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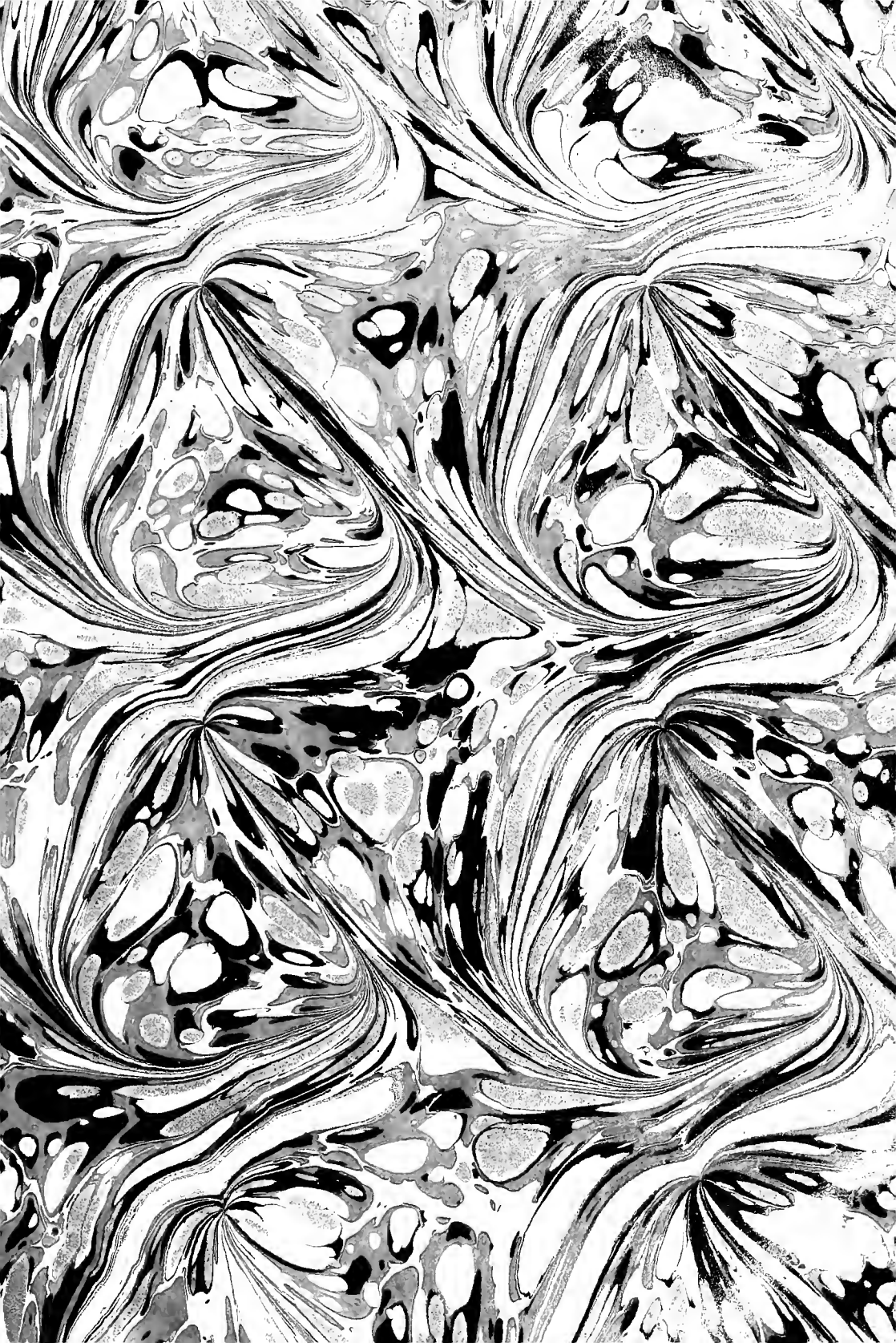
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HISTORY OF CHESHIRE.

VOL. III.

CONTAINING THE

HUNDREDS OF NORTHWICH, NANTWICH, AND MACCLESFIELD ;
APPENDIX, AND GENERAL INDEX.

..... The noblest Cestrian shore,
Of our great English bloods as careful here of poce,
As Cambria of her Brute's now is, or could be then,
For which our proverbs call her, Cheshire, Chief of Men :
And of our counties place of Palatine doth hold,
And thereto hath her high regalities enroll'd,
Besides in many fields since conquering William came,
Her people she hath prov'd to her eternal fame,
All children of her own, the leader and the led,
The mightiest men of bone in her full bosom bred.

DRAYTON'S POLYOLBION, SONG XI.

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

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UNPUBLISHED MS.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. III.

London :

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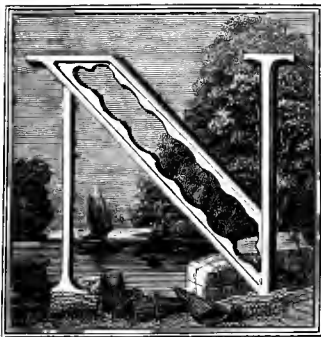
1819.

History of Cheshire.

1308796

Hundred of Northwich.

INTRODUCTION.



ORTHWICH Hundred is stated by Webb to resemble the shape of a triangle with three unequal sides; which is perhaps the best description of it that can be given, but its form is much too irregular to be reduced to any precise figure. The side

which Webb would place on the south-west of his triangle extends from Church Lawton, on the edge of Staffordshire, to Winnington Bridge, and is divided from Nantwich Hundred by an imaginary boundary; and from Edisbury Hundred, with some slight exceptions, by the Weever; on the north-east, from Winnington to Bate Mill, above Over Peover, the boundary ascends the stream of the Peover, leaving Bucklow Hundred on the left, and is thence continued along the edge of Macclesfield Hundred to Somerford, where it meets the Dane, and goes up that stream to Buglawton and the confines of Staffordshire. The base of this irregular figure stretches from hence to Church Lawton, along the ridge of the Cloud and Mole Cop, which separate this county from Staffordshire, and mark, in strong natural characters, the LIME, or boundary of the original and present jurisdiction of the Palatinate on its English frontier.

The north-western extremity of the Hundred is supposed to have been traversed by the Northern Watling-street, entering upon it at Holford, and leaving it at Northwich, on its way to Chester.

About five miles south of this road is the long disputed station which Mr. Whitaker had the honour of

discovering, and which the common consent of later antiquaries has identified with *Condate*. Mr. Whitaker gives it a higher origin, and supposes it to be one of the only two towns (*Deva* and *Condate*) which the Carnabii possessed in West Cheshire; and the capital of these, being composed of the words *Conda Te*, signifying the principal abode. He proceeds to conjecture, that after their acquisition of the rest of this county, Shropshire, Staffordshire, and the neighbouring parts of Warwickshire, Leicestershire, and Flintshire, it became the capital of all, but that it lost its dignity in consequence of an invasion by the Brigantes; after which, the unsubdued portion of the Carnabii are supposed by him to have raised *Uriconium*, or *Wroxeter*, to the honour formerly possessed by *Condate*, which, before the advent of the Romans, was reduced under the supremacy of *Iseur*, the metropolis of its conquerors, the Brigantes^a.

Leaving these ingenious dreams of the learned writer, it remains to speak of *Condate* as it appeared to Mr. Whitaker, and as it now appears, and of the antient roads in the Hundred, which may be traced diverging from it. The number of these at once marks the importance of the station, and explains the policy of the Romans in deviating (for a deviation it certainly was) from the nearer line of the British trackway to Chester, and placing a fortress where it would protect so many lines of communication.

The commencement of the road from *Mancunium* towards *Condate* has been given in the account of *Bucklow Hundred*^b: its continuation through *Northwich Hundred* along the *King-street*, and the account of *Condate* itself, are given in Mr. Whitaker's own words below. The accuracy of his description, and his ingenuity in rectifying the errors in distances which occur in the several *iters*, add credit to his discovery of the station^c.

^a Whitaker's Hist. of Manchester, 4to edit. l. 105.

^b Vol. I. p. 314.

^c The account given by Mr. Whitaker is as follows. 4to edit. vol. I. p. 95.

“ To settle the particular position of *Condate* hath long embarrassed the antiquarian critics. Settled originally at *Congleton*, because of some remaining sameness in the name, that only guide in the infancy of antiquarian learning, it has been lately fixed, upon better principles, at or near *Northwich*; but it was neither at the one nor at the other. The site of the station is sufficiently pointed out by the course of the road; and the course of the road is sufficiently ascertained by the broken remains of it which sometimes appear, by the direction of them where they cease, and by the sure signatures of the name of *Street*, where both fail us.

Richard's 6th *Iter* runs thus:

From *MANCUNIAM*,
FINIBUS MAXIMÆ ET FLAVIÆ, m. p. 18.
CONDATÆ 18.
DEVA 18.

Richard's 10th *Iter* runs thus:

From *MANCUNIAM* to
CONDATÆ 23
MEDIOLANO 18

And Antonine's 2d *Iter* thus:

From *MANCUNIAM* to
CONDATÆ 18.
DEVA 20.

And Antonine's 10th *Iter* thus:

From *MANCUNIAM* to
CONDATÆ 18
MEDIOLANO 12

(Here follows an investigation of the road from *Mancunium* to *Holford*, an abstract of which is given in the Introduction to *Bucklow Hundred*.)

MS. 9147 - Road, in the 6-13-14
174168

The King-street (as mentioned in the Introduction to Bucklow) not only communicated, through the Watling-street, with Mancunium, but led directly to the later station of Veratinum, or Warrington.

A third road, bearing onwards to Deva, has been traced in the church-yard of Middlewich^d, and near the Weever at Winsford^e, and rejoined the Watling-street in Edisbury Hundred, near the camps on Delamere-forest^e.

A fourth road, bearing for the station of Uriconium,

or Wroxeter, and probably diverging from this, near the camp of Condate, has been traced through Nantwich Hundred by the bishop of Cloyne^f.

A fifth and sixth road, bearing severally to Mediolanum and to Chesterton, are noticed by Mr. Whitaker. The former of these he describes (in the note below) proceeding by Street Forge and Red-street, and the latter as being clearly traced from the Castrum. A line of road referable to any of these points^g has been recently discovered on the edge of the township of Brad-

(P. 98) "A little beyond the conclusion of this half-mile, the present road beginning to bend too much towards Northwich, the Roman road insensibly steals away to the left. But about a mile beyond the point, and in the direction of the line, we recover the road again. This new part of the road is a well-gravelled lane, denominated Street, and extending, in a right line, for four or five miles together. — The appellation of this road is written Kind-street by the only antiquarians that have named it, Mr. Horseley and Mr. Percival, but is invariably spoken King-street by the people. The former, however, is pretty certainly the name, and the latter is merely a corruption; and the alteration has resulted entirely from the natural humour among all nations of assimilating strange to familiar names in popular pronunciation, as the road must have led to the ancient Condate, and as it leads to the present Kinderton. — In its continuance, leaving the sandy waste (p. 99) of Rudheath a little distant on the left, and Newton, near Middlewich, less distant on the right, the Kind-street passes through Ravenscroft into Kinderton, and both the name and the lane are instantly heard of no more.

"Here, therefore, the conclusion of the road and the length of the distance invite us strongly to search for a station. The name of Condate is pretty loudly echoed in the name of Kinderton; and what is much more weighty, this is the first place convenient for a station, about the requisite distance from Manchester.

"The Kind-street, pointing down the bank of the river to the bridge of Ravenscroft, must have forded the channel two or three yards to the right of the bridge, and have entered the field beyond it. In this field it has actually been discovered. This is denominated the Harbour's field; and this was certainly the area of the Roman station. The particular situation of the field betwixt the rivers Croco and Dane is a sufficient proof in itself. The appellation of the ground is an additional evidence, the Har-bourhs field signifying plainly the area of the military station. And the site and the name, the remains about it, and the tradition concerning it, are an absolute determination.

"This field is nearly a parallelogram of ten statute acres in extent, and is bounded by a natural bank lofty and steep upon one side, and the little Croco curling at the foot of it, and by another natural bank less lofty but more steep on another side, and the larger Daven or Dane gurgling directly beneath it; the former rivulet falling into the latter at the angle of the field. Upon the third side, but several yards within the hedge of the field, are the considerable remains of a ditch rising up the ascent, and being once undoubtedly continued in the same line, and along the hollow of the contiguous lane. And upon the fourth side the ancient ditch still preserves its original perfection, being a steep fosse about ten yards in depth to the narrow bottom, and about eight in breadth at the top, formerly converted like a part of the other ditch into the course of a road, and lately made the channel of an artificial streamlet.

(P. 100) "Such was the Station of Condate. And a road has been discovered commencing from it, traversing a field immediately without the Castrum, and frequently visible in a dry summer for the whole length of the field immediately beyond both. This is ordinarily called the Roman road, and must certainly, from its direction, have gone to Mediolanum in Shropshire. Another must have coursed by Holme Street Hall to Chester; and a third must have extended by Street Forge and Red Street to Chesterton near Newcastle.

"This then is *Condate*, the station so long lost, and so vainly sought. And that it has been lost and sought so long may justly excite our admiration. The road pointing certainly towards Chester, because to Chester one Iter of Antonine carries it, and pointing as certainly to the south or south-east of Chester, because another Iter of Antonine carries it into Shropshire, the course of it might have been very easily investigated. The sure signatures of Stretford, Cross Street, Street Head, Street, Holford Street, and King-street, names all occurring in the line, all pointing out either well known villages, conspicuous eminences, or public roads, and some retained for several miles together, trace out the course of it in the plainest colours. And the clear tradition of a Roman camp, and the similar appellation of Kinderton, at the conclusion of the whole, assuredly shed the fullest light upon the genuine site of Condate.

"The distance of this station from Mancunium is fixed by the sixth Iter of Richard at thirty-six miles, but in the tenth at twenty-three, and in the second and tenth of Antonine at only eighteen. In this diversity of informations, we are fully at liberty to chuse such of the measures as best agree with the real distance, and to reject all of them, if none agree. We need not the evidence of the numbers to ascertain the position of the Castrum.

"In the first measure of Richard, which reckons thirty-six miles from Manchester to Condate, he makes the remarkable insertion of a station betwixt one and the other*. This he, or his transcriber, has placed at eighteen miles from both, and at the (p. 101) boundaries of the two provinces Flavia and Maxima. But certain as we are concerning the course of the road, the very mention of these boundaries shews the number of the miles to be greatly erroneous. The limits of the provinces are the banks of the Mersey at Stretford, and these are only four or five Roman miles from the Castle-field. And if Richard's other distance of twenty-three miles to Condate be the right one, as we shall find it to be, five must be the number in this place; five added to the following eighteen in the sixth Iter, being equivalent to the twenty-three in the tenth. This was pretty certainly the original number. And the eye of Richard or his transcriber unwarily catching the number eighteen immediately below, his hand inserted the latter instead of the former.

"Differing equally from both, and from truth, are the numbers in Antonine; but the difference may be removed with ease, and without any alteration of the present figures. The two Itinera of Antonine give us exactly the same number of miles for the distance betwixt the Castle-field and Kinderton, as one Iter of Richard gives us for that betwixt Kinderton and Stretford. And from this coincidence it is highly probable that the intermediate stage was originally inserted in the tenth Iter of Antonine as well as in the sixth of Richard, and had the number five annexed to it in both. And that the next reckoning of eighteen miles commenced from it in that Iter, as well as in this. This was very probably the original state of the Iter. And when this and all the similar notices which must surely have been once inserted in Antonine's, as they now appear in Richard's Itinerary, were thrown out of the former in order to abridge the work, the abridger overlooked the number annexed to this notice, and left the next to stand as it stood before.

"The real distance from Castle-field to Kinderton Camp is this. From the Cross at Manchester to the Inn at Buckley Hill the distance measures about twelve miles, as from Buckley Hill by Mere Town to Middlewich, the distance measures about other twelve. But as we must deduct three quarters of a mile, for the distance between the Castle-field and the Cross at Manchester, so (p. 102) must we subtract about a mile for the difference betwixt the direct road of the Romans, and the curving road of the present times from Broad Heath to New Bridge, and for the angle which the present road describes in going nearer to Northwich, and then turning by Penny Lane to King-street. Thus settled, the real distance from the station at Manchester to the Camp at Kinderton must be twenty-two English miles, which are very nearly equivalent to twenty-three and three quarters Roman miles, and are therefore, fully correspondent with the number in the tenth Iter of Richard."

^d Information of Edw. Brabant, esq. of Newton.

^e See Introduction to Edisbury Hundred.

^f See Nantwich Hundred, and his Essay on the Roman Roads of Cheshire, Magna Britannia, vol. II. part II. 433.

^g The bishop of Cloyne asserts the identity of Chesterton with Mediolanum; adding, that he shall treat more at large on the subject when he comes to examine the Roman towns in Staffordshire. Lysons's *Magoa Britannia*, Cheshire, 433. Mediolanum has generally been placed in or near Shropshire. See Whitaker's *Manchester*, vol. I. p. 100; and Hoare's *Giraldus*, vol. II. clx. If these stations were distinct, the roads to them might diverge at a point more distant from Kinderton than Bradwall, or the road to Mediolanum might branch from that to Wroxeter.

* Mr. Whitaker gives a description of this station at vol. I. p. 172. *Hist. of Manchester*, 4to edit. He places it at Cross-street, in Bucklow Hundred, "On the southerly side of the Mersey, on the right hand of the road, and about musquet-shot from the bridge," and supposed one side to have been bounded by the Mersey, and the other by the Red Brook, now absorbed in the line of the canal.

wall, between Booth-lane and Elworth-hall, to the left of the road from Middlewich to Sandbach, about four miles from the former place. It is clearly distinguishable in the grass land in a dry season, and shews a seam of gravel across the clayey fields when ploughed, the direction pointing to the south-east, and to the right of Sandbach.

A seventh road from Kinderton is presumed to have proceeded eastwards to intersect with a line of road leading from Manchester to Buxton, which has been traced in Whitaker's Manchester^h as far as Stockport, and by Mr. Watson from thence to Buxton through Rainowⁱ; and although the road itself has eluded observation, it will be easy to trace in the line which such a road would take, those appearances which are usual in the vicinity of antient roads, and in some places undoubted Roman remains. The line would probably lie along the high southern bank of the Dane, and after crossing that river proceed by Twemlow, Old Withington, Chelford, Birtles, Prestbury, and Butley to Rainow Low, where it would intersect with the road traced by Whitaker and Watson.

In Twemlow are five of those tumuli which are of frequent occurrence at the sides of a British road, on which in this case probably the Roman one was engrafted. They are nearly equidistant, and stretch along the banks of a small brook for about a quarter of a mile, the present seat of Mr. Egerton Leigh standing between the second and third; the fifth is unusually large in its dimensions. The remainder of the course of this road lies in Macclesfield hundred. On entering Old Withington three tumuli lie to the left of the road, also along the course of a brook: the central one is much depressed by the plough, and would elude observation if it had not been indicated by the others at the extremities. Further on, to the right of the road, is a larger one at the distance of about half a mile from it; and shortly after, the supposed line of road crosses the Peover at Chelford, a termination which is of unfrequent occurrence in this county, except on the line of a British or Roman road. On the opposite side of the river, in Birtles and Prestbury, the ground naturally rises into the form of tumuli, and therefore no stress can be laid on appearances which might have been distinguished from the general surface in the earlier part of the route; but we have here more certain indications: a Roman urn has been recently found in Birtles^k in digging for gravel. A little to the right of the further line, the name of Pepper-street is preserved in Henbury^l. In Butley cairns and a sepulchral urn have been discovered^m, and Roman urns were also found a few years ago in Rainowⁿ, where the route concludes. Admitting the generally acknowledged fact of a road having proceeded from Kinderton in this direction, it is presumed this connected series of Roman relics and other vestiges of antiquity, are as strong proofs of the line as can be collected in the absence of the original bank of gravel itself.

The bishop of Cloyne, following up an idea of Mr. Whitaker's, conjectures that another road "preserving its bearing from Castleshaw in Yorkshire, through the south-east part of Lancashire, seems to pass through Stockport in a line for Handford and Kinderton, an idea to which the village of Street lying exactly in this direction, and the name of the Pepper-street given to

part of the road itself, seems to give some confirmation." This line of road however would make a slight angle to the north of Handford, if Mr. Watson is correct in asserting "that what Mr. Whitaker expected to find there, he discovered in the parish of Bowden and township of Hale in Cheshire, on a lingula between the river Bollin and a small stream called Cotterel's brook, at a place named Castle-hill, the highway leading from Ashley to Wilmslow intersecting it."

This is all that it appears necessary to say of *British* or *Roman* remains in Northwich hundred. A fine specimen of antiquity, referable to the early *Saxon* period, exists in the crosses of Sandbach, whether considered as sepulchral, or of the kind which were erected in commemoration of the first preaching of Christianity on their site.

The next subject is the effect of the Norman Invasion on the hundred. Every Saxon proprietor was ejected, and the subsequent apportionment is recorded in Domesday as follows:

The earl held Northwich and Middlewich, "Eleacier," and portions of Sandbach, Clive, Sutton near Middlewich, Wimbaldsley, Weever, and Occleston.

Richard de Vernon, baron of Shipbrook, had Shipbrook, Shurlach, Leftwich, Moulton, Warton, Davenham, and Bostock.

William Malbedeng, baron of Nantwich, held "Eteshale," Church Minshull, Minshull Vernon, and Sproston.

William Fitz-Nigel, baron of Halton, had moieties of Goostrey, of Odrode, and of Lees.

Hugh de Mara (whose estates merged in the barony of Montalt) had Lawton (twice noticed, and probably Church Lawton and Buglawton), Byley, half of Goostrey, Somerford, Carincham, and half of Odrode.

Bigot (predecessor of the lords of Aldford) had Congleton, and parts of Sandbach, of Sutton, and of Wimbaldsley.

Gilbert Venables, baron of Kinderton, had Newbold-Astbury, Brereton, Kinderton, Davenport, and Witton cum Twembrook.

Gozelin had Newton and Croxton.

Ranulphus (supposed ancestor of the Mainwarings) had Wheelock and Tetton.

Moran had a part of Lees.

These were comprehended in Mildestvic hundred, which contained also the township of Weever now in Edisbury, and Church Minshull now in Nantwich hundred. With these exceptions Mildestvic and Northwich hundreds were precisely co-extensive, unless Eleacier and Eteshale can be supposed to refer (as they probably do) to Alsager and Hassal in the adjacent hundred of Nantwich.

The following pages deduce the manerial descent in Northwich hundred from the before-mentioned grantees, and to them are to be added five others, who can be proved by deeds to have existed at or near the Conquest though unnoticed in Domesday. GILBERT GROSVENOR of Allostock; HUGH DE RUNCHAMP of Lostock, from whom the Lostocks and Moretons; ORME THE HARPER, ancestor of Touchet of Buglawton; WULFRIC OF CROXTON, from whom in the male line the families surnamed Croxton, Clive, Winnington, Leftwich, Goostrey, Cranach, Hermitage, Le Brun, Twemlowe,

^h I. 144. 4to edit.

^k Now in the possession of sir John Stanley, and engraved in the introduction to Macclesfield Hundred.

^l See Burdett's Map of Cheshire.

^m See more on this subject in Macclesfield Hundred.

ⁿ Information of sir John Stanley, bart.

ⁱ History of the Earls of Warren, ii. 192.

and Harding; ORME DE DAVENPORT; and RICHARD DE BRERETON. The three first of these were tenants in capite from the earldom.

The descendants of some of these families and of their dependants still possess estates within the hundred, but on the whole the alienations by the antient families will be found to have been more numerous, and the acquisition of property here by its present owners more recent than in the other hundreds. This must be attributed to the operation of commerce on a larger scale, from the introduction of trades of various descriptions in the towns of Northwich, Middlewich, Sandbach, and Congleton, the intersection of the district by canals and a navigable river, and the extensive manufacture of its natural produce, rock and brine salt, through the greatest part of the hundred, but more particularly to the south of a line drawn through its centre from north-west to south-east, from Northwich to Church Lawton.

It will be readily believed that these circumstances must operate unfavourably also on the scenery of a country which is naturally flat and uninteresting; but Northwich hundred has nevertheless some features of landscape which have charms for those who are familiar with them, though they may not be strong enough to impress themselves on the eyes of a casual visitant. Among these must be first named the profusion of forest trees in the hedge-rows, the foliage of which is apparently rendered still thicker by the dark shades of the oak and the alder of which it is composed, and the frequency of the holly which grows with great luxuriance

in the shaded lanes: the old half-timbered farm-houses are still numerous and picturesque, and the church architecture, where it occurs, is almost uniformly respectable. On the banks of the rivers and brooks many beautiful vales on a small scale present themselves, and the entire line of the Dane cannot fail to command admiration, particularly on the verge of Macclesfield hundred, where the banks of its clear stream are more abrupt and wooded, and the Staffordshire and Forest-hills are a conspicuous object in the distance.

The churches, as already mentioned, are generally handsome, but that of Astbury is decidedly pre-eminent. Lawton is the only one which retains vestiges of Norman architecture. A fine specimen of domestic architecture occurs in the Hall of Little Moreton, which is exceeded only in its peculiar style by that of Bramhall within the limits of this county.

The principal roads are either paved with hard granite, brought from Mole-Cop, and broken into form by mallets, or are strewn over with smaller fragments of the same in the manner of gravel. This last-mentioned material is found and used almost exclusively in the neighbourhood of Congleton.

The rivers which either flow through the hundred or form its boundary, are the Weever, the Dane, the Peover, the Croco, and the Wheelock, the courses of which have been noticed in another part of the work^o.

The hundred court is leased under the crown by the duke of Leeds^p. General meetings of magistrates acting for this division are held at Middlewich^q.

POPULATION TABLE

Of the Hundred of NORTHWICH, extracted from the Returns to Parliament 51 Geo. III.

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.
ASTBURY. P. ^a										
Buglawton	114	114	—	4	79	35	—	283	301	584
Congleton	944	986	5	30	158	750	78	2023	2593	4616
Davenport	15	15	—	—	14	—	1	41	45	89
Hulme Walfield	15	15	—	1	13	1	1	61	57	118
Moreton Alcomlow	20	20	—	—	15	5	—	73	67	140
Newbold Astbury	106	116	—	2	77	30	9	292	304	596
Odd Rode	183	184	1	2	93	73	18	494	509	1003
Radnor	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	6	6	12
Smallwood	86	87	—	2	60	11	16	257	239	496
Summerford	18	18	—	—	11	2	5	62	52	114
BRERETON CUM SMETHWICK. P.										
	103	106	—	2	101	5	—	303	284	587

^o See Smith's Courses of the Rivers, vol. I. p. 104.

^p Lysons's Mag. Britannia, vol. II. part. ii. p. 316. This Court is disused.

^q Another meeting is held at Northwich, in consequence of the trustees of the Weever assembling there, but it relates generally to the adjacent parts of this and other Hundreds.

^a Part of Astbury parish is in Macclesfield Hundred, part of Great Budworth in Bucklow and Edisbury, and part of Sandbach in Nantwich Hundred. In this return, Hulme Walfield, which is mized as part of Macclesfield Hundred, is erroneously described as part of Northwich Hundred; Radnor, a hamlet of Somerford-cum-Radnor, is called a township, and Rudbeath (*extra-parochial*) is called part of Davenham parish. The orthography is also frequently wrong, but it has only been corrected where the errors, such as Hulme Watfield, Tremlow, &c. appeared to be typographical.

POPULATION TABLE, continued.

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.	Total.
GREAT BUDWORTH. P.										
Allostock	75	79	—	—	71	8	—	240	222	462
Birches	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	6	6	12
Hulse	6	7	—	—	6	1	—	21	21	42
Lach Dennis	5	5	—	—	5	—	—	29	21	50
Lostock Gralam	82	83	—	3	42	15	26	226	227	453
Northwich	305	312	2	17	14	181	117	650	732	1382
Peover, Nether	38	43	—	—	25	14	4	118	120	238
Witton cum Twambrook	416	442	1	21	54	313	75	983	983	1966
CHURCH LAWTON. P.										
	83	90	1	3	19	67	4	242	246	488
DAVENHAM. P.										
Bostock	32	32	—	—	28	3	1	98	109	207
Davenham	73	74	—	3	42	30	2	161	156	317
Eaton	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	6	7	13
Leftwich	205	205	1	3	77	61	67	518	461	979
Moulton	21	35	—	—	18	15	2	85	102	187
Newall	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	5	5	10
Rudheath	57	57	1	1	53	4	—	145	158	303
Shipbrook	12	12	—	—	11	1	—	44	40	84
Shurlach	9	10	1	1	8	1	1	28	29	57
Stanthorne	22	22	—	—	20	2	—	63	66	134
Wharton	159	167	—	2	15	144	8	449	439	888
Whatecroft	9	9	—	—	8	—	1	33	38	71
MIDDLEWICH. P.										
Byley cum Yatehouse	21	22	—	—	21	—	1	62	73	135
Clive	22	22	—	—	22	—	—	54	64	118
Croxton	5	5	—	—	4	1	—	26	29	55
Kinderton with Hulme	89	89	—	6	31	21	37	212	237	449
Middlewich	279	285	—	21	20	228	37	551	681	1232
Minshull Vernon	64	66	—	1	63	3	—	125	130	255
Mooresbarrow cum Parme	3	3	—	1	3	—	—	12	15	27
Newton	268	287	2	14	41	46	140	585	616	1201
Occlestone	15	15	—	—	14	1	—	39	47	86
Ravenscroft	2	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	4
Sproston	21	21	1	—	9	11	1	74	70	144
Stublach	11	11	—	1	11	—	—	25	29	54
Sutton	5	5	—	—	5	—	—	14	14	28
Wimboldsley	20	20	—	—	17	3	—	62	67	129
SANDBACH. P.										
Arelid	14	15	—	—	8	3	4	40	42	82
Blackden	26	26	—	—	21	2	3	73	79	152
Bradwell	42	42	—	1	39	2	1	117	141	258
Church Hulme	70	71	—	—	8	46	17	174	172	346
Cotton	16	16	—	—	3	11	2	38	43	81
Cranage	78	81	—	3	12	64	5	188	199	261
Goosetrey with Barnshaw	47	48	—	—	19	24	5	133	128	387
Lees	19	19	—	—	7	12	—	63	63	126
Sandbach	495	521	14	20	117	368	36	1146	1165	2311
Twemlow	21	21	—	—	16	4	1	78	74	152
Wheelock	64	68	—	4	25	42	1	160	169	329
SWETTENHAM. P.										
Kermincham	25	25	—	1	25	—	—	89	84	173
Swettenham	35	41	—	—	41	—	—	116	111	227
WARMINGHAM. P.										
Elton	54	70	1	—	61	9	—	179	198	377
Moston	26	32	—	—	19	13	—	83	79	162
Tetton	29	32	—	—	18	14	—	80	77	157
Warmingham	55	57	2	1	42	12	3	165	180	345
	5160	5389	33	171	1885	2774	730	12815	13726	26541

ITINERARY OF NORTHWICH HUNDRED.

BY WILLIAM WEBB, M.A.

Reprinted from KING'S VALE ROYAL.

THE shape of the Northwich Hundred is triangular, and of that figure which the geometricians call *Amblygonion Scalenum*, that is of three unequal sides, with one blunt angle, and two acute angles; the first acute angle of these points upon Winnington-bridge, beyond Northwich, almost at Marbury; the second acute angle points at Lawton-gate, towards Audley; and the blunt angle falls about Rushton, on the back of Congerton, where the water of Beedulph meets with Dane.

The point of Lawton-gate gives us good occasion to begin there our view of this Hundred, as being next into Betchton, where we ended the other. This took the name of the passage there into Staffordshire, and is part of the parish of Lawton, which church of Lawton is near unto it, and by the same the ancient seat and hall of Lawton, where there have continued many descents of esquires of the same name, the heir of the house now in minority, and matched into the noble race of the Sneyds, a name of great worship and account, and of ample revenues in Staffordshire; which I rather note, because they have great possessions in this county and this country, and especially this city of Chester boasteth, that hence they had their original.

From thence we turn northward towards Rhode, the name of a town, and of a race of gentlemen of the same name, and so by Kent-Green, a hamlet near the foot of that famous mountain, called Mowle-coppe, and from whence begins the water that afterwards obtaineth the name of the Whelock, making his first passage near unto Moreton, wherein are two very fair demaines, and the two houses of worthy gentlemen and esquires, of most ancient continuance; the one of the same name of Moreton, and which, as I have heard, gave breeding to that famous bishop Moreton, which in the time of Richard the Third, the usurper, contrived that project of the marriage of the two heirs of the houses of York and Lancaster, from whence proceeded the happiness that we enjoy at this day; though I know others derive his birth from another place. The other is of the Bellots, who both in this county and Wales, have been, and are, esquires of great worth, the owners now William Moreton, and John Bellot, of Moreton, esquires.

The Whelock shall now lead us on declining more to the west, which here gives name to a township, and therein to the ancient seat of Leversage, of Whelock, esquires, of special account, and now the possessions of a very worthy and wise gentleman, William Leversage, esquire.

From whence we turn again a little northerly to view Sandbach, whose church and lofty steeple draws our eye to behold it, and wherein Sandbach is a pretty market town, and hath belonged long to that noble race of

knights of the Ratcliffes, of Urdshall, in Lancashire; the situation of this town is very delightful. The chief seignory thereof now belongs to the worthy knight before mentioned, sir Randal Crewe. Mr. Cambden, in his description of Derby, took occasion to delight his reader with a discourse of the nappy ale of Derby; let me have a little leave to touch upon that subject; our ale here at Sandbach being no less famous than that for a true nappe. And I have heard men of deep experience in that element contend for the worth of it, that for true dagger stuff, it should give place to none; and if that ale got name from Oel, as he saith, the old Danish word, I know not why this may not almost with as little variation come from Oil, being almost as substantial in the handling as oil is, and justifies that old report of the merry poet,

————— nil spissius illa

Dum bibitur, nil clarins est dum mingitur: ergo
Constat eam multum terrenæ fæcis habere^b.

When we have looked a little behind Sandbach, and taken notice of Arclid, a little township, and of Smethwick; which township and house, in that of an ancient continuance, gave name to the Smethwicks, there to this day continuing, and yet in the possession of William Smethwick, esquire, a man much beloved and well respected; we turn again to follow our Whelock-water, which after it hath shewed at Wintley, a good part thereof the lands of George Vernon, esquire, and Moulton, we go by Eltworth, in which Mr. Raven hath a new fair house.

And then holding still by our river side, wherein the Fulbrook-water meeteth it, we step over into that goodly lordship of Warmingham, where lies a spacious demaine, large farms, fine rents, parish-church, and all now belonging to Crewe-hall before-mentioned; and by purchase, the possession of the said sir Randall Crewe, of which they are all not a little glad, the said sir Randall being patron of the rectory there.

And here again we approach to Weever side, upon which are situate two great lordships; the one Occleston, and the other Wimboldsley, in which are freeholders of the Venables, and of the Kinseys; and near unto these, lies a member of Minshall, but distinguished by the name of Minshall Vernon, by some owner anciently of that house of the Vernons, a goodly extent of farms, and of pastures, and of woods, which have been purposely nourished, for Wich-woods; and the possession of that now, as I take it, belongs to one of the Warburtons, a gentleman born in Cheshire, but dwelling in Hampshire.

But to look a little eastward again, there lies Lay, a

^b These verses are incorrectly quoted from a Norman poet, Henry d'Avranches, who introduces them as follows, when speaking of this beverage in terms of no ordinary reprobation, and it may be added of no ordinary grossness:

Nescio quod Stygiæ monstrum conforme paludi
Cervisiam perique vocant; nil spissius illa

Dum bibitur, nil clarins est dum mingitur, onde
Constat quod multas fæces in ventre relinquit.

fine house, and a spacious demayn, the lands of William Brereton of Ashley, esquire; and next to that Clive or Cleave, a great precinct, near unto which is situate a demean and fair old house, called the Nun-house, that was anciently belonging to sir Thomas Holford, and now the lands of Thomas Marbury of Marbury, esquire.

From thence we still follow the Weever-course, towards the furthest acute point of this Hundred, only noting the places on the bank of it on the east side, which are first Warton, a fruitful vein of land; and so we come to Eaton, a lordship of sir William Brereton, and then we see the church and parish of Davenham or Daneham, for it takes name of Dane the river, which now on the other side of this church approacheth with all speed, hastening to meet with Weever. In which Davenham, we observe a good, fair, and most ancient built church, with a spire steeple to be seen far every way; and just by it a great parsonage, now in the hands of the reverend dean of Chester; the patron whereof is that honourable knight and baronet sir Thomas Savage, often and most worthy to be remembered.

And not far from hence, the seat of the Holfords, of Davenham, gentlemen of good worth and a very ancient descent, deriving themselves from sir George Holford, of Holford, knight, who were seated there by marriage of one of the daughters and heirs of Brett, ancient gentlemen of that parish; whereof there is an ancient monument of alabaster in a chapel of that church: another of the same co-heirs was married to Mr. Wich, of Alderley.

Betwixt this and the Northwich lies the township, with a fair house and demesne; whereof the owner Ralph Leftwich, esquire, hath continued the same name of the place of great antiquity; yet now by the heir-general of his heir, is like to pass into another name; to wit, William Oldfield, esquire; which house hath also a chapel and burial place in the same church.

We must needs take a little pains to retire back again, that on the other side of Wheelock-water, we may proceed where we left, to fetch the view of the middle parts of this Hundred on both sides of Dane.

To pass by the lordships of Tecton and Moston, next to Elton, where we left, which are members of Warmincham; we see next Bradwal, a seat anciently of the Beringtons, and now a possession of one of the Oldfields, a gentleman obtaining the same lately by marrying the daughter of Berington; and so we pass along that famous mere, called the Bagmere, being very large and deep; and from it runs a water called Croco, which quickly hastens to increase the Dane: If here I should either pass in silence, or call in question that common report of the trees in the pool, which are said to lift up themselves into sight above the water, before such time as any heir of the house of the Breretons, the owner thereof dieth, I should be thought too nice and strict in giving way to the current of all writers, and too injurious to the wonder-tellers of all ages: But I profess a love to truth, and by such enquiry as I have made, I could never learn, that the worthy knights and owners themselves of that great seat have much regarded that observation, but rather thought (as for my own part I do), that the rising sometime of those trees, is for the time merely accidental, and for the signification nothing at all, but even as other the like bulks and bodies of wood, or earth, or other substance, that lie floating in deep waters, which by winds or other natural motions

do stir, are diversly raised or depressed; so these, at some time are so carried by some natural cause, not so fully appearing to mens understanding. And if once or twice in many ages such an accident fall out, at, or before the death of an heir, as easily it may come to pass, this hath more force to give wings unto such a flying report, than ten experiences to the contrary shall ever call in again. To say nothing, that Christian faith and religion teacheth the heirs of that, and of every other noble house, that as they want not predictions every day and hour that they live, to tell them that they shall die, so must they never look for such a privilege, as to have a messenger to tell them the certain time when it shall be.

But I stay too long upon this; I could wish, that those trees may lie long unseen, so that we still see the worthy owner of that magnificent place, sir William Brereton, knight, to continue still a worthy governor in his country; a man whom the world acknowledgeth to have spent his study, his care, his years, even now to a full maturity, in the upright managing of the great affairs of the country, both for the military forces, and for the political government, with admirable commendation and singular integrity.

I might speak of the stately house of Brereton, being one of the finest compleat buildings of brick in this county. But to pass it over, hasting to other places, having first told you, that Brereton being a parish, the said sir William Brereton is patron thereof.

To pass over those great spacious heaths and commons, that lie every way dispersed in this part of the Hundred, which as they have in long continuances been cropt and snipt round about their borders on every side, so the industry of future ages, and populousness of all places, if it should increase as it hath done, would bring them in time to a narrower compass. We come next to the parish of Austbury, a goodly church with a lofty spire steeple, and the west porch of it as high as the church itself.

In the church-yard are two very ancient monuments of stone, being the sepulchres of knights, whose portraitures lie upon them; their escutchions have barres, which may, for ought can be known, except the colours were known, be ascribed to the ancestors of the Breretons, Venables, or Mainwarings, though there be also some others that put in claims to them.

This parish of Austbury extendeth far, and to the precincts thereof appertain many of those houses of note, which we have already, and shall yet mention in this view.

The goodly parsonage also we may not omit, which hath for seat a very ancient convenient house, even just at the east end of the church-yard; the rectory there having been of a long time as it were, busied in other affairs, now begins to prepare herself for the entertainment of her worthy incumbent, Mr. archdeacon Dod before mentioned, in Nantwich Hundred, who are like shortly to have a glad meeting to rejoice more sweetly together for ever hereafter.

This parish also boasts itself to be mother of Congleton or Congerton, from the ancient name of Antoninus, of Condate. Which town of Congleton being a fine frequented market, and situate upon the river Dane, and another smaller brook there, called Howtie, hath been long of great estimation, and graced with the dignity of a mayor and six aldermen for their government; and they have had a handsome chapel in the town, though they acknowledge Austbury their parish-church.

And hence we purpose to take direction at this stream of Dane, to lead us unto the view of the rest of this Hundred. Beyond Walfield lieth the water called Dane-Inch. Stepping over to the north side of the Dane, we will now bend our course westerly, and first take view of Radnor, the name of a fair lordship, and which gave name to an ancient family now extinct, and from whence it came to the Wilbrahams, of Woodhay, and is since that dispersed unto other owners.

We come next to Sommerford, a fine lordship, and pleasant seat of an ancient descent of that name, but now by marriage with the heir-general thereof, possessed by a worthy well-qualified gentleman, Philip Oldfield, esquire, the son of Philip Oldfield, a late industrious and learned lawyer of this county; within this is also a fair house and demesne of another ancient descent of gentlemen of the Swetenhams, enjoyed now by Edmund Swetenham, esquire.

And these gentlemen it seems had their names from the next neighbouring parish, called Swetenham, which stands upon the same side of the Dane, and hath a little church and a rectory by it, being a good benefice, in the gift of sir John Davenport, knight. And there we think good to step over Dane in the demesne of Davenport, and take notice of those places which lie betwixt this river and the Croco, till we come to the meeting places of those two waters. The first whereof is the seat and scite of Davenport, vulgarly Davenport, a most ancient possession of the Davenports, knights, and esquires of good account; the present owner whereof is sir John Davenport, knight, who in anno 1617, being high sheriff of the county, and performing his service and duty to his excellent majesty here in his highness progress, at his taking leave in the confines of the county, his majesty not only gave him thanks for his attendance, but of his royal benignity, called him to come near him, and bestowed upon him the degree of knighthood, and graced him with a pleasant princely farewell, *You shall carry me this token to your wife*, graciously so meant by his majesty; but the gentlewoman having indeed before that attained to a better ladyship, being gone to her Lord and Saviour in heaven.

To discourse here whether all the many great and ancient descents of the name of Davenports, so plentiful in this county, had their first originals from this house, is a task which I am not well furnished for.

Holding our course then full west, we come next to Holme's Chapel, alias Church-hulme, which is a member of the parish of Sandbach, and a place well known by the church in the same, and also by the situation, being a baiting-place in the great road-way out of Lancashire towards London; and where also that bridge is built by John Needham, esq. whose heir, now sir Robert Needham, of Shavington, in the county of Salop, knight, hath here a demesne and fair lands in this lordship.

And next to this we come to Cotton, a seat of an ancient descent of the same name, the heirs thereof now in minority, to which adjoineth Sprouston, a member of that great fee, so called of Kinderton. And in this Sprouston, there is of the Trevits, and some other freeholders, charterers to Kinderton. And because that a fair demean lies here in sight, though on the other side of the Dane, we will note it as we go, and that is Bilegh, belonging to Peter Shakerley, of Hulme, esq. and so we come to the said Kinderton, that ancient barony, who only of all the rest of the barons of the earls of Chester, since the Norman Conquest, have continued in

a successive line of the heirs males, and even lately when it was at the point of failing, and even likely in all men's account to have been transplanted, it pleased God in his providence to raise a successor of the same stem, who at this present is a towardly young gentleman, Peter Venables, esq. baron of Kinderton, who, though scarce out of his minority, is likely to replenish the same (if God will) with a fruitful increase of his race, having an heir male by a daughter of sir Richard Wilbraham, of Woodhey, knight and baronet. To speak of the large extent of this fee and barony, and how many knights, esquires, and gentlemen, hold lands, and do service to the court there holden, were now beside my purpose, though it would tend much to the dignity of that great lordship.

It is neighboured by the second town of the Hundred, another of the famous Wiches, and by reason of the situation between the other two called Middlewich, being a market town, and in the same two brine seeths, or salt-pits, and great store of salt there is made, and vended into parts both near and remote.

The church there is a very fair one, the parish extending itself into many townships round about; the chancel lately re-edified by sir William Brereton, knight, patron of the rectory there. In which church is a fair chapel, and peculiar burial place of that great race of the Venables.

And in another part thereof, the ancient name of the Buckleys, as is probable by some ancient glass windows yet there remaining.

Through this town runs the Croco, and now upon the far side of it, we will take with us the view of Newton, a township on the west-side of Middlewich, and a member of it. And then more northerly of Stanthorn, wherein is an ancient seat and descent of the Walleys of Stanthorn; and next to it Bostock, anciently Bostock, a seat of knights of that name, which by a daughter came afterwards to a more famous name, and yet remaineth the inheritance of the honourable sir Thomas Savage, knight and baronet; yet it may not be amiss to give you here Mr. Cambden's note, That out of this house of Bostock sprung a goodly number of the same name in Cheshire, Shropshire, Berkshire, and elsewhere.

But now we must again step over the Croco, even there where meeting with the Dane it loseth its name of Croco, and yet gives name to Croxton, an ancient seat of one race of the Mainwarings, by an heir-general of whom it is now come to the possession of Michael, another son of Philip Oldfield, esq. the lawyer, whom formerly we mentioned; and to another descent of gentlemen of long continuance, and owners of a fine house and demesne called Croxton, of Ravenscroft, which place also hath given name to a worshiptful family, who though they have some lands, still their inheritance, near hereunto, yet are planted in Flintshire, and near unto the city of Chester, being now called the Ravenscrofts of Bretton.

Now while we are here, it is good to take with us the view of Lees, a township that lies as a member of Bilegh before mentioned; and of Crannadge, a township, that next unto the bridge we spake of at Hulme's-chapel, extends itself to that ancient seat (the name speaks that) called the Hermitage; howsoever of old getting the name from the use that then it was put unto, of some holy man's solitary retire, yet now serves to better purpose, having a goodly demesne lying to it, and being lately the inheritance of Hugh Win-

nington, esq. and is now frequently visited, not as an hermitage for superstitious devotion, but as an oracle for counsel and advice, how poor clients may with most safety and ease compose suits and troubles; wherein that gentleman the owner, as well for his great experience in the practick proceedings of law causes, as for his singular humanity and gentleness, was very famous; his son and heir is Laurence Winnington.

Near unto which lies Twemlow, and therein an ancient seat of the Booths, of Twemlow, gentlemen, and so we pass into that spacious precinct of Rudheath, a wide common, containing a large circuit, and which hath in old time had a sanctuary in it, with privileges thereunto, such as, howsoever intended by those founders in pity and compassion to poor offenders that had casually fallen into criminal facts, yet in the abuse of them provoked to be an encouragement to wilful and desperate transgressors, and therefore justly demolished. This Rudheath is bordered about by divers great demesnes, and by houses of gentlemen of great place; the first whereof towards the east part of it is Carringham, and Barnshaw, two houses and demesnes of that one fruitful offspring of the Mainwairings, called Mainwairing of Carringham, a race of very great account; and the possessor thereof, now Henry Mainwairing, esq. a very worthy gentleman.

From thence we may see Gostrey Chapel, a great township, in which is an ancient seat of the Eatons, called Eatons of Blagden, now possessed by Jo. Eaton, gentleman; this chapelry belongs to Sandbach.

And so we will retire back to the west-side of Rudheath again, because we will not lose the sight of our former guide the Dane, till it bring us to the furthest point of this Hundred, and where it yields up name and stream and all into Weever.

First then from behind Ravenscroft, where we were, even now, passing along by Wretton, and by Whatcroft; where we may note the goodly demesne of Drakelowes, now in possession of the heirs of the house of Woodhey. We leave Shurlach upon our right hand, wherein are some freeholders and other good farmers, we come nearer Dane, and take a view of Shipbroke, which as it once gave name to a barony of one of the barons of the earls of Chester, so still it boasts no less at this day to have an owner, that is, and is like to be, of greater degree than they were; the honourable sir Thomas Savage formerly mentioned.

And now where this wedding is kept between Weever and Dane, the one as the groom, embracing the other in his bosom as his bride, and uniting both names into

that one of Weever, we see Northwich, the third of those salt-making Wiches, so renowned for that commodity, a very ancient town, as the buildings and situation may well testify. The chief lordship whereof appertains to the right honourable the earl of Derby, a market-town well frequented, gives name to the Hundred, and seated so near the midst of the county, and so well for travel every way, that it seems fit, and is oft allotted to the meetings of the chief governors in the county, for their great affairs. One street thereof, called Wytton, yields obedience to the fee and barony of Kinderton, the chief owner of them, and the whole town, within the chapelry, for so they term it, though it have a very fair church called Wytton, the name of that lordship, mounted aloft upon a bank, that overviews the town of Northwich, and is their church, though a member, as I take it, of great Budworth parish.

There is also a free grammar-school, endowed with good lands, founded by sir John Dayn, priest, born in Shurlach, a little before-mentioned, who was parson of one of the St. Bartholomews in London; and amongst other lands gave unto this school the Saracen's Head in the city of Chester.

Let us pass on to Wincham next adjoining, where there is a seat of the Harcourts of that place, now in the possession of Richard Harcourt, esquire, whose name, of great account in many shires, may shew his ancient descent.

And so passing on through the lordship of Lostock, vulgarly Lostock Gralam, we come presently to Holford, a stately house, and lately the seat of the great and worshipful race of the Holfords; whereof the last owner, Christopher Holford, esquire, left no issue-male, and so the same descended to his only daughter and heir, the lady Mary Cholmley, late wife of the last sir Hugh Cholmley, deceased, and father now to the noble baronet sir Robert Cholmley; a lady of great worth, dignity, and revenue.

Along this lordship runs the river Peever Eye, which hath given name to two great lordships, Nether Peever, the parochial chapel whereof, belonging to Great Budworth, is within this Hundred, and part of the township is in Bucklow Hundred; and Over Peever, in Bucklow Hundred, which we shall see more fully when we come again to the same water's other side; and so casting an eye upon the goodly demesnes, lands, spacious moss, called Holford Moss, and great farms in Lostock, belonging to the said seat of Holford, we have finished our walk through this Hundred of Northwich.

PAROCHIAL TOPOGRAPHY.

Church-Lawton Parish.

"LAUTUNE," before and after the Conquest, was divided into two unequal portions; both of which were possessed by Godric in the time of the Confessor, and both became the property of Hugo de Mara, and occur together in the Domesday survey as follows. It may however be doubted whether one of these references does not refer to the neighbouring township of Buglawton.

Hugo (de Mara) tenet de comite Lautune; Godric tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est III carucarum; wasta est; silva ibi una leuvâ longa, et unâ lata; et una acra prati: Tempore R. Edwardi, valebat XVI solidos.

Hugo tenet de comite Lantune; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est III carucarum: wasta est: silva ibi una leuvâ longa, et unâ lata: Tempore R. Edwardi valebat XX solidos.

This Hugo de Mara or Fitz-Norman, who was the founder of the barony of Montalt, gave Lawton to the abbey of St. Werburgh in Chester. The gift is recited in the general confirmation charter by earl Richard^a, and was confirmed to the said abbey by Roger de Montalt^b.

In the reign of Henry III. *one moiety* of this township was possessed by a family which bore the local name, who occur in the chartulary of St. Werburgh, in numerous grants to the abbots of St. Werburgh, their superior lords. Among these grants are specified half the manerial site, the tithes and offerings, land for the abbot to make a foss in for the protection of his buildings, and other minor donations. Adam de Lawton, of this family, occurs in the time of abbot Walter (Pincebeck); William, son of William de Lawton, his grandson, in the time of abbot Roger (Frend); and Ranulph, brother of this William, in the time of abbot Thomas (Capenhurst). This Ranulph had a daughter and heiress, Cecilia, wife of Roger de Crosslegli, to whose issue the estates of her family appear to have descended.

With respect to the *other moiety* (which must also have been held under Chester abbey), it appears from a laboured pedigree of the Davenports, drawn from original evidences (Harl. MSS. 2119), that Robert de

Davenport, younger son of Vivian de Davenport, settled on lands in Lawton, 56 Hen. III. and assumed the local name. The pedigree states him to be ancestor of the Lawtons of Lawton, and the assertion is borne out strongly by the armorial bearings of the Lawtons, which differ only from those of Davenport in the substitution of a fesse charged with a cinquefoil for the Davenport chevron.

There is nevertheless a chasm from this period to the reign of Henry VI. when the Lawton pedigree commences, and proceeds in an unbroken chain.

The capital rights continued vested in the abbot of Chester, who in his plea 31 Edw. III. claims to have court-leet and view of frank-pledge at his manor house of Lawton, and had free warren in his demesne lands here, by grant from Edw. I.

After the dissolution, the manor and the patronage of the church were purchased from the crown 33 Hen. VIII. by William Lawton of Lawton^d.

Inq. p. m. 6 Edw. VI. William Lawton, gent. held the manor of Lawton, with court-leet and free-warren in the same, and the advowson of the church of Church-Lawton from the king in capite by military service as the twentieth part of a knight's fee, and the render of XXIVS. per ann. val. XI. XS. VIIIID. also lands in Lawton and Alsager, val. XL. XIS. He died Dec. 28, 5 Edw. VI. John Lawton son and heir.

The annexed pedigree brings down the descent of property from this period to the present time. A court-leet and court-baron are held for the manor^e.

Lawton-hall is a handsome and spacious building of brick; the offices are disposed as wings. In front of the house is a sheet of artificial water, and the grounds extend to the parish church at the back of the mansion. The natural surface of the country in the immediate neighbourhood possesses considerable undulations, and in the distance of a very few miles rises into the wild chain of hills which form the boundary of the county. The appearance of the greater part of these are naked and monotonous, but the view is agreeably varied with a wooded hill in Staffordshire on the right, and the artificial ruins and plantations on Mole Cop on the other side of the prospect.

^a Vol. I. p. 17.

^b Harl. MSS. 1965. 24. Chartulary of St. Werburgh. In the index to this Chartulary, Lawton is not placed in Norwych (Northwich) but Wych (Nantwich) Hundred.

^c P. 36.

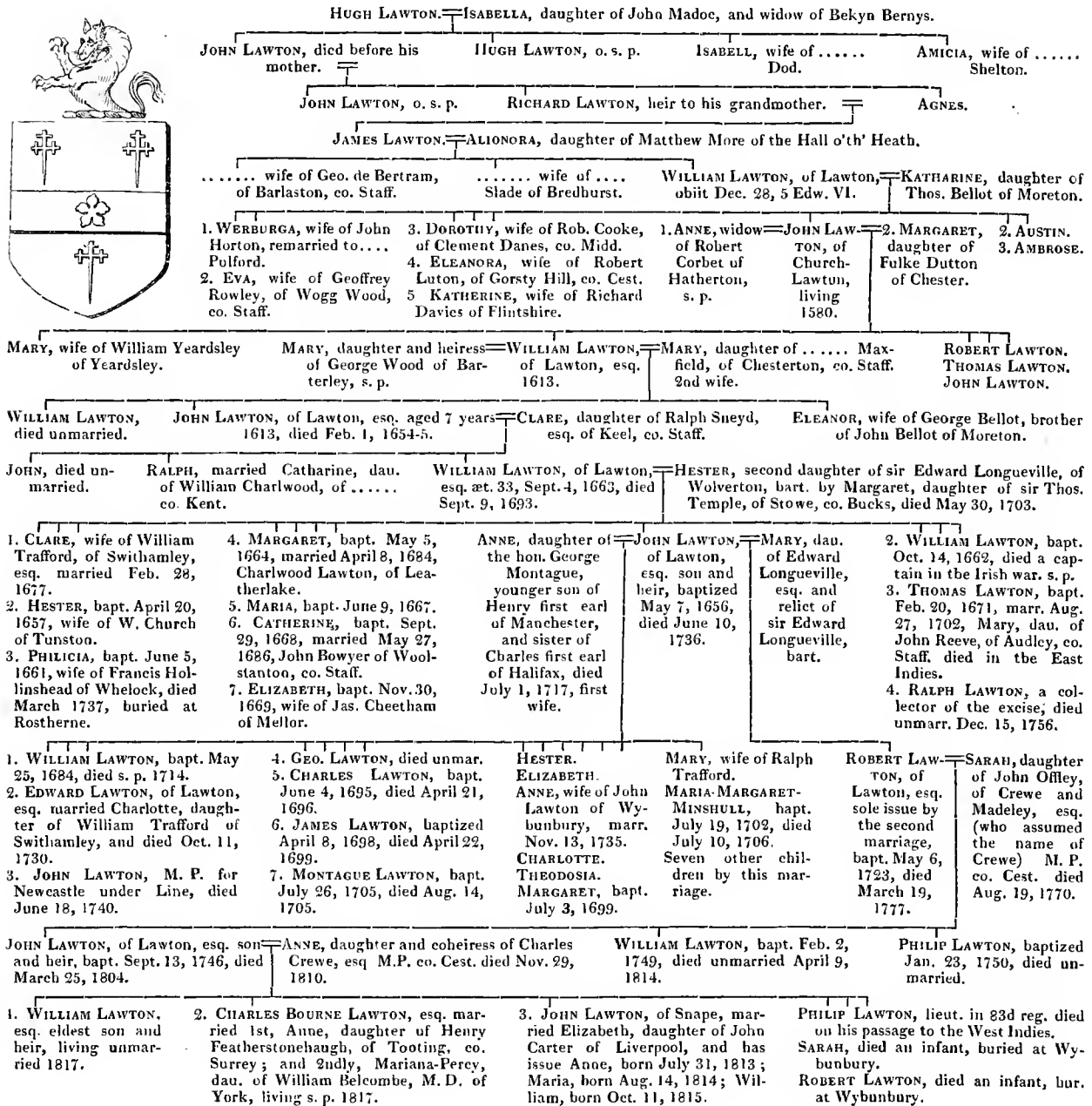
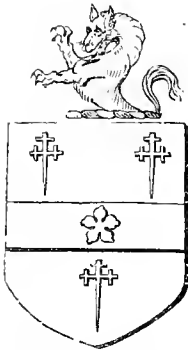
^d Williamson Vill. Cest.

^e Information of C. B. Lawton, esq.

LAWTON OF LAWTON.

From a pedigree roll by Dugdale, collated with Booth's pedigrees, and continued from the information of the family and the Lawton registers.

ARMS. Argent, a fesse Sable between three cross crosslets of the second, on the fesse a cinquefoil Argent.
 CREST. On a wreath a demi-wolf rampant Argent, licking a wound in the right shoulder.



CHURCH.

Ded. to All Saints.

Omitted in the Tax. Eccl. Val. Eccl. £47. 7s. 6d.

The descent of the advowson of this church has been already given in the account of the manor. The church itself has been rebuilt in a plain manner with brick, with the exception of the tower, which is of stone, and

embattled, and an antient semicircular doorway on the south side, enriched with mouldings in a style of early Norman architecture. The site of the building is at a short distance from Lawton-hall, on a circular mount, which has every appearance of being artificial. In the chancel are memorials of J. Cartwright of Lee-hall in this parish, and of Charles Shaw, rector of Lawton.

RECTORS OF LAWTON.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1306, 16 Jan.	Willielmus del Meles.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	
1336, 12 kal. Nov.	Willielmus de Tamworth. Johannes.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	P. m. Will. del Meles
1349, 2 id. Sept.	Ricardus de Chiswell.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	P. m. Johannis, ult. R.
1369.	Thomas Craven, pr'br.		

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1377, 6 Aug.	Johannes de Hallm, pr'br. Johannes Backford.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	
1404.	Johannes Horsley, cap.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	P. res. Jo. Backford.
1407, 6 Feb.	Elias de Wever, cap.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	
1411.	Willielmus Drap.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	
1435, 5 April.	Willielmus Hildich, cl'us.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	
1438, 23 April.	Thomas Colley, pr'br.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	P. m. Will. Hildich.
1455, 16 Sept.	Johannes Marleston, cap.	Ven. vir Jo. Downe de Utkinton, arm. hac vice.	P. m. Tho. Colley.
1469, ult. April.	Henricus Marleston, cap.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	P. m. Jo. Marleston.
1478, 14 Oct.	Johannes Hanner.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	P. res. Hen. Marleston.
1481, 28 Mart.	Ranulphus Vawdrey.		P. m. Jo. Hanner.
1499, 23 Sept.	Johannes Brooke, cap. John Bybber.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	P. m. Ran. Vawdrey.
1555, 22 Jnne.	Richard Byrche.	John Lawton.	D. of John Bybber.
1559 ante.	William Lawton.		
1583, 10 Jan.	William Lawton. Ralph Sillitoe. William Uxsham.	John Lawton, esq.	D. of last incumb.
1674, 15 June.	Joseph Hall.	William Lawton.	Cess. of Will. Uxsham.
1679, 25 Aug.	George Grey, A. M.	William Lawton.	D. of Joseph Hall.
1682, 6 Oct.	John Latham.	William Lawton.	Cess. of Jo. Grey.
1705, 20 Oct.	Charles Shaw.	John Lawton.	D. of John Latham.
1733, 23 April.	John Rowlands, A. M.	John Lawton, esq.	D. of Charles Shaw.
1743, 17 Nov.	Nathaniel Hudd, LL.B.	Robert Lawton, esq.	D. of John Rowlands.
1744, 21 March.	John Ley, A. B.	Robert Lawton, esq.	Res. of Nath. Hudd, LL.B.
1757, 4 May.	Charles Shaw, A. B.	Robert Lawton, esq.	D. of John Ley.
1777, 4 March.	Charles Crewe, A. B.	Robert Lawton, esq.	D. of Charles Shaw.
1782, 27 Dec.	Lancaster Wetenhall.	John Lawton, esq.	Cess. of Charles Crewe.

To this list may be added, on the authority of the chartulary of St. Werburgh, Willielmus, presbyter, called also Will's fil. Will'i, capellanus, who occurs in a composition with Simon abbot of St. Werburgh relative to the tithes of Lawton.

The following burials of rectors appear in the regis-

ters. William Lawton, Jan. 27, 1640. Ralph Sillitoe, Aug. 30, 1662. Joseph Hall, Aug. 10, 1679. John Latham, Jan. 5, 1705. Charles Shaw, June 24, 1732. John Ley, Feb. 23, 1757. Charles Shaw, Jan. 6, 1777. The registers commence in 1559.

Astbury Parish.

ASTBURY Parish is seated at the eastern extremity of the Hundred, on the edge of Staffordshire, and contains eleven townships. In this hundred are, Newbold Astbury, Congleton, Buglawton, Great Morcton, or Moreton cum Alcumlow, Odrode, Smallwood, Somerford cum Radnor, and Davenport. In the parliamentary returns Radnor is improperly described as a distinct township, being mized with Somerford, and under the jurisdiction of that constablewick.

In Macclesfield hundred, Astbury contains Eaton, Hulme-Walfield, and Somerford Booths^a.

NEWBOLD ASTBURY.

THIS township, which gives name to the populons and extensive parish in which it is included, is surveyed in Domesday under the name of Newbold^b.

Gislebertus Venator (Venables of Kinderton) tenet de comite Neubold: Ulviet tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida et dimidia geldabilis: terra est v carucarum; ibi unus Radman habet unam carucam; et presbyter unam carucam, et iii villani et ii bordarii; ibi una acra prati: silva una lenva longa et tantundem lata:

et ii haia ibi. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos, modo viii solidos.

From one particular of this survey, the notice of the Haiæ, it appears probable that the Earl's forests of Leek and Macclesfield extended, in the reign of the Conqueror, into the precincts of this township.

The next circumstance connected with this place, is the fact of its giving name to an illegitimate nephew of Randle Blundeville, who is noticed by sir Peter Ley-

^a The original parish certainly comprehended also the present parish of BRERETON, and most probably those of LAWTON and SWETTENHAM: all these churches are omitted in the Ecclesiastical Taxation of Pope Nicholas, and pay small pensions to the rector of Astbury.

^b It appears that the *vill* was originally called Newbold, and that the name of Astbury related to the parish and the parochial church seated in Newbold. The names are afterwards sometimes applied jointly to the township, and sometimes separately, and in some instances Newbold and Newbold Astbury occur in the Inquisitions as denoting distinct portions of the township.

cester in an addition to his account of the illegitimate children of Hugh Kevelioc, subjoined in the note below^b.

Of the descendants of RANDLE DE ASTBURY, who possessed an interest in this township, sometimes termed manerial, the following particulars have occurred.

9 Edw. III. The services of John de Astbury, and of Margery, widow of William de Astbury, are included in a fine levied by William de Baggilegh and Rose his wife^c. The descent of this John will be found in Somerford. His daughter and heir (or coheir) Margery married Thomas Somerford of Somerford, who enfeoffed Randle Ford, chaplain, vicar of Sandbach, of his manors of Somerford and Astbury, 48 E. III.^d

The same Thomas and Margery, 34 E. III. obtained lands, messuages, and woods, in Astbury and Newbold, from Richard, son of Richard de Brodocke and Isabel his wife^e.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. John Somerford of Somerford, esq. died seized of lands in Astbury and Newbold Astbury 19 Eliz. Mary Somerford (afterwards wife of sir Philip Oldfield, in her right, of Somerford) was found heir by this inquisition; but, 29 Eliz. Gilbert Domville of Lymme, who married the widow of John Somerford, joined with his wife in passing her interest in the manors of Somerford and Astbury to Thomas Brooke, esq. for £500.^f

In a villare of Northwich hundred, written in 1672^g, Archdale Palmer, esq. is said to be lord of Astbury, by a late purchase from Mr. Oldfield. This was obviously the Somerford interest in Astbury: whether it was united by purchase to the interest which the Egertons possessed in this township, or fell into disuse, does not appear, but it is now unknown.

The present manor of Astbury, possessed by the Egertons of Oulton, seems to be the manerial interest formerly vested in the Egertons of Wrinehill, to whom it passed in marriage from the Hawkestones; and to have been the same with the estate originally granted out by the barons of Kinderton to the collateral line of their family.

RICHARD DE VENABLES, who appears to have been of this branch, by deed without date, of the time of king John or Henry III. quitclaims to Hamon Venables, the supposed ancestor of the Leighs of West Hall, "totum jus et totum clameum meum de pueris Hugonis de Merston," for five shillings. Seal, a warrior holding a long Norman sword in his right hand, and in his left a shield emblazoned with an escarboucle. Signill — di de Venables.

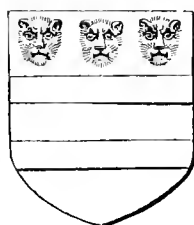
27 Edw. I. William Venables of Newbold, who had advanced a claim to the advowson of Astbury, passes his right in the same, by fine, to the abbot of St. Wer-

burgh, on the Thursday before Easter, in the presence of Reginald Grey, Just. and others, in consideration of the payment of £20, and a release from 50 marks.^h

30 Edw. I. Sir Hugh Venables grants to William de Venables de Newbold the services of Peter de Astbury and others, his tenants in Astburyⁱ.

14 Edw. II. William Venables of Newbold and Alice his wife obtain from Randle de Bradford, clerk, the manor of Newbold for their lives, remainder to Richard son of William and Joan his wife and their heirs, remainder to Thomas, son of William Venables, and Maud his wife and their heirs; remainder to William son of William Venables and his heirs, remainder to the right heirs of William^k.

15 Edw. III. Richard de Venables de Newbold grants to William his son and Werburga his wife, daughter of Geoffry de Burne, and the heirs of their bodies, three messuages in Newbold, and five marks rent issuing therefrom, dated anno 15 Edw. III. Seal appendant, a heater-shaped shield charged with two bars, and three leopard's heads in chief. Inscription gone^l.



These are the arms yet remaining on the shield of one of the warriors, whose effigy lies at the side of the long controverted monument in the church-yard of this parish; and the question, as to what family those figures must be appropriated, may be considered decided by the discovery of this deed.

It does not appear how the manor of Astbury passed from this family; but the Hawkestones were the next proprietors. 44 E. III. Thomas de Hawkstone and Ellen his wife, obtained from Adam de Drayton the manors of Smallwood and Newbold subter Lymam^m. Thomas, son of Thomas de Hawkeston, levied a fine of the manor of Newbold Astbury, 44 Edw. III.ⁿ; and 8 Ric. II. sir John Hawkston held the manor of Astbury, Newbold, and Mykill Moreton, val. £20, by the service of one knight's fee^o. Ellen, daughter and heir of sir John Hawkstone, according to the Cheshire pedigrees, brought the estates of her family in marriage to William Egerton of Caldecote^p, ancestor of the Egertons of Wrinehill.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. V. William, son of Ralph Egerton, held, inter alia, the manor of Newbold Astbury from Hugh Venables, baron of Kinderton, by military service, val. per ann. £xx.

Inq. p. m. 31 H. VI. Roger de Egerton held, inter alia, the manor of Newbold.

