with Mary, daughter and heiress of Alexander Davies, of Ebury, esq. he brought into the Grosvenor family the great possessions which they enjoy in the metropolis.

Sir Thomas was certainly at first supposed to be a warm supporter of the measures of the crown, having been singled out by Jefferies, as the foreman of a jury, who presented the necessity of requiring sureties of the peace from the principal Cheshire noblemen and gentlemen who paid attention to the Duke of Monmouth, in his progress through Cheshire; and for that presentment sir Thomas Grosvenor had afterwards an action of libel brought against him by the earl of Macclesfield. On the bill for repealing the penal laws and test acts being subsequently brought into the house, he was closeted by the king on the subject, and his support of the measure was solicited, the royal request being accompanied with the offer of a peerage, and of the earl of Shrews-

^u For the account of the Grosvenors of Holme, and the earlier generations, Vide Holme in Northwich Hundred.

bury's regiment of horse, in which he then commanded a troop, in the camp at Hounslow. On this occasion the constitutional principles of sir Thomas Grosvenor were honourably developed; the offers were rejected; he resigned the commission which he already held, and proceeding to the house gave his negative to the measure.

Sir Richard Grosvenor, fourth baronet, succeeding his father in 1700, was returned member for the city, in the Parliaments called 1 and 8 Geo. I. and 1 Geo. II. in the last of which he was associated with his younger brother Thomas Grosvenor, esq. He was mayor of Chester 1715, and at the coronation of George II. officiated as grand cupbearer of England, in right of his manor of Wymondley, in the county of Hertford.

Sir Thomas Grosvenor, fifth baronet, and heir to his brother, dying unmarried at Naples, in 1733, was succeeded by his younger brother,

Sir Robert Grosvenor, 6th baronet, who was associated with him in the representation of the city of Chester, having been elected on the death of his elder brother sir Richard, the year preceding: he was successively returned representative for the same in the parliaments summoned 8, 15, 21, and 27 Geo. II. and was mayor of Chester in 1737, and dying Aug. 1, 1755, was succeeded by his eldest son Richard Grosvenor, esq. in the baronetcy and estates, and by his second son Thomas Grosvenor, esq. in the representation of the city of Chester.

Sir Richard Grosvenor, 7th baronet, officiated as grand cupbearer of England, at the coronation of his present majesty, and by letters patent, dated April 8, 1761, was raised to the peerage by the title of baron Grosvenor, of Eaton, and was subsequently advanced to the dignities of Viscount Belgrave, and earl Grosvenor, July 5, 1784. The east gate of Chester was erected in 1769, at the expence of this nobleman, to which the munificence of his successor, the present earl, has added among other benefactions, on a scale of the most extended liberality, the beautiful fabric of the north gate, erected from the classical designs of Harrison, in 1810.

Robert Grosvenor, lord viscount Belgrave, was elected M. P. for Chester in 1790, and continued to represent the city until he took his seat in the House of Peers, on the decease of his father in 1802. His lordship was appointed in 1789 one of the lords of the admiralty, which he held until 1791, and he is lord lieutenant of the co. of Flint^s. By his marriage with Eleanor, daughter and sole heiress of Thomas earl of Wilton, the representation of one of the coheirs of the lords Grey de Wilton is vested in his descendants; and by the limitations of the patent, the earldom of Wilton is entailed on his younger issue.

The manerial rights of Eaton are now deemed co-extensive with the township, the manor of Belgrave being unknown. A court leet and court baron are held at Eccleston for this township, together with those for the manors of Eccleston and Pulton.

THE SERJEANCY OF DEE is claimed by earl Grosvenor, but the only privilege used, is the right of providing the ferry boat, and receiving the tolls. Before the demolition of the weir, a salmon fishery was farmed here by a London Company, and was very productive. The office was certainly in full force in the seventeenth century, when several complaints of the Gamuls, rela-

tive to obstructions of the Dee, were addressed to the Grosvenors as serjeants, and are now extant among the Harl. MSS.

The antient office is described in Robert Grosvenor's plea to a quo warranto, temp. Edw. II. or III. already given. It appears that the grant of the office was then lost, as it was only claimed by legal prescription. The grant was probably from one of the Norman earls to the predecessors of the Eatons, and the execution of the office was certainly the serjeancy by which the Eatons held the manor. It is most likely that the grant of the office was accompanied by the grant of an estate in Eaton, which included the fishery, and occupies a distinct notice in Domesday among the possessions of the earl. "*Ipse comes tenet Etone, Edwinus comes tenuit. Ibi una hida et dimidia geldabilis. In dominio est una, et II bovarii, et II villani, cum una caruca. Ibi piscaria reddit m salmone, et vi piscatores, et una acra prati. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x libras, et post VIII solidos; modo x libras.*"

It does not appear at what time the manor of BELGRAVE, now merged in that of Eaton, vested in the Grosvenors. It was most probably one of the two manors into which the Saxon vill of Etone was divided, as noticed in Domesday; and it was possessed by a family who bore the local name, certainly as late as 40 Edw. III. when it was the property of Thomas, son of John de Belgreave, whose widow Joan de Pulford, afterwards married sir Robert Grosvenor of Holme.

EATON HALL, at the close of the last century, was a large brick mansion with a heavy roof, in the style introduced about the reign of William the Third, surrounded with gardens laid out in the taste of that period, a representation of which is engraved among Kip's Views. The present noble owner has substituted grounds in the modern style, which harmonize with the contiguous landscape, and are enlivened by an artificial inlet of the Dee, which intervenes between the eastern front of the mansion and the opposite plantations. In these alterations a venerable avenue to the westward has been spared, and has been extended in that direction to a gothic lodge in the hamlet of Belgrave, distant about two miles from the Hall. Another lodge, in a similar style of design, is approached by a road, which diverges from this avenue in the direction of Chester, and crosses the park, winding among plantations, which give occasional views of the Broxton and Welsh hills, which are seen to singular advantage, with the addition of so rich a foreground. The most pleasing approach however to this noble mansion, is one which has been cut through the plantations, towards the north east angle of the house, which throws the whole building into perspective.

The mansion itself, with the exception of the vaulted basement story, and a part of the original hall, has been newly erected from the designs of Mr. William Porden, and is built with a light-coloured stone from the Manley Quarry, about ten miles distant. Both fronts consist of a large centre of three stories, finished with octagonal turrets, buttresses, and pinnacles, placed between large wings finished in a similar manner; the entrance to the western front is under a lofty vaulted portico, which admits a carriage: on the eastern side a magnificent flight of steps, terminating in three rich and airy arches, forming the middle of an exquisitely

^s Earl Grosvenor was mayor of Chester in 1807, his father in 1759.

beautiful and vaulted cloister, which spreads along the whole centre, and unites the wings with one another. Through these arches is the entrance to a grand saloon looking down upon a spacious terrace, extending upwards of three hundred and fifty feet in length, and commanding one of the richest landscapes which the banks of the Dee present in its passage through this county. The style is uniformly the pointed gothic, but the plan of the house is not formed upon that of any kind of either castellated or religious buildings, or upon that of the domestic architecture of a later date, neither has the style of any particular period been exclusively attended to in the form of the arches ^f.

The interior arrangement is as follows.

From the vaulted portico in the western front, a flight of steps leads to the great hall, a spacious and lofty room, occupying the height of two stories, with a vaulted ceiling, ornamented at the intersection of the ribs with the family devices. The pavement is composed of variegated marbles, arranged in gothic compartments; on each side are four niches with pedestals and canopies, between which, over ornamented chimney pieces, are West's paintings of the Dissolution of the Long Parliament, and the Landing of Charles II.

At the end of the Hall, a screen of five arches supports a gallery connecting the bed-chambers on the north and south sides of the houses, which are separated by the elevation of the Hall. Under this gallery, two open arches to the right and left conduct to the grand staircase, the state bed-room and the second staircase. Opposite to the door of the Hall is the entrance to the saloon.

In this apartment are three large windows opening to the cloister in the eastern front, the upper part of which is filled with painted glass, executed by Collins, in the most brilliant colours, after designs by Tresham. The subjects are imaginary representations of William the Conqueror, of Odo his uterine brother, of Gilbert le Grosvenor, the Norman founder of this family, of

his lady, of sir Robert le Grosvenor, the celebrated defendant in the suit of arms with sir Richard le Scroop, and of Joanna de Eaton, in whose right the Grosvenors succeeded to the estate of Eaton. On each side of the saloon are ante-rooms, leading to the dining and drawing-rooms, which form the extremities of the eastern front, and are noble apartments, ornamented with stained glass, and furnished with the most sumptuous magnificence, about fifty feet in length, and thirty in width, exclusive of a bow, containing five large arched windows. The ceilings of these rooms are decorated with all the ramifications of the fan-work tracery. Adjacent to the drawing-room, in the centre of the south front, is the library, fitted up with gothic book-cases of English oak, elaborately carved ^g. The family apartments occupy the remaining part of this floor.

In the drawing-room are two paintings: Our Saviour on the Mount of Olives, by Claude Lorraine, which is the largest painting known to have been executed by him; and a View of a Port in the Mediterranean, by Vernet. In the dining-room, Rubens with his second Wife, by himself; and the Judgment of Paris, a copy by Peters, after Rubens. In the dressing-room of the state bed-room, David and Abigail, also by Rubens.

The most favourable views of Eaton are from the Aldford road, and from the bank of the Dee, where the great quadrangle of the stables is seen in perspective beyond the mansion, and assists in forming a picture of unusual architectural grandeur, aided by the disposition of the pleasure grounds in front, and the stately elms of the avenue, which close up the distance. In every point, however, the grounds and mansion of Eaton will abundantly gratify the expectations of the visitor, and his pleasure will doubtless be heightened by the reflection, that the erection of this sumptuous pile and of the church of Eccleston, provided employment and sustenance for a large portion of the poor of Chester, in one of the most calamitous periods of the late war.

^f The architect proposed to himself generally that of the reign of Edward III.; but did not scruple to depart from it for the sake of producing what he deemed a better effect. Information of earl Grosvenor.

^g The library of Eaton is rich in old political and controversial tracts, and contains several valuable MSS. among which may be specified a copy of the Chronicle of Henry of Huntingdon, in which is a curious drawing of the entry of king Stephen into Lincoln; an illuminated MS. on vellum, containing the proceedings in the celebrated suit of arms between Scroop and Grosvenor; an uncollated copy of the Vision of Piers Plowman; and (among other Cheshire MSS.) one volume of Collections, marked XXI. 5. containing a transcript of a large portion of the celebrated and lost record, distinguished by the name of the CHESHIRE DOMESDAY.

Sir Peter Leycester quotes several deeds from the original record, and mentions its being stolen out of the Chester Exchequer in his time. In the Chartulary of St. Werburgh's Abbey (Harl. MSS. 1965.) are also many abstracts of deeds, to which are appended short notices, "irrotulata est concordia in magno rotulo comitatus Cestrie qui vocatur Domesday;" but no other regular transcript of any portion has been hitherto discovered. It is identified by coinciding with extracts given by sir Peter Leycester, and other fragments scattered among the Cheshire MSS. or preserved in the Chartulary of Chester abbey before mentioned.

The contents are of a description very different from that of the Domesday Book, and consist of final concords, acquittances of claims, grants to monasteries and individuals, and confirmations. The dates are frequently peculiar, referring to the time when earl Hugh II. was knighted, or when Randle III. returned from the Holy Land. Every deed appears to have been entered at the time of its execution, and not to be an exemplification of a former deed.

The extracts occupy upwards of twenty folio pages, following p. 96, on which is written "Ex Rotulo Cartar. Antiq. vocat. Domesday."

The first series, p. 96 to 104, contains 45 charters, subsequent to and including the date of 1232, miscellaneously arranged.

104. b. contains 4 charters temp. Jacob. de Audithel, Just. Cest.

105. a. contains 2 temp. Tho. de Orreby, Just. Cest.

105. a. 10. b. contains 8 temp. Jacob. de Audithel.

At the end of the seventh extract, p. 97, is written:

"In initio præfati rotuli scribitur sic

Incepto finem det gratia trina labori.

Hic referens rotulus multorum facta virorum

Non sinit a pacto quem resilire suo.

Fallere temptanti justos obstacula ponit,

Ne quis sic faciat, pagina sancta monet.

Mr. Illingworth in the Reports of Commissioners of Public Records observes that the entries in the original roll were esteemed of high authority, and were perhaps conclusive evidence, since in an assize of Darrein presentment, in the county of Chester, a^o 38 Hen. III. between Roger de Sanbach and the abbot of Deularesse, as to the church of Sandbach, removed by certiorari into the King's Bench, the Court, amongst other grounds for pronouncing their judgment, give the following reason: "Et quia convictum est per Domesday Cestr'. quod perpetuam habet firmitatem, et omnia quæ in eo continentur in perpetuum sunt stabilia, in quo continentur quod, &c. — consideratum est." Hill. 38 Hen. III. Cestr. Rot. 10. 142.

EATON OF EATON, AND GROSVENOR OF EATON.

From Deeds preserved in Harl. MSS. 2022, the Inquisitions p. m. Visitations, and Parochial Registers.