Inq. p. m. 21 H. VII. Hugh Egerton held, inter alia,

^b The annexed account of Randle de Estbury is given (as above mentioned) among the additions to sir Peter Leycester's Cheshire Antiquities, with reference to the account of the base issue of Hugh Cyveliok, see vol. I. p. 29, but appears most proper for insertion here.

"It seems that Hugh Cyveliok, earl of Chester, had either another base son or daughter, not there mentioned, as appears by this following deed, the original whereof is now in possession of Somerford Oldfield, of Somerford in Cheshire, esquire, 1672.

"Sciant omnes tam presentes quam futuri, quod ego Nicolaus de Verdon concessi et hac presentem chartam meam confirmavi Siwardo filio Siwardi totam illam terram in Bidulf, quam de Johanne de Lindele tenet, cum bosco et cum omnibus aliis aisiamentis et libertatibus eidem terrae pertinentibus, sicut charta predicti Johannis testatur: sed predictus Siwardus non dabit predictam terram nec hospitalariis nec templariis nisi licentiam predicti Nicolai vel heredum suorum: pro hac autem concessione prefatus Siwardus dedit predicto Nicolao unam marcam argenti, et homagium suum, et annuatim octo sagittas barbatus ad natale Domini. Hiis testibus, Davide de Malo passu, Willielmo filio ejus, Radulpho de Estbury nepote comitis Cestriae, et multis aliis.

"Where we find plainly, that Randle of Estbury was nephew to the earl of Chester: and this was Randle the Third, surnamed Blundevill, who was then earl of Chester.

"And it is not probable that this Randle de Estbury was nephew to the earl by any of his four sister and coheirs; for then she would have had another sir-name, and have been subscribed before the other two witnesses. Wherefore it seems that he had a sister illegitimate, married to Estbury, who was mother to this Randle of Estbury, and so was nephew to earl Randle; or else a base brother, surnamed de Estbury, who was father to this Randle of Estbury, nephew to the earl of Chester.

"And therefore Hugh Cyveliok, earl of Chester, had another base daughter, omitted in the place aforesaid; or else another base son." P. L.

^c Williamson's Collections. See Somerford Booths.

^d Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^e Williamson's Collections, p. 26.

^f Ibid. p. 89.

^g Harl. MSS. 2010.

^h Venables' Chartulary, Tabley MSS. lib. H. 8.; *ibid.* 72 and 197; and Williamson's Fines, p. 3.

ⁱ Ibid. 73.

^k Williamson's Fines, p. 13.

^l Venables' Chartulary, as before. Deed 104.

^m Viz. adjacent to the limes, or boundary of the palatinate on the English border.

ⁿ Williamson's Fines.

^o Williamson, Vill. Cest.

^p Wotton's Baronetage, I. 273.

the manors of Newbold and Astbury and Smallwood, valued together at £20; John, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. VIII. John Egerton, esq. died seized, inter alia, of the said manors, valued together at £.xl. Elizabeth and Isabel Egerton, and Hugh Willobie, son of Elen, one of his daughters, next of kin and heirs. Elizabeth, aged 25 years; Isabel 21: and Hugh Willobie, 6 years.

Another inquisition, taken 17 H. VIII. confirms this inquisition; but intermediately, by inquisition 10 Hen. VIII. Randle Egerton was found to have died seized of these manors, leaving John his son and heir; and by inquisition 21 Hen. VIII. John Egerton is found to have died seized of them, leaving Ralph his son and heir.

A partition probably took place shortly after these contradictory inquisitions, as Smallwood certainly passed to the Willoughbys, and Astbury continued vested in the Egertons of Wrinehill.

3 and 4 Phil. and Mar. Ottiwell Shallcross obtained of sir Ralph Egerton, a mill and messuages and lands, cum pertinentiis in Newbold Astbury.

38 Eliz. Edward Egerton passed over the manor of Newbold Astbury, and 60 messuages, to John Egerton, esq.

This Edward Egerton was son and heir of sir Ralph Egerton of Wrinehill. John Egerton of Egerton, esq. to whom he devised his estates, was knighted in 1599, and died in 1614. The first inquisition taken after his decease finds him to have died seized of the manors of Wrinehill, Heywoodbarnes, and Newbold Astbury, and three mills, 60 messuages, 60 gardens, 4050 acres, and £10 rent, in these manors and Checkley. All these estates had passed to him by the bequest of Edward Egerton.

The manor of Newbold Astbury is at present the property of sir John Grey Egerton of Egerton and Oul-

ton, bart. to whose ancestor it was probably allotted by family settlement, when Egerton and other estates passed to them from the elder line of Egerton, of Egerton, to whom, as has been shewn, the Egertons of Wrinehill devised it. A court is held for the manor.

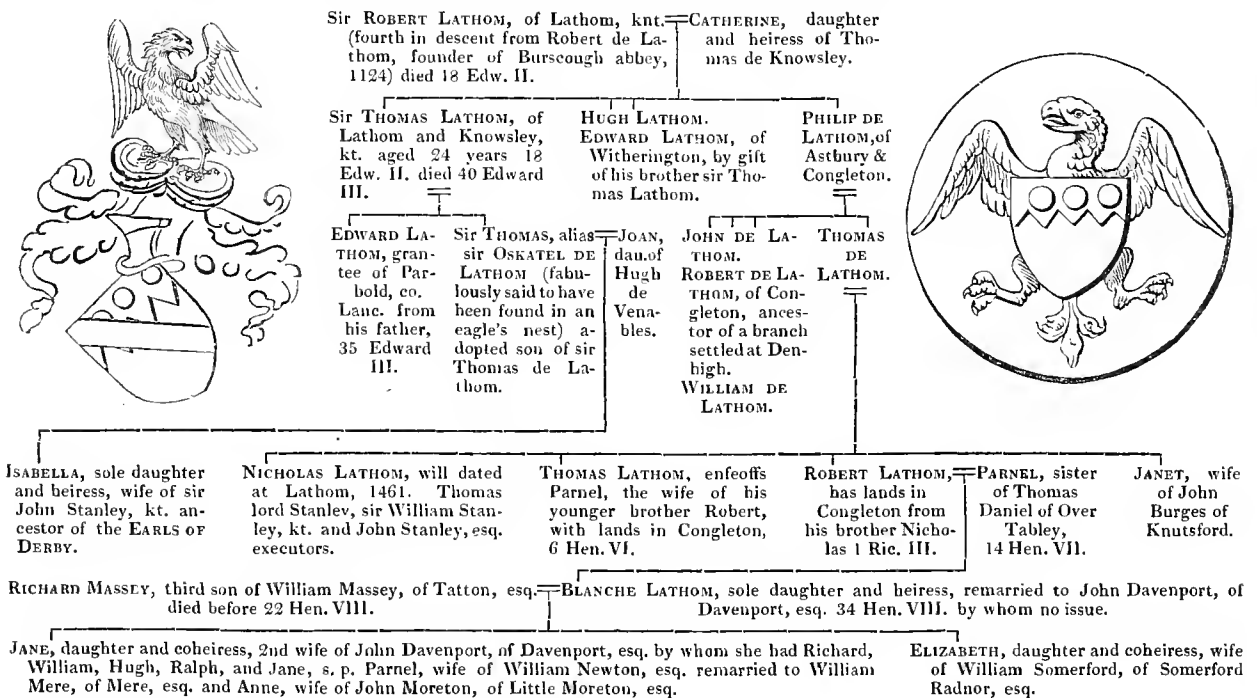
Among the following church-notes will be found some antient memorials of a family not included among those who have been already mentioned, the LATHOMS OF ASTBURY, a younger branch of the Lathoms of Lathom and Knowsley in Lancashire. It appears, from the Venables pedigree, that sir Thomas, alias sir Oskatel de Lathom, the celebrated foundling, from whose daughter the earls of Derby inherit their crest and their chief seat, married the daughter of Hugh Venables, baron of Kinderton, the superior lord of Astbury. Philip Lathom, first of Astbury, was brother to the adopter of the reputed foundling¹; and this connection appears to have been the cause which removed the Lathams from their native county to Astbury.

The annexed pedigree brings down the immediate line of the Lathoms of this place to their termination in an heir female. Collateral lines have spread widely from them over this part of Cheshire; and one branch was settled, in the time of Henry VIII. in Congleton, said by tradition to descend from them, using the same family names, having estates contiguous to theirs, holding the civil offices of that borough as they had done, and sealing with the same arms, as appears by deeds yet existing. The descent of this branch will be found in the account of Bradwall; and though there is a deficiency of absolute proof as to the founder of it being a brother of the Astbury family, there cannot, from the circumstances above mentioned, be any doubt of the general fact of both families springing from one common stock.

LATHOM, OR LATHAM, OF ASTBURY AND CONGLETON.

From the Records of the College of Arms, Harl. MSS. and antient inscriptions remaining in Astbury church in 1576. Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 4.

The ARMS of LATHOM of Astbury, given below, are from the painted glass of Astbury church, as represented in drawings preserved in the College of Arms, and in Harl. MSS. 2151. (See the Note at p. 20 following.) The SEAL of SIR THOMAS DE LATHOM, also annexed, is copied from a drawing in the College of Arms, of the Seal appendant to his grant of Witherington, circumscribed SIGILLUM THOMÆ DE LATHOM.



¹ The pedigree annexed is founded on the records of the Heralds College. A more probable story, with respect to the romantic legend of the Foundling, is given in Seacome's History of the House of Stanley; who does not, however, alledge any satisfactory authority for it.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Mary.

Tax. P. N. £.33. 6s. 8d. Val. Eeel. £.68.

The existence of the church of Astbury at the time of the Conquest is recognized by Domesday. This church was given by Gilbert Venables to the Abbey of St. Werburgh at Chester, before 1093, as the grant is recited in the confirmation charter of that abbey by Hugh Lupus.

"Item Gilbertus de Venables dedit Deo et Sanctæ Werburgæ ecclesiam de Astbury, cum medietate bosci et plani et omnium quæ pertinent ad Newbold."

This grant was soon resumed, or attempted to be resumed by the Kinderton family, as appears by a charter printed in the account of Rostherne^r, whereby sir William Venables, in 1188, grants to Hugh Venables, clerk, "id juris quod habui in ecclesiis terræ meæ," Rosthorne, Eceleston, and Astbury.

The same sir William afterwards grants to God and St. Werburgh the church aforesaid, to be held as freely and quietly as it had been formerly held of the gift of his great grandfather, retaining nothing in it but prayer. The witnesses were Hugh earl of Chester, Hugh de Lacy, William earl of Warren, &c.; and, after the names of the witnesses, is a recognition of the recital of the grant in earl Hugh's charter^s.

About seventy years after (according to the chronicle of St. Werburgh, in 1259,) sir Roger Venables renewed the dispute, and recovered seizin of the advowson of Astbury, 45 Hen. III. or 1261^t. His success, if the monks may be credited, was followed by a miserable death within twelve months^u; and his son, sir William Venables, again quitclaimed the church to the Abbey^v.

It remained, however, to be shewn that the Norman barons of Cheshire could be as tenacious as the monks of St. Werburgh; and, four generations after this last acquittance of claims, Henry abbot of St. Werburgh, and Roger de Belgreve, were summoned before Humphrey duke of Gloucester, then chief justice of Chester, to show why they opposed sir Richard Venables in his right of presentation. The cause was tried at Chester, Thursday after the Epiphany, 13 Rich. II.^v

Sir Richard Venables stated, that one Gilbert Venables had presented William Venables in the time of Henry the Third, and had afterwards given the advowson to sir Roger Venables and the heirs of his body, which sir Roger, after the death of William, presented

Gilbert Brereton, in the time of Edw. I. He added, that the church was now vacant, and proved himself the lineal descendant heir of sir Roger^x.

The abbot and Roger de Belgreve stated their ignorance of the seizin of Gilbert Venables, but pleaded the original grant confirmed in earl Hugh's charter, the subsequent confirmation by sir William Venables, and a presentation by abbot Thomas (Capenhurst), in the time of Henry III. They added, sir Roger Venables contested the advowson subsequently with abbot Simon^y (de Albo Monasterio), and recovered it; but that abbot Simon brought a writ of error, and caused the judgment to be reversed, and presented Robert Burnell clerk: That William Venables, son of Roger, confirmed to abbot Simon his rights in the church and moiety of the vill. After which abbot William (de Bebington) presented Thomas de Bebington, temp. Edw. III. and abbot Thomas (de Newport) presented John de Grey, and the present abbot (Henry de Sutton) presented Roger de Belgreve.

The right of the abbey was finally confirmed on this hearing, and the advowson remained attached to it to the Dissolution. Shortly after this dispute a licence was granted (March 10, 1393) for the appropriation of the rectory and the endowment of a vicarage, but it does not appear to have been acted upon^z.

After the Dissolution the advowson of the rectory was granted to the dean and chapter of Chester, but fell into the hands of sir Richard Cotton, and was included in the abbey possessions, confirmed generally to the fee-farmers by Pat. 22 Elizabeth^a. In the partition of these spoils it had become the property of a zealous and much-persecuted catholic, lady Egerton of Ridley, widow of Thomas Legh of Adlington. The mode in which the advowson has subsequently passed, will be gathered from the list of incumbents and patrons.

The rector has all the tithes of the parish. There is no endowed school, nor any material addition to the charities since the parliamentary return printed at the end of the account of this hundred^b. The churchwardens are nominated by the præpositi, or posts of the parish, two of whom act annually in rotation. These posts are the mayor of Congleton, and the proprietors of the Halls of Brereton (formerly in this parish), Davenport, Eaton, Great Moreton, Little Moreton, Somerford, Radnor, and Odrode. A similar custom prevails in the parish of Stockport.

RECTORS OF ASTBURY.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1188.	Hugo de Venables, cler.	D'nus Willielmus de Venables.	
Temp. H. III.	Willielmus de Venables.	Gilbertus de Venables.	} Presentations alledged by sir R. Venables, 13 Rich. II.
Temp. Edw. I.	Gilbertus Brereton.	D'nus Rogerus de Venables.	
1289 ante.	Robertus Burnell, cler. ^c	Simon, abb. S. Werb.	} Presentations alledged by the abbot, 13 Rich. II.
1349 ante.	Thomas de Bebington.	Willielmus, abb. S. Werb.	
1385 ante.	Johannes de Grey.	Thomas, abb. S. Werb.	
1390 circa.	Rogerus de Belgreve.	Henricus, abb. S. Werb.	

^r Bucklow Hundred, p.337.^s Venables' Chartulary, 16. (Tabley MSS. H.) and Chartulary of St. Werburgh, 16, b. (Harl. MSS. 1965.)^t Venables Chartulary, 44.^u MS. Chronicle of St. Werburgh.^v Chartulary of St. Werburgh, 16, b.^w Venables Chartulary, 144.^x As stated in the Venables' pedigree, this Gilbert Venables was younger brother, and probably trustee of the first sir William Venables.^y This is an oversight on the part of abbot Henry. The Chronicle of the Abbey says the suit commenced in 1259. The Venables Chartulary says, sir Roger Venables recovered in 1261. "iv cal. Maii, 1265, obiit pie memorie Thomas de Capenhurst, abbas Cestrie, cui successit frater Simon," &c. MS. Chron. S'tæ Werburgæ. Thomas Capenhurst was therefore abbot at the time of the suit.^z Gastrell's Not. Cest. and Vernon's Extracts from the Lichfield Episcopal Registers, Harl. MS. 2070.^a See vol. I. p. 241.^b Information of the rev. — Heptinstall, curate of Astbury.^c Most probably a near kinsman of Robert Burnell, bishop of Bath and Wells, and chancellor of England, whose relation, sir Philip Burnell, baron of Malpas, was connected by litigations, and subsequent benefactions, with the abbey of St. Werburgh.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1403 ^d , 10 Maii.	Matthæus Litherland.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	
1437, 29 Julii.	Rogerus Holme, cl'us. Ricardus Holme.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	
1476, 25 Feb.	Thomas Twemlowe ^e .	Thomas Stanley, miles, D'nus de Stanley, rac'o'e concess. abb. Cest.	P. m. Ric. Holme.
1497.	Robertus Tatton, cap. John Brereton.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	P. m. Tho. Twemlowe.
1542.	Hugh Powell.	Abbot of St. Werburgh's.	D. of John Brereton.
1597, Nov. 29.	Anthony Calcot. ^f		
1607, July 24.	Thomas Dod. ^g	Ralph Egerton.	D. of Anthony Calcot.
1626, Dec. 23.	Thomas Dod.	Charles Rex, by lapse.	
1660, Feb. 21.	Thomas Hutchinson ^h .	John Hutchinson.	
1676, March 30.	John Hutchinson.	Sir Andrew Hacket, knt.	D. of Thomas Hutchinson.
1704, March 10.	Philip Egerton, A.M. ⁱ	John Egerton, esq.	D. of John Hutchinson.
1727, Ap. 11.	Thomas Rode, A.M. ^j	John Amson.	D. of Phil. Egerton.
1731, March 6.	Jeffery Williams, A.M. ^k	John Amson.	D. of Thos. Rode.
1758, Jan. 21.	Joseph Crewe, D.D. ^l	Charles Crewe and John Wright, esqrs.	D. of Jeffery Williams.
1782, Oct. 30.	Offley Crewe, A.M. ^l	Peter Brooke, esq.	D. of Joseph Crewe.

The church of Astbury consists of nave, chancel, and side aisles of equal length with the nave and chancel; a west porch of the same height with the central aisle of the nave, and a south porch of the same height with the side aisles; to which must be added a tower, surmounted with a spire-steeple, at the north-west angle.

The nave is divided from the side aisles by five pointed arches on each side, sprung from clustered pillars; and the chancel is divided from the private chancels at the end of the side aisles by two corresponding arches. Over these is a row of clerestory windows, obtusely pointed, in which are fragments of rich and highly-finished painted glass. The windows of the side aisles are chiefly in the pointed style, with quatrefoil heads; some windows of an earlier form (one of which is of the proportions of the lancet Gothic, but trefoil headed,) are in the north chancel. The east window is a fine specimen of the obtuse arch, filled with ramified mullions.

The chancel is separated from the body of the church and the private chancels by carved Gothic screens, elaborately finished in oak, in the best style. Over the west screen is a rood-loft, with rich tracery. It is surrounded by stalls of oak, with subsellia, the carvings of which have been removed.

The entire church has roofs of oak tastefully carved, and ornamented with knots, foliage, and fanciful decorations, at the intersection of the beams. The roof of the north aisle has the date 1701. The body of the church, which is the richest, has the dates 1616 and 1617, and the name of "Richard Lownes, carpenter." The sides of the roof have the names and arms of the several præpositi, or posts, at the time of the erection; viz. John Davenport, Philip Oldfield, William Brereton, William Moreton, Rondulph Rode, Edward Bellott, the mayor of Congleton, and William Leversage.

There is a rich pendant of carved oak over the commencement of the south chancel, and another over the altar, at the bottom of which are carved the hands and feet of Our Saviour. Over the rood-loft is a pendant of another kind, apparently intended to support garlands

presented at the annual wake. The general design and execution of the church is suited to a rich collegiate establishment; and the finish of the ancient carvings and of the mutilated shrine-work and figures in the stained glass is exquisite^m.

IN THE NAVE are memorials of Thomas Bowyer of Congleton, esq. obiit August 28, 1754. And of Bridget his wife, obiit Feb. 28, 1784, aged 80.

Attached to a pillar on the north side is a monument inscribed:

Near this place
lies interr'd the body of
George Lee,
of Eaton Hall, in this parish, esq.
who departed this life
the 4th April 1773, aged 71 years.

Arms: Azure, 2 bars Or, over all a bend componè, Or and Vert. Crest: on a wreath, a bear statant Sable, collared and chained Or.

At the east end of the north aisle is a private CHANCEL, divided between the two manerial proprietors of Od-Rode. The windows have been ornamented with rich painted glass. Some tracery is remaining in the east window, and in the side windows the arms of earl Randle Blundeville, Azure, three garbs Or; and another coat, Gules fretty Or. The steps of the altar are remaining, with a closet for relics on the north side, and a piscina on the south.

East of the altar steps is a large tomb, covered with slabs of black marble, inscribed severally with the names of

Dame Mary Jones,
died the 19th of April, 1743,
aged 85.

Sir William Moreton, knt.
recorder of the city of London,
died the 14th of March 1763,
aged 67,

Dame Jane Moreton,
died the 10th of Feb. 1758,
aged 61.

^d Living, 4 Hen. V. Moreton Deeds.

^h Buried 17 Dec. 1675, died the 5th.

^k Buried 8 Sept. 1757.

^m The prayers are still read from a stall in the chancel, and there is an eagle for reading the lessons at (now disused), a circumstance of rare occurrence in a parish-church.

^e Also rector of Tilston.

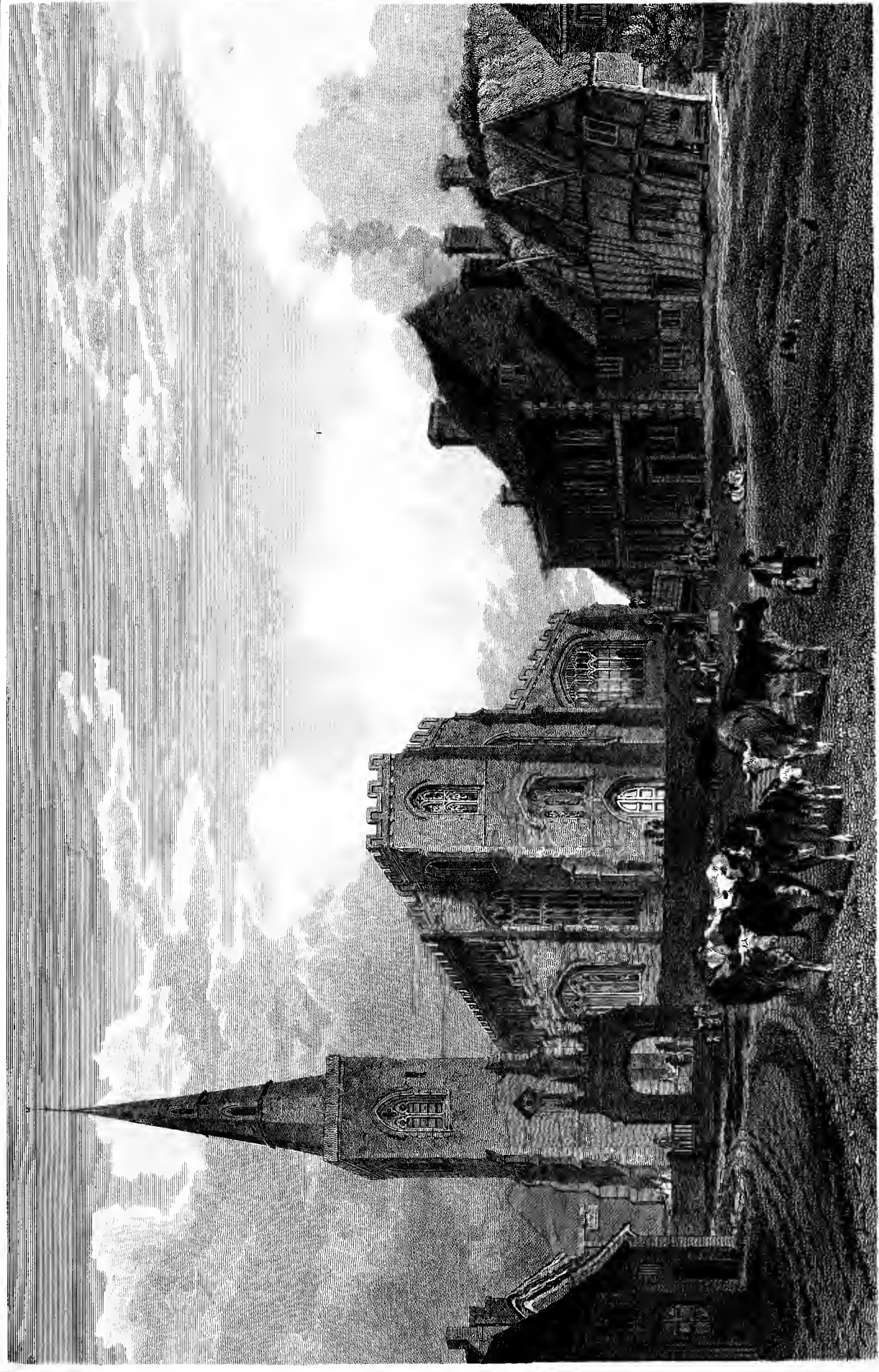
^f Buried 8 April 1607.

^g Of Shocklach. See Broxton hundred, p. 378.

ⁱ Ancestor of the present sir J. G. Egerton. See Oulton.

^j Died 26 Feb. bur. 29, 1731.

^l See the pedigree of Crewe of Crewe.



W. Woodworth sculp.

Lond. Pub. April 21. 1858 by Ludington & Co.

ALSTERSMERE

1. The Old Rectory.

At the other end of the chancel are the memorials of the Wilbrahams of Rode. The first a monument of marble attached to a pillar, with the arms of Wilbraham, inscribed :

Ricardus
Ranulphi Wilbraham, arm^r.
et Mariæ uxoris ejus
filius primogenitus,
antiqui stemmatis germen speciosum,
flos juvenum, patriæ spes, sui nominis decus,
sub ævi flore præreptus, hic jacet,
et terreni patrimonii factus exhæres,
cœlestem creavit hæreditatem
sexto die Feb. m^occvi.
Sparge rosas, plecte corollas,
abi et fuge viator.

The others are attached to the north wall. The first is a pyramidal monument of various kinds of marble. Over the tablet containing the inscription is a sarcophagus : and over this, the arms of Wilbraham, Argent, 3 bends Azure, a crescent of the second ; impaling Kenrick, Ermine, a lion rampant Sable. Crest, on a wreath a wolf's head erased Argent. The inscription as follows :

Near this place is buried Randle Wilbraham of Rode Hall in the county palatine of Chester, esq. of which he was vice-chamberlain, also deputy steward of the university of Oxford, and barrister at law. He was second son of Randle Wilbraham, of Townsend in Namptwich, in the same county, esq. by his wife Mary, daughter of sir Richard Brooke of Norton, in the said county, bart. He died Dec. 3d, 1770, aged 76. His great industry and abilities carried him to the highest reputation and practice in his profession, which he adorned with sound knowledge, clear judgement, and steady integrity. He sate many years in parliament, where his publick conduct, superior to interest, or faction, shewed him a lover of his king and country, the laws and constitution of which he well understood and well maintained, loyal, upright, and independent. His private virtues shone in the husband, father, and friend, tender, careful, affectionate, candid, and easy. The natural goodness of his heart, he improved by sincere religion ; he was a true Christian, and a firm member of the Church of England. He married Dorothea, daughter of Andrew Kenrick, esq. of Chester, barrister at law. She died Nov. 18th, 1754, aged 50, and was also interred here.

Under the plinth of the tablet :

Ann Wilbraham, daughter of Randle and Dorothy, died Dec. 5th, 1769, aged 39, and lies buried here.

On a tablet to the east of this monument :

Here lieth interred the body of Richard Wilbraham Bootle, esq. only son and heir of Randle Wilbraham, esq. of Rode Hall in this county, born Sept. 20th, 1725. He married May 31st, 1755, Mary, daughter and sole heiress of Robert Bootle, esquire, of Lathom, in the county of Lancaster, by whom he had six sons and eight daughters, of whom eight survived, namely, Edward, born March 7th, 1771, and Randle, born Jan. 10th, 1773 ; the daughters, Ann, married to sir Richard Pepper Arden, master of the Rolls ; Mary, to William Egerton, esq. of Tatton Park in this county ; Francisca Alicia, to Anthony Eyre, esquire, of Grove, in Nottinghamshire ; Sybilla Georgina, to William Farington, esquire, of Shaw Hill in Lancashire ; Emma, to Charles Edmonstone, esquire, barrister at law, London ; Elizabeth unmarried. He was elected one of the representatives in parliament for the city of Chester at the accession of his present majesty, October 1760, and served

in five successive parliaments, where his conduct was uniform in support of his king and country, in the respectable character of an independent country gentleman. He died March 13th, 1796, aged 71 years.

Arms. 1 and 4, Gules, on a chevron engrailed Argent, three crosses patée fitchée (intended for Bootle). 2 and 3, Azure, three bends wavy Argent, Wilbraham (colours inverted by an error of the painter.) An esccheon of pretence as the first, for Bootle.

To the west of the pyramidal monument, a plain tablet inscribed :

This monument is erected
to the memory of
MARY,
wife of Richard Wilbraham Bootle, esq.
of Lathom House in Lancashire,
and Rode Hall in this parish ;
she was born on the 17th of March, 1734,
and closed a life of exemplary usefulness,
benevolence, and charity,
on the 10th of April, 1813,
in the 80th year of her age.

On another plain tablet below :

Sacred
to the memory of
Letitia, wife of
Randle Wilbraham, esq.
of Rode Hall,
who died on the 30th of March, 1805,
aged 27.

Sleep on, fair form, and wait th' Almighty's will,
Then rise unchang'd, and be an angel still.

In the SOUTH AISLE are several memorials of the Cartwrights of Smallwood, and of John Ford, of Eaton, gent. obiit Jan. 14, 1757, aged 78.

On a brass plate, an epitaph in memory of Christopher Byron, of Buglawton, gent. died 5th of April 1674, aged 74.

Arms. Argent, three bendlets enhanced Byron, impaling Argent, a cross engrailed Vert, between three roundels charged with pheons, for Fletcher of Morley.

Attached to the south wall of this aisle are two marble tablets of the Swetenhams of Somerford, severally inscribed :

Near this place
lies interred the body of
Edmund Swetenham, esq.
late of Somerford Booths,
in the county of Chester,
who departed this life
May the 7th, 1768,
in the 77th year of his age.

Also,
of Susanna, relict of the said
Edmund Swetenham,
and daughter of Richard Wilmot,
late of Derby, in the county of Derby, M. D.
She died the 18th of May 1790, aged 77.

Near this place rest the mortal remains of Roger Swetenham, esq. of Somerford Booth in this county, whose life was distinguished by every thing worthy of the man and the Christian ; he was a most tender and affectionate husband, a most kind and indulgent father, and a very sincere and faithful friend. He died 27th of Jan. m^occcxiv, aged 55.

The CHANCEL at the end of the south aisle has a piscina, and a stall for the officiating priest, and has been ornamented with rich stained glass. In the south angle

on an embattled altar-tomb, is a recumbent figure of a knight, armed in plate armour, with gorget of mail, and conical helmet; his surcoat is emblazoned with the arms of Davenport, a chevron between three cross crosslets fitchy, and the hands are uplifted and clasped in prayer; the feet rest on an animal.

Round the edges of a slab at the east end of this chancel. *Hic jacet Amia Bellot de Grosvenour' familia oriunda nuper Bellot de Moreton uxor, quæ obiit primo die Septembris a'no D'ni 1612.* Attached to the wall over this, is a shield of the arms of Bellot, impaling Grosvenor, with a crescent for difference.

On the next slab:

*Hic jacet Edw
ardus Bellot,
nuper de Moreto
n, ar. qui obiit vii
die Augusti an.
Dom'i 1622.*

Over these are two marble mural monuments of the Bellots of Moreton. The first inscribed:

Hic requiescit in D'no Johannes Bellot de Moreton armig.

*qui cum laude patriæ et principi inservierat,
postremos senectutis annos Deo consecravit,
non pertæsus vitæ sed longe beatiorem anhelans
de domo sua decessit et disposuit,
et cum summo omnium (suorumq; præcipue) dolore
excessit e vita nono die mensis Novebris
an'o Domini 1659, atat. suæ sexagesimo septimo.*

*Habuit ex unica uxore sua filia et hærede
Johan'is Bentley de Ashes in agro Staffordiæ gener'
novem liberos, quorum quatuor superstites reliquit.*

Arms. *Argent, on a chief Gules, three cinquefoils Argent, on a shield of pretence three bends wavy Sable, for Bentley.*

Below, a shield emblazoned, quarterly, 1 and 4, Bellot as before; 2 and 3, *Argent, on a bend Sable three buckles Argent, Moreton of Great Moreton.*

On the other monument:

M. S.

*Subest quod reliquum Johan'is Bellot, baronetti,
qui cum summa in Deum pietate, in egenos benignitate,
in amicos humanitate, in omnes bonitate
(ab inceptis nuptiis cum Anna filia Rogeri Wilbraham,
de Derfold, armig.) a'nos plus minus 25 fœliciter egisset,
hic juxta venerandi patris et charissimorum liberorum
Johannis et Annæ Bellot amatūra morte præreptorum
reliquias, suas etiam lubens deposuit,
lætā expectans resurrectionem,
decimo quarto die mensis Julii a'no D'ni 1674.*

*Hoc mortale i'mortalis amoris monumentum
conjug mœstissima posuit.*

Arms. *Bellot as before. Wilbraham, Argent, three bends wavy Azure.*

In the north-west angle of the chancel is an altar tomb, inscribed:

*T(homas) B(ellot)
was burcd Novem-
ber the 10th,
anno D'ni
1654.*

Mors mihi lucrum.

On the slab are the arms of Bellot, and other ornaments.

In the north-east angle is a mural marble monument inscribed:

Here lies the remains of
Peter Shakerley of Somerford Hall, esq.
and likewise of Ann his first wife,
the daughter of John Amson, of Lees
in the county of Chester, esq.
This tribute of filial affection
was erected by Eliza Buckworth,
their only surviving child,
to the memory of the
best of parents,
anno Domin' 1796.

Over the tablet a sitting female figure, before an urn, over which hangs a weeping willow. Arms and crest of Shakerley, impaling *Argent two barrs Argent, charged with three besants between leopards heads cabossed Gules.*

On a marble slab below, are memorials of Dorothy Maria, infant daughter of C. W. J. Shakerley of Somerford, esq. by Dorothy his wife (obiit June 10, 1797,) and of George Shakerley, infant son of the same, born April the 26, died May 13th, 1802.

In the south-east angle of the chancel of the church is a female figure, representing a lady whose sufferings and piety have been already spoken of^a; she is habited in a close cap and ruff. Over the figure in a lozenge are the arms of Grosvenor, with five quarterings; 1. *Azure, a garb Or*; 2. *Sable, a cross patonce Argent, Pulford*. 3. —, three pheasants close *Or, Pheasant*; 4. quarterly *Sable and Argent, a cross patonce counter-changed, Eaton*; 5. *Azure, an eagle displayed, Argent, Rudware*; 6. *Azure, two barrs Argent, Venables.*

Round the edge of the tomb: *Hic jacet D. Maria Egerton, ex antiqua Grosvenorum familia oriunda, nup' Ric' Egerto' de Ridley equitis aurati uxor, plena annoru' xxxv°.....*

At the end of the tomb:

*Rodolphus Egerton de Rid-
ley maritus charissimus
in me-
moriam officiosæ pietatis
uxori bene merenti hoc mo-
numentum posuit
a° D'ni 1609°.*

At the sides of the tomb are three shields. The first *Azure, two barrs Argent, over all a bend componè Or and Argent, Legh of Adlington, impaling Brereton, with a crescent Argent and cross Gules for difference.* Second, the arms of her son, Ralph Egerton, impaling the coats of his two wives, *Argent, a chevron Sable, between three text Ts of the second, for Holford, and the Dutton coat with a crescent for difference, for Warburton.* Thirdly, the coat of her daughter Dorothy, impaled by those of her two husbands, *Brereton of Tatton, Argent, two barrs Sable, a mullet Sable in chief, and a crescent on the barr, and Legh of Lyme, Gules, a cross engrailed Argent.*

On a blue slab before the altar-rails is the only memorial of a rector which the church possesses:

Here lieth the body of the
reverend Tho. Rode, Master
of Arts, rector of this parish
near five years, who de-
parted this life the 26th day
of January, in the year 1731,
and in the 44th year of his
age.

^a See Ridley, Edisbury Hundred, p. 160, col. 2.

^o This inscription is singular. Ralph Egerton was son of the lady here introduced.

Near the vestry door is a raised space inclosing four altar tombs of the family of Antrobus of Congleton; and a little to the north-east a slab, with the following inscription:

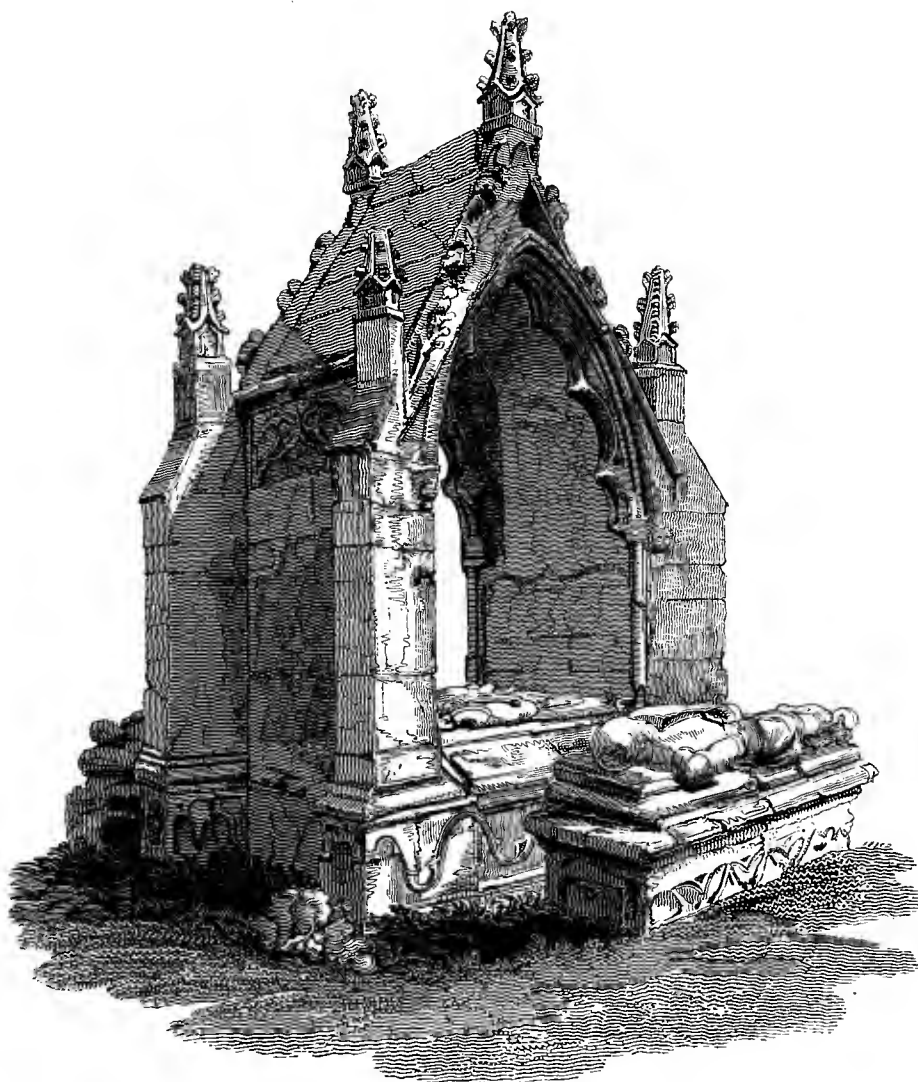
En lector
monumentum mortalitatis
saxea moles loco melioris
monumenti, sepulturam
indicans Joha'nis Latham
de Condate ter prætoris,
cujus vita vere Christi-
ana, cujus mors amicis,
cognatis, præcipue luc-
tuosa, sibi jucunda, in
conspectu Dei procul-
dubio pretiosa. Tam aman-
ter, quam hilarè, et
patienter, obiit 6^o die
Feb. an'o salutis 1670,
ætatis suæ 62.

Near the north-east angle of the church-yard are four recumbent figures carved in red stone. The figure to the north is that of an ecclesiastic resting on a slab, which forms the lid of a stone coffin, wholly above

ground: that on the south is the figure of an armed knight placed on an altar-tomb, the feet resting on an animal, the helmet conical, and the shield emblazoned two barrs, in chief three leopards' heads, of which the centre and sinister head alone are remaining. The two middle figures, an armed knight and his lady, rest on a tomb higher than the last, over which is a raised pointed arch, with a pediment and pinnacles ornamented with crockets. The following inscription has been cut in capitals within the arch at the west end:

Hic jacent Radulphus Br-
ereton miles et domina
Ada uxor sua, una fi-
liarum Davidis comi-
tis Huntingdonis.

This inscription is mentioned in Church Notes taken 1576, but is noticed as being in characters more modern than the rest of the monument, which in Camden's time was claimed by the families of Venables, Mainwaring, and Brereton. It is, however, presumed that the question is settled by the seal mentioned in the account of the family of Venables of Astbury, which accords precisely with the arms on the shield of one of the figures already described^p.



^p In Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 4, are the following notices of "monuments and coates" in Astbury church, "taken an'o 1576." The parts of the description placed within hooks refer to rude drawings in the original MS.

"In the east window northward are these monuments and coates, [four compartments, apparently divided by the mullions of the east window of the north chancel. In the first, a male and female figure with three sons and two daughters severally kneeling behind them. In the second

THE SEALS OF THE CORPORATION OF CONGLETON.



The Seal affixed to all acts of the Corporation.



The Seal affixed to Recognizances of Debts under the Statute Merchant, and the Statute of Acton Burnell.

CONGLETON.

THIS is one of the few Cheshire manors dependant in later ages on the baronies of the palatinate, which were not granted out in the first instance to those baronies, but to other great tenants of the earldom. From the Conquest to the thirteenth century, Congleton was a dependency of the fee granted to Bigot, which about the time of king John had its chief seat fixed at Aldford.

“Isdem Bigot tenet Cogeltone; Godvinus tenuit; ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est iv carucarum: ibi sunt ii, cum ii villanis et iv bordariis. Silva ibi una leuva longa, et una lata; et ibi ii haia^a. Wasta fuit, et sic invenitur; modo valet iv solidos.”

53 Hen. III. Sir Peter Arderne lord of Aldford and Alvanley, settles the manor of Congleton, on his son John, and his wife Margaret, daughter of Griffin lord of Bromfield, for life^b.

John Arderne died 1 Edw. II.^c and this manor must therefore have passed during his life-time to Henry earl of Lincoln and baron of Halton, who granted the original charter to the burgesses of Congleton^d, and in 10 Edw. I. had a grant of free warren in Congleton, and Entrebus (provided the same did not interfere with the rights of the earl's forests), a weekly market on Saturdays, and a fair yearly, on the eve, the day, and the morrow of St. Peter ad Vincula, and the five days fol-

and third similar figures, with three daughters and five sons, each charged on the breast with a cross patèe fitchèe. In the fourth, a malè figure in armour, also kneeling. Under the entire line this inscription:]

“Orate pro a'i'abus Radulfi Moreton de Mor ton, Joh'is fr'is ejus, parentem benefactor' et o'i'u' fidelium defunctor' qui vitriacione' istius fenestra fecerunt.

“In the head of three windowes in the north ile these coates [Or, fretty Gules; the same; and Azure, three garbs Or.]

“In a window on the northe side:

“Orate pro a'i'a Ric. Moreton de Moreton. Orate p. a'i'abus Hug. Moreton et Marg'ta ux. ej's qui hanc fenestra' fiere feceru't. Orate p. a'i'a Ric. Moreton de Moreton.”

[Over these three shields, bearing for Moreton, a greyhound courant Sable, with a greyhound's head coupèd Argent, as crest to the two first.]

The following arms are also described as being “in sev'all windowes on the north side the church.” 1. Somerford, impaling quarterly, Or and Gules, a bend Sable. 2. Wheelock impaling Brereton. 3. Rode. 4. Rode impaling Winnington. 5. Brereton. 6. Hockenbull. Under these are severally the following inscriptions:

1. “Orate p. a'i'a Rob'ti Sumerford.

2. “Orate p. a'i'abus Thom'e Leversage, et Isabella ux. ejus.

3 and 4. “Orate p. a'i'abus Thome Rode, et Margerie uxoris sue.

5. “Orate p. a'i'abus Will. Brereton militis, et d'ne Elene uxoris sue.

6. “Orate p. a'i'abus Rob'ti Hocknell et Alicie ux. sue qui hanc fenestram fiere fecerunt et ex suis p'priis sumptibus 1503.”

The account notices under this last inscription, “a man, a woman, with a sone and daughter behinde them,” and gives also a drawing of a figure kneeling before a desk, armed and habited in a tabard emblazoned with the arms of Massy of Sale (used by Massie of Crosley in this parish), with the same arms behind him, and this inscription beneath:

“Orate p. bono statu Rob'ti Massy arm. et Petronillæ consortis suæ et Rob'ti filii d'c'i Rob'ti Massy, qui ha'c fenestra' fiere fecit a'no 1493.

“These are alsoe in sev'all lights on the northe side the said church of Astbury.

[A kneeling figure in armour, with a sword and spurs, habited in a white tabard, the hands clasped, over bis head a shield placed angle-ways, under a helmet and mantle, emblazoned, Or, on a chief indented Azure three besants, over all a hendlet Gules. Crest. An eagle standing on an empty cradle, with wings displayed, and regardant, Or.]

“Orate p. a'i'a Philippi filius d'ni Roberti Lathum militis.

“There was another in all things like to this, onely the man's hands were not joynd together, with this writting under it:

“Orate p. a'i'a Hugonis fil. d'ni Roberti Lathum.”

Another figure like the first, with four sons kneeling behind him, in armour and tabards, but without spurs. The inscription under the first stated to be mutilated, but restored thus from Veruon's papers:

“Orate p. a'i'abus Philippi Lathom, fil. Rob'ti Lathom militis, et Hug. Lathom, ejus fil. et Job'is, Rob'ti, Will'mi, et Tho. filior. Hug.”

Under the four sons:

“Orate p. animabus Joh'is, Roberti, Will'mi, et Tho. filioru. Hugonis.”

Under a shield, with the arms of Lathom of Astbury as before:

“Pray for the souls of Phillip Lathome, son of Rob't Lathome, kt. and Hugh his son, and Jo. Rob't, Will'm, and Tho. sons of Hugh.”

The account also notices the ancient monument in the church-yard, and the recumbent figure of a Davenport in the south chancel.

☞ The annexed seals of the borough, with much valuable information relative to the modern state of Congleton, were communicated by Holland Watson, esq.

^b See Edisb. Hund. p. 38.

^c Ibid.

^d The charter distinguishes between the vill and the free burgh of Congleton, and the whole was clearly in possession of Henry de Lacy, as he grants exemptions “infra limites villæ predictæ extra burgum, and common turbary, and exemption from pannage ubique in territorio de Congleton.”

lowing^e. After this period estates in Congleton are uniformly stated in the Inquisitions to be held from the barony of Halton.

In the plea of Henry duke of Lancaster for the barony before-mentioned, he recites the several privileges granted to his burgesses here, but claims the right of holding here court-leet before his own bailiff, with all issues, fines, and ameracements. It appears from a fine, 15 Edw. IV. that Congleton was then considered one of the towns which descended with the barony of Halton, but were distinct seats of manors at which courts were held by the lord of the barony^f.

This court, in which the officers of the borough are directed to be sworn by the charter of Henry de Lacy, was subsequently severed from the manor, and appears to have been granted to the borough by the crown.

In the reign of Charles I. the manor of Congleton was granted out in fee farm, and after passing through various hands, is now vested in C. W. J. Shakerley, esq. to whose grandfather, Peter Shakerley, esq. it was conveyed (by indentures of lease and release, dated 11 and 12 June, 1745), by sir John Rawdon, bart. and dame Helena his wife^g. A court baron is held for the manor^h: the boundaries were perambulated in 1817 by the managerial proprietor and the corporationⁱ.

The vill of Congleton was formed, as before mentioned, into a FREE BOROUGH by Henry de Lacy, by the charter subjoined^k: other charters were granted under the seal of the duchy, by Hen. VIII.^l and Philip and Mary, and the whole was confirmed by Elizabeth (June 9, 20 a^o reg.) Alexander Latham being then mayor, William Brereton, esq. steward, and Edward Fitton of Gawsorth, the senior burgess. Another charter under which the corporation exists, as it is now constituted, was granted by king James I. Jan. 19, 1624-5.

The corporation consists of a mayor, eight aldermen,

and sixteen capital burgesses. Two of these aldermen are justices, have a concurrent jurisdiction with county magistrates within the borough, and hold a general sessions of the peace for the same with the mayor. The mayor and town clerk also have a power (not now used) of taking recognizances of debts, and issuing executions thereon, according to the form of the merchants statute, and the statute of Acton Burnell. The courts leet for the borough, formerly held by the bailiff of the baron of Halton (before they were severed from the manor, and appended to the borough) are held before the high steward, or his deputy. By the charter of James I. Thomas Savage, knight and baronet, was appointed the first steward for life, and his son, John Savage, knight, to be the second steward: after their deaths the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses, to appoint the future ones. The present high steward is Randle Wilbraham, esq. of Rode, and Mr. John Lockett, attorney, his deputy.

Congleton is beautifully situated in a deep valley on the banks of the Dane, in the part of Cheshire which intervenes between the Macclesfield Hills and the flat district of Northwich Hundred, partaking of the varied surface of the one, and the rich soil and abundant timber of the other. The town, which is about a mile in length, retains in the old part many of the antient timber buildings common in Cheshire; but the western end consists almost entirely of handsome mansions of the merchants and other opulent inhabitants, disposed at short distances from each other, among pleasure grounds, opening to the valley of the Dane. A market is held agreeably to the charter of Edw. I. and there are three fairs chiefly for the sale of woollen cloth, horses, and cattle^m. The trade of the place consists partly of the manufacture of ribbons, but there are numerous silk and cotton mills in and near the town, by which the greatest part of the population is employed. The for-

^e Harl. MSS. 2074. 202. b.

^f 15 Edw. IV. The king obtained of Richard Martin the castle, vill, domain, and manor of Halton, with its members, and the townships and manors of Moore, Runcorn, Whitegh, and Congleton, cum pert. the parks of Thostantelke and Northwood, and the grant of the serjeancy of Halton, and settles them on Richard for a month, then to come to Elizabeth queen of England. Williamson's Fines.

^g Information of Holland Watson, esq. procured from Mr. Shakerley.

^h Ibid.

ⁱ Ibid.

^k Original charter of the borough of Congleton. Harl. MSS, 2074. 194.

Sciunt presentes et futuri quod nos Henricus Lacy, comes Lincolnie et constabularius Cestrie, dedimus et concessimus et hac presenti carta nostra confirmamus pro nobis et heredibus nostris, liberis burgensibus nostris de Congleton, quod predicta villa sit liber burgus, et burgenses nostri ejusdem villæ habeant propter libertates suas in perpetuum gildam mercatoriam, cum omnibus libertatibus, liberisq. consuetudinibus, ad hujusmodi gildam pertinentibus: habeant enim communam pasturam ad omnia animalia sua et pecora ubique in territorio de Congleton, et de turbis et petis fodiendis, siccandis, et carriandis, ubique in turbario de Congleton: et quod sint quieti de pannagio quotquot porcos habuerint infra bundas de Congleton: et quod prætextu carte concessionis et confirmationis libertatum burgo nostro quam a domino rege habemus, sint absoluti in perpetuum per omnia loca Cestresirie, ac tam per terram quam per aquam, sub defensione pro terris nostris et heredum nostrorum cum omnibus mercandis suis, de tolno, stallagio, passagio, pontagio, lastagio, et muragio, et omnibus aliis impechiamentis quæ mercandis tangunt, nisi de rationabilibus emendis si transgrediantur: et quod non implacentur, nec de aliquo placito indicentur, de terris vel tenementis suis, nec cum aliquo placito quod sonat in transgressionem facta intra limites villæ prædictæ extra burgum suum proprium: et si aliquis eorum in meremiam nostram inciderit, aut iudicium per defaultum, non excedatur duodecim denarii, et post iudicium rationabilis meremia secundum quantitatem delicti: et quod molant blada sua ad molendinum nostrum de Congleton ad vicesimum granum, dum molendinum fuerit sufficiens: et quod burgenses nostri predicti eligant sibi deinceps majorem, et cachepollum, et testatores cervisie, et illos presentabunt in appenciâ magnæ curiæ nostræ ibidem, die Martis proxima post festum s'c'i Michaelis: et ballivi nostri sacramentum eorum capient de fideli servicio suo domino et comitatu.

Volumus et concedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris et assignatis nostris, quod predicti burgenses et heredes et assignati eorum, burgagia sua et terras ad burgagia pertinentes, ac etiam terras quas infra predictum dominium approvari et reddituare poterunt per sacramentum predictorum burgensium absque lesura libertatum suorum et commune sue predictæ, habeant et teneant pacificè et quietè in perpetuum, viz. pro quolibet burgagio per vii d. et qualibet acra terræ per xii d. ad terras reddituales dicte ville consuetas: et quod faciant curiæ nostræ tres apparantias annuatim certis diebus, breve tamen directo in dictam curiam currente, facient sectam de quindenâ in quindenam, pro omnibus aliis et serviciis et demandis: et quod burgagia et terras suas predictas possint licitè vendere, dare et invadiare, vel qualitercunque voluerint invadiare (salvis viris religiosis): et quod ballivi ejusdem ville, si aliquem felonem ceperint, eum tenebunt, si volunt in cippis per tres dies, et postea reddent eum ad castrum nostrum de Halton, cum catellis secum inventis, salvo eis le pelfes quæ pertinent serjancie.

Nos vero predictus Henricus et heredes nostri unnes predictas libertates, libera burgagia, terras, et tenementa, cum omnibus suis pertinentiis, et cum liberis usagiis, dicte ville, predictis burgensibus, heredibus et assignatis eorum, contra omnes gentes warrantizabimus, adquietabimus, et in perpetuum defendemus. In cujus rei testimonium, huic presenti carte sigillum meum apposuimus, hiis testibus Jo. Deyville, Will. le Vavasor, Rob. de Stokeport, Galfr. de Chedle, Ran' de Rode, Gralamo de Tidely, et aliis.

^l Henry the Eighth's charter exempts the burgesses from attendance at the shire and hundred courts, but they were previously entitled to this privilege as parcel of Aldford fee, under the charter of Randle Blundeville.

^m May 12, July 3, Nov. 22. The charter of James I. mentions three fairs then existing, as being together with the court leet and the profits belonging to the same a part of the privileges of the king's duchy of Lancaster; and grants to the mayor and inhabitants a fourth fair, to be held on Thursday after Quinquagesima Sunday, and the following day, with all tolls, &c. and a court of Pie-powder, to be holden at the time of the said fair.

mer of these manufactures extends to twenty-eight mills. An inscription relative to the introduction of these manufactures will be found in the list of monumental inscriptionsⁿ.

In the old part of the town is a GUILDHALL, built of brick, with a piazza, with stone pillars in front, for the convenience of the people attending in the markets. The interior contains rooms for the confinement of criminals and debtors.

An antient CHAPEL near the bridge, latterly used as a POOR HOUSE, has been taken down, and a new one upon a large scale erected, on land belonging to the corporation, at a place called Coughton Moss, during the mayoralty of Holland Watson, esq. in 1810.

Congleton was a severe sufferer from the plague in 1603-4, and 1641. In the first of these dreadful visitations the fourth of a Mize was ordered to be collected through the county for the relief of the infected towns of Macclesfield and Congleton^o. In 1651 some skirmishes took place between the inhabitants of this town and neighbourhood, and Lesley's horse, on their retreat from the battle of Worcester. These are noticed in the account of Sandbach, which was the scene of the principal conflict.

CHAPEL.

Smith's description of Cheshire mentions two churches here, "one in the town, and the other at the bridge end on the other side of the Dane^p." This was written in the time of Elizabeth, and it is most probable that the chapel near the bridge, which was lately used as a poor house, and has been recently taken down, was disused before 1625, about which year Webb wrote his Itinerary, wherein one chapel only is mentioned.

"The right of electing or nominating a curate to this chapel was, with the advice of the chancellors of London, York, and Chester, upon a case stated, adjudged by the bishop to be in the corporation a^o 1698; after which Mr. Malbon, elected by the corporation, was nominated by Mr. Hutchinson, rector of Astbury, who was presented to that living by sir Andrew Hacket.

"An. 1722. Upon Malbon's death, the dispute revived between the rector and corporation; but the bishop nominated by lapse^q."

The right of nomination is now considered vested in the corporation^r. The yearly value of the chapel, arising from augmentation, stipend, official house, and surplice fees, was returned by the bishop of Chester, Feb. 13, 1809, to be £126. 6s. 10d.^s

There is a school "free to the children of all burghesses, and freemen who are inhabitants." The master is nominated by the corporation, and has a house, garden, and small close of land, an old stipend of £16. (mentioned by Gastrell as being paid by the corporation, "with a pretended right of withdrawing it") and the interest of later benefactions.

A new and more commodious grammar-school was erected in 1814, near the scite of the old one, at the expense of the corporation.

The chapel of Congleton stands on high ground

above the town, and is a handsome substantial building of brick, with a stone tower, containing six bells. It consists of a nave and chancel, with side aisles and galleries:

The following monuments are contained in the chapel.

A marble monument attached to a pillar in the nave, inscribed:

Sacred

to the memory of Elizabeth, widow of John Alsager of Alsager, gentleman, who died March the 18th, 1750, in the 72d year of her age;

also of Ann their daughter, who died Jan. the 19th, 1743, in the 40th year of her age;

also of John Alsager, esq. their son, who died Jan. 22, 1768, in the 54th year of his age;

also of John and Ralph their sons, who died in their infancy;

also of their daughters,

Sarah, who died July 11, 1769, aged 61;

Elizabeth, April 4, 1783, 77;

Margaret, May 13, 1789, 72;

Judith, Feb. 21, 1795, 75;

Mary, Mar. 23, 1795, 82.

Arms. Ermine, on a chief three lions rampant.

On a marble tablet in the south aisle:

Here lyeth interr'd

the body of Samuel Pattison, late of London, merchant, a person of unspotted integrity, of exemplary virtue, and endowed with every amiable quality that can adorn human nature,

therefore universally regretted by his family and friends! He resided during a year before his death in this town,

as DIRECTOR of the SILK MILLS,

where by his great abilities,

and unwearied application,

he rendered the most important services;

and enjoyed the satisfaction of living to see all the works compleated, and the manufacture brought to perfection.

Obiit 27 May 1756, æt. 30.

On a brass plate in the same aisle:

In memory

of James Starkey,

of Darley, esq. who

departed this life the

ninth day of December, in

the seventy-ninth year of his age,

anno Domini 1728.

In well

grounded hopes

of a blessed resur-

rection to life eternal

the mortal remains of

Katharine, wife of James

Starkey, esq. were under-

neath deposited Jan^y. 23,

1718.

There are also memorials of the families of Smith and Sydebotham.

ⁿ The first silk-mill, established at Congleton about the year 1752, was erected by Mr. John Clayton (then of Stockport), with whom Mr. Nathaniel Pattison was taken as a partner, with the consent of the corporation, as appears by an order in the Corporation Book, dated May 2, 1754. Information of H. Watson, esq.

^o The order is preserved in Harl. MSS. 2090, and *ibid.* is another order for levying the arrears of this mize in Edisbury, Wirral, Broxton, Bucklow, and Nantwich Hundreds (£77. 18s. 9d.) dated at Knutsford, March 13, 1604, signed by W. Leigh, Geo. Leicester, Thomas Stanley, William Brereton, and Henry Manwaringe.

^q Gastrell Not. Cest.

^r Information of W. Ward, esq. dep. reg.

^s Returns to the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty.

BUGLAWTON.

THE Domesday survey omits all mention of it, unless one of the two descriptions which appear to refer to Church Lawton relates to this township; but it became shortly after the Conquest a seat of the Touchet family. Orme, surnamed the Harper^a, the ancestor of the Touchets, had considerable possessions in this part of Cheshire, on a portion of which, as appears by the Croxton deeds, Wulfric, the patriarch of that ancient house, settled himself. These deeds prove the original grant to the said Wulfric, to have been made by Orme the Harper, and a confirmation to have been made by Matthew, son of Orme.

The Cheshire pedigrees generally state this Matthew to be father of Simon Touchet lord of Buglawton and Tattenhall in the time of Hugh Kevelioc, who is said to have succeeded thereto on the death of ^bHenry, son of Henry, son of Joscelyn de Touchet: other pedigrees state Simon to be son of Henry, but all agree in his descent from Orme. This Simon married to his first wife Alice Colevyle, widow of Philip Draycot, and secondly Petronilla: by the first wife he had Thomas, s. p. and Robert, second son and finally heir^d. This Thomas Touchet, who lived about the time of king John, is confounded by Collins with sir Thomas Touchet who died 8 Edward II. four entire descents being omitted^e.

Robert Touchet of Buglawton and Tattenhall above-mentioned, married Alice, daughter and coheir of Roger Fitz-Alured de Cumbre, with whom he had the manor of Legh-Cumbre in Shropshire, and Nether-Whitley co. Cest.^f the latter of which had been granted to his wife's grandfather by Randle Blundeville^g.

Thomas Touchet, son and heir by this marriage, married Isabella and held the manors of Buglawton, Tattenhall, Nether Whitley, and Legh Cumbre, 10 Hen. III.^h

Sir Robert Touchet, kt. son and heir of Thomas, died 32 Hen. III. leaving issue sir Thomas Touchet son and heir, and Richard, second son, rector of Middlewichⁱ.

Sir Thomas Touchet, son and heir, was aged five years 33 Hen. III.^k and is the person confounded by Collins with Thomas Touchet above-mentioned. He had a charter of free warren for Tattenhall and Buglawton 27 Edw. I. and died 8 Edw. II.

Sir Robert Touchet, kt. son and heir of sir Thomas, was aged forty years 8 Edw. II.^l and doing homage for his lands had then livery of them^m. Five years afterwards he was one of the barons who, with the earls of Lancaster and Hereford, assembled at Sherborne in Elmedon, and swore to stand by each other until they had amended the state of the realm; but notwithstanding this oath, sir Robert Touchet, with many others, submitted to the kingⁿ.

Sir Robert, by his first wife Johanna, was father of Robert Touchet, ancestor of Touchet of Nether Whitley; and by his second wife, Agnes, was father of sir Thomas Touchet, ancestor of the Touchets lords Audley^o.

Sir Thomas Touchet, son by the second marriage (on an issue of which the manors of Buglawton and Tattenhall were settled^p), died 23 Edw. III. leaving John son and heir.

Sir John Touchet was distinguished as a warrior in several battles in France, in particular at the relief of Aquillon and the siege of Rheims, 33 Edw. III. and was slain in a desperate engagement with the Spanish fleet before Rochelle, 44 Edw. III. He married Johanna, eldest daughter of James lord Audley of Heleigh, and sister and coheir of Nicholas lord Audley, by whom he had John Touchet son and heir.

Notwithstanding the settlement above-mentioned, Buglawton continued vested in the elder line, and was contested by this sir John with Thomas, son of Robert Touchet of Nether Whitley, his cousin, 29 Edw. III.^q

Sir John Touchet, son and heir of the preceding sir John, anno 1 Hen. IV. bought out the title of Thomas Touchet of Whitley (before-mentioned) in the manor of Buglawton^r: he assumed the title of lord Audley 4 Hen. IV. at which time he was actively employed in military arrangements in Wales; and died Dec. 19, 10 Hen. IV.^s The Inq. for his Cheshire estates is as follows, and another was taken 1 Hen. V.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. IV. John Touchett, ch'v'r. held in demesne as of fee the manor of Buglawton cum pert. from John de Kingslegh and Matthew de Swettenham as of the manor of Kermyncham, by military service and 7s. rent. Val. per ann. xx marks. Also a third part of a third part of the manor of Wich Malbank, a third part of two parts of the manor of Newhall, and lands in Wirswall. James Tuchett son and heir.

James Tuchett had livery of his lands 8 Hen. V. and was summoned to parliament in the same year. The lords Audley had now arrived at a pitch of power and influence which causes their personal history hence-forwards to relate more nearly to the annals of the kingdom at large, than to those of the county of their ancestors. It may suffice to say that the lord Audley of whom we now speak fell at the battle of Bloreheath, 38 Hen. VI. commanding the Lancastrians of Cheshire and the adjacent counties against Richard Neville earl of Salisbury. In consideration of his faithful services John, his son and heir, in the same year had a special livery of all his lands, lordships, and castles, without proof of his age^t.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VII. Sir John Tochet, kt. held in demesne as of fee two parts of a third part of the barony of Wich Malbank, and of the manor of Newhall, lands

^a "Citharista, or Touch it." Sir P. Leycester's Tabley MSS. This derivation of the name is whimsical, but not improbable.

^b This Henry, son of Henry, son of Jocelyn, had a confirmation of Tattenhall, from Randle Gernons. See Tattenhall, Broxton Hundred, p. 393. Emma, widow of Henry, had Buglawton in dower, 1140. Williamson, Vill. Cest. ^c Booth and Leycester.

^d Booth's MS. pedigree, transcribed by sir Peter Leycester, with additions. Tabley MSS.

^e Collins, vol. VI. 512. ed. 1768. Collins says, 8 Edw. I. in the text, but in his note of reference has the date of this later Thomas correct, 8 Edw. II.

^f Booth's pedigrees as before. ^g See Nether Whitley, Bucklow Hundred, p. 488, where the TOUCHET pedigree is inserted.

^h Booth's ped. ⁱ Ibid. ^k Ibid. ^l Ibid. ^m Collins, p. 512. ⁿ Collins. ^o Booth as before.

^p Williamson Vill. Cest. in which, however, there appears to be an error in placing these two wives one descent higher in the pedigree than Booth places them. ^q Booth. ^r Leycester's MS additions to Booth. ^s Collins.

^t Collins ut supra, where a very particular account of the personal achievements and employments of the lords Audley will be found.

in Wirswall, and the manors of Buglawton and Tattenhall: the manor of Buglawton being held from Ralph Mainwaring as of his manor of Kermyncham by military service and 7s. rent. and valued at xx marks. James Tochet lord Audley son and heir.

This James Tochet lord Audley and K. B. joining with the Cornish men in their insurrection, was taken in the battle of Blackheath, and beheaded on Tower-hill, June 28, 1497^a. His son John was restored in blood 4 Hen. VIII.; and the manor of Buglawton was surrendered by him to the crown in 1535^x.

After this (says Dr. Williamson in his MS. Villare) "it was given, I suppose, to the Bagenhalls, for 38 of q. Eliz. y^t s^r Hen. Bagenhall, and Eleanor his wife, past over by fine this man^r and 30 messuages, &c. here to Henry Mainwaring of Carincham, y^e heir of which house I suppose is l^d thereof, 1701."

On referring to Dr. Williamson's abstract of the fines, this appears to be a clerical error. For *Henry* Mainwaring of *Carincham*, he should have written *Randle* Mainwaring of *Peover*. The subsequent descent of the manor is drawn from title deeds^y.

1725, July 29. Sir Thomas Mainwaring of Peover, by his will of this date, devised the manor of Buglawton to his wife Martha Mainwaring in fee.

1740, Dec. 20. Martha Mainwaring devised the same by her will of this date, unto Rowland Cotton of Derby, and James Mainwaring of Chester, esquires, in trust for sale.

1743, 21 and 22 June. By conveyance of these dates Rowland Cotton conveys to James Mainwaring all the estate and interest vested in him by Martha Mainwaring's will, to enable him alone to sell and perform the trusts of her will.

1743, 23 and 24 June. By conveyance of these dates, James Mainwaring conveys to John Stafford of Macclesfield, gentleman, the premises in fee.

1761, 5 and 6 May. By conveyance of these dates, John Stafford conveys to Samuel Egerton, of Tattonpark, esq. the premises in fee. This conveyance comprises all courts-leet, with view of frank-pledge, and

courts-baron belonging to the manor, "with all rights appertaining thereto, by reason or pretext of any charter, letters-patent, gift, or grant theretofore made by any of the kings or queens of England, or of any prescription, usage, or charter, or by any other right whatsoever. Together with all rents, herriotts, duties, services, and other profits whatsoever, reserved on any demise or grant of any messuages, cottages, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, situate in Buglaughton, theretofore made or granted by the said James Mainwaring, sir Thomas Mainwaring, or dame Martha Mainwaring, or any former owner of the premises."

To the owner of this manor belongs a herriott from certain estates within the manor (in all twenty-one) on the death of the owner, of the best beast on the premises.

Buglawton-hall has been separated from the manor, and is now the property (by purchase) of R. Keymer, esq. It is agreeably situated on an elevation, but its former appearance is completely concealed under recent alterations. At a short distance from it is a ruinous farm house called Crossley, which once gave name to an antient family.

The Crossleghs terminated in coheirs in the reign of king John, when Agnes, daughter and coheiress of Gilbert Crosslegh, married Alexander Moreton of Great Moreton^z. In this family the estate continued until the reign of Rich. II. and occurs as the *manor* of Crossley in a fine 33 Edw. I. between Philip Johnson and William Larden, apparently trustees^a.

Temp. Ric. II. Alexander Dennis acquired the same in marriage with Agnes, sister of Thomas Moreton of Great Moreton; and his grandson, Alexander Dennis, had issue Elizabeth, sole daughter and heiress, wife of John Massie.