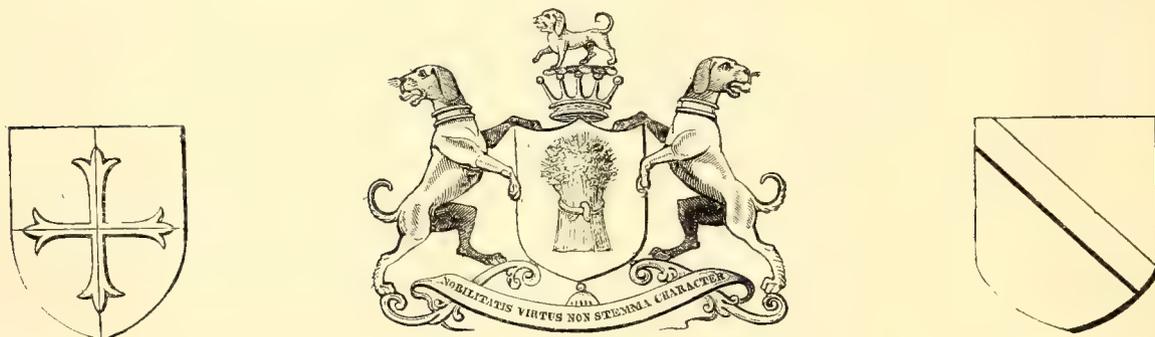
ARMS. Eaton of Eaton, Quarterly, Argent and Sable, a cross patonce, counterchanged.

ARMS. Grosvenor of Eaton, Azure, a garb, Or.

CREST. On a wreath a talbot statant, Or,

SUPPORTERS. On either side a talbot regardant, Or, collared Azure.

Antient Coat of Grosvenor, Azure, a bend, Or.



HAMO DE PULFORD, of Eaton, 15 Edw. I. = MABILLA, 15 Edw. I.

RICHARD, surnamed DE EATON, son and heir, living 15 Edw. I. Inq. p. m. 6 Edw. II. = CECILIA, daughter of Robert de Huxley, 15 Edw. I. = DAVID DE STOCKTON, 4 Edw. II. Arms, Vert, three stocks of trees erased, Argent. = WENTHILIA.

RICHARD DE EATON, son and heir apparent, died before his father. = AGNES. = WILLIAM DE STOCKTON, son and heir, 4 Edw. II. = ...

ROBERT DE EATON, heir to his grandfather, 6 Edw. II. = ISABELLA DE STOCKTON, daughter and heiress, 5 Edw. III.

WILLIAM DE HAWARDEN, (whose descendants bore the arms of Eaton,) 3 Hen. V. = RICHARD DE EATON, son and heir, Inq. p. m. 3 Ric. II.

JOHN DE HAWARDEN, 3 Hen. V. included in the settlement of Eaton. = ROBERT DE EATON, 3 Hen. V. = HAMON DE EATON, 3 Hen. V. = JOHN DE EATON, found heir by Inq. 3 Ric. II. living 1 Hen. VI. = JOHANNA, dau. of = ELLEN, wife of John de Manlegh, 3 Hen. V.

Sir THOMAS GROSVENOR, of Holme, knight, Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VI. = JOAN, daughter and coheir of sir William Phesaunt, co. Staff. knt. = JOHN DE EATON (son and heir according to the Cheshire pedigrees), died before 22 Hen. VI.

ROBERT GROSVENOR, of Holme, esq. eldest son and heir, o. s. p. m. leaving issue six daughters and coheirresses. Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. IV. = RALPH GROSVENOR, esq. of Eaton, (jure uxoris), second son and finally heir male, married before 22 Hen. VI. Inq. p. m. 16 Edw. IV. = JOAN, daughter and heiress of John Eaton, of Eaton, esq. succeeded to the manor of Eaton 22 Hen. VI. by virtue of the settlement of John, son of Richard de Eaton, 1 Hen. VI.; died before 16 Edw. IV.

ALICE. = JONETT, wife of Oliver Hope. = ROBERT GROSVENOR, of Eaton, esq. son and heir, by Inq. = JOANE, daughter of Thomas Fitton, of Gawsworth. = RALPH GROSVENOR, of Chester, 2d son. = JAMES GROSVENOR, 3d son, married Margaret, dau. of Piers Stanley, of Ewlowe.

THOMAS GROSVENOR, of Eaton, esq. eldest son and heir, married 10 Hen. VII. Elizabeth, daughter of sir Hugh Calveley, of Lea, o. s. p. = RICHARD GROSVENOR, of Eaton, esq. 2d son and heir, died 27 July, 34 Hen. VIII. Inq. p. m. 34 Hen. VIII. = KATHERINE, 3d dau. and coheir of Richard Coton, of Rudware, living 1538. = RALPH GROSVENOR, 3d son. = JAMES GROSVENOR, 4th son. = CATHERINE, wife of Thomas Hough, of Leighton, esq.; and 2dly, of sir William Venables, of Kinderton. = JANE, wife of Ralph Legh, of East Hall, in High Legh, esq.

Sir THOMAS GROSVENOR, of Eaton, knight, eldest son and heir, by Inquisition. = MAUD, dau. of sir William Poole, of Poole, knight; re-married to Robert Fletcher, of Ince. = 2. RICHARD GROSVENOR, esq. 2d son, sheriff of Flintshire 6 Edw. VI. marr. Katherine, dau. of sir Piers Dutton, of Hatton, widow of sir Roger Puleston. = 3. JOHN GROSVENOR. = 4. ANTHONY GROSVENOR, of Dodleston, marr. Juliana, dau. of sir Roger Puleston, of Emral, and had issue Eliz. Amy, and Frances. = 5. GEORGE GROSVENOR. = ELIZABETH, prioress of the Chester Nunnery. = ELENOR, wife of T. Redish, of Gropenhall, esq. = KATHERINE, wife of T. Ravenscroft, of Bretton, esq. = ANNE, wife of Roger Puleston, of Emral, esq. = ALICE, a nun at Chester. = MARGARET, wife of Ralph Birkenhead of Crowton; 2dly of George Wood of Balterley; and 3dly, of John Molyneux, of Hutt. = MAUD, wife of H. Ridgeley, of Ridgely, esq. = JANE, wife of Geo. Sandford, of Sandford, esq. = DOROTHY, wife of R. Wilbraham, of Woodhey; and 2dly of Henry Savile, of Barrowby. = MARY, wife of Thomas Leigh, of Adlington; and 2dly, of sir Richard Egerton, of Ridley.

THOMAS GROSVENOR, of Eaton, esq. eldest son and heir, died Nov. 12, 21 Eliz. Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. = ANNE, dau. of Roger Bradshaigh, esq. of Haigh, co. Lanc. re-married to William Radclyffe, esq. died Oct. 22, 1599, buried at Eccleston, Oct. 25. = RICHARD GROSVENOR, died unmarried. = ELIZABETH, wife of Richard Maisterston, of Nantwich, esq. = CATHERINE, wife of Richard Hunt; and afterwards of Richard Shalcross, esq. = GRACE, wife of John Massie, of Coddington, esq. o. s. p.

JANE, dau. of sir Thomas Vernon, of Haslington, 2d wife, widow of John Bostock, of Morton Say, esq. married 1614, s. p. = RICHARD GROSVENOR, of Eaton, esq. eldest son and heir by Inq. born Jan. 27, 1562, sheriff of Cheshire 1602, living at the Visitation of 1613, died Sept. 18, and was buried at Eccleston Sept. 22, 1619. = CHRISTIANA, dau. of sir Ric. Brooke, of Norton, bart. died Nov. 1610, buried at Eccleston. = THOMAS GROSVENOR, born 1565, died unmarried. = MAUD, born Dec. 18, 1561, died unmar. = MARY, born April 26, 1564, wife of Geo. Salusbury, of Bestork, esq. = ANNE, born Aug. 29, 1566, wife of Roger Hurtleston, of Chester, esq. = GILLIAN, born Feb. 4, 1568, wife of Fras. Broughton, of Marchwiell, esq. = AGNES. = MARY. = AGNES.

a

ELIZABETH, daughter of Sir THOMAS Wilbraham, of Woodhey, whose issue died infants. Sir RICHARD GROSVENOR, of Eaton, bart. born Jan. 9, 1584, knighted 17 Jac. I. created a baronet Feb. 23, 1621-2, sher. of Cheshire 22 Jac. I. and of Flintshire, 23 Jac. I. and M. P. for the county of Chester, died Sept. 14, 1645, buried at Eccleston.—Married 3dly, Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of sir Peter Warburton, of Grafton, knt. widow of sir Thomas Stanley, of Alderley, who was buried at Eccleston June 26, 1621.

LETTICE, dau. of sir Hugh Cholmondeley, of Cholmondeley, knt. buried at Eccleston, Jan. 20, 1611.

2. THOMAS, born 28 May, 1583.

3. THOMAS, born 16 May, 1600, o. s. p. buried at Eccleston, 26 May following.

1. ANNE, born Feb. 3, 1582, wife of John Massie of Coddington, esq. Had issue.

2. MARY, born April 25, 1586, o. s. p. buried at Eccleston, May 13, 1634.

3. CHRISTIANA, born Nov. 4, 1587, wife of Peter Daniel, of Tabley, esq. married at Eccleston Sept. 6, 1601.

4. FRANCES, born Feb. 3, 1588, died young.

5. DOROTHY, born May 25, 1590, died young, bur. at Eccleston, May 28, 1612.

6. FRANCES, born Oct. 22, 1591, wife of Samuel Bispham, of Billinge, M. D.

7. CATHERINE, born Feb. 3, 1592, wife of Thomas Glynnne, of Glynnlivon, esq. married at Eccleston Feb. 8, 1618.

8. DOROTHY, born Feb. 29, 1594, o. s. p.

9. ELEANOR, born Aug. 23, 1595, o. s. p. Jan. 19, following, bur. at Eccleston.

10. ELIZABETH, born Ap. 7, 1597, o. s. p. buried at Eccleston June 18, 1633.

11. JANE, born Dec. 26, 1598, o. s. p.

12. ELEANOR, born Dec. 28, 1601, wife of Arthur Chambers, of Petton, co. Salop, esq. married at Eccleston April 12, 1624.

13. MARGARET, born Aug. 30, 1603, wife of Henry Brereton, of Eccleston; and 2dly, of Hugh Wilbraham, esq. 4th son of T. Wilbraham, of Woodhey.

14. MAUDLIN, born Jan. 3, 1606, o. s. p.

Sir RICHARD GROSVENOR, of Eaton, bart. son and heir, sheriff of Cheshire 1644, buried at Eccleston, Jan. 31, 1664, aged 60.

SYDNEY, daughter of sir Roger Mostyn, of Mostyn, bart. married in 1628; buried at Eccleston April 25, 1676.

CHRISTIANA, wife of sir Francis Gamul, knight, married at Eccleston Oct. 1624.

MARY, buried at Eccleston April 9, 1642.

GRACE, died 1638.

ROGER GROSVENOR, of Eaton, esq. slain in a duel, died Aug. 22, 1661, aged 33, bur. at Eccleston, Aug. 28.

CHRISTIANA, dau. of sir Thos. Mydleton, of Chirk, bart.

THOMAS GROSVENOR, died Aug. 12, 1674, buried at Eccleston, Aug. 20, s. p.

ROBERT GROSVENOR, died Oct. 13, 1673, buried at Eccleston, Oct. 20, s. p.

HUGH, buried at Eccleston, Feb. 17, 1698, s. p. aged 61.

JOHN, died July 31, 1691, buried at Eccleston, Aug. 6, s. p.

LETTICE CATHERINE MARY.

SYDNEY, wife of Tho. Hesketh, of Rufford, co. Lanc. esq.; and 2dly, of col. Spencer.

Sir THOMAS GROSVENOR, of Eaton, bart. M. P. for the city of Chester, died June 1700, aged 44, buried at Eccleston July 2.

MARY, dau. and heiress of Alexander Davies, of Ebury, co. Middlesex, esq. bur. at Eccleston Jan. 15, 1729, aged 65.

JOHN GROSVENOR, 2d son, married Anne, daughter and heiress of Godfrey Prodrick, of Llanedon, esq. relict of Pierce Lloyd, of Llugway, esq.; and 2dly, Anne, dau. and coheiress of sir Richard Lloyd, relict of . . . Ravenscroft, of Bretton, esq. o. s. p. 1691, aged 31.

ROBERT SYDNEY, wife of Nicholas Bagnall, of Anglesea, esq. born 1650. ANNE, o. s. p.

THOMAS GROSVENOR, died young, May 12, 1682, buried at Eccleston.

Sir RICHARD GROSVENOR, of Eaton, baronet, M. P. for Chester, born June 26, 1689, o. s. p. July 12, 1732, buried at Eccleston July 18.—Married 1. JANE, dau. of sir Edw. Wyndham, of Orchard-Wyndham, bart. bur. at Eccleston, 6th Feb. 1719, having had issue Catherine, buried June 12, 1718.—2dly, DIANA, only dau. of sir Geo. Warburton, of Arley, bart. bur. at Eccleston, Feb. 28, 1729-30, following, aged 27.

Sir THOMAS GROSVENOR, of Eaton, bart. M. P. for Chester, born Dec. 7, 1693, bapt. at Eccleston, died unmarried at Naples, Feb. 1733, bur. at Eccleston May 28, following.

Sir ROBERT GROSVENOR, of Eaton, baronet, M. P. for Chester, born 7th, and bapt. May 16, at Eccleston, died Aug. 1, buried at Eccleston Aug. 12, 1755.

JANE, dau. and heiress of Thomas Warre, of Swell Court, and of Shepton-Beauchamp, co. Somerset, esq. mar. May 1730, bur. at Eccleston May 25, 1791, aged 86.

ELIZABETH MARY, born July 31, 1681, bapt. at Eccleston, died Nov. 30 following, bur. at Eccleston.

ANNE, wife of the hon. W. L. Gower, M. P. for Staffordshire, born at Eaton July 29, 1700, died Dec. 13, 1731.

RICHARD GROSVENOR, eldest son and heir, born June 18, 1731, M. P. for Chester 1754, created baron Grosvenor Ap. 8, 1761, and earl Grosvenor and viscount Belgrave, July 5, 1784, died Aug. 5, 1802, buried at Eccleston Aug. 18, following.

HENRIETTA, dau. of Henry Vernon, of Hilton, co. Stafford, esq. marr. at St. George's, Hanover-sq. July 19, 1764; re-married in Sept. 1802, Gen. Geo. Porter, M. P. for Stockbridge, living 1817.

THOMAS GROSVENOR, of Swell Court, esq. M. P. for Chester 1754—1795, born March 1734, married at Walthamstow 1758, buried at Eccleston Feb. 26, 1795, aged 62.

DEBORAH, dau. and heiress of Stephen Skynner, died April 10, 1771, aged 33, bur. at Eccleston April 22.

MARY, died unmarried Feb. 2, 1774, aged 38, buried at Eccleston, Feb. 14.

ELIZABETH, buried at Eccleston Dec. 20, 1805, aged 67.

JANE, died in March 1737-8.

DOROTHY, wife of Assheton Curzon, esq. married Feb. 6, 1766, died Feb. 1774, buried at Penn.

ROBERT GROSVENOR, earl Grosvenor, viscount Belgrave, and baron Grosvenor of Eaton, 2d son and heir, born in the parish of St. George, Hanover-square, March 22, bapt. April 18, 1767, M. P. for Chester 1790—1802.

ELEANOR, dau. and sole heiress of the right hon. Thomas Egerton, earl of Wilton, born 1770, living 1817.

RICHARD GROSVENOR, born June 6, 1765, died May 7, 1766.

THOMAS, born May 13, died June 10, 1768.

RICHARD, born June 7, 1769, died June 16, 1700.

RICHARD GROSVENOR, born Oct. 5, 1761, M. P. for Chester 1802, and 1806, marr. Sarah-Frances, dau. of Edward Drax, esq. and assumed the additional names of EARL DRAX.

STEPHEN GROSVENOR, born Dec. 8, 1763, died unmarr.

THOMAS GROSVENOR, born May 30, 1764, a Lieut.-general in the army, and M. P. for Chester, married Elizabeth, dau. of sir Gilbert Heathcote.

ROBERT GROSVENOR, born June 7, 1767, Fellow of All-Souls College, Oxford.

MARIA-DEBORA, born Aug. 30, 1760, living unmarried.

EMMA, born Sep. 26, 1765, died unmarried at Lisbon.

RICHARD GROSVENOR, viscount Belgrave, eldest son and heir apparent, born Jan. 27, 1795, living unmarried 1817.

THOMAS GROSVENOR, earl of Wilton and viscount Grey de Wilton, by the limitations of his maternal grandfather's patent) born Dec. 30, 1799, living 1817.

ROBERT GROSVENOR, heir presumptive to the earldom of Wilton, by the limitations of the patent, born April 24, 1801, living 1817.

AMELIA GROSVENOR, only dau. born July 19, 1802, died March 27, 1814, buried at Prestwich, near Manchester.

Dodleston.

DODLESTON contains three townships, Dodleston, and Higher and Lower Kinnarton. Higher Kinnarton is in Flintshire. A part of this parish, Dodleston Moor, was antiently included in the perambulations of Gresford, which were discontinued in 1642, in consequence of a singular circumstance, mentioned in the subsequent extracts from the Parish Registers.

DODLESTON.

THE Domesday survey notices a forest formed by the earl on the Welsh side of the Dee, within the Hundred of Atiscros, extending in the direction of Bretton and Hawarden, which comprized all the woods of certain manors there enumerated, to the great injury of those manors, which are rated at twenty hides. This list includes only two townships of the present county, Dodleston, and Claverton, the first of which was granted to Osbern Fitz Tezzon, the founder of the family of Boydell, which for many generations maintained itself in a degree of consequence little inferior to that of the barons of the Earldom, and is still supposed to exist in the male line in several branches.

Dodleston is thus described in Domesday. The forest in which it was included, was probably of short duration.

“Osbernus filius Tezzonis tenet Dodestune. Edvinus comes tenuit. Ibi 11 hidæ geldabiles. Terra est 11 carucarum; in dominio est una et dimidia, cum 111 bovariiis, et 14 villani, cum 111 bordariis habent dimidiam carucam. Huic manerio pertinent xv burgenses in civitate, et reddunt viii solidos. Silva una leuva longa, et tantundem lata, valet xl solidos.”

Osberne Fitz Tezzon was father of Hugh Fitz Osberne, who witnesses his subtenant Seward's grant of Bebington church to the abbey of St. Werburgh, in 1093. The next generation, Osbert Fitz Hugh, rests on the authority of a pedigree, stated by sir P. Leycester to have been drawn up by himself “from antient evidences^a.” All the following names have appeared either in charters or inquisitions.

Helto de Boydel, probably son of Osbert, is the first that appears to have assumed that name. He occurs in the Chartulary of St. Werburgh as grantor of a pension of 11 shillings, to which he adds a subsequent pension of viii shillings, both issuing from the church of Hanlegh^b.

Hugh Boidele (son of Osbert, according to sir Peter Leycester, but of Helto as appears hereafter), had two brothers Alan and William. He survived to the commencement of the reign of Ric. I. when he confirms to Robert de Lancelyn possession of Pulton and other manors^c.

Alan de Boydell grants to the abbey of St. Wer-

burgh, the churches of Hanlegh and Dodeliston, which is subsequently confirmed by William his brother^d; and the same William Boydell gives to Thomas Fitz William the lands which Thomas held from Helto de Boydell, father of William, or from Hugh his brother^e.

William, son of William Boydell, confirms to the abbey of Dieulaeres his father's donation of lands in Dodleston, made to the abbey of Pulton^f, and occurs in a grant to Dieulaeres of lands in Dodleston, made by Cradock de Kynarton, in the time of Alan le Zouch, 1250--1258^g. He married Alicia, daughter of Hugh de Dutton, and had issue,

Sir John Boydell, knight, living according to Leycester, 32 Edw. I. who occurs in the Chartulary of St. Werburgh, as surrendering his right to the ditch of the rector of Hanley's house; and also in a grant of Caterich, in Gropenhall, to his younger son Robert Boydell. He was also father of John Boydell, ancestor of the Boydells of Pulcroft, and of sir William Boydell, son and heir, who had charter of free warren in Dodleston and Gropenhall, 6 Edw. II.

William, son and heir of sir William Boydell, had issue Ralph, who died before his father, in consequence of which the estates of the family were divided between Joan, wife of sir John Daniel, and Howel, son of Margaret, wife of Owain Vaughan, the sister and nephew of this William, as appears by two Inquisitions, 23 and 24 Edw. III.

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. William Boydell, held the manor of Doddleston, cum pert. in demesne as of fee, from the Earl of Chester; value, beyond reprises and sustainment of buildings, nothing: also lands and rents in Kynarton, and the manors of Handleigh, Gropenhall, and Lacheford, the services of sir Geoffry Warburton in Hull, Apilton, and Lymme; of Robert Ashton, Richard Diconson, and John Daniel, in Sale; of Laurence Dutton, in Dutton; of William Golborne, in Golborne; and William, son of Richard Lancelyn, in Pulton Lancelyn: all which are held from the Earldom of Chester in capite, by the service of four knight's fees: Value, per annum, 24l. 7s. 8½d. Joan, wife of John Daniel, and Howell son of Owain Vaughan, next of kin and heirs.

By another Inquisition, 40 Edw. III. Robert Boydell,

^a Leycester's Tabley MSS.

^b Chartulary of St. Werburgh, p. 4. Harl. MSS. 1965.

^c See his charter in Pulton Lancelyn, p. 246.

^d Chartulary of St. Werburgh, ut supra.

^e Greene's Collections, Harl. MSS.

^f Ibid.

^g Chartulary of Poulton Abbey, Harl. MSS. 2060.

uncle of this William, died seized of lands in Hanleigh, and Badelegh, and left the same persons his coheirs. On the partition of the estates, Dodleston became the property of Howel ap Owain Vaughan, whose son and heir William assumed the name of Boydell; and by *Inq. p. m.* 2 Ric. II. left issue Thomas Boydell, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 20 Ric. II. Thomas de Boydell held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Dodleston, cum pert. (excepting lands which Cecilia, widow of William, son of Howell ap Owain holds in dower), from the King as Earl of Chester, in cap. by military service; Val. xx marks: also lands in Hanleigh, Stoke, Lacheford; the tolls of Warrington Bridge (cum passagio pontis de Warrington, Baddelegh, Newton, and Stockport. Robert Boydell son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. IV. Robert, son of Thomas de Boydell, held as in the last Inquisition, with lands in Godelegh, Chorley, Mottrum, and Lymme. Margaret and Isabella sisters and heirs.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VI. Cecilia, widow of William Boydell, held lands in dower in Duddleston. Margaret, wife of Hugh Redish, and Isabella, wife of John Aldburgham, daughters of Thomas, son of William, next of kin and heirs.

5 Hen. V. Hugh Radiche and Margaret his wife, obtained from John Aldburgham, and Isabella his wife, lands in Dodleston, Kinnarton, Gropenhale, Hale, Warburton, Thelwall, Lymme, Tabley, Sale, Aston by Carington, Lachford, Godley, Newton in Longdendale, Chester, half the manor of Gropenhale, and the third part of the manors of Dodleston and Kinnarton, to the use of the said Hugh and Margaret.

Inq. p. m. 26 Hen. VI. Hugh Redish held by courtesy, after the death of Margaret his wife, the manors of Dodleston and Kynarton from the King as Earl of Chester in capite: value xii marks, also half the manor of Gropenhall, and lands in Lacheford, Newton, Godlegh, and Lymme. Thomas Redish, son of Hugh and Margaret, next heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. VI. Robert Reddishe, esq. held the manor of Duddleston, and lands in Duddleston, Kinnerton, Catterich, Groppenhall, Lachford, and Lymme. Thomas Reddishe son and heir.

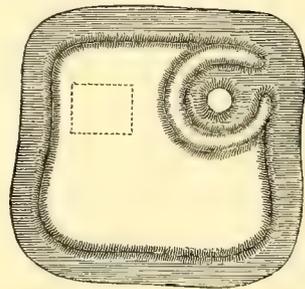
Inq. p. m. 4 Eliz. Thomas Reddishe, esq. held the manor of Duddleston, value 13l. 13s. 4d. and lands as in the preceding Inquisition. Maud daughter and heiress.

This Maud, sole daughter and heiress, married William Merbury, of Merbury, esq. in conjunction with whom, 11 Eliz. she obtained by fine of George and Peter Redish, deforciant, the manors of Dodleston and Gropenhall, and lands therein, and in Lymme, Lachford, Godley, Thelwall, Nether Kynarton, and Appleton. Shortly afterwards an estate herein was sold by the Merburies to the family of Grosvenor of Eaton, and was subsequently conveyed by Richard Grosvenor, esq.

to Thomas Egerton, esq. afterwards lord chancellor, who made Dodleston Hall his residence^b.

ⁱThe manor and the residue of the estate were sold about 1627, to Robert Ravenscroft, of Bretton, esq. by Thomas Merbury, esq. and passed in marriage with Katherine daughter and coheir of Thomas Ravenscroft, esq. to Thomas Powys, esq. of Lilford, in Northamptonshire, whose son and heir Thomas Powys, esq. sold the same to sir Robert Grosvenor, of Eaton, bart. from whom it has descended to the present earl Grosvenor, who holds a court for the manor. This account of the later descent is given by Dr. Cowper, and is most probably correct, but it is nevertheless apparent from the Inquisitions that the Grosvenors had previously an estate in Dodleston, already noticed; and this estate in the Inquisition after the death of Thomas Grosvenor, of Eaton, 22 Eliz. is termed a moiety of the manor.

The site of the antient seat of the Boydells at Dodleston, is still marked by a fosse and strong earthworks, immediately west of the church, inclosing a parallelogram of about a Cheshire acre; the keep tower, defended by another fosse and a circular mound, occupied the north-east angle.



Within this site was erected a later mansion, which was the property of the Manleys of Lache, for several generations, and has become by purchase the property of the Grosvenor family.

This Hall, which was probably the mansion which was the head-quarters of sir William Brereton during the siege of Chester, is taken down.

The other Hall, sold as before-mentioned, by Richard Grosvenor, esq. to the lord chancellor Egerton, in an early period of his professional career, was honoured by his occasional residence during the remainder of his life. It was afterwards sold by his son, the earl of Bridgewater, to Richard Kelsal of Trafford, gent. and is now vested with a contiguous estate in John Glegg, of Old Withington, esq. in right of his wife Bridget, daughter of John Kelsal, esq. The present house is a respectable brick mansion, environed with tall timber.

The remains of the chancellor repose in the parish church, with those of his first wife Elizabeth Ravenscroft, and his son sir Thomas Egerton. An account of this distinguished ornament of his county and kingdom, will be found incorporated with that of his descendants, under the head of Tatton.