This branch of Massie bore the arms of the Massies of Sale^b, and continued settled here until 1600, when Hugh Massie had issue John son and heir, who is noticed in the Moreton pedigree. After this the family retired to another seat of theirs at Erdington, in the parish of Aston near Birmingham, which they shortly afterwards alienated.^c

MORETON CUM ALCUMLOW, OR GREAT MORETON.

MORETON is omitted in Domesday, and at the time of that survey most probably consisted of unreclaimed moors; which indeed are still not only to be traced in its name, but actually exist along the upper side of the township, towards the summit of Molecop-hill, and the border of Staffordshire. There can however be no

doubt of this township having been a component part of the barony of Kinderton from the time of the Norman conquest. By Inq. after the death of Edward Bellot, esq. 21 Jac. I. it is found to be a dependency of that barony, and to be held therefrom by the render of 11 shillings.

^a Collins ut supra.

^y Communicated by Wilbraham Egerton, esq. M. P.

^x Lysons's Magna Britannia, on the authority of a record in the Augmentation office.

^z Moreton pedigree.

^a Williamson's Evidences.

^b Quere, however, whether this was merely a coincidence, as the arms of *Crosslegh* were the same in figure with those of Massie of Sale, and might form the basis of the coat of this branch of Massie. They were Gules, a chevron between three lozenges Argent. In Shaw's Staffordshire, vol. I. p. 359, is a monumental inscription from St. Michael's church in Lichfield, for William Swynfende of Swynfende, and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Masse of Croseley, gent. The arms there given for Massie are, Argent, a chevron Gules, between three mascles, over all a lion rampant Sable.

In Dugdale's account of the Erdington chantry at Aston, will be found some other memorials of this family, with further variations in the arms.

^c On the eastern side of this township, which abuts upon Staffordshire, is a remarkable hill called THE CLOUD, over-hanging the Dane, and descending towards the river in an abrupt series of precipitous crags, similar to the wild terminations of Overton, Hellesby, and Beeston, noticed in the account of Edisbury. Drayton has omitted to notice the Cloud, though he particularizes its sister hills, "the high-crowned SHUTLINGSLAW and MOLECOF," which occur together with it in nearly all the extensive prospects of Cheshire and the parts adjacent. The former of these is in the hundred of Macclesfield, the latter is a long monotonous ridge, stretching from north to south, east of the townships of Congleton, Moreton, and Rode. On the summit, this unpleasant line is judiciously broken by a tower and other imitative ruins erected many years ago by the family of Wilbraham of Rode. Its name (vulgarly pronounced Mowcop) is obviously a compound of the British word Moel, and the Saxon Cop, of kindred signification.

The Cloud and Molecop are detached fragments of the great chain of hills termed the English Apennine, which range behind them in a continued series from Staffordshire across Macclesfield Hundred and the adjacent parts of Derbyshire towards the north. A connection between this range and the Welsh mountains is formed by the hills here described, the forest-hills of Delamere, and the rock of Beeston, but there are nevertheless two great chasms in the link occasioned by the flat surface of Northwich Hundred and the Vale of Chester.

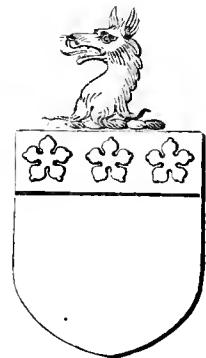
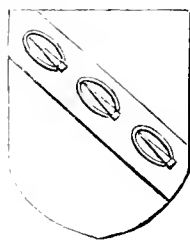
MORETON AND BELLOT OF GREAT MORETON.

From an illuminated pedigree roll in the possession of the rev. W. M. Moreton, of Little Moreton, collated with Booth's pedigrees, and continued from Dugdale's Visitation, 1663-4, and the Astbury Registers.

MORETON OF GREAT MORETON. Argent, on a bend Sable three buckles of the first.

BELLOT OF GREAT MORETON. Argent, on a chief Gules three cinquefoils of the first.

CREST. On a wreath a wolf's-head coupé Sable.



ALEXANDER MORETON, of Moreton, esq. — AGNES, daughter and coheir of Gilbert Crosley, of temp. Johan. Crosley in Buglawton.

RALPH MORETON, 12 Hen. III. — AMY, living in the time of Vivian Davenport, temp. Hen. III.

RALPH MORETON, temp. Hen. III.

RALPH MORETON, 44 Hen. III. had lands in Moresbarrow.

STEPHEN DE MORETON, temp. Edw. II.—21 Edw. III.

RALPH DE MORETON, son and heir apparent, 18 Edw. III. — JOHN. ROGER. KATHERINE, wife of Hugh Venables of Kinderton, 16 Edw. III.

1. ROBERT DE MORETON, son and heir, married Milli-cent, and died s. p. — 2. THOMAS MORETON, 24—28 Edw. III. — 3. JEFFREY MORETON.

THOMAS DE MORETON, died before 8 Hen. IV. — AGNES, wife of Alexander Dennis temp. Ric. II. had the estate of Crosley. From her the MASSIES OF CROSLY.

RALPH MORETON, eldest son and heir, married Elizabeth, who was living a widow, 8 Hen. VI. o. s. p. — ROGER MORETON, o. s. p. — KATHERINE, wife of John Bellet^a, esq. descended as heir-male from William Bellet of Gayton in Norfolk.

A second and third wife. — THOMAS BELLET, esq. of Great Moreton. — MARGARET, daughter of John Spencer.

KATHERINE, eldest daughter and coheir of Thurstan Gawen. — THOMAS BELLET, esq. of Great Moreton. — ELIZABETH, daughter of Leverages of Macclesfield, widow of Creswall.

JOHN BELLET, of Moreton, esq. son and heir. — JOAN, daughter of Ralph Moreton, of Little Moreton, esq. — THOMAS BELLET, second son, had issue Elizabeth, wife of Ralph Breadhurst of Sutton, and Margery, wife of Nicholas Hobson of Alderley. — KATHERINE, wife of William Lawton, of Lawton, esq.

BLANCHE, wife of Roger Sparke. — THOMAS BELLET, of Great Moreton, esq. son and heir. — ALICE, daughter and heiress of William Roydon, co. Denbigh. — ROBERT BELLET, married Ellen, daughter of . . . Sandford, and had issue Richard, who died in Normandy, and Robert living 1600. — PHILIP BELLET, married and had issue William, died April 28, 1607, buried at Astbury. — URSULA, wife of Edward Unwin of Chaterley, co. Staff. — ELIZABETH, wife of Roger Davenport of Chorley. — EMMA, wife of John Comerford. — CATHERINE, wife of John Creswall.

DOROTHY, wife of John Drinkwater of Chester. — ERMINIA, wife of John Manley of Poulton, and afterwards of Thos. Manley. — MARY, wife of Rich. Minshull, and after of Arthur Starkey of Wrenbury. — EDWARD BELLOT, son and heir apparent, died in his father's lifetime. — ANNE, dau. of Edward Moston, esq. — 2. THOMAS. — 3. HUGH BELLOT, bishop of Bangor and Chester^b. — 4. JOHN. — 5. GEORGE. — 6. ROBERT, married Dorothy, daughter of Rob. Brereton of Wettenhall, and had issue. — 7. DAVID. — 8. MATTHEW. — 9. OWEN. — 10. CUTHBERT BELLOT, archdeacon of Chester^c.

EDWARD BELLOT, of Moreton, co. Cest. died Aug. 7, 1622, bur. at Astbury, Inq. p. m. 21 Jac. I. — AMY, daughter and coheir of Anthony Grosvenor of Dodleston, younger son of Richard Grosvenor of Eaton, esq. died Sept. 1, 1612, bur. at Astbury. — 2. THOMAS. — 3. JOHN. — 1. DOROTHY, wife of William Griffith. — 2. MAGDALEN, wife of Peter Folkes. — 3. KATHERINE.

3. THOMAS BELLOT, died unmarried, buried at Astbury, Nov. 10, 1654. — 2. GEORGE BELLOT, of Odd Rode, co. Cest. — ELEANOR, daughter of William Lawton, of Lawton, co. Cest. — JOHN BELLOT, of Moreton, esq. son and heir, ob. Nov. 9, 1659, bur. at Astbury, anno æt. 67. — URSULA, daughter and sole heiress of John Bentley, of the Ashes in Leeke, co. Staff. — 1. SUSAN, wife of John Broughton of Broughton. — 2. FRANCES, wife of Peter, son of Peter Legh, of Lyme, co. Cest. — 3. ELIZABETH, wife of Thos. Bromley of Hampton. — 4. MARY, wife of Thomas, son of William Gamull, an alderman of Chester.

2. PHILIP, died unmarried. — 3. THOMAS, died unmarried. — 4. GEORGE BELLOT, marr. widow of Crakemarsh, of co. Staff. — 5. EDWARD BELLOT, married Sibella, daughter of sir Rowland Egerton of Fartbingho, Northamptonshire. — Sir JOHN BELLOT, of Moreton, co. Cest. bart. created a bart. June 30, 1663, aged 45 years 1664, died July 14, 1674, buried at Astbury. — ANNE, daughter of Roger Wilbraham, of Dorfold, co. Cest. died Dec. 27, 1711, buried at Astbury, Jan. 1, 1711-12. — 1. ANNE, wife of William Ferne, of Crakemarsh, co. Staff. — 2. URSULA, wife of Thos. Stockton, of Kiddington, co. Cest. — Two other children died young.

2. JOHN BELLOT, aged 6 years Sept. 26, 1664, died before his father, buried at Astbury. — 1. Sir THOMAS BELLOT, of Moreton, bart. born Oct. 22, 1651, living Sept. 26, 1664. — SUSANNA, daughter of Christopher Packe, of Cotes, co. Leicester, formerly alderman of London, marr. by special license Feb. 1674-5. — MARY, born Sept. 22, 1653, living Sept. 26, 1664. — ANNE, born Aug. 1, 1655, living 1664, died before her father, buried at Astbury. — ELIZABETH, born Oct. 21, 1659, living 1664.

Sir JOHN BELLOT, of Moreton, bart. born Nov. 30, bapt. 14 Dec. 1676. bur. Feb. 8, 1713-14. supposed s. p. m. — ANNE, bapt. Feb. 5, 1677. — THOMAS BELLOT, bapt. July 18, 1679. supposed s. p. m. — ELIZABETH, bapt. Feb. 7, 1681. — SUSANNA, bapt. Oct. 1, 1683.

^a So the name is spelt in the pedigree roll, but in Dugdale's Visitation, and the parish registers and deeds, Bellet.

^b Vide vol. I. p. 75.

^c Vide vol. I. p. 89.

The foregoing pedigree of the mesne lords differs in a few particulars from one drawn up by Booth, the most observable of which consists in Booth terming the first Ralph "Rad'us de *Venables*, d'nus de Magna Moreton," which designation if correct (as it most probably is) establishes a connection between the Moretons and their superior lords.

Booth also places two Roberts instead of the second Ralph de Moreton.

^a Ralph, son and heir of Stephen de Moreton, was seized of the manor of Moreton in the life-time of his father, which Ralph, by fine of grant and render, assured the premises (18 Edw. III.) to himself for life, remainder to Robert his son and the heirs of his body, remainder successively to his other sons, Thomas and Geoffry, and the heirs of their bodies. This Ralph and Robert died before 24 Edw. III. and Thomas sold parcel of the said premises (which was of the dower of Millicent wife of Robert) to sir Thomas Hawkstone, kt. and Ellen his wife.

The part thus severed was most probably the hamlet of *ALCUMLOW*, which has passed from that time to the present by the same title as the adjacent manor of Astbury, which is ascertained by a fine of the year before-mentioned to have been then vested in sir Thomas and Ellen Hawkstone. The account of Astbury brings down the descent of this hamlet to the present proprietor of Alcumlow, sir J. G. Egerton, bart. who holds a court for the same. It is also within the leet of Kinderton^b.

The Moretons of Great Moreton terminated about the time of Henry IV. in an heir female, with whom this township passed in marriage to sir John Bellot, representative of the Bellots of Gayton in Norfolk. This family having become extinct early in the eighteenth century, the manor passed (most probably immediately by sale from the representatives of the Bellots) to the family of Powis of the county of Stafford. Thomas Jelp Powis (probably grandson of the purchaser^c) resold the same to the late Holland Ackers, of Manchester, esq.; and it is now vested in James Ackers, esq. his brother, and George Ackers, esq. son of the said H. Ackers, for their joint lives, with remainder to the said George Ackers, esq. and his issue^d.

Since this purchase no court has been held for the manor of Moreton^e. The baron of Kinderton still claims the right of having the constables for this township sworn in the court held for that barony^f.

The hall of Great Moreton is a spacious building of timber and plaster, finished with gables in the style of the early part of the seventeenth century. It has been of late much altered, and previous to these alterations windows of comparatively modern appearance had been substituted for the original ones, and the timber-work concealed by stucco. In front of the house, near the road side, were the steps of an antient Cross, which much resembled in appearance those which are described in the account of Lymme^g. These were removed about the year 1806.

ODRODE, OR LITTLE MORETON CUM RODE.

ODRODE is situated on the verge of the county, immediately under the line of hills which mark its Staffordshire boundary, and which antiently formed a portion of the forests of Leek and Macclesfield. The following extract from Domesday accordingly notices its wood, its aery for hawks, and its inclosures for taking the wild deer. It notices also its partition into two manors in the Saxon period, and it would perhaps be more correct to consider this distinction as still existing, and to view Moreton and Rode as two manors within one vill than as moieties of a divided manor. Hugh and William, the Norman grantees, were certainly Hugh de Mara predecessor of the barons of Montalt, and William Fitz-Nigel of Halton. In some antient law papers, Stephen de Swettenham, who releases to the first Gramam de Moreton his rights here, is said to have held by knight's service from the barony first mentioned^a; and in an Inq. 3 Hen. IV. the baron of Halton is recognized as superior lord of the Moreton share of Oddrode.

"Hugo et Willielmus tenent de comite Rode: Godric et Ravesna, pro 11 maneriis tenuerunt; et liberi homines fuerunt; ibi est una hida geldabilis; terra est 111 carucarum: wasta est, præter quod unus radman habet sub eis carucas et dimidiam: valet 11 solidos. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat xx solidos: silva ibi 11 lenvis longa, et una lata, et 11 haia, et aira accipitris."

The present divisions of this township are called *LITTLE MORETON* and *RODE*, and severally gave name to two ancient families.

LITTLE MORETON.

I. Gramam de Lostock, fourth in male descent from Hugh de Runchamp, grantee of a moiety of Lostock at the Conquest, was father of Richard, Geoffry, and Robert de Lostock^b; the sons of Richard de Lostock died s. p. and the male line was continued by Geoffry de Lostock, who settled in this township in consequence of the following grant from his brother Richard.

Seiant p'sentes et futur', q'd ego Ricardus fil' Gramami de Lostoe dedi, concessi, et hæc p'senti cartâ mea confirmavi, Galfrido f'ri meo pro homagio et s'vicio suo totam meam partem scilicet totam medietatem villæ de Rode, cum omnibus p'tin' suis, habend' et tenend' de me et heredibus meis sibi et heredibus suis in perpetuum lib'e quiete et integre, eum boscis et cum planis, &c. &c. reddendo inde annuatim mihi et heredibus meis de se et heredibus suis unum par albarum cheirothecarum in festo s'c'i Joh'is Baptiste, pro o'ibus serviis p'd'e medietati de Rode cum p'tinentiis p'tinentibus, salvo forinseco servieio, (general warranty), &c. &c. Hoc presens scriptum sigilli mei impressione roboravi, hiis testibus, D'no Ric'o de la Holt milite, Steph'o de Merton, Tho' de Rode, Ric'o Starky, Hamund' la Bret,

^a Abstract in deeds in Moreton pedigree.

^b Information of Edward Braband, esq.

^c Son of Edward Powys of Wheelock, esq. born 1709. See Sandbach monuments.

^d Information of James Ackers, esq.

^e Information of the same.

^f Information of Edward Braband, esq.

^g Vol. I. pp. 435, 443.

^a See more in Kermincham respecting the connexion of the Montalts and Swettenhams with Oddrode.

^b See Lostock Gramam in Bucklow, and Allstock in Northwich Hundred.

Rond. de Merton, Henrico de Bechinton, Will'mo de Estbury, Tho' de Lostoc, Hen' cl'ico, et multis aliis^c.

II. This Geoffry de Lostock was living a^o 1278, when he quitclaims to Richard Starky certain lands for 12 years, to be held by the render of vid.^d and died before 1280, when a fine was passed by his relict Millescinda, and his son and heir Gralam^e.

III. Gralam, son of Geoffry de Lostock, grants lands in Woodbouses to Thomas, son of Robert de Rode, which the said Thomas re-grants to him by deed s. d.^f He also occurs in another deed s. d.^g, whereby John, son of Stephen de Swettenbam, quitclaims to him, by the name of Gralam, son of Geoffry de Moreton, "totum dominium suum, et servicium et jus suum in medietate de Rode." Gralam de Moreton married Alicia, daughter of Alan de Lymme, and to him and to his issue by her Gilbert de Lymme confirms all the lands which his father Alan had given with her in frank marriage^h. He also married Margery, daughter of Robert de Kingsley, and has a confirmation s. d. from the said Robert and his wife Margery, of the lands which he received in frank marriage with their daughterⁱ. It does not appear which was the mother of his children from deeds, but the pedigrees refer them to the marriage first mentioned.

IV. Richard, son of Gralam de Moreton, by deed s. d.^k had a grant of his lands from his uncle Richard (son of Geoffry), and by the same name grants lands in Odrode and Moseley to Robert, son of Thomas de Rode^l. He occurs with Beatrice his wife, 3 Edw. III.^m and in the following year gives all his lands in Oddrode, purchased from Thomas de Bredenall, to William his son and heirⁿ. 3 Edw. III. he grants to Richard, son of Robert de Rode, all his lands within certain bounds, "cum licencia levandi unum asterium ignale, et cum licencia capiendi turbas, petas, et rotes, pro predicto asterio in mossetis de Rode^o." This must have been a beacon on Mole Cop, and these deeds were executed in his father's life-time. Afterwards he occurs as d'nus de Parva Moreton^p, in 1320, in a grant of lands in Birches to Richard de Leftwich, as "filius Gralami de Lostock^q," and in 1329, as giving to John his son, and Margaret his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, lands in Odrode and Bechinton, to be held by the render of a red rose^r.

V. John Moreton, before-mentioned, son and heir by survivorship, married Margaret, daughter of Jordan, and sister and coheir of John de Macclesfield. The marriage covenant, dated 1329, has four seals appendant: the first represents a bird, the inscription being mutilated; the second has a bishop, with a mitre and cross in his hand, within gothic tracery, kneeling before a figure of the Virgin with the infant Jesus in her arms, circumscribed, SIGILLUM RADULPHI DE RO—TON. The next a small seal with a grotesque figure of an ape with a head-dress of feathers riding on a hound; the fourth, a shield emblazoned with two barrs, S... DE BRERTON. The second and third seals, apparently of ecclesiastics, are most excellently carved; and the head of the dog on the third seal is as naturally represented as it would be on a seal of the 19th century.

VI. Richard de Moreton, "son of John," was living 42 Edw. III. when he had a grant from Henry de Tun-

stall, and Alice his wife, of all their lands in Oddrode, and the mansion called Park Hall; he was father of Gralam, and Richard de Moreton.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. IV. Richard de Moreton held in demesne as of fee, a moiety of the manor of Rode, cum pert., from the lord duke of Lancaster, as of his manor of Halton, by military service. Val. per ann. xxi. Gralam de Moreton son and heir.

VIII. Richard de Moreton, who succeeded his brother Gralam (VII.), was father of Ralph de Moreton.

IX. To this Ralph, son of Richard, Thomas de Moreton gives all the lands in Oddrode, which Millescend, daughter of William de Moreton, and wife of Thomas Cuttelsford, formerly held^s, 3 Hen. IV. He occurs again 4 Hen. V. in a release of his Cheshire estates to Matthew Litherland, parson of Astbury^t, and died before 19 Hen. VI. when his widow Johanna gives to Richard, son of Ralph de Moreton, all the lands which she had of the gift of Richard his father^u.

X. Richard Moreton, afterwards knighted, succeeded his father, and in 32 Hen. VI. had a son, Ralph Moreton, living, to whom he gives the Parke Hall in Oddrode^x, but by the following Inquisition (taken probably after the death of sir Richard and his son) William Moreton (brother of sir Richard) ultimately succeeded to the estate of his father.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. Ralph Moreton held the manor of Moreton, cum pert., in Odrode, with messuages, lands, and one watermill, held from sir John Savage, kt. as of his barony of Shipbrooke, as the ninth part of a knight's fee. Val. xxi. Also lands in Barneton. William Moreton son and heir.

XI. This William Moreton occurs July 12, 5 Hen. VIII.^y in an award made between him and Thomas Rode of Rode by sir William Brereton, to whose sole decision an important dispute was left by George Bromley, lieut.-justice of Chester, who had been joined with him in arbitration. This dispute was "which shuld sit highest in the churche, and foremost goo in procession;" and "the saidd William Brereton calling to him xii of the most auncyent men inhabiting within the parish of Astebury," awards the honour to the gentleman "that may dispende in landes by title of inheritaunce, 10 mark or above more than the other."^z

Inq. p. m. 18 Hen. VIII. William Moreton, esq. held the manor of Moreton and lands in Odrode as in the preceding Inq. and lands in Barneton and Sutton. Val. tot. xxiiii. viiis. i. v. d. He died Aug. 6, 17 Hen. VIII. William Moreton son and heir, aged 16 years.

XII. Inq. p. m. 7 Eliz. William Moreton held the manor of Parva Moreton as before, and lands in Sutton, Barneton, and Congleton: died June 29, 5 Eliz. John Moreton, esq. son and heir.

This Inq. brings down the chain of descent to the contemporary entries in the visitations, from whence it is continued to the present time by the pedigree annexed. The direct male line of the family terminated in 1763, in sir William Moreton, kt. recorder of London, whose nephew, the rev. Richard Taylor, assumed the name of Moreton, and was father of the rev. William Moreton Moreton, the present proprietor of Little Moreton-hall, and this moiety of the manor of Odd Rode.

^c Compared with the original in possession of Mr. Moreton, Nov. 26, 1815.

^e a a 13.

^h a a 11.

ⁱ c c 2.

^k a a 6.

^l a a 7, 8.

^m d d 10.

ⁿ d d 13.

^o d d 1.

^p a a 19.

^q c c 1.

^r d d 19.

^s d d 14.

^t c c 1.

^u c c 2.

^x c c 3.

^y f f 2.

^z The award is printed at length in Magna Britannia, vol. 11. pt. 11. p. 492.

LITTLE MORETON-HALL is situated near the road from Congleton to Newcastle, within a square moat inclosing about a statute acre. Three sides only of the building are standing. The entrance is over a bridge from the south side, from whence the portal of an antient gateway admits to the court. The buildings over this gateway are very lofty, and appear to have been chiefly used as sleeping rooms, with the exception of a gallery in the summit, 68 feet by 12, and a room on the south side opening to the gallery. The sides of the gallery are almost entirely composed of a series of bay windows: the roof is of oak resting on brackets, and formed into square compartments filled with quatrefoils. Over the window at the west end is a figure of Fortune resting on a wheel, with the motto "qui modo scandit, corruet statim;" and at the other end is another figure with a globe, and an inscription, "the speare of Destiny whose rule is Knowledge."

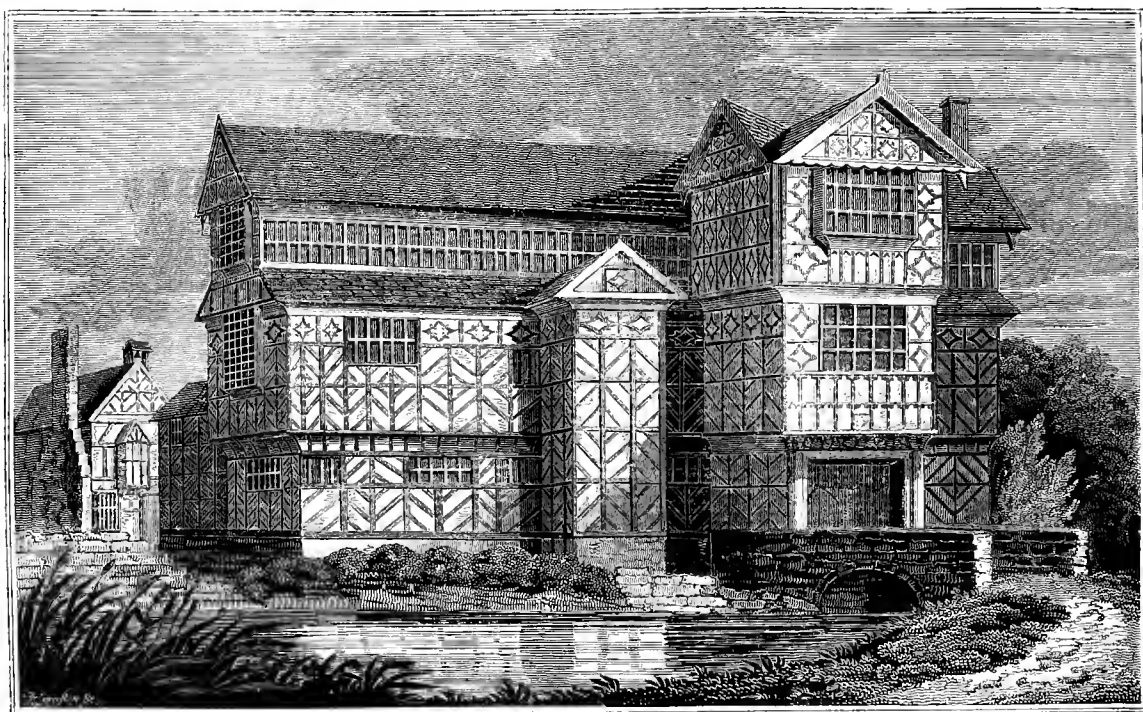
The principal apartment in the opposite side of the court (to the north) is lighted by a large bow window, forming five sides of an octagon. Beyond is the dining parlour, over the mantle-piece in which are the arms of Elizabeth, and in the windows are the arms of Brereton and Moreton, and the badge of Lancaster; another pane has been destroyed, which probably contained a repetition of the rose to which the Moretons had two reasons for attachment—the well-known predilection of the Cheshire gentlemen for the princes of that house, and the circumstance of their being military tenants of the dutchy of Lancaster. The bow windows in the hall and adjoining apartment appear to have been added. Over the upper windows are the following inscriptions, "God is al in al thing." "This windows were made by William Moreton in the yeare of oure Lorde MDLIX." "Richard Dale carpe'der

made this window by the grac' of God."

The most antient side of the building is on the east. In this part is a small and very curious chapel, divided into the regular form of chapel and ante-chapel, separated by a wooden screen. The extreme length is ten yards, the cieling very low: the chapel is about four yards long by three wide; the ante-chapel about six by five: at the east end is a pointed window, and texts of scripture are painted in black letter within compartments on the walls.

The materials of the house are timber, wicker-work, and plaister: the timber being, as usual, disposed in squares, filled up fancifully with quatrefoils or other patterns. The stables and offices are ranged at a more decorous distance than is usual in old mansions. Within the moat, at the north-west angle, is a circular mound, which probably supported a tower of the earlier mansion (which from this circumstance appears to have been fortified); and at the south-east angle is another circular mound of much larger dimensions, situated outside the *present* moat, but apparently included originally within trenches communicating within it.

The annexed vignette (presented by the rev. W. M. Moreton) exhibits an accurate near view of the front of this most curious mansion; and other delineations of various parts of it will be found in Lysons's *Magna Britannia*, and Britton's *Architectural Antiquities*. One of the most interesting general views is from the summit of Mole Cop, where the eye catches a bird's-eye view of the moat and the entire form of the building, grouping with the range of offices, and a large artificial pool which lies below the hill at the back of the buildings. The house is occupied by farmers, but deserved attention is paid to the neat appearance and the preservation of the venerable pile.

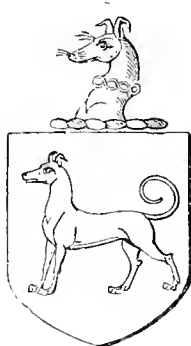


MORETON OF MORETON.

From a pedigree in the possession of the family, collated with original deeds and inquisitions, the visitations of 1580, 1613, and 1663-4, and the information of the family in the later descents.

ARMS. Argent, a greyhound statant Sable.

CREST. A greyhound's head coupé Argent, collared with a twisted wreath Vert.



Sir GRALAM DE LOSTOCK, kt. temp. Hen. III. fourth in male descent from LETITIA, daughter and heiress of de Moreton.

RICHARD, son of Gralam de LOSTOCK. ROBERT DE LOSTOCK. GEOFFRY DE LOSTOCK, to whom his father gave a moiety of Rode, living 1278. MILLESCENDA, living a widow 1280.

RICHARD and THOMAS DE LOSTOCK, o. s. p. JOAN, beiress to her brothers, wife of William de Toft, younger brother of Roger de Toft, and ancestor of the Holfords of Holford. MARGERY, dau. of Robert de Kingsley, by deed s. d. GRALAM DE MORETON, son and heir, 1280. ALICIA, daughter of Alan, and sister of Gilbert de Lymme, by deed s. d. RICHARD. LETITIA, wife of Adam de Merton. MARGERY, wife of Robert de Knipersley.

RICHARD DE MORETON, 4 Edw. II. and 3 Edw. III. living 1320. BEATRIX, who had a moiety of Oldfield, 1329. ELLEN, wife of Robert de Rode.

WILLIAM, son and heir apparent, 4 Edw. III. o. s. p. JOHN DE MORETON, son and heir, 1329-1354. MARGARET, daughter of Jordan de Macclesfield, and sister and coheiress of John de Macclesfield (marr. cov. in possession of the rev. W. M. M. 1815.) RANOLE DE MORETON. WILLIAM, father of Thos. de Moreton. ALICE, wife of Rich. son and heir of Thomas de Vernon.

JOHANNA, second wife, living 9 Hen. VI. RICHARD DE MORETON, son and heir, 38 Edw. III. Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. IV. RANDLE DE MORETON, younger son.

GRALAM DE MORETON, son and heir per Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. IV. o. s. p. RICHARD DE MORETON. MARGARET, dau. of John Woodnoth of Shavington.

RALPH MORETON, of Moreton, esq. son and heir, 3 Hen. IV. 4 Hen. V. Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. JOHANNA, daughter of Moreton of Congleton, living a widow 19 Hen. VI. JOHN MORETON, 2nd son.

Sir RICHARD MORETON, of Moreton, kt. had issue Ralph, living 32 Hen. VI. WILLIAM MORETON, of Moreton, esq. finally heir, died Aug. 6, 17 Hen. VIII. Inq. p. m. 18 Hen. VIII. ALICE, daughter of sir Andrew Brereton, of Brereton, kt. JOAN, wife of John Bellot, of Great Moreton, esq. wife of a younger brother of John Fitton of Gawsforth.

ELIZABETH, wife of William Yardley of Yardley. MARGARET, wife of sir Geo. Calveley, of Lea, kt. s. p. ALICE, wife of Thomas Rode of Odd Rode. ANNE, wife of William Golborne, s. p. WILLIAM MORETON, of Moreton, esq. aged 16 years 28 Hen. VIII. died June 29, 5 Eliz. Inq. p. m. 7 Eliz. ANNE, daughter of sir Robert Fulleshurst, of Crewe, kt. RALPH MORETON, 2nd son.

ELIZABETH, daughter of Richard Sutton, of Sutton, esq. s. p. JOHN MORETON, of Moreton, esq. son and heir, living 1580. ANNE, daughter of John Davenport, of Davenport, esq. and coheiress of her mother Jane, daughter and heiress of Richard Massey of Tatton.

2. JOHN MORETON. WILLIAM MORETON, of Moreton, esq. born 1577, living 1608. JANE, daughter of Thomas Lancaster, of Rainhill, co. Lanc. MARY. ALICE, wife of John Warde of Monks' Heath. ALICE.

1. JOHN MORETON, of Little Moreton, esq. son and heir, æt. 17, an. 1613, o. s. p. 2. WILLIAM MORETON, o. s. p. 3. EDWARD MORETON, S. T. P. fellow of King's-college, Camb. rector of Tattenhall, Barrow, and Sephton, and prebendary of Chester cathedral, died Feb. 28, 1674, æt. 76, buried at Sephton, co. Lanc. MARGARET, daughter of sir William Webb, kt. and niece of William Laud, archbp. of Canterbury. 4. PETER MORETON, ambassador from king Charles I. to Genoa and Tuscany. 5. PHILIP MORETON, aged 51 years, Sept. 14, 1663. 6. RALPH. MARY, wife of Jonathan Woodnoth of Shavington. JANE. ANNE. ELIZABETH, wife of Randle Rode, of Odd Rode, esq.

ANNE. ALICE. 2. MARY, daughter of Harman, of the kingdom of Ireland, relict of sir Arthur Jones, died April 19, 1743, aged 85, buried at Astbury. WILLIAM MORETON, of Moreton, born 1641, baptized at Chester cathedral, bishop of Kildare in Ireland, and afterwards translated to Meath. MARY, daughter of sir Richard Atkins, bart. of Clapham, buried at Clapham, Surrey. PETER. THOMAS.

Sir WILLIAM MORETON, kt. recorder of London, knighted Sept. 19, 1755, o. s. p. March 14, 1763, anno æt. 67, married Jane, relict of John Lawton, of Lawton, esq. who died Feb. 10, 1758, æt. 61, and was buried at Astbury. MARY, wife of lieutenant-col. Howard, 2nd brother of Francis, fifth lord Howard of Effingham. RICHARD MORETON, in holy orders, o. s. p. ANNABELLA, wife of William Taylor, of Dublin, esq. barrister at law, married at St. Werburgh's in Dublin, died at Lewes, buried at West Firlie in Sussex, May 1774, æt. 86.

RICHARD TAYLOR, cler. rector of West Dean, and vicar of West Firlie, co. Sussex, assumed the name of Moreton in compliance with the will of sir William Moreton, buried at Firlie, 1784, anno æt. 61. FRANCES, daughter of William Scrase, of Brighton, esq. married at Seaford, buried at Frating, Essex.

1. ANNABELLA, died unmarried, buried at St. Michael's, Lewes, Ap. 12, 1787, æt. 35. 2. SALLY, wife of the rev. Edward Frewen, D.D. of Northiam, co. Sussex, only surviving son of Thomas Frewen, M.D. married June 1789, at St. John's church in Lewes. LOUISA, second daughter of William Board, of Paxbill, co. Sussex, marr. at Cranford, Middlesex. June 14, 1787, buried at Lindfield, Sussex. WILLIAM MORETON, of Little Moreton, cler. M. A. born April 2, 1759, living 1817. ELIZABETH, dau. of Henry Hutton, cler. rector of Beaumont, co. Essex.

WILLIAM PEPPERRELL FREWEN MORETON, only son and heir-apparent, born March 6, 1817, baptized at Westerham, Kent.

RODE.

The other moiety of this township gave name to a family, who were settled here in the reign of king John, or the early part of that of his successor. Thomas, son of Robert de Rode, occurs as d'nus medietatis de Rode in deeds temp. Hen. III. and survived to the justiceship of Hugh de Audley, in the reign of Edw. II.

Robert de Rode, son of this Thomas, (by a deed in possession of Mr. Moreton) quitclaims 'to Gramam de Moreton, free common in all lands in Rode within his wastes in that township, with the exception of his own and his tenants rights in the turbaries and free common of Rode, except *his own park*, and lands held in cultivation. Witnesses, William Venables de Newboldt, Thomas de Rode, Robt. de Lauton, Randle de Astbury, &c.

Several particulars relating to this family will be found in the preceding account of Little Moreton, and the annexed pedigree contains all that is known on the subject of their descent. By Inq. after the death of Randle Rode, esq. Ap. 28, 7 Jac. I., this moiety of the manor of Odrode is found to have been held by him by military service, from Henry Manwaring of Kermincham, and to have been worth, in all its proceeds, besides reprisals, £v. per annum.

In 1669, Roger Wilbraham, of Townsend, esq. purchased from Randle Rode, esq. (who by the preceding Inquisition was found heir to his grandfather, and who entered the Rode pedigree in the Visitation of 1663) "his moiety of the manor of Rode, and the manor house and demain lands thereunto belonging, together with the water corn mill."^a

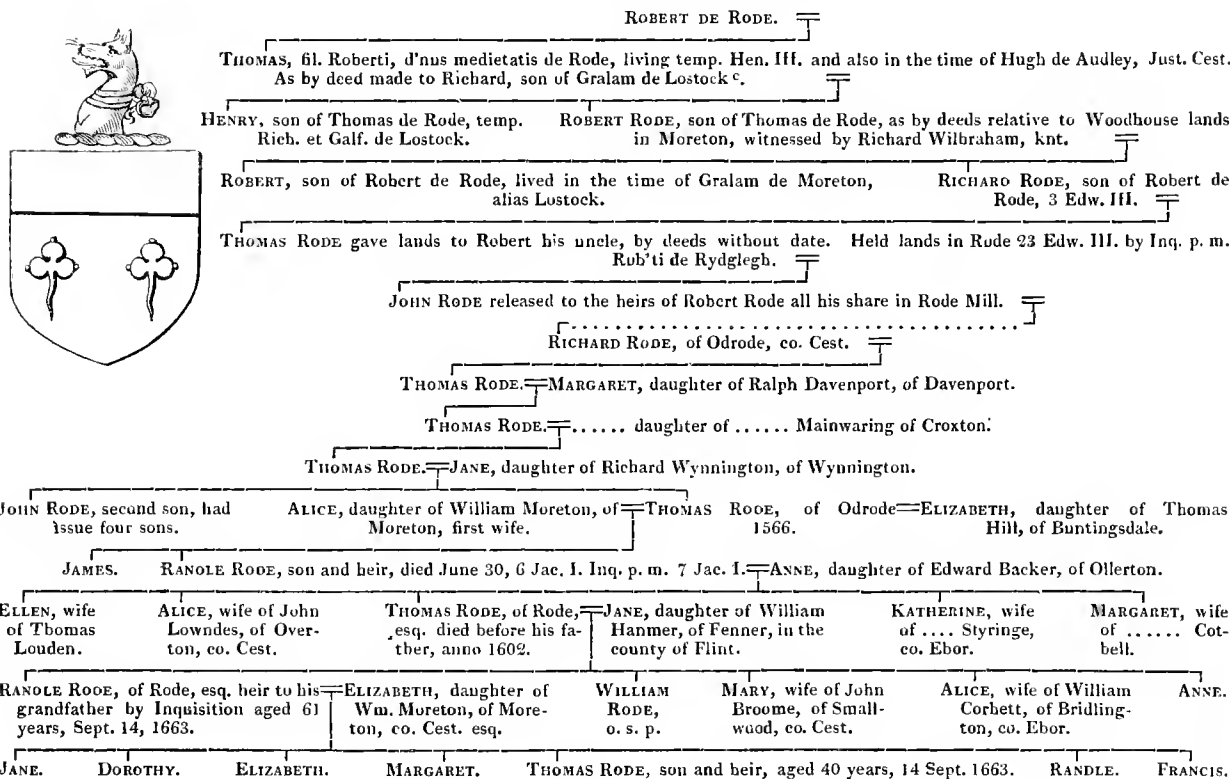
Rode subsequently became the seat of a collateral line of the Wilbrahams, which branched from the Townsend family in the person of Randle Wilbraham, LL. D. third son of Randle Wilbraham of Townsend. The representation of this branch is now vested in Edward Bootle Wilbraham, esq. M. P. of Lathom House in Lancashire; but Rode, and the other Cheshire estates of the family, are the property of his younger brother, Randle Wilbraham, esq. The descent of this family as far as it is connected with Rode is given in the pedigree annexed^b. Rode Hall was built by the grandfather of the present proprietor, but has been recently enlarged, and has received very extensive improvements in the house and the grounds adjacent. The situation is elevated, and the principal front includes within its prospect nearly the whole of Cheshire, bounded by the hills of the surrounding counties.

RODE OF RODE.

The four earliest descents from the Mureton deeds, the rest from Booth's pedigrees, and the entries in the Visitations.

ARMS. Argent, two trefoils slipped Vert, and a chief Sable.

CREST. On a wreath, a wolf's head couped Sable, gorged with a ribband Argent.



^a Copy of the Wilbraham MSS. in the possession of E. B. Wilbraham, esq. M. P.

^b The earlier generations from the first settlement of the Wilbrahams in Cheshire, will be found in the accounts of Cuddington, in Edisbury Hundred, p. 65, and Woodhey in Nantwich Hundred, and the monuments of the Rode branch in the account of Astbury.

^c Moreton Deeds.

WILBRAHAM OF RODE.

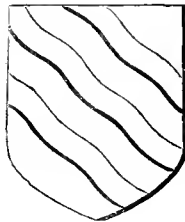
ANTIENT ARMS. Argent, three bends wavy Azure. Additional coat, granted by William Flower, temp. Eliz. Azure, 2 bars Argent, on a canton of the first a wolf's head erased of the second.

CREST. On a wreath, a wolf's head erased Argent.

From a pedigree in the possession of Edward Bootle Wilbraham, esq. 1817, originally drawn up by J. C. Brooke, esq. Somerset Herald, in 1792, and the additions since that time, entered in the College of Arms to 1815.

RANDLE WILBRAHAM, of Rode, esq. second surviving son of Randle Wilbraham of Nantwich, esq. barrister at law, LL.D. and deputy steward of the university of Oxford, M. P. for Newcastle-under-Lyme, Appleby, and Newton, Lancashire, obiit Dec. 3, 1770.

DOROTHY, only daughter of Andrew Kenrick, esq. of the city of Chester, barrister-at-law, married at Tarporley Aug. 24, 1722, died November 1754; buried at Astbury.



MARY, eldest daughter, married May 1755, at St. Andrew's, Holborn, to Charles Gray, esq. of Colchester, M. P. for that borough, F. R. S. and recorder of Ipswich.

DOROTHEA, 2nd daughter, married at Astbury to John Ford, esq. of the Middle Temple, barrister-at-law.

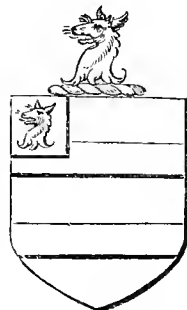
RICHARD WILBRAHAM, esq. of Rode and of Lathom, co. Lancashire, assumed the name of Bootle, pursuant to the will of sir Thomas Bootle, M. P. for Chester from 1761 to 1790, high steward of Congleton, obiit March 13, 1796, bur. at Astbury Mar. 22.

MARY, daughter and sole heiress of Robert Bootle, of Lathom-house, in the county of Lancaster, and of Southwood, in Hornsey, co. Middlesex, and heir to her uncle sir Tho. Bootle, knight, chancellor to Frederick prince of Wales, and M. P. for Liverpool and Midhurst. Obiit April 10, 1813, bur. at Astbury April 20.

ANNE, died unmarried 1769.

ELIZABETH, died in London unmarried, 1807.

ROGER WILBRAHAM, second son, died aged 14 years, buried at St. Andrew's, London.



1. THOMAS, born Apr. 22, 1756, died June 6 following; buried at Watford.

2. ANNE-DOROTHEA, born Sept. 26, 1757, married at Hornsey Sept. 9, 1784, to Richard Pepper Arden, esq. afterwards lord Alvanley. Had issue.

3. THOMAS-WILLIAM, born October 24, 1758, died December 22 following, buried at Saint George's, Bloomsbury.

4. MARY, born Aug. 15, 1760, marr. at Lathom-house Oct. 26, 1780, by special licence, to W. Egerton of Tatton and Withenshaw, esq. M. P. for Cheshire, obiit Nov. 13, 1784, buried at Northenden Nov. 22. Had issue.

5. FRANCISCA-ALICIA, born Nov. 17, 1762, married at St. James's, Westminster, Dec. 20, 1783, to Anthony Hardolph Eyre, esq. of Grove, co. Notts, M. P. for that county, obiit Sept. 3, 1810, buried at Rampton, in Notts. Had issue.

6. SYBILLA-GEORGINA, born May 16, 1764, marr. at St. George's, Bloomsbury, 16 June 1791, to William Farington, of Shaw-hall and Werden, co. Lanc. esq. obiit Nov. 22, 1799, buried at Leyland, co. Lanc.

7. EMMA, born June 23, 1765, married at St. George's, Bloomsbury, June 1, 1794, to Sir Charles Edmonstone, bart. of Duntrath, co. Stirling, M. P. for that county, obiit Nov. 30, 1797, bur. at St. George's, Bloomsbury.

8. ELIZABETH, unmarried.

9. RICHARD, born August 11, 1769, died April 8, 1770, buried at Clapham, in Surrey.

10. EDW. BOOTLE WILBRAHAM, of Lathom-house, co. Lanc. esq. eldest surviving son and heir, born Mar. 7, 1771, bap. at St. Geo. Bloomsbury, and afterwards at Cbeam, in Surrey, May 20, re-assumed the name of Wilbraham by authority of sign manual Dec. 8, 1814, M. P. for Westbury, Newcastle und. Lyme, Clithero, & Dover.

MARY-ELIZABETH, dau. of therev. Edw. Taylor of Bifrons, co. Kent, marr. at St. Mary-le-bone, April 19, 1796.

LETITIA, dau. and heir of Edw. Rudd, clerk, rector of Houghton-le-Spring, co. Durham, by Letitia, dau. of John Arden, of Harden, esq. born 1777, married at St. Mary-le-bow, Durham, Dec. 5, 1798, died April 30, 1805, buried at Astbury, Apr. 8.

11. RANDLE WILBRAHAM, of Rode, esq. 2d surviving son, born Jan. 10, 1773, bap. at St. George's, Bloomsbury, high steward of Congleton.

SYBILLA, dau. of Philip Egerton, of Oulton, esq. born Dec. 14, 1780, married at Backford, co. Chester, Feb. 9, 1808.

MARY-CHARLOTTE, born at Lathom-house, Nov. 10, 1800, baptized at Ormskirk Dec. 8.

RICHARD-BOOTLE WILBRAHAM, born Oct. 27, 1801, baptized at Ormskirk Nov. 24.

EMMA-CAROLINE, born March 17, 1807, bapt. at Ormskirk April 19.

EDWARD-BOOTLE WILBRAHAM, born Dec. 22, 1807, bapt. at Ormskirk Jan. 15, 1808.

MARY-LETITIA, born Nov. 1, 1799, bap. at St. Mary below Durham, Dec. 5.

RANDLE WILBRAHAM, born at Rode-hall March 1, 1801, baptized at Astbury, March 27.

EDWARD-RICHARD WILBRAHAM, born May 29, 1802, baptized at Astbury, June 26.

EMMA, born July 28, 1804, baptized at Astbury, Sept. 10.

SYBILLA-ELIZABETH, born December 31, 1808, baptized at Astbury, June 15, 1809.

CHARLES-PHILIP, born March 10, 1810, bap. at Astbury, July 28.

RICHARD, born April 12, 1811, baptized at Astbury, July 12.

HENRIETTA, born November 29, 1812, baptized at Astbury, August 9, 1813.

FRANCES, born July 31, 1815.

EMILY, born August, 1816.

HENRY, born September, 1817, died February 5, 1818.

SMALLWOOD.

THE manor of Smallwood, which is omitted in Domesday, occurs for the first time in the following grant of it from sir Ralph Mainwaring to Henry de Aldithley, in frank marriage with his daughter Bertrea, one of his children by the celebrated marriage with Amicia, and so called after her grandmother Bertrea, countess of Chester.

Radulfus de Meidnilwar' omnibus præsentibus et futuris ad quos præsens scriptum pervenerit salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse et præsentem carta mea confirmasse Henrico de Alditeleg, in liberum maritagium cum Bertrea filia mea, Smelewdc cum pertinentiis et Senellest' cum pertinent. et dimid' Pichemere cum pertinentiis suis et i. marc. de redditu annuo in civitate Cestr' de terra quæ fuit Fagun quam Robert' filius Ermwi de me tenuit, illi et hæredibus suis qui de dicta Bertrea filia mea pervenient, habend' et tenend' de me et hæredibus meis in feodo et hereditate, libere et quiete, plene et pacifice, in bosco et plano, in pratis et pascuis, in aquis, viis, et in semitis, in vivariis et in molen-

dinis, et in omnibus locis et libertatibus, prædictis terris pertinentibus, sicut liberum maritagium melius et liberius teneri pot': et ego et hæredes mei illi et dictis hæredibus suis contra omnes homines dictas terras warrantizabimus. Test' Ran' com. Cestr. Hug' com' Vltoniæ, Phil' de Orreby tunc justic' Cestr. Joh. de Ptel', Hug. Malebiss, Ric. de Vern. Ran. de Meidnilwar', clerico; Lidulf. de Tuam', Rob. de Peris, Ric. de Kingesl. Norm. Pant. Tho. de Orreby, Alured de Sullini, Pet. Chan. Gg. de Aldith, Ric. de Rodest. clerico; et multis aliis.

4 E. I. Henry de Aldithley died seized of two parts of this manor, which he held from Thomas Mainwaring^a.

Inq. p. m. 10 Edw. III. Nicholas de Audley held the vill of Smallwood from Maud, daughter and heir of Warin Maynwaring^b, without any service; val. xx marks. Shortly afterwards the manor passed to the Hawkstones.

24 Edw. III. Thomas de Hawkstone and Ellen his

^a Williamson's Villare Cest.

^b Ibid.

wife obtained from Adam de Drayton the manors of Smallwood and Newbold-under-Lyme^c.

35 Edw. III. Ellen, widow of sir Thomas Hawkstone, died seized of this manor, holding it from sir William Trussel^d, the successor of the Mainwarings.

Temp. Rich. II. On the partition of the Audley estates, Roger Hillary and Margaret his wife, sister and coheir of Nicholas de Andley, were seized of the homage and service of sir John de Hawkeston and his heirs, for the tenement which he held in Smallwood, then valued at *xxl. per annum*^e. Ellen, daughter and coheir of sir John Hawkstone, brought her family estates in marriage to William Egerton of Caldecote, who by *Inq. p. m.* 8 Hen. V. was found to hold the manor of Smallwood from William Trussel (*d'no de Tetton*^f) by the services of one knight's fee, *val. per annum xxxl.*

Inq. p. m. 31 Hen. VI. Roger Egerton held, *inter alia*, the manor of Smallwood.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VII. Thomas Wilbraham held, *inter alia*, lands here from Hugh Egerton.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. Hugh Egerton, esq. held,

inter alia, the manor of Smallwood, valued, with Newbold Astbury, at *xxl.*

Inq. p. m. 9 H. VIII. John Egerton, esq. died seized of the said manor, *inter alia*, leaving as coheirs two daughters, and the son of his daughter Helen, "Hugh Willobie." This inquisition is confirmed by another taken 17 Hen. VIII.; but by others, taken 10 and 21 Hen. VIII. it is found to have passed to the heirs male of the Egertons. It however vested ultimately in the Willoughbys, though Astbury, which is coupled with it in these later inquisitions, continued in the possession of the Egerton family.

22 Jac. I. Sir Francis Willoughby and Percivall Willoughby passed over the manor of Smallwood and 24 messuages, &c. to Thomas Hood, for *£.1000.*^g

After this a chasm occurs in the descent, which the present proprietors are unable to supply. The manor has latterly passed in the same manner with Great Moreton, and is now vested in James and George Ackers, esqs. for their joint lives, with remainders as in that manor. No court has been held of late years^h.

SOMERFORD CUM RADNOR.

Hugh Fitz Osberne, the supposed ancestor of the Pulfords, was the Norman grantee of this vill, which, in its original state, probably comprehended the adjacent township of Somerford Booths, in Macclesfield Hundred.

Hugo tenet de comite Sumreford; Godric tenuit ut liber homo; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est una caruca: wasta fuit et est adhuc.

At a very early period a family settled in the township, who assumed the local name, and terminated in the direct male line in the reign of Elizabeth. Scarcely any opportunities have occurred of adding to or correcting the annexed pedigree of the Somerfords, transcribed from Booth, and much less of determining the probability of their descent from the family of the Norman grantee.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. John Somerford, esq. held the manor of Somerford, with *xii* messuages in Somerford, and one watermill, but from whom the jurors knew not; *val. £.8. 6s. 8d.*; also lands of the same value in Astbury, Newbold Astbury, and Buglawton. Died in August, 19 Eliz. Mary Somerford daughter and heiress.

With this daughter the manor of Somerford passed in marriage to a collateral branch of the Oldfields of Bradwall, as specified in the pedigree annexed. It appears that the Oldfields were remaining in 1663-4, and with their entry in the visitation of that year the pedigree concludes. Dr. Williamson supposes them to continue in possession in 1701.

About this time the manor of Somerford passed by purchase from the Oldfields, or their successors, to the Shakerleys of Holme, who removed their residence here.

It is now vested in their representative in the female line, C. W. J. Shakerley, esquire.

SOMERFORD HALL, a spacious mansion, stands in a park well timbered, and bounded on the north by the stream of the Dane. On the south side was formerly a large artificial lake, which burst its dam a few years ago, and

the site has been recently planted over. The principal front of the house commands a fine view of the Staffordshire and Macclesfield hills; and the landscape immediately under the eye, has an agreeable variety of surface, sloping in one direction to the Dane, and in another to the steep banks of a sheet of water, situated considerably below the level of the greater lake before mentioned. A large portion of Somerford Hall was built by the present proprietor about 1800, from the design of Mr. Robinson, of Middleton in Lancashire. The grounds were laid out by Mr. Davenport and Mr. Webbⁱ.

The following descent of Radnor is from the Villare Cestriense.

"Henry de Blackenhall remitted to William de Van [Quære, whether it should not be Venables] for six marks of silver in hand, all his right in this village for eight barbed arrows yearly rent, about the beginning of Henry III.

"Not long after sir William Venables gave to William his son, a knight also, and his heirs, for his homage and service, the whole village of Radnor, rendering eight barbed arrows a year; by whose daughter and coheir Lettice, this place and lands and tenements in Hulme, Castle Northwich, and two bovates in Congleton, &c. came to Richard de Wilbraham in Edward the First's time, as appears from deeds of partition.

"From which the Wilbrahams continued lords of this place—for William Wilbraham feoffed his brother Robert with this village, to the use of William for life, and then to Ralph his son and Felice his wife, daughter of John de Holme, and the heirs of their bodies, &c.

"28 E. III. and 8 R. II. it was found that Ralph Wilbraham held of Hugh Venables of Kinderton, Castle Northwich, two parts of Twambrook, a hamlet called Knight's Hulme, and the manor of Radnor, cum pertinentiis, by the fourth part of a knight's fee, valued at 100s.; and 11 H. IV. Thomas Wilbraham died seized

^c Williamson's Fines.

^d Vill. Cest.

^e Ibid.

^f The Inquisition refers the tenure to the original seat of the manor, in which Warmincham was formerly included.

^g Williamson's Fines. But in his Villare, on what authority does not appear, he says: "Sir Percivall Willoughbie and . . . his wife past over this manor, &c 11 Jac. I. to sir William Brereton." This was probably in trust only. Sir HUGH WILLOUGHBY above mentioned was the celebrated navigator, who was frozen to death with his crew in 1553.

^h Information of James Ackers, esq.

ⁱ Information of C. W. J. Shakerley, esq. communicated by Holland Watson, esq.

of this manor, which he held of sir Hugh Venables, as of his manor of Kinderton, in socage, by the service of a pair of white gloves, and suit of court to the manor of Kinderton; and 1 Elizabeth, Thomas Wilbraham, esq. died seized of this manor, &c. held as before, in socage, &c. by eight barbed arrows yearly. Till, about 1620, sir Richard Wilbraham sold this manor to Philip Oldfield, esq. for £900, whose issue male, I suppose, is lord of this place, 1701."

From this period the interest which the Oldfields possessed in this manor has passed with Somerford. Mr Shakerley holds a court-baron for Somerford Radnor, formerly called Somerford juxta Davenport. Manerial rights are also claimed in the hamlet of Radnor, by Mr. Starkie of Wrenbury, and a game deputation is given by him.

Among the copies of old deeds, in the College of Arms, is a grant of land to Pagan de Wastenes in

"Radnovre," from the Venables family^k. This family of Wastenes was also of Tixal in Staffordshire, but nevertheless bore different arms from those usually attributed to the Tixal family; the seal of Ralph de Wastenes appendant to the aforesaid grant, being a cross patonce, voided by a plain cross.

It appears that John de Wastenes had three daughters and coheirs, temp. Edw. III.^l; and sir Peter Leicester^m states John Legh of East Hall to have married one of these coheirs, 23 Edw. III. This marriage, which has been overlooked by the regular heralds, may account for a quartering which has been sometimes given to Legh of High Legh (Argent, a cross patonce Sable), and which has been erroneously described by them as the coat of "De Lega."

The PEDIGREE of SHAKERLEY will be found in the account of Holme, and their monuments in the description of the churches of Astbury and Nether Peover.

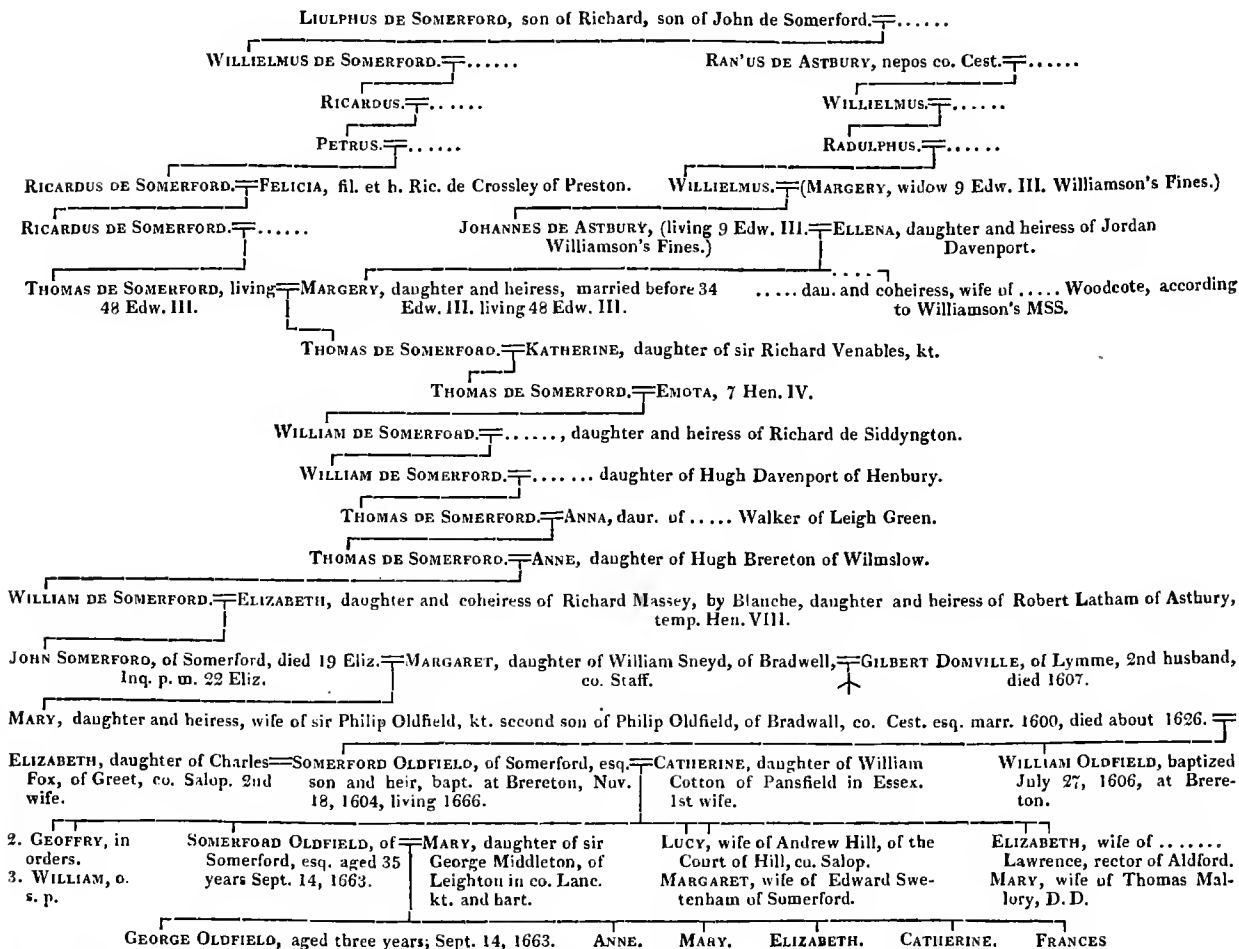
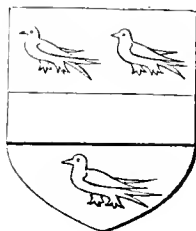
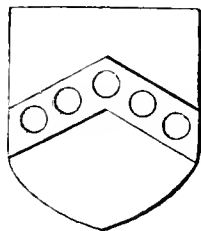
SOMERFORD AND OLDFIELD OF SOMERFORD, AND ASTBURY OF ASTBURY.

ARMS. SOMERFORD, Argent, on a chevron Sable five besants. ASTBURY, Gules, a fesse Argent, between three martlets of the second.

OLDFIELD, Argent, on a bend Gules three crosses patée fitchée.

CREST OF OLDFIELD.

A demi-wivern with wings displayed Argent issuing from a ducal coronet.



^k Cheshire Fines. ^l MSS. Coll. Arms. ^m Tabley MS pedigrees, and in the account of the Wasteneys family in Wincham, Bucklow hund.

DAVENPORT.

THE manerial history of the present township involves a subject of rare occurrence even in this county—the descent of a family in one uninterrupted male line from the Norman Conquerors of the palatinate, possessing at the present day the feudal powers with which the local sovereigns of that palatinate invested it, and preserving in its own archives, in a series of original documents, the proofs of its ancient importance, and its unbroken descent.

Davenport occurs in that part of the description of the Venables estates, in which the founder of the barony is termed “Venator.” Isdem Gislebertus (Venator) tenet Deneport. Godvinus tenuit; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est una caruca; ibi est cum uno radman, et ii bovariis, et iii bordariis; et una acra silvæ. Valebat iii solidos; wasta invenitur.

Shortly afterwards, this vill was given, either by the Norman grantee, or by his grandson (who appears to have succeeded him), to Orme, the ancestor of the Davenports, who assumed the local name, as is proved by his attestation to the curious charter subjoined^a. The date assigned to Orme de Davenport by four pedigrees

in the British Museum, and by the Bramall pedigree, is 20 Will. I.; and it will appear from a consideration of subsequent deeds, that the fact of his being then living is not irreconcilable with calculations founded upon them.

II. Richard, son of Orme de Davenport, married Amabilia, daughter of the second Gilbert Venables, and sister also of Hugh Venables, rector of Eccleston, Astbury, and Rosthorpe, in 1188, whose acknowledged minority gives the only means of calculating the time of Orme de Davenport^b. Richard Davenport had Marton in frank marriage with his wife, by the charter subjoined^c, and to him must be referred the grant of the master forestership of the forests of Leek and Macclesfield, by Hugh Kevelioc earl of Chester. The Davenport pedigrees have stated the grant to be made to his grandson of the same name; but the identity of the grantee of this forestership, and of the husband of Amabilia Venables, is fully established by the time of witnesses to the charter subjoined, compared with that in which Amabilia's brothers are known to have existed^d.

Richard de Davenport was succeeded by (III.) Tho-

^a This charter is referred to in the account of Kinderton, and relates to the raising a villain of the manor of Eccleston to the rank of a free tenant of the barony of Kinderton:

Sciunt, &c. quod ego GILBERTUS DE VENABLES, concilio et consensu heredum meorum, relaxavi, concessi, (atq. liberum et quietum clamavi) Osmundum filium Gameli de Eccleston et omnes heredes suos de sac et tol et gersinno* et ab omni actione servili, et ab omni vili et consuetudine: atq. me dedisse, &c. sibi et heredibus suis, ii bovatas terræ, scilicet unam in Eccleston, et alteram in Strettonia, pro iii solidis annuatim reddendo, illas scilicet quas pater ejus ante eum habuit, libere, &c. excepto foraneo servicio, quod ad regem vel ad comitem pertinet. Pro hac, &c. Willielmus et Richardus de Etona dederunt unam marcam, et prædictus Osouundus dimidiam argenti marcam. Hiis test. Rogeru de Utkinton, Radulfo de Brereton, Will'o et Ric'o de Eton, Gilberto de Wetenhale, *Orm. de Davenport*, Matheo clerico, et multis aliis. Kinderton chartulary 2. Seal, a falcon regardant, close, sinister.

^b See the grant of these churches in Bucklow Hundred, vol. I. p. 337. under Rosthorpe. Amabilia had many brothers, and she might not only be much older than Hugh, but even than William, the grantor of Marton. Supposing her fifteen years older than Hugh, and that he was eighteen in 1188, she would be born in 1155. If she was married at 21, and her husband was forty, a disparity by no means unusual, the marriage would take place in 1176; and this assumption will make her husband thirty at the time the master forestership was granted to him, if we take the exact middle time of the earldom of Hugh Kevelioc the grantor (the most probable time for a general conjecture) and place the grant in 1166.

If the probability of these conjectures is allowed, Richard would be born in 1136; and if this is allowed, the date 20 Will. I. assigned to Orme de Davenport, is not irreconcilable with the time in which he might be living, as his birth in that year would make him fifty years old in 1186, the date which has been established as possible, and not improbable, for the birth of his son Richard.

There is also reason to think that the marriage of Richard Davenport must have been as early in the 12th century as this, if not earlier, from his great grandson Vivian having the grant of the chief serjeancy of Macclesfield in the time of Philip de Orreby, 10 Joh.—13 Hen. III.

^c W's † DE VENABLES omnibus hominibus suis tam præsentibus quam futuris salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse Ricardo de Dauneporte et Amabilie sorori meæ dimidietatem de MERTON cum omn. pert. illam medietatem quæ data fuit cum *Margareta* matre mea filia *Waltheu* fil. *Wulfric* patri meo *Gisleberto de Venables* in franc-marriage ad tenendum de me et hered' meis sibi et hered. suis qui exient ex dicta d'na liberè quietè in feodo et hereditate, in silvis, in planis, in pascuis, &c. annuatim reddendo sex sagittas barbatas ad Pentecostum pro omnibus servitiis, &c. adeo libere et quiete sicut franc marriage dari potest. Testibus Ricar. de Vernon, Gilbert de Venables, Michaelae fratre ejus, Gilbert fil. Nigell, Ralph de Beeston, Ran. de Astlet, Ric. de Blakenal, Robert de la Marc, Rad. Capellan', Galfrid, Capellan', Will'm de Offeleke, Augustino de Radenoure, et aliis.

^d HUGO COMES CESTRIÆ, constabulariu, dapifero, justitiario, vicecomiti, omnibus baronibus suis, omnibus hominibus suis Francis et Anglis, tam præsentibus quam futuris salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse et hæc cartâ mea confirmasse Ricardo de Dauneport et heredibus suis (Wyly(c)s cum omnibus pertinentiis) pro homagio et servitio suo, tenendum de me et de meis heredibus p(er servitium) forestarii in feodo et hereditate, libere et honorifice et quiete ab omnibus servitiis et consuetudinibus pertinentibus (mibi) et heredibus meis (excepto) predicto (servicio) forestarii: (preterea) dedi predicto Ricardo et heredibus suis FORESTARIUM MEUM de tota mea foresta de LÆC et de MACCLESFELDE tenendum de me et heredibus meis in feodo et hereditate, et ut (s)e(pe) dictus Ricardus sit meus supremus forestarius de tota mea predicta forestâ jure hereditatis. Pro hac autem hereditate, iste idem Ricardus dedit (mibi unum Kassorium sorbaurari) et duas marcas argenti, et Ricardo avunculo meo unum Kassorium ferrarium. Testibus Ricardu avunculo comitis, Rob. de Stafford, Radulp. fil. Warini, Radulph, vice com. Hugo de Dutton, Philip de Diva, Roger de Mallteteste, Hunfrid. de Savil, Frembold, Rog. de Levet, Gul. de Ruthland, Bertramo Camerario, Ranul. de Lec, Ric. de Lune, Jordan de Macclesfield, Gamal filiu Harding, Will. de Lee, Will'o cl'ico. Dat. apud Lec.)

It is observable, that several of the witnesses to this charter, including Richard the earl's uncle, witness Hugh Kevelioc's grant of a forestership in Mara and Mondrem to Robert Grosvenor, Edisb. Hund. p. 116. On the authority of Brooke, as reprinted by Vincent, this charter has been stated to be executed on or before 1160, in which year the said Richard died. It appears, however, on a close re-examination of the passage referred to, that Brooke's date may include the said Richard and Hamon *his brother*, or Hamon only. The time, however, is fixed within a few years, whatever Brooke's own reading of the passage may have been. Robert de Stafford, another of the witnesses, is mentioned in the body of a deed by Randle II. to which sir Peter Lyecester gives the date of 1152. Bertram Camerarius another witness, was sheriff 31 Hen. II.

* Gersinna mendose pro Gersuma bis legitur. Ducange, vol. iii. 8vo. edit. Halæ, 1784. Ibid. “Gersuma—apud forenses Anglicos pro *fine*, seu pecunia data in pactione et rei emptæ vel conductæ compensationem—Gersuma præterea pro delicti compensatione interdum legitur.”