^b This residence was the seat of Anthony Grosvenor, esq. a younger son of sir Richard Grosvenor of Eaton, of whom further particulars will be found in p. 318 of this volume.

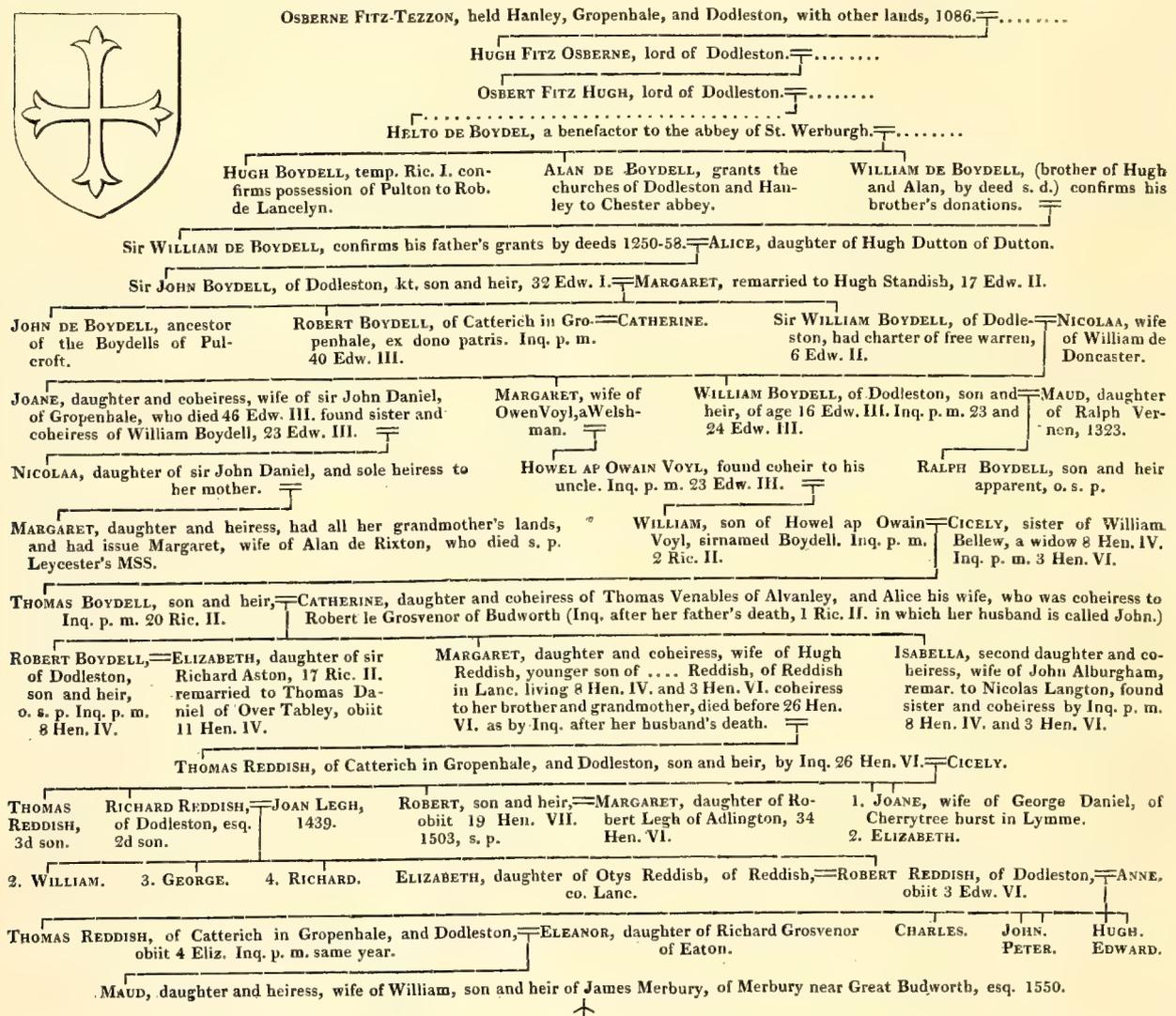
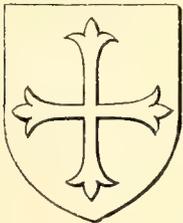
ⁱ Dr. Cowper's Broxton Collections.

BOYDELL OF DODLESTON AND GROPENHALL.

From Sir Peter Leycester's MSS. collated with the Chartulary of St. Werburgh, and the Inquisitions post mortem.

ARMS. Vert, a cross patonce Or.

Some authorities give the Boydells a second coat, Argent, on a fesse engrailed Vert, three mullets pierced Or. This coat is probably the foundation of the arms adopted by their feudal dependants the Lancelyns, (see p. 248 of this volume.) The Boydells are also said to have borne in later ages, as their crest, on a wreath, a saracen's head couped, thereon a cap turned up Ermine, the end of the cap hanging down with a bell attached to it.



CHURCH.

The church of Dodleston was given to the abbey of St. Werburgh by Alan de BoydeLL, in or about the time of king John. The donation was afterwards confirmed by William his brother, and the monks had licence to appropriate the same, on the conditions of endowing a vicarage, from Galfrid de Muschamp, who was bishop of

Lichfield and Coventry from 1198 to 1208^k. It does not appear what prevented this licence from being acted upon.

After the dissolution the advowson of the rectory was granted to the dean and chapter of Chester, and confirmed to them by Pat. 22 Eliz. The chapter almost invariably present a dignitary of their cathedral.

The rector has the tithes of the entire parish^l.

RECTORS OF DODDLESTON.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
	Robertus de Ashburne.		
1336, 18 kal. Dec.	Robertus de Bruerâ, cap's.	D'nus Jo. de Ardernâ, miles, hâc vice.	P. m. Rob'ti de Ashburne.
1337.	Jo. fil. Alani de Clifford.	D'nus Joh. de Arderna, miles, hâc vice.	P. m. Rob'ti de Bruerâ.

^k Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965, 6, 7.

^l Information of archdeacon Clarke.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1348.	Willielmus Bolleys. Ricardus Clifford. Willielmus de Schrynsbury.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	Permut. cum W'mo Bolleys.
1379.	Johan. fil. Nicholai de Wyn.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	
1383, 29 Maii.	Ricardus de Standon, prb'r. Johannes de Thorneton.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	Permut. cum Jo. de Wyn.
1455, 8 Feb. 1462.	Benedictus Carewys. Ricardus Salghale, cl'us. John Thomas.	Abbas Sc'æ Werburgæ.	P. m. Jo. de Thorneton.
1508, Oct. 30. 1511, Dec. 5.	Thomas Porter. John ——— Richard Gerard.	Abbot of St. Werburgh.	Death of John Thomas. Res. of Thomas Porter.
1554. 1560, Oct. 1.	Richard Lathwyd. William Cowley. Peter Sharpe.	Richard Hough, and Thomas Grosvenor.	Death of Richard Gerard. Death of Richard Lathwyd.
1616, Oct. 5. 1634, Feb. 9. 1673, Oct. 9.	Roger Ravenscroft. Charles Duckworth. William Dennis.	John Egerton. William Glegg. Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Peter Sharpe. Res. of R. Ravenscroft. Death of C. Duckworth.
1716, July 16. 1739, June 15. 1758, Oct. 2. 1762, Jan. 20. 1797, Jan. 28. 1806, Jan. 16.	Arthur Fogge, S. T. B. Thomas Brooke, LL. D. Abel Ward, A. M. Richard Jackson, A. M. George Cotton, LL. D. Unwin Clarke, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester. Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of W. Dennis. Death of A. Fogge, D.D. Death of T. Brooke, LL. D. Res. of Abel Ward. Death of R. Jackson. Death of George Cotton.

Peter Sharpe, Roger Ravenscroft, Charles Duckworth, Arthur Fogge, Abel Ward, and Richard Jackson, occur in the list of Chester prebendaries, and Dr. Brooke and Dr. Cotton, in that of the deans of the same cathedral. The present rector is archdeacon of Chester.

The Registers contain the burials of Peter Sharpe, May 1, 1616; Roger Ravenscroft, Feb. 9, 1634; and Charles Duckworth, Oct. 8, 1673.

The church which stands immediately east of the moated site of the old castle of the Boydells, is built of red stone, and consists of a tower, nave, chancel, and side aisle, now thrown together, and another chancel at the end of the aisle belonging to the Glegg family.

On a marble monument attached to the south wall of the chancel:

Sacred to the memory of John Kelsal, esq. and Mary his wife. She was daughter of William Farington, esq. of Eardshaw, co. Cest. He died Sept. 21, 1783, aged 77.

She died April 6, 1791, aged 70.

His public virtues were conspicuous in the several situations he filled, his gentle and amiable disposition endeared him to his family and friends, which made their loss severe.

Bridget, only child of the above-named John and Mary Kelsal, married John Glegg, esq. of Old Withington, co. Cest. She died June 27, 1786, aged 35 years. and left issue one son and daughter.

On a large white marble monument, ornamented with the arms of Egerton impaling Ravenscroft of Bretton, is the following inscription to the memory of one of the wives of the chancellor.

Fallax gratia, vana pulchritudo,
Mulier timens d'num ipsa laudabitur.
Elizabetha condita est hic Egertona,
Pie familiam rexit, instituit natos.

Vitæ virili mente sustinuit curas,
Plusquam virili mente sustinuit morem,
Juvit jacentes pauperes manu, voce.
Desideratam sponsus et sui lugent,
Quos ipsa liquit, sed dedit suis sese.
Matri illa partem reddidit, patri partem,
Terræ illa corpus reddidit, Deo mentem,
Sic tota salva est, sic et occidit tota.
Vis plura? ocellos, flentum lege ocellos,
In his notantur plura---plura scribuntur.
Non obiit, sed abiit,
Anno d'ni 1588.

The following inscription is in a lozenge of white marble, inlaid on a black marble stone, over the chancellor:

Anchora animæ---fides et spes in Christo.
Orimur, morimur, sequentur
qui non præcesserunt.

Near this on another flat stone is the following memorial of

Thomas Egerton, miles, filius primogenitus
Thomæ Egerton, mil. Baronis de Ellesmere,
Cancellarii Angliæ; in Anglia natus;
in insulis Asor: dignitate militari
insignitus; in Hibernia, morte immatura
præreptus---occubuit in Christo
23 die Aug. a^o 1599, æt. suæ 25,
victurus cum mortua mors fuerit.
Hic corpus requiescit, in cœlo
anima lætatur.

The Registers begin in 1570, and are very imperfect.

The boundaries of the adjacent Welsh parish of Gresford, are marked by a series of wells, which are cleansed by the parishioners in their perambulations. A well on Dodleston Moor is still traditionally stated to have formed one of these parish boundaries; and the tradition is confirmed by the following singular entry in the Parish Registers, relative to the cause of its discontinuance.

1642. "This year the curate of Gresford, with some of the parishioners, having come for divers years to Moor Well, some of them over the Moor, and some of them through Pulford parish in procession, saying that they were sent thither to claim that well to be in their parish; and now this year when they were in the moor, they saw some soldiers standing by the well, which wanted to see their fashions, on which they the said curate and his company went back again, and never came again to the well."

In 1645 several entries occur in the Registers, of burials of soldiers shot in the village.

^mThe charitable benefactions consist of 84l. the interest of which, with a rent charge of 5s. and the rent of land let at 6l. 7s. 6d. are distributed to the poor, 15s. of which belongs to the poor of the two Kinnertons.

A school in the village is supported by charitable contributions.

LOWER KINNERTON.

THIS township is omitted in Domesday. It was most probably included in the manor of Dodleston, with which manor the Boydell estate in this township has passed from the earliest period to which it can be traced.

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. William Boydell held, inter alia, lands in Kynarton.

5 Hen. V. Hugh Radiche and Margaret his wife, obtained from John Aldburgham, and Isabel his wife, inter alia, the third part of the manor of Kynarton.

Inq. p. m. 26 Hen. VI. Hugh Redish held, inter alia, by courtesy, after the death of Margaret his wife, the manor of Kynardton.

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. VI. Robert Redish held, inter alia, lands in Kinnerton.

7 Eliz. William Marbury, esq. passed over by fine to Thomas Grosvenor, esq. inter alia, lands in Kynarton, which was followed by subsequent fines, 11 and 40 Eliz.

From this period the manor of Kinnerton has descended with the other property of the Eaton branch of the Grosvenors to its present representative. Kinnerton Hall, the property of earl Grosvenor, is a large brick building, with indented and scalloped gables, now used as a farm house, and adjacent to a small brook, which divides Cheshire from Flintshire. The offices are in the latter county, and the Hall farm lies in the counties of Chester, Flint, and Denbigh.

Pulford

Contains two townships only, Pulford and Pulton.

PULFORD.

PULFORD at the time of the Domesday Survey was divided in unequal shares, between the secular canons of St. Werburgh, the former possessors, and Hugh Fitz Osberne, who had ejected the Saxon proprietor.

Ipsa ecclesia tenet Pulford, et tenuit tempore R. Edwardi. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est una caruca, ibi est cum uno villano, et uno bordario. Valetat iv solidos, modo v solidos.

Isdem Hugo (filius Osberni) tenet Pulford. Ulric tenuit sicut liber homo, ibi una hida et dimidia geldabilis. Terra est una caruca, et ibi est cum ii radmans, et uno villano, et ii bordariis. Wasta fuit hæc terra, modo valet v solidos.

The place was subsequently divided between the Ormesbees and Pulfords, the first of whom were probably successors to the seculars. There is strong reason for supposing the Pulfords to be the descendants of Hugh Fitz Osberne, the Norman grantee, who was brother or

near kinsman of Osberne Fitz Tezzon, the ancestor of the Boydells. Osberne Fitz Tezzon had a son of the same name with the grantee of Pulford, and the property of the families was much intermingled, to which may be added that the Pulfords, and the Eatons who descended from them, adopted the coat of Boydell with a variation in the tinctures.

The estates of the Ormesbees and Pulfords were united by a grant from Ralph, son of Simon de Ormesbee, in the time of John le Strange, just. Cest. (28 and 29 Hen. III.) to Robert de Pulford, of the castle of Pulford, and all his lands within and without the vill of Pulford, for his homage and service^a.

Nearly contemporary with, and most probably allied to this Robert, were Hamo de Pulford, ancestor of the Etons of Eton, and Robert Pulford, rector of Coddington, who has been noticed in the accounts of Coddington, Stretton, and Chidlow. The Cheshire pedigrees

^m Parliamentary Returns and information of archdeacon Clarke.

^a Enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday, Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5. p. 102. Robert de Pulford and Herbert his brother, appear as witnesses to Hugh de Boidell's confirmation of Poulton, &c. to Robert de Lancelyn, temp. Ric. I.

continue the descent with three successive Roberts, the last of whom was father of John de Pulford, in whom the male line terminated.

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. John de Pulford held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Pulford, and a place called Clareton, from Ralph, son of Symond, ch'vr, in capite, by the render of one lance, or two shillings per annum, val. 24l.; also the manor of Buerton, a third of Wareton, a fourth of Chollegh, and lands in Dunham Massie and Aldersey. Joan, aged 14 years, sister and heiress.

^b 40 Edw. III. Thomas, son of John de Belgreave and Joan his wife, obtained of John Beeston, &c. the manors of Pulford and Buyrton by Aldford, and lands cum pert. in Claverton, Broxton, Crook Aldersey, and Waverton, the fourth part of Chollegh, the advowson of Pulford, and homages and services of divers tenants, to them and their heirs male, remainder successively to their daughters Maud, Elizabeth, and Joan, remainder to the right heirs of Joan.

After the death of John Belgreave, and most probably after that of his issue, Joan married sir Robert Grosvenor, of Holme, kt. and, 12 Ric. II. suffered with him a joint recovery of their manors of Buyrton by Salghton, Pulford, and Claverton, the advowson of Pulford, lands in Middle and Crook Aldersey and Caurthin, the fourth part of Chollegh, and the eighth of Broxton.

The particulars of the descents of the Grosvenors of Holme, Winningtons of Winnington, and Warburtons of Arley, through whom Pulford subsequently descended, will be found in those townships: the following notices of Pulford occur in the Inquisitions and Cheshire collections.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VI. Thomas le Grosvenor, ch'vr, held, inter alia, the manor of Pulford, and 1111 acres of land in Claverton, from the King in capite by military service: value xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. IV. Robert Grosvenor, esq. held, inter alia, the manor and advowson of Pulford, and lands in Claverton, as before, leaving six daughters and coheiresses, of whom Katherine, wife of Richard Winnington, had this manor.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VII. Richard Wynnynton held, inter alia, the manor and advowson of Pulford, and lands and rents therein, from the King as Earl of Chester in capite by military service: value xl.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. Johanna, widow of Richard Wynnynton, held in dower, inter alia, the manor and

advowson of Pulford, from the King as Earl of Chester, in capite by military service.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VIII. Katherine, daughter and coheiress of Richard Wynnynton, held the manor and advowson of Pulford as before: value xxxl. 1111s. Elizabeth, wife of Peter Warburton, esq. sister and heir.

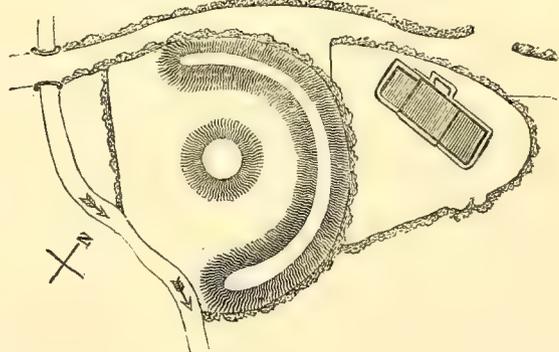
^c 31 Hen. VIII. Sir Peter Warburton, kt. and Elizabeth his wife, obtained of Peter Winnington, esq. the manor of Pulford and lands therein, for which they allowed the said Peter Winnington 8l. rent issuing therefrom.

Inq. p. m. 1 Eliz. Elizabeth Warburton, widow of sir Peter Warburton, and daughter and heiress of Richard Wynnynton, held, inter alia, the manor and advowson of Pulford from the Queen as of her earldom of Chester, as the 10th part of a knight's fee: value 27l. 16s. 8d.

After this period Pulford descended regularly with the Arley estates from sir Peter Warburton, bart. to the late Rob. Townsend, of Christleton, esq. from the representatives of whose daughters (who succeeded to it by his will) it was purchased, in or about 1812, by the present proprietor, the right hon. Robert, Earl Grosvenor, to whom there could have been few acquisitions of the kind more desirable than this manor, whether considered with reference to its contiguity to the domain of Eaton, or its connection with so many of the antient lines of his ancestors.

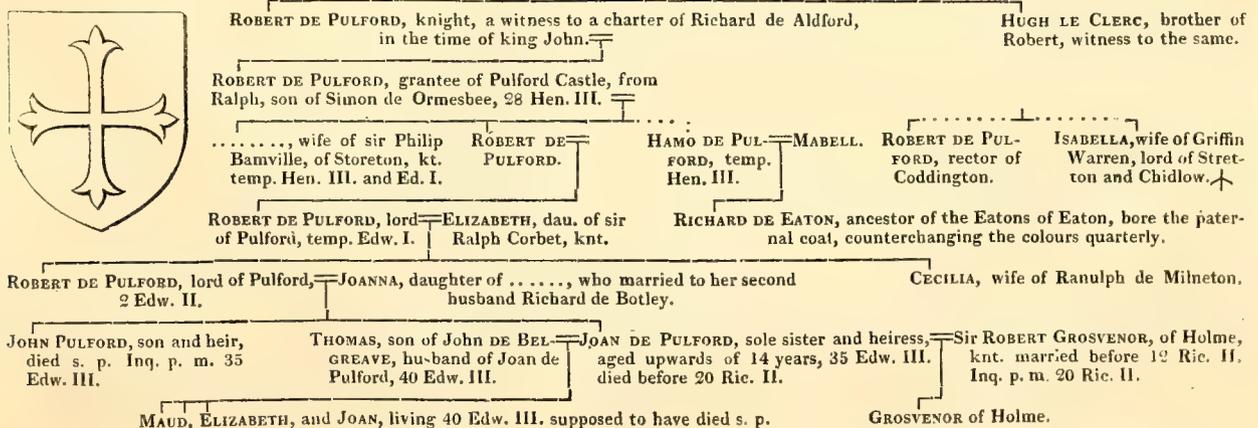
A court leet and court baron are held for this manor.

Pulford is situated on the turnpike road from Chester to Wrexham, five miles south-west of the former, in a flat situation, on the banks of a small brook which divides Cheshire from North Wales. Between the church and this boundary is the site of Pulford castle, consisting of strong semicircular earthworks, inclosing three sides of a field which measures about a statute acre, the remaining side is protected by the brook.



PULFORD, OF PULFORD.

ARMS. Sable, a cross patonce Argent.



^b Williamson's Collections, p. 27.

^c Ibid. p. 62.

In the collection of the late Michael Wodhull, esq. the translator of Euripides, is a manuscript work by William Burgaynie, a native of Pulford, entitled: *Γυμνασμάδια Ἑλληνικά Λατινίστι καὶ τὸ πλεῖστον ἐμμελῶς ἐρμηνευθέντα τοῖς φιλολογοῖς ἀφελίμα.*

This MS. was purchased from the collection of Dr. Askew, (No. 573) and is ornamented with twenty-one drawings, among which are a drawing of Chester and a portrait of the author, "Gulielmus Burganæus," probably drawn by a relation, a map of the world being subscribed "per me T. Burgaynie." One of the descriptions ends with the following lines, which identifies the birth-place of the author.

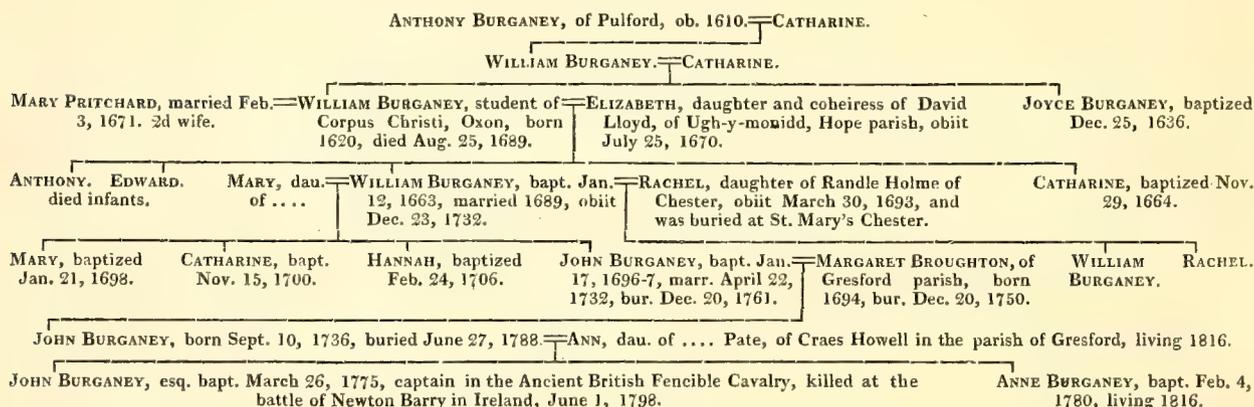
"Millia abhinc Pulforda jacet quasi quatuor Austrum
Versus, amœna situ, fœcundæq; ubere glebæ
Felix, villa in qua primo almas luminis oras

Intravi, placido vitam solata recessu
Nostram, erga Wallos Cestrensis terminus agri.
On the back of the drawings are 1687, 1689.

This humble work is noticed at large in Nichols's Literary Anecdotes, in a communication inserted for the purpose of obtaining information respecting the author of the performance. William Burgaynie's birth is fixed by the Register in 1620: he was admitted a student of Corpus College, Oxford, as pleb. fil. July 7, 1637, and died at Pulford Aug. 25, 1689. A painted board yet remaining in the church, (for which he was probably indebted to the marriage of his son with the Holme family) records his memory, and is given in the following account of the church of Pulford. The subjoined pedigree traces his descendants to the present period.

BURGANNEY OF PULFORD.

Compiled from Parochial Registers by the Rev. J. Eaton, M. A. F. S. A.



CHURCH.

The advowson of the rectory of Pulford has uniformly descended with the manor. The church is a handsome and antient building of red stone, consisting of a tower, nave without side aisles, and chancel, adjacent to the turnpike road, and to the north-east side of the earthworks of the antient castle of Pulford. In 1560 the east window contained shields of painted glass, emblazoned with the cross of St. George, and the arms of Pulford and Venables. The only present existing memorial, worthy of notice, is a wooden tablet suspended against the south wall, inscribed:

"In the church yard, under a faire stone, lyeth the bodies of William Burgayney, son of Anthony, and of Katherine his wife. William Burgayney, of Pulford,

gent. his son, student of Corpus Christi in Oxford, died 25 of Aug. 1689. Elizabeth his wife, daughter and coheirress of David Lloyd, of Ugh-y-monidd in Hope, died 25 July 1670. William his son, gent. married Rachel, daughter to Randle Holme, of the city of Chester, gent. and had issue William and Rachel; she died 30 May, 1693, and was buried at St. Mary's, Chester."

Arms, quarterly, 1 and 4, Gules, a tower Or, for Burganey; 2 and 3, paly of eight pieces Or and Gules. Crests, on a wreath, a tower Or, and a lion rampant Or, holding in his paws a snake Azure.

The charities specified in the parliamentary return, are two benefactions of 10l. each, by sir Richard Grosvenor and Anne Club, the interest to be distributed to the poor not receiving parish relief.

RECTORS OF PULFORD.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1304, 13 kal. Sept.	Robertus de Codinton.	Robertus de Pulford.	
1304, 9 kal. Sept.	Robertus de Bruera.	Robertus de Pulford.	
1336, 6 kal. Junii.	Ricardus de Burton, pr'b'r.	Robertus de Chedle, rector eccl'ie de Chedle, et Rob'tus de Bruera, rector eccl'ie de Doldleston.	Res. Rob'ti de Bruerâ.
1349, 17 kal. Aug.	Robertus de Mulneton, cap's.	Ran'us de Bruen et Rob'tus de Burton hac vice rac'o'e man'ii de Pulford.	P. m. Ric. de Burton.
1361, 14 kal. Oct.	Will'mus de Salghton, pr'b'r.	Jo. de Pulford.	
1392, 6 Maii.	Johannes de Kingsley, pr'b'r.	D'nus Rob'tus Grosvenor, miles.	P. m. W. de Salghton.
1406, 26 April.	Robertus Knotsford.	Thomas Grosvenor, miles.	P. m. Jo. de Kingsley.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1476, 24 Mart.	Robertus Hewett. Robertus Cottingham, pr'b'r. Christophorus Harrington.	Ric'us Winnington, arm.	Res. Rob. Hewett.
1487.	Ricardus Manning, pr'b'r.	Ric'us Winnington, arm.	Res. Christ. Harrington.
1599.	Roger Tervie.		
1640, Oct. 26.	Jonathan Colley. Randle Guest.	Richard Brereton, Willm. Merbury, and Hugh Wilbraham.	Death of Roger Tervie.
1661, Sept. 21.	George Guest.	Sir George Warburton, bart.	
1694, Oct. 5.	Thomas Ellison, A. M.	John Arderne, esq.	
1717.	James Thompson.		
1720, March 13.	William Bradshaw, A. M. Thomas Burroughs.	Sir George Warburton, bart.	
1809, June 20.	Townsend Forrester, A. M.	Anne Forrester, widow.	Death of Tho. Burroughs

Jonathan Colley, was probably father of Mr. Colley of Church en Heath, who is noticed by Calamy among the non-conformists afterwards reconciled to the establishment. *Randle Guest* is also said by the same authority to have been dispossessed of Pulford.