† “W's” supplied from the copy of this deed in the Venables chartulary, which is important as it proves the Gilbert here mentioned to be the Gilbert Venables, grandson of the first baron.

mas, father of (IV.) Richard de Davenport, who, by the charter subjoined*, was exempted by Randle Blundeville earl of Chester, between 10 Joh. and 1 Hen. III. for himself and his heirs, from suit &c. to the county court of Chester, and the hundred courts of Northwich and Middlewich. After this period, the charters supply the names of the younger branches of the family, which are given in the pedigree following, but the narrative for the sake of perspicuity has been confined to the successive representatives of the eldest line, and the founders of the several families which branched from it.

V. Vivian de Davenport, son of Richard, had a grant of the magisterial serjeancy of the hundred of Macclesfield from Randle Blundeville earl of Chester, by the charter annexed, made during the justiceship of Philip de Orreby†, and abbacy of Hugh Grylle; (10 Joh.—10 Hen. III.) By an original Inq. (of which an abstract is subjoined in the note below‡), it appears that the grant was made to Vivian Davenport *against his will*, as a compensation for the park and vivaries of Macclesfield, of which the earl had deprived him, and the value of the office had been lessened by certain exemptions from its jurisdiction, granted by the earl (also against the will of Vivian) to several land proprietors within its former range. It appears also from the charter itself, that Adam de Sutton had previously held the office, and it is not improbable, that the earl had obtained the means of making this inadequate compensation to Vivian Davenport, by a violent dispossession of the former serjeant.

The powers of this office were the highest which the earl could bestow, as it placed in several cases at the disposal of the serjeant and his itinerant subservients, the lives of his subjects, without delay, and without appeal. In the former parts of this work are noticed analogous powers held by the Kingsleys and Dones in the forests of Mara and Mondrem, the Storetons and Stan-

leys in Wirral, and the representatives of the barons of Malpas in all Cheshire, except the hundreds of Wirral and Macclesfield. The particulars immediately relating to this serjeancy are too intimately connected with the genealogical deductions of the Davenports of Davenport, to be brought into one point of view without useless repetition, but will be found among the subsequent extracts from deeds and inquisitions illustrative of the descent of the family.

At this period, the allusive crest of the Davenports is first said to have been adopted, and to have been borne on the helmets of the master serjeants in their perambulations through the Peak hills, and the forests of Leek and Macclesfield, to the terror of the numerous gangs of banditti which then infested those wild districts. There is now in the possession of the Capesthorpe family, a long roll (without date, but very antient), containing the names of the master robbers who were taken and beheaded in the times of Vivian, Roger, and Thomas de Davenport, and also of their companions, and of the fees paid to them in right of their serjeancy. From this it appears, that the fee for a master robber was 2s. and one salmon, and for his companions 12d. each. There is also an account of the several master robbers, and their companions who were slain by the serjeants, with the fees thereon^h.

From Robert de Davenport, younger son of Vivian, descend the Lawtons of Lawton, who still retain the paternal coat of Davenport, with the substitution of a fesse for the chevron.

VI. Roger de Davenport, was son and heir of Vivian, according to the family pedigree, but grandson, according to a plea to quo warranto, 15 Hen. VII. which appears to be a clerical error. By an Inquisition taken before Reginald de Gray, 16 Edw. I.ⁱ it is found that Roger de Davenport held his serjeancy in the hundred of Macclesfield, in the Bach, Densington, (sic.) &c. and

* Ranulphus comes Cest. constab. dapif. justic. (vicecom), omnibus baronibus suis, ministris, et ballivis, et omnibus hominibus suis, present. chart. inspectur. salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse et hac p'senti carta mea confirmasse Ricardo de Dauneporte et heredibus suis in perpetuum, de me et de hered. meis quietanciam secte comit(at)us mei Cest. et hundredi de Northwich, et (placitorum meorum) de Medio Wyko (et) quietanciam judicis inveniendi ad p'd'(u)m com(it)atum (et) ad hundred. (et) quiet(e)m de ju(re)is reddendo (mih) et) heredibus (meis) annuatim ad cameram meam Cest. quædam calc. deaur. vel sex denarios in nativitate s'ti Johan. Bapt. His testibus Phillip(o) de Orreby justiciario meo, Hug. dispensar', (Petro clerico), Warino de Vernon, Will'mo de Venables, Ham. de Massey, Rich'd(o) de Aldeford, Lydulpho de T(wam)lawe, Ric(o). Phitton, cum multis aliis. Apud Le(c)k.

N. B. This is the deed of which the clerk broke the seal, see the account of which in grand serjeanty abstract, endorsed as presented before Thomas Neale, auditor.

† Ranulphus comes Cest. et Lincoln. omnibus, &c. salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse, et hac cartâ mea confirmasse Viviano de Davenport magisterialem serjeanciam de Maklesfelde, illam quam Adamus de Sutton habuit, habendam et tenendam illi et heredibus suis in excambium terræ de Wilwich, quam mihi reddidit, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis (ita scilicet quod si idem Vivianus, vel aliquis heredum suorum forisfaciat, . . . non possit vel nolit * pace Elgardum curiæ meæ, ballivam dictam amittat in perpetuum. Et si terra sua tota quam de me tenet in capite incurvat.) jure hereditatis suæ. His testibus, domino Hugone abbate Cestriæ, Philippo de Orreby tunc justiciario (Henrico de Aldrthel', Rog. de Mainwarin, Alured de Sulfuari, Thoma de Orreby, Herberto de Orreby, Ricardo de Cagwr tunc camerario, mag'ro Hugone, et multis aliis.)

Seal, six garbs, three, two and one, on a heater shield, inscription gone.

Philip de Orreby was made justice 10 John, and after 1 Hen III. earl Randle styles himself com. Cestr. et Lincoln, the style used in this charter.

This charter and those preceding were communicated by the rev. Walter Davenport from the *originals*. The words inclosed in *brackets* are supplied from antient copies, (Harl. MSS. 2074, 122, b., and Harl. MSS. 2038, pp. 86, 87.) where the copy transmitted was defective.

‡ It appears to be of the time of Hen. III. or more antient. The original inquisition under the seals of the jurors is preserved among the deeds of the grand serjeanty at Capesthorpe. These were sir Geoffry de Dutton, sir Robert de Massy, Thomas de Orreby, Robert Pigot, William de Sudingdon, Adam de Audredelegh, Adam de Birtheles, Robert de Hide, Thomas de Wich, William de Edisselegh, William de Bagiley, Richard de Lauton, William de Scherd, Thomas de Kapesturn, Adam de Faber, Richard de Somerford, Roger de Toft, Roger de Kegwithe, Roger de Audredelegh; which jurors present, that Vivian de Davenport, *against his will*, exchanged the park and vivaries of Maklesfelde with Randle earl of Chester for his serjeanty of Maklesfelde, with the pature to the serjeanty belonging, which he used to take through the whole hundred of Maklesfelde, except the vill of Mottram in Longendale, and the land of Richard Fiton in the ville of Bolyn. But earl Johu, nepew of the said earl Randle, by his deed, *against the will of Vivian*, quitclaimed to the said Richard Fiton his said pature, and also quitclaimed, *against Vivian's will*, on the land of Richard de Mottram where Vivian used to have pature, and in all the land of the said earl Randle of Lechernel, with all the appurtenances, and in the moiety of the ville of Rowbelt, and in the ville of Wicheshall, and in six houses in Derelton of the fee of the said earl, and of the fee of the earl in Rossington, and in the ville of Waterfull, and in Tatton of the fee of the earl, and in the fee of the earl in Alstanesfield, and in all the ville of Yppeltinif. Also he, Vivian, received in the *separate* time of the said earls Randle and John, 24 shillings from the exchequer of the said earls at Chester at two terms, viz. at the nativity of our Lord 12 shillings: and all the aforesaid serjeanty, with all the aforesaid pature, in all the places aforesaid as the aforesaid earl Randle inchartered him, for the exchange of the *park and vivaries of Macclesfeld*, otherwise called Wilwich.

^h Communicated by the rev. Walter Davenport. On the roll is a note by the first Davies Davenport, of Woodford, esq. "the numbers are great, and though the roll is very ancient and much defaced, yet several of the names appear." The roll is now nearly illegible but some names may be discerned.

ⁱ Communication of the rev. Walter Davenport.

* An apparent error of the transcriber, for *facere* regardum, see voc. *Regardum* in Ducange, edit. Halæ, 1778, vol. V. 644.

shall find eight serjeants (one a horseman), to keep the peace, who shall come at the king's summons, at their own cost in the county, and at the king's cost as soon as they have passed the Dee, or gone out of the county^k. The said Roger in 1248 witnesses a deed of Alex. Wythi-ton, Richard Bernard being then sheriff.

VII. Sir Thomas Davenport of Davenport, knight, son and heir of Roger, married, first, Agnes, daughter of Thomas de Macclesfield (the mother of his issue), and secondly, Roesia, daughter of Ralph de Vernon, widow of sir William de Brereton, who was living after her second husband's death, in 15 Edw. II. This Thomas de Davenport occurs as demanding puture (in his capacity of grand serjeant) from two tenements in Butley, which the abbot of Chester held of the gift of Edw. Pigot. The claim was resisted, and decision made against the serjeant on reference^l. In 1303, by deed dated at Davenport, this Thomas acknowledges the receipt of four marks, in part of 8 marks due at the feast of St. Barnabas, for the serjeaney: and in 1309 he grants a lease of the same office for two years to his son Thomas Davenport, and his pledges for two years, at the annual rent of 16 marks of silver^m.

This Thomas, second son of sir Thomas Davenport, was male ancestor of the Davenports of Weltrough, Bramall, Heubury, and Woodford (now also of Capesthorne), and of their several collateral branches.

VIII. Sir John Davenport of Davenport, knight, eldest son and heir of sir Thomas, married his father's step-daughter Margery, daughter of sir William Brereton, by Roesia Vernon before-mentioned; to his second wife he had Agnes de Bradford. The first of these marriages took place in 1301, when "Thomas son of Roger de Davenport" grants to sir William Brereton, knight, the marriage of his eldest son John (to marry him to Margery, daughter of the said William) for 60 marks.

Witnesses, Hugh Massey, Ralph Vernon, Hugh de Venables, knights, &c.; dated at Breretonⁿ. Four years after this, a sentence was procured from the court of Chester, declaring the marriage null, having been celebrated against the consent of the parties, both being under age^o. The pedigrees, however, make Margery Brereton, the mother of sir John Davenport's numerous issue, which must of course suppose the parties to have been re-united; and this idea is in some degree confirmed by a settlement, 12 Edw. II. when Thomas de Davenport obtained from Richard, chaplain, of Prestbury, the manors of Davenport and Marton, remainder to *John his son and Margery his wife*; remainder to the right heirs of Thomas^p.

The issue of sir John were numerous, 1. Thomas, s. p.; 2. sir Ralph, the continuer of the direct male line; 3. Richard; 4. Roger; 5. Urian; 6. Arthur, ancestor of the Davenports of Calveley. To these may be added another son, John Davenport, who in the excellent pedigree of the Davenports, drawn from original evidences, and preserved in Harl. MSS. 2119. is made second son and heir of sir John Davenport, and who would consequently intervene between Thomas and Ralph. This John is said to marry first, Johanna Delves; and secondly, Margaret, who, from the Done pedigree appears to be daughter of Henry Done, and is, most probably, the same person with Margery Done, given erroneously by Dugdale to Ralph Davenport. From the silence of the family deeds, it may, however, be doubted, whether this John was ever in possession of Davenport, and whether he was a younger son of sir John Davenport, or of a collateral line of the family^q. Sir John Davenport founded a chantry in the chapel of Marton, at which place the figures of himself and his son Urian are supposed to be represented by the armed figures yet remaining^r.

^k Viz. by the services by which Urian de St. Pierre and Roderic Fitz-Griffin hold the serjeanty of all Cheshire, excepting Macclesfield and Wirral, which they keep with *twelve* subservients. So this Inquisition, but another Inquisition states their number to have been formerly twenty. See Broxton Hundred, p. 330, and note, *ibid*.

^l Communication of the rev. W. Davenport.

^m The pledges were Roger de Motlowe, Vivian de Foxwist, Richard son of John de Davenport, John de Asthul, Adam his brother, and Peter de Capesthorne. *Ibid*.

ⁿ Harl. MSS. 2074. 148.

^o *Ibid*.

^p Williamson's Collections.

^q Communications of the rev. W. Davenport.

^r The Davenport pedigree, 2119, expressly says of Urian, "*jacet in cœmeterio de Marton*," and states him to have been distinguished by his great stature and military achievements.

Among the papers at Capesthorne is an Inq. 26 Edw. III. (connected with this sir John Davenport) taken before Thos. de Ferrars, just. of Chester, Nich. Pinnoek, William de Spridlington, auditors of our lord the prince, taken at Macclesfelde on Thursday next before the feast of St. John the Baptist, 26 Edw. III. on the oaths of Richard Fyton, Thomas Wylde, William Pygot, Roger, son of Roger de Vernon, John, son of Richard Fyton, Thomas de Wyche, William de Whisterfelde, Richard le Warde de Somerford, Richard Tomkyn, John le Sutton, Edmund de Downes, and Hugh de Sudington, who find that Adam de Sutton had the serjeanty, and 24 shillings for finding mantles for all his under serjeants, and that Vivian de Davenport and his heirs, from the time of the exchange of the said bailiwick for the land of *Witwick*, annually received the said 24 shillings, and had an allowance of the same, and that the mill and the manor were parcel of the land exchanged.

To this Inq. is annexed a schedule whereby it appears that among the rents of sir John Davenport, chief serjeant of the peace in the hundred of Macclesfelde, there was granted to his ancestors in fee, by Randle earl of Chester, in exchange for land in the park of Macclesfelde called *Witwhik*, 24s. a year, at the feast of the nativity of St. John the Baptist, which was allowed by the accounts preceeding in the time of the queen, and that it appeared that they were always paid as part of his grand bailiwick by an Inq. taken before the justice and auditors, on the 20th June, 26 Edw. III.

N. B. The land of *Witwhik* (which appears to be an old Saxon name) being the property which Vivian de Davenport originally exchanged with the earl for the grand serjeanty, the following deed is subjoined, in which there is an attempt to describe its local situation.

Temp. John. Ranulph comes Cest. et Lincoln. omnib. present. et fut. present. chart. inspecturis vel audituris salut. Sciatis me relax. et quiet. clamasse imperpet. de me et hered. meis *Viviano de Davenport et hered. suis tres solidos de redditu quos idem Vivianus reddere solebat pro Hysebelesbathes et pro terra Petri Fabri, in excambium de Ysebelesbathes quam mihi et hered. de se et hered. suis quietum clamavit a bosco de Witwhik usque aquam. reddendo quatuor sagittas barbatas ad fest. Omn. Sanet. pro omni servit. et exactiōne quacunque de terra p'dieti Pet. Fabri, quam eidem et hered. suis quietam clamavi. Hiis testibus, Philippo de Orreby justiciario meo tunc temporis, Will'o de Vernon, Ric. Phiton, Johanne fil. Philipp. Roberto de Stokeport, Jordano de Bredbury, Johanne Fiton, Henrico de Wgrth, Thoma de Tettesworth, Ric. de Wydenby, et aliis.*

(Seal, a heater shield with three garbs, inscription gone, 2074, 189.)

In the same collection is an office copy of the pleadings, 27 Edw. III. on a quo warranto brought by the earl of Chester against sir John de Davenport, kt. whereby it appears that the said sir John was summoned to answer the prince by what warrant he claimed to be quit of making suit at the court of Chester and hundred of Northwich, and of pleas in Middlewich, and of finding a judge at the court of Chester, at the hundred, and from appearing on juries, rendering to the earl a pair of gilt spurs, or 6d. a year, for all services, &c.

Sir John pleads that Ranulph, formerly earl of Chester, granted to Richard Dauneporte his ancestor, whose heir he is, all the liberties aforesaid in the words following: Ranulph. comes, Cest. (see the original charter Note c. p. 35.) An entry is here made *that the seal of the charter when it was produced was whole and unhurt, but that the justice's clerk would take it out of the box, and broke it, and it was joined again and sewed in parchment in presence of the judge, so that it might not lose its effect.* Communication by the rev. W. Davenport.

IX. Sir Ralph Davenport, knight, succeeded his father, and was engaged in the service of Rich. II. binding himself by indenture 3 Ric. II. to serve the king with three archers, well mounted and armed, to make war for a year in parts beyond the sea, where God pleased⁵. He died in or before 6 Ric. II. Two Inquisitions were taken after his death, in this year and 9 Ric. II. the latter of which is as follows:

Ing. p. m. 9 Ric. II. Ralph Davenport, chevalier, held in demesne as of fee, the fourth part of the serjeanty of the peace in the hundred of Macclesfield, from the king in cap. by grand serjeanty, val. per ann. 40s. and held conjointly with Joyce his wife, in fee tail, the manors of Davenport, Withington, and Marton, a sixth part of the lands in Somerford cum pert. and lands in Church Hulme, all of which are held from the heirs of Hugh Venables of Kinderton, by military service, and the render of vi barbed arrows, val. £x.; also other lands in Swettenham, Church Hulme, and Somerford. Ralph Davenport, son and heir⁶.

X. Ralph Davenport, found heir by this Inquisition, was a minor at the death of his father, as appears by a grant, 11 Dec. 7 Ric. II. whereby the king, by his letters patent, grants to Joyce, widow of sir Ralph de Davenport, knight, the custody of the body of Ralph the son, then an infant, and of the fourth part of the said serjeanty of the peace⁷. He was afterwards engaged in the cause of the Percies and the other conspirators against king Henry IV. for which he obtained the royal indemnity 1 Hen. IV. and had also another pardon May 6, 3 Hen. IV. Between these dates occurs a writ (2 Hen. IV.) from prince Henry earl of Chester, &c. to Richard Manley his escheator, to take sufficient security from Raufe de Davenport, for his office of serjeant of the peace, and other offices which he held of the earl in capite. The escheator returns that he had done so⁸.

Ing. p. m. 3 Hen. V. Ralph de Davenport held in demesne, as of fee, two parts of the office of serjeant of the peace of the hundred of Macclesfield, from the king

as earl of Chester, in capite, val. per annum £iv. John de Davenport son and heir.

XI. John Davenport, who was a minor at the time of the preceding inquisition, married Joan, daughter of Randle Mainwaring of Peover, on which John and Joan were estated the manor of Swettenham, and the advowson of the church, and all the lands which Thomas de Swettenham, lord of Swettenham, had in Cheshire, by deed, dated Monday in the 4th week in Lent, 21 Hen. VI.⁹ About the latter end of the same reign, before the last struggle of this king with the house of York, prince Edward earl of Chester issued his writ to John Davenport, esq. his serjeant for keeping the peace within the hundred of Macclesfield, to take 120 persons, who had been outlawed in the seven preceding years, and who are mentioned by name. Test. sir Thomas Stanley, knight, just. Ccst.²

Ing. p. m. 14 Edw. IV. John Davenport of Davenport, held the office of serjeant, &c. as in the preceding inquisition. John Davenport son and heir.

XII. *Ing. p. m.* 21 Edw. IV. John Davenport of Davenport, esq. held in demesne, as of fee, the office of serjeant of the peace in the hundred of Macclesfield, from the king, as earl of Chester, by the service of finding eight serjeants, one of whom goes out a horseman, to come at the summons of our lord the king, at their own cost within the county of Chester, and at the cost of the king without it: val. xxviii. viiid. Ralph Davenport son and heir.

XIII. Ralph Davenport, in addition to what he inherited from his father, succeeded, 12 Hen. VII. to lands in Swettenham, Carincham, Ollerton, and Somerford, late the property of his uncle Thomas Davenport^a. A writ of quo warranto was brought against this Ralph Davenport, a^o 15 Hen. VII. an abstract of the pleadings to which are given in the note below, and contain a curious account of the privileges of the serjeanty as then existing^b.

Ing. p. m. 2 Hen. VIII. Ralph Davenport of Daven-

⁵ Communications by the rev. W. Davenport.

⁶ Among notes of the tenures by which sir Raufe Davenport held his grand serjeanty, is a bill from John Davenport, of Davenport, esq. to the king, 6 Ric. II. shewing that Randle earl of Chester granted to Vivian de Davenporte the office of master-serjeant, worth not above the yearly value of £12. 6s. 8d. in exchange for the park of Whilwich Maklesfelde worth about £40. a year, and though the petitioner and suppliant and his ancestors had, time out of mind, had and received £12. 6s. 8d. yearly as pature or kelk of the inhabitants and towns within the hundred, yet that sir John Stanley and others would not suffer their tenants to pay the same, and therefore he prays the king's letters under the privy seal to the bishop of Exeter president of the council, with the king's daughter the princess, and other his commissioners in the marches of Wales, to call the persons before them, and cause payment to be made of the money.

^a Communications by the rev. W. Davenport.

^x Ibid.

^y Ibid.

^z Ibid.

^a Ibid.

^b 15 Hen. VII. Office copy, examined with the record and attested, of pleadings at Chester on a quo warranto brought by Arthur prince of Wales and earl of Chester, against Ralph Davenport, to shew why he claimed to have for himself and heirs the grand master-serjeanty of Maklesfelde with pature in all the viles and places within the said hundred (the velle of Mottram and the lands of Richard Fitton in the velle of Bolyn only excepted), and also by what warrant he claimed to have quittance of suits in the county of Chester and hundred of Northwich, and pleas of Middlewich, and quittance of finding a judge in the county and hundred, and quittance of juries, rendering to the prince and his heirs annually a pair of gilt spurs, or sixpence.

To this Ralph pleads as to the magisterial serjeanty, the charter of Randle earl of Chester and Linc. verbatim, and that thereby he granted the magisterial serjeanty of Macclesfelde (that which Adam of Sutton held) to Vivian Davenport and his heirs, to whom he was cosin and heir; to wit, son of John Davenport, son of John Davenport, son of Ralph, son of sir Ralph Davenport, kt. son of sir John, kt. son of Thomas, son of Roger, son of Thomas, son of Richard, son of the said Vivian, and that neither he nor any of his ancestors had forfeited against the form of the charter, and that he and his ancestors had used the said office with the appertanances ever since the said charter without interruption. And as to his claiming the pature in all the viles and places of the hundred of Macklesfelde (the velle of Mottram and Ric. Phiton's land excepted), he says that he and all his ancestors seized of the office aforesaid had for them and their officers the pature aforesaid time out of mind, and so had used the same, in exchange of lands for the same in the park of Macclesfelde, as by an inquisition shewed to the court appeared, and by the warrant he claimed to have that liberty. And as to quittance of suits, &c. he says that Randle earl of Chester granted his charter then produced to the court, and which he sets forth verbatim (see the original), and that thereby he granted to Richard Davenport and his heirs the liberties aforesaid, to whom he was cosin and heir by the descent beforementioned, and says that he and his ancestors ever since the charter had used the liberties aforesaid, and therefore he claimed the same.

Then William Greville, who sued for the prince, demands that Ralph would shew and declare to the court all the general and doubtful words contained in his claim, that they being expounded the said William might further answer to them.

To which Ralph says, that as to the word magisterial serjeanty of Macclesfelde, it was that he shall have within the fee of the hundred of Macclesfelde all goods and chattels of felons whatsoever, and fugitives condemned and to be condemned, and all goods of such sort in Pelf, to wit, potts, pans, shetes, blankets, coverletts, and all other such like things, and all manner of their corn growing within the fee aforesaid, paying to the lord the rent of the land where the corn grows, except hulls, hoars, and horses stoned, carts and wheels, and pots bound with iron, belonging to the prince, and that he shall make proclamation in the times of fairs there, that all persons coming to those fairs shall keep and observe the king's peace, and that none during those fairs shall carry any defensible arms in the same, and that for this proclamation he shall receive for him and his

port, esq. held the office of serjeant, &c. as in the preceding inquisition. He held also the manor of Davenport from Thomas Venables of Kinderton, esq. in socage, by the render of 18d. per annum, val. x1s; also the manor of Swettenham, and lands in Somerford, Wythngton, Swettenham, and Kermyncham, val. tot. £viii. viiis. viiid. The copy of this record in the exchequer of Chester, is stated in the official abstract to be torn and defective; but the copy in the possession of the family states John Davenport to be son and heir, and aged 30 years^c.

XIV. *Inq. p. m.* 1 and 2 Ph. and M. John Davenport, esq. held the serjeancy by the tenure specified in the last inquisition, the manors of Davenport, Marton, and Swettenham, and lands in Nether and Over Somerford, Withington, Kermincham, and Ollerton; died May 25, a^o p'd'to. John Davenport, esq. son and heir.

XV. *Inq. p. m.* 24 Eliz. John Davenport of Davenport, esq. held as in the preceding inquisition, and also lands in Congleton, Siddington, Newbold, Church Hulme, and the lands of the dissolved chantry of Marton; died 11 July a^o p'd'to. John Davenport son and heir.

XVI. *Inq. p. m.* 41 Eliz. John Davenport of Davenport, esq. held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of, and lands in, Davenport, from Thomas Venables of Kinderton, by military service, and the render of xviiid. per annum, and suit twice a year to the court of the barony of Kinderton, val. per annum £xx.; also the manor and advowson of Swettenham, the manor and chapel of Marton, and lands and tenements in Siddington, Withington, Somerford Booths, Congleton, Kermincham, Ollerton, Somerford juxta Davenport, Newbold Astbury, and Church Hulme. He held also the office of serjeant of the peace of the hundred of Macclesfield from the queen as of her earldom of Chester, by the service of finding eight serjeants, one of whom shall be a horseman, to appear on the queen's summons, at their own cost within the county, and at the queen's cost without it: val. xxv1s. viiid. He died March 4 same year, 41 Eliz. John Davenport son and heir, aged 49 years and upwards.

XVII. On Jan. 8, 44 Eliz. at the pleas before the lord keeper Egerton, the chamberlain of Chester, this last inquisition was set forth; and with respect to the tenure of the serjeancy, John Davenport, esq. found heir therein, pleaded that Randle earl of Chester, &c. was seized of the co. palatine of Chester, cum pert. as of fee, and being so seized, by charter before the statute of "Quia emp-tores, &c." granted the office of the serjeant of the peace to Vivian Davenport, ancestor of the said John, to hold to him and his heirs, without any rent, service, or tenure, and sets forth the charter verbatim, and traverses the tenure found by the inquisition; and Hugh Hughes, esq. the queen's attorney general, confesses the plea and traverse, and therefore it was adjudged that the said John Davenport should be discharged from the tenure of finding eight serjeants in right of his office, and that the queen's hands should be removed from the tenure thereof^d.

This John Davenport was knighted by king James during his progress through Cheshire in 1617, being then high sheriff. An anecdote relating to this circumstance will be found in the preceding Itinerary of the Hundred by Webb^e.

John Davenport, esq. great grandson of sir John Davenport, and twentieth in lineal male descent from Orme de Davenport, died without male issue in 1671, having survived his only son, John Davenport, and leaving two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne, his co-heiresses. The manor of Davenport, and the honorary offices of chief serjeant and forester, have passed since this time as follows. The further descent of the other manors of the family, Marton and Swettenham, will be found noticed under the respective heads.

March 23, 29 Car. II. Articles were entered into between Robert Davies, son and heir of John Davies of Manley of the one part, and John Davenport, son and heir apparent of John Davenport of Woodford, of the other part, reciting that they had married Eliz. and Anne, the daughters of John Davenport of Davenport, esq. by which it was agreed, that the real and personal estate of the said John should be divided into two equal parts, and after such division to be made by Wm. Sneyd, of Keel, esq. the said R. Davies was to choose which moiety he would have, paying £100. to John Davenport of Woodford, esq.^f

Mr. Davies had the *manor and mansion of Davenport, and a moiety of Marton*; from whom it descended to Salisbury, daughter and sole heiress of Thomas Davenport Davies of Manley, esq. wife of sir Matthew Deane of Dromore, who sold Davenport to Richard Davenport of Calveley, esq. who was the representative of the eldest known existing male line of its antient possessors. Under the will of Mr. Davenport, this manor passed to Phœbe (daughter of his own daughter Phœbe, wife of Davies Davenport of Woodford and Capesthorpe, esq.) which Phœbe was wife of Eusebius Horton of Catton, esq. and the same is now vested in Anne their eldest daughter. John Davenport, esq. had the other *moiety of Marton*, including the mansion, and also the *grand serjeancy of Macclesfield hundred*, and the *forestership of Macclesfield*. After his death without issue, the same passed to his nephew Davies Davenport of Woodford, esq. and are now vested in Davies Davenport, of Woodford and Capesthorpe, esq. M. P. grandson of the before-mentioned Davies Davenport.

The magisterial duties of the office of grand serjeant have become less frequent of later years, and have partaken of that tendency to disuse to which all feudal tenures have been subject; but its privileges remain in full force through the hundred of Macclesfield, and the only places therein free from its jurisdiction are a part of Mottram Longdendale, and lands once possessed by the Fittons. The office is noticed in the successive wills and inquisitions, and was included in a recovery 18 Geo. II. In possession of the family is a collection of very numerous documents^g, clearly proving its general exercise, consisting of reports of coroners, letters describing the

serjeants every one from the toll collected there sixpence; and by the word puture he claims to have for him and his heirs 18 marks 6s. and 8d. annually to be paid to him and his heirs by the hands of the prince's tenants of the hundred aforesaid, and says that the prince holds to him and his heirs the park of Maklesfelde, and other lands and tenements in the county of Chester, to the value of 40l. a year, in exchange of the inheritance of the said Ralph for the said 18 marks 6s. 8d. as appears by divers evidences under the seals of the earls, &c.

N. B. In this quo warranto there is a clerical error—some of the names enumerated in the pedigree of Ralph being misplaced. The Randle Holmes' have noticed it as an error, and they as well as the other genealogists have placed them in the succession which the Davenport deeds confirm, namely that in which the following pedigree places them.

^c Communications by the rev. W. Davenport.

^d Ibid.

^e Page 8.

^f Communications by the rev. W. Davenport.

^g A very copious selection from these, coming down in regular series to the present time, was obligingly communicated by the rev. W. Davenport.

goods of felons, and announcing sudden deaths, and in some instances treasure trove; and the rights of the grand serjeancy have been exercised by the present serjeant, with respect to forfeited goods and chattels of felons, felos de se, and fugitives, estrays and deodands, within the limits above specified.

Among the later documents relating to the forestership, may be mentioned the recovery, 18 Geo. II. already alluded to, in which it was included by name. It appears from two receipts 1614 and 1616, given by John Torkinton, keeper of the seal of the county palatine, that vid. per annum was then paid by the Davenports for this office, into the exchequer of Chester^b.

Davenport is situated about five miles north-east of Sandbach, in a sequestered part of the hundred. The hall is a low building of various materials, still used as

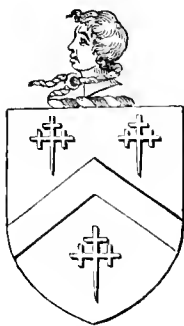
the residence of a gentleman's family, and doubtless retaining in its walls many relics of the antient mansion which occupied its site. It stands on high ground above a range of rich meadows, through which the Dane flows rapidly, with a very winding and irregular course. The banks on each side are remarkably lofty: those on the Davenport side are a series of verdant slopes, bearing evident marks of having been covered with timber at some former period; the opposite ones have been broken by the force of the current, and are more precipitous. These features of the circumjacent landscape constitute some of the most pleasing scenery in the hundred; and they are backed, by what must have had no ordinary charms for the antient chiefs of Davenport, the forest hills of Macclesfield—the scene of their favourite sports and their feudal power.

DAVENPORT OF DAVENPORT.

Compiled from Deeds, Inquisitions p. m. parochial registers, and other original evidences.

ARMS. Argent, a chevron Sable between three cross crosslets fitchè of the second.

CREST. On a wreath a felon's head coupèd proper, haltered Or.



ORMUS DE DAUNEPORTE, living temp. Will. Conq. witness to a charter of enfranchisement by Gilbert Venables in the time of Will. I. or Hen. I.

RICHARD DE DAUNEPORTE, to whom Hogh earl of Chester gave the chief forestership of the forests of Leek and Macclesfield about 1166, and who had a moiety of Marton in franc marriage with Amabilia about 1176. — AMABILIA, daughter of Gilbert Venables, baron of Kinderton, grandson of Gilbert Venables, the Norman grantee of Kinderton, Davenport, &c. before 1086.

THOMAS DE DAVENPORTE, temp. Hen. II.

RICHARD DE DAVENPORTE, to whom Randle Blundeville granted acquittance from suit to the shire and hundred court.

AMICIA DAVENPORTE, wife of Randle de Chedleton, d'ns de Rodelande, had land in the abbacy of Dieulacres. — VIVIAN DE DAVENPORTE, to whom Randle Blundeville earl of Chester gave by charter the grand serjeanty of the forests of Leek and of Macclesfelde, and quittance of juries of county and hundred. — BEATRIX, dau. of Bertrand de Hulme. Harl. MSS. 2094. — WALTER DAVENPORT, 2nd son, had lands in Somersford Boothes. PETER DAVENPORT, vixit 47 Hen. III. Harl. MSS. 2119.

EDWARD DE DAVENPORT, de Newton, 56 Hen. III. a quo NEWTON. — ROBERT DE DAVENPORT, 56 Hen. III. assumed the name of Lawton, and was ancestor of the LAWTONS of LAWTON. — MARY, daughter of Robert Salemon of Wythington, with whom her husband had a moiety of Withington, a ditto of Tanstede, a ditto of Wultroke (Wheltrough). — RICHARD DE DAVENPORT, 3d son, father of Roger de Tornock, who had lands in Somersford Boothes. THOMAS DE DAVENPORT. — BEATRIX, in some pedigrees called wife of Bertram de Hulme.

PETER DE DAVENPORT, son and heir, s. p. HENRY DAVENPORT, 4th son, of Marton, had lands in Macclesfield, 20 Edw. I.: had issue Roger, Mary ux. William Mainwaring de Peover, and Margery ux. Thos. de Swettenham. — ROESIA, dau. of Sir THOMAS DAVENPORT, of Davenport, 1291. — AGNES, dau. of Thomas de Macclesfelde, 1287. 15 Edw. II. — JOHN DE DAVENPORT, married Matilda, daughter of William de Rode, by whom he had issue Richard. — ELLEN, wife of Will. de Bolkelegh (et cum qua habuit terr. in Macclesfield in lib. maritaggio) eldest son and heir of Rob. Bulkeley, esq. and ancestor of the Lords Bulkeley.

MILLICENT, 31 Edw. I. — ROESIA. — 3. ROGER DAVENPORT, senior. — 4. PETER DAVENPORT, assumed the name of Denton, 2 Edw. III. — 5. ROGER DAVENPORT, had lands in Withington by gift of his father, and of Roger his brother. — AGNES DE BRAO-FORD, 2nd wife, re-married to Robert Massey, of Sale, senior, 31 Edw. III. — 1. Sir JOHN DAVENPORT, kt. of Davenport, 16 Edw. III. founder of the chapel of Marton. — MARGERY, dau. of sir William Brereton, & of Roesia his wife, daughter of sir Ralph Vernon. 1 ux. — 2. THOMAS DAVENPORT, de Wheltrough, to whom his father gave lands in Witbington, Wheltrough, Tanstede, and Marton. — ELIZABETH, ... had survived her husband 28 Edw. III.

1. THOMAS DAVENPORT, marr. to his first wife Matilda, 16 Edw. III. and afterwards married to Eve, who remarried sir John Dracot 14 Ric. II. died 11 Ric. II. sine exitu. — JOHN DAVENPORT, married, 1st, Johanna, dau. of sir Henry Delves, of Dodington, kt. 2nd, Margaret, daughter of Henry Done of Utkington, remarried to sir Will. Brereton, kt. See the preceding account of the family, and qu. 2nd or 7th son? — 3. RICHARD, 23 Edw. III. — 4. ROGER, 23 Edw. III. — 5. URIAN DAVENPORT, buried at Marton. — 6. ARTHUR DAVENPORT, of Calveley, married Katharine de Calveley, and was ancestor of Davenport of CALVELEY. — 2. Sir RALPH DAVENPORT, of Davenport, kt. (3d son, sed qu.? Harl. MSS. 2119.) Inq. post mort. 6 and 9 Ric. II. — JOYCE, remarried to sir Wm. Legh, of Baggiley, kt. had the grand serjeanty by letters patent from Rich. II. during the nonage of Ralph, son and heir of sir Ralph, 11th of Decemb. 7 Ric. II. — ISABEL DAVENPORT, wife of Rob. de Eaton, baron of Stokport, remarried to John de Stafford, Thomas de Stathom, and William de Fulchamp. — 1. THOMAS DAVENPORT, of WHELTROUGH. Had issue. — 2. JOHN DAVENPORT, of BRAMALL, 6th in the entail 39 Edw. III. Had issue. — 3. Sir JENKIN DAVENPORT, of Woodford, 44 Edw. III. justice of Lanc. 7 Ric. II. also of Henbury, married Eliz. dau. and coheirress of Peter Legh of Betchton, 2d in the entail 2 E. III.

RICHARD DAVENPORT, 2nd son, Harl. MSS. 2119. — MARGARET DAVENPORT, 14 Ric. II. Harl. MSS. 2119. — RALPH DAVENPORT, of Davenport, son and heir per Inq. under age 6 Ric. II. Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. V. — JOHANNA, daughter of sir Robert Legh, of Adlington, kt. (14 Ric. II.) by Isabel, dau. and heirress of Thomas de Belgrave, remar. to John, son and heir of Ric. Leigh of High-Leigh, 5 Hen. V. — 1. THOMAS DAVENPORT, of HENBURY, 1st in the Henbury entail 39 Edw. III. and 3d in the Woodford entail, 44 Edw. III. — 2. JOHN DAVENPORT, 2nd in entail, 39 Edw. III. — 3. NICHOLAS DAVENPORT, of WOODFORD, 1st in the Woodford entail, 44 Edw. III.

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^b The forestership is more fully noticed in the introduction to Macclesfield Hundred. There were numerous subordinate rangers, who held their lands by the tenure of free foresters, and the rights of the Davenports in it were not exclusive of those of other foresters or chief rangers who were from time to time appointed by the crown, after the extinction of the local earldom.

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THOMAS DAVENPORT, died before 25 Hen. VI. had issue James, s. p.	JOHN DAVENPORT, of Leek, 25 Hen. VI. had issue s. p.	RALPH DAVENPORT, of Leek, 25 Hen. VI.	WILLIAM DAVENPORT, de Halton, 5th son.	
	JOHN DAVENPORT, esq. under age 3 Hen. V. Inq. p. m. 14 Edw. IV.	JANE, daughter of Randle Mainwaring of Peover, marr. cov. dated 12 Hen. IV. living a widow 21 Edw. IV.	MARGARET, wife of Thomas, son of Richard de Rode, 14 Hen. IV. had issue s. p.	JOHANNA, wife of William Whitmore of Thurstanton, living a widow 16 Hen. VI. had issue.
2. THOMAS, 38 Hen. VI.	3. ROBERT, 3 Edw. IV.	4. WILLIAM, had lands in Newbold, 3 Edw. IV.	JOHN DAVENPORT, of Davenport, esq. died 21 Edw. IV. Inq. p. m. same year.	ELIZABETH, daughter of sir John Savage, of Clifton, kt. 3 Ric. III.
	ELLEN, wife of Richard Cholmondeley of Cholmondeley.			
RALPH DAVENPORT, of Davenport, esq. Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VIII.	MARGERY, daughter of Hugh Davenport, of Henbury, esq. married 2 Ric. III. living a widow 2 Hen. VIII.	2. RANDLE, 4 Hen. VII.	3. HAMON DAVENPORT, 4 Hen. VII.	
2. JANE, daughter of Ralph Arderne, esq. of Harden, widow of Thurstan Holland, of Denton, and of John Warren of Pointon.	JOHN DAVENPORT, esq. aged 30, died May 25, 1 and 2 Phil. and Mar. aged 74, Inq. p. m. 1 & 2 Phil. and Mar.	1. MATILDA, dau. of sir Andrew Brereton, kt. of Brereton, and Ellen his wife, daughter of Robert Legh of Adlington, marr. 13 Hen. VII.	3. BLANCH, daughter of Robert Latham by Parnell his wife, dau. of Thos. Daniell, of Tabley, esq. widow of Rich. Massey, of Tatton, married 34 Hen. VIII. no issue.	THOMAS DAVENPORT, of CHORLEY, second son, 14 Hen. VII. married Elizabeth, dau. and heiress of Robert Handford of Chorley.
				3. ROBERT, 11 Hen. VII. 4. RALPH. 5. RANDLE, marr. Jane, dau. of Will. Somerford, of Somerford, esq. ROSA, wife of Richard Legh, of West-Hall, esq. marr. 20 Hen. VII. ELIZABETH, wife of Ralph Liversage of Wheelock.
ELEANOR, dau. of Thurstan Holland, of Denton, co. Lanc. esq. by Jane, daughter of Ralph Arderne, esq. 25 Hen. VIII.	JOHN DAVENPORT, of Davenport, esq. aged 48, 1554, 1 Mary, died July 11, 24 Eliz. 1582, buried at Swettenham, July 18, 1582, aged 77, Inq. p. m. same year.	2. JANE, daughter of and coheir of Richard Massey, younger brother of sir Geoff. Massey of Tatton, and of his wife Blanche, dau. and heiress of Rob. Latham of Astbury, 35 Hen. VIII.	3. ANNE, dau. of Randle Mainwaring, of Carincham, esq. by Anne, his 2nd wife, daughter to Ric. Calveley, esq.	2. WILLIAM, slain in Ireland, 25 Hen. VIII. 3. THOMAS, mar. anatural dau. of sir Thos. Butler of Bewsey. 4. ROGER, had issue. 5. RALPH, had issue. 6. RANDLE, sword-bearer to the city of Chester, had issue.
				PARNELL, a nun. ALICIA, wife of . . . Ireland, co. Lanc. MARY, married . . . Massey of Crossley. KATHERINE, wife of Will. Highford, and 2ndly of Humphrey Bate. MARGARET, wife of Robert Kinsey. MARGERY, wife of Morgan Massey, of Eggerley. ELLEN, wife of William Davenport, of Woodford.
JOHN DAVENPORT, esq. of Davenport, aged 54, 24 Eliz. died March 4, 41 Eliz. buried at Swettenham 8th Mar. 1592, aged 70. Inq. p. m. same year.	BRIDGET, daughter of Ralph Mainwaring, esq. of Carincham, by Alice, daughter of Thos. Aston of Aston, buried at Swettenham, March 7, 1606.	1. ANNE, wife of Thos. Greenhalgh, of Brandlesome, co. Lanc. esq. 2. ALICE, wife of William Milner, of Okeingham, co. Berks. 2ndly, to Thomas Laker, of same county. 3. ELLEN, wife of William Booth, of Twemlow. 4. BRIDGET. URIAN, 2nd son, died aged 16. Two died before baptism.	3. RICHARD, s. p. 4. WILLIAM, s. p. 5. HUGH, s. p. 6. RALPH, s. p. 5. PARNELL, wife of William Newton, of Pownall, esq. and 2ndly of William Mere, of Mere, esq. buried at Rostherne Oct. 6, 1608. JANE, 6th daughter, s. p. 7. ANNE, wife of John Moreton, of Moreton, esq.	8. ELIZABETH, wife of Hugh Mainwaring of Nantwich, secondly, to Leonard Spencer, of Stoke, co. Salop. 9. MARY, married Robert Leftwich, of Leftwich, esq. 10. KATHERINE. 11. BRIDGET. 12. ANNE. all unmarried s. p.
				7. JASPER, of London, died in Essex 1625. 8. JOHN, died young. 9. HENRY, 11. FRANCIS, and 12. GEORGE, all died young. 10. ARTHUR. 13. THOMAS, served in the Netherlands, a pensioner at Berwick, married Jane, daughter of Robert Jason of Berwick. 14. PETER, of London, married Mary, dau. of . . . Clarke of London. 15. WILLIAM, served in the Netherlands, France, and Ireland, muster-master of Cheshire 1633, married Eleanor, dau. to John Browne, capt. widow of Thos. Henshaw, of Henshaw, capt. and seneschall of Mornington in Ireland, s. p. 16. EDWARD, 1639, marr. Ellen, daughter of Robert Garret, of Aston Grange.
Sir JOHN DAVENPORT, of Davenport, kt. aged 49 years 1598, knighted by the king in Cheshire when sheriff 1617, died 1625, buried at Swettenham, aged 76.	ELIZABETH, daughter of Thomas Wilbraham, of Nantwich, esq. attorney of the court of Wards, buried at Swettenham August 8, 1613.	EDWARD DAVENPORT, of Rode, married Mary, daughter of John Hope, of Hope, co. Flint, served in France at Rouen, died 1617, s. p.	JANE, wife of Edward Swettenham, of Somerford, esq. ELLINOR, wife of Arthur Davenport, of Calveley, esq. s. p.	BRIDGET, died unmarr. ELIZABETH. JANE. KATHERINE. Six others died ante bapt.
JOHN DAVENPORT, of Davenport, esq. son and heir, born 1567, died 1635, buried at Swettenham Feb. 1, aged 69.	MARGARET, daughter of Ralph Bennet, esq. of Wallingford, buried at Swettenham 1639.	HUGH DAVENPORT, 2nd son, married Elizabeth, dau. of Richard Wright of Nantwich, ob. s. p. THOMAS, unmarr. s. p.	WILLIAM. RANDLE. VIVIAN. RALPH. EDWARD. all unmarried.	BARBARA, wife of Francis Bradshaw, of Bradshaw, co. Derby, s. p. 1631. ELIZABETH, wife of Thos. Ashenburt, of Ashenburt, co. Staff. esq.
JOHN DAVENPORT, of Davenport, esq. aged seven years 1613, buried at Swettenham 1643, Sept. 23.	ELIZABETH, daughter of William Sneyde of Bradwell and Keele, co. Staff. esq. buried at Swettenham 1637.	MARGARET, wife of Richard Machin of Wallingford, co. Berks. MARY, wife of Edward Dimocke, a younger son of William Dimocke of Willington.		ELIZABETH, wife of Edw. Hawkins, of Holderness, bur. at Swettenham 1635.
JOHN DAVENPORT, of Davenport, esq. son and heir, sold the manor of Swettenham, and the advowson of the church, anno 1671, Vivian being then his only surviving brother.	ANNE, daughter of sir Peter Ricbaut, kt. of London, died at Manchester, co. Lanc. Sept. 27, 1665, and was bur. at Swettenham Oct. 6, 1665.	1. RALPH, buried aº 1670 at Swettenham. 2. VIVIAN, buried at Swettenham 1674. 3. HUMPHREY.	JANE, wife of Robert Haws of Norton. FELICIA, born at Swettenham, Oct. 12, 1641, hapt. 1641, at Marton, mar. 1st to Humphrey Davenport, of Sutton, co. Cest. 2ndly to Hugh Hollinshed of Heywood, co. Cest.	BARBARA, wife of Simon Unwin, of Cloghouse, co. Staff. ELIZABETH, wife of Dunstan Clarke, bapt. Dec. 1639, s. p. KATHERINE, married to Francis Moseley, rector of Wilmslow, 8th son of Oswald Moseley of Ancoates, married at Prestbury 1655.
JOHN DAVENPORT, only son, and heir apparent, born in London, Oct. 6, 1653, died young, buried at Swettenham 1658.	ELIZABETH, eldest daughter and coheir, bapt. at Swettenham 1655, married Robert Davies, gent. of Moldsworth, son and heir apparent of John Davies, of Manley, esq. co. Cest. marr. March 23, 1676: on her was settled the manor and mansion of Davenport.	ANNE, second and youngest daughter, coheir with her sister, baptized at Swettenham 1658, married to John Davenport, esq. of Woodford, March 6, 1676, at Prestbury.		

☞ The pedigrees of the collateral lines of DAVENPORT of CALVELEY, and of DAVENPORT of WOODFORD and CAPESTHORNE, which were subsequently connected with this manor, will be found in the account of the townships of CALVELEY and WOODFORD.

HULME WALFIELD.

HULME WALFIELD^a is beautifully situated on high ground, overlooking the rich vale of the Dane. It is omitted in Domesday, being then possibly altogether waste, or it might be included within the description of Congleton, from which it is only separated by the river before-mentioned. The latter of these conjectures is countenanced by some portions of it being originally held from the antient lords of Congleton, the Ardernes of Aldford. It consisted formerly of two hamlets, Hulme and Walfield, which had been subdivided into many shares before 35 Edw. III. when Henry son of Roger le Praers of Duddon, is found to have held an eighth part of Walfield, and the sixteenth of Hulme, from Thomas Arderne of Aldford, chevalier, by military service. Val. xxi.

After this period Hulme Walfield appears to have been held in unequal portions by the Traffords of Trafford, the Hondfords of Hondford, the Masseys of Puddington, and the Leversages, but no mesne manerial rights have occurred in the fines or inquisitions as claimed here by any of them. The Traffords and Leversages held from the barony of Halton, to whom the Ardernes of Aldford (as already mentioned) transferred the adjoining manor of Congleton; the other estates appear to have been partly held from Buglawton, and partly from the Fittons of Gawsworth, who were dependants of the Ardernes, and owed suit to their great fee of Aldford before mentioned.

TRAFFORD ESTATE.

3 Edw. II. Richard de Trafford obtained by fine from Galf. de Pulford, 5 messuages, 4 bovates of lands, and 100 acres of pasture, cum pert. in Hulme juxta Walfield, which the said Richard had obtained from William de Boydell of Doddleston and Emma his wife.

13 Edw. II. Henry Hall, chaplain, obtained from Richard de Troughford 5 messuages, 1 mill, 5 bovates, 15 acres of land, and 100 acres of pasture, cum pert. in Hulm Walfield, near Congleton, to the use of the said Richard for life; remainder to John, son of Margery de Moston, and his sons; then to Christiana, wife of Thomas de Holey, and their heirs; then to Joan, wife of William de Boydell, and her heirs; remainder to the right heirs of Richard de Troughford.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VII. Sir John Trafford, knight, held (inter alia) in fee simple, for himself, his heirs and assigns, 5 messuages, 1 mill, 5 bovates, 15 acres of land, and 100 acres of pasture in Hulme Walfield near Congleton, but from whom or how, the jurors know not; val. per ann. x marks, xis. Ed. Trafford son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. VIII. Sir Edmund Trafford, knight, held lands in Hulme Walfield, from the king as baron of Halton, in socage, val. per ann. vii. Edmund Trafford son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 25 Hen. VIII. Sir Edmund Trafford, knt. held lands in Hulme Walfield, from the king as baron of Halton, val. per ann. vii. Edmund Trafford son and heir.

34 Eliz. Sir Richard Molyneux, of Sefton, knight, obtained of William Trafford, esq. 14 messuages, 6 cottages, 14 gardens, 14 orchards, 300 acres of land, 100 of meadow, 200 of pasture, and 40 of wood, in Hulme Walfield, alias Welfield, alias Walkfield, by Congleton, for £200.

HONDFORD ESTATE.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VIII. William Handford of Handford, esq. held lands in Hulme Walfield, Lawton, and Eyton, from the heirs of sir William Trussel, knight, in socage, val. per ann. iiii. Margery, wife of sir John Stanley, knight, daughter and heiress, aged 12 years.

Inq. p. m. 5 Edw. VI. Sir John Stanley of Handford, knight, held in right of his wife, one tenement in Hulme Walfield, val. per ann. xxx. Sir John Stanley passed a fine of the same, 18 Hen. VIII.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Sir Urian Brereton, of Handford, knight, held lands in Hulme Walfield, Lawton, and Eyton, from sir Edward Fitton, knight, by the service of the 10th part of a knight's fee, val. iiii. per annum. Randle Brereton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 26 Eliz. Randle Brereton of Handford held, as in the last inquisition. William Brereton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 April 8 Jac. I. William Brereton of Handford, esq. held 1 messuage, 20 acres of different kinds of land, and 20 acres of moor and bruery in Hulme Walfield, from Edward Fytton, esq. valued, with lands in Buglawton, at xls.

MASSIE ESTATE.

18 Ric. II. John de Burton, chaplain, obtained from John Masey de Podinton, knight, and Joan his wife, lands in Hulme Walfield, and other townships, which he settled on them for their lives; remainder to Richard their son and his heirs male; remainder to the right heirs of Joan.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VIII. Thomas Massie of Podington, held lands in Hulme Walfield and Heykeld, from John Touchet lord Audley, as of his manor of Buglawton, in socage; val. per ann. xls. John Massie son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 5 Edw. VI. Sir John Massie of Podington, knight, held messuages and lands in Hulme Walfield and Hitley, from the king in socage, val. per ann. xxiiis. ijd. William Massie son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. William Massy of Podington, esq. held lands in Hulme Walfield and Hetley, from the queen in socage, by fealty only, val. per ann. xxiiis. ijd. George Massy son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 7 Ap. 10 Jac. I. (per bre' de mandamus.) John Massy of Puddington, esq. held lands and tenements in Hulme Walfield, from the prince, as earl of Chester, in socage, but not in capite, by fealty only, val. per ann. xxxiiis. ijd. William Massy, esq. son and heir.

^a Hulme Walfield, which is the only township of Astbury parish, lying north of the Dane, that belongs to this Hundred, has been erroneously described in pp. 4, and 12, (in consequence of a clerical error in the MS copy of the Mize book, which was made use of) as being part of Macclesfield Hundred. In other copies it is stated to be a part of Northwich Hundred, as it is now considered, but the error was not discovered until the sheets alluded to were printed off. The other townships of Astbury, immediately adjacent and similarly situated (viz. Somerford Booths and Eaton), are in Macclesfield Hundred.

LEVERSAGE ESTATE.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VIII. Thomas Leversage, of Wheelock, esq. held lands in Hulme Walfield, val. per ann. viiis. Ralph Leversage son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 6 Edw. VI. Ralph Leversage, of Wheelock, esq. held lands in Hulme Walfield from the barony of Halton, in socage, val. per ann. LVIS. viiiid. William Leversage son and heir.

^bHulme Walfield township consists at present (1815) of about one thousand statute acres: four hundred acres of which are the property of John Ford, of Abbey Field, esq. a part of which was conveyed to him July 20, 1805, by Sarah Howorth, widow; the residue was conveyed to him, July 1, the year following, by Mary Finlow and others. The lands comprized in the first of these purchases, constituted originally part of the Trafford estate, alienated as before-mentioned in 1591, and were con-

veyed by sir Richard Molyneux to Henry Howarth, of Congleton, gent. April 1, 1601. The second was a portion of the Hondford estate, and was purchased by William Finlow, 4 Feb. 1647, from sir William Brereton of Hondford. Hulme Walfield Hall stands on the estate of Mr. Ford, who claims manerial privileges.

One hundred and sixty acres are vested in sir T. S. M. Stanley, bart. and have passed to him with the estates of the Masseys of Puddington.

Three hundred acres are the property of Mrs. Heywood; and one hundred and twenty acres belong to John Cross Starkey of Wrenbury, esq. who also claims manerial rights, and gives a game deputation.

The remainder is the property of the relict of the late sir Peter Warburton, bart. who resides in a mansion which she purchased with the estate from the family of Bond, and which has lately undergone extensive improvements.

Swettenham Parish.

THE parish of Swettenham is bounded by the parishes of Astbury, Prestbury, Sandbach, and Brereton, and is situated on the north bank of the river Dane. It contains two townships only, Swettenham and Kermincham, both of which were probably included in the original parish of Astbury, the church of Swettenham paying a small pension to the rector of that place, and being omitted alike in Domesday, and in the ecclesiastical taxation of Pope Nicholas.

SWETTENHAM.

SWETTENHAM is unnoticed in Domesday, but was most probably retained by the earl, being in after-ages a dependency of Weverham, which was a part of the demesne of the earldom, before its cession to Vale Royal abbey.

The mediate lords of Swettenham assumed the local name at an early period. Peter de Swettenham, with whom the pedigrees commence, was living temp. Hen. III.

In the Leger Book of Vale Royal, are various notices of homage done by the lords of Swettenham to the abbots in their court at Weverham: by Thomas, son of Richard de Swettenham, 2 Edw. III.^a; by Randle, son of Thomas de Swettenham, 1342^b; and by Thomas de Swettenham, 1366^c. This last notice of homage recites the particulars of the tenure, which consisted of the services attached to the fourth part of a knight's fee, the finding 40 soldiers for the Welsh wars, as a part of the contingent of Weverham, with homages, wardships, reliefs, suit and service, and payment of scutage to the abbot's court.

In the same collection are notes of the abbot's coroner having exercised his office in Swettenham, and of an allowance of the jurisdiction of his court over this township, as exclusive of that of the earl, in the case of an assault committed by Thomas de Swettenham^d.

It appears also from another note, that the family of Swettenham were at this time in possession of the advowson.

The same family of Swettenham afterwards became *again* possessed of the said manor and advowson by purchase from the Davenports of Davenport, on whom all the Cheshire estates of Thomas de Swettenham were settled 24 Hen. VI.^e Another estate in this township also passed to the Davenports, as follows, in addition to the manerial estate, the grantor of which was a brother of Robert Swettenham, ancestor of the Somerford Booths family.

(Between 3 and 10 Edw. I.) John, son of Stephen, son of Elyas de Swettenham, grants to Thomas de Macclesfield and his heirs, all his lands in Swettenham which he had with an island, called Rouhelegh, rendering 12d. annually to the house of St. John of Jerusalem. Witnesses, Guncelin de Badlesmere, just. Cest. John de Higham bailiff of Macclesfield, John de Davenport, Richard de eadem, Richard de Douceable, Hen. de Somerford, &c. &c.^f

By another deed, s. d. Thomas de Maklesfield gives to Thomas, son and heir of Roger de Davenport, in free marriage with Agnes his daughter, all his lands in the vills of Swettenham and Somerford juxta Davenport, rendering annually id. at the feast of All Saints. Witnesses, Geoffry de Chedle, Richard de Stockport, Edmund Phiton, knights, Roger de Davenport, Thomas and Richard his brothers, Robert de Downes, John de Sutton, Jordan de Tiderington, Roger Throstel, &c.

Inq. p. m. 9 Ric. II. Ralph Davenport, chevalier, held, inter alia, lands in Swettenham, from St. John of

^b The modern account is from the information of John Ford, esq. 1215.

^c Ibid.

^d Ibid. p. 84.

^a Edisbury Hundred, p. 85.

^e See p. 37.

^f Ibid. p. 82.

^f Davenport deeds.

Jerusalem, by the render of xiiid. ; val. per ann. viiis.

This inquisition refers to the estate of John, son of Stephen de Swettenham, but the following inquisitions clearly refer to those of the Swettenhams of Swettenham, the mode and time of the transfer of which has been before stated.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VIII. Ralph Davenport of Davenport, esq. held, inter alia, the manor and advowson of Swettenham, from the abbot of Vale Royal, in socage, by the render of iis. ; val. per annum xxs.

Inq. p. m. 1 and 2 Phil. and Mary. John Davenport of Davenport, esq. held, inter alia, as in the last inquisition, from sir Thomas Holcroft, knight, as parcel of the estate of Vale Royal, val. £vii.

Inq. p. m. 24 Eliz. John Davenport of Davenport, esq. held, inter alia, as in the last inquisition, from Thos. Holcroft, as of his manor of Weverham, val. as before.

Inq. p. m. 41 Eliz. John Davenport of Davenport, esq. held, inter alia, as in the last inquisition.

In 1671, John Davenport of Davenport, esq. sold the manor and advowson of Swettenham to Thomas Swettenham of Swettenham, esq.^f, representative of the ancient proprietors, whose male line continued seated here until the close of the last century. After the death of Thomas Swettenham, esq. the manor and advowson passed to a collateral female line, whose connection, as far as it has been ascertained, is given in the pedigree annexed, and the same are now vested in Millington Eaton Swettenham, esq.

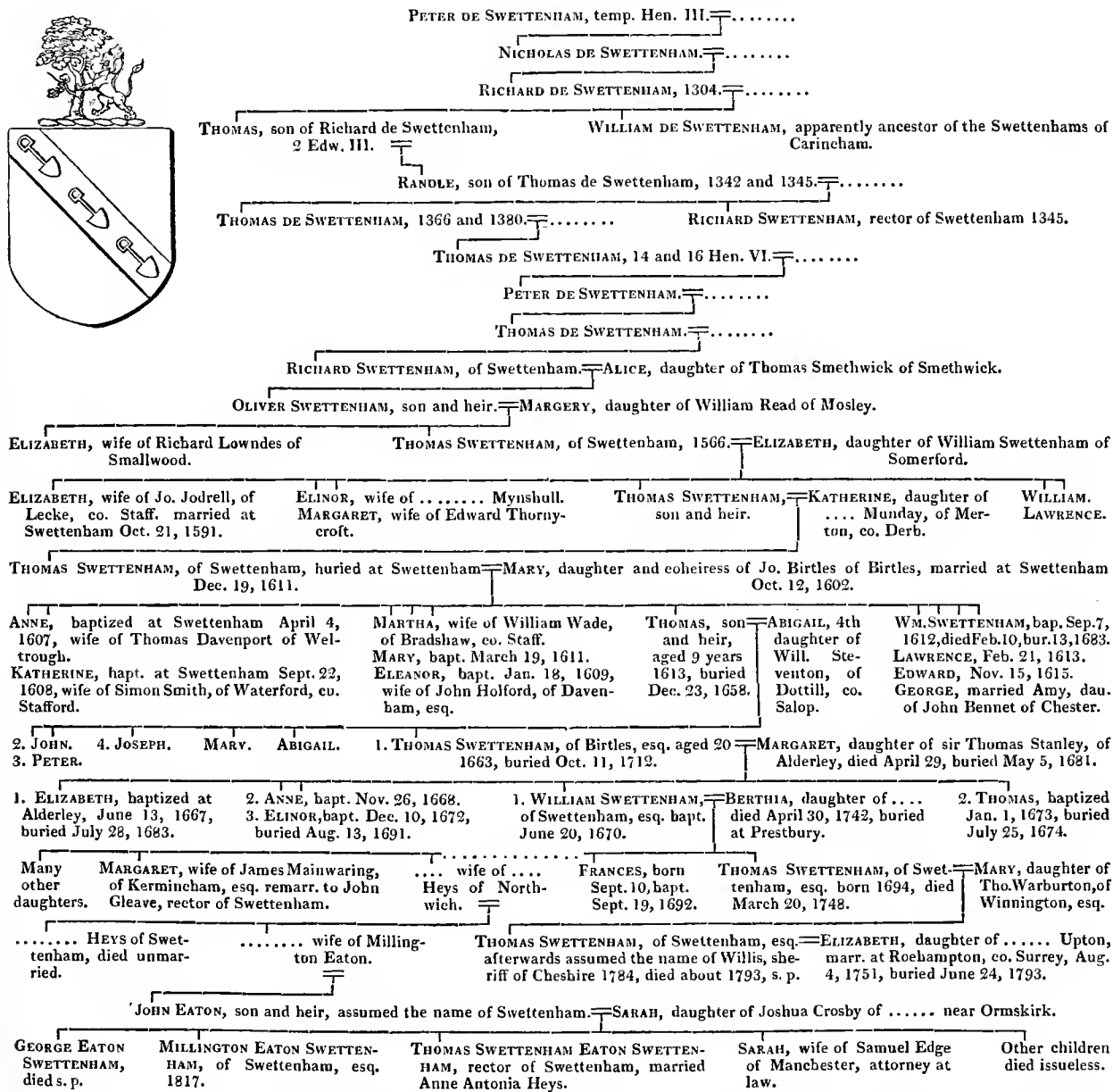
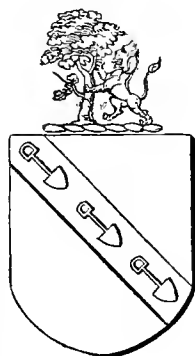
The hall and village of Swettenham are finely situated, opposite to Davenport, on high ground, overhanging the north bank of the Dane. The township continues subject to the jurisdiction of the court of Weverham.

SWETTENHAM OF SWETTENHAM.

From sir F. Lyecester's and Buoth's MS. pedigrees, notices of homage in the Leger Book of Vale Royal, Dugdale's Visitation, the Parochial Registers, and the information of the family in the latter descents.

ARMS. Argent, on a bend Sable three spades of the first.

CREST. On a wreath a tree Vert, on the sinister side of it a lion rampant Gules.



^f So the Davenport papers, which agree with the presentations, and with an entry in the church register. Nevertheless, an inquisition taken 10 Jac. I. (sixty years before this) given in Williamson's Collections, p. 98. states Thomas Swettenham, grandfather of this purchaser, to have died seized of the manor and advowson.

CHURCH.

Dedication, unknown.

Omitted in Tax P. N. Val. Eccl. £5. 1s. 3d.

The descent of the advowson of Swettenham has been already given under that of the manor. In the Leger Book of Vale Royal will be found a notice of several successive presentations made by the abbot as paramount lord, during the minority of one of the Swettenham family^g.

The church is a neat building of brick with a tower and side aisles, the former of which forms an interesting object in several romantic views along the banks of the Dane. There are some memorials of branches of the Swettenhams on flag-stones; and at the end of the south aisle is a small tablet, in memory of Matilda, youngest daughter of John Sneyd of Belmont, esq. co. Staff. obiit May 15, 1797, aged 21 years.

The following Church Notes were taken in "Swettenham Church an'o 1582." Harl. MSS. 2151. 68.

In one of the windows, two kneeling figures with six sons and one daughter, whose figures are pourtrayed in the MS. over the arms of Mainwaring of Kermincham impaling the coats of two wives, the first Argent, a chevron Gules; the second Azure, a fesse lozengy Azure, charged with three escallops Argent.

Of y^r charitie pray for Rondell Mainwaring, and Margaret and Ellen his wyves, which made this windowe a'no D'ni m^occcc^oxl^o.

In the same window the arms of Davenport, and Davenport impaling Savage.

"In another glasse windowe these figures and coate of armes followinge (2 kneeling figures in gowns, with five sons and eight daughters; Mainwaring of Kermincham impaling Swettenham Argent, three spades Sable, two and one.) Orate pro animabus Ranulphi Mainwaringe et Margaretæ uxoris ejus....."

The parish as already mentioned appears to have been taken out of Astbury. The Registers begin in 1570.

RECTORS OF SWETTENHAM.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1304, 7 id. Feb.	(Willielmus) de Swetnam, cl'us.	Ricardus de Swetnam.	
1315, 13 kal. Maii.	Laurentius de Knotsford, pr'br.		P. res. Will. de Swetnam.
1335, 2 id. Jan.	Jo. fil. Jo. de Davenport, cl'us.	Thomas de Swetnam.	P. res. L. de Knotsford.
1345.	Thomas de Heyley, cap.		
1345.	Ricardus Swetenham, cl'us.	Ranulphus de Swetenham.	
1349, id. Sept.	Johannes de Wodehull.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	P. m. Ric. de Swetenham.
	Johannes Cleimens.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	Rac'o'e permutat. cum Jo. de Wodehull.
	Johannes de Aschwell.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	P. m. Jo. Clementis.
	David de Grafton.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	Rac'o'e permut. cum Jo. de Aschwell.
	Robertus de Wermyncham.		
1366.	Hugo de Eynsham, acolitus.	Abbas de Valle Regali.	P. m. R. de Wermyncham.
1371, May 19.	Thomas de Helegh, cap.	Jo. Staghue, cap. ex leoff'o. d'ni de Swetenham.	P. res. Hug. de Eynsham.
1392, Jan. 7.	Johannes Nedham, pr'b'r.	Johannes Pigott.	P. m. Tho. de Helegh.
1436, Sept. 2.	Thomas Heth, cl'us.	Thomas Swetenham.	
1438, April 6.	Willielmus Walker, pr'b'r.	Thomas Swetenham.	P. res. Tho. Heth.
1458.	Galfridus Davy.		
	Christopher Cokeson.		
1542, May 19.	Hugh Barneston.	John Davenport.	Death of Chr. Cokeson.
1605, May 21.	Thomas Ashall.	James Rex.	
1629 ante.	Thomas Coller. ^h		Death of Tho. Ashall.
1632, July 24.	Ralph Catherall. ⁱ	John Davenport.	
1642, Feb. 8.	Samuel Catherall. ^k	John Davenport.	
1658 ante.	Samuel Langley.		
1661, Oct. 29.	Thomas Addenbrooke. ^l	John Davenport.	
1677, Oct. 26.	John Shaw. ^m	Thomas Swettenham.	Death of T. Addenbrooke.
1715, Jan. 19.	Jos. Harware.		
1722, Aug. 21.	James Harware, A. B.	William Swettenham.	
1735, Dec. 11.	John Gleave, A. B.	Thomas Swettenham, esq.	Res. of Jas. Harware.
1783, May 27.	William Webb, A. B.	Abigail Painter.	Death of John Gleave.
1807, March 20.	Caleb Bradshaw, A. M.	Alexander D. Broughton, and Thos. Bayley Hall, esqrs.	Death of Will. Webb.
1814, Sept. 6.	Thomas Swettenham Eaton Swettenham.	Millington Eaton Swettenham, esq.	Res. of Caleb Bradshaw.

^g Edisb. Hund. p. 82.^h Bur. Feb. 4, 1642.ⁱ Bur. at Swettenham July 18, 1632. See rectors of Malpas, Broxton Hundred, p. 342.^k See incumbents of Handley, Broxton Hundred, p. 397.^l Bur. June 15, 1677.^m Bur. Sept. 12, 1714.

KERMINCHAM, OR CARINCHAM.

"HUGO tenet de comite Cerdingham : Godric tenuit ; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis ; terra est ii carucarum. Wasta fuit et est, valet v solidos."

This Hugo, in the Domesday book, follows Hugh Fitz Osberne, but as in four instances the phrase of "isdem Hugo" is omitted, and as the lands in these instances were of the fee of the barons of Montalt, it appears most probable that Hugo *de Mara* is here intended, who comes before Fitz Osberne in the Survey, and was the predecessor in estate, if not the ancestor of the barons just mentioned.

3 Edw. I. "a Richard de Swetenham held of Robert de Montalto, a knight's fee here, &c. and William de Swetenham gave this manor to his son Matthew 1308. He also gave him the whole demesne, services, wards, marriages, and custody of heirs due for the manor of Odrode, and half of that vill, Buglawton, Somerford-Booths, Hulme, and Twemlowe, by the said charter."b

4 Edw. II. 1311. William, son of Richard Swetenham, junr. obtained against Richard Swetenham, junr. the manor of Carincham, and the homages and services of Thomas Touchet, and Thomas de Rode, for the lands they severally held in Buglawton and Odrodec.

10 Edw. III. The homage of William de Swetenham for lands in Kermincham, is enumerated among the appurtenances of the barony of Montalt, passed to queen Isabella^d.

13 Hen. VI. "The jury found that Thomas Swetenham was seized of this manor, and gave (had given) it to Matthew Swetenham and his heirs, who died seized thereof 4 Hen. VI. after which Richard de Swetenham and Petronel, the wife of John de Kingsley, alias Clerk, into this manor entered, and occupied from Matthew's death, till Epiphany day, 7 Hen. VI. when Petronel died, after whose death John de Kingsley into half of this manor entered, which John Kingsley, esq. gave this manor after the death of Richard de Swetenham, who died 10 Dec. 10 Hen. VI. to Randle Mainwaring, junior^e."

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VII. Randle Mainwaring, long before his decease, gave to John Mainwaring and others, feoffees, lands in Gildden Sutton, Whitley, Wich Malbank, Hurleston, Horepoole, Acton, Henhull, Wibunbury, Holbocke, Congleton, Buglawton, Somerford, Macclesfield, and Kermincham, held by services unknown. Randle Mainwaring son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 Eliz. Randle Maynwaringe held the manor of Caryngham from the queen, as of her earldom of Chester in capite, by fealty, and the render of one barbed arrow per annum, val. per annum £15. 12s. 4d.; also lands in Swetnam, Church Hulme, Wibunbury, Lostocke, Somerford, Buglawton, Henhull, Acton,

Barneshaw, Chelford, Goosetrey, Cranage, Northwich, Hulse, Astle, Winnington, Tabley, Plumley, Burland, Wich Malbank, Over Whitley, and Gildden Sutton: died Aug. 22, 2 Eliz. Henry Maynwaringe, esq. son and heir.

26 Eliz. The said Henry Mainwaring, sen. settles his manors of Carincham and Barnshaw, on Henry Mainwaring, junr.

^f20 June 1743. Roger Manwaring (fifth in descent from Henry last mentioned) settles the manor of Kermincham on Roger Manwaring his grandson, issue of his eldest son, James Manwaring, by Elizabeth, first wife of the said Roger; remainder to John Manwaring, son of the said Roger, by his second wife Frances; remainder to the male issue of John; remainder to Peter Manwaring, M. D.; remainder to Peter Manwaring's male issue; remainder to sir H. Mainwaring of Peover, bart. for life; remainder to first and other sons of sir H. Mainwaring; remainder to the daughters of Roger Manwaring the elder, and Roger Manwaring the younger, as tenants in common; remainder to the right heirs of Roger Manwaring the elder.

Roger Manwaring, the grandson died s. p. May 6, 1783; John Manwaring died s. p. May 30, 1784; Peter Manwaring, M. D. s. p. Dec. 30, 1785, whereupon the Kermincham estate, as limited by the settlement 1743, passed to sir H. Mainwaring of Peover, who died unmarried April 1797. Hereupon the estate vested in John Uniacke, son of Frances, eldest daughter of Roger Manwaring, who made the settlement, and the other sisters of the said Frances, Mary wife of Richard Jones, and Catharine wife of Thomas Lowfield. Mrs. Lowfield retains her share, and has purchased that of Mr. Uniacke. Mrs. Jones devised her share to her niece Catherine, wife of J. R. Parker, esq. of Youghall, in Ireland, whose third son, Roger Parker, has assumed the name of Manwaring.

Kermincham Hall is a large ruinous building of brick, situated within a small park, which is inclosed with a high wall, also of brick, on the border of which is a modern building, called Kermincham Lodge, which is the occasional residence of the family. The situation is flat, but in the immediate neighbourhood of much beautiful scenery on the banks of the Dane.

ROWLEY, in this township, was the inheritance of the Rowleys, to whom it gave name from the time of Edw. I. to the 13th of Hen. VIII. when Robert Rowley sold his estate here to Randle Manwaring^g. From this family descended the Rowleys, viscounts Langford of the kingdom of Ireland^h.

^a This Richard appears to be R. Swettenham of Swettenham, who had a younger son William, but there is no regular pedigree of the Carincham branch of this family.

^b Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^c Williamson's Fines.

^d Ibid.

^e Williamson's Villare.

^f The following particulars are from an abstract of title communicated by Mr. Darlington of Sandbach, the family agent.

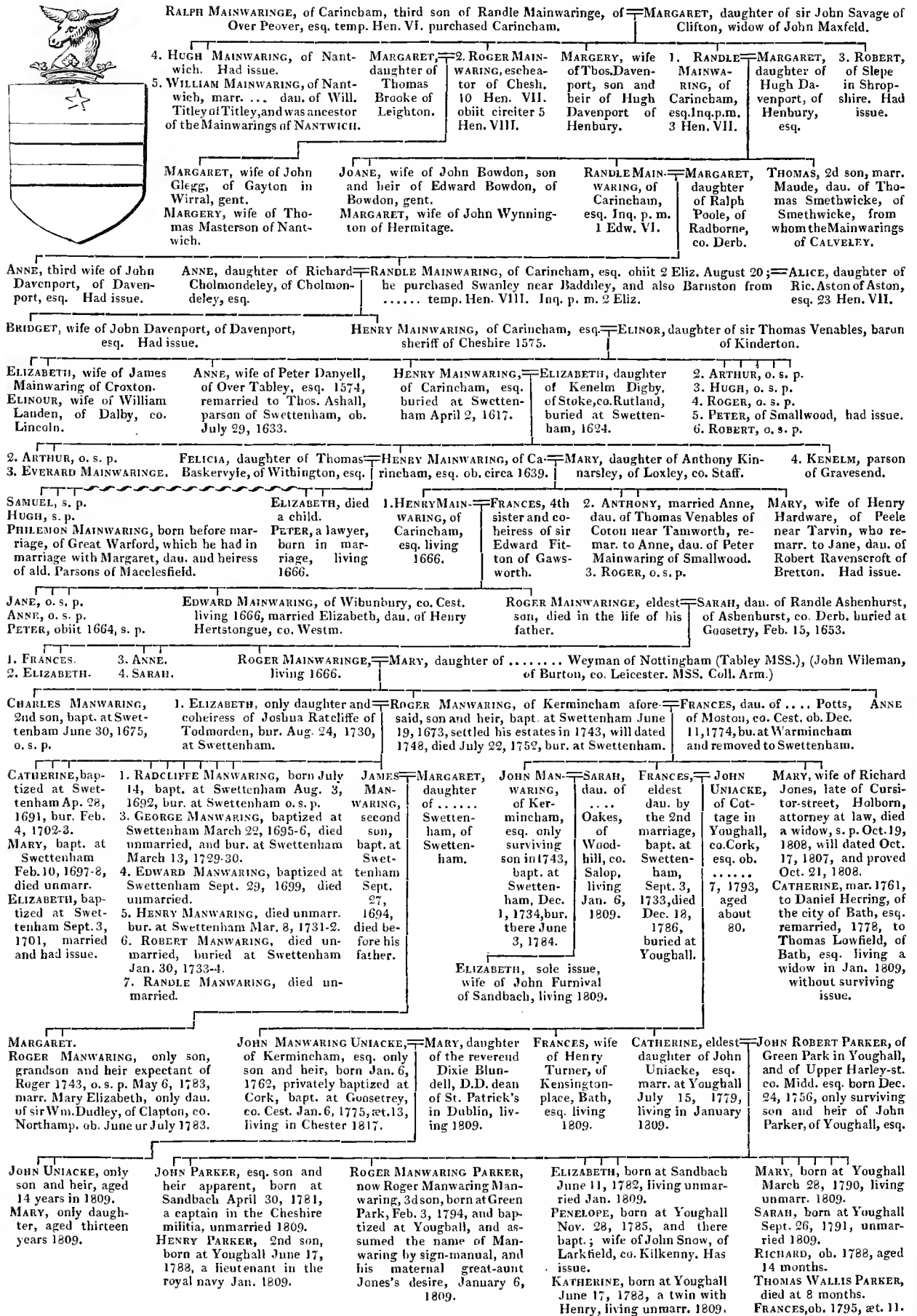
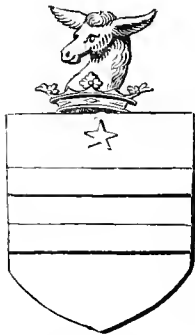
^g Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^h Their pedigree is given at length in Lodge's Irish Peerage, and a manuscript pedigree of the elder line is preserved in Harl. MSS. 2161.

MANWARING OF KERMINCHAM.

The ten first descents of the pedigree drawn from deeds by sir P. Leicester, the residue from a pedigree by E. Lodge, esq. Lancaster herald, compiled in 1809, and entered in the College of Arms, with a few additions from parochial registers.

ARMS. Argent, two bars Gules, a mullet Argent for difference.
 CREST. An ass's head proper issuing from a ducal coronet.



Brereton Parish,

CONTAINS one township only, Brereton cum Smethwick, bounded by Sandbach, Middlewich, and Astbury Parishes, in the last-mentioned of which it was originally included^a.

BRERETON.

THE manor of Brereton is one of the six dependencies of the barony of Kinderton, in the description of which the Norman proprietor, Gilbert de Venables, is noticed by the name of Venator.

“Isdem Gislebertus (Venator) tenet Bretone; Ulviet tenuit; ibi 11 hidæ geldabiles; terra est 1v carucarum. In dominio est una, et 11 bovarii, et 11 villani, et 111 bordarii; ibi una acra prati: silva una leuvâ longa et dimidiâ lata, et molinum de XII denariis. De hac terra tenent 11 homines ejus unam hidam, et habent unam carucam cum 11 servis, et 11 villanis, et 1v bordariis. Totum tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos, modo similiter. Wasta invenitur.”

Very shortly after this period Brereton was granted to a family which assumed the local name, and was probably descended from the same stock with the Norman grantee, if an opinion may be formed from the arms which they subsequently adopted, differing only in tincture from the coat which the barons of Kinderton ultimately adopted.

RALPH DE BRERETON joins with Orme de Davenport in witnessing a deed of Gilbert de Venables in the time of Will. II. or Hen. I.; and another Ralph de Brereton witnesses the grant of Marton to Richard Davenport about 1176. These are omitted in the family pedigree, which begins with a William Brereton, a second William, and a Ralph, of whom no other notice has occurred. The first William was probably brother of the second Ralph.

V. William de Brereton, son and heir of Ralph, by deed without date receives from Randle “de Torhaunt,” in frank marriage with Margery his daughter, all the rents which Thomas de Wariul held from Peter, father of the said Randle, in Middlewich hundred^b.

VI. Ralph de Brereton (son and heir of William) in the reign of Hen. III. grants to the chapel of Brereton the land of Smethwick, to be held therefrom by his nephew Orme de Smethwick.

VII. Sir William Brereton, kt. son and heir of Ralph, married a daughter of sir Richard de Sandbach, who had grant of the wardship of the said William from William de Venables baron of Kinderton, to marry him, or his younger brother Gilbert Brereton (if William died under age), to one of the legitimate daughters of the said Richard^c.

VIII. Sir William Brereton, knight, and Hamo (rector of Brereton, 1344), were issue of this marriage. Sir William Brereton married Roesia, daughter of Ralph Vernon of Shipbrook, who was living 15 Edw. II. in which year she joins with her husband in constituting their son, Richard Brereton, their attorney, to receive seizin of lands in Brereton.

In 1301, the same sir William gives 100 marks to Thomas, son of Roger de Davenport, for the marriage of his son John to his daughter Margery Brereton, which marriage was dissolved in 1305^d.

William Brereton, son and heir apparent of sir William, died, according to the pedigree, in his father's life-time, leaving issue a son of the same name, and other children.

IX. Sir William Brereton, knight, heir to his grandfather, married to his second wife, Margaret, daughter of Henry Done of Utkinton, widow of John Davenport, and to his first, Ellen, daughter of Philip, and finally sister and heiress of David de Egerton, representative of the Norman barons of Malpas. From this marriage the Breretons derived large possessions and splendid descent; but at the time of the marriage David de Egerton being probably then living, the portion of the lady was only £100. for which sir William Brereton gave his receipt at Egerton, 27 Edw. III.

From the second marriage descended the Breretons of Malpas Hall, and Shocklach, whose descent is given in the account of the latter township^e.

X. Sir William Brereton, kt. son and heir of sir William Brereton by Ellena Egerton, succeeded not only to the Brereton estate, but also in right of his mother to a share of the barony of Malpas, which her sister Isabella Delves had succeeded in wresting from the descendants of David the Bastard, she herself having been less fortunate, and failing in two successive attempts. The particulars of these claims are given at length in the account of Malpas.

The first wife of sir William Brereton was Anilla, daughter of sir William Venables, and related to him in the fourth degree on each side, in consequence of their mutual descent from sir Ralph Vernon. The marriage, which took place at Audlem in 1386, was confirmed by a dispensation granted by Richard de Donnes, prior of the Carmelites of Chester, dated 12 cal. Jun. in

^a See vol. I. p. 312.

^b Harl. MSS. 2074. 144. b. This must have been Randle le Roter, lord of *Thornton*, son of *Peter* the clerk, the description of the seal according exactly with that given in *Edisbury Hundred*, p. 15, excepting that Randle Holme, overlooking the chain armour, calls it a naked figure. The witnesses are Roger de Venables, Warin de Croxton, Richard de Newton, Roger de Sandbach, Benedict de Cowdrey, Tho. de Orreby, John de Ankeston, Vivian de Davenport.

^c Kinderton deeds, Tabley MSS. H. 17.

^d Harl. MSS. 2074, 148.

^e See Shocklach, Broxton Hund. p. 377.

the same year; and in the proceedings it is stated that this indulgence was granted in consequence of the services of sir William in the crusade (expeditione cruciali) against don Henry, intrusive king of Castile^a.

His second wife was Ellen, daughter of sir William Massey of Tatton, who survived him, and married sir Gilbert Halsal. *Inq. p. m.* 23 Hen. VI.^f

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VI. Sir William de Brereton, kt. held in demesne as of fee, a fourth and a moiety of a fourth of half the manor of Malpas, a third of Pickton, and lands in Wordhull, Crouton, Chorleton, and Northwich. William de Brereton, son of William de Brereton, next of kin and heir^g.

William de Brereton, son of this sir William, died at Harfeur in the life of his father, leaving issue (by a marriage with Alice, sister and heir of sir Richard Corbet of Leighton^h.)

XI. William Brereton, found heir by this *Inq.* to his grandfather. The said William the younger entered on his father's lands 13 Hen. VI. for which he had the king's pardon 16 Hen. VI.; and in 23 Hen. VI. had livery of the lands held in dower by his stepmotherⁱ in Brereton, Malpas, Tilston, Herthull, &c. The *Inq.* after his death, 2 Ric. III. is given in the account of Malpas^k. In this he is described as sir William, and leaves a son of the same name his heir.

XII. This William Brereton (son of sir William) died issueless; and the male line was continued by his nephew William, son of sir Andrew Brereton, who was found heir by the following *Inq.* which goes back to the common ancestor of the deceased and the heir.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. Sir William Brereton, kt. father of William Brereton, esq. held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Brereton, with the advowson of the church, by services unknown, from the baron of Kinderton, val. xli. also a fourth of the manor of Crowton, lands in Wordhull, Somerford, Sprouston, Chorleton, Middlewich, Northwich, and Congleton. He held also a fourth and half a fourth of the moiety of the manor of Malpas, the fourth successive presentation to Malpas church, and the second to Tilston church, the manor of Fulk Stapleford, the advowson of a prebend in the church of St. John the Baptist in Chester, called the Petit Canonry, appendant thereto, and the manor of Dokinton. William Brereton next of kin and heir.

XIII. Sir William Brereton, found heir by this inquiry, was actively employed in Ireland during Fitzgerald's rebellion. In 1534, he, "with his sonne John Brereton (says Holinshed) was inshored at Houth, with two hundred and fiftie soldiours well appointed^l. In the same year he was sent by the lord deputy to summon the castle of Maynooth^m, which had been strongly fortified; afterwards took the same by stormⁿ, scaling the walls with his men, after which he "ran up to the highest turret of the castle, and advanced his standard on the top thereof, notifienge to the deputie that the fort was woone." In the same year he "skirmished so fiercely with Fitzgerald, as both the sides were rather for the great slaughter disadvantaged, than either part by anie great victorie furthered."

In 1541, after the discharge of the lord Leonard Grey, "sir William Brereton was constituted lord justice, whose short government was entangled with no little trouble; for albeit he and Oneale fell to a reasonable composition, yet other of the Irish lordings, namelie Oconhur and his adherents, that are content to live as subjects, as long as they are not able to live out as rebels, conspired together, and determined to assemble their power at the hill of Fowre in West Meth, and so on a sudden to ransacke the pale. The lord justice forthwith accompanied with the armie, and with two thousand of the pale, of which no small number were ecclesiasticall persons, made towards the rebels, who upon the approach of so great an armie, gave ground, and dispersed themselves in woodes and marishes. The lord justice this notwithstandinge invaded Oconhur his cuntry, burnt his tenements, and made all his trenches with the multitude of pioners so passable, as foure hundred carts beside light carriage were led without let through the cuntry. Oconhur soon after submitted himself, and sent his son Cormach to the lord justice as hostage for his future obedience and loialtie to the king his highnesse. After this journie was ended, sir Anthoine Sentleger, knight of the order, was constituted lord deputie, and sir William Brereton lord high marshall, who within one halfe yeare after he was preferred to be marshall, travelling by the lord deputie his appointment to Limerike, to bring in James earle of Desmond, who stood upon certeine tickle points with the governor, ended his life in that journie, and lieth intoomed at Kilkennie in the quier of saint Kennie his church^o."

After this period, the pedigree is confirmed in every point by extracts from the parish register.

Sir William Brereton, grandson and heir of sir William above-mentioned, has been confounded by Mr. O. S. Brereton (in a communication to the Society of Antiquaries, and in an interpolated inscription on a painting engraved by Basire,) with sir William Brereton of Malpas Hall and Shochlach, beheaded by king Henry VIII. on suspicio of intimacy with Anne Boleyn in 1536. A singular series of errors connected with this subject has been noticed in an earlier part of the work^p, and it may be added, as an additional confutation, on the authority of the register of Brereton (discovered since that part was printed) that sir William Brereton of Brereton, father of the first baron of Leighlin, stated by Mr. O. S. Brereton to have been the person beheaded in 1536, was buried with his ancestors at Brereton, Sept. 4, 1559^q.

Sir William Brereton, knight, son of the preceding sir William, erected the magnificent mansion, which yet remains a striking monument of his taste and splendour. He married Margaret, daughter of sir John Savage of Clifton, who also rebuilt his family seat about the same period, and the similarity of designs seems to imply that they were the work of the same architect. Elizabeth is said to have laid the first stone of the mansion, and to have honoured the proprietor with another visit after its completion.

^a Harl. MSS. 2077. 10.—Many of the Cheshire families were probably engaged in this expedition, either under their earl, Edward the Black Prince, or under sir Hugh Calveley, who commanded some independent companies, which had served on the other side before the accession of the Black Prince to the cause of Don Pedro. ^f See Malpas, Broxton Hund. p. 338. ^g He is called erroneously in the abstract of the inquisition *son* and heir.

^h In Harl. MSS. 2074, among the Brereton deeds will be found numerous evidences relating to this marriage of William Brereton. His father also served in the French wars of Henry V.; and in 1418, three years after the death of his son at Harfeur, witnesses a deed of sir John Bromley's at the castle of Dampfront. See Badington in Nantwich Hundred.

ⁱ See Malpas, Broxton Hund. p. 338.

^k Ibid.

^l Holinshed's Chronicles, Vol. VI. 299.

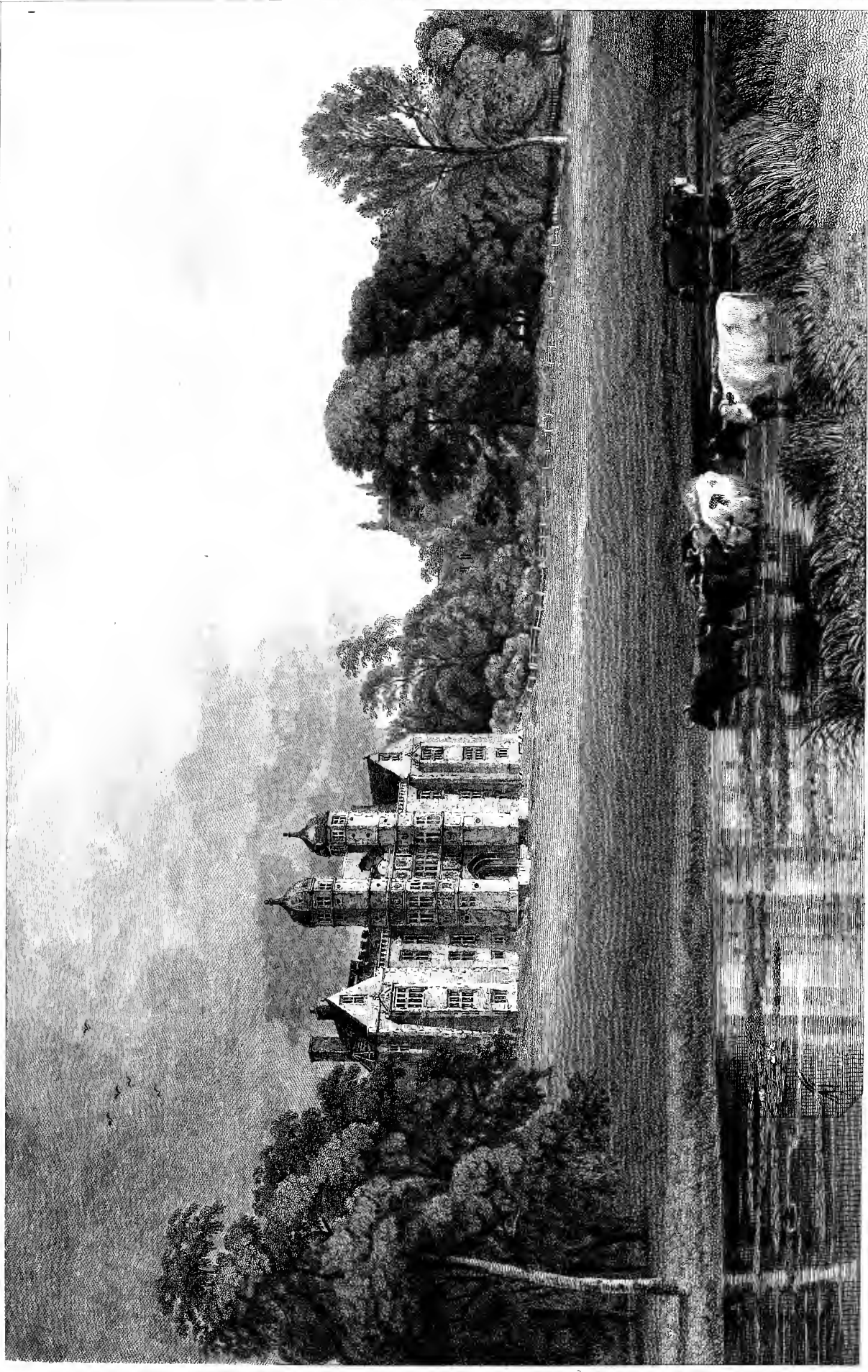
^m Ibid.

ⁿ Ibid. p. 300.

^o Ibid. p. 313. He was buried "the 1111 day of Februarie in the Colledge of Kilkenny, in Irelande, being high justice of Ireland." Brereton Reg.

^p See Shotwick, Wirral Hund. p. 315.

^q Some interesting circumstances connected with sir William Brereton, will be found in the account of the surrender of Norton abbey, vol. I. p. 503.



C. P. Kelly

Wood. Del. and Engr. by Lockington & C^o

BREERTON HALL.

The West View

This sir William Brereton was raised to the peerage in 1624, by the title of lord Brereton of Leighlin. The picture abovementioned undoubtedly refers to him, if the miniature of Elizabeth in his cap, and the arms in the back ground, have not been surreptitiously introduced, as well as the inscription. It seems, however, as far as can be judged from the engraving, to bear internal marks of authenticity, and to be only brought into discredit by the unfair means which have been used to verify it.

William, second lord Brereton, succeeded his grandfather in 1631: in the subsequent struggles he distinguished himself by his loyalty to his sovereign, collected magazines of arms, and raised troops in his service. After the surrender of Nantwich he was taken prisoner with his wife and son at Biddulph Hall in Staffordshire, Feb. 20, 1643-4, suffered sequestration of his estates, and compounded for them at £1738. 18s. (his brother paying a composition also of £150.^r)

His son, the third lord Brereton of the same name, alienated the barony of Malpas about this period, and was probably compelled to sacrifice a property which must have been dear from every consideration of long and honourable descent, as well as of intrinsic importance, by the exigencies of the time and his father's losses.

The scattered notices of the amiable nobleman who has been last mentioned, are slight, but interesting. He may be considered a founder of the Royal Society, and was, as Sprat informs us^s, one of a number of learned and eminent persons who held meetings at Gresham College in 1658, previous to the society being incorporated. The subjoined notice of lord Brereton, from a recent selection of original letters preserved in the Bodleian library, makes honourable mention of his talents and acquirements^t.

John, IVth lord Brereton, and Francis Vth lord Brereton his brother, having died issueless (the latter in 1722), Brereton passed to the Holtes of Aston in Warwickshire, in right of Jane, wife of sir Robert Holte, daughter of sir William Brereton, and great aunt, and finally heir of lord Francis, which Jane died in 1648.

Under the will of sir Lister Holte, bart. (died Oct. 12, 1769), the manors of Brereton and Aston, with other estates, were settled on his brother sir Charles Holte for life; remainder to his issue male; remainder to Heneage Legge, esq. with similar remainder; remainder to Lewis Bagot, clerk (successively bishop of Norwich and St. Asaph, who died s. p.) with similar remainder; remainder to Wriotheshy Digby, esq. with similar remainder; remainder to the right heirs of sir Lister Holte: with authority to the persons successively seized to grant leases of the Cheshire estates for one life and for 12 months after^u.

Sir Charles Holte left issue one daughter, Mary-Elizabeth, representative of the families of Holte and Brereton, and of the eldest line of Egerton of Egerton: and her husband Abraham Bracebridge, esq. had leases of

Brereton Hall and demesne, and of other parcels of the estate (to which his wife was ultimate heir), from Heneage Legge, esq. who succeeded on the death of sir Charles Holte to the estates comprehended in the will of sir Lister Holte^x.

In 1817, an act of parliament was obtained for the dismemberment of the estates above-mentioned, in order to satisfy the claims of the assignees and mortgagees of Mr. Bracebridge, and indemnify Mr. Legge and Mr. Digby (now 1817 living s. p.) for the resignation of their respective interests^y. The manor and lands of Brereton have since been offered for sale in parcels.

Brereton lies about ten miles south of Knutsford, and two and a half north of Sandbach. The situation is low, and the general appearance of the township desolate and moorish. The profusion of luxuriant oak and alder trees which generally atones for the monotonous flatness of this part of Cheshire, has ceased to grace the park and demesnes of Brereton, and a venerable avenue has been destroyed which formerly extended to a considerable distance in front of the mansion.

The antient park is situated north of the hall. To the east of it, beyond a ley for cattle, which has been recently formed, is the site of BAGMERE, which was drained and brought into cultivation about the close of the last century. Popular superstition gave to this mere the property of exhibiting supernatural tokens of the approaching decease of any chief of the noble house of Brereton^z. The reader shall have the circumstances in the words of Drayton:

————— That black ominous mere,
Accounted one of those, that England's wonders make;
Of neighbours, Blackmere named; of strangers, Brereton's lake;
Whose property seems farre from reason's way to stand;
For, neere before his death that's owner of the land,
She sends up stocks of trees, that on the top doe float;
By which the world her first did for a wonder note.

Drayton's Polyolbion, 173. edit. 1612.

Brereton hall is situated on a gentle rise on the bank of the Croc, which was formerly collected into a small lake in front of the mansion, now rush-grown and stagnant. The building consists of one entire side of a quadrangle, and portions of two others. The principal front is to the west, having wings terminating in gables, and two lofty octagonal towers in the centre, rising at each side of the entrance, connected by a semicircular arch near the summit. These towers are enriched with large bay windows, extending without interruption across the towers and the centre, with various ornaments in the mixed style of the reign of queen Elizabeth; the rose and portcullis, the royal arms, and those of the family. Over the door-way is the date 1586^a. The annexed engraving will give a better idea of this front than any verbal description.

The interior has suffered much from recent alterations, but there is still one fine room remaining nearly unaltered (the dining-room), round the frieze of which

^r See sir Thomas Aston's Letter in the account of Middlewich, and Burghall's Diary.

^s Hist. of the Royal Society, p. 57, edit. 1667.

^t Letters selected from the Bodleian Collection 1813, p. 259, vol. II. "William Lord Brereton. This vertuous and learned lord (who was my most honoured and obliging friend) was educated at Breda, by Jo. Pell, D. D. then Math. Professor of the Prince of Orange's illustrious schoole. Sir Geo. Goringe, E. of Norwich, who was my lord's grandfather, did send for him over, where he (then Mr. J. Pell) took greate care of him, and made him a good algebrist.

"He hath wrote a poem, called Origenes Moriens, a MS.—Obiit March 17, 1679, in London, and is buried at St. Martin's in the Fields.

"He was an excellent musitian, and also a good composer."

The Biographical Dictionary of Chalmers mentions some of Pell's MSS. having been deposited in the library at Brereton.

^u Act of Parliament 57 Geo. III.

^x Ibid.

^y Ibid.

^z See Webb's Introduction to this Hundred.

^a An absurd idea nevertheless prevails, that the building was erected from the designs of Inigo Jones, who was born about 1572. Clifton hall, which appears to be built by the architect who designed Brereton, was erected in 1565.

are painted the arms of the sovereigns of Europe. The various bearings of the Cheshire families occur in the painted glass of the several windows, and are also painted on the cornice of the stair-case. Other well-executed stained glass occurs in the apartments on the first floor; and in one of the chambers there is a fine chimney-piece, with the Brereton arms and supporters, and a variety of armorial ornaments.

The original decorations appear to have been extended to the subordinate officēs, where there are several inscriptions, set within rich frames of stucco. The following may serve for a specimen.

Though thou be for thy
pedegre accompted as auncient
as Saturn, in wisdom as wise as
Solomon, in power as mightie as
Alexander, in wealthe as riche
as Cræsus, or for thy beautie
as Flora, yet if thou be careles
of religion, and neglect the
true sarvice of the ever-livi-
ng God, thou art a caytife
most vyle and miserable.

There is a fine painting of a lady richly habited, with an infant son and daughter. Arms: Fitton impaling Barret, with Holcroft on a shield of pretence. It appears to represent lady Fitton, with her eldest son, the

last sir Edward Fitton, slain at Bristol, and her eldest daughter, wife of the earl of Macclesfield.

There is also a curious painting of Elizabeth, with full sleeves, a rich tiara, and chains of jewels hanging down from her neck to her waist; her hair extremely red. On one side the royal arms; over them E. R., and under them, *Sancho ripo, et riposato affano, 1579.* On the other side a globe, over which, *Tutto vedo molto mancha.* In one hand is a glove, and in the other a circular dish, apparently of brass or gold, on the edge of which is inscribed, "*atera it mal de moransela.*"

This sovereign is said to have laid the first stone of this fabric; and in one of the rooms are the Brereton arms, surrounded with a triangular mantle, the form of which is traditionally reported to be copied from the fan of Elizabeth.

In addition to the painted glass remaining at Brereton when these notes were taken (May 1817,) there were formerly the arms of various distinguished characters of the court of Elizabeth, and nine large figures, representing Leofwine and Leofric, Saxon earls of Mercia, and the seven Norman earls of Chester. This glass has been removed to Aston hall, in Warwickshire, where it is now preserved. The figures of the earls of Mercia and Chester are faithfully represented, on a reduced size, in the annexed engraving^b.

^b Since this account was written, the painted glass and pictures here described were advertized for sale by auction, at Liverpool, in the winter of 1817.

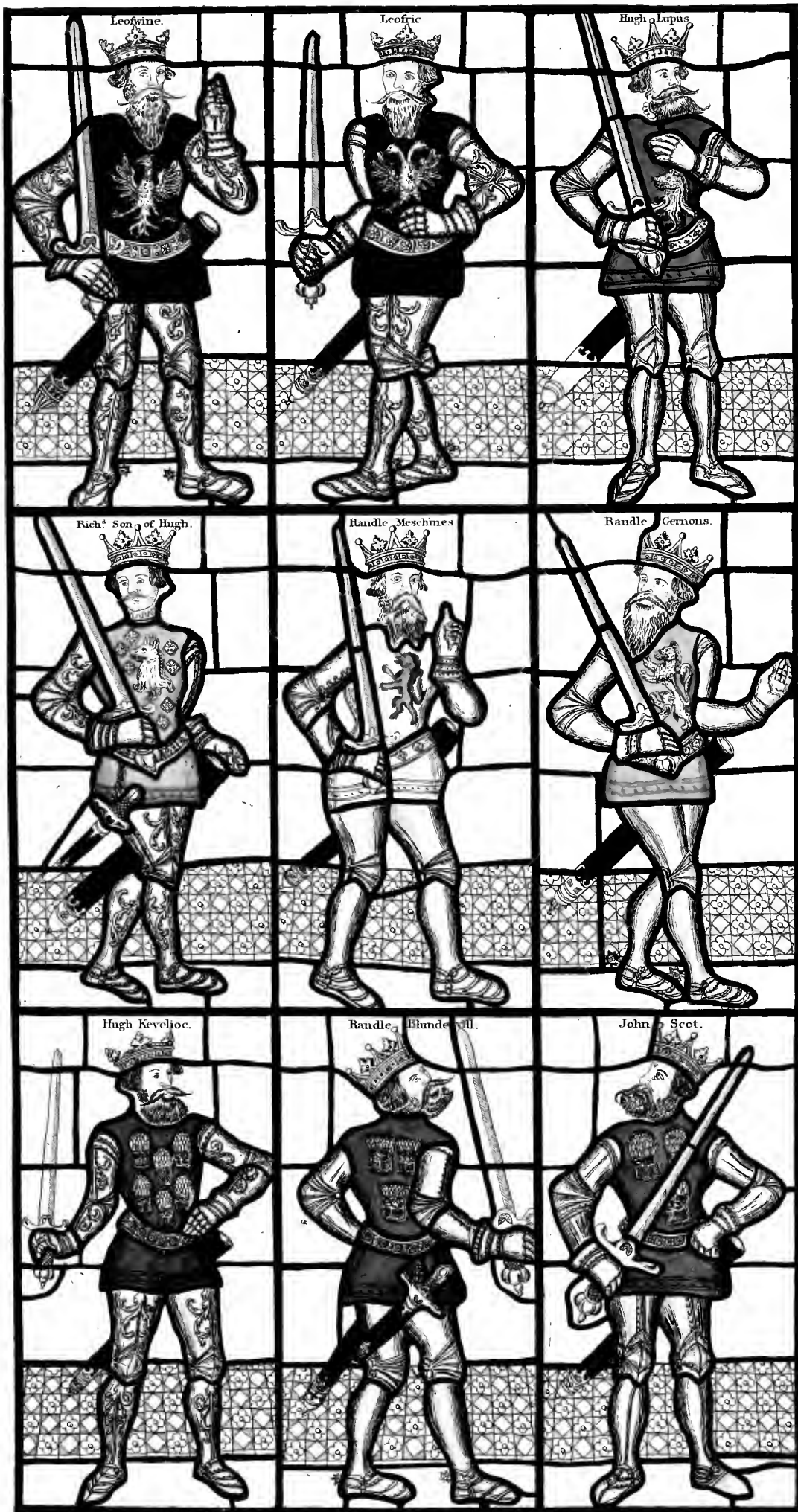
Nine coloured plates have been executed by Fowler of Winterton, who etched the annexed engraving (giving a reduced representation of the figures of the earls), which plates are (as the author is informed by Mr. Legge, the late proprietor of the glass) exact fac-similes of the originals, in execution and size. They are about twenty-one inches high, by eleven wide: each figure is placed within an arch 17 inches in height, and about eight in width, between the columns. The space is nearly filled up by the several figures.

The arches are struck from two centres, and have a key-stone, on which is represented a grotesque head under a basket of fruit. The style of the architecture is of the æra of Elizabeth; but an *erroneous idea* prevails as to their *high antiquity*, and as to these figures having been the *identical representations of the earls*, which formerly graced the windows of Chester-abbey. It will be sufficient to refer the reader to a *rude drawing* of that glass, Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 43, of which a *fac-simile* is given below, and which has been noticed in vol. I. p. 250.

It is however not unlikely that the figures may have been copied from paintings, stained glass, or monkish illuminations of considerable antiquity; though the paintings were themselves most probably executed with the other subjects mentioned above, for the decoration of the newly erected Hall of Brereton, at the close of the sixteenth century, with the style of which the architectural frame-work of the figures coincides.

FAC-SIMILE of a rude drawing (Harl. MSS. 2151.) representing stained glass in the CHOIR of CHESTER CATHEDRAL, described in the preceding Note.





SAXON AND NORMAN EARLS OF CHESTER.

From ancient painted glass, formerly in a window of Brecheton Hall.



BRERETON AND HOLT OF BRERETON.

BRERETON from Deeds and Inquisitions p. m. Booth's pedigrees, Harl. MSS. 2119, and the Parochial Registers of Brereton and other Churches.

HOLT from a communication by William Hamper, esq. referring (where no other place is mentioned) to the parochial registers of Aston, co. Warwick.

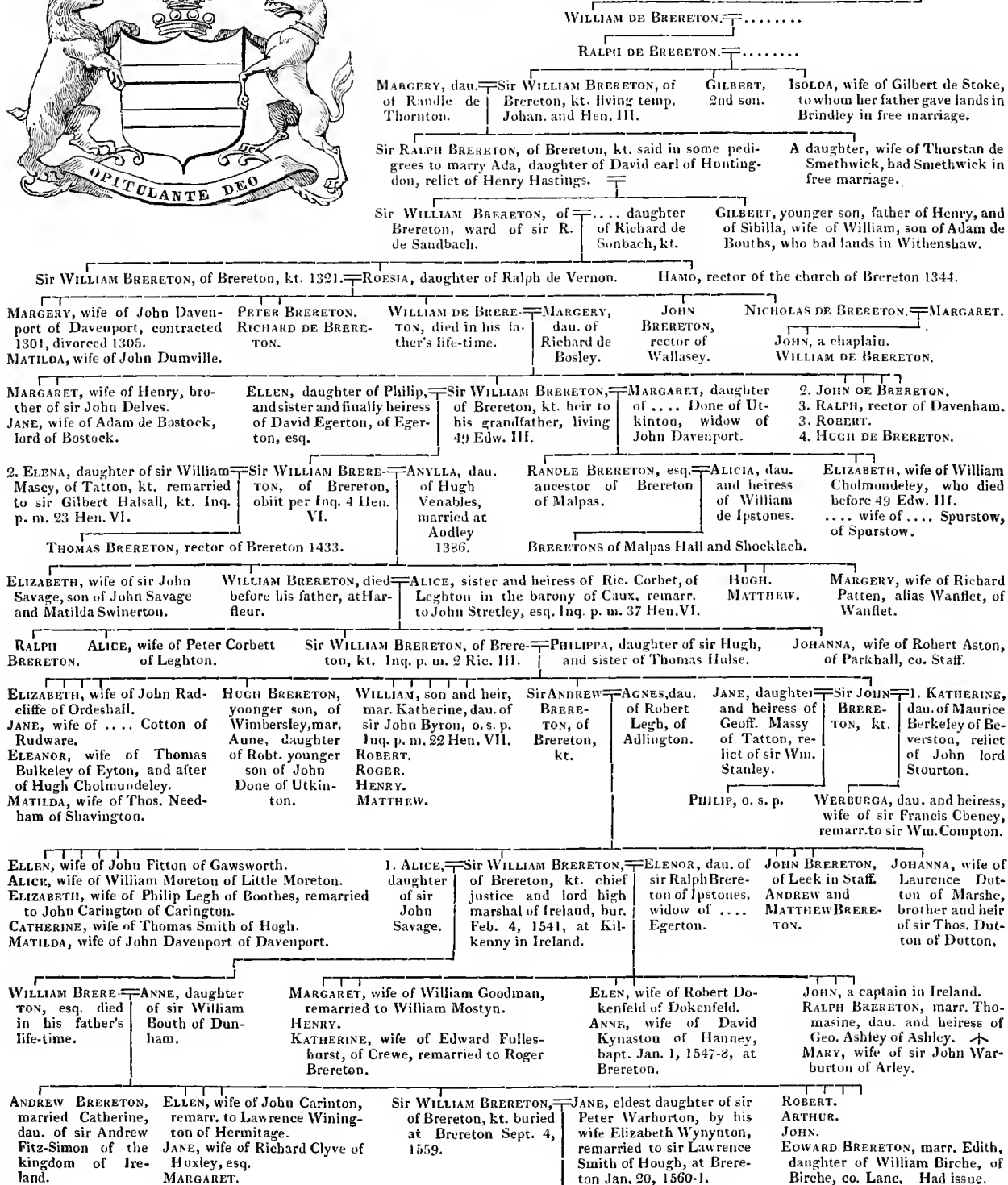
ARMS. Argent, two barrs Sable.

CREST. A bear's head proper, issuing from a ducal coronet.

SUPPORTERS. Dexter, a bear proper. Sinister, Argent, a wolf collared Azure.



RALPH DE BRERETON, witness to a charter by Gilbert Venables, temp. Will. II. or Hen. I.
RALPH DE BRERETON, witness to the grant of Marton about 1176. WILLIAM DE BRERETON, with whom the Brereton pedigree commences.





SMETHWICK, a hamlet of this township, was granted by Ralph de Brereton, by deed without date, in pure alms to God, and St. Oswald and the chapel of Brereton, to be held therefrom, by his nephew Orme, son of Thrstan de Smethwick, and his heirs.

The annexed pedigree exhibits all that can be recovered respecting this family. One of their monuments will be found in the account of Brereton church. The Thornycrofts, of Thornycroft, succeeded the representatives of the Smethwicks, probably by purchase; and the estate is now vested, under the will of the late Edward Thornycroft, esq. in his two sisters for life, with remainder to the rev. Charles Mytton, rector of

Eccleston, and his issue.

SMETHWICK HALL is an antient dilapidated mansion of timber and plaister. The hall itself, like most of the halls in the considerable mansions of the county, was formed on the plan of those in colleges, and separated by a wooden screen from a large passage, going completely through one of the sides of the quadrangle, and communicating, by several doors on the side opposite to the hall, with the kitchens, buttery, and other offices.

The court of Brereton is a court-leet and court-baron, and is co-extensive with the parish, including within its jurisdiction the hamlet of Smethwick^a.

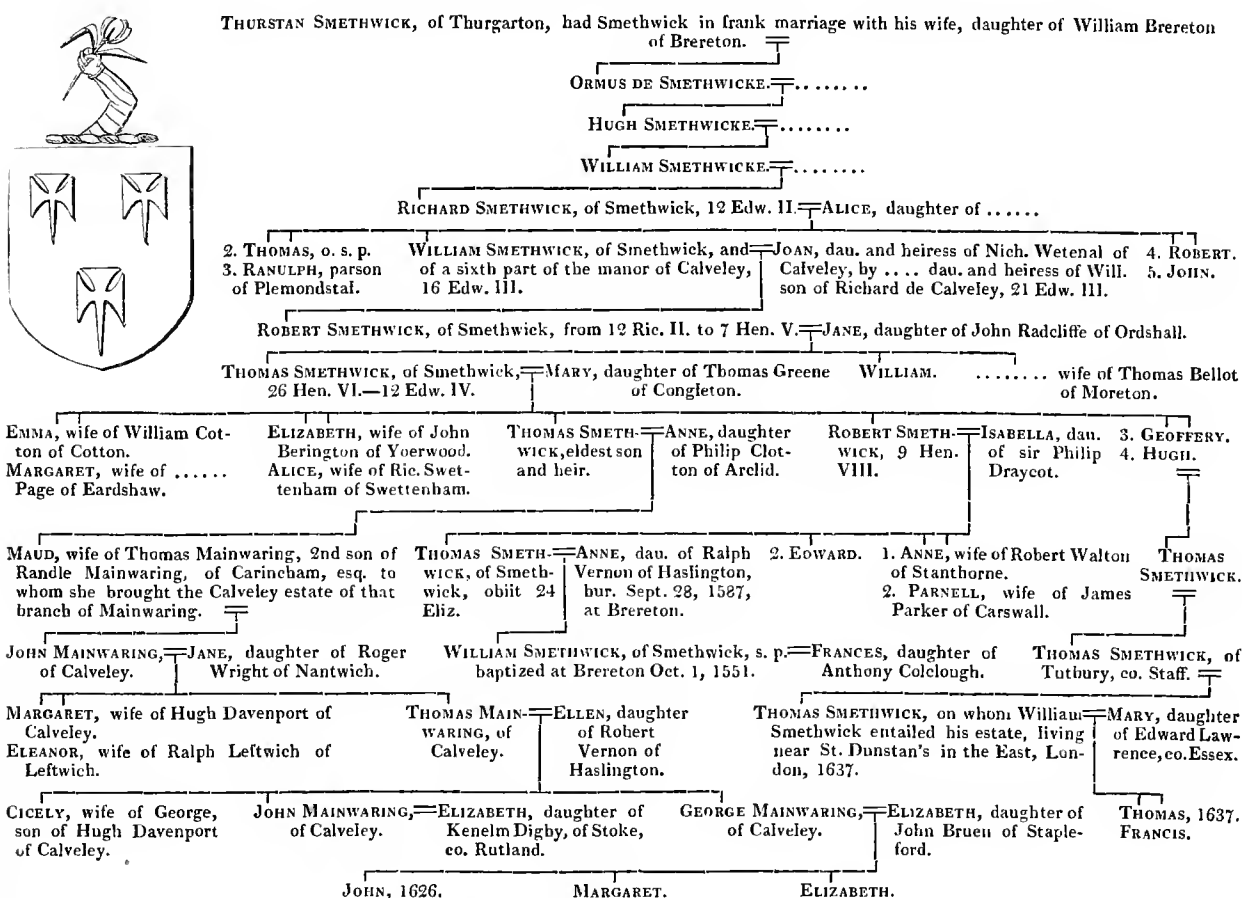
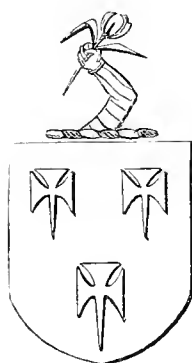
^a The paramount jurisdiction of the leet of Kinderton has long been disused. It appears that Brereton was formerly held from that manor by certain services, in addition to those consequent on ordinary military tenure. In 1336 Hugh Venables, baron of Kinderton, released to sir W. Brereton his rights in all services by which the said William held lands from him within the demesne or fee of Brereton, except the service due for one knight's fee. Williamson, Vill. Cest. Smith mentions an annual fair at Brereton-green as a recent purchase by sir William Brereton. See vol. I. p. 111. But it appears that a fair on the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula, and a weekly market on Thursday, had been granted two centuries before to William Brereton, esq. in 1368. Cart. 42 Edw. III. Mag. Brit. vol. II. part II. 316.

SMETHWICK OF SMETHWICK.

"This pedigree taken out of an old volume of Cheshire pedigrees." Sir F. Leicester's Tabley MSS. with additions from Harl. MSS. 1535.

ARMS. Or, three crosses patée fitchée, 2 and 1, Sable.

CREST. An arm embowed, vested bendy wavy Argent and Vert, grasping a tulip, slipped and leaved Vert, flower Gules.



WILLIAM SMETHWICK, son of Thomas Smethwick, gent. baptized Oct. 6, 1645. ELIZABETH, daughter of ditto, baptized Jan. 25, 1647-8.
THOMAS, baptized May 24, 1650. ELIZABETH, baptized Nov. 11, 1651.
WILLIAM SMETHWICK, of Smethwick, gent. buried June 19, 1649, at Brereton.

RECTORS OF BRERETON.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1313.	Radulphus Brereton, acolithus.	D'nus Will. de Brereton, miles.	
1330, non. Mart.	Matthæus de Brereton, cler.	D'nus Will. de Brereton, miles.	P. res. Rad. Brereton.
1344, 7 kal. Jun.	Hamo de Brereton, acolitus.	D'nus Will. de Brereton, miles.	
1361, 8 kal. Jan.	Reginaldus de Sonbach, pr'b'r. H. Lightcliffe.	D'nus Will. de Brereton, miles.	
1394.	Galfridus Davenport. Griffin David.	Will. Brereton, miles.	P. res. H. Lightcliffe.
1404.	Johannes de Merbury, cap.	D'nus Will. Brereton, miles.	P. res. Griffin David.
1409, 6 Aug.	Johannes de Wordhull, cap. Johannes May.	D'nus Will. Brereton, miles.	P. m. Jo. de Merbury.
1433, ult. Mart.	Thomas Brereton, cl'us.	D'na Elena relicta d'ni Will. de Brereton, mil.	P. res. d'ni Jo. May.
1459, ult. Oct.	Robertus Brereton, cl'us. Johannes Bendliffe.	D'nus Will. Brereton, miles.	P. m. Tho. Brereton.
1484, 11 Ap.	Henricus Smith.	P'nob. vir Jo. de Radcliffe.	P. m. Jo. Bendliffe.
1540 ante. Kenworthy.		
1576, Sept. 11.	John Thorley. Thomas Edge.	Ralph Bagnall.	Death of last incumb.
1610, Aug. 3.	William Ameson. ^b	William Brereton.	Death of Tho. Edge.
1639, May 10.	John Robinson.		

^b Buried May 10, 1639.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1663 ante.	John Holme.		
1683, Feb. 2.	Robert Bradshaw.	Charles Rex.	Death of John Holme.
1719, Oct. 21.	Charles Everard, A. M. ^c	Francis lord Brereton.	
1731, Sept. 14.	John Skerratt, A. M.	Sir Lister Holte, bart.	Death of Chas. Everard.
1755, May 9.	John Noel, A. M. ^d	Sir Lister Holte, bart.	Death of John Skerratt.
1762, Jan. 16.	Charles Davenport, A. M. ^e	Mary Broomfield and Mary Witton, widows, patrons hac vice.	Res. of John Noel.
1767, April 11.	William Inge, A. M. ^f	Sir Lister Holte, bart.	Death of C. Davenport.
1807, July 10.	William Fell, LL. D.	William Mott, esq. patron hac vice.	Death of Will. Inge.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Oswald.

Val. Eccl. £7. Os. 5d.

The church of Brereton was antiently dependant on Astbury, but was made parochial in the time of Richard the First. The advowson continued united to the manor from this period to Dec. 1817, when it was sold by the assignees of Abraham Bracebridge, esq. under the arrangements before mentioned.^g

The church itself is an extremely handsome and uniform structure of stone, in the obtusely pointed style, standing immediately south of the hall, embosomed among tall trees. It consists of an embattled tower, a nave, chancel, and side-aisles.

The tower contains five bells, and opens to the nave with one lofty arch, and with two smaller ones to the side-aisles, which extend as far as its western front. The nave is divided from the side-aisles, on each side, by four pointed arches, resting on clustered pillars with capitals, over which is a row of six clerestory windows. The chancel is spacious and lofty, and lighted by two large windows on each side, exclusively of the great east window. The whole has roofs of oak richly carved. On one beam, Thomas Whittingham erector, 1684.

In the north-east angle of the chancel, within the Communion-rails, is a marble monument, with fanciful ornaments in a style of mixed Italian and Gothic, over which are the arms of Brereton, with twelve quarterings; 1st, Argent, two bars Sable; Brereton. 2. within double tressure flory on an inescoccheon, a Huntingdon. 3. Or, three piles Gules; Scot, earl of Chester. 4. Kevelioc and Lupus, earls of Chester, quarterly. 5. Gules, three pheons Argent; Belward. 6. Azure, three garbs Or; Kevelioc. 7. Azure, a wolf's head erased Argent; Lupus. 8. Argent, a cross patonce Azure; Malpas. 9. Argent, a lion rampant Gules, within an orle of pheons Sable; Egerton. 10. Or, two ravens proper; Corbet. 11. Argent, five chevrons Gules, on a canton of the second, a lion passant Or; Orreby. 12. Gules, two lions passant, and a label in chief; colours gone; Orreby ancient. Crest: a bear's head Sable issuing from a ducal coronet, muzzled Or. Dexter supporter, a bear Sable, (effaced); sinister supporter, a wolf rampant Argent, collared Azure; motto, *Opitulante Deo*.

*Antiquis temporibus quando hæc
ecclesia de Brereton fuit capella
donativa intra parochiam de
Asburie, antecessores Gulielmi
Brereton militis, baronis de Malpas,
et hujus monumenti fundatoris
anno Domini 1618, sepulti erant in
cœmeterio de Asburie, ubi antiqua*

*quorundam eorum monumenta
adhuc extant Anglicè no'ita
Knights burials, sed postquam
dicta capella ecclesia parochialis
facta fuit, antecessores dicti
Gulielmi Brereton militis, hujus
ecclesiæ de Brereton patroni, in
hac cancella sepulti fuerunt, præ-
ter eos qui in externis regnis
et comitatibus moriebantur.*

On a blue slab in the chancel:

Charles Everard, M. A. rector of
Brereton, died April 23, 1731, aged 49.

Arms, a fesse nebulée between three stars, Everard, impaling three boars heads erect and erased, a crescent for difference, Booth of Twemlowe.

Over this are suspended the surcoat, helm, spurs, and gauntlets, of one of the Brereton family.

In the south-east angle of the south aisle, over the Smethwick hall pew, is a large marble monument, with half figures of William Smethwicke and his wife Frances Coleclough. Both figures have been painted; both have ruffs. The hands are clasped, and a hood is thrown over the lady's head, and a book placed on each side of her.

Under the male figure, on a tablet of black marble, is inscribed:

*Here lieth interred the body
of William Smethwicke, of
Smethwicke, esq. who, mindful
of his death, erected this
monument for himselfe and
his wife, pious to God, pious in
good workes; which William
was born October 1, anno D'ni 1551,
and died ^h June 16th, anno D'ni 1643.*

On a similar tablet, under the female:

*Here also lieth the body of
Frances Smethwicke, daughter
of sir Anthony Coleclough,
knight, married to William
Smethwicke aforesaid, and lived
in wedlocke with him 58 years,
a devout and hospitall matron,
borne anno Dom. 1557, in the castle
of Kildare, in Ireland, Novemb. 6,
and died 1^o of May, 1632.*

Mors absorpta est in victoria.

On a third tablet underneath are these verses:

*Mortis in hac camerâ speculari hic nobile compar,
Par ætate sua, par pietate sua;*

*Una fides vivis, mens una, unita jugumq;
Traxit honoratum copula lustra decem.*

^c See the pedigree of Booth of Twemlowe.^d Brother of Edward viscount Wentworth.^e A younger brother of the Woodford family.^f See Inge pedigree, Shaw's Staffordshire, i. 409.^g The registers begin in 1538. The old register was found at Sandbach, in making researches connected with this work in 1817, and restored to the church.^h June 16th, has been added in small letters over, and 1643 at the end of the line.

Vita una juncti, tumulo hic junguntur in uno,
 Uni quis strueret bina sepulchra pari
 Ille inopum, memor ille Dei, memor ille sepulchri,
 Condidit hic, sub quo conditor ipse rogo.

The monument originally finished with a shield, now lying in the chancel, on which were the arms of Smethwick; Or, three crosses patée fitché Sable.

On the freeze below were originally nine shields.

1. Smethwick, impaling Brereton; Arg. two bars Sable.
2. Smethwick, impaling Davenport; Argent, a chevron Sable between three cross crosslets fitchée of the second.
3. Smethwick, impaling Radclyffe; Argent, two bends engrailed Sable, a label of three points, Gules.
4. Smethwick, impaling Kingsley; Vert, a cross engrailed Ermine.

5. Smethwick, impaling Downes; Sable, a hart lodged Argent.

6. Destroyed.

7. Smethwick, impaling, Argent, fretty Gules, on a canton Azure, a cross patée Argent.

8. Dexter coat destroyed; impaling Vernon; Or, on a fesse Azure, three garbs Or.

9. Destroyed.

In Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 76, the following additional sepulchral memorial is noticed as existing March 25, anno 1608.

Two kneeling figures, with four sons and ten daughters. Arms, Azure, three spades Argent, two and one.

Orate pro animâ Will'mi Bowyer de Knipersley, et Katherinæ uxoris ejus, qui hanc fenestram fieri fecerunt.

Sandbach Parish.

THE parish of Sandbach (exclusive of chapelries) contains Sandbach, Bradwall cum Hollins, Arclyd, Whelock, Hassal, and Betchton, the two last of which are in the Hundred of Nantwich. The parish is bounded on the side of Northwich Hundred by Lawton, Astbury, Brereton, Swettenham, (Prestbury in Macclesfield Hundred), Great Budworth, Middlewich, and Warmincham; and on the side of Nantwich Hundred, by the parishes of Barthomley and Alsager. Seven other townships (hereafter specified) are included in the *parochial Chapelries* of Gossetrey, and Hulmes chapel.

S A N D B A C H.

SANDBACH is described as follows in Domesday, among the possessions of Bigot, whose manors subsequently formed the fee of Aldford, of which Sandbach was a dependency.

"Isdem Bigot tenet Sandbec: Dunning tenuit et liber fuit; ibi una hida geldabilis, et una virgata et dimidia similiter geldabilis. Terra II carucarum, ibi est unus francigena cum dimidia carucâ, et III servis; et II villani cum dimidia carucâ. Ibi presbyter et ecclesia. Silva dimidia leuvâ longa et XI perticatis lata; tempore R. Edwardi valebat IV solidos, modo VIII solidos."—A small portion, "de II virgatis et dimidia geldabilis," was retained by the earl, and this divided property gave rise to subsequent disputes between the earl and the mesne lords of Sandbach.

It does not appear when the first subinfeudation took place, but a family were certainly settled here in the reign of king John, who held Sandbach from Aldford fee, and had then assumed the local name.

The first of these that occurs is *Richard de Sandbach*, who had a younger brother Thomas, a clerk. This Richard, in 1230, was sheriff of Cheshire, and six years preceding, in the fourth year of the translation of St. Thomas à Becket, contested the advowson of the church of Sandbach with earl Randle Blundeville. On this occasion, according to the Cheshire Domesday, sixteen free and lawful men, of whom Robert de Pulford was one, were chosen to make a return on oath, on view of the premises; and this assize, coming into the earl's court, before the said earl, Philip de Orreby justiciary,

Roger de Montalt seneschal, William de Venables, William Vernon, and other barons and knights, they returned on their oath, that the advowson belonged to the earl, and had belonged to his great grandfather Randle Meschines, who had presented Steinulfus the priest to the same^a, and to his grandfather Randle Gernons, who had presented Roger de Lech, after which there had been discord between earl Randle and the lord of Aldford, which was appeased by his quit-claiming to the earl the advowsons of Sandbach and of St. Bridget's in Chester.

John de Sandbach occurs, in the Cheshire pedigrees, as son and heir of Richard, and father of Roger de Sandbach, who renewed his grandfather's claim to the church anno 38 Hen. III. against the abbot of Dieulacres, to whose convent it had been intermediately given by earl Randle^b, in a charter witnessed by Walter abbot of Chester, and William de Vernon justiciary, (1230-34). This cause was tried before N. de Vall. constable of Chester, deputy of Alan de Zuche justiciary, Geoffry de Dutton seneschal of Halton, and others, barons and knights, and judgment was given in favour of Roger de Sandbach, who pleaded, against the authority of the Cheshire Domesday^c, that the earl was prince of the county; that it only willed what he wished; that he could forge inquisitions and precepts, and inrol what he pleased in Domesday, then in the custody of himself and his secretaries. On hearing this decision, the abbot left the court, and refused to acknowledge its judgment, though admonished "per tria paria militum."

^a Cheshire Domesday, as below.

^b Harl. MSS. 2074. 195.

^c From the peculiar Cheshire Domesday or book of Inrolments in the time of the local earls. See Broxton Hund. p. 453.

A claim was then put in by Fulco de Orreby, on behalf of the king, and judgment was again given in favour of Richard de Sandbach; but, subsequent to this, the dispute was removed by certiorari into the court of King's Bench, before which the Justiciary laid the Cheshire Domesday, which contained the record of the trial before mentioned, and the release of the advowson by the lord of Aldford, and a statement that, subsequent to it, the earl had given the advowson of Sandbach to God and the abbey of Dieulacres, and that no one had presented since. On these grounds the abbot recovered, and the record of the decision contains the remarkable expressions respecting the incontrovertible evidence of the Cheshire Domesday, which have been given in another part of this work^d.

Notwithstanding this decision, the abbot of Dieulacres paid 100 shillings to Roger de Sandbach and Clemence his wife for the confirmation of the church to him, anno 43 Hen. III.^e This confirmation was ratified by his son sir Richard de Sandbach, who in 1280 again confirmed the same, with two bovates of land, to which the advowson was probably appendant^f. This Richard was

grantee of a moiety of Sproston from sir William Brereton of Brereton.

Richard de Sandbach was father of John, who, according to the Cheshire pedigrees, was father of Thomas, grandson and heir of Richard de Sandbach.

^g 2 Edw. II. John de Arderne, of Aldford, sells to sir Hugh Venables, the marriage and wardship of Richard son of Thomas, heir of sir Richard de Sandbach, with a proviso, that if he died under age, the said Hugh should have the wardship of Thomas, younger brother of Richard. The said Richard had issue, Elizabeth, daughter and heir, wife of John Legh of Booths, by whom he had issue Maud, who brought the manor of Sandbach and a moiety of Sproston (which descended with it from Richard, son of Roger de Sandbach), in marriage to Richard Radclyffe, of Ordeshall in Lancashire^h.

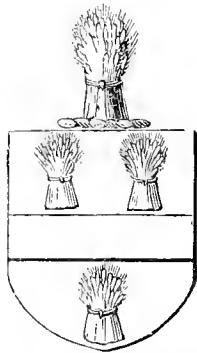
The manor of Sandbach was sold by the Radclyffe family to sir Randolph Crewe, passed in marriage from that family to the Offleys, with Crewe and other estates, and has descended with them to the right hon. John lord Crewe, the present proprietor.

SANDBACH OF SANDBACH.

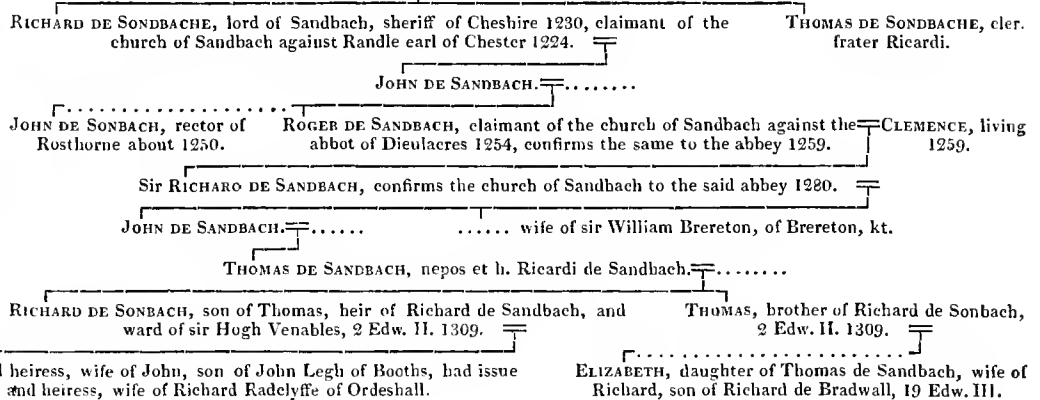
From Booth's pedigrees, with additions.

ARMS. Azure, a fesse (and sometimes a bend) Or, between three garbs of the second.

CREST. (From ancient painted glass formerly in Witton chapel). On a wreath a garb Or.



ELIZABETH, daughter and heiress, wife of John, son of John Legh of Booths, had issue Maud, daughter and heiress, wife of Richard Radclyffe of Ordeshall.



Lord Crewe holds a court-leet and court-baron for the manor of Sandbach, to which all residents within the vill owe suit and service^l. This leet was granted to sir John Radcliffe of Ordshall by the queen, 4 Apr. 21 Elizabeth, with a Thursday's market and two fairs, one to be held on the Thursday and Friday before the Nativity of the Virgin, the other on the Tuesday and Wednesday in Easter week^k.

Sandbach is situated about miles of Chester, near the Staffordshire border of the county, in a flat but well-wooded country, and a dry sandy soil. East of the town is a small rivulet, which forms one of the principal feeders of the Wheelock, on the bank of which the Church and HALL are situated. The latter is a large building of timber and plaister, finished with bay-windows, and

gables, and erected about the middle of the seventeenth century. It probably occupies the site of the ancient mansion of the Sandbaches, as its position appears to have been selected with a view to the strength that might be desirable in a castellated manor-house. There is a small ravine to the South, and a deeper one also intervenes on the North, between the hall and the church. At the east end is another descent towards the rivulet before mentioned.

To the west of the church is the market-place, containing the CROSSES of Sandbach, which may indisputably be ranked among the finest monuments of antiquity, of this kind, now existing in the kingdom. They are of that description of crosses which have been supposed, in some instances, to have been erected shortly

^d Broxton Hund. p. 453, in note. See the pleadings at length, Harl. MSS. 1967. 155.

^e By this charter, Roger, lord of Sandbach, grants and quitclaims to the said abbot and convent, all his right in the church of Sandbach without any reservation (except the foreign service attached to two bovates of land given by Richard de Sandbach to the same church) to be held in frank-almoigne, without claim of his heirs. The same Roger also grants to the same, houseboote and hayboote in Sandbach wood, which the rectors had formerly enjoyed, saving only aery of sparrow hawks: he grants also common of pasture in his fee of Sandbach for 40 beasts of burthen, 40 pigs, 110 (sheep?) and 20 heifers, reserving, however, a right of making use of the waste, if he leaves ingress and egress for the abbot and convent, and sufficient pasture for the church. For this grant and confirmation the abbot and convent paid 100 shillings. Dated at Chester 10 cal. Aug. 43 Hen. fil. Joh'is.