The burial of *Roger Tervie* occurs in the Register May 19, 1640, and that of *William Bradshaw* March 11, 1767. *Thomas Burroughs* was interred at Goosetrey, of which he was curate.

PULTON.

ROBERT PINCERNA, butler of the Earl of Chester, gave by charter a moiety of this township to God, the Virgin Mary, and William, first abbot of Combermere, to found here a convent of Cistercian monks, for the safety and health of his master Earl Randle Gernons (then a prisoner of the king) and of his predecessors, Earls Hugh and Randle, his own wife Ivetta, his son and heir apparent Robert, and the souls of his ancestors.

This charter was confirmed by Hugh Kevelioc, and numerous gifts of lands were bestowed on the abbey, by the earls of Chester, the Aldfords, Ardernes, Boydells, and others, which are enumerated in the abstracts of documents subjoined. The foundation of the abbey took place in 1153 according to the legend given in the Monasticon, but in 1158 according to an indorsement on the foundation charter.

The situation of the monks was rendered unpleasant and dangerous by the irruptions of the Welsh, in consequence of which Randle Blundeville, previous to his departure for the Holy Land, translated the monks of Pulton to Dieulacres in Staffordshire, where he erected a convent for them after his return to his dominions in or about the year 1220, by tolls gathered for this purpose, and for the building of the castle of Beeston.

The legend makes this translation the consequence of a supernatural visitation, and states that the earl was warned in a dream by the spirit of Randle earl of Chester, his grandfather, to go to Cholpesdale near Leek,

where a chapel had formerly been built in honour of the Virgin, and there to found an abbey of white monks, and in the seventh year of a papal interdiction which he foretold, to remove thither the monks of Pulton: that the countess, to whom he related the vision, exclaimed *Deux encres!* and the earl catching at the omen, said the name of the place shall be *Dieulacres*^a.

The chronicle of *Dieulacres* gives a tradition yet wilder respecting this same earl Randle. That as he lay on his death-bed, a multitude of figures semblably human, with the appearance of a chieftain at their head, passed by the cell of a holy hermit near Wallingford, who demanding their errand, was answered, we are dæmons, and we hasten to the death of earl Randle to bear testimony of his sins. The hermit conjured the figure to return in thirty days and acquaint him with the result, and the dæmon, punctual to his appointment, returned to say that the earl had received sentence of condemnation, but that the mastiffs of *Dieulacres* and the other monasteries had yelled so loudly when his sentence was executed, that the depths of hell had been disturbed with the noise, and their prince had been compelled to release him: but that no greater enemy of theirs than earl Randle had ever entered the infernal dominions, inasmuch as the orisons which had been offered up for him, had released from torments the souls of thousands who had been associated with him in these supplications.

The temporal possessions which the abbot of *Dieu-*

^a *Idem Ranulfus cum quadam nocte in strato suo quiescit, apparuit ei per visum, Ranulfus comes avus suus, dicens 'Vade ad Cholpesdale, quod est in territorio de Leeke, et in illo loco quo quædam capella in honore B. M. V. olim fuit constructa, fundabis Abbatiam albi ordinis monachorum, et eam edificis instaurabis, et possessionibus ampliabis, et erit tibi gaudia et multis aliis, qui per locum illum salvabuntur. Ibidem enim erigenda est scala, per quam descendent et ascendent angelorum preces, et vota hominum Deo offerentur, et referent gratiam, eritque nomen domini invocatum super locum illum de precatone assidua. Et hoc tempore horum nuncio, signum erit ecclesiæ, D. papa Christianitatem in Angliâ interdicit, sed tu interim ibis ad monachos de Pulton, quorum Abbatiam Robertus Pincerna in honore meo fundavit, et particip's ibi Sacramento Domini, habent enim privilegia hæc suis fundatoribus ministris. Et in septimo anno interdictionis transferes eosdem monachos ad locum quem prædixi. Qui cum Ranulfo Comiti, et (ille?) Clementiæ Comitissæ retulisset, et in dicto loco se velle construere monasterium indicasset, illa in Gallicis verbis sic respondit, *Deux encres!* et Comes congratulans ad dictum ejus, hoc, inquit, erit nomen illius loci, *Deulacres.**

Ranulfus Comes Cestriæ fundavit Abbatiam de *Deulacres*, et cum ponerit primum lapidem fundamenti ejusdem ecclesiæ, dixit in Gallicis verbis, *Deux encres!* et alii circumstantes responderunt Amen! et Comes, hoc, inquit, monasterium vocatur *Deulacres*, ut nomen Domini super illud invocetur. Mon. Ang. i. 890. Ex Hist. Ang. MS. contexta ab. Henr. Archidia. ad Alex. Linc. Episc.

lacs retained in right of Pulton, after the translation, were valued at xl. per annum in the ecclesiastical taxation of Pope Nicholas.

After the dissolution the manor became the property of a branch of the Manleys of Manley, who had separated from the parent stock in the person of John Manley, temp. Hen. VII. and had previously resided here on lands which they held by lease under the convent. This John Manley had issue Nicholas his son and heir, Thomas Manley also of Pulton, and William Manley of Monksfield, ancestor of the Manleys of Dodleston

and Lache^b. After remaining settled here for five generations, the manor of Pulton was sold in the reign of Elizabeth, by Henry Manley^c, to Richard Grosvenor, of Eaton, esq. from whom it has descended to the present proprietor, Robert earl Grosvenor.

A court leet and court baron are held for this manor, together with the courts for Eccleston and Eaton, at the former of these places.

Pulton is situated on the bank of the Dee, and separated by a small brook from Flintshire. The remains of the monastery have been long totally destroyed.

CARTA DE FUNDATIONE ABBATIAE DE PULTONA^d.

UNIVERSÆ sanctæ matris ecclesiæ soboli, nobilissimi Cestrensis comitis Ranulphi R. Pincerna, in Christo salutem. In nomine sanctæ et individue Trinitatis, patris, et filii, et spiritus sancti, clarissimi siquidem Cestrensis comitis carissimi domini mei Ranulphi ego Robertus Pincerna, considerans omnia quæ sub cælo sunt esse transitoria, statui aliquid facere quod domino meo Comiti Ranulpho, et antecessoribus suis, mihi que et antecessoribus meis, in cælesti palatio in æternum proficiat. Ad hoc faciendum dominus noster Jesus Christus me animavit, atque in evangelio suo me indicavit, dicens "date et dabitur vobis:" hoc est dicere, date terrena et recipietis cælestia, date transitoria et pro illis recipietis in perpetuum mansura; et facite vobis amicos de mammona iniquitatis, ut et ipsi recipiant vos in eterna tabernacula, id est, date de facultatibus vestris per iniquitatem acquisitis. Date inquam pauperibus Christi, ut ipsi cum angelis recipiant vos in eternam gloriam; quoniam, teste evangelio, ipsorum est regnum cælorum. Hiis igitur atque aliis sacræ scripturæ monitis excitatus, do domino Deo, redemptori ac creatori nostro, et gloriosæ semper virgini ejus genetrici sanctissimæ Mariæ, et Willielmo primo Abbati Cumbermare, pro salute et incolumitate domini mei præfulgentissimi Cestrensis comitis Ranulphi et ante-

cessorum suorum, Hugonis videlicet comitis et Ranulphi comitis et aliorum, necnon et pro redemptione animæ meæ et uxoris meæ Ivettæ, et filii et hæredis mei Roberti, et pro salute antecessorum meorum, dimidiam Pultonam cum omnibus pertinentiis suis in campis et in silvis, in viis et in semitis, in aquis et in piscariis, in pratis et in pascuis, super terram et subtus terram, ad construendam ibidem quandam abbatiam monachorum, secundum regulare beati Benedicti, et secundum instituta Savignei viventium. Hujus donationis sunt testes, Willielmus primus Abbas Cumbermare, Gemmanus monachus ejus, Robertus Pincerna, Robertus filius ejus, Herveus de Filgeriis, Ricardus Wallensis, Radulphus sacerdos, Morinus, Ansgerius, Ivetta uxor Roberti, Willielmus spernens mendacium. Signum ✠ Roberti Pincernæ, ✠ Signum Roberti filii ejus, ✠ Signum Ivettæ uxoris ejus.

In dorso hujus Cartæ.

Anno millesimo centesimo quinquagesimo octavo, fundata est Abbatia de Pultone in comitatu Cestriæ.

Anno millesimo ducesimo XIII conventus de Pultone translatus est apud Deulacresse x kal. Maii anno prædicto per Ranulphum canonicum Cestriæ.

CARTA HUGONIS CESTRIÆ COMITIS EX REGISTRO DE DIEULACRES^e.

Hugo comes Cestriæ, Episcopo Cestrensi et Constabulario suo et dapifero suo, et vicecomiti, et ballivis, et omnibus hominibus suis Francis et Anglis, tam futuris quam presentibus, salutem. Scitote quod concedo, et cartâ mea confirmo donationem illam quam Ranulphus comes, pater meus, cartâ suâ liberam fecit: scilicet dimidiam partem totius Pulton quam Robertus, Pincerna ejus, fecit Deo et ecclesiæ sanctæ Mariæ de Cumbermare, ad Abbaciam de ordine suo ibidem construendam. Hanc vero eandem donationem, scilicet dimidiam partem totius Pulton cum omnibus pertinentiis suis ad eam juste pertinentibus, volo et firmiter præcipio, ut ipsa Abbacia de Pulton, et abbas et conventus ejusdem ecclesiæ, in perpetuam eleemosynam possi-

dendam libere, quiete, et juste, ab omni seculari servitio, habeant et teneant pro salute animæ meæ, et prædecessorum meorum in villâ et extra, in bosco et in plano, in pratis et in pascuis, in aquis et molendinis, et in omnibus aliis commoditatibus, quæ in eadem terrâ fieri poterunt; et præcipio atque prohibeo, ne aliquis eos aliquo modo ullam molestiam faciat, neque disturbet, super meam forisfacturam.

Teste Roberto dapifero, Aluredo de Combray, et Willielmo filio Otuer, et Gilberto filio Pichot, et Roberto filio Hugonis, et Hugone filio Oliveri, et Hugone sacerdote de Doddleston, et Geralino, et Willielmo clerico de Aldefordia, et Simone de Bedeford, apud Cestriam.

CLAMEUM ABBATIS DE DIEULACRES, 14 Hen. VII.^f

Arthurus illustrissimi Henrici VIII. Regis Angliæ et Franciæ, et D'ni Hiberniæ, primogenitus, Princeps Walliæ, Dux Cornubiæ, Comes Cestriæ, Vic. Cestriæ, sal'm. Cum per: Abb'm Deulacres quod

coram justiciariis nostris respondeat apud Cestr. die Lunæ prox. ante festum Nat. B. M. V. prox. futur. ad respondend. nobis de pl'ito quo warranto clam. h'ere pro se et successoribus suis illam salinam in Medio Wico

^b Leicester's Table MSS.

^d Dugdale Mon. Ang. i. 891. Cart. 20 Edw. I. m. 8, n. 47.

^c Cowper's Broxton Collections.

^e Dugd. Mon. Ang.