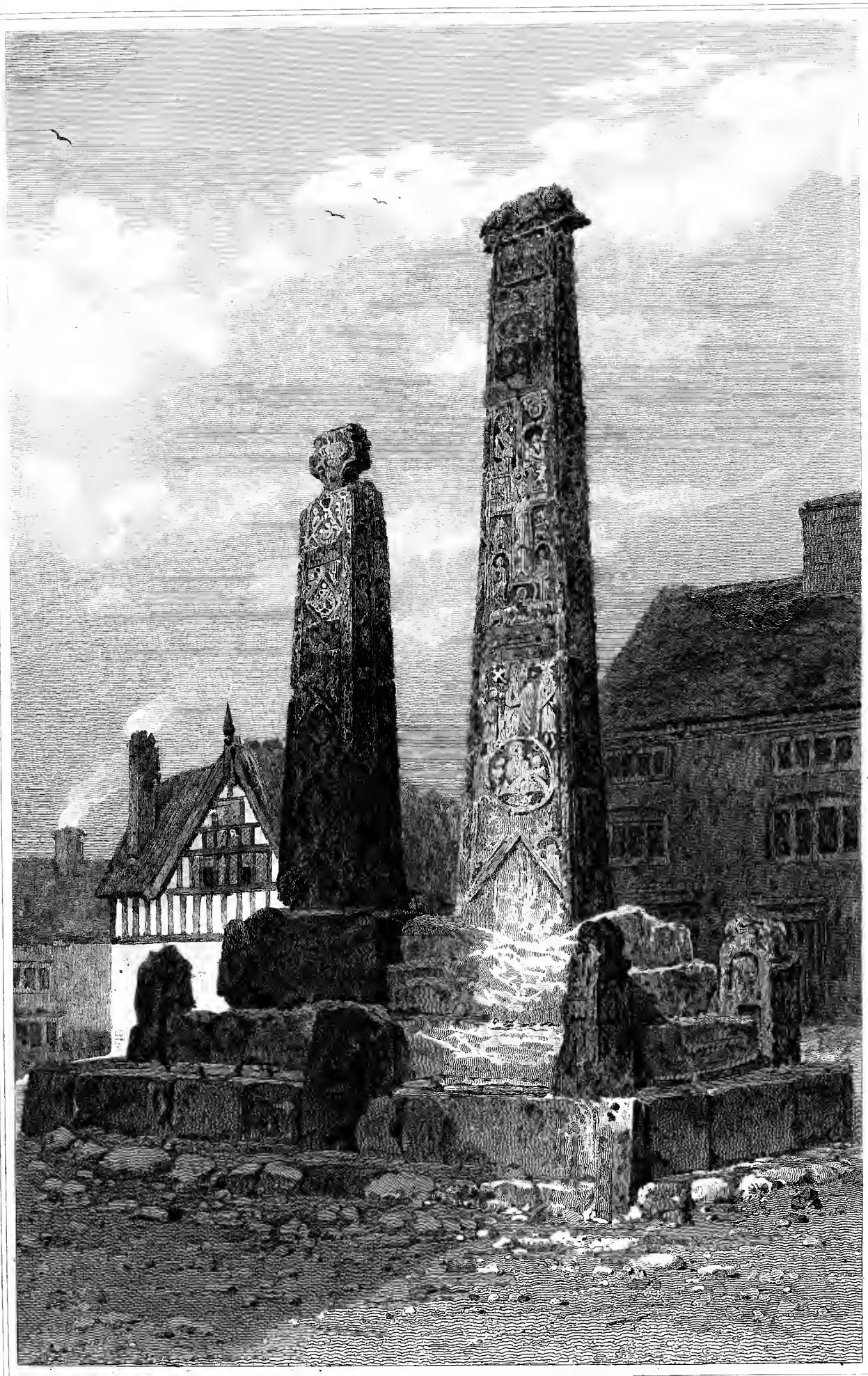
^f Harl. MSS. 2074. 194.

^g Ibid. 2074. 126. b.

^h Randle de Fourd, vicar of Sandbach, as trustee, releases to John de Radcliffe, of Urdeshalle, and his heirs and assigns, all his right in the manor of Sandbach, and the moiety of the manor of Sproston, &c. Dated Tuesday before Palm Sunday, 18 R. II.

ⁱ Information of Henry Tomkinson, esq.

^k Harl. MSS. 2074. 195.



F. De Witt. delin.

London: Publ. July 1, 1858, by Lockington & Co.

W. W. B. 10. 1858.

SANDBACH CROSSES. PL. I.

after the introduction of Christianity, on the places where it was first preached, and in others were erected, in the early Saxon period, over the graves of personages of distinction¹. The substructure consists of a platform of two steps, on which are placed two sockets, in which the crosses are fixed. At the angle of each stage of the platform are stone posts, on which rude figures have been carved. The platform and sockets are five feet six inches in height. The present height of the greater cross is sixteen feet eight inches, and that of the smaller one eleven feet eleven inches, making the greatest present height from the ground twenty-two feet two inches^m.

Greater Cross.—The frame-work in which the figures on each side of this cross are included divides near the base, and becomes forked, like the termination of an antient pennon, in the angles of which, on the east side, were figures of cherubs looking upwards. Immediately above the division is a large circle containing three figures, to the central one of which the others appear to be paying obeisance. Over the circle are three other figures: the central one in this groupe appears to bear something like an infant in its arms; on its left is a figure with a palm-branch in its left arm, and a dove over its head; and on its right a similar figure, with a cross over its head and a book in its hands. After a short deficiency there occurs a clear representation of our Saviour in the manger, with animals on each side, and an angel hovering over him. Above this is a crucifix with Christ attached to it, some of his disciples (or, according to Cole's conjecture, the Virgin and St. John,) standing at the base, and the four angles of the cross filled up with the symbols of the four Evangelists. Above this are various mutilated figures, some of which are in niches, and one is inverted. The lowest are conjectured by Cole to be God the father, sitting on a throne, with the blessed Virgin and her babe before him.

The west side has been divided into eight double compartments. The first part is filled by dragons, whose wings, and other members, are complicated in the most fanciful manner; in the second are mutilated representations of winged figures; in the third, a winged and a sitting figure, probably representing the apparition of the archangel Gabriel to Zachary in the temple; in the fourth, Simon bearing the cross, preceded by a figure holding a curved wand: in the fifth, our Saviour, marked by the glory round his head, drawn along by a person holding a rope, with one end of which the hands of Christ are bound: the sixth compartment is entirely destroyed, and the two remaining ones are too much mutilated to be described.

The south side is filled up with foliage, knots, and fancy ornaments, the nature of which will be gathered from the engraving.

The north side appears to have contained eleven

figures, over which is a large fish with the mouth downwards, with a tongue triply cloven. The highest figure is bending under the tongues in the act of adoration, and the next eagerly stretching upwards. It is difficult to account for these figures, otherwise than by supposing them to be the eleven original apostles, on whom, together with the newly-elected one, the spirit descended in the form of cloven tongues, St. Matthias being purposely omitted.

The smaller Cross has a variety of human figures placed within niches and lozenges on the east and west sides, and others within niches on the north and south sides, placed within a border of knots. The twelve figures on the north side have a marked resemblance to the eleven on the other cross; and in the west front is a groupe of three persons, apparently intended to represent the three persons of the Trinity.

Both crosses have terminated in ornamented circular or elliptical tops, round which other figures have been carved with their heads towards the centre, and their feet towards the exterior. This part of the small cross has been certainly pierced in such a manner, as to give to the head the appearance of a cross not unlike the Maltese in form, set within a circumference either circular or elliptical, as before mentioned.

It appears, from Smith's account of Sandbachⁿ, in the Vale Royal, that these crosses were standing in the reign of Elizabeth, and had of course been saved from violence at the Reformation. Whether they were thrown down by the puritans acting under the orders of Elizabeth against superstitious images, or during the civil disturbances in the reign of Charles the First, does not appear, but it is certain that they did not remain in a perfect state after this second period. Towards the latter end of the seventeenth century, the central part of the large cross, and some fragments of the other, were carried by sir John Crewe to Utkinton, and set up as an ornament to the place, the figure of our Saviour on the cross, which he considered to be a relic of popery, being carefully covered over with hard mortar. After the death of sir John Crewe, these fragments were removed by Mr. Allen to the rectory-house of Tarporley, where Cole saw them and made drawings of them, remaining among his MSS. in the British Museum.

^o In an earlier portion of this work, these portions of the crosses were noticed in the account of Oulton park, where they were then deposited, after a removal from Tarporley rectory, and a regret was expressed that the monuments of the piety of our Saxon ancestors should be suffered to remain longer in a state of mutilation. A very few months elapsed before the Author was requested by the town of Sandbach to undertake the superintendence of their restoration; and he had the pleasure of seeing this effected in a most satisfactory manner, whether considered with reference to the volun-

¹ Respecting Crosses of the first kind, see Dr. Whitaker's Whalley, book II. cap. 1; respecting the use of two obelisks, as ornaments of the cairn erected over antient princes, see Mr. Whitaker's Manchester, 4to edit. book II. cap. 2. Those remaining over the reputed grave of Arthur in the isle of Avalon, when examined by Hen. II. were severally eighteen and twenty-six feet in height.

^m The proportions of the several parts of the Crosses and substructure are as follows, being taken from accurate details and measurements made by Mr. Palmer of Manchester, when the crosses were laid upon the ground in 1816.

Height of each step of the *Platform*, 1 foot 6 inches.

Height of *Sockets*, 2 feet 6 inches.

Diameter of *larger Socket* at base, 5 feet 9 inches.

Diameter of *smaller Socket*, 4 feet 6 by 3 feet 9 inches.

Large Cross. Height of pillar 15 feet 10 inches; 10 inches of the circular top only remaining, but this appears to have been 3 feet in diameter. Breadth at base, 2 feet 7 by 1 foot 10 on the south side, and 2 feet on the north. At top, 1 foot 2 by 10 inches.

Small Cross. Height of pillar 10 feet 9 inches, and of the broken top 1 foot 2 inches. The deficiency of the pillar, and the diameter of the top cannot be exactly calculated. Breadth at base, 2 feet 1½ by 1 foot 8½, and at the highest perfect part 1 foot 6 by 1 foot.

ⁿ See p. 111, Vol. I. prolegomena.

^o Edisbury Hundred, p. 118.

tary exertions of the inhabitants in collecting the scattered fragments, and contributing the means of their restoration, or to the good taste and genuine liberality of sir J. G. Egerton, in restoring those large portions, which for many years had constituted an unique ornament of his park at Oulton^p.

On the southern side of this township is ABBEY-FIELD, the seat of John Ford, esq.

In 1686 Ellen, widow of William Ford, of Ford-green, in the county of Stafford, purchased an estate at Hind-heath, in Sandbach, which, by deed of that date, was conveyed to her by John Hassal, and Edmund Turner, of Covent-garden, husband of Lucy, relict of John Crewe, of Crewe, esq. to whom the same had been mortgaged^q. This estate passed to her third son Andrew, from whom it has descended to his great grandson, John Ford, esq. before mentioned, and has been greatly augmented by various successive purchases. The house, which derives its appropriate designation from a field nearly contiguous, which once formed part of the possessions of the abbey of Dieulaeres, has been almost wholly rebuilt by the present proprietor, and the grounds adjacent laid out under the direction of Webb^r.

The annexed pedigree contains the descent of the Fords of Abbeyfield, from their first connection with Sandbach, and all that can be recovered of the descent of the elder line, who are thereby proved to have been settled at Ford-green, in Norton-le-Moors, near the borders of this county, from the twelfth century, if the scattered notices of the name contained therein are presumed to refer to the same family, as they most probably do refer. It is exclusively compiled from original exist-

ing evidences^s; but the neglect of the ancestors of the family to enter any pedigree in the Heralds' Visitations, and the silence of the Staffordshire collections on the subject, has at once rendered such compilation laborious, and its result imperfect. Another difficulty respecting the armorial coat has arisen from the same cause, to obviate which the search was extended beyond the limits of the county, in the hopes of discovering some seal which might remove the difficulty. In other instances the author has invariably rejected such bearings as have not received allowance or confirmation from the College of Arms; but he conceives that he is justified in drawing a line between obvious assumption and deficiency of proof, and he has therefore inserted the arms with an honest avowal of that deficiency, as Dugdale inserted in his Visitation the coats of which he had received "no prooffe," or for which he had granted a respite. It remains to add, that the coat claimed for Ford of Ford-green is borrowed from no other family; and though it appears, for the first time, attached to a deed of William Ford, 28 Aug. 25 Car. II., too late by several centuries to allow a claim to prescriptive right, it may yet be conjectured, from its being borne without a crest, that it was used in a much earlier period, when the crest was chiefly restricted to families of knightly rank; and it may also from the same circumstance be argued, that the family who continued to bear the simple coat-armour, after crests had become common, may be presumed to have conceived themselves possessing an absolute right in that to which they so confined themselves, though the evidence of such right may not now be in existence.

^p The lower parts of the great cross were found in the walls of the town well, which were taken down for this purpose; a small portion of them had been previously discovered there by Messrs. Lysons, and is engraved with the Oulton fragments, and the perfect part of the small cross, and the top of the larger one, in their *Magna Britannia*. The two next large fragments came from Oulton. The higher parts were found at Sandbach: the most important of them, viz. the termination of the pillar united to the fragment of the circular top, was dug up near the market place, in a garden now occupied by Mr. Perceval.

The lowest fragment of the small cross, escaped the fate of the rest, and was the only part standing in 1816: the second was brought from Oulton, the highest was placed in the pavement of the principal street. The fragment of the top was discovered by the author, as forming part of the steps of a house near the town well. A few portions had disappeared shortly before, when the town was new paved, and one large fragment is known to lie under the foundations of a house in Sandbach.

The re-erection of the crosses was effected in Sept. 1816, by Mr. John Palmer, of Manchester, architect, whose liberality on the occasion, as well as his scientific arrangements, cannot be too highly commended: all attempts at restoration were directed to be religiously abstained from, and the chasms were filled with plain stone, matching the colour of the original as nearly as possible.

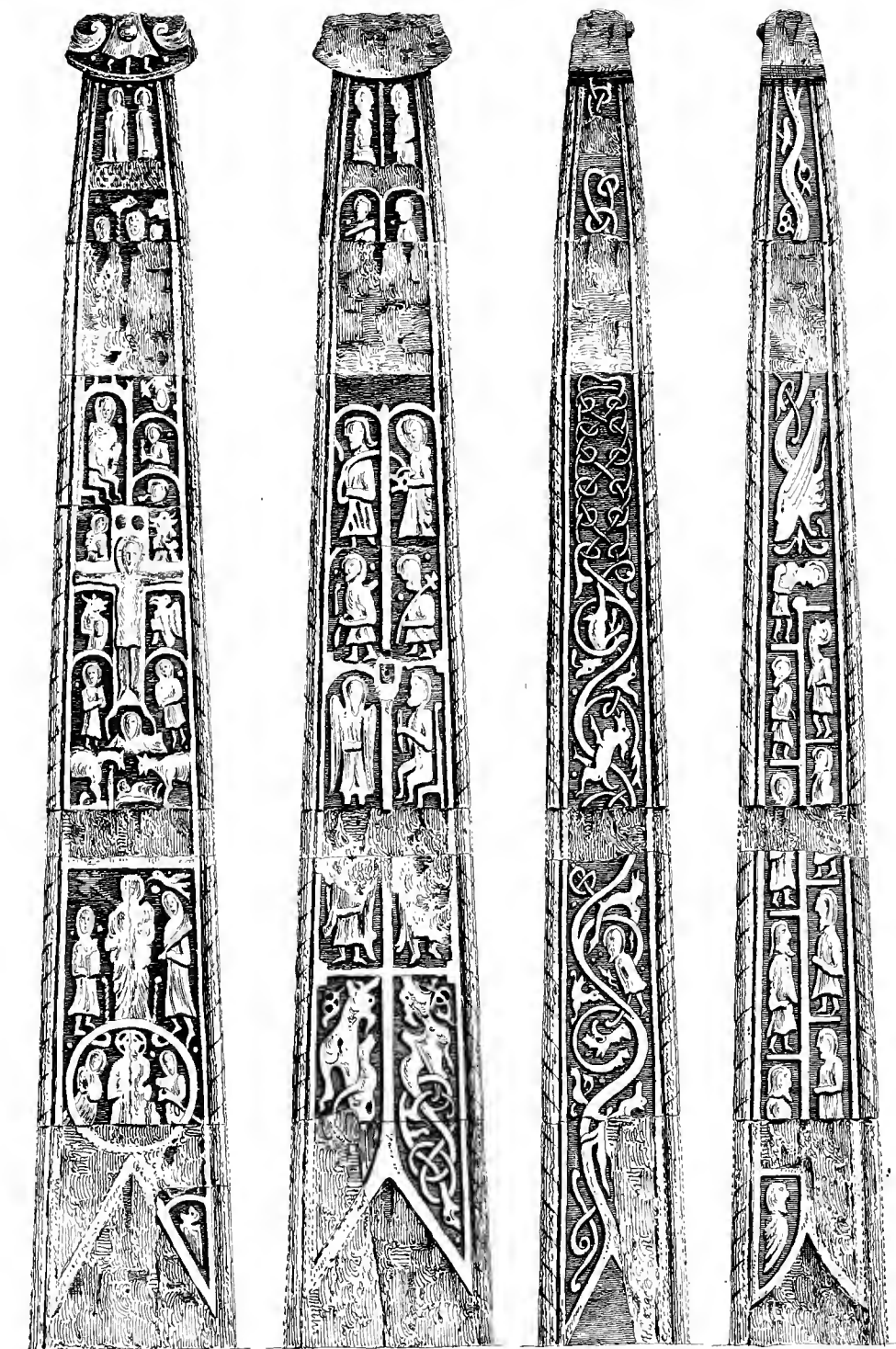
The enthusiasm which the re-erection of the crosses excited among the lower orders was excessive, and a concourse of people poured in from distant townships. On some days the crowd was sufficiently great in the market place to interrupt the operations of the workmen.

Whilst these sheets were going through the press, a communication, from the pen of the able and unassuming architect by whom the crosses were re-erected, appeared in the *Catholic Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. I. p. 303. The writer ascribes the erection of the cross to the year 653, when Peda returned a Christian convert from Northumbria to Mercia, attended, according to Bede, by four priests deputed to preach the Gospel through his dominions, Cedda, Adda, Betti, and Diuma. In this essay the reader will find several ingenious surmises relative to the subjects of the various embellishments of the crosses, which are, however, rather of too conjectural a nature to be entered upon in this work.

^q Deeds at Abbeyfield.

^r It is called in old deeds the Abbot's Field, and at the dissolution was held by an old rent of £1. 4s. 6d. See Valuation of the Cheshire possessions of the abbey, Broxton Hundred, p. 408.

^s All the descents below 1681 are from parish registers or deeds at Abbeyfield; and all above it, to which no mark is affixed (including a very curious original surrender, 14 Hen. II.), are from deeds in the possession of Mr. Hugh Ford, of Leek, or the Rev. J. S. Catlow, M.A. who married a coheirress of the elder line, and by whom the entire series of charters was entrusted to the Author for examination. The particulars marked † are from Vernon's extracts from the Lichfield Episcopal Registers, Harl. MSS. 2070; and those marked * are from Copies of Rentals and Court Rolls, in the possession of William Hamper, esq. of Birmingham, contained in tom. III. of the MSS. of the lords Stafford, lords of the manor of Norton-in-the-Moors, in which Ford Green is situated.



Elevation of East side.

West side.

South side.

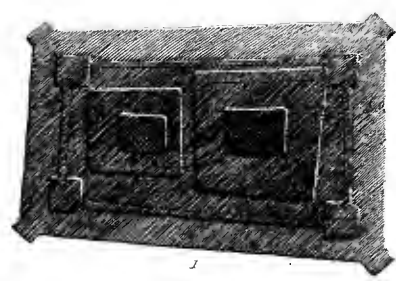
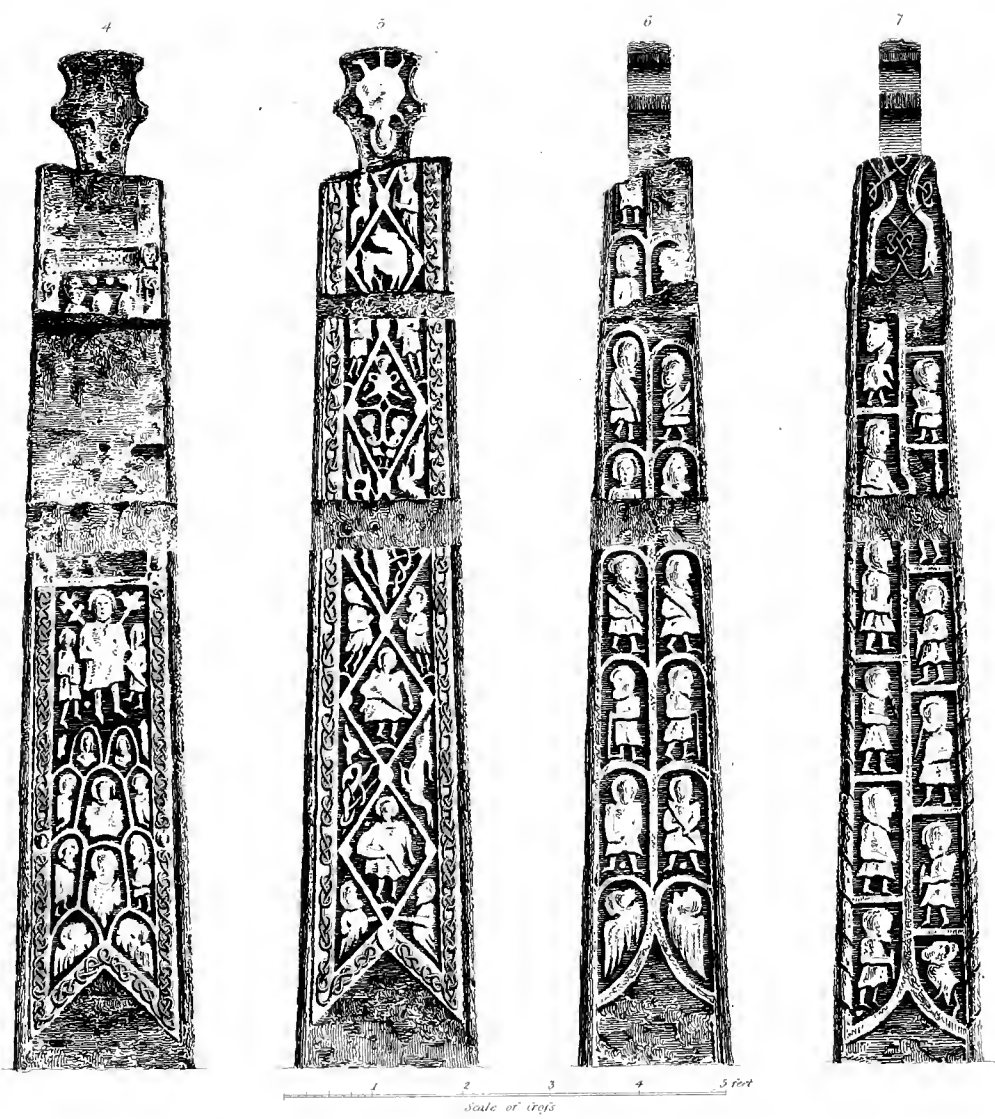
North side.



Reduced & Engraved by J. Conroy.

SANDBACH CROSSES. PL. II.

drawn from actual measurement by J. Palmer, Architect, 1816.



1. Ground plan of Pedestals & Steps.
 2. Elevation of the East side of d.
 3. Elevation of North side of d.

4. Elevation of the West side of the Small Cross.
 5. D. of East side.
 6. D. of South side.
 7. D. of North side.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 feet
 Scale of Pedestals & Steps.

Reduced & Engraved by J. Coney

SANDBACH CROSSES. PL. III.

drawn from actual measurement by J. Palmer, Architect, 1816.

FORD OF FORD GREEN IN STAFFORDSHIRE, AND FORD OF ABBEY-FIELD IN CHESHIRE.

Compiled exclusively from the evidences enumerated in the preceding note.

ARMS, (used by the family, but not entered in the Records of the College of Arms) Party per fesse, Or and Ermine, a lion rampant Azure.



HUGH FORD, surrenders xxviii acres of land in "Norton Ford grene," held from the lord Audeley's manor of Norton, to the use of himself and Anne his wife, and their issue, Thursday after the feast of the Holy Trinity, "anno RR. Henrici Sec'di post co'quest. Angl'æ xiiii^o."

HAMO DEL FORDE.

JOHN, son of Hamo del Forde, grantee of half a messuage in Norton sup. le Moies, from Adam, son of Nicholas de Mulneton, 10 Edw. II.

†ANDREW FOORD, acolyte, presented by sir Robert Touchet to Middlewich rectory, 1339. AGNES, daughter of John del Forde, has a confirmation of the same from the same, 10 Edw. II.

†RANDLE DEL FOORD, presented to Sandbach vicarage by the abbot of Dieulacres 1371, a trustee of the manors of Somerford, Sandbach, Egerton and Hassal, died before 1418. *JOHN DEL FORDE, 50 Edw. III. *THOMAS DEL FORDE, 50 Edw. III. *HENRY DEL FORDE, 50 Edw. III.

SIBBILLE DEL FORDE, before 13 Hen. IV.

*RICHARD DEL FORDE, sen. 4 Ric. II.

RICHARD DEL FORDE, heir of Sibbille del Forde, grantee of lands from Thomas de Chusefeld de Whitfeld, 13 Hen. IV., and grantee of a messuage in Norton from William Godewyn, 8 Hen. IV., *called Richard del Forde, jun. 4 Ric. II.

*RICHARD DEL FORDE, 6 Hen. V.

WILLIAM FORDE, de Norton, occurs in a lease to William Warde of Newcastle, 22 Hen. VI. *called Will atte Forde, 12 Hen. VI.

JOHN FORD, grants his lands in trust to Gregory Adeley and William Hill, clerks, and Henry Pryor, chaplain, 16 Edw. IV. *appears to be described in a deed of Thomas Ford, 10 Hen. VIII. relating to lands "nuper Jank. Ford, et quond. Will. Ford."

HUGH FORDE, sen'r, settles his estate Dec. 20, 23 Hen. VII. *occurs also 10 Hen. VII.

*RICHARD, ROBERT, and JANKYN FORDE, living 10 Hen. VII.

RICHARD FORDE, eldest son and heir apparent, died before 23 Hen. VII.

THOMAS, JOHN, and WILLIAM FORDE, heirs in remainder after their nephew, 23 Hen. VII.

HUGH FORD, admitted to his grandfather's messuage and 36 acres of land, 5 Hen. VIII. surrenders to the use of William Ford 1521.

WILLIAM FORD, living 1521, *holds lands late in possession of his father Hugh Ford, 18 Hen. VIII.

HUGH FORDE, of Forde Grene, 1538-1564.

HUGH, eldest son and heir apparent, married Alicia, daughter of and died s. p. living 12 Eliz.

WILLIAM FORDE, of Forde Grene, eldest surviving son 1564, living 1604.

ALICE, daughter of Richard Hurblutt, of the Loyde, co. Staff. marriage covenant 1564, married 1569.

RICHARD, 1538. THOMAS, 1538.

HUGH FORDE, of Forde Green, eldest son and heir. MARGERY, daughter of Michael Dickinson, of Fooker, co. Staff. marriage covenant dated Jan. 31, 1604.

WILLIAM FORDE, of Forde Green, son and heir, under age 1631, living 1679, died before 1681.

ELLEN, daughter of James Rowley, marriage covenant dated 1631, living 1686.

ANDREW FORDE, of Crewe, third son, surrendered lands in Norton to the use of his son Hugh Ford Oct. 8, 1700, will proved at Chester April 28, 1719, died April 20, 1719, bur. at Barthomley.

HANNAH, daughter of John Parratt, of Crewe, died Jan. 22, 1718, buried at Barthomley.

HUGH FORDE, of Forde Green, gent. eldest son and heir, admitted to his father's estate Oct. 9, 1683, married Ellen Mellor, of Alsop in the Dale, co. Derby, died 1713, from whom the FORDS OF FORD GREEN.

WILLIAM FORDE, of Eccleshall, clerk, second son, had issue William, Hugh, Andrew, Thomas, and James, living 1679. ELLEN FORD, living 1621.

JOHN FORD, of Eaton in the parish of Astbury, co. Cest. gent. eldest son and heir, marriage articles dated April 8, 1713, died Jan. 14, 1757, aged 78, buried at Astbury.

ANNE, daughter and finally coheir of Charles Everard, of Somerford Booths, gent. by Mary his wife, daughter of Philip Bromfield, baptized at Astbury Sept. 29, 1691.

HUGH FORDE, of Crewe in the co. of Chester, second son, in which township he inherited lands under his father's will.

JOHN FORD, of the Middle Temple, esq. barrister at law, eldest son and heir, a commoner of Oriol college, Oxford, o. s. p. Feb. 12, 1760, aged 43 years, buried at St. Mary's church in Manchester.

CHARLES FORD, of Eaton in the co. of Chester, esq. and of Claremont, co. Lanc. second son, and heir to his brother, born 1719-20, obiit Jan. 5, 1789, bur. at St. Mary's in Manchester.

ANNE, sole issue of Thos. Johnson, of Tyldesley, co. Lanc. esq. by his first wife Anne, dau. of Will. Sudall, of Blackburn, co. Lanc. born Nov. 19, 1739, living 1818.

JOHN FORD, of Abbeyfield, co. Cest. esq. born Feb. 23, 1768, only son and heir, admitted of Baliol college, Oxford May 24, 1786, living 1818.

ELIZABETH, daughter of Francis Ingram, of Wakefield, co. Ebor. esq. marr. at Staindrop, co. Durham, Oct. 3, 1796, living 1818.

1. ANNE FORD, eldest dau. died Mar. 20, 1773, aged 4 years, bapt. and buried at St. Mary's, Manchester.

2. HARRIET FORD, living unmarried 1818. 3. SUSANNA FORD, died unmarried Jan. 24, 1818, aged 45 years, buried at St. Mary's, Manchester.

- CHARLES INGRAM FORD, eldest son and heir apparent, of Worcester college, Oxford, 1817, born at Claremont July 18, 1797, baptized at Eccles, co. Lanc.
- FRANCIS JOHNSON FORD, born Aug. 21, 1798, baptized at Sandbach.
- JOHN FORD, born Feb. 23, 1800, baptized at Sandbach.

- FREDERIC FORD, born June 20, 1801, baptized at Sandbach.
- ALFRED FORD, born Sept. 29, 1802, baptized at Sandbach.
- JOHNSON FORD, born Aug. 7, 1810, baptized at Sandbach.
- HENRY FORD, born Dec. 8, 1814, baptized at Sandbach, August 1815.

- HARRIET FORD, born Aug. 29, 1804, bapt. at Sandbach, died at Bootle, co. Lanc. Sept. 1, buried at Sandbach Sept. 7, 1813.
- EMILY FORD, baptized at Sandbach.
- MARY ANNE FORD, born Oct. 9, 1808, died Dec. 30, 1809, buried at Sandbach Jan. 5, 1810.
- ELEANOR FORD, baptized at Sandbach.

The ELWORTH estate, situated partly in this township and partly in Bradwall, was given by Richard de Bradwall to his younger son Thomas de Helleworth, by deed without date, about the time of Edw. I. The Elworths were succeeded by the Ravens, who continued in possession to the close of the 17th century, when Elworth-hall, with its demesne, passed with Mary, daughter of William Raven, of Elworth, gent. to Thomas Hulse.

An illuminated pedigree of the Hulses, formerly at Elworth, was given, after the decease of Mr. Hulse, to the solicitor of a collateral relative. The following particulars, within hooks, are arranged from Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 240. The rest is either from Mr. Hulse's will, or from parochial registers.

[Ralph Hulse, of Clive, married two wives; Mary, daughter of Humphrey Whittingham of Middlewich, and Anne, daughter of — Horton of Middlewich, by both of which he had issue, Ralph, Thomas, Hugh, and Humphrey. Ralph Hulse, of Clive, eldest son by the marriage first mentioned, married —, daughter of Hugh Minshull, of Parm, and left issue. Thomas Hulse, of Clive, second son, married Katherine, daughter of Thomas Malbon, of Nantwich, relict of George Reynalds, of Redish, and had issue Mary, s. p. and Thomas, who settled at Elworth in right of his wife Mary, daughter and heiress of William Raven of Elworth], whom he married at Sandbach April 4, 1679.

[The issue of this marriage were Thomas, son and heir, and Ralph], buried at Sandbach May 9, 1758.

Thomas Hulse married Anne —, and had issue John Hulse clerk, Hugh, Thomas, William, Robert, and Randle; Jane, wife of — Jenkins; Ann, wife of — Thomson; and —, mother of Ralph Leeke (all of whom are mentioned in John Hulse's will); and Samuel, buried at Sandbach Jan. 1, 1727. Qu. ? whether John, born 1708, was not issue by a former marriage, as Jane and William, children of Thomas and Anne Hulse, of Elworth, were baptized at Sandbach as late as 1728 and 1731. Thomas Hulse was buried at Sandbach April 19, 1753, aged 72, and Anne, his wife, August 9, 1750, aged 63.

John Hulse of Elworth, clerk, married Mary, daughter of Edward Hall, of Hermitage, gent.; and died issueless Dec. 13, 1790, aged 82 years.[†]

The direct male line of this family became extinct in the person of the said John Hulse, a very eccentric character, who, by will bearing date July 1777, devised his estates to the university of Cambridge for ever in reversion[‡], after certain intermediate terms

and trusts, for the purpose of founding three scholarships in St. John's college, and a prize for the author of the best dissertation on the evidences of Christianity, and for establishing the offices of Christian Advocate, and of an annual lecturer[‡]. Elworth Hall, by a codicil of the same will, was devised for life to his servants Thomas and Elizabeth Plant, the former of whom still survives. His son is the present occupier. It is a very respectable mansion, of a second class, situated within the township of Sandbach, but close to Bradwall, surrounded with fine trees, and kept in neat order, according to the directions of his will. The front is of brick, finished with gables, the rest more antient, and composed of timber and plaster.

The HILL in Sandbach, also a brick mansion, environed with gardens and trees of respectable age, was purchased in 1788, by George and Thomas Twemlow, in equal moieties, from John Cartwright, esq. The respective moieties were devised by the wills of each of them to the relict of the latter for life (who is the present occupier), with remainder to her eldest son, Thomas Twemlow, esq. (now of Peatswood in Staffordshire) in fee[‡]. The pedigree of the Twemlows will be found in the account of Arclayd in this parish.

A skirmish took place at Sandbach in 1651, between the townsmen and Lesley's horse, escaping from the defeat at Worcester, of which the following particulars are given from contemporary journals. Tradition, which is, however, incorrect in describing the cavalry as Cromwellians, states the conflict to have taken place on an open space north-west of the church, still called the Scotch Commons, and asserts the dead to have been buried at the north side of the church-yard. The exhausted state of the troops accounts for the easy triumph of the townsmen over the heroes of Marston Moor and Philiphaugh, and the open and irregular space of ground was one which could not be filled with cavalry in passing through the town, so as to protect them from an irregular attack. It is however a singular circumstance that the troops with fire arms should be placed in a retreat exclusively in the front, but the panic was excessive, the troops were nearly dispersed, and almost all their officers were taken in Cheshire, or on the confines of Yorkshire.

Mercurius Politicus, No. 66, p. 1059.

From New Castle under Lyne, Sept. 6.

The Scots, after the great and total rout, posted back towards Scotland the same way they came, and were

[†] The arms assigned to the Hulses of Elworth (Harl. MSS. 2161) are as follows: Quarterly, 1. Argent, three piles Sable; Hulse. 2. Azure, a cross patonce Argent, between four swans of the second; Cambridge. 3. Gules, on a fesse Argent, coticed Or, three martlets Sable; Hinton. 4. Party per fesse indented Argent and Sable, three fleur de lis in chief, and as many in base counterchanged. Crest, on a wreath, a buck's head coupé proper, attired Or, collared with a garland of leaves Vert.

[‡] All his brothers may be now supposed dead issueless, but this was not known to be the case when this singular will was made.

[‡] The Christian Advocate is to be of the degree of M. A. at least, and upwards of thirty years of age, to be elected for any term not exceeding five or six years, for the purpose of composing an answer in English to "new or popular, and other cavils and objections against the Christian or revealed religion, or the religion of Nature," and to be ready to satisfy the doubts of "any fair and candid enquirer." The work to be printed yearly, and the expence of printing to be deducted from the emoluments of this office. A person once appointed to be never re-elected.

The Scholars to be called Hulse's scholars, to be undergraduates, and born in Cheshire. Preference in the following order: to such candidates as are sons of the vicars of Sandbach or Middlewich, or the curate of Witton, or of the officiating minister of Witton, provided he resides in Northwich, Witton, Castle Northwich, or Winnington, or are clergymen's sons born in Sandbach, Middlewich, or Witton, or clergymen's sons born in Cheshire, Staffordshire, Shropshire, Derbyshire, or Lancashire, or in default of these in any county of England. The clergyman must not possess more than a certain income, and in default of such candidates, the sons of the laity to be eligible.

The Lecturer to be a master of Arts, and to preach twenty sermons annually in St. Mary's great church at Cambridge, to shew the evidence of revealed religion, &c. The sermons to be yearly printed, and the expence deducted from the stipend.

The Prize to be for the best dissertation on the Evidences of Christianity, &c. The candidates to be members of the university of Cambridge, and under the degree of M. A.

During the existence of the previous terms and trusts £70. to be paid annually by the trustees as the salary of the Christian Advocate; £60. to the lecturer; £30. to each scholar; and £50. as the prize. The bishop of Ely is visitor, and his sentence is without appeal in any court. Extracted from the Will, 1817.

[‡] Information of Francis Twemlow, esq.

got as far as Sandbatch, upon Thursday, at three o'clock, afternoon, at least 40 miles distant from the place of the battail, where the honest men at Sandbatch had a counter-scuffle with them, such a one as deserves to be taken notice of.

"The enemy were then supposed to be about 1000 horse, and came through the town of Sandbatch that day, being the fair day: but the honest townsmen and countrymen perceiving their condition, fell upon them with clubs and staves, and the very poles wherewith they made their stalls and standings; and as they came down they still fell upon them, fetching some from off their horses. They so managed the business, that *when the Scots offered to fire, they ran into their houses, and as soon as that party was past, which had the pistols and powder (there being only the frontiers that had shot)*, they still fell upon the remainder of the troops, and so continued pealing them and billing them, during the passage of all their horse. In this scuffle, the town took about one hundred of them, and killed some, as also there were some of the countrymen killed. The relation is given by one that was an eye-witness; it being very notable, that such men should engage so great a body, with such instruments. But the Lord had stricken a terror into the enemies hearts, who minded only the making good of their flight."

This account adds, that about thirty persons were killed and wounded, about 7 or 8 already dead. The following further particulars are abstracted from "The Weekly Intelligencer of the Common Wealth," No. 37, p. 283.

—"This party of the enemy is said to be commanded by Lieut. Generall Middleton, and David Leshly, who were not taken prisoners in the late fight at Worcester, as some have reported."

"It is advertized, that on the next morning being Friday, this party of the enemy divided themselves into two bodies, one part of them posting to Knotsford, and the other towards Alderly. From Congleton in Cheshire it is also advertized, that a party of the Scots horse, belike the same, in the lines above-mentioned, did rendezvous on Thursday night, on a green hill, not far distant from that town, and there rested lying close together, a great part of that night: but before the day appeared, they were alarmed by the country: whereupon having discharged a piece, and made a holla, they departed.

"The inhabitants in this and the neighbouring towns have shot and wounded divers of the enemy; they have taken above fiftie prisoners, amongst whom are col. Hamilton, and one sir William Hart, and a son of the lord Hume's: it is said that one body of this divided party of the Scots were all taken about Diddesbury. Many of the Scots horses have been so extreemly tyred, that their riders have forsaken them, and breaking thorow hedges, have chosen to go on foot, and to adventure in untrodden fields to secure their lives.—I have seen a letter which affirms that two countrymen

with one dog have brought in sixteen prisoners, they making little or no resistance, whersoever they are set on; and either weary of their lives or of their cause, there are many of them who seem glad to be taken, and do readily embrace the opportunity to tender themselves to the mercy of the Parliament."

CHURCH.

Ded. to St. Mary.

Tax Eccl. P. N. £92. 13s. 4d. Val. Eccl. £15. 10s. 2½d.

It is clearly ascertained by the preceding extract from Domesday, that there was a church here at the Conquest. The patronage of this, like that of the other churches of Aldford fee, must have vested originally in the manerial lord; but it has been proved in the account of the descent of the manor, that in this case it reverted at an early period to the earl, and was granted by him to the abbey of Dieulacres, which partly by legal decisions, and partly by a purchased compromise, was fully settled in possession in the reign of Henry III.

The appropriation took place in 1256, the particulars of which may be found at length in an antient MS. on vellum, Harl. MSS. 3868.

After the dissolution, the impropriate *Rectory* of Sandbage, alias Sambage, alias Sambache, "late in the occupation of John Broughton," was granted by the queen's letters patent, dated 31 Aug. 41 Eliz. to William Tipper and Richard Cartwright. It has since been subdivided into various shares. The principal impropriators within the parish (exclusive of the chapelries), are as follows in 1817. In Sandbach, lord Crewe; in Bradwall, John Latham, M. D. and William Chesworth; in Betchton, George Wilbraham, esq.; in Hassal and Wheelock, the rev. R. L. Salmon; in Arclyd, the rev. W. M. Moreton.

The advowson of the *Vicarage* was granted 9 June, 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary, (inter alia) to Richard and Thomas Wilbraham (of Woodhey) to be held in capite by the services of the 4th part of a knight's fee. At the taking of the Inquisition after the death of this Richard Wilbraham (July 25, 1588), it was proved by his will that he had purchased the same for the use of his nephew William Leversage, with fiftcen pounds, out of twenty which he had received for that purpose². The list of presentations gives the successive hands through which the patronage has subsequently passed. It is now vested in the representatives of the late rev. John Armitstead, who purchased it from the present incumbent.

The vicar has, with some slight exceptions, the vicarial tithes of Sandbach parish, exclusive of the chapelries. The curate of Holmes chapel has a portion of both rectorial and vicarial tithes in his chapelry: those in Goosetrey are too much subdivided to be particularized, but speaking generally the impropriations in the two chapelries chiefly belong to the families of Mainwaring of Peover, Booth of Twemlowe, and Hall of Hermitage. The rector of Brereton has corn tithes from two estates in Sandbach township.

² He leaves Mr. L. the rest in his will. See more on this subject, Harl. MSS. 2074.

RECTORS OF SANDBACH.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1128 ante.	Steinulphus, pr'b'r. Roger de Lech.	Ranulphus I. comes. Ranulphus II. comes.	

VICARS OF SANDBACH.

PRESENTED.	VICARS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1327, 7 id. Ap.	Ricardus de Bargil. Philippus de Castro-Godrici, pr'b'r.	Abbas de Dieulacres.	P. m. Ric. Bargil.
1344, non. Jan. 1348.	Willielmus de Mere. Thomas Champden.	Abbas de Dieulacres. Abbas de Dieulacres.	Causa permut. cum Will'o de Mere. P. m. Tho. Champden.
1349.	Willielmus de Upton, alias Welton.	Abbas de Dieulacres.	P. m. Tho. Champden.
1349.	Johannes de Tydrington, cap.	Abbas de Dieulacres.	P. m. Will. de Welton.
1371, non. Mart.	Ranulphus del Ford.	Abbas de Dieulacres.	P. m. Jo. de Tydrington.
1418, 25 Sept.	Thomas Hassal.	Abbas de Dieulacres.	
1453, 7 Maii.	Jacobus Whitacres.	Abbas de Dieulacres.	P. m. Tho. Hassal.
1465, Sept.	Ranulphus Penketh.	Abbas de Dieulacres.	P. res. Jac. Whitacres.
1481, 6 Maii.	Ricardus Clifton. Thomas Smyth.	Abbas de Dieulacres.	P. m. Ran'i Penketh.
1548.	Richard Smythe.	Richard Day.	Res. of Tho. Smyth.
1576, May 23.	John Shawe ^a .	Thomas Wilbraham.	Death of last incumbent.
1615 circa.	Lawrence Wood.		Death of John Shawe.
1630, Nov. 16.	Thomas Tudman ^b .	William Leversage.	Death of Law. Wood.
1674, June 15.	William Heyes.	Thomas Stephens.	Death of Thos. Tudman.
1695, March 19.	Thomas Welles ^c , A. M.	Thomas Stephens.	Death of Will. Heyes.
1729, May 13.	Hugh Mee ^d , A. M.	Thomas Vawdrey.	Death of Thomas Welles.
1733, April 13.	Samuel Allen ^e .	Thomas Vawdrey, esq.	Death of Hugh Mee.
1736, Sept. 25.	Blayne Baldwin, A. M.	Edward Powis, esq.	Death of Sam. Allen.
1740, March 13.	Henry Baldwin, A. B.	Edward Powis, esq.	Cess. of B. Baldwin.
1773, April 21.	Peter Haddon ^f , A. M.	Mary Haddon, widow.	Death of Henry Baldwin.
1787, Jan. 15.	Richard Lowndes Salmon, A. M.	Said R. L. Salmon.	Cess. of P. Haddon.

The church of Sandbach stands east of the market place, on high ground above the bank of the river Wheelock, and consists of a handsome tower, nave, chancel, and side aisles, which terminate in two smaller chancels belonging to the manor of Wheelock and Hall of Bradwall. The whole is built of red stone, and handsomely finished in the obtusely pointed style. The nave and side aisles have richly carved roofs of oak, erected in 1661, as mentioned in an inscription; "Thomas Broome, carpenter." The interior effect is somewhat injured by the nave being too narrow in proportion to its height^g.

The following inscription is on a marble monument IN THE CHANCEL;

Proh dolor!
lugubre hoc mortalitatis speculum,
mœsta gratanter posuit parochia
in memoriam
viri nuper admodum reverendi
Thomæ Welles, A. M.
qui bonis omnibus
triste sui desiderium
reliquit,
2^{do} die Januarii,
Anno { Dom. 1728,
Ætat. 66,
Vicariat. 33.

Arms. Within a bordure semée of annulets, a lion rampant, no colours expressed.

In the chancel is also another memorial, of Joseph Furnival, of Arclid, gent. obiit June 5, 1714, æt. 48.

Before the altar steps are blue slabs, on which brasses have been fixed, probably commemorative of the Sandbaches.

On the south side of THE NAVE, on a handsome marble mural monument:

Sacred to the memory of
Richard Jackson, esq.
of Betchton house in this parish,
who died in September 1718,
and Elizabeth his wife, the only daughter of
William Oldfield, esq. and Letitia his wife,
who died December 24, 1769.

Also of
the rev. Richard Jackson, D. D.
canon of York, Lichfield, and Chester,
and only son of the above Richard Jackson, esq.
who died November 12, 1796;
and of Ann his wife,
daughter of Dr. Richard Smallbroke,
lord bishop of Lichfield and Coventry;
who died April 6, 1785.

Also of the rev. Richard Jackson, LL.B.
vicar of Colwich and Longdon in the county of Stafford,

^a Buried Jan. 16, 1615.

^b Buried Jan. 27, 1673.

^c Also rector of Mucleston, bur. Jan. 6, 1728-9.

^d Buried July 21, 1732.

^e Buried Aug. 26, 1736.

^f Died Feb. 22, 1815. For a memorial of this vicar see Dr. Whitaker's *Loidis and Elmete*, p. 32.

^g The nave is divided from the side aisles by six pointed arches on each side, over which is a row of clerestory windows.

and only son of
the above Richard and Ann Jackson,
who died Jan. 24, 1792.

This monument was erected 1799.

Arms: Quarterly, 1 and 4, Gules, a fesse Argent, between three swans Or, Jackson; 2 and 3, Or, on a bend Gules, three crosses patée fitchée Argent, Oldfield of Bradwall.

Near this on another mural marble monument:

Sacred

to the memory of John Welles, esq.
who departed this life
the 15th of May 1803,
aged 63 years.

This monument is erected
by his faithful and affectionate wife,
who lost in him the tenderest husband.

Also to the memory

of Ann and Elizabeth Welles,
sisters,
of exemplary piety.

Ann departed this life January 4, 1787,
aged 90 years;

Elizabeth departed this life June 21, 1787,
aged 86 years.

Also of Ann, widow of the said John Welles,
who departed this life the 15th of May 1813,
aged 61 years.

Arms: Or, a lion rampant Sable, within a bordure Gules, bezantée.

Near this is a memorial of John Furnival, esq. of Birchton, one of his majesty's justices of the peace for the co. of Stafford; died at Maple Hayes Aug. 29, 1806, aged 64, buried at St. Michael's in Lichfield.

Arms: Argent, a bend Gules, between six martlets of the second, impaling Argent, a lion rampant Gules, within a bordure of the second, bezantée.

On the opposite side of the nave are memorials

Of John Anson of Leighs, esq. died Jan. 9, 1735, aged 50.

Mary his wife, died Feb. 9, 1716, aged 24.

Arms: Argent, two bars Azure, charged with three plates, between three leopards heads in pale Sable. Crest: On a wreath a raven proper.

William Hurst, of Sandbach, gent. died Jan. 14, 1724, aged 66.

Hugh Mee, M. A. vicar of Sandbach, died July 19, 1732, aged 29.

Elizabeth, relict of William Hurst, died April 8, 1741, aged 68.

E. Mee, relict of Hugh Mee, died Dec. 2, 1785, aged 80.

Arms: A chevron between three stags heads erased; no colours.

Anne, wife of Thomas Hulse, buried Aug. 9, 1750, aged 63.

Thomas Hulse, buried April 19, 1753, aged 72.

In the WHEELOCK CHANCEL, on a mural monument:

In memoriam
Thomæ Moulson
de Wheelocke
armigeri,
qui obiit
tertio die Septem',
annoq' Domini
1648.

Arms: Quarterly, 1, Gules, a chevron Argent, chequy Azure, between three mullets Or, Moulson; 2d, Or, a fesse indented Sable, in chief three martlets of the second; 3, Gules, two lions passant Argent, a label of three points Or; 4, Argent, a griffon segreant party per fesse Gules and Argent. Crest: On a wreath a griffon passant parted per pale Gules and Argent.

On another mural monument in the same:

In memory of
Edward Powys,
of Wheelock, esq. who departed
this life September 29, 1768,
aged 59,

much lamented by his acquaintance.

This monument is erected by his relict Catherine Powys, and his son Thomas Jelf Powys, esq.

In the ceiling of this chancel are the following arms. Quarterly, 1 and 4, a chevron between three delves, Hassal. 2 and 3, a chevron between three Catherine-wheels, Wheelock. Crest: on a wreath a leopard's head, a fleur-de-lis issuing from the mouth.

In the BRADWALL CHANCEL is an antient carved sub-sellium, and on the sides of the Hall pew are carved the arms of Oldfield impaling Hanmer and other coats.

Both chancels have been separated by screens from the principal one, but these are destroyed, and the gallery has been extended over this chancel by permission of the last Oldfield of Bradwall.

The font is octagonal, and ornamented with large acanthus leaves, but bears a date of 1667. It has an inscription, which occurs in other instances, and will bear reading either way,

NIFON ANOMHMA MH MONAN OYIN.

The Registers begin in 1562^b.

^b The church notes of Sandbach church (Harl. MSS. 2151.) taken 1596, notice the following monuments, not now existing:

In the window on the north side of the chancel, an armed figure habited in a surcoat, emblazoned with the arms of Brereton, kneeling before a desk, with three sons behind him, behind them a lady kneeling before a similar desk with three daughters behind her. Over their heads Brereton impaling Done of Utkinton, on the dexter side of which is Brereton unimpaled, and on the sinister, a shield containing the badge of Delamere forestership.

In other windows the arms of Sandbach † quartering Radclyffe, Wheelock, Dieulacres Abbey, Wheelock quartering Leversage, Ashton impaling Brereton, Leversage, and also the carved coats of Oldfield now remaining in the Bradwall chancel.

On a blue stone in the chancel, three mutilated brass figures within shrine-work.

On a tablet the arms of "John Kinsey, of Blackden, sen. aged 58, died Oct. 22, a^o 1695."

In the middle of the quire (chancel) a stone with this inscription:

"Hic jacet Ricardus Quelot armiger, qui obiit 27^o die mensis Decemb. an^o Dⁿⁱ 1439. Et d^{na} Elinora Vernon uxor ejus que obiit a^{no} Dⁿⁱ 1400, ac Thome Quelot filius eorundem Ric. et Elinore, qui obiit ultimo die mensis — et a^{no} Dⁿⁱ 1439. A^uabus propicietur Deus.

Vive Deo gratus, toti mundo tumulatus,

Crimine mundatus, semper transire paratus.

Non melius poterit mala caro viva domari,

Mortua qualis erit, quam semper premeditari.

Post hominem vermis, post vermem fetor et horror,

Sic in non hominem vertitur omnis homo."

Arms. Wheelock impaling Vernon.—The two first lines of this inscription occur also on the monument of James Stanley bishop of Ely, at Manchester.

† The coat with the bend.

Since the Parliamentary Return of Charitable Donations, the charities of Sandbach have received an augmentation of £5. per ann. under the will of Mrs. Goodfellow in 1791.

Several of the charitable funds mentioned in the return have been laid out in the purchase of lands.

The most material increase has however been effected by the discovery of a coal-mine on an estate at Cobridge in Burslem parish in the county of Stafford, which was purchased with a part of the parish money, the interest of which was formerly distributed in certain portions among the several townships. The increased income from the rent of lands, coals, and building leases connected with estates bought with this money, amounting to £824. 15s. per ann. (1817) follows the original mode

of distribution, and if the whole was distributed, would be divided among the poor as under-mentioned, excepting some trifling deductions for donations of bread and other purposes; a part however is laid out in buying funded stock annually, as a resource hereafter when the coal mines shall have failed.

	£.	s.	d.
Sandbach, one moiety of the whole	412	7	6
Betchton, one-sixth	-	137	9 2
Bradwall, one-ninth	-	91	12 8
Wheelock, one-twelfth	-	68	14 8
Hassall, one-twelfth	-	68	14 8
Arclid, one-eighteenth	-	45	16 4
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	824	15	0

BRADWALL.

It may be gathered from the signification of ancient names of several places in this neighbourhood^z, that at an early period a line of waste moors stretched westward from Brereton, in the direction of Warmingham, through this township, forming the boundary of the barony of Kinderton on the South. From this cause Bradwall is omitted in Domesday, but it is nevertheless clear, that from the time when it was first formed into a distinct vill, it was a dependency of the barony before-mentioned.

It is also to be observed that Bradwall was not merely a township dependent on the barony, but was a manor in itself, although the court of the barony had a paramount jurisdiction over the township. By a deed witnessed by Richard de Fowleshurst, Vic. Cest. (1308), Hugh Venables, of Kinderton, grants "Hugoni filio meo *manerium* de Bradwall, et *totam terram* quam habui de dono Joh'is le Ward in Sprouston^a." It is noticed as a distinct manor (val. x1.) in the Inquisition after the death of sir Thomas Venables, 21 Eliz.; and in the Inquisition after the death of Thomas Venables, esq. 4 Jac. 1. this *manor* is noticed under a distinct head both from the barony of Kinderton and lands of Bradwall, and is stated to be held in capite from the king as earl of Chester.

By the family of Venables, manerial lords of this township, and paramount lords of the same as barons of Kinderton, Bradwall was granted out in two several moieties before 1287 to a family which assumed the local name, and to a younger branch of the line of Venables.

It does not appear at what period the *first* of these subinfeudations took place, but it was certainly a very early one, as the tenure by which the Bradwalls held their moiety was a subject of dispute in 1232, as is ascertained by the following extract from the documents produced in the dispute between the Oldfields and the barons of Kinderton hereafter mentioned.

"Inter d'n'm Will'm' de Venables et Reignald fil' Ric' de Bradwall controv'sia quievit, cora' Ric'o Pliton Justic. Cest. anno primo quo Joh'es cinctus est gladio Cestr'. v'z't quod p'd'us Reig' ten' mediet' villæ de Bradwall, de d'c'o Will'mo, p' 6'am p'tem feodi unius militis, et p' s'vic' falcand' et carriand' feon' de Brodmea-

dowe, et hoc irrotulat' in rotulo de Domesday."^b

This Richard de Bradwall, mentioned in the preceding extract, was father of Reginald, Henry, and Matthew de Bradwall, and of Thomas de Helleworth, who assumed his name from the estate of Elworth, as it is now called, situated partly in this township, and partly in Sandbach. These lands he had by grant, without date, from his father, to be held by the yearly render of 18d. at two payments.

Reginald son of Richard had issue Richard de Bradwall, who married Elena daughter of remarried to Richard Lacon, with whom (according to deeds quoted in the documents before referred to) she was living 23 Edw. III.^c The date cannot however be depended on.

Richard son and heir of Richard de Bradwall, married Margery daughter of Thomas de Ermitage, and by deed, without date, gives lands in Curtesholme, Bradwall, and Brundeleghe Moore, in trust, to Thomas de Ermitage.

Thomas de Ermitage grants the same to Richard son of Richard de Bradwall and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Thomas de Sandbach, remainder to Roesia and Felicia sisters of Richard Bradwall the younger, remainder to the right heirs of Thomas de Sandbach, (19 Edw. III. according to Harl. MSS. 2007.)

This Richard and Elizabeth had issue three daughters and coheirs, specified in the pedigree annexed, by two of whom, Margery de Brundeleghe and Alice de Bechton, this moiety of the mesne manor of Bradwall was released to Hugh son of Hugh Venables, of Kinderton, about 1349, and thus merged again in the paramount lords of the fee^d.

The seat of the Bradwalls is supposed to have been on the western side of the township, within a moated parallelogram, yet retaining the name of the Hallfield. In front of this was the site of a large pool which has been recently restored to its original purposes, a deep valley, watered by a small brook, and a rising ground, which is called the Hollins-wood in deeds of early date.

The situation was fortunate in combining with this variety of surface a view to the westward, which notwithstanding the general flatness of the surrounding district, extended to the remotest parts of the county.

^z Brueretun, Brundelegb, Moresbarwe, Bradwall, and Morestun, &c.

^a Charter Book of Kinderton. Tabley MSS. lib. H. 66.

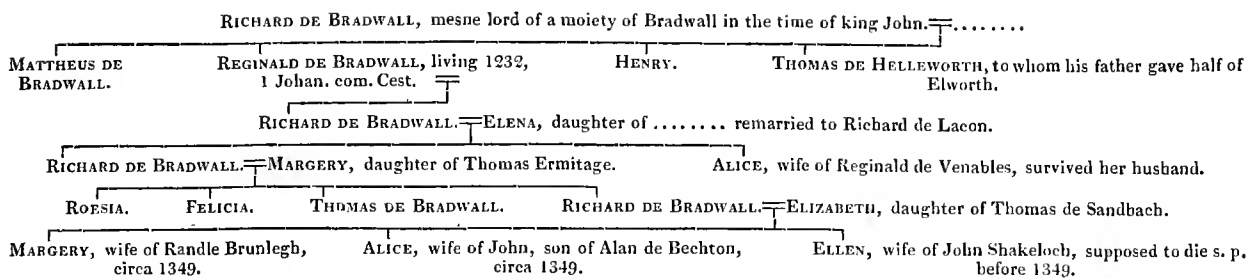
^c Quere whether this Elena was not Ellen, daughter and coheiress of sir Philip Bamville of Storeton, and wife of William Lacon or Lakine. See Storeton, Wirral Hund. 250, and sir W. Stanley's claim in Eyre, *ibid.* p. 191.

^d All these particulars are selected from the pleadings referred to, Harl. MSS. 2007.

^b Harl. MSS. 2007, 155.

BRADWALL OF BRADWALL.

ARMS unknown.



The residue of the Venables estate in Bradwall was granted by sir William Venables, knt. baron of Kinderton, to his second son William Venables, in the shrievalty of Robert Grosvenor, and consequently between 1284 and 1287, by a charter of which a copy is preserved in Harl. MSS. 2074. 186. b. By this charter, William de Venables, lord of Kinderton, grants to William Venables his son, all his lands in Bradwall, reserving his rights of assarting the waste, of receiving agistment for hogs, and of selling the woods, to be held by the said William and his heirs by the render of a pair of white gloves, and appearance twice in the year at the court of Kinderton, and appearing there at other times on reasonable summons to answer for the offences of himself or his men, &c. Witnesses, Peter de Arderne, Warin de Mainwaring, Ralph de Vernon, Hamo de Massy, Hugh de Dutton, Richard de Massy, knts. "Rob't Grosvenor tunc Vic. Cestr', et aliis."

Hugh de Venables, the next baron of Kinderton, confirms the same, "Nepoti meo et hered. suis"—"sicut d'nus Willielmus frater meus illam melius et liberius tenuit," adding to the former grant, housebold and haybold in Bradwall wood, and exception from pannage. Witnesses, Warin de Vernon, William de Vernon, Richard de Sondebach, knts. &c. This confirmation (enrolled at Chester 22 Eliz.) was in possession of Mr. Oldfield 1638, when Vernon's copy was taken^e.

I. Sir William Venables, grantee of Bradwall, married to his first wife Agnes, daughter and heir of Richard de Legh, of West Hall, in High Legh, by whom he was male ancestor of the Leghs of Booths, and their numerous collateral lines. The first of the charters here noticed, proves him (contrary to received opinion) to have been her third husband, for reasons noticed in High Legh; and the second gives him the style of knighthood, which is omitted in most charters that have hitherto occurred. He was also father of William Venables, (who succeeded him in his Bradwall estate, and had the confirmation from his uncle Hugh Venables before-mentioned) by a second marriage with Katherine daughter of sir Urian de St. Pierre, and widow of sir Randle le Roter lord of Thornton. With this lady sir William Venables maintained a suit respecting the advowson of Thornton, against the crown, in 24 Edw. I. or 1296. The time of his death does not appear.

II. William de Venables, son of Sir William Venables by Katherine Thornton, married Katherine daughter and coheir of Robert Grosvenor, of Little Budworth. A second wife, Johanna, occurs in the Inquisition after his death, and held lands in Bradwall in dower 40 Edw.

III.^f This William in 5 Edw. II. had a grant of the wardship of Thomas de Wever, and claimed in 5 Edw. III. from William Massey, of Tatton, lands in that township, which sir William Venables, of Kinderton, had settled on William Venables, of Bradwall, father of the claimant, and the heirs of his body. In the 9th of Edw. III. 1336, he occurs as commanding the tenants of Vale Royal Abbey in the skirmish with the abbot and his retainers in Rutlandshire, which has been noticed in another part of this work^g, and died without male issue, as appears by the following *Inq. p. m.* before 36 Edw. III.

In the account of the wild expedition alluded to, the leger book of Vale Royal was implicitly followed in describing William Venables as *brother* of the baron of Kinderton. The subjoined quotation will prove the accuracy of that abstract, but it is presumed that the dates which have been substantiated here, will also prove that the monks were very indifferent genealogists, and not only confounded father and son, but also mistook the christian name of the baron of Kinderton^h.

Inq. p. m. 30 Edw. III. William de Venables died seized in demesne, as of fee, of several messuages and 100 acres of land in Bradwall, from Hugh Venables, ch'vr, by knight's service, and by the service of appearing twice in his court of Kinderton, val. iiii. vis. viiij. and held also in joint feoffment with his wife Johanna, lands in Bradwall and Sprouston, from the same, and lands in Moresharrowe, and also in fee simple lands in Little Budworth and Kelsall. Val. tot. xii. xiiii. iij. Ellen, Katherine, and Johanna, daughters and coheirs.

One moiety of the Bradwall estate of Sir William Venables passed in marriage with his daughter Johanna to Thomas Berington, representative of the family of Berington, of Moresharrow; and another, with his daughter Ellen, to Robert de Knipersley.

These moieties became subsequently united in consequence of Thomas Berington, a descendant of the first mentioned coheir, buying out the right of William Bowyer, of Knipersley, descended from the otherⁱ.

^e Harl. MSS. 2074. This Hugh Venables himself had previously a grant of what appears to be the same estate in Bradwall, for life, from his father, during the first justiceship of Reginald de Grey, 1 and 2 Edw. I. Kinderton Charter Book. Tabley MSS. lib. H. p. 46. And afterwards granted the manor to his son Hugh in 1302, as mentioned in the preceding page.—There was also *another* line of Venables of Bradwall. Sir William Venables of Wincham, had a grant of lands here from Reginald de Bradwall, which were confirmed to him by his father, William Venables fourth baron of Kinderton; these lands passed with his daughter and coheir Lettice to her second husband Richard Wilbrabam, temp. Hen. III. and continued vested in the Wilbrabams of Woodhey, until they were conveyed, in 1672, by sir Thomas Wilbrabam, bart. to his son-in-law sir Thomas Middleton, with estates in Kinderton, Knights Hulme, and Church Coppenhall. Abstract of Deeds in possession of Mr. Bowen of Shrewsbury, communicated by E. B. Wilbrabam, esq. M. P. ^f Harl. MSS. 2077. 223. b. ^g Edisbury Hund. p. 71.

^h ——— erat etia' cum eis Will' de Venables de Bradewell, qui et ip'e tunc te'pis p'seq'batur p'd'e'm abb'em rac'o'e Tho' de Venables f'ris sui (qui quidem Thomas vendicav'at q'i de jure in vivario de Dernalh sibi competere piseac'o'em). Qui cum p'd'e'm Will' Fynebe vidisset ip'i' op'e et auxilio fuisse inter'tu', ac usque venisset p'tes Cestresir', pedem figere non audebat, et sic illos quos secum duxerat, miserabiliter in via dimittens, post tergum non respiciebat. Harl. MSS. 2064. 253. b. ⁱ Pleadings, Harl. MSS. 2007.

Helen, daughter and heir of William Berington, brought this estate in marriage to Philip Oldfield, of Gray's Inn, esq. a learned lawyer and antiquary, said to be descended from the Oldfields of Oldfield in Haselwall^k, whose younger sons by their several marriages became possessed of the manors of Somerford-Radnor, Croxton and Leftwich^l.

By this proprietor a claim was set up to a share of the manor and wastes of Bradwall, in right of the grant of half of the vill to his wife's ancestor, sir William Venables; and a court baron was held by him for the manor, which was attended by the tenants of various parcels of land, which had been granted out by the Bradwall branch of the Venables family, before the statutes restricting subinfeudations. This claim was opposed by the baron of Kinderton as paramount lord, and a decision was made in the Exchequer Court at Chester Sept. 6, 31 Eliz. 1589, that the manor was the property of the baron of Kinderton, and that Mr. Oldfield had nothing therein but as a charterer, to hold by the yearly rent of a pair of white gloves at Midsummer,

and a pair of spurs and 12d. at the days accustomed, and by appearing twice yearly at Kinderton court.

Another claim was advanced by Thomas, son of Philip Oldfield, at the taking of his father's *Inq. p. m.* at Sandbach, 14 April, 1617, but was afterwards abandoned. The estate was nevertheless called "the manor," in deeds subsequent to this period.

The claims of the baron of Kinderton were defended by Mr. Egerton, afterwards chancellor, whose pleadings occupy a considerable part of Harl. MSS. 2007.

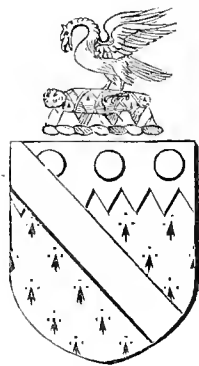
March 8, 1719. William Oldfield (late of Bradwall, now of Whitechurch, co. Salop) esq. conveys the hall of Bradwall, with demesnes, tithes, &c. and the south aisle of Sandbach church, to Charles Ward of Dublin, esq.

Jan. 14, 1725. The said Charles Ward, esq. conveys the same to John Jervis, of Darlaston, esq. husband of his daughter Grace, in pursuance of marriage articles.

June 9, 1802. The trustees and mortgagees of John Jervis, esq. son and heir of the said John, convey the same to John Latham, M. D. the present proprietor.

LATHAM OF BRADWALL,

WITH THE CONTINUATION OF THE PEDIGREE OF MERE OF MERE IN THE HUNDRED OF BUCKLOW.



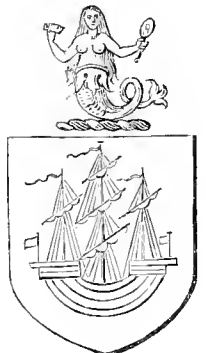
ARMS OF LATHAM. Ermine, on a chief indented Azure three besants, over all a bend Gules.
CREST. On a wreath, on a rock proper an eagle with wings elevated Ermine, preying on a child proper, saddled Azure, banded Argent.

ARMS OF MERE. See Bucklow Hundred, p. 363.

ALEXANDER LATHAM, of Congleton in the parish of Astbury, co. Cest. living temp. Hen. VIII. and Elizabeth. See pp. 14 and 21 preceding.

JOHN LATHAM, of Congleton, gent. son and heir, as appears by conveyance of lands there, late sir Edward Fitton's, dated 1610. MARGARET, daughter of ... Wardle, married at Congleton Feb. 9, 1578.

- 2. HUGH LATHAM, bapt. at Congleton June 10, 1582, died an infant.
- 3. ALEXANDER LATHAM, bapt. at Congleton Jan. 13, 1583.
- 4. HUGH LATHAM, bapt. at Congleton April 22, 1586.
- JOHN LATHAM, of Congleton, gent. son and heir, bapt. Oct. 25, 1579, died Dec. 31, 1631.
- PRISCILLA, daughter of ... Ley, married at Congleton Feb. 2, 1607.
- ELIZABETH, baptized Sept. 11, 1582.
- ANNE, bapt. Sept. 17, 1591.
- KATHERINE, bapt. May 22, 1594.



- ELLEN, bapt. Nov. 14, 1614.
- ANNE, bapt. Dec. 30, 1613.
- MARGARET, bapt. March 15, 1611.
- JOHN LATHAM, of Congleton, gent. eldest son and heir, bapt. at Congleton Mar. 18, 1609, living there at the Visitation of 1663-4, died Feb. 9, 1670, buried at Astbury.
- JANE, dau. of ... Congleton August 20, 1673.

2. EDWARD LATHAM, had issue John Latham, vicar of Bedingfield, co. Suffolk, (father of John Latham rector of Westleigh in the same county,) Alexander, and Priscilla.

CONTINUATION OF THE PEDIGREE OF MERE OF MERE.
From Vol. I. p. 363.