^f Harl. MSS. 2060. 32.

quam Will'mus Mesniwarin eis dedit, liberam, solutam, et quietam de tolneto et de secta de Wichemote et de omnibus secularibus consuetudinibus et exactionibus, cum sale de die Veneris, et etiam quo warr. clam. h'ere pro se et success. suis, monachis et ho'ibus in domibus suis salem bullientibus salsam capiendi de omnibus fossis eis magis expedire volunt, ac etiam quietantiam de tolneto per totam terram meam tam de sale, quam de omnibus aliis rebus, quas emerint vel vendiderint tam per aquam quam per terram: ac etiam quo warr. clam. quod ipse et succ. sui sint quieti de shiris et hundred. p'itis, querelis, et consuetudinibus, de vallagiis, passagiis, pontagiis, de multura in omnibus molendinis suis, ut Comitibus Cestr. ac etiam de pannagiis in omnibus memoribus suis, salinis, muragiis, tolnetis, et de omnibus misionibus, auxiliis, impositionibus, consuetudinibus et demandis; ac etiam quo warr. clam. h'ere visum franci plegii, de omnibus tenentibus suis ac residentibus, singulis annis tenend. coram Senescallo suo apud manerium suum de Pulton, bis in anno, videlicet semel infra mensem post clausum Paschæ, et infra mensem post festum Sc'i Michaelis Archangeli, et habere quicquid ad visum franci plegii pertinet infra manerium p'd'tum, ac etiam habere curiam suam liberam infra manerium suum p'd'tum, ac sectam omnium tenentium suorum infra manerium p'd'tum ad eandem curiam, ac etiam habere wayffe et straes, ac etiam habere visum franci plegii singulis annis tenend. coram Senescallo suo apud manerium suum de Byvelegh bis in anno, videlicet semel infra mensem post terminum Paschæ, et infra mensem post festum Sc'i Michaelis Archangeli, de omnibus tenentibus ac residentibus infra manerium prædictum, et quicquid ad visum franci plegii pertinet, ac etiam habere curiam suam liberam infra manerium suum prædictum, ac sectam omnium tenentium suorum infra manerium p'd'tum ad eandem curiam; ac etiam quo warr. clam. pro se et success. suis unam liberam batellam in aqua Cestriensi, ad piscand. subtus pontem Cestr. et supra eundem pontem, ubi aliquod aliarum batellarum piscatur in aqua de Dee, nocte dieque, tam apud Eton quam alibi, quæ ad gladium et dignitatem meam pertinent, et sine licentia et voluntate mea vel progenitorum meorum, h'eat ibi sum. per hoc b've. Teste meipso apud Cestr. 12 die Aug. anno R' pr'is n'ri quartodecimo.

Et p'd'tus abbas per W'm Reynold att'um suum venit, et quoad illam salinam in Medio Wico, quod Willielmus Mesniwaring eis caritative dedit, dicit liberam esse et solutam de secta de Wichemote et de omnibus secularibus consuetudinibus et exactionibus cum sale de die Veneris, et etiam quod clamorem pro se et successoribus, monachis, et hominibus suis in domibus salem bullientibus salsam capiendi de omnibus fossis, sicut eis expedire et etiam quietantiam de tolneto per totam terram d'ni Principis in Com. Cest. de sale et omnibus aliis rebus quas emerint vel vendiderint tam per aquam quam per terram, et etiam hoc quod ipse et successores sui et homines sui sint quieti de shiris et hundredis, placitis et querelis, et auxiliis et consuetudinibus, et omni seculari servitio et exactione, et etiam de tallagio, passagio, pontagio, et de multura in omnibus molendinis d'ci d'ni principis. et d'c'us idem Abbas dicit quod Ran'us Comes Cestriæ, per literas suas patentes dedit et concessit cuidam Adamo de Whitmore tunc Abbati loci p'd'ti predecessori p'd'ti nunc Abbatis, et monachis de Deulacres ibidem Deo servientibus, omnes et singulas libertates p'd'tas: præterea quod idem Abbas obiit, post cujus

mortem idem nunc Abbas electus et p'fectus fuit in Abbatis loc' p'd'ti: quibus quidem libertatibus idem nunc Abbas et Monachi p'd'ti et predecessores sui, a tempore confectionis cartarum p'd'tarum usi et gavisi sunt, absque impedimento seu perturbatione aliquali. Et profert in curiam l'ras pat. d'ni R. nunc A° R. sui IV°. per quas idem d'nus Rex inspexit cartas p'd'tas p'd'ti nuper comitis, et ea omnia et singula et omnia in eisdem cartis contenta, per easdem literas suas ratificavit et confirmavit, quantum in ipso est, pro se et heredibus suis sicut p'd'tæ cartæ testantur; et per easdem literas acceptavit et confirmavit omnes et singulas libertates p'd'tas, et eo warranto clamat ipse, &c. &c.

Et quoad habere visum franci plegii, &c. &c. (at Pulton and Byvelegh, as in the preceding writ) et etiam habere curiam suam liberam infra maneria sua p'd'ta, ac sectam omnium tenentium suorum infra maneria p'd'ta ad eandem curiam, quod ipse et omnes predecessores sui abbates monasterii p'd'ti, a tempore cujus contrarii memoria hominum non existit, gavisi ac usi fuerint libertatibus p'd'tis, absque impedimento alicujus huc usque, et eo warranto clamat ipse libertates, &c. &c.

Et eo quod idem abbas et successores sui sint quieti de exercitu, puturâ servientium, et omnibus demandis consuetudinibus ad d'num principem ut com. Cest. spectantibus, idem abbas dicit quod Ranulphus quondam comes Cestriæ per literas suas patentes dedit et concessit, abbati et monachis de Deulacres, et successoribus suis, p'd'to Adamo de Whytmore tunc abbati loci p'd'ti existente, quietantiam exercitus, shirarum et hundredorum et omnium placitorum, puturæ servientium, et omnium demandorum consuetudinis ad d'c'm Ranulphum et heredes suos spectantium; præterea quod idem d'c'us abbas obiit, post cujus mortem Jo. Newton nunc abbas electus, &c.; et ulterius dicit quod d'nus Rex nunc per l'ras suas pat. quæ dat. sunt apud Westm. x° die Febr. a° R. sui IV° per quas idem d'nus Rex inspexit cartas p'd'ti Ran. nup. com. Cest. et ea omnia et singula per easdem cartas suas patentes ratificavit et confirmavit, quantum in ipso est, pro se et heredibus suis, sicut p'd'tæ cartæ testantur, et quod nunc abbas et omnes predecessores sui abbates loci p'd'ti, a tempore confectionis cartæ illius huc usque gavisi et usi fuerint libertatibus p'd'tis; et profert hic literas p'd'tas d'ni R. et eo warranto clamat, &c. &c.

Et quoad habere liberam batellam in clamore p'd'to specificat. in aqua Cestrensi in perpetuum, ad piscandum subtus pontem Cestr. et supra eundem pontem, et ubicunq. aliæ liberæ batellæ piscantur, cum omni genere retium in aqua de Dee, nocte dieque, tam apud Eton quam alibi: idem abbas dicit quod p'd'tus Ran'us quondam com. Cest. concessit Johanni tunc abbati et conventui et successoribus suis, quod ipsi in aqua Cestrensi in perpetuum habeant unam liberam batellam ad piscandum in forma p'd'ta, præterea quod Johannes obiit, post cujus mortem idem nunc abbas electus et p'fectus fuit in abbatis locum; præterea abbas dicit, quod d'nus Rex per l'ras suas pat. dat. ut supra ratificavit et confirmavit p'd'to nunc abbati et conventui et successoribus suis libertates et privilegia p'd'ta, quas quidem libertates omnes et singulas supra declarat. et specificat. in forma p'd'ta ut in clamore suo prescripto, idem nunc abbas, et omnes predecessores sui loci p'd'ti usi fuerint omni tempore post confectionem d'c'arum cartarum patentium, absque perturbatione aliquali; et profert hic literas p'd'ti domini Regis nunc, &c. et eo warranto clamat ipse libertates, acquietantiam et consuetud. franchises prædictas sibi allocari.

ABSTRACTS OF CHARTERS

RELATING TO CHESHIRE ESTATES GIVEN TO THE ABBEYS OF PULTON AND DIEULACRES.

Harl. MSS. 2060. p. 40^a.

1. and 2. The foundation charter of Robert Pincerna, and the confirmation by Hugh Kevelioc.
 3. A confirmation to the abbot of Pulton, by Hugh earl of Chester, of a moiety of Pulton, which the same abbot holds from Robert Pincerna. Witnesses, John, Constab. Cest. Willm' Patrick, &c.
 4. A confirmation by Ranulph earl of Chester, of his father's grants to the same abbey. Witnesses, Roger Constable of Chester, Ralph Mainwarin, &c.
 5. Ranulph earl of Chester grants to the same "liberam batellam in aqua de Cestr." Witnesses, Ralph de Mainwarin, Philip de Orreby, &c.
 6. Richard, lord of Aldford, gives a licence to the abbot of Pulton, to make a fishery in the Dee towards Aldford. Witnesses, sir Robert de Pulford, Hugh the clerk, his brother, Alexander de Aldford, Wm. de Chirton, Loarch de Chirton, Ralph de Chirton, &c.
 7. Hithill, son of Ranulph, releases to the abbot of Dieulacres, his right in the lands called Little Pulton. Witnesses, Ranulph earl of Chester and Lincoln, Llewelyn, prince of Wales, Hugh, abbot of Chester, John de Orreby, &c.^b
 8. Eynon, son of Ranulph de Hules, releases to the abbot of Pulton all his right in a fourth part of Hules. Witnesses, Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester, &c.
 9. Loarch and Wrenoth, sons of Ranulph and Tanwistea, formerly wife of John, release to the same, all their right in the lands of Hules, in the fields of Pulton. Witnesses, Philip de Orreby, Roger de Mohaut, &c.
 10. Joel and Urian, sons of Ranulph de Hules, release their right in the same lands, having engaged in the court of Madoc, son of Griffin, lord of Bromfield, never to claim any part of the same. Witness, the bishop of St. Asaph.
 11. Matilda Pincerna, for the health of her soul, and those of Roger de Gondville her husband, and Roger de Gondville her son, releases to the monks of Pulton a rent of 15s. per annum, which she used to receive from the same. Witness, Ralph de Boydele.
 12. Roger de Gondville releases to the abbot of Pulton a garden at the bridge of Chester, which he holds by the gift of Robert Pincerna. Witness, Robert the chaplain.
 13. Robert Pincerna, of Engleby, gives the same garden to the abbot of Pulton, in pure alms, which he held from the fee of Simon, son of Herbert. Witness, Hugh de Boidela.
 14. Gilbert Pigod grants to the abbot of Pulton common of pasture in Chelford and Whithinton, and all his lands in Herthull, free from all worldly service, for 30 years from 1210, *in which year the lord earl of Chester took the castle of Mamri*. Witness, Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester, Peter the clerk, &c.
 15. Richard de Hokenhull confirms to the monks of Pulton two bovates of land in Chirton, adjacent to the grange of these monks, as is contained in the charter of Loarch, son of Howell, who gave to them the same bovates. Witnesses, Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester, &c. Peter the clerk, &c.
 16. Robert, son of William de Okenhull, confirms the same donation of land under the name of Heyfurlonge.
 17. Leuca, daughter of Lowarch de Chirton, in her widowhood, confirms to the abbot of Dieulacres and Pulton, two bovates of land adjoining to the fosse of the grange of Chirton, which Hanagon her husband had formerly given, and all her lands in Christleton and Chirton, and in Pepper-street in Chester, which Lowarch her father had formerly given. Witnesses, Alan la Zouch, justice of Chester, &c.
 18. Richard, lord of Aldford, gives to the monks of Pulton, three bovates of land in Aldford, which Johanna formerly lady of Aldford gave to them. Witnesses, Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester, Peter the clerk, &c.
 19. John de Arderne, lord of Aldford, gives to the monks of Pulton, every thing contained in the charter of Richard de Aldford, and all his lands of Wethull, adjacent to his lands of Aldithell, in exchange for their lands in Aldford. Witness, Philip de Orreby, &c.
 20. Richard, lord of Aldford, gives to the monks of Pulton, all his lands of Bradford, with a small meadow adjacent to his lands of Aldithell, with pasture for 60 pigs, 30 mares and stallions, and 400 sheep, and the use of wood for building from his woods in Aldithell. Witness, Philip de Orreby, &c.
 21. Richard, lord of Aldford, grants to the same, common of pasture in Aldithell, with the use of wood for fire and building from the woods at Esthull.
 22. Ranulph earl of Chester confirms to the monks of Pulton the donation of John de Arderne, of the lands of Bradford and Wethull. Witness, Philip de Orreby, &c.
 23. Richard, lord of Aldford, gives to God and St. Mary, and the monks of Pulton, his manor of Bifle, with the wood and the mill, in pure alms. Witnesses, Philip de Orreby, H. abbot of Chester, &c.
 24. Ranulph earl of Chester, confirms the same to the monks of Dieulacres, with an exemption from the army, from shires, from hundreds, from puture of serjeants of the peace, and all customs whatsoever. William, abbot of Chester, &c.
- Confirmations of the same to Pulton and to Dieulacres, by Ranulph earl of Chester, Philip de Orreby, Robert de Hide, Ralph, son of Simon de Pulford, and others, and grants of smaller parcels of land in Bylegh, severally by Hugo Judæus, brother of Wm. Trevail de Byvell, Johannes Citharides, Liulphus de Twamlowe, Warin de Byvell, Emma daughter of Warin de Byvell,

^a The numbers of the deeds do not exactly follow those in the MS. (which appears to be written by sir P. L.) as it includes many relating to Dieulacres exclusively, and others relating to Pulton, which are too trifling to be noticed.

^b The order of signatures is observable, the earl of Chester's signature preceding that of Llewelyn prince of Wales.

the Hospital of St. John of Chester, and of the Grange of Bylegh, by Roger Meynwaryn for the safety of his soul and that of his uncle Ranulph earl of Chester.

26. A release of the monks of Dieulacres from paying tithes for their lands in Bylegh, by the rector of Middlewich, with the consent of William archdeacon of Chester.

27. The boundaries of Bylegh and Rudheath, as they were ridden by Randle earl of Chester.

28. The titheable estates in Bylegh.

29. Grants of saltpits in Middlewich to the monks of Pulton and Dieulacres, severally by Hugo Judæus, Amicia de Mediowico, widow of Robert, son of Thorold, William de Meynwaryn, Richard lord of Middlewich, Robert Kell, and Philip de Orreby.

30. Ranulph earl of Chester, gives the church of Sandbach, to the abbey of Dieulacres. Witnesses, Walter, abbot of Chester, William de Vernon, then justice of Chester, William de Cantelupe, Fulk Fitz Warin, &c.

31. Ranulph earl of Chester gives the manor and

church of Leek, in the co. of Stafford, to the same, together with his heart to be buried in the same. Witnesses, Peter, bishop of Winchester, Alexander, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, John, constable of Chester, &c.

32. A grant of Byley, and other estates to Geoffry Shakerley, of Shakerley, in the co. of Lancaster, dated 9th July, 35 Hen. VIII.

33. A grant by Cradock de Kynerton, and Eynon his son, to the abbot of Dieulacres, of two selions of land lying between the land of Wm. de Boydell and the Cross by the highway side. Witness, Alan le Zouch. Justic. Cest. &c.

** In the Mon. Ang. p. 890, among other deeds connected with or immediately relating to Pulton, is a charter of Ranulph earl of Chester, taking the monastery of Dieulacres under his protection, in the time of Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester; and

A composition of differences between the houses of Dieulacres and Crokesden.

TAXATIO P. NICHOLAI

BONOR' TEMPORALIUM ABB'IS DE DEULACRES INTRA CESTRESIRIAM.

Abbas de Deulacres h'et apud Pulton in Dec'	
Cestr. sexdecim caruc' terr' et valet caruc'	
p' annu' - - - -	- 0 10 0
Et h'et ib'm de vendico'e prati p' annu'	- 0 13 4
Et h't ib'm de redd' assis' p' annu'	- 0 10 0
Et h'et ib'm de profic' stauri p' annu'	- 5 0 0
Item h'et in Dodleston in eodem Dec' quatuor	
caruc' terr. et val' caruc' p' annu'	- 0 15 0

Et h'et apud Biveley, in Dec' Medii Wyci	
quinq' caruc' terr' et val' caruc' p' annu'	- 0 15 0
Et h'et ib'm de prato p' annu'	- 0 6 8
Et h'et ib'm de redd' assis' p' annu'	- 2 10 0
Et h'et ib'm de p'fic stauri p' annu'	- 4 0 0
Et h'et apud Bradeforth de redd' assis' p' annu'	2 0 0
Sm ^a	- 10 0 0
Inde decima	1 0 0

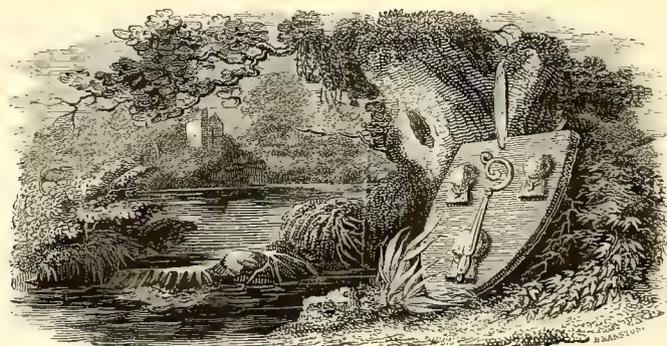
VALUATION OF THE CHESHIRE POSSESSIONS OF THE ABBEY OF DIEULACRES.

Harl. MSS. 2060.

COMPOTUS SUP' DISSOLUTIONEM ABBATIÆ DE DIEULACRES,

PER HUMFRIDUM WHITNEY, BALLIVUM.

Middlewich,	Una salina p'd' Humfr. dimiss. 4° die Decemb. pr. 49 ann. a° 27 Hen. VIII. redd. 13s. 4d. et 12 walmes salis et jacet intr. sal'n. Car. Mainwaring ex p'te boreali, et regiam viam ibidem apud Littlebridge ex p'te australi - - - 0 13 4	Goostree, Firma capell. Goostree - - - 3 6 8
Alia salina dimissa Petro de Walley, jacet intr. sal'n'm abbatis de vall. regal. et viam regiam apud Tippingtone ex parte boreali, dimiss. Humfr. Whitney et Alicia uxori ejus - - - 0 13 4	Alia salina dimissa Petro Yate, apud viam regiam boreal. - - - 0 0 0	Twemlowe, Firma 20 acr. Granor. de Twemlowe, p't. ad ecclesiam de Sandbach dimiss. Rob'to Needham de Shavinton, mil. a° 1138, et non redd. ex'm. - - - 0 0 0
Salina ten. Wi. Venables de Kinderton, mil. per redd. 7s. 4d. - - - 0 7 4		Newbold infra, Redd. aul. exem. de 8va parte man. de Newbold infra p'och. de Astbury 1 0 0
Byurley, Firm. grang. de Byurley - - - 4 0 0	Dimissa H° Reynolds, nunc tenurâ Jo. filii sui tenentis ibidem - 18 3 10	Knottesford, Ex burgo et crofto dimiss. Rob'to Antrobus et Em. ux. ejus p. 39 an. in Knottesford - - - - 0 2 0
Pulton, Pulton firm. 25l. feud. Ric'i Grosvenor et Tho. Grosvenor, fil. et h. app. senescalli 25 0 0		Alderlegh, Messuag. ter. prat. in ten. W. Ward in Ald'ly nunc ten. Hen. Deyne et Eliz. ux. ejus - - - - 2 5 0
Hulme, Firma decimar. capell. de Hulme. p'och de Sondbach, dimiss. W° de Brereton ten. ad volunt. d'ni dudum dimiss. in Hulme - - - - 1 4 6		Grang. et cottag. vocat. Tykhouse lib. ten. - - - - 10 12 6
Sandbach, Firma 10 acr. de Sondbach - - - 13 16 0 ten. in Sandbach ad voluntatem d'ni dimiss. dud'm per redd. 24s. 6d. p. an. 1 4 6	Byueley, Firm. omni. regal. relev. escæt. bonor. wayffat. cum omni. casual. grang. et firm. omni. proficu. Car. sect. p't man. de Byueley p'd. et les Yatehouses 13 6 8
		Nota quod 20s. redd. annual. solvend. de d'no de Newbold infra p'ochia. de Astbury exeuns de man. suo pr. 8va parte ejusdem per compositionem f'c'a. inter d'c'm d'n'm et quendam abbatem p'd'ti monasterii in festo S'ti Jo. Bapt.



The Mize

Of the several VILLS within the three HUNDREDS described in this Volume.

* * * The Orthography is taken from the Mize levied 31 Henry VI. on Prince Edward being created Earl of Chester. The Sums are the several proportions due from each Vill towards the general amount of 333l. 18s. 8d. being one sixth of the Mize of three thousand Marks, paid by the County on the creation of each successive Earl.

Note. *The figures before the townships mark the Page where each Township is described.*

EDISBURY HUNDRED.

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THO. DE WEEVER,
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107	Pro CASTRO NORTHEWICO	-	0 3 0		165	P. TERYVN d'nus p. dimid.	-	1 6 8	
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60	P. CROWTONE d'nus p. tercia	-	0 11 2		150	P. TIDELESTONE FFARNHALL d'nus			
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	d'nus p' tercia	-	0 5 4		110	P. WININGTON d'nus p. ii p'tibus	0 4 8		
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182	P. KELSALL d'nus p. vi ta	-	0 15 4			Som' xxxvli. xis. viiid.			

The Mize.

WIRRAL HUNDRED.

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	p. dim.	- - - 0 16 0	246	POULTON CU' LE SPITTELL d'nus	
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	d'nus p. dim.	- - - 0 14 5	233	NETHER PULLE d'nus p. terciã	- 0 12 10
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203	CHORLETON d'nus p. terciã	- 0 11 2	301	RABY d'nus p. terciã	- - 0 8 0
260	CLAUGHTON CU' LE GRANGE d'nus		260	SALGHALL MASSEY d'nus p. dim.	0 15 2
	p. dim.	- - - 0 19 2	311	MAGNA SALGHALL CU' WOODBANK	
210	CROUGHTON d'nus p. terciã	- 0 10 5		d'nus p. terciã	- - - 0 16 0
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	p. terciã	- - - 1 2 5	236	P'VA SUTTON d'nus p. terciã	- 0 14 5
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300	LEDDESHAM d'nus p. dim.	- - 0 9 7	267	WESTE KIRKEBY d'nus p' terciã	0 8 0
303	LEIGHTON d'nus p' sexta	- - 0 5 4	236	WHITBY d'nus p. terciã	- - 1 2 5
264	LUSCARDE d'nus p. quarta	- - 0 12 0	300	WOLLASTONE d'nus p. dim.	- 1 2 5
272	MAGNA MEOLLES d'nus p. terciã	0 6 4	286	WOODCHORCHE d'nus p. terciã	- 0 8 0
273	P'VA MEOLLES d'nus p. terciã	- 0 6 4			
316	MOLINTON BANESTERE d'nus p.				
	terciã	- - - 0 10 0			

Summa 44li. 9s. 11d.

Pedigrees

CONTAINED IN THE DESCRIPTION OF THE HUNDREDS OF

Edisbury, Wirral, and Broxton.

ALDERSEY of Aldersey	404	DUTTON of Hatton	433	MALPAS of Hampton	358
ALPORT of Overton	368	EATON of Eaton	454	MANLEY of Manley	49
ARDERNE of Alvanley	41	EGERTON of Egerton	350	MANWARING of Merton	96
ASHTON of Grange	94	EGERTON of Oulton	118	MASSEY of Broxton	372
BARNSTON of Churton	408	EGERTON-WARBURTON of Norley	53	MASSEY of Grafton	387
BEBINGTON of Bebington	251	EGERTON of Ridley	163	MASSEY of Puddington	308
BEESTON of Beeston	145	ELTON of Elton	22	MASSIE of Backford	198
BIRKENHEAD of Backford	199	FEILDEN of Mollington	206	MASSIE of Coddington	399
BIRD of Broxton	371	FRODSHAM of Elton	22	MEYLES of Meoles	272
BOLD of Upton	266	GAMUL of Crabwall	318	MERTON of Merton	96
BOOTH of Mollington	207	GERARD of Kingsley	61	MILNETON of Milneton	387
BOYDELL of Dodleston	456	GERARD of Crewd	61	NUTHAL of Cattenal	47
BREBETON of Shocklach and Malpas	377	GLASIER of Lea	209	ORMEROD of Chorlton	204
BREBETON of Wettenhall and Eccle-		GLEGG of Backford	199	OULTON of Oulton	104
ston	106	GLEGG of Gayton	285	POOLE of Poole	235
BROCK of Upton	444	GLEGG of Grange	270	POWEL of Birkenhead	256
BROMLEY of Hampton	358	GOLBORNE of Overton	369	PRESTLAND of Prestland	155
BRUEN of Bruen Stapleford	175	GRAFTON of Grafton	387	PRICE of Birkenhead	257
BRUEN of Tarvin	166	GREENE of Poulton	248	PULFORD of Pulford	461
BULKELEY of Bulkeley	363	GREGGE of Hapsford	24	RABY of Raby	302
BUNBURY of Bunbury and Stanney	216	GROSVENOR of Little Budworth	116	RUTTER of Kingsley	45
- BURGANEY of Pulford	462	GROSVENOR of Eaton	454	SPURSTOW of Spurstow	158
CATHERAL of Horton	388	HATTON of Hatton	433	STARKEY of Oulton	104
- CALDECOTE of Caldecote	380	HALGHTON of Halghton	157	STANLEY of Hooton	230
CALVELEY of Calveley	153	HARDWARE of Peele & Bromborough	181	STOCKTON of Stockton	454
CALVELEY of Lea	419	HELLESBY of Hellesby	35	STORETON of Storeton	250
CHOLMONDELEY of Cholmondeley	356	HINTON of Rushton	131	TARLETON of Bolesworth	372
CHOLMONDELEY of Vale Royal	78	HOCKENHULL of Hockenhull and		TILSTON of Huxley	435
CLIVE of Huxley	435	Shotwick	171	THORNTON of Thornton	15
COGHULL of Coghull	442	HOCKENHULL of Duddon	171	THURSTANSTON of Thurstanston	278
COTTON of Cotton Edmunds	428	HOCKENHULL of Prenton	293	TRAFFORD of Bridge Trafford	30
COTTINGHAM of Little Neston	298	HOLCROFT of Vale Royal	75	TROUTBECK of Dunham	28
CROXTON of Norley	68	HOOTON of Hooton	228	WARBURTON of Grange	94
CURRIE of Boughton	421	HOLME of Tranmore	253	WAREING of Ince	13
DAVENPORT of Boughton	421	HOUGH of Leighton	304	WEEVER of Weever	114
DAVENPORT of Calveley	153	HURLESTON of Picton	441	WELD of Eaton	131
DOD of Broxton	370	HUXLEY of Huxley	435	WERDEN of Burton	179
DOD of Edge	374	KINGSLEY of Kingsley	44	WETTENHALL of Wettenhall	106
DOD of Shocklach	378	LANCELYN of Poulton	248	WIGLAND of Wigland	366
DOMVILLE of Brunstath	241	LECHE of Carder	385	WILBRAHAM of Townsend and De-	
- DONE of Crowton	64	LECHE of Mollington	207	lamere Lodge	65
- DONE of Utkinton, Flaxyards, and		LITLER of Wallerscote	66	WINNINGTON of Winnington	112
Duddon	133	MAINWARING of Bromborough	239	WHITMORE of Thurstanston	278
DRAKE of Shardeloes and Malpas	334	MALPAS, BARONS OF	333	WRIGHT of Bickley and Stretton	389