JOHN LATHAM, cler. rector of Lawton, co. Cest. baptized Feb. 26, 1636, died June 5, 1705, buried at Lawton. MARIA, daughter of ... Moreton, married at Lawton March 31, 1692, died Dec. 29, 1730.

PETER MERE, of Hough in Wilmslow, son and heir of William Mere of Merc, esq. born 1656, died August 18, 1720. FRANCES, daughter of John Gerton of Burton upon Trent, died June 7, 1730-1, aged 73 years.

JOHN LATHAM, cler. minister of Bunney, co. Notts, and of Woolstrop co. Leic. born at Lawton Nov. 11, 1694. MARGARET, daughter of William Knott, of Great Gonerby, co. Linc. buried at Prestbury. HESTER, wife of William Hall, cler. rector of Gawsorth, buried at Prestbury s. p.

PETER MAYER, eldest son and heir, born 1628, died May 8, 1737, s. p. 2. HENRY MAYER, born 1694, died Ap. 20, 1746, s. p. 3. NATHANIEL MAYER, eldest son by survivorship, born August 22, 1698, died June 30, 1767. SARAH, dau. of William Lingard, born June 21, 1691, married June 30, 1727, died June 3, 1777.

2. CHARLES LATHAM, of Waltham, co. Leic. married and had issue. 1. JOHN LATHAM, cler. B.A. of Oriel coll Ox. minister of Siddington, co. Cest. born at Bunney Nov. 22, 1725, died June 21, 1783, buried at Prestbury. SARAH, dau. of Rich. Podmore, of Sandbach, co. Cest. born Oct. 4, 1732, marr. at Gawsorth June 9, 1753, died 1816, bur. at Sandbach. MARY, only daughter, born 23 Ap. 1731, died Jan. 4, 1733. PETER MAYER, cler. B.A. eldest son and heir, vicar of Prestbury, co. Cest. born March 30, 1722, buried at Prestbury July 6, 1785. MARTHA, 2nd daughter and coheir of John Arderne, gent. of the Oak in Sutton, co. Cest. and of Romsey, co. Hants, bapt. July 31, 1734, marr. Dec. 26, 1753, died Feb. 20, 1816, bur. at Prestbury. See Edisb. Hund. p. 135. HENRY MAYER, M. A. fellow of Brasenose college, Oxon, and rector of Cottingham, co. Northamp. married Eton, daughter of ... Jefferies, of Northwich, o. s. p. April 23, 1780, aged 47.

2. RICHARD LATHAM, of Sandbach, co. Cest. marr. Sarah, daughter of Charles Latham, of Waltham, co. Leic. and has issue four sons and two daughters, living 1818. 1. JOHN LATHAM, of Bradwall Hall, co. Cest. and of Harley-st. London, M. D. of Brasenose coll. Ox. president of the Royal College of Physicians of London, born at Gawsorth Dec. 29, 1761, living 1818. MARY, eldest dau. and coheir, born Jan. 7, 1756, marr. at Prestbury Ap. 12, 1784, living 1818. FRANCES, 2nd daughter and coheir, born Feb. 9, 1757, wife of David Davies, of Macclesfield, D. D. died Oct. 15, 1797, leaving issue one dau. Frances Davies, living unmar. 1818. ARDERNE MERE, eldest son, born Nov. 5, 1754, died Jan. 8, 1757. HENRY MERE, born Oct. 27, 1752, died Ap. 25, 1759.

- 1. SARAH, wife of George Ormerod, of Chorlton, co. Cest. esq. born at Prestbury Dec. 28, 1784, married at Sandbach Aug. 2, 1802, has issue five sons and one daughter. 1818.
- 2. JOHN LATHAM, D. C. L. eldest son and heir apparent, fellow of All Souls college, Oxford, born at Oxford March 18, 1787, bapt. at St. Mary's in Oxford, unmar. 1818.
- 3. MARY, died an infant.
- 4. PETER MERE LATHAM, M. D. of Brasenose college, Oxford, fellow of the royal college of physicians, born in London July 1, 1789, unmar. 1818.
- 5. FRANCES, born in London Feb. 24, 1792, unmar. 1818.
- 6. RICHARD LATHAM, died an infant.
- 7. HENRY LATHAM, esq. M. A. of Brasenose college, Oxf. a member of the Inner Temple, London, born Nov. 4, 1794, unmar. 1818.
- 8. WILLIAM LATHAM, died an infant.
- 9. MARY LATHAM, died an infant.

‡ In Wirral Hundred. There is a pedigree of the Oldfields in Harl. MSS. 2119. 125, by which Philip Oldfield is made 12th in descent from Guy de Provence, male ancestor of the Oldfields.
§ See his monumental inscription in St. Mary's church, vol. I. pp. 169, 266.

VENABLES, BERINGTON, AND OLDFIELD, OF BRADWALL.

Venables from the documents previously referred to; Berington from deeds and pedigree in Harl. MSS. 2038. 86; Oldfield from title deeds, monuments, and parochial registers.

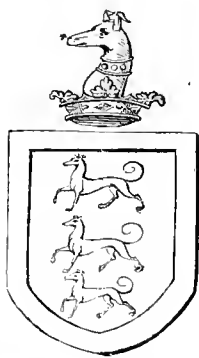
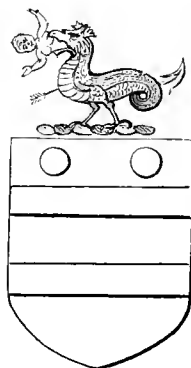
ARMS and CREST of VENABLES OF BRADWALL, as Venables of Kinderton, for difference two plates in chief.

ARMS OF BERINGTON. Sable, within a bordure Argent, three greyhounds courant of the second.

CREST. A greyhound's head Argent, issuant from a ducal coronet Or, gorged with a collar Gules, charged with three plates.

ARMS OF OLDFIELD. Argent, on a bend Gules three crosses patèe fitchèe Or.

CREST. A demi-wivern with wings displayed Argent, crowned Or, issuing from a ducal coronet Or.



Sir WILLIAM VENABLES, kt. baron of Kinderton, survived to 20 Edw. I. 1292. MARGARET, daughter of sir Thomas Dutton, of Dutton, kt. had lands in dower 1293. MATTHEW DE BERTHINGTON, 3 Edw. I.

1. Sir HUGH VENABLES, baron of Kinderton, son and heir. Had issue. 2. KATHERINE, daughter of sir Urian de St. Pierre, widow of sir Randle le Roter lord of Thornton, living 24 Edw. I. 1296. 2. Sir WILLIAM VENABLES, of Bradwall, kt. second son, living 24 Edw. I. 1296. 1. AGNES, daughter and heiress of Richard de Legh of West-Hall, widow of Richard de Lymme, from whom Legh of West-Hall, and of Will. de Hawarden, by whom she had Ralph de H. of age before 1286. RANDLE BERINGTON, of Moorsbarrow, 1 Edward III.

JOHANNA, 2nd wife, living 40 Edw. III. WILLIAM VENABLES, of Bradwall, second son, living 9 Edw. III. Inq. p. m. 36 Edw. III. KATHERINE, daughter and coheir of Robert le Grosvenor of Little Budworth. JOHN DE LEGH, ancestor of LEGH of BOOTHs, and other branches. JOHN, son and heir, 1 Edw. III. —31 Edw. III. marr. Agatha, daughter of Thomas Vernon of Lustack. ADAM BERINGTON, 2nd son, 5 Ric. II. Had issue.

ELLEN, wife of Robert de Knipersley. KATHERINE, wife of William de Bechinton. JOHANNA. THOMAS DE BERINGTON, of Moorsbarrow, 35 Edw. III.—19 Ric. II.

WILLIAM BERINGTON, of Moorsbarrow and Bradwall, 1 Hen. V.—14 Hen. VI. MARGERY, surviving 16 Edw. IV. JOHN.

JOHN BERINGTON, of Moorsbarrow and Bradwall, 18 Hen. VI.—33 Hen. VI. AGNES, daughter of Richard Sandbach of Sandbach. HENRY BERINGTON, WILLIAM, had issue.

WILLIAM BERINGTON, of Moorsbarrow and Bradwall, 5 Hen. VII.—MARGARET, daughter of Richard Penketh of Penketh.

WILLIAM BERINGTON, of Moorsbarrow and Bradwall, 5 Hen. VIII.—33 Hen. VIII. AGNES, dau. of Thomas Cotton of Cotton in Sandbach parish.

ELIZABETH, wife of Richard Parker. 2. WILLIAM BERINGTON, standard-bearer to sir William Brereton, of Brereton, kt. married Jane, daughter of Henry Bruwne of Brereton, and was ancestor of the Beringtons of Chester and Brereton. 3. HUMPHREY BERINGTON of Altrincham, had issue. 1. GEORGE BERINGTON, of Moorsbarrow and Bradwall, 33 Hen. VIII. ALICE, daughter and heiress of Will. Raven of Astbury, married 5 Hen. VIII.

WILLIAM BERINGTON, of Bradwall. ELIZABETH, daughter of Bowyer of Knipersley.

KATHERINE, daughter and coheir, wife of John Lingens (Lingard?) of Arclyd. HELEN, dau. and coheir, buried at Sandbach May 30, 1578. PHILIP OLDFIELD, of Bradwall, esq. and of Gray's Inn, co. Midd. son and heir, died at Chester Dec. 15, 1616, aged 75. monument at St. Mary's. Inq. p. m. 1617. ELLEN, daughter of Will. Haumer, of Fennes, esq. widow of John Griffith, serjeant at law.

THOMAS OLDFIELD, esq. son and heir, born June 28, baptized at Sandbach July 1, 1575. ANNE, daughter of Roger Wettenthal, buried at Sandbach Oct. 3, 1624. JOHANNA, bapt. at Sandbach March 23, 1570. ELIZABETH, wife of John Wettenthal, baptized at Sandbach November 30, 1576. 2. Sir PHILIP OLDFIELD, knt. bapt. at Sandbach Jan. 13, 1583. From whom OLDFIELD OF SOMERFORD. 3. MICHAEL, bapt. at Hulmes Chapel Oct. 1585. From whom OLDFIELD OF CROXTON. 4. WILLIAM, bapt. at Sandbach Oct. 31, 1586. From whom OLDFIELD OF LEFTWICH. MARGARET, bapt. at Brereton Nov. 30, 1588, wife of Peter Shakerley, of Hulme, esq.

SARA, daughter of bur. at Sandbach April 25, 1643, 2nd wife. JOHN OLDFIELD, of Bradwall, esq. son and heir, baptized at Sandbach Aug. 28, 1604, buried at Sandbach July 25, 1643. CICELY, daughter of William Leversage, of Whelock, esq. marr. at Sandbach Jan. 1, 1622, 1st wife. THOMAS OLDFIELD, second son, baptized at Sandbach Aug. 4, 1608.

ROBERT OLDFIELD, bapt. at Sandbach Feb. 1, 1640. THOMAS OLDFIELD, bapt. April 28, 1635. WILLIAM OLDFIELD, of Bradwall, esq. bapt. at Sandbach Aug. 5, 1626, bur. at Sandbach Sept. 8, 1711. CATHERINE, base sister of Geoffry Shakerley, of Shakerley and Hulme, esq. mar. cov. dated Oct. 26, 1654. PETER OLDFIELD, bapt. at Sandbach July 14, 1625, bur. at Sandbach Sept. 5, 1649.

WILLIAM OLDFIELD, of Bradwall, esq. son and heir, afterwards of Whitchurch; sold the Bradwall Hall estate March 8, 1719, buried at Sandbach Nov. 15, 1725. LETITIA, daughter of PETER OLDFIELD, bur. at Sandbach Dec. 1, 1674. PHILIP OLDFIELD, buried at Sandbach August 20, 1652.

ELIZABETH, sole daughter and heiress, died Dec. 4, 1769. RICHARD JACKSON, of Betchton, esq. died Sept. 1718.

RICHARD JACKSON, D. D. son and heir, prebendary of York, Lichfield, and Chester, died Nov. 12, 1796. ANNE, daughter of Richard Smalbroke, D. D. bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, buried at Sandbach 1785. ANNE, wife of William Day, of Sandbach, had issue Jane, Catherine, and Fanny, who assumed the additional name of Jackson.

RICHARD OLDFIELD JACKSON, LL.B. son and heir, vicar of Colwich and Longdon, co. Staff. died in his father's life-time, Jan. 24, 1792.

“The south aisle of Sandbach church” above mentioned is a chancel or oratory, at the end of the aisle, which continues attached to the hall of Bradwall. There was also antiently a domestic chapel situated north of the mansion, the foundations of which were remaining 15 years ago. The inclosure of “the Chappell yord” is noticed in the pleadings before referred to, Harl. MSS. 2007. p. 142.

The hall of Bradwall was a large building of brick finished with gables, at the end of an avenue of firs and evergreens. It has been enlarged and modernized by the present proprietor, and the grounds laid out under the direction of Webb.

The *manor* of Bradwall, which has been proved to be vested in the barons of Kinderton, passed with the other

portions of the barony, and was conveyed in 1807 by the trustees of the right honourable George Venables lord Vernon, with the court leet and other privileges, to the before-mentioned John Latham, M. D. together with an estate in Bradwall, which appears to be that which was held at an early period by the Bradwalls, and which having subsequently reverted to the barons of Kinderton, is stated in the Inquisitions to be held by them from the earldom in capite. By this purchase the manerial rights of all parties, concerned in the suit previously noticed, vested in the present proprietor.

A court leet and court baron are held for the manor, but the township is also considered to owe suit and service to the leet and halmote courts of Kinderton. The commons were inclosed in 1811.

A R C L Y D.

THE following account of this place, as far as it is marked with inverted commas, is transcribed from the Villare Cestriense of Dr. Williamson: and has been collated with a collection of deeds relating to this place. Harl. MSS. 2077. 239.

“Part of this town was in Edward the First’s time, the Bernards’: for in that king’s reign, I find that William, son of Richard Bernard, gave to Alexander, son of Alexander de Bunbury, his whole land in Arclyd, and constituted William de Spurstow, to make livery and seizin thereof.

“And it gave name to a family (for Randle, son of Ralph de Arclyd, gave to the same Alexander an assart in the same king’s time) who were ^aimmediate lords or half lords of this place, under the barons of Kinderton, from whom this manor was held, 8 Ric. II. by the 3rd part of a knight’s fee, by Thomas de Hassal, and others, who, I suppose, had married the daughters and coheirs of Randle and Thomas de Arclyd.

“This Thomas Hassal and Ellen his wife (but whether daughter and coheirress to Randle or Thomas Arclyd I know not^b) 47 Edw. III. past a fine of three messuages, sixty acres of land, &c. &c. and a penny rent here, with the homage and service of Richard del Croft; and 6 Hen. V. I find that Tho. de Withinshaw came into court at Kinderton, and did his fealty to the king as earl of Chester, and acknowledged to hold of the king as of the right of Hugh Venables of Kinderton, then in ward to the king, the fourth part of the manor of Arclyd, cum p’tin’ in cap. by knight’s service; which Tho. Hassal held in right of his wife, daughter of Tho. de Arclyd, &c.; and 2 Hen. VI. I find Tho. de Withinshaw died seized of three messuages here, held of the baron of Kinderton, &c.

“14 Hen. VII. I find Piers Clotton seized thereof, whose daughter and heir Jane, by Edward Beresford, had Elizabeth, daughter and coheir, married Roger, son of Robert and Margery Mainwaring of Slepe, in Shropshire, from whom is descended Peter Mainwaring of Arclyd.”

Robert Mainwaring here mentioned was third son of

Randle Mainwaring of Carincham, and married Margery, daughter and heiress of Richard Norton of Slepe in Shropshire. The pedigree of this family is brought down to the year 1652 in Harl. MSS. 2077, when this estate appears to have been possessed by the grandfather of Peter Mainwaring mentioned by Williamson, which Peter sold the same about 1670. At the commencement of the last century it passed by purchase to the family of Moreton of Little Moreton, from whom it has descended with the other estates of that family to the rev. W. M. Moreton, the present proprietor.

The mesne manor noticed by Dr. Williamson is disused. The superior royalty passed with Kinderton to the Vernons, and was sold by lord Vernon to the late Mr. Ralph Leeke of Middlewich^c. From his representatives it has been recently purchased by Thomas Lowe of Brereton, yeoman.

Arclyd Hall, the property of Mr. Moreton, is now merely a farm house, but unquestionably occupies the site of the antient mansion of the Mainwarings and Arclyds. It stands above a small defile, near the commencement of a romantic valley, watered by one of the principal feeders of the Wheelock, which a little lower down receives an accession from a natural pool called Taxmere. The British name of the stream is still preserved in the last syllable of Arclyd^d.

Another estate in Arclyd belonging to the Twemlows was originally purchased by Wm. Lingard, 9 Jac. I.

On the marriage of Geo. Twemlow (in 1662) with Mary Lingard (grandaughter and sole heiress of the purchaser) it was settled, and entailed on their issue, and has been made the subject of family settlements ever since. The house formerly inhabited by the family was an antient half-timbered one, situated near the brook which runs through the township, and was called the Brook-house. It was burnt down many years ago, and a new farm-house afterwards erected on a different site, which has been occupied by tenants. This estate is now the property of Mr. Twemlow of Liverpool, representative of the eldest branch of the family.

^a Dr. Williamson by *immediate* always means *mesne* lords, an error arising from his looking to the possession of the soil, and forgetting the subinfeudation, under the immediate or paramount lord, who held from the earl in capite.

^b This point is however made clear by the next sentence.

^c Information of Edward Brabant, esq. agent of lord Vernon.

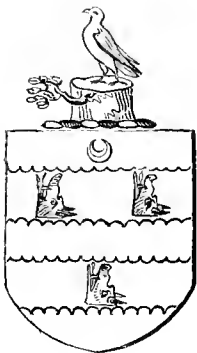
^d By a modern corruption it is sometimes called Artclid.

TWEMLOW OF ARCLYD.

Communicated by Francis Twemlow, esq. and compiled from settlements and parish registers.

ARMS. Azure, two bars engrailed Or, charged with three boars' heads (two and one) Sable.

CREST. On a wreath, a parrot perched on the stump of a tree proper.



GEORGE TWEMLOW, of Arclid, born 1631, married MARY LINGARD, (grandaughter and sole heiress of William Lingard) 1662, died 1704, buried at Sandbach. died 1711, aged 74, buried at Sandbach.

JOHN TWEMLOW, of Arclid, married MARY, daughter of James Poole, 1698, buried at Sandbach. bur. at Sandbach. JOSEPH TWEMLOW, of Dursley, co. Gloucester, clerk, baptized 1673, died 1748, s. p. NATHAN TWEMLOW, of Arclid, clerk, baptized 1675, died 1714, s. p. Many other children, died without issue.

GEORGE TWEMLOW, of Arclid, born 1703, mar. MARY, daughter of Francis Parrott, died 1727, died 1778, bur. at Sandbach. 1753, aged 52, bur. at Sandbach. JOSEPH TWEMLOW, of Etwall, co. Derb. clerk, rector of the parish of Morley, same county, died 1775, s. p. WILLIAM TWEMLOW, died an infant. MARTHA. ELIZABETH.

JOHN TWEMLOW, born Jan. 7, 1730, died Aug. 27, 1789. ANN, dau. of Jas. Whalley. FRANCIS TWEMLOW, born May 16, 1728, died Nov. 25, 1766, a bachelor. GEORGE TWEMLOW, of the Hill, Sandbach, born Aug. 3, 1736, died Jan. 29, 1808, a bachelor, bur. at Sandbach. ABIGAIL, daughter of John Mare, 1st wife. THOMAS TWEMLOW, of the Hill, Sandbach, born Nov. 18, 1738, mar. 1st Nov. 10, 1770; 2nd, Sept. 21, 1778, died Feb. 21, 1801, buried at Sandbach. MARY, dau. & coheiress of rev. Jos. Ward, A.M. vicar of Prestbury, co. Cest. 2d wife, born Jan. 24, 1745, living 1818. JOSEPH TWEMLOW, born Sept. 22, 1742, died Nov. 28, 1765, buried at Sandbach. MARY, dau. of ... Wilson, born 1738, living 1812. WILLIAM TWEMLOW, born Jan. 25, 1745-6, died young. ANN, born Mar. 7, 1729, died Feb. 14, 1757. MARY, born ... 1733-4, died June 17, 1756.

THOMAS TWEMLOW of Liverpool, and of Liscard, co. Cest. ELIZABETH, dau. of ... Hamilton. JOHN TWEMLOW. SARAH, dau. of John Twiss. MARTHA. Several others died young. GEORGE TWEMLOW. CATHERINE. ANN. both died young. JOSEPH WARD TWEMLOW, died an infant. THOS. TWEMLOW, of Peatswood, co. Staff. esq. eldest surviving son and heir. FRANCIS TWEMLOW, esq. marr. June 21, 1814, at Betley, Staff. ELIZABETH, 2d and youngest dau. of the late sir Thos. Fletcher, of Betley-coort, bart. JOHN. THOMAS FLETCHER TWEMLOW. MARY ANNE. JOHN GEORGE, and ANN JANE, died young. WILLIAM HAMILTON TWEMLOW. GEORGE, lieut. R. H. artillery, serv. East India Company. JOHN, midshipman R. N. JAMES. SAMUEL. HENRY. ANNE.

W H E E L O C K.

The Domesday survey describes this township, as follows, among the manors of the ancestor of the Mainwarings of Warmincham :

“ Idem Ranulphus tenet Hoiloch; Morcar comes tenuit: ibi 111 hidæ geldabiles: terra est 1v carucarum: in dominio est una et 1v servi et 11 radmans cum una caruca: silva ibi 111 leuvis longa et una lata. Tempore R. Edwardi et post wasta fuit, modo valet xx solidos.”

No opportunity has occurred of adding materially to the following account of the mesne manor (held under the Mainwarings and their successors by the Wheelocks), which is transcribed from Williamson's MS. Villare Cestriense :

“ Roger Mainwaring, about Henry the Second's time, released to Hugh de Whelock all his claim to the village of Whelock, which he (the said Hugh) held of Richard de Moston his knight, and (also released him) from suit of mill and court of Warmincham.

“ And not long after Adam de Whelock gave to his brother Hugh all his right in this place—and 1285, Thomas de Whelock bought the lands of Randle, son of Nicolas de Blackwood his brother, in Blackwood, which Hugh his father had given to the said Nicolas.

“ And 15 Edw. II. Thomas de Quelocke and Julian his wife, then obtained by fine from Ralph Hassal, chaplain, the manor of Whelock for life; remainder to Thomas his son and Alice his wife, and their heirs for ever.

“ And 7 Hen. IV. William Venables of Kinderton brought two writs against Adam, son of Adam de Bosstock, and others, for taking away the body of Richard, son of John, son of Thomas de Whelock, and the custody of 16 mess. &c. (1 mill, and 452 acres), which John held of him by knight's service, viz. homage, and 10s. a year; and the jury found for William Venables.

“ Ever since which time the Wheelocks were under lords hereof, till Tho. son of Richard de Whelock died s. p. 1439, at which time Agnes, wife of Richard de Leversage, but daughter to Elizabeth, sister to John, father of Richard de Whelock abovementioned, was found his cousin and next heir.

“ Ever since which time, the Leversages have been lords of this place, till William Leversage of Bechton^a, wrongfully (as I am informed) sold this place during the unnatural war betwixt king and parliament, to Thomas Stephens, esq. who was lord thereof 1662.”

The following Inquisitions relating to the Leversages will find their place best after this extract, and confirm Williamson's account of Wheelock being a second subinfeudation under Moston.

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VIII. Thomas Leversage held in demesne as of fee the manor of Wheelocke from sir William Venables, knight, as parcel of the manor of Moston, by military service, and by the render of xs. per ann. val. xiiii. vis. vii. d. : also lands in Haslington, Hulme, Parme, Odroade, Mickell Moreton, Congle-

^a MS. Note in the Overlegh copy of the Villare. “ The person supposed to be wrongfully disinherited was William, son of Thomas Leversage of Whelock, (which Thomas was) elder brother of W. Leversage of Bechton. The above William Leversage, son of Thomas, died 1653.” See the same more fully explained by the additions (in hooks) to the following pedigree, from Harl. MSS. 2153, 34.

ton, Buglawton, Hulme and Walfield, Hassal, Bradwall, Bydnall, Betchton, Church Lawton, Alcomelow, Kinderton, Wheelock, and Thurlwood: val. tot. XLVII. os. xd. Obiit Mar. 29, 24 Hen. VIII. Ralph Leversage son and heir, aged 56 years.

Inq. p. m. 6 Edw. VI. Ralph Leversage, esq. held the manor, or capital messuage of Whelocke, from sir Thomas Venables, knight, as before, val. LVIII. os. 1vd.: and lands in Sandbach, and the before-mentioned townships. Died July 23 a° p'd'to. William Leversage son and heir.

Mr. Stephens, to whom the descent of the manor is brought down by Williamson, is stated in the Magna Britannia to have sold the same to Mr. Richard Vernon of Middlewich, who is stated to have re-sold the same to Edward Powis, esq.^b

From the Powis family the same passed by sale to the

late Holland Ackers, esq. of Manchester, with the manors of Great Moreton and Smallwood, and is now vested with them in James Ackers, esq. his brother, for life; with remainder to George Ackers, esq. son of the purchaser and his issue^c.

No court is held for the mesne manor, but the township continues subject to the leet of Warmincham^d, the present chief seat of the Norman fee in which it was included. The hall is a half-timbered building, occupied by a farmer, and seated on rising ground near the left bank of the river Wheelock, about one mile south of Sandbach. Below it is a populous village, which has much increased in size of late years, in consequence of the business brought here by the wharfs on the Grand Trunk Canal, the introduction of cotton manufactories, and the salt works, which are supplied by numerous and rich brine-springs.

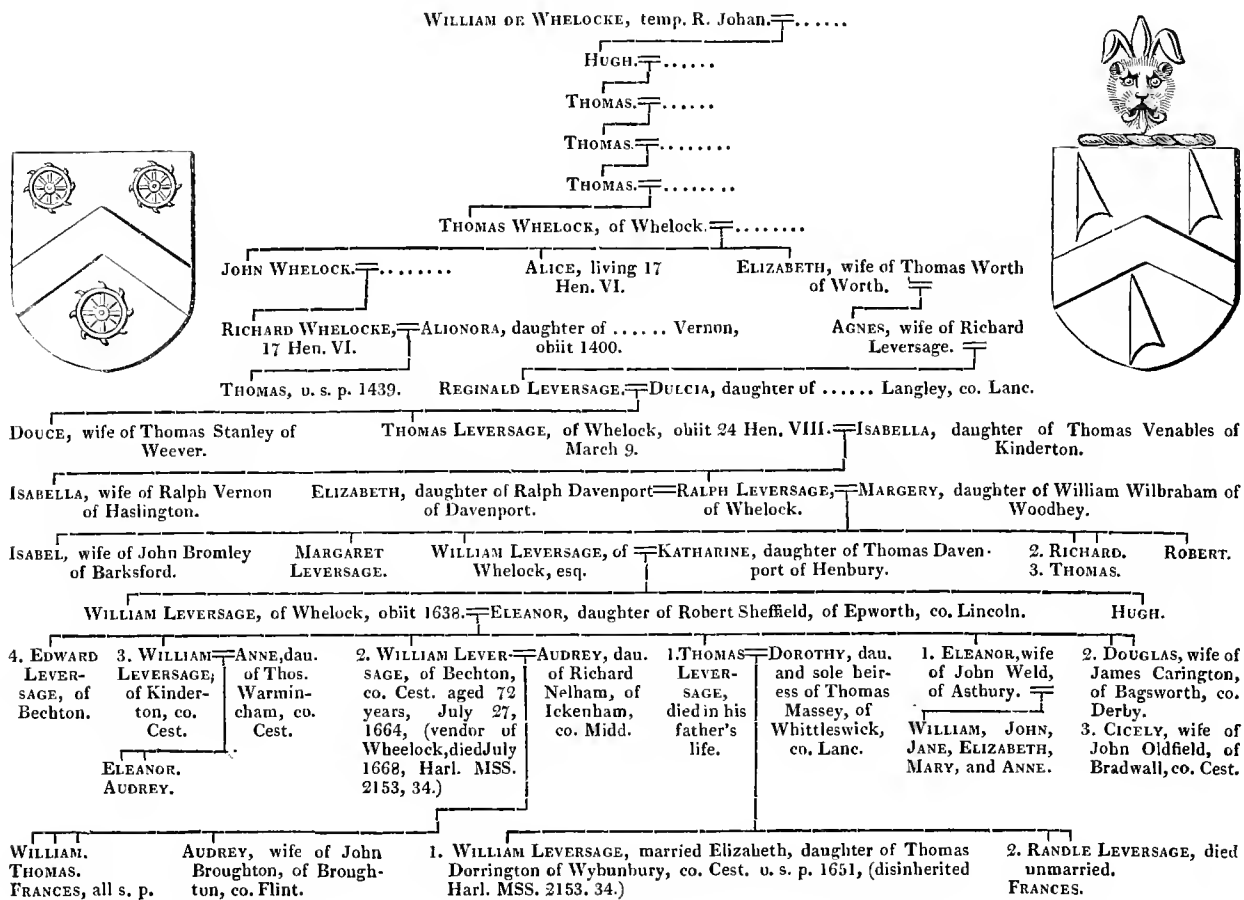
WHELOCK AND LEVERSAGE OF WHELOCK.

From Booth's Pedigrees and Dugdale's Visitation 1663-4. Additional particulars will be found in the preceding extract from the Villare Cestriense.

ARMS OF WHELOCK. Argent, a chevron between three Catherine wheels Sable.

ARMS OF LEVERSAGE. Argent, a chevron between three ploughshares erect Sable.

CREST. On a wreath a leopard's face jessant a fleur de lis Or.



^b Vol. II. p. II, p. 768.

^c Information of James Ackers, esq.

^d Information of Henry Tomkinson, esq.

The Parochial Chapelry of Holmes Chapel or Church Hulme

CONTAINS three townships, Hulmes Chapel, Cotton, and Cranage.

H O L M E S C H A P E L.

HULMES CHAPEL, or Hulme, as it was antiently, and more properly called, belonged in the reign of Edw. II. to a family which bore the local name, and held the said vill from the barony of Halton, as the twentieth part of a knight's fee.

The manor was afterwards in the Needhams of Cranage, and was purchased in 1760 from the late lord Kilmorey, representative of that family, in trust for Thomas Bayley Hall, esq. of Hermitage, the present proprietor.

The village is situated eight miles south of Knutsford, at the point where the road from that place to Sandbach is intersected by the road from Middlewich to Macclesfield.

The PAROCHIAL CHAPEL consists of a tower, nave, chancel, and side aisles, terminating also in private chancels. The tower is antient, built of red stone, and finished in the pointed style, with battlements, buttresses, and pinnacles. The nave rests on wooden pillars, and the brick side aisles are of modern addition.

On the north side of the chancel are two large wooden tablets, containing "an account of such of the family of the Halls, and their relations by marriage, as have been buried at Holmes chapel." The particulars are incorporated with the pedigree of Hall of Hermitage.

At the east end of the north aisle is a large slab, on which is a fragment of the shrine-work of some rich brasses.

Near this is a tablet in memory of

Strethill Harrison, esq. of Cranage hall (who died April 27, 1801, anno ætat. 52); and of two of his daughters, who died young.

And in the same aisle another tablet, in memory of Anna, wife of the rev. James Eyton Mainwaring of Ellaston, co. Staff. daughter of Mr. Vawdrey, of Millgate, died Ap. 8, 1789, aº æt. 26.

At the west end of the south aisle is a tablet inscribed:

William Arthur Hodges, esq.
captain in the 47th regt.

having been twice wounded in
the battle of Vittoria, fell at
the storming of St. Sebastian,

in Spain, Aug. 31, anno { Domini 1813,
 { ætatis 26.

Near this is a tablet in memory of William Archer, second son of Richard Archer, gent. of Shrewley, co. Warwick, obiit 24 July 1787, aº æt. 37.

In the chancel is a memorial of Anna and Cotton

Hall, infant children of Thomas Hall of Cranage; and in the chancel at the end of the south aisle is a marble monument inscribed as follows :

Requiescat in pace
Thomas Hall,
nescio an immortali Deo ob pietatem,
an mortalibus ob humanitatem
charior.
Obt 25º M'tii 1715.
Joanna prædicti conjux charissima,
postea relicta mæstissima,
hiece etiam
placide requiescat.
Obt 27º Jani 1721-22.

Arms: Argent, three talbots heads erased Sable, langued Gules, for Hall; impaling Azure, a chevron Gules, between three cotton hanks Argent.

A survey of this church made in 1569 (Harl. MSS. 2151. 95.) notices the following sepulchral and other memorials :

In the windows the following arms, Winnington, Cotton, Needham (impaling three wives, Bromley, Somerford, and Mainwaring), Needham, Croxton, Bulkeley, Pulford, Davenport (the chevron humette), Mainwaring, Radclyffe, (Argent, a griffin segreant Sable), Malpas of Bickley, Brereton, and Lachford.

On an altar tomb, a recumbent figure in armour; round the edge of the slab—Robertus de Nedham, arm. obiit 1448.

On a slab, two figures inlaid in brass; at their feet: Hic jacent corpora Roberti de Nedham, qui obiit die Sabbati, in festo Sancti Edwardi 1431, et Thomæ de Nedham, quondam fratris predicti Roberti qui obiit die dominica 1463.

On another slab, a recumbent figure in a gown, inlaid in brass, and round the edge this inscription :

Hic jacet corpus Joh'is Nedeham miles, quondam secundus justitiarius d'ni regis, ac nup' capitalis justitiarius, com' palatini dicti d'ni R' Lancast', ac olim capitalis justitiarius com' palatini ejusdem d'ni R. Cestriæ, et nuper unus justitiarius dicti d'ni R. ad assisas capiendas, qui obiit 25º die mensis Aprilis, aº D'ni 1480.

In a window in the same chapel :

Orate pro bono statu Rob'ti Nedham militis, et Agnetis ux'is ejus, et p' a'yabus Thome, Joh'is, et Rob'ti filior', et p' bono statu Matilde, et Jobane, filiarum ejusdem Roberti, an'o 1544ª.

a This curacy, which is in the gift of the vicar of Sandbach, was returned by the bishop of Chester, in 1809, as augmented, not charged: val. from augmentation, tithes, stipend, official house (£5) glebe and surplice fees £57. 4s. 0d. Returns to Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty. The Registers begin in 1680.

COTTON.

THE Domesday Survey takes no notice of this township, of which the following account, as far as it is marked with inverted commas, is transcribed from the MS. Villare Cestriense of Dr. Williamson :

" This place had for immediate lords the Frasers, till Adam Fraser, 1204, pawnd this whole village to Roger Lacy, constable of Chester, for 80 marks of silver, to pay his debts with, as 'tis express'd in the deed : whose son, John Lacy, granted it to Gilbert de Cotton, son of Judas Kelly, as fully as John constable of Chester, his grandfather, had granted it to Judas Kelly : ever since which the Cottons have been lords of this place. For 2 Edw. III. Henry de Cotton held this village of the baron of Halton by the 20th part of a knight's fee; and 6 Rich. II. Robert Cotton of Cotton (who bound himself to serve under sir Thomas de Carington with a horseman and three archers, in the crusade made by the bishop of Norwich) settled on Robert Grosvenor and Thomas Davenport of Becheton, all his lands, &c. cum pert. in Cotton and Hulme, &c. : and 5 Hen. VI. sir Thomas Grosvenor remitted to Thomas Cotton, of Cotton, all his right in all lands, &c. in Cotton, Hulme, and Bidulph; which Thomas Cotton the same year past to Thomas Halsall, vicar of Sandbach, all his lands, &c. here; who, 12 Hen. VI. settled on Thomas de Cotton and Catherine his wife, and their heirs male, the manor of Cotton, &c., then to John their son, and his heirs, &c."

Inq. p. m. 21 Eliz. John Cotton, of Cotton, esq. held the vill of Cotton, and lands in the same, from the queen, as of her barony of Halton, by the services of the twentieth part of one knight's fee, and by suit to Halton court; val. per ann. £viii. vis.: also lands in Church Hulme, Sproston, Middlewich, Newton, Wymbaldsley, Church Minshull, and Bydulph. Died

5 August, 21 Eliz. Edward Cotton son and heir.

Thomas Cotton, esq. to whom the descent of this family is brought down in the pedigree annexed, sold this manor, about the middle of the seventeenth century^a, to sir Thomas Cotton, of Connington, bart., son of the celebrated founder of the Cottonian library, who was descended from the Cotons of Cotton Edmunds, in the hundred of Broxton.

William Cotton, of Cotton, fourth son of sir Thomas Cotton, was father of Thomas, who succeeded, by bequest, to the Connington estates, and had many children, but left only Frances, daughter and sole heiress, married to Dingley Ascham, esq.^b

^cIn 1738 the manor and township of Cotton were sold by Dingley Ascham, esq. and Frances his wife, to Thomas Bayley, of the Inner Temple, esq. who died issueless in 1740, leaving by will his mother Jane Bayley, widow, in possession of all his fortune; who by will, in 1745, bequeathed the said township and manor to her son-in-law, Thomas Hall, of Hermitage, esq. husband of her younger daughter Elizabeth, then deceased, and their issue; viz. one son, Thomas Bayley Hall, of Hermitage, esq. now living, and three daughters, specified in the pedigree, by all of whom issue is now surviving, 1817.

The purchase of Cotton included the greatest portion of the lands in Hulmes Chapel, now in possession of T. B. Hall, esq.; but the impropriate tithes were severed from the estate, and were reunited to it about 1802, by a purchase made by Mr. Hall from Mr. William Walker, of Nantwich.

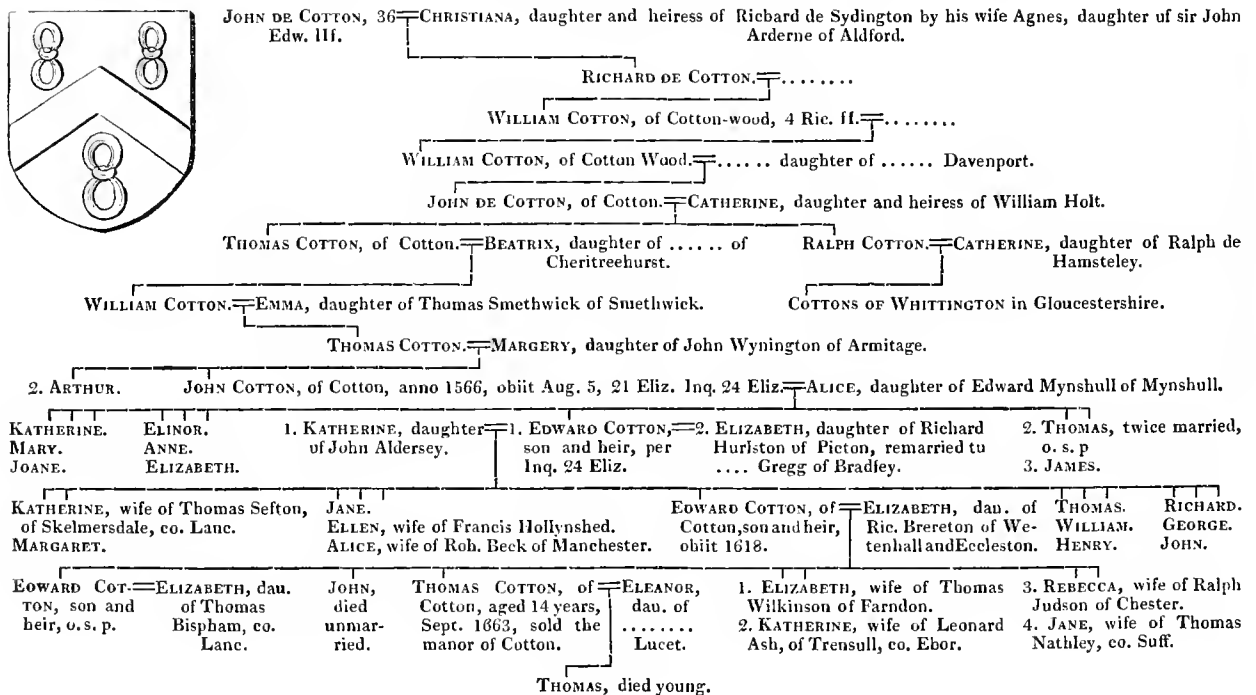
No court has been held of late years for the manor. The township lies on the road from Middlewich to Congleton, east of Hulmes chapel. Cotton hall, an antient timber mansion, is occupied by a farmer.

COTTON OF COTTON.

From Booth's Pedigrees.

ARMS. Azure, a chevron between three cotton hanks Argent; allowed by Dugdale 1663-4.

No crest allowed by Dugdale.



^a Williamson, Vill. Cest.

^b Wotton's Baronetage, I. 138.

^c The following particulars from the information of T. B. Hall, esq.

C R A N A G E.

THIS township, at a very early period, was vested in the Croxton family, of whom an ample account will be found in the township of that name.

About the time of king John, or that of his successor, it became vested in a collateral line, which subsequently assumed its name from the township. The deeds, which authenticate the following steps of the descent, are given at length in Harl. MSS. 2074. 190, and 2119. 156.

Lidulfus, vicecomes Cestr. releases to Randle his brother, all his right in a fourth part of the vill of Craunach, and a fourth part of a saltwork in Middlewich, which Wulfric de Lache formerly gave him. Witnesses, William de Venables, Warin, parson of Wich, &c. &c.

Richard, son of Lidulph, confirms to Henry de Craunach the premises aforesaid, which had been previously held by Randle, father of Henry. Witnesses, Philip de Orreby, then just. &c.

This Henry was father of Henry de Craunach, to whom Geoffry de Craunach, chaplain, gives, by deed without date, a moiety of the manor of Craunach, with remainder to Richard, Thomas, and Roger, sons of the said Henry.

From one of these sons^a descended William de Cranach, whose daughter Alice brought one moiety of this vill in marriage to William Nedham, second son of Thomas Nedham, of Nedham in Derbyshire, (as the name was formerly written) 49 Edward III.^b

Sir Robert Nedham, knt. fifth in descent from Alice de Crannach, removed his residence to Shaventon, in Shropshire, which had been purchased and settled upon him by his great uncle, sir John Nedham, judge of Chester. The manor of Cranage (the other moiety of which had also been purchased by judge Nedham^c) remained vested in his family until 1760, when it was purchased by the trustees of Thomas Bayley Hall, esq. the present proprietor, from the late lord Kilmorey^d.

The abbots of St. Werburgh had a paramount jurisdiction over this manor by virtue of various grants from the Croxton family^e, and claimed to hold a court leet for the same, with other townships, at their manor-house of Barnshaw^f. The same privileges are claimed by the present proprietor of that lordship, sir H. M. Mainwaring, bart.^g

Cranage is situated on the bank of the Dane, about seven miles south of Knutsford. A bridge over the river was erected here in the reign of Henry VI. at the expence of Sir John Nedham, who was judge of Chester 4 Edw. IV. and afterwards deputy judge to Thomas lord Stanley^h. The antient stone bridge of two arches has been recently replaced by a wooden one, from the designs of Mr. Harrison, of Chester.

A large portion of the demesne of Cranage was sold

by the feoffees of lord Kilmorey, about the middle of the seventeenth century, to various purchasers. One of these estates, on which a brick mansion called Cranage hall is erected, is the property and residence of Lawrence Armistead, esq. by purchase of his father, the late rev. John Armistead.

"In this township," says Dr. Williamson, "is HERMITAGE, (without doubt so called, from being y^e cell of an hermite,) or ERMITAGE, as 'tis commonly called, w^{ch} was given by Roger Runchamp to John of Jerusalem, whose prior Robert gave it to William, son of Roger, for 12d. a year; and not long after Richard de Orreby gave it to Hen. de Crawlach or Cranachⁱ."

This Henry de Cranach was father of Henry (already mentioned) lord of Cranage, and of a younger son Richard, whose son Thomas, describing himself "de' Ermitage," by deed dated 8 Edw. III. gives to William, son of Richard de Haslington and Cecilia his wife, daughter of the said Thomas, all his lands, &c. in Cranach, Le Hermitage, and Twemlowe, to them and the heirs of their bodies^k.

8 Hen. VI. Cecilia, daughter of Thomas de Haslington de le Ermites settles her lands on trustees^k. This Cecilia married Hugh Winnington of Birches, the male descendant, in another line, from the Croxtons, the parent stock of the Cranaches and Ermitages; and from them Hermitage descended to Thomas Winnington, who died without issue in the reign of Elizabeth, having settled his estate on his distant kinsman, Hugh Winnington, of Northwich, the representative of a collateral line of the Winningtons of Birches.

From an armorial carving in Holmes chapel, Hugh Winnington appears to have been in possession in 1622. A MS. Villare of Northwich hundred, written in 1671, (Harl. MSS. 2010) describes Hermitage as the property of Thomas Leadbeater, having been lately that of — Winnington. The transfer was most probably by sale. In 1702, the Hermitage estate was purchased from John Leadbeater, of Nether Knutsford, gent. and Margaret his wife, by Thomas Hall, of Cranage, who dying without issue, bequeathed his purchased estates in Cranage and Twemlowe to his younger brother Edward, and it is now the property and residence of his grandson, Thomas Bayley Hall, esq. The ancient unknown proprietor of the Hermitage manifested no small taste in selecting the place of his seclusion—a deep and rich vale, watered by the clear stream of the Dane, undulating in its boundary lines, and occasionally closed up with well-wooded banks, or opening to a view of the hills of Staffordshire. The present mansion is a spacious and very respectable mansion of brick, built by Thomas Hall, the purchaser before mentioned^l.

^a Bonth's Croxton Pedigrees, Harl. MSS. 2119.

^b Leicester's Tabley MSS.

^c Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^d Information of T. B. Hall, esq.

^e Harl. MSS. 2074. 190. Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965.

^f See the Abbot's Plea, vol. I. p. 239.

^g Information of sir H. Mainwaring.

^h Leicester's Tabley MSS.

ⁱ It appears unnecessary to copy the rest of Williamson's descent of this estate for the purpose of confuting it, as every step of it that can be compared with existing deeds is contradicted by them.

^k Deeds in Booth's Croxton Pedigrees, Harl. MSS. 2119.

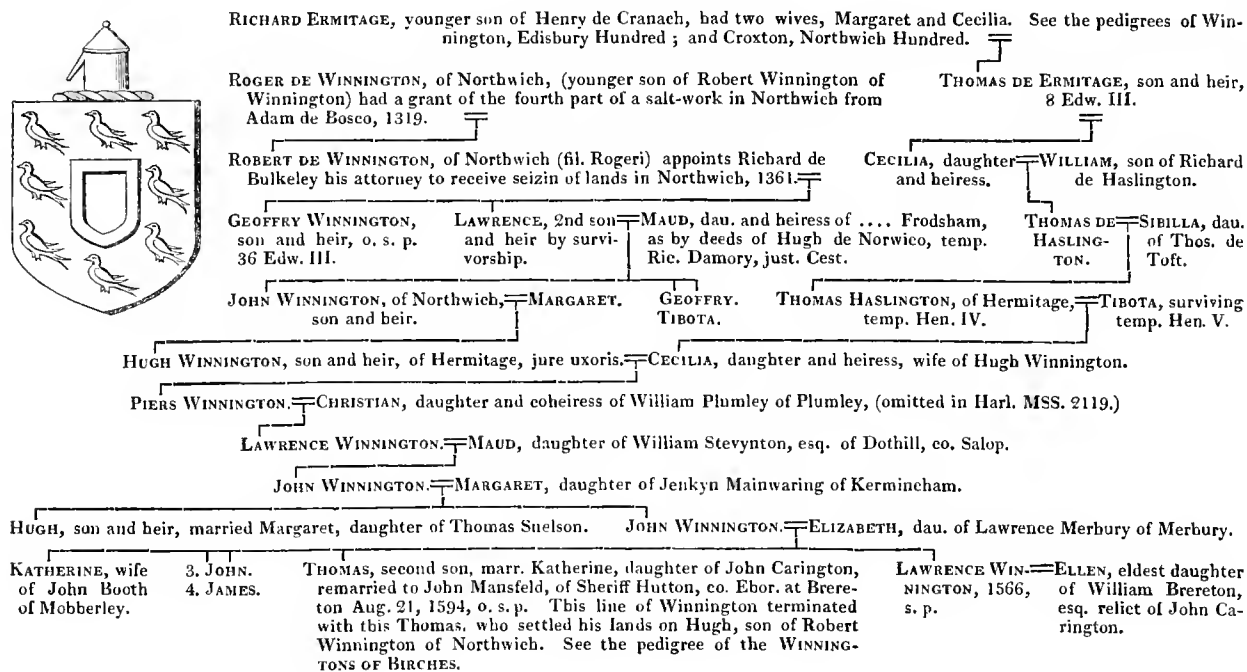
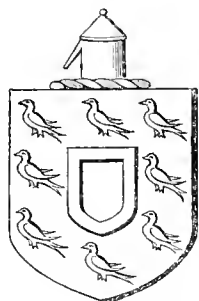
^l The said Thomas Hall built two School-houses in Cranage, now standing, and endowed them with an annual salary, for ten poor boys and ten girls, who are severally provided with blue coats and caps, and blue gowns, and are each presented with a bible on leaving the school. The expence of this school is defrayed by a rent-charge on the Hermitage estate, the proprietors of which are perpetual trustees for the management of the charity. Information of T. B. Hall, esq.

CRANACH, ERMITAGE, HASLINGTON, AND WINNINGTON, OF HERMITAGE.

From Booth's general pedigrees, collated with his Croxton pedigree, Harl. MSS. 2119.

ARMS OF WINNINGTON. Argent, an inesccheon Sable, within an orle of martlets of the second.

CREST. On a wreath a still Argent.



HALL OF HERMITAGE.

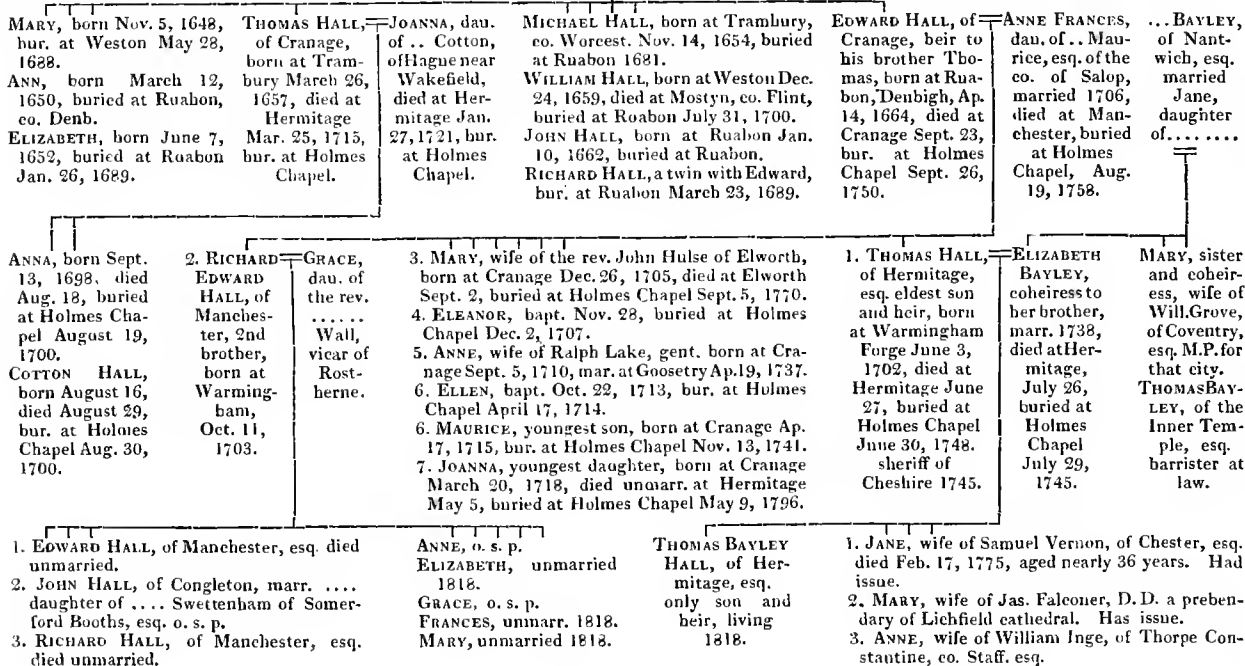
From copies of registers and other papers communicated by T. B. Hall, esq. and monumental inscriptions in Holmes Chapel.

The following arms were used by Joseph Hall bishop of Norwich and Exeter, and George Hall bishop of Chester, who are said to have been of this family, but no entry has been made by the Halls of Hermitage in the College of Arms.

ARMS. Argent, three talbots' heads erased Sable.

CREST: On a wreath a talbot's head as in the arms.

MICHAEL HALL, second son of Michael Hall, of Creet in the co. of Salop. ELIZABETH, daughter of Thomas Cotton, of Weston under Lizard, co. Staff.



Goosetrey cum Barnshaw Chapelry.

CONTAINS the townships of Barnshaw cum Goosetrey, Twemlowe, Blackden, and Lees.

BARNSHAW cum GOOSETREY,

Now one manor only, and one township, with a dependant hamlet, comprized antiently the vills and manors of Bernulfschawe and Gostre. Both these were probably comprehended in the two unequal shares of Gostrel, which are described in Domesday as being severally the property of the baron of Halton, and the founder of the barony of Montalt.

“Isdem Willielmus (filius Nigelli) tenet Gostrel, et Ranulfus de eo. Colben tenuit ut liber homo: ibi una virgata geldabilis. Terra est 11 boum, wasta fuit et est.

“Hugo (de Mara) tenet de comite Gostrel. Godric tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi 111 virgatae terrae geldabiles. Terra est una caruca et dimidia. Wasta fuit semper et est.”

This Hugh, under his other surname of Fitz Norman, gave his share of “Gostrey,” along with Lawton, to the abbey of St. Werburgh; and this gift is recited in earl Richard's confirmation charter. A considerable interest, however, both in the manor and lands of Barnshaw and Goostrey, continued vested in the Croxton family, and passed by various successive grants to the abbey of St. Werburgh. The particulars of these grants are comprized in a series of charters by the families of Croxton, Twemlowe, Gostre, Bonetable, Bernulfschaw, and Aston, and are to be found in the original chartulary of the abbey, Harl. MSS. 1965. 35. and 35. b.

A manor house was built by the abbey, within Barnshaw, at a very early period, in which abbot Thomas (de Capenhurst? 1249-65) had licence from W. abbot of Dieulacres to have divine service celebrated for ever, “saving the indemnity of the mother church of Santbache, and of the chapels of the same, according to the form of the bond which he held from the abbot^a. A charter was also granted to the convent by Michael de Gostre, by which the abbey was empowered to embank a lake for the use of their mill, and also to serve them as a vivary or fish pond^b.

These grants seem to describe one of the greater granges or manor houses, but it nevertheless appears by the abbot's plea to a quo warranto, 21 Edw. III. that a court was held in Barnshaw for that manor only, whilst another was held in Goostrey, for all residents in that vill, Leghes, Crawnache, Holes, Plumlegh, and the abbots fee in Over Tabley and Chelleford. These two courts leet were subsequently consolidated, but as the monks had uniformly houses fitted to the consequence of their several courts in the vills where they were held, and were indeed enjoined to do so by a charter of one of the earls Randle, it follows that another mansion-

house must have existed at an early period in Goosetrey, which probably occupied the site of the present chapel yard, which exhibits vestiges of a fortified parallelogram. The east and north side slope almost precipitously to a deep dingle below, and the other sides appear to have been strengthened by a deep fosse, which is now almost wholly filled up on the south, but may be traced along a deeply sunken highway on the west.

After the dissolution of the abbey, “the rents and farms of the manor of Barnshaw” were valued at £48. 4s. 1½d.^c and were granted to the dean and chapter in their first charter. After the subsequent disputes, they were granted to the fee farmers generally, by Pat. 22 Eliz.^d; and by the second charter of the dean and chapter of the same date, the said grant was confirmed, subject to £54. 10s. annual rent, issuing from the premises, and payable to the chapter in lieu of the estate^e.

In the division of these spoils, Barnshaw, with its dependencies, fell to the share of Henry Manwaring of Carincham, and continued vested in his descendants of the same name and place, until it passed by sale (between 1752 and 1757)^f to the Mainwarings of Peover, from whom it has passed with the estates of that family to sir H. M. Mainwaring, bart. the present proprietor.

Sir H. M. Mainwaring holds a court leet for the manor of Barnshaw, which at the present day comprizes the townships of Barnshaw cum Goostrey, Lees, Chelford, Hulse, Plumley, Cranage, Over Tabley, and Blackden, for all which townships the steward swears in constables. A court baron is held at the same for the four townships only first named, the manerial rights of the remaining townships being vested in other proprietors^g.

The chapel of ease to Sandbach in this township, is in the patronage of the vicar. From the mention of the chapels of Sandbach in the licence before-mentioned for Thomas Capenhurst to found a chantry in his manor house of Barnshaw, this chapel, as well as that of Hulme, may be deemed antecedent to the date of that licence, 1249-65.

The domestic chantry of Barnshaw was certainly distinct from this, and the licence for it precisely resembles those for the abbot's chantries at Weston and other manors, where public places of worship were in existence previously. A licence to bury at Goostrey the bodies of those who died in the township, was granted in 1350, on account of the distance from the mother church, and the danger from inundations, alluding pro-

^a Chartulary of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965. 35.

^b Ibid.

^c Vol. I. p. 227.

^d Ibid. p. 241.

^e Ibid. p. 242.

^f Abstract of Carincham deeds in the possession of Mr. Darlington of Sandbach.

^g Information of sir H. M. Mainwaring, 1217.

bably to the floods which might affect the fords of the Dane. In this licence all oblations for funerals, or otherwise, are reserved to the church of Sandbach^h.

The CHAPEL of GOOSETREY is a plain but neat and commodious building of brick, with a tower steeple erected in 1792. The church-yard is on the bank of a small brook, forming a parallelogram, which (as already stated) appears to have been the site of the antient manor house of Goosetrey.

In the north east angle is a mural monument of marble, inscribed:

Sacred
to the memory of
John Glegg,
late John Baskervyle, esq.
of Old Withington,
who departed this life
the 19th January, 1784,
aged 78 years;
also of Mary his wife,
the daughter and heiress of
Robert Glegg, esq.
of Gayton;
she departed this life
the 21st February 1784,
aged 72 years.

Arms: Argent, three hurts, Baskerville. On an escocheon of pretence; Quarterly, 1 and 4, Sable, two lions counter passant in pale Argent, for Glegg. 2. Argent, a chevron Sable, between three bugles Sable, strung Gules, intended for Sutton. 3. Argent, a fesse Azure, between six fleur de lis of the second, intended for Sutton antient. Crest of Baskervyle: on a wreath, a forester vested Vert, edged Or, holding over the right shoulder a cross bow Or, in a leash a hound passant, Argent.

Attached to the south wall is an elegant mural monument of marble, ornamented with naval trophies, and inscribed:

In a vault underneath this tablet are deposited the remains
of Walter Booth, esq.
a senior post captain in the royal navy;
he died the 21st of March 1810, aged 60 years.
He was the eldest son of Ralph Griffiths of Caer Rhyu,
in the county of Caernarvon, esq.
by Mary, daughter of the rev. Charles Everard,
and niece of
the late Thomas Booth, of Twemlowe Hall, esq.;
having in compliance with the will of his maternal
great uncle,
the last heir male of that antient family,
assumed the name of Booth.
Also the remains of Anne Parry,
eldest sister of the above Walter Booth,
and relict of the rev. Owen Parry
of Perfeddgoed, in the county of Carnarvon.
She died the 5th of May 1797, aged 41 years.

Arms: Quarterly, 1 and 4, Argent, three boars' heads erect and erased, Sable, Booth. 2 and 3, Argent, a cross patonce Sable, between four martlets of the second, on a chief Azure, a boar's head erased Argent, Griffiths. Crest: on a wreath, a boar's head erect and erased Sable.

On an adjoining tablet of black and variegated marble: In the family vault near to this tablet, are deposited the remains of

Thomas Booth, esq.
of Twemlow hall in this chapelry,
who died August the 23d, 1786,
aged 92 years.

There are also deposited in the same vault, the remains of his nephew and heir the rev. Charles Everard of Twemlow hall, who departed this life March the 7th, 1792, aged 67 years.

On flag stones, are memorials of Laurence Booth, esq. died July 28, 1731, aged 66.

Thomas Baskervyle, of Withington, esq. buried 11 Dec. 1676.

Mary, widow of John Baskervyle, esq. his son, and daughter of Edmund Jodrell, esq. buried 17 Feb. 1758, aged 90.

Thomas, youngest son of Edmund Jodrell of Twemlowe, esq. buried May 16, 1742.

Hugh Amson of Leighs, interred March 6, 1688.

John Amson of Hind Heath, son of John Amson of Leighs, interred June 1, 1685.

Elizabeth, wife of John Amson, died May 6, 1761, aged 54.

On a large flag-stone, with the arms of Mainwaring of Kermincham (two bars, a label of three points in chief) impaling Ashenhurst (a wyvern statant):

Under this piece of marble square,
Interred lies a matron rare,
Sprung from ancient house of name,
Leave arms, her acts declare y^e same.
Her zeale to God and love was such,
She could not serve him over much;
Her husband, children, servants all,
She did exhort on God to call.
Her handes the needie did relieve,
W^{ch} makes poore hungrey soules to grieve,
When they passe by y^e well knowne gate,
Where they were fed and clad of late.
Neighbours, tenants, all make mone,
So firme a friende from them is gone.
But heaven's glad, and angells joy in this,
That Sarah now in Abram's bossom is.

On a blue piece of marble let into this stone is a mutilated inscription, intended to preserve the name of the lady commemorated, which, on the authority of the Mainwaring of Kermincham pedigree and the parish register, may be filled up as follows:

(Here lie the remains of Sarah,
wife of Roger Mainwaring),
and daughter (of Randle)
Ashenhurst of Ashenhurst,
in the countie of Derby;

she was buried 15th of Februarie 16(5)3.

On an old wooden tablet suspended in the vestry is the following inscription:

John Baskervyle of Old Withington,
in the county palatyne of Chester,
who took to wife Magdaline, daugh^r to George Hope,
of Queen's Hope, in the county of Flint, esq.
He had issue six sons, viz. George, who died in his minority, Thomas, Laurence, Randle, John, and Henry; and six daughters, viz. Rebecca, Elizabeth, Magdaline, deceased; Katherine, Mary, and Elizabeth surviving.
He died y^e sixteenth day of February anno Domini MDCLXII, and about the sixty-third yeere of his age.

Arms: Baskerville, as before, quartering Argent, a

^h Extracts from the Lichfield episcopal registers, 2070, 180.

chevron Gules between three squirrels seiant of the second, impaling Hope (with nine quarterings), Argent, a chevron engrailed Sable, between three storks Sable, legged Gules. Crests of Glegg and Hope: the latter a stork, as in the arms.

On another tablet is inscribed:

Here lyeth the body of Magdalen, daughter of George Hope of Dodleston, in the county palatyne of Chester, esq. the relict of John Baskervyle of Old Withington, in the said county palatyne of Chester, esq. by whom she had yssue several sonnes and daughters; she died the xixth day of April, in the year 1670, aged 66 years.

Arms: Hope in a lozenge with nine quarterings. In the corners the shields and crests of Baskervyle and Hope.

On an altar tomb, on the south side of the church, is inscribed:

Underneath
lie the remains of the
rev. Thomas Burroughs, A. M.

rector of Pulford, and curate of this chapelry,
who departed this life
the 4th day of April 1809,
aged 73 years.

The font is octagonal, ornamented with quatrefoils in pannels round the upper parts, and with shields round the base, the bearings of which are defaced.

A survey of Goosetrey church taken 1569 (Harl. MSS. 2151. 66.) notices the arms of Kinsey, Venables, Jodrell, and —— (Sable, a cross engrailed Argent, charged with a mullet.)—A tablet in memory of “Anne, wife of John Kinsey of Blackden, died 18th Feb. 1665.”—And the memorials of John Baskervyle of Old Withington, and his wife, already noticed.

This curacy is in the gift of the vicar of Sandbach, and was returned to the Governors of queen Anne’s bounty by the bishop of Chester in 1809, as being augmented, not charged; val. in augmentation, stipend, and surplice fees, £82. 11s. 11d. The registers commence in 1561, and have been well preserved.

TWEMLOWE.

THIS township appears to have belonged, shortly after the Conquest, to the Croxtons, a powerful and widely-spreading family, of whom an ample account will be found under the head of the township from which they first derived their name. Lidulph, or Liulph, representative of this family in the reigns of Richard I. John, and Henry III., during which he discharged the office of sheriff, appears in some charters under the local designation of “De Twemlowe.”

Ranulph, younger brother of Liulph, was father of Henry de Crannach and of Reginald le Brun, who purchased lands here, and in one charter to St. Werburgh’s abbey (Harl. MSS. 1965, 34. b.) is called Reginald de Tamlawe. The township, or the greater part of it, passed by grants from his sons to the abbeyes of St. Werburgh and Vale Royal.

Thomas, the eldest son, gave lands here to the first of these abbeyes^a; also other lands, held of the prior of St. John of Jerusalem, to Richard de Swettenham; other lands to his kinsman Richard de Ermitage; and another portion to the abbey of Vale Royal.

In the foundation-charter of that abbey the king also confirms to it lands in Twemlowe, given him by this Thomas; other lands here given him by Thomas Bathel; and a third estate, which had been lately purchased from William Hawarden, probably a son of Harding le Brun, one of the younger brothers of Thomas before mentioned.

The estate which the *abbey of St. Werburgh* held here passed, after the dissolution, to the Brookes of Norton; and, as appears by *Inq. p. m.* 11 Eliz. was held by Richard Brooke, esq. of the queen, as of her manor of East Greenwiche, val. per ann. £vii. os. iiii. d.

The estate of the *abbey of Vale Royal* was held, under the abbot, by a family which bore the local name, and was most probably the parent-stock of the several branches of the Twemlowes yet remaining in the neighbouring townships. It is deduced by Booth from Richard de Twemlowe, and by Williamson from Harding le Brun, both of whom were sons of Reginald le Brun,

before mentioned; and it terminated, in the direct line, temp. H. IV. in Katherine, daughter of John de Twemlowe, and wife of Hugh de Knutsford.

“In wth family (says Williamson) it continued till H. VIIIth reign, in whose 17th year I find Ralph Langton, &c. settling on Roger de Knutsford, for his life, y^e manor of Twamlow, &c. the rem^t to Marg^{tt}, daughter and coheiress of y^e s^d Roger and her heirs by Hamon Stockley, y^e rem^t to Mary, wife of Edw. Booth, and y^e rem^t to Ellen his other daughter: wth lands Stockley had wth his wife, I have not found; but 15 H. VIII. I find y^t this Roger de Knutsford gave to Edw. Booth and Mary his wife, daughter of y^e s^d Roger, y^e manor of Twamlow.” Vill Cest.

The marriage of the third daughter is ascertained by the following extract of an *Inq. p. m.* 4 Edw. VI. whereby Ellena Joydrell, widow, is found to have died seized of a third of the manor of Twamlowe, and of lands in Knutsford, the former being held from the king in capite, by the render of LIVs. viid. and the service of finding one judger for the county court. She died May 30, 2nd Edw. VI. Edmund Joydrell son and heir.

From this period the principal part of the township has been possessed by the Booths and Jodrells, the representative of the former being the manerial proprietor. The pedigree annexed brings down the descent of the first-mentioned family to W. C. Booth, esq. its representative in the female line; and the pedigree of Jodrell (given in Yeardsley, in Macclesfield hundred,) brings down their descent also to the late wife of Egerton Leigh, esq. in whom the Jodrell estate in this township is vested. No court is held for the mesne manor, but the township is subject to the jurisdiction of the leet of Weverham, parcel of the antient possessions of Vale Royal Abbey.

Twemlowe Hall, the seat of the Booths, an antient mansion, finished with gables, and surrounded with vestiges of an antient moat and strong terraces, stands on the south side of the township, on the edge of a steep

^a Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965.

^b Williamson’s Vill. Cest.

hill, overlooking the Vale of the Dane: the other mansion was rebuilt by the present proprietor, Egerton Leigh, esq. and is his occasional residence. It stands

on the bank of a small brook, near the edge of Macclesfield hundred, and contains in its grounds the tumuli which have been noticed in another part of the Work.^c

BOOTH OF TWEMLOWE.

From Booth's and Leycester's Pedigrees, the Visitation of 1663, the Monuments and Registers of Goostrey, and the information of the family (communicated through W. Hamper, esq.) and the MSS. of Ralph Bigland, esq. Norroy, in the line of the present representative.

ARMS. Argent, three boars' heads erect and erased Sable.

CREST. As granted to Walter Griffith, esq. on a wreath a lion passant Ermine, charged on the shoulder with an anchor Sable. As granted to W. C. Bache, esq. the same per pale wavy Argent and Ermine, charged on the shoulder with a cotton hank proper.



ROGER KNOTSFORD of Twemlowe, living 17 Hen. VIII. descended in the female line from Lidulphus de Twemlowe. . . .

1. MARGARET, daughter and coheir, wife of Hamon Stockley, 17 Hen. VIII. supposed s. p. EDWARD, son of sir William Booth of Donham, kt. See vol. 1. p. 402. 2. MARY, daughter and coheir, married before 17 Hen. VIII. 3. ELLEN, wife of Roger Jodrell of Veardsley, esq. unmarr. 17 Hen. VIII. died a widow May 30, 2 Edw. VI. Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. VI. Had issue.

WILLIAM BOOTH, of Twemlowe, bur. at Goostrey 28 Jan. 1591. ELLEN, daughter of John Davenport of Davenport. KATHERINE, dau. of John Wynnington of Armitage. JOHN BOOTH, of Mobberly. KATHERINE, dau. of Newton of Pownall. HENRY BOOTH, dau. of EDWARD BOOTH, married in Ire-Chadderton land, where he died.

. . . . daughter of Leeder. THOMAS BOOTH of Pallford. dau. of Grimsdich. JOHN BOOTH, of Twemlowe. ISABELLA, daughter of Ric. Lowndes of Smallwood. THOMASIN, wife of Andrew Carynton, of Mobberly, living 1618. JOHN BOOTH, vicar of Prestbury.

GEORGE. FERDINAND, of Dover in Kent.

JOHN, son and heir, o. s. p.

1. JOHN BOOTH (THE CHESHIRE GENEALOGIST), baptized at Swettenham July 10, 1584, died unmarried, buried at Goostrey Nov. 25, 1659. 2. THOMAS BOOTH, died at Newengen in Goiderland, being a soldier there. 3. HENRY BOOTH, of London, merchant, bapt. at Swettenham Feb. 10, 1591-2. 4. EDWARD BOOTH, died unmarried. 5. LAURENCE BOOTH, of Twemlowe Hall, buried March 3, 1661-2. FRANCES, dau. of John Hurleston of Picton, esq.

JOHN BOOTH of Twemlowe, esq. born July 22, 1640, living at the visitation of 1663. ANN, daughter of buried May 7, 1673. LAURENCE BOOTH, born Jan. 19, 1644. THOMAS, born March 30, 1646. CHARLES. WILLIAM. ANNE, baptized Aug. 31, 1641, died unmarried. JUDITH, born Sept. 6, 1642. FRANCES, died an infant. MARY.

1. LAWRENCE BOOTH, of Twemlowe, esq. baptized Feb. 17, 1664, died July 28, 1731. REBECCA, daughter of buried November 21, 1706. 2. HENRY, baptized March 15, 1666, buried March 17, following. 3. JOHN BOOTH of Warrington. 4. ALEXANDER BOOTH, baptized May 7, 1673. ANNE BOOTH, baptized May 13, 1668, wife of Daniel Cotton, of Hulmes Chapel, gent.

1. JOHN BOOTH, baptized Aug. 30, 1692, buried Oct. 30, 1694. MARY BOOTH, married at Brereton Sept. 24, 1722, Charles Everard, clerk, rector of Brereton, only surviving son of Charles Everard, of Somerford, gent. by Mary, daughter and coheir of Philip Bromfield, gent. ANN, bapt. March 3, 1697. REBECCA, bapt. Jan. 2, 1700. SOPHIA, bapt. April 23, 1702, buried Jan. 27 following. ELIZABETH, buried April 26, 1702. FRANCES, wife of Laurence Stanley of Ashenburst. FRANCES COTTON, daughter and heiress, buried at Astbury, wife of William Bache of Doddlespool, gent. who was buried at Allesly, in co. Warwick March 13, 1771.

CHARLES EVERARD, clerk, D. D. prebendary of York and Sarum, rector of Gritworth and Middleton Cheney, and vicar of Landgern, succeeded his uncle, and took the name of Booth; marr. Sarah Maria, dau. of Eyre, of London, and died March 20, 1792, s. p. MARY, wife of Ralph Griffith, esq. of Caerhon, co. Caernarvon, baptized at Brereton July 25, 1723. Other issue. wife of Sam. Salt. WILLIAM BACHE, of near Gosport, co. Hants, eldest son, o. s. p. THOMAS BACHE, of Birmingham. MARY, dau. of Gibson.

WALTER GRIFFITH, esq. captain R. N. succeeded on the death of his uncle, and took the name of Booth, died March 21, 1810, aged 60, s. p. ANNE, wife of Owen Parry of Perfeddgoed, co. Caernarvon, died May 5, 1797, aged 40 years. MARY ANN. SARAH. FRANCES. WILLIAM CHARLES BACHE, who assumed the name and arms of Booth by sign manual, bapt. in the parish of St. Philip, Birmingham, Feb. 12, 1793, now owner of the manor of Twemlowe, 1816. MARY, dau. of Thomas Fox of Birmingham.

THOMAS BACHE BOOTH, aged 6 months March 1816.

BLACKDEN.

THIS is a small township, omitted in Domesday, and apparently deriving its name from a wooded dean or valley south-east of Goostrey. It most probably was included at an early period in Goostrey, and appears to be the same with that fourth part of the said vill, which, after being granted by Lidulph de Twemlowe to his younger son Michael, continued the seat of his descendants, who assumed this local name "till," accord-

ing to Dr. Williamson, "the daughters and coheirs of William de Goostree brought this part to Thomas de Eaton and Robert Kinsey."

If however Blackden was distinct from this share of Goostrey, there can be little doubt that it descended, by the same title, to the coheirs above mentioned. The subsequent descent is as follows:

^c Vide p. 3. The labours of John Booth of Twemlowe, the Cheshire genealogist, are introduced in the general preface.

KINSEY SHARE.

There appear to have been *three* branches of this family settled in Blackden. The immediate male representatives of Robert Kinsey, who married the heiress of Goostrey, terminated in Thomas Kinsey, father of Margery, wife of Thomas Baskerville, of Old Withinton; and Alicia, wife of Hugh Holinshed, of Heywood.

From the first-mentioned of these coheirs are descended the Gleggs of Old Withinton, according to the pedigree given in that township. John Glegg, esq. the present representative of that family, purchased, in 1804, the share of the other coheir, from Mr. William Fallows, of Derby, descended from the daughter of Hugh Holinshed above mentioned. This share is reputed to be two thirds of the manor^a.

EATON SHARE.

In the latter part of the seventeenth century, the male line of the Eatons of Goostrey and Blackden ended in



Jonathan Eaton, aged 23 years, 1660, whose aunt Elizabeth, according to a pedigree entered in Harl. MSS. 2161. 199. by virtue of an entail made by her father and grandfather, inherited the estate from her niece Mary, sister of Jonathan Eaton before mentioned.



This Elizabeth, representative of one of the coheirs above mentioned, married John Kinsey, of Blackden, most probably a *junior descendant* from Robert Kinsey, the husband of the other coheir of Goostrey. The Kinseys retained the arms of Goostrey: Argent, a chevron between three

squirrels seiant Gules; and the Eatons, after their alliance with the Goostreys, also adopted the same arms, having previously borne "Quarterly Argent and Gules, a cross patonce counterchanged; in the first quarter a mullet Gules^b."

In the visitation of 1663-4, a pedigree was entered by John Kinsey of Blackden, then aged 78 years, brought down to his grandson, John Kinsey, then aged 24 years, and commencing with his great grandfather Philip Kinsey. This *third* branch used the arms of Goostrey, but is not identified in the pedigree with the Kinseys, lords of this share of Goostrey, or with the Kinseys of the other share, who had previously terminated in coheirs.

This portion of the manor is now vested in Mr. Kinsey, of Knutsford, by a descent, the particulars of which are not known to the family. They inherit it, according to their own tradition^c, from the Eatons, and use the quarterings of that family and of Goostrey, which of course point to a direct descent from John Kinsey and Elizabeth Eaton above mentioned; but, from an equal deficiency of public or private documents, no confirmation of this probable supposition can be given.

There are two halls in Blackden. The old hall (the property of Mr. Glegg) has long been used as a farmhouse, and lost all traces of its former appearance. The other, which belongs to Mr. Kinsey, a half-timbered mansion, with gables, is also occupied by a tenant, but has been inhabited by the family to a much later period, contains a numerous collection of family paintings, and is kept up with great neatness and respectability.

The manor of Blackden is a portion of the paramount lordship of Barnshaw^d, but the tenants do not now attend at the courts held there.

L E E S.

THIS inconsiderable township occupies two distinct notices in Domesday.

"Moran tenet de comite Lece; Colben tenuit ut liber homo; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis; terra est una caruca: ibi est in dominio, et 11 bovarii, et unus bordarius; ibi dimidia acra prati, valet VIII solidos: wasta fuit, tempore R. Edwardi."

The other moiety belonged to the baron of Halton.

"Willielmus tenet de comite Lece; Hasten tenuit et liber homo fuit; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est una caruca; wasta fuit et est."

Among Vernon's collections, (Harl. MSS. 2074. 190, &c.) are copies of many original charters relating to this township, to the following purport.

Gralam, son of Richard de Runchamp, in the time of Philip de Orreby, just. Cest. gives his whole land of Leyes to Lidulph de Twamlowe, to be held by the annual render of vs. and a sore hawk, for all services.

Robert, "fil. Lidulfi vicecom." with the assent of Mabilla his wife, for the souls of his ancestors, gives

the same, with all its appurtenances, to Chester Abbey, Richard de Wibbenbury being sheriff.

Richard, son of Gralam de Lostock, releases to Roger, abbot of Chester, all the rents, &c. which he received from Leghes, Crawlache (Cranage), and Windgates, Reginald de Gray being then justice.

Other confirmations and grants of other portions of land in the same vill follow, by Richard fil. Gralam, Warin de Crokeston, Thomas son of Reginald de Twemlowe, and the families of Stobbes and Leghes.

Manerial rights in Lees were subsequently considered an appendage of the Lordship of Barnshaw, the antient jurisdiction of which is given^e in the abbot's plea, 36 Edw. III. and the descent of which, from the abbey of St. Werburgh to the present proprietor, is given under its proper head^g. An estate in this township was the property of the Amsons of Lees, of whom some memorials will be found in the church of Sandbach, and who terminated in an heiress, Ann, daughter of John Amson, esq. and wife of Peter Shakerley of Somerford, esq.

^a Information of John Glegg, esq.

^b So Harl. MSS. 2161. 199. The chevron and squirrels are supposed to be the antient coat of the Twemlowes, and were borne also by the Knutsfords and other families descended from them.

^c Information of Mr. Kinsey of Knutsford.

^d Information of John Glegg, esq. The jurisdiction of the leet, however, is still considered to extend over this township, and its constables are sworn there. See p. 75, col. 2.

^e An error for Matilda de Wilburham.

^f See vol. I. p. 237.

^g P. 75.

Part of Great Budworth Parish.

Parochial Chapelry of Nether Peover.

NETHER PEOVER.

THE chapelry of Nether Peover contains three townships: PLUMLEY, in Bucklow Hundred; NETHER or LITTLE PEOVER, partly in Bucklow and partly in Northwich Hundred; and ALLOSTOCK, or OVER LOSTOCK, in Northwich Hundred. The manerial descent of the townships first named has been given in Bucklow Hundred; but it remains to describe here the CHAPEL of NETHER PEOVER, which stands within the Hundred of Northwich. It consists of a handsome old stone tower, containing four bells, nave, chancel, and side-aisles, terminating in chancels appropriated to the families of Shakerley of Hulme, and Brooke of Mere, the latter being proprietors of Holford in Plumley.

The church is divided from the side-aisles by four wooden arches on each side, formed by rude beams of wood sprung from wooden pillars, from which are again sprung other spars, forming an obtuse arch over the nave. The principal part of the exterior is composed of timber and plaster.

On a large flag-stone within the communion rails :

Here lyeth the body
of Thomas Holland, of Denton, in y^e
countye of Lancaster,
esquire, who paid his latest dept to
Nature May 22th 1664. Here also lyeth
the body of y^e lady Frances Eyton,
sister to the above s^d
Thomas Holland, esq.
who died June y^e 25th
in y^e year { of our Lord 169*,
 { of her age 83.

On a brass plate inlaid into the next grave-stone :

Here lyeth
the body of Jane
Cholmondeley, relict
of Thomas Cholmondeley,
of Holford esq. and daughter of
Edward Holland, of Denton in Lanca-
shire, esq. who departed this life
December the 16, 1696, ætat. suæ 78.

Arms. Within a lozenge, Cholmondeley, with a bordure engrailed, impaling Holford.

On the stone below :

Also here lyeth
interred y^e body of
Richard Cholmondeley,
fourth son of Tho-
mas Cholmondeley,
of Holford, esquire,
who deceased Aug-
ust y^e 16th, an'o Domini
1665.

On a brass plate let into the next stone, with the arms of Cholmondeley, border engrailed :

Here lyeth
the body of Tho-
mas Cholmondely,
late of Holford, esquier,
the onely
sonne of Robert lord
Cholmondely, of
Cholmondely, baron
of Wich Malbank,
viscount Kells, earle
of Leinster, sonne
and heyre of Mary,
daughter and heyre
of Christopher Hol-
ford, of Holford, esquier;
which sayd Thomas
dyed the sixth of
January MDCCLXVII.

Mortalitatis
exuvias hic deposuit
Thomas Cholmondeley,
nuper de Holford armig.
cujus superstes virtus
adulantis statuæ
dedignatur pompam ;
satis est quod publico
dolore pollinctus erat:
in Deum pius, in regem
fidelis, in bello magnani-
mus, in pace benefi-
cus, in omnibus gratus:
usque ad invidiam honestus simul et
amatus. Denatus VIII
Id. Jan. M.DCLXVII.

On another stone :

Here lyeth the
body of Thomas
Cholmondeley, 2
son of Thomas
Cholmondeley, of
Holford, esq. obiit
Jan'y 16, 1701-2.

On another stone :

Here lieth the
body of Jane,
eldest daughter
of Rob^t Cholmon-
deley of Hol-
ford, esq. by
Frances his wife,
who died April
y^e 27th, 1686.
Here also lieth
the body of Anne

3^d daught^r of y^e
 afores^d Rob^t
 Cholmondeley,
 by Frances his
 wife, who died
 July y^e 19th, 1693.

The HOLFORD CHANCEL contains nothing remarkable.

The HULME CHANCEL is separated, like the other, by an oak screen, from the church and side aisle. The east end is divided off by another oak screen, and contains the following monuments of the Shakerley family. This chancel is described by Bp. Gastrell as being added to the church by Geoffry Shakerley, esq. whose right was confirmed to it in 1610.

The North side is occupied by a large and handsome mural monument of marble, inscribed as follows :

M. S.

GALFRIDI SHAKERLEY, de Shakerley,
 in agro Lancastriensi,
 qui a castris reportavit gloriam
 adhuc adolescens^a.

Ob fidem utriusque CAROLO et ecclesiæ periclitanti
 præstitam
 iterum, iterumque carcere conclusus,
 rei familiaris dispendium, et quicquid iniquum excogitavit
 parricidalis democraticorum furor,
 eadem animi constantiâ quâ prius discrimina
 belli sustinuit,
 adversis major nec secundis impar.

A rege tandem restaurato ad equestrem dignitatem
 promotus

arcis Cestrensis præfectus fuit ;
 hoc munus, ab eo sponte depositum,
 PETRUS, primogenitus

EX CATHERINA filia GUL. PENNINGTON de Muncaster
 in com. Cumbriæ, armig.
 pari vigilantia ac fide administravit ;
 ex eadem lectissima conjuge
 (cujus ossa sunt hic recondita)
 tres insuper suscepit liberos
 Galfridum, Catherinam, et Annam.

JANA, uxor altera, quam postea duxit, charissima
 filia JOH. DOULBEN de SEGROIT, in com. DENBIGH, arm.
 quæ geminos peperit filios, GEORGIUM et JOHANNEM,
 amoris ergo hoc monumentum
 mœrens posuit.

Obiit anno { Domini M.DCXCVI,
 { ætatis suæ LXXVIII.

On a lower compartment of the same monument :

H. S. E.

supradicta domina JANA SHAKERLEY,
 dignissimo marito conjux optima,
 filiis mater indulgentissima,
 pia, pudica, prudens,

post undecim pene actos in laudabili luctu annos,
 quem defleverat secuta est XVI^{to} die Maii,
 anno Domini M.DCCVII, et ætatis suæ LIX.

Arms. Shakerley, impaling Dolben.

Over the monument is fixed up a helmet, with the crest of Shakerley.

Opposite to this is another handsome mural marble monument, inscribed :

To the
 perpetuall memory of y^e

pious, prudent, and virtuous lady
 Katharine, daughter of
 William Pennington, of Muncaster, in
 the county of Cumberland, esquire, the
 first wife of sir Geffery Shakerley,
 of Hulm, in y^e county of Chester, knight, by
 whom she had two sons and two daughters,
 viz. Peter y^e eldest, Geffrey y^e younger son,
 Katharine y^e eldest daughter, and Ann
 the younger daughter, who married Charles Hurlston,
 of Newton,
 near Chester, esq.

This monument is erected by y^e said
 Peter Shakerley, eldest son of the
 said s^r Geffery Shakerley, knight,
 by the said Katharine his
 first wife, anno Domini 1725.

Arms. Shakerley, impaling Pennington, Or, five furs
 in fesse Azure.

On the north side of the east window is another mural
 monument, inscribed :

That the memory of a deserving lady
 may not be buried with her in the silent grave,
 this plain marble is here affix'd
 to inform posterity,
 that in the same vault,
 near the remains of her husband,
 are deposited those of Mrs. Shakerley.

She possessed, in an eminent degree,
 the charms of a fine person and the graces of an ex-
 cellent mind.

She was beautiful without vanity,
 virtuous without pride,
 affable without meanness,
 cheerful without levity.

Her economy was the happy mean
 between parsimony and profuseness.

In her charity she was liberal and discreet.

Her heart was always touch'd with the cries of distress,
 and her hand ever stretch'd to afford relief.

And thus, having put on the whole armour of
 righteousness,

she bore her last conflict
 with a Christian magnanimity,
 which the testimony of a good conscience could alone
 inspire.

She lived 89 years, and died July y^e 25, 1767.

Arms. In a lozenge, Shakerley, impaling Bagot,
 Ermine, 2 chevrons Azure.

On the South side of the same window, is another
 mural marble monument, inscribed as follows :

Here lies interred George Shakerley, of Gwerselt,
 in the county of Denbigh, esq.

He married Ann, youngest daughter of
 sir Walter Bagot,

of Blithefield, in the county of Stafford, bart. ;
 and by her had four sons and six daughters,
 four of whom only survived him.

He was a gentleman of quick apprehension,
 a pregnant fancy,
 and a strong memory,

all which natural advantages he improved
 by an assiduous application to his studies at Westminster
 and Oxford.

^a In Pennant's Wales, vol. I. p. 422, 4to edit. is an account of a gallant exploit of sir Geoffry Shakerley. During the battle between Poyntz and sir Marmaduke Langdale on Rowton Heath, col. Shakerley was commissioned to carry the intelligence of an advantage of the Royalists to the king in Chester, then beleaguered, and to avoid a troublesome circuit, crossed the Dee in a tub, his horse swimming at the side, and offered to carry back the king's commands in a quarter of an hour in the same manner. The king delayed, Poyntz rallied, and the royal cavalry were destroyed, which put an end to his Majesty's project of joining Montrose, who was then in force in Scotland.

The acquaintance of men of learning and virtue was his ambition and delight, and where he made a friendship he was sure of keeping it, being constant and unaffected in his devotion, honest and just in his actions, sincere and steady in his friendship, easy and polite in his manners, open and unsuspecting in his temper, spirited and inoffensive in his conversation.

Thus, possessed of every quality w^{ch} could make him agreeable and useful in private life, after a long and painful struggle, on the 2nd of February 1756, in the 73d year of his age, he died, as he lived, with a pious and patient resignation to the divine will.

Arms. Shakerley, impaling Bagot, Ermine, two chevrons Azure.

On a small stone before the altar-rails, almost defaced:

^b *Here lieth the body of Hugh Cholmondley, gent. first son of Thomas Cholmedeleigh, esquier, by Eliz. his wife, only daughter and heyr of Joh. Minshull, of Minshull, esquier, who departed this life 28 March 1625.*

Arms. Cholmondeley, impaling Minshull. Anteit non obiit^c.

In the chapel yard is a school-house, built in 1710, by the rev. R. Comberbach, minister, upon land given for that purpose by sir Francis Leicester, and subsequently endowed by him with £.645^d. The master is appointed by sir John Leicester. The charities specified in the parliamentary return have been amplified by the benefactions of Thomas Barton in 1799, and Mrs. Mary Antrobus in 1810, the interest of which is distributed in bread.

An account of the foundation of the chapel will be found in Bucklow hundred, p. 449. The curate is nominated by sir John Leicester, whose ancestor, sir Robert Leicester, increased the living by the gift of an estate in Alderley parish, on the condition that "the heir of Tabley" should enjoy such nomination^e. In 1809, the bishop of Chester returned the chapel as not augmented or charged, producing yearly from glebe, stipend, fee-farm rents, interest of benefactions, and surplice-fecs, £87. 4s. 5d. The registers begin in 1570.

ALLOSTOCK.

It rarely happens in this, or in any other county, that there should be a possibility of proving a manor to have passed through successive heirs of the same family, by an unbroken and undoubted descent, from the conquest to the present period; and it still more rarely occurs, that where Domesday is silent on the subject, any other existing documents should carry us beyond the confusion occasioned by the advent of the Normans, and preserve the name of the Saxon proprietor. In both these points Allostock is fortunate, if the traditional depositions given hereafter can be received as regular historical evidence.

In the examination of witnesses, on the part of sir Robert Grosvenor, at Nantwich, Oct. 1, 1386, with reference to the celebrated suit of arms between sir Richard le Scroope and sir Robert le Grosvenor, John de Holford deposes on oath: "Qu'un des progenitors du dit Jurré vient en le temps de Conquest, ouesq. Hugh de Louf, Cont de Cestre, et après le Conquest mesme celuy Hugh departa le seigneurie de Lostocke de un Hame qui fuist occis en le batail a Nampwich, et dona une parte du dit seigneurie a monsieur Hugh Ronchamp, progenitour du dit Jurré, q'est appellé Nether Lostock, et l'autre parte il dona a Robert Fitz monsieur Gilbert de Grosvenour appellé Over Lostocke^a."

The following testimony was given by the abbot of Vale Royal in 1389, relative to the relationship of the founder of this family to the Norman earl of Chester, and the lineal descent of the claimant from Gilbert Grosvenor.

^b "Estephane, l'abbé de la Vale Royall, del ordre de Cisteux, del age xl ans, et puis, admis Jurré et diligeaument examiné de et sur le droit de monsieur Robert le Grosvenour de porter les dits armez (c'est assavoir de Azure oue un bend d'Or), dit que les dits armes appertinent de droit au dit monsieur Robert le Grosvenour; requis coment il sciet, dit q'il ad view en Chronicles et auciens scriptures et autres monuments de son monstre, que *Hugh Loufe, counte du Cestre, le premier après la conquest, neveu de William le Conquerour d'Engleterre, vient en Engleterre oue William le Conquerour susdit: et ouesq' le dit Hugh le counte vient un Gilbert le Grosvenour, neveu de dit Hugh, armé en les armes susditz (c'est assavoir, Azure, oue un bend d'or), et mesmes les armes tanque a sa mort il usoit: de luy quel Gilbert descendist Robert son fitz et heir, et mesmes les armes porta, et per son temps yceaux usa: et du dit Robert vient un Henry, de quel Henry vient un Raufe, et de mesme celuy Raufe vient Richard, d'icell Richard vient Robert, du dit Robert vient autre Robert, d'icell Ro-*

^b The words in italics are restored from Harl. MSS. 2151. 7. 6. Hugh Cholmondeley here interred, is the only member of the house of Vale Royal whose burial-place had escaped the investigation of the late dean of Chester, when occupied in drawing up the pedigree given in Edisbury Hundred, p. 78.

^c In Harl. MSS. 2151. p. 7. are noticed the following monumental inscriptions, &c. now destroyed, but existing in this chapel March 8, 1589.

In the East window of the chancel, the arms of Holford, quartering Bulkeley and Tuft:

Orate p' a'v'abus Lawrencii Warren, arm. Margeria, et Isabella, consortis sue, et Joh'is Warren militis.

Orate p' bono statu Georgii Holforde militis, et d'ne Isabelle consortis suæ, q'ndam uxor' Laurencii Warren a'no D'ni 1494.

The arms of Grosvenor quartering Pulford and impaling Leycester, within a bordure Or. The position of the coats impaled being inverted.

Under the arms of Bulkeley, Orate p' bono statu Roland' Bulkeley, et Alicie uxoris ejus.

Under the arms of Holford, impaling Brereton with quarterings, Orate p' bono statu Joh'is Hulford mil. et D'ne Margerie ux' ejus, et Joh'is, X'p'or, James, et Ales, et Ellyn.

Orate p' bono statu Joh'is Holford et Margery, his wife, d' and sole her's of Raphe Breton, esq. Joh'es, James, Ales, et Ellyn. filies p'dic' John et Marg'y. This transcript is given literally from Randle Holmes' copy.

Under the arms of Browne (Sable, a lion rampant Argent, debruised by a bend componè Argent and Gules, within a bordure Or), and Brown impaling Mainwaring:

Pray for sir Thomas Browne, knight, and for Katherin his wife, which caused this window to be glassed.

^d Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^e Ibid.

^a Extracts from the MS. account of pleadings in this suit, in the possession of the Grosvenors of Eaton, taken by sir Peter Leycester, and collated by him with the original in the Tower of London. Tabley MSS. C. 126. ll.

^b Ibid. 125. bb. This deposition is corroborated by the manor of Allostock having been held from the court of Weverham, and consequently from the earl, and not from a mesne proprietor, until that manor was granted, with its dependencies, to Vale Royal Abbey.

bert vient Raufe, et de mesme celuy Raufe vient monsieur Robert Grosvenour q'ore est defendant." This deduction of descent agrees with the pedigrees drawn by Vernon and sir Peter Leycester from the Grosvenour deeds in possession of the Shakerley and Leycester families, and is the basis of the following account.

III. Henry Grosvenor, son and heir of Robert Grosvenor of Over Lostock, according to this deposition, has not occurred in any other document.

IV. Raufe Grosvenor, next in descent, is said to have engaged in 1141, on the part of his kinsman and local prince Randle II. in the battle of Lincoln, being there armed with the arms before mentioned, and to have been also engaged in the battle in which the said earl was taken prisoner in 1143. This Raufe is stated by the abbot of Vale Royal to be father of Richard Grosvenor, which Richard will be afterwards proved to be called, in an important deed, "*filius Ranulfi Grossevenatoris*." Sir Peter Leycester, in his subjoined MS. pedigree^d, calls this person "Raufe or Randle Grosvenor;" but it may be observed that the names are distinct, though easily confounded^e, and the reader must be left to his conjectures whether he will make this Raufe and Randle one person, whose name has been variously written, or whether he will make two generations here. This latter arrangement would accord better with dates, as it is difficult (though not insurmountably so) to suppose Raufe Grosvenor engaged at Lincoln in 1141, the father of Richard Grosvenor living 1269.

Collins introduces another generation in a manner contradictory both to the preceding deposition and positive evidence, in making Richard *grandson* of Raufe, and *son of Robert Grosvenor*, who was stated in the course of the trial respecting the arms to have accompanied Richard I. to the Holy Land in 1190, and to have used the disputed coat at Messina, at Cyprus, at the taking of Acon, and the relief of Joppa. Considering the deed hereafter quoted as positive evidence that Randle Grosvenor was the father of Richard, this Robert must be looked for in a collateral line. The kindred family of Grosvenor of Little Budworth cannot be traced higher than this period; and it is probable that its earliest known ancestor, *Robert Grosvenor*, grantee of a forestership in Mara and Mondrem from Hugh Kevelioke, in or shortly before 1160, was brother of this Randle. Whether he, or his son of the same name, was the partner of the glorious exploits of Richard I. is more than conjectural inferences will permit the affirmation of.

V. Richard son of Randle Grosvenor (according to

deeds, of Raufe according to the abbot of Vale Royal, and of Raufe or Randle according to sir Peter Leycester,) was grantee of Hulme, the subsequent seat of his descendants, from Gram de Lostock in 1234, by the charter subjoined^f, with which the series of sir Peter Leycester's MS. collections of original deeds on this subject commences; to the same Richard Grosvenor, Richard de Chornoc quitclaims two bovates of lands in Hulme by a deed witnessed among others by Roger de Montalt justiciary of Chester 1247^g; and the said Richard occurs for the last time in 1269, in an agreement with the prior of Norton respecting the chapel of Nether Peover^h.

VI. Robert le Grosvenor occurs as Robert, son of Richard le Grosvenour, in a grant of lands from Richard, son of Richard de Lostock, without dateⁱ; and again, in a grant from John, son of Alan de Lostock, of all his lands in Allostocke, together with all the right of the said John in the same^k. This deed was inrolled at Chester in 1284. The said Robert occurs likewise with Margery his wife, in a grant from Adam de Merton, of all his lands in Allostock in an exchange^l; and Robert and his said wife also appear in several documents relating to Little Meoles and Hilbree^m, of which they were capital lords, in right of the hundred of Caldeyⁿ.

The paramount rights of Allostock had now passed from the earldom to the abbey of Vale Royal, as an appurtenance of the court of Weverham, and accordingly (as appears by the Leger Book^o) this Robert Grosvenor, styled "of Ruddethe," did homage to the abbot for the same, and acknowledged in open court, the circumstances of the tenure.

Robert Grosvenor had issue, . . . wife of Simon Cotton of Cotton Edmunds, and Robert son and heir. He was sheriff of Cheshire 12, 13, and 14 Edw. I.

VII. Robert Grosvenor of Holme son and heir, was under age 21 Edw. I. in which year the abbot defended his right to the wardship of the said Robert, against Richard de Lostock, who claimed the same in consequence of lands in Allostock, having been granted to the Grosvenors by Gram de Lostock^p. In 34 Edw. I. he occurs in two trust deeds relating to his manor of Allostock, with his first wife Margery^q, who appears to have been a Vernon of Shipbrooke. His second wife was Emma, daughter of William de Mobberley, coheir to her mother, Maud, daughter and heiress of Robert Downes of Chorley. In right of this wife he had lands in Chorlegh and Werford^r, and he also purchased from the family of Heartgreave one-third of Over Alderley in

^c Collins erroneously states the foundation charter of Chester abbey to be witnessed, among others, by "*Ranulph le Grosvenor and Ernoise le Grosvenor*." The signatures are "*Ranulpho Venatore, Ernoiso Venatore*," which cannot be proved to designate any particular family, but are most likely to refer to kinsmen of Gilbert Venables, who is called Venator in Domesday. The same author asserts, without the slightest authority, that Ranulfus Venator, the grantor of Bressford (who appears in earl Richard's charter), and Radulfus, grantor of lands in Brochetune (in Hugh Lupus's charter), were of this family; and is positively wrong in a similar assertion with respect to the grants of part of Lostocke, Contintune, and Lay, which were given by Hugh Fitz Norman, founder of the barony of Montalt, and his brother Radulphus. See Collins, vol. VII. p. 505. edit. 1768; and pp. 12, 13, 15, and 17, Hist. of Chesh. vol. I.

^e Both names are common in Cheshire, and Booth often confounds them in his pedigrees. In the course of compiling this Work, however, the Author can truly say, that he has never seen Ranulphus substituted for Radulphus, or vice versa, in any original charter, or in any authentic copy of a charter.

^f *Sciunt presentes et futuri quod ego Gramus de Lostock dedi et concessi et hac presenti charta mea confirmavi Richardo filio Ranulphi Grossevenatoris totam terram in Hulme infra sepes, quam Richardus filius Mauricii et David filius Adæ tenuerunt, cum comuna pasturæ pro homagio et servicio suo, habendam et tenendam de me et heredibus meis, sibi et heredibus suis libere et quietè, &c. His testibus, Ricardo de Sonbach, Ricardo de Wibbenbury, tunc vicecomite Cestriæ, Roberto Grossevenatore, Ranulpho clerico de Ruston, Ranulpho de Horton, Rogero de Kegworth, Ada Personâ de Limme, Hugone de Bostoc, et multis aliis. Tabley MSS. c. 120. This purchase has been often mistaken for the first settlement of the Grosvenors in Allostock.*

^h See Bucklow Hundred, p. 449. The agreement is given at length in Tabley MSS. lib. C. 120.

ⁱ Tabley MSS. C. 120. d.

^k Ibid. 121. g.

^l Ibid. e.

^m See Wirral Hundred, pp. 273, 275.

ⁿ This is ascertained by the following document. Their possession of Caldey was probably for life only, by grant from the earl, and was anterior to the acquisition of it by the Mertons of Merton. "*Willielmus Lancelin inter alia tenet Parvam Meoles de Roberto le Grosvenour et Margeria uxore ejus per octavam partem unius feodi militis et per servitium unius sectæ ad faciendum . . . curiæ de Kilday. Val. p. ann. c sol. Esc. et Inq. it E. I. m. 98.*

^o See Edisbury Hundred, p. 82.

^p Plac. ap. Cest. eod. anno.

^q Tabley MSS. C. 121. h. i.

^r Ibid. 121. o. p. q.

1337^s. This Robert Grosvenor served in the wars in Scotland, under king Edward II.

Emma Grosvenor was living a widow 16 and 47 Edw. III.^t She had issue by her husband, Ralph, son and heir, Robert Grosvenour, second son, who bought lands in Chorley in 1349, and had a grant of lands in Nether Peover from his mother Emma^u. The said Emma was wife of Robert Grosvenor, 16 Edw. II. in which year the estate of the said Robert was settled on the issue of this marriage, if any; remainder, in case of default, to William, son of Symon Cotton; remainder to William, son of sir Ralph Vernon of Shipbrook; remainder to Richard and Robert Vernon successively, his uterine brothers^x.

VIII. Ralph Grosvenor, son and heir, occurs 20 Edw. III. in a deed, whereby John, son of Thomas Fitz-Henry of Ruddeheath, (trustee) releases to Ralph, son of Robert le Grosvenour and his heirs, and to Emma, widow of Robert Grosvenor, all his right to lands in Lostock Gramam, &c.^y; the said Ralph married Joane daughter of to whom ("to Raufe my sonne and Joane his wife") Emme le Grosvenour releases lands, &c. in Over Alderley 16 Edw. III.^z

Ralph Grosvenor died in or before 30 Edw. III.

IX. Sir Robert Grosvenor, knight, was the issue of this marriage, and being under age at the time of his father's death, became ward of sir John Daniell, who married him to his daughter Joan. She either died before she came to maturity, or before she had any issue by him, and he subsequently married Joan, daughter of sir Robert Pulford, and sister and heiress of John Pulford, being widow of Thomas, son of John de Belgreave.

In the last expedition of king Edward III. into France, the first dispute occurred relative to the Grosvenor coat, sir Robert being yet a minor, and a challenge was made by his guardian, as appears by the deposition of John Leycester of Toft, "Monsieur Johan Danyell chalangea les dits armes en noun du dit Monsieur Robert, q'i avoit espousè la fille du dit Monsieur Johan Danyell, encontre un esquier de Cornewall appelle Carminow." This coat of Carminow, was also challenged in 1346, by sir Richard le Scrope, but in this cause both parties were allowed to retain their arms.

The subsequent dispute between sir Robert le Grosvenour and sir Richard le Scrope, was tried before the constable and marshall of England, beginning in the tenth year of the reign of king Richard II. and ending in the thirteenth of the same reign. On the part of sir Richard Grosvenor nearly all the knights and gentlemen of Cheshire and Lancashire were examined, with several of the abbots and other clergy^a, all of whom deposed to the usage of the arms by the Grosvenors, and to having seen it painted on windows, standards, and monuments, in twenty-four churches, chapels, and monasteries in Cheshire: the family charters and deeds, with

seals appendant exhibiting the same bearing, were produced before the court, and it was stated on the authority of chronicles and monastic records that all the ancestors of sir Robert had used the same coat from time immemorial, and more particularly that it was used by Gilbert le Grosvenor at the Conquest, by Raufe le Grosvenor at the battle of Lincoln, by Robert le Grosvenor in the Crusade under Richard I., by Robert le Grosvenor in the Scotch wars under Edward II. by another Robert at Cressy, and in other battles under Edward III., and by the claimant sir Robert himself as harbinger to sir James d'Audley, lieutenant to the Black Prince, and in Berry, Algayne, at the tower of Brose, at the siege of Rochsirian in Poictou, in Guienne, at Viers in Normandy, at the battle of Poictiers, at the battle of Najara in Spain, in 1367; and lastly at the battle of Limoges in 1370, in the service of the Black Prince.

On the part of sir Richard Scrope were examined, the duke of York, John king of Castile and Leon, duke of Lancaster, the earls of Derby, Arundel, and Northumberland, the lords Ponings, Basset, Clifford, Darcy, Dacre, Grey of Ruthin, and Scales, beside many abbots, and an infinite number of knights and gentlemen, among whom was the famous Geoffry Chaucer, then aged 40 years^b. The most material witnesses for the descent of Scrope were John Yeversley, canon of the priory of Bridlington; and Thomas Wilton, prior of Berdenay, who deposed, along with John Worebriggs, his monk, that sir Richard was descended from "Richardus Scrobi filius," mentioned by Roger Hoveden, to be living in 1052 and 1067^c.

"Both the sayd partyes proved their auncestores had successively borne the same coate of armes, from the tyme of the Norman Conquest to that present; but sir Richard Scroope overweighing the other with powerfull friends, had the coate awarded to him in these words:"

"Nous Thomas Fitz au Roy, duc de Gloucester, count de Buckingham et de Essex, conestable d'Engleterre, oiez et bien entenduz les merits et desertes de la cause sur le droit d'armes, d'Azure oue une bend d'Or, q'est moevè et pendant devant nous en nostre courte, entre Richard le Scrop chivaler, acteur de une part, et Robert Grosvenour chivaler, d'autre part, entrehez auxi et diligentement enquys toute la processe del dit cause, &c.—les dits armes d'Azure oue une bend d'Or, avoir estez et estre les armes du dit Richard Scroope, chivalier, et a luy avoir pertinè et pertiner per ceste nostre sentence diffinitive pronunciouns et declarouns, et mesmes les armes a luy aviggeons, &c.—et outre ce pur tant que de la partie du dit Robert avons trouves grandes evidences et presumpcions semblables en sa defence des dits armes, au mesme la cause, de nostre office, oue l'avys de mareschall, et notre conseil de chivalrie, les armes d'Azure oue une bend d'Or, oue une plaine bordure d'Argent, a dit Robert Grosvenour esgardons et ordeignons."

^s Tabley MSS. 128.

^t Ibid. 122. t. et 127, t. v. The seal attached to the grant of Emma has Moberley impaled with the bend coat of Grosvenor. Collins styles him (Robert son of Robert) sir Robert, and erroneously states him to be father of Ralph Grosvenor, who was his elder brother. He was most probably, however, the Robert Grosvenor said to have been present at the battle of Cressy and the sieges of Vannes and Calais, vol. Vif. p. 507. edit. 1768.

^u These were the children of sir Ralph Vernon, by Maud Grosvenor.

^y Tabley MSS. C. 121. k.

^z Ibid. 121. n.

^a The names of the witnesses are given by Collins, vol. VII. p. 607. edit. 1768. An examination of witnesses took place at Nantwich in the course of the proceedings, May 6, 12 Rich. II. Walter Leycester, serjeant at arms, by virtue of the king's writ, to him directed, summoned sir Robert Grosvenor to appear before the king, or his commissioners, at the house of the Friars Preachers in London, on the last day of the same month.

^b The suit of Scrope and Grosvenor is only incidentally mentioned in Godwin's Life of Chaucer; but he gives the testimony of the poet in favour of Scrope, the conclusion of which is too remarkable to be omitted, and is not without the appearance of being a humorous fiction, to excite a smile in behalf of his friend—"Demandez, s'il oiait unques dascun interruption ou chalange fait par mons. Robert Grovenor, ou par cez auncestres, ou par ascun en son nom, a dit mons. Richard, ou a ascun de cez auncestres, dist,—Que noun; mes il dist qil estoit une foitz en Friday Strete en Loundres, com il alast en la rewe il vist pendant hors une novell signe faitz dez diz armez; et demandast quele herbergerie ceo estoit, qui avoit pendu hors cestez armes du Scrop, et un aut' luy respondist et dit, Neuyt, seigneur ils ne sount mys prenduz hors pour les armez de Scrope, ne depeynte la pour cez armez, mes ils sount depeynte et mys la pour une chivaler del counte de Chestre, que homme appelle mons. Robert Grovenor; et ceo fuist le primer foitz, que unques il oiait parler de mons. Robert Grovenor, ou de cez auncestres, ou de ascun autre portant le noun de Grovenor.

^c Tabley MSS. lib. C. 126, 127.

“ But although the said Sir Robert Grosvenour had this coat also awarded to him with the difference of a bordure, yet he refused the same, and took unto him the coate of Azure une garbe d'Or; which coate his heyres and successours have ever since borne to this present, *scorninge to beare the other coate with a difference*.”

Inq. p. m. 20 R. II. Robert de Grosvenor, chivaler, held in demesne, as of fee, the *manor of Allostock*, cum pert. from the abbot of Vale Royal in socage, by the render of xiiij s. per ann. and by the service of finding one judger for the abbot's court of Weverham yearly, val. per ann. £.xx; and in the same manner the *manor of Hulme*, cum pert. held from John Holford in socage by services unknown, val. per ann. x marks; also lands in Nether Peover, Henbury, Pexhull, Over Alderlegh, and Kettleshulme; and held also by courtesy, after the death of Johanna his late wife, a carucate of land in Dunham Massie: Thomas, son of the said Robert and Johanna, next heir.

X. Thomas Grosvenor succeeded to large maternal estates, in addition to the ample patrimony of the Grosvenor family. In another part of this Work, the descent of the Pulford estates has been given from original evidences^d; but the examination of the Grosvenor deeds, collected by sir Peter Leycester, supplies some additional and curious documents relative to the manner in which the Pulford estates were *finally* assured to the Grosvenors.

The marriage of Joan de Pulford, mother of Thomas Grosvenor, with her first husband, Thomas de Belgrave, took place in her minority, when she was ward of the earl, in consequence of her lands in Dunham Massy being held from the earldom by military service. The marriage took place without the licence of the earl, and for this breach of feudal privileges Thomas de Belgrave was fined 400 marks. The fine appears to have been paid by instalments of 50 marks each, one of which was paid 35 Edw. III. and the third payment occurs in the Ministers accounts, 37, 38 Edw. III. £166. 13s. 4d. being then due. The inquisition taken 35 Edw. III. states Joan to be 14 years of age.

It has been stated in the account of Pulford, that the estates of the family of that name were settled 40 Edw. III. on the issue of this marriage, Maud, Elizabeth, and Joan, and the heirs of the latter, that after the death of Thomas, son of John de Belgreave, and most probably after that of his issue, Joan de Pulford and her second husband sir Robert Grosvenor attempted to set aside this settlement 12 Ric. II. and that Thomas Grosvenor, issue of this second marriage, succeeded. It appears, however, (although this settlement, marriage, and succession, took place as stated) that one of the coheirs of Belgreave^e did marry and had issue Robert Legh of Adlington, and that it was deemed necessary

that this Robert Legh should relinquish his claims in favour of sir Thomas Grosvenor, which relinquishment was made with the following unusual ceremonies, devised, probably, from a wish to add to its impressiveness and notoriety^f.

On the 24th of April 1412, sir Thomas le Grosvenor, kt. Robert son of sir Robert Legh, kt. and Henry de Birtheles, counsel of sir Thomas le Grosvenor, read in Macelesfield chapel a series of deeds relating to successive settlements by the Pulford family of the manors of Buerton juxta Salghton, Claverton, and Pulford, the advowson of Pulford, lands in Middle Aldersey, Crooke Aldersey, and Cawarthyn, the fourth part of the manor of Cholleghe, and the eighth part of the manor of Broxton. By these settlements it appears that the said estates were settled on John, son of Robert de Pulford; remainder for life to Johanna his mother; remainder to Robert his son and his wife Isabella^g; remainder to their issue; remainder in default of issue to the right heirs of John.

After the reading of these deeds, it was stated, that sir Robert Legh, and Isabella his wife, and their son Robert Legh, pretended a right to these estates, under a settlement by Thomas de Belgreave and Joan his wife (daughter of Robert, and sister and heir of Joan de Pulford); and to settle family differences that it had been agreed that sir Thomas Grosvenor should take a solemn oath on the body of Christ, in the presence of twenty-four gentlemen, or as many as he wished.

Accordingly Robert del Birches, chaplain, whom Robert de Legh had brought with him, celebrated a mass of the Holy Trinity, and consecrated the Host, and after the mass (albo cum amielo, stolâ, et manipulo indutus) held forth the Host before the altar, whereupon sir Thomas Grosvenor knelt before him, whilst the settlements were again read by James Holt, counsel of Robert de Legh, and then swore upon the Lord's body, that he believed in the truth of these charters. Immediately after this, sir Laurence Merbury, knight, sheriff, and fifty-seven of the principal knights and gentlemen of Cheshire, affirmed themselves singly to be witnesses of the oath, all elevating their hands at the same time towards the Host. This first part of the ceremony concluded with sir Thomas Grosvenor receiving the sacrament, and Robert Legh and sir Thomas kissing each other, “ in affirmationem concordie prædictæ.”

Immediately after this Robert Legh acknowledged the right of all the said lands to be vested in sir Thomas Grosvenor and his heirs, and an instrument to that effect was accordingly drawn up by the notary Roger Salghall, in the presence of the clergy undermentioned, and attested by the seals and signatures of the fifty-eight knights and gentlemen whose names are also mentioned below^h. Seldom will the reader find a more goodly groupe collected together, nor will he easily

^c It appears desirable to give this in the words of sir Peter Leycester, a representative and descendant of sir Robert Grosvenor, who appears to have entered into his ancestor's feelings on the subject.

^d See Broxton Hundred, p. 461.

^e Isabella, *not named* in the settlement 40 Edw. III. *Qu.?* Whether born after that settlement (under which she would still inherit), or whether this is not another instance of the eternal confusion of the names *Isabella* and *Elisabetha* in the old evidences.

^f Tabley MSS. lib. C: 116. Transcribed at length by sir Peter Leycester from the original instrument in the custody of Peter Dutton, of Hatton, esq. drawn up by Robert Salghall, public notary.

^g This Robert, who was contracted to Isabella, died an infant before the death of his father, and the *Inq.* 35 Edw. III.

^h Clergy. Roger le Venables, rector of Rosthorne, Hugh de Faryngton, rector of Davenham, baec. dec. William Prydyn, rector of Gawsforth, and others. Knights and gentlemen. Sir Laurence de Merbury, William de Brereton, William de Stanlegh, John de Poll, Laurence Fitton, Hugh le Venables of Kinderton, John de Delves, William le Venables of Kinderton, William de Brereton, jun. William de Egerton, Hugh de Dutton, Randle le Maynwaringe, Ralph de Davenport, Laurence le Wareyn, Philip de Egerton, John de Wbitmore, Adam de Bostocke, Robert de Wynnington, John Done of Utkinton, Richard de Manley, Matthew del Mere, John de Manley, Richard de Bulkeley de Chedle, Thomas Danyel, John Legh de Legh, John son of Randle de Maynwaringe, Hugh de Davenport, Robert de Davenport, Nicolas de Davenport, Richard de Werberon, Ralph de Bostocke, Thomas Starky, Peter Starky, Urian de Egerton, Hugh le Egerton, David de Scintpeir, David de Crue, John de Woodhou,

devise a ceremony which would assort better with the romantic spirit of the time, and which thus turned a dry legal conveyance into an exhibition of chivalrous pageantry.

Sir Thomas Grosvenor married to his first wife Joan (or Catherine) daughter and heiress of sir William Pheasant, according to Glover and Smith, by whom he had Robert Grosvenor, Ralph (ancestor of the Grosvenors of Eaton), Thomas, and Randle, and two daughters. To his second wife he married Joan, daughter of sir Richard Venables of Kinderton, who married, after her husband's death, sir Thomas Booth of Barton, as appears by a plea at Chester, 12 Hen. VI. between Henry, abbot of Vale Royal, and the said sir Thomas, respecting a seizure of cattle, which the abbot had distrained upon within lands in Allostock, held by the said Joan in dowerⁱ.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VI. Thomas le Grosvenor, chivaler, held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Hulme from William de Holford, in socage, by services unknown, val. x marks: also the manors of Pulford and Buerton, a third part of the manor of Waverton, a fourth part of Cholleghe, and an eighth part of Broxton, and lands in Bancroft, Dunham Massy, Kettleshulme, Claverton, Aldersey, Elton, Sudlow Moss, and Nether Peover. Robert Grosvenor son and heir.

XI. Robert Grosvenor, son and heir, married Joan, daughter of sir Laurence Fitton of Gawsworth, by whom he had six daughters. His will is dated Jan. 8, 1464, and in this he directs that his body shall be buried at Nether Peover, and bequeaths his best animal, and his purchased lands in Allostock, to provide a chaplain to say mass for the souls of himself, his wife, and his heirs, in a chapel to be built for that purpose. He leaves 10 marks to his brother Randle, and several other legacies, and makes his wife Johanna executrix and residuary legatee. The seal a talbot's head erased.^k

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. IV. Robert Grosvenor, esq. held the manors and shares of manors specified in the last Inquisition, and lands in the townships there mentioned; also in Chester, Knutsford, Allostock, Northwich, Over Alderley, and Middlewich. Elizabeth wife of Peter Dutton, Emma wife of John Leigh, Agnes le Grosvenor, Margery le Grosvenor, Katherine wife of Richard Wynington, and Margaret wife of Thomas

Leycester, daughters and coheirresses.

The lands were divided among the coheirs as follows^l: 1. Elizabeth, wife of Peter Dutton, had Claverton; 2. Emma, wife of John Legh of Booths, had Hulme, or all the demesne lands of Allostock, except Pygreve Wood; 3. Agnes, wife of William Stanley of Hooton, had Buerton and three messuages in Dunham Massy; 4. Margery had the manor of Allostock, and two-thirds of Pygreve Wood; 5. Katherine, wife of Richard Winnington, had the manor of Pulford; and 6. Margaret, wife of Thomas Leycester of Tabley, had the estates in Nether Peover and Over Alderley, one-third of Pygreve Wood in Allostock, and lands in Hope juxta Alstonfield in Staffordshire.

The succession of the coheirs was opposed by their eldest uncle, Ralph Grosvenor, and an award was made in favour of the former, by William Stanley, William Bouthe, and Thomas Manley, knights, June 29, 9 Edw. IV. 1464.^m

Subsequent to the before-mentioned division, Margery Grosvenor died unmarried, and her estates were divided among her sisters. In consequence of this partition Allostock became the property of the sisters who had married LEGH of BOOTHs, and LEYCESTER of TABLEY. Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of John Legh of Booths, and granddaughter of Emma Grosvenor, brought the property of her family in Allostock to her husband, GEOFFREY SHAKERLEY, esq. of Shakerley in Lancashire, whose descendants made Hulme in this township their residence.

These shares are thus noticed in the Inquisitions.

SHAKERLEY SHARE. *Inq. p. m.* 1 Edw. VI. Geoffry Shakerley, esq. held lands and tenements in Allostock from the heirs of Richard de Lostock, in socage by fealty, val. xxi. xiiid.; lands in Nether Peover and Lostock Gram; and held also the manor of Hulme and Sandley Moss, and xs. rent, and one pair of white gloves, issuing from lands in Allostock, from the heirs of Richard Lostock of Lostock Gram, in socage by fealty, val. xiiii. iiii s.; and also the manor or grange of Byley, and Lache Denys, val. tot. £46. 10s. 3d. ob. Obiit Jan. 5, 1 Edw. VI. Peter Shakerley son and heir.ⁿ

Inq. p. m. 1 and 2 Phil. and Mary. Peter Shakerley held the manor and capital messuage of Hulme, and

John de Choimondeleg', Hugh del Malpas, Roger del Mulynton, William de Bestone, Henry de Spurstowe, John de Kyngesleg', Rubert de Hassal, John le Bressy, William de Leycester, Robert de Toft, Robert de Overton, John de Brereton, John de Wynington, William son of Richard del Mere, Tho. de Cotton, Hugh de Cotton, Robert de Nedeham, William de Frodesham, Henry de Birtheles, and Thomas de Haslyngton.

ⁱ This Joan Venables, according to sir Peter Leycester and Vernon, was the mother of Robert Grosvenor, and is also described as such in an ancient MS. quoted by Vernon, in the possession of sir George Booth, p. 173, d.

^k Tabley MSS. C. 130.

^l Ibid. C. 131, 132.

^m In sir Peter Leycester's MSS. is a copy of the award as far as respects his ancestor, and he presumes that each coheir had a similar one. The arbiters in consequence of having "seene many fayre evidences shewed by the sayd Thomas Leycester provinge that the landes of the sayd Robert Grosvenor have been tailed on old tyme to the heyres generall of the Grosvenours, and nothing shewn on the part of the sayde Raufe which (they conceyve) doth prejudice the title of the sayd Thomas Leycester, &c." award the lands in debate to the said Thomas, leaving Ralph power to sue for the same, if he can hereafter find further evidence; also they award "by reason of the greute unkindness that hath beene betweene the sayd parties, for the establishment of faithfull love and alliance betweene them,—and for no right that the sayd Raufe yet shews, they ordeine the said Thomas Leycester and Margaret, and the heyres of the body of the sayd Margaret, to pay yearely unto the sayd Raufe during his life, on the high altar in the church of St. Mary upon the Hill in Chester, £2. 17s. 10d. at the feasts of the translation of St. Thomas the Martyr, and St. Martin in Winter, by even portions."

ⁿ "A^o 1536, 27 Hen. VIII. Geoffrey Shakerley, of Shakerley, esq. made his will, &c. His bodie to be buried in the chappell of St. Trinitie in the p'ish of Leigh, &c. whereby it appears that Isabell was his wyfe, Peter was his son'e and heire, Robt. Tho. and John, his three yong'r sonns, Wm. Shakerley his uncle, and Francis his brother; and that *Lawrens Holland, gent. was his father-in-law*, and y^t he had three daughters, &c.; and made Isabell his wyfe, Thos. Holte, esq. and Nichs. Longley, gent. and his sone Peter, executors; sir Wm. Venables, knt. Jo. Atherton, esq. and sir Wm. Longley, p'son of Prestich, sup'visors."

The Cheshire pedigrees omit all mention of a first wife, proved by this extract from the Shakerley MSS. No. 13. (communicated by Holland Watson, esq.) who must have been daughter of Lawrence Holland, a younger brother of the Denton family. From the following extract from the same collection, it is most probable that she was mother of the issue of George Shakerley; but as that is not positively proved, the line of the descent, in the pedigree subjoined, is brought from the father, leaving this point uncertain; but the first wife is restored to her place in the pedigree.

"Peers (Peter) Shakerley, son and heir of the said Geffrey, was bound to suffer Isabel, wife of the s'd Geffrey, Robt. Shakerley, Thos. Shakerley, and John Shakerley, sons of the said Geffrey (observe, not said to be sons of Isabel), and Bonaventure Shakerley, brother of the said Geffrey, to receive all rents and annuities, &c. and Rd. Pilkinton, of Ryvington, gent. to receive the marriage portion of Ann Pilkinton, dau'r of the s'd Geffrey, as is owing, &c. according to certain covenants mentioned in a pair of indentures made betwixt sir Randolph Maynewaring and the above-named Peter."

lands in Lostock Gram, and Allostock, from the heirs of Richard de Lostock Gram, in fealty by socage, val. xli. vis. viiij. ; also the Grange of Biveley, and the manor or capital messuage thereof, and lands in Ov' Yathowses, and Nether Yathowses, val. xlv. iis. iij. Other lands in Hulme, Lostock Gram, and Allostock, settled on Peter and Elizabeth Shakerley, val. xliij. viis. ijd. and others granted to Elinor, Margery, and Dorothy, their daughters, val. xli. Obiit Jan. 6, a° p'd'to. Geoffry Shakerley son and heir.

LEYCESTER SHARE. *Inq. p. m.* 36 Hen. VIII. John Leycester of Over Tabley held, inter alia, lands in Allostock from the king, as of the dissolved abbey of Vale Royal, in socage, by the render of 1111s. vd. per ann. and suit to Weverham court, val. vii.

Inq. p. m. 19 Eliz. Peter Leicester of Tabley held,

inter alia, messuages and lands in Allostock from Thomas Holcroft, esq. as of his manor of Weverham, by tenure as in the last Inquisition, val. vii.

Inq. p. m. 24 Eliz. Peter Leicester, of Tabley, esq. held, inter alia, lands in Allostock, as in the preceding Inquisition. The tenures specified in these inquisitions ascertain the Shakerley share of Allostock to consist of the lands purchased from the Lostock family, and the Leicester share to be composed of those originally granted by the Earl to the Grosvenors; these shares have severally descended with the Somerford and Over Tabley estates, to C. W. J. Shakerley, esq. and sir J. F. Leicester, bart.; each share is considered a moiety of the manor, and a court baron is held for each by the respective proprietor. Hulme is not now considered a distinct manor.

GROSVENOR OF HULME, AND SHAKERLEY OF SHAKERLEY, HULME, AND SOMERFORD.

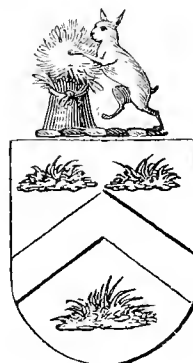
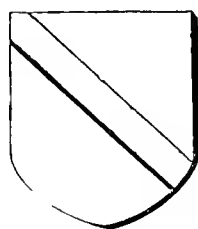
The GROSVENOR PEDIGREE is a literal transcript of a pedigree in the hand-writing of sir P. Leycester (Tabley MSS. lib. C. p 133, b.) drawn from the original evidences and deeds which form the basis of the preceding narrative. The continuation of it to the present proprietor of Hulme is from a pedigree communicated by C. W. J. Shakerley, esq. drawn by Vernon from family evidences, and enlarged from deeds, inquisitions, and parish registers.

ANTIEN ARMS OF GROSVENOR. Azure, a bend Or.

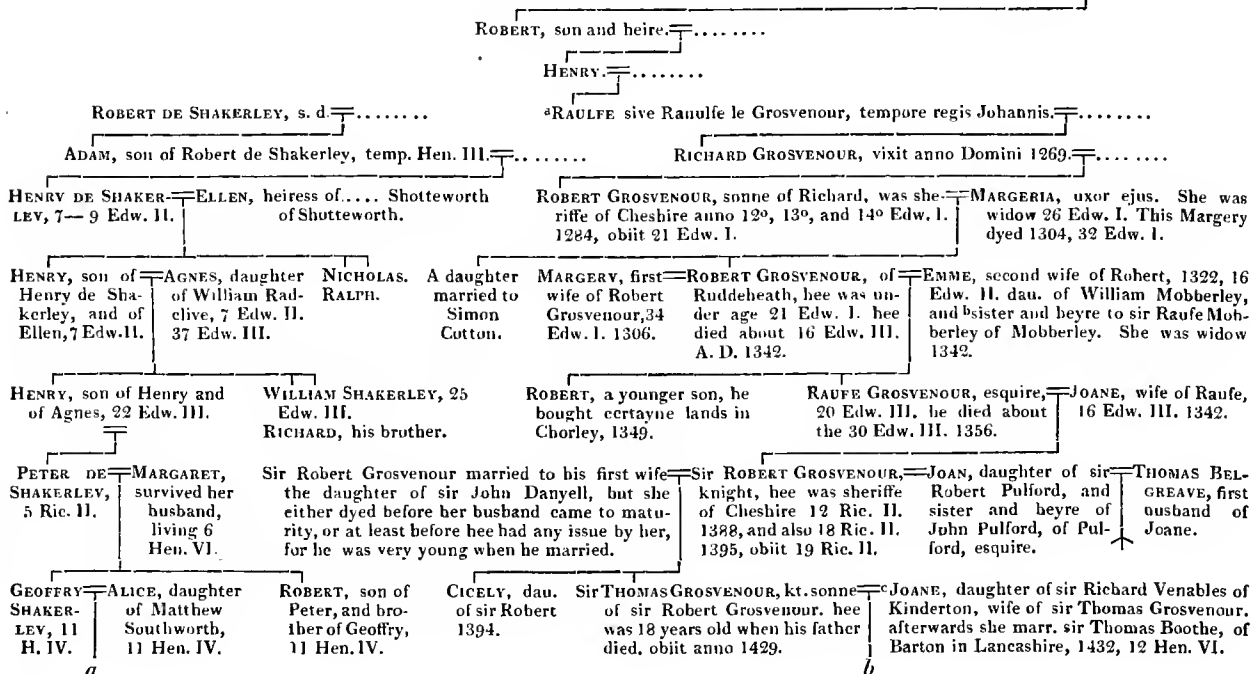
ARMS, assumed by sir Robert Grosvenor temp. Ric. II. Azure, a garb Or.

ARMS OF SHAKERLEY. Argent, a chevron Vert between three billocks of the second.

CREST. On a wreath a hare proper, resting her fore-feet on a garb Or.



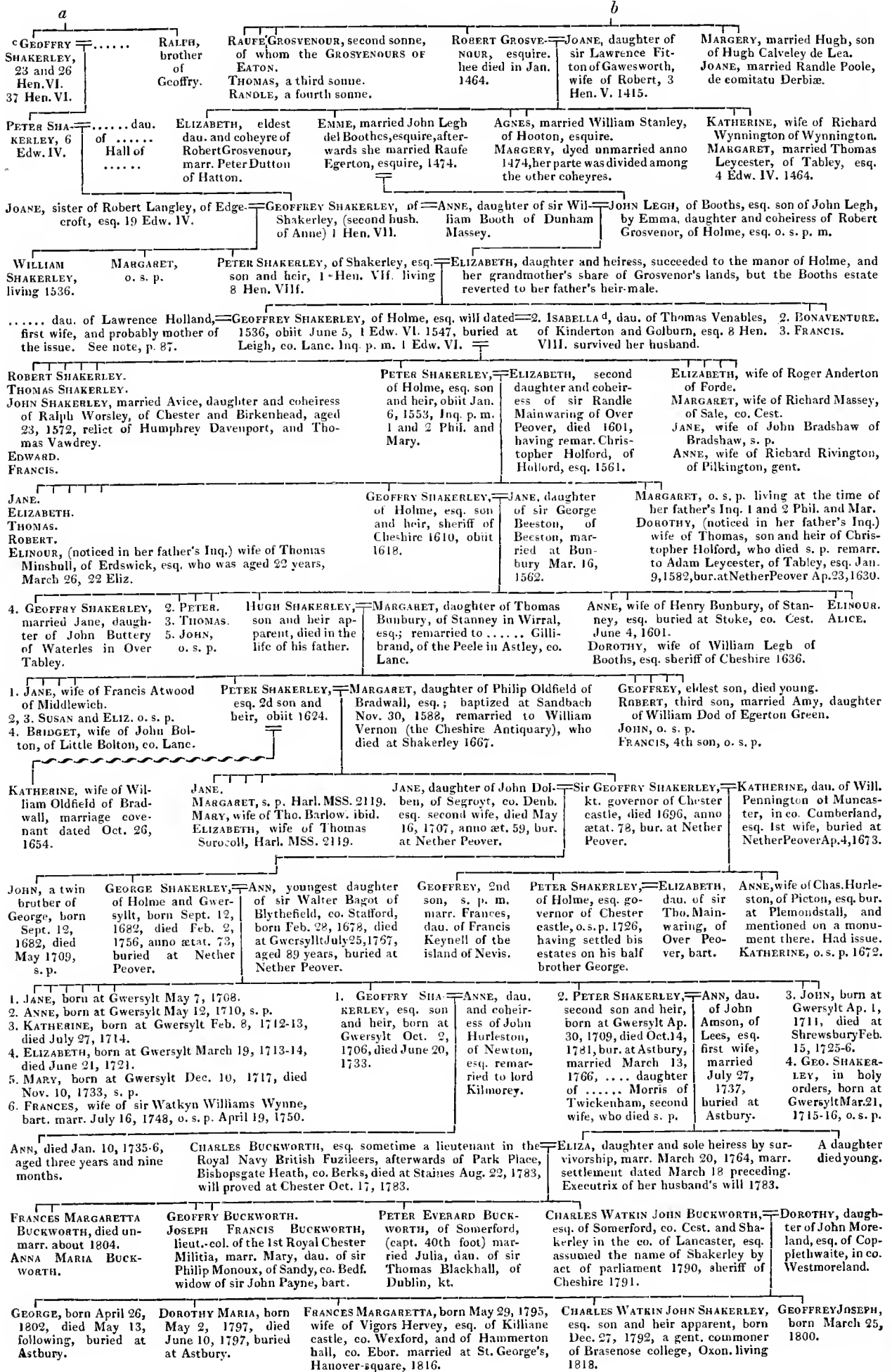
GILBERT LE GROSVENOUR, nephew to Hugh Lupus earle of Chester, came into England with the Conquerour.



^a Qu. whether not two descents. See p. 83, col. 1.

^b This was according to sir Peter Leycester's first arrangement of the Moberley pedigree, but should be "coheiress to her mother," instead of "sister and heyre to sir Raufe," to whom Emma Grosvenor was only half blood. See sir Peter Leycester's corrections of his former pedigree, p. 326, note, vol. I.

^c See the note (i) in p. 86, respecting this marriage, which differs from the other pedigrees.



^c The descents above this Geoffry differ materially from Booth's pedigree, which makes Geoffry son of Peter, son of Adam, son of Henry de Tyldesley, which Adam is described as a younger brother of de Tyldesley of Tyldesley, and elder brother of Henry Tildesley of Morleys Hall in Astley, ancestor of Tildesley of Morleys and Tyldesley of Wardley.

^d See note in p. 87.

HULME HALL lies nearly two miles south-west of the chapel of Nether Peover, in an extremely flat and secluded situation, which at a distant period probably added to its strength by swamps and natural thickets. The site of the hall itself is a parallelogram, containing about a statute acre, and defended by a moat averaging twenty yards in width. The water is crossed by a stone bridge of two arches, the projecting piers of which have been filled up with stone seats, placed in a point which would have been peculiarly disagreeable to the cleanly taste of the present day, as this side of the moat fronts a large range of antient barns and stables, forming, agreeably to old custom, the principal avenue to the house.

The mansion itself is said to have occupied, with its quadrangular court, nearly the entire space within the

moat. The kitchen part alone is remaining, which is composed of timber and plaister; the basement story extremely low, and supported by a huge obtuse arch of carved oak. This part of the building is mingled with modern farming offices, and the oldest fragments are probably later in date than the possession of the Shakerleys. The site, however, appears to be the original one.

The annexed pedigree brings down the descent of the Grosvenors, through the second coheirress of that family, to the present proprietor of Hulme hall and one moiety of Lostock. The pedigree of the Leicesters will be found in Over Tabley, in Bucklow Hundred; and the continuation of the male line from Ralph, second son of Robert Grosvenor of Hulme, esq. in the account of the township of Eaton in the Hundred of Broxton.

Parochial Chapelry of Witton.

NINE townships are comprehended in this division of the parish of Great Budworth; three of which, Castle Northwich, Hartford, and Winnington, have been described in the Hundred of Edisbury.

The remaining six are situated in this Hundred; and are, Witton cum Twembrook, Northwich, Lostock Gramam or Nether Lostock, Birches, Hulse, and Lache Denny.

This Chapelry also comprizes a small portion of Rudheath Lordship, the greater part of which is extra parochial.

WITTON CUM TWEMBROOK.

THE township of Witton is thus described in Domesday, as parcel of the estates of Gilbert Venables of Kinderton.

“Isdem Gislebertus (de Venables) tenet Witune; Dot tenuit et liber homo fuit; ibi una hida et dimidia geldabilis: terra est 11 carucarum: ibi unus francigena habet unam carucam, et 11 bovarios, et unum bordarium: ibi molinum de 111 solidis; valet vii solidos; wasta invenitur.”

Witton is subsequently noticed as follows, in the inquiries of the Venables family. It does not appear necessary to refer to the Kinderton chartulary on the subject, as it uniformly passed with that barony.

It is usually joined with the manor of “Le Crosse.”

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. V. Hugh Venables, of Kinderton, held in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Witton and Le Crosse, cum pert. from the king, as earl of Chester, in capite, by military service, val. per annum xxi.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VI. Cicely, widow of sir Ralph Radcliffe, knt. held in dower, inter alia, a third part of the manor of Witton, as before, val. x marks.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. sir Hugh Venables, kt. held, inter alia, as in the first mentioned inquisition, val. xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VII. William Venables, of Kinderton, esq. held, inter alia, as in the last inquisition, val. xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VII. Richard Cotton, esq. held,

inter alia, messuages and lands in Witton and Le Crosse, as before, val. xxi.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. Thomas Cotton, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Witton as before, and the manor of Crosse, severally valued at x1.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. Thomas Venables, esq. held, inter alia, the manors of Witton and Le Crosse, as before, val. £23.

Inq. p. m. 32 Hen. VIII. sir William Venables, knt. held, inter alia, messuages in Witton, val. 30s. and lands in Crosse as before, val. £18. 11s. 10d.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. sir Thomas Venables, of Kinderton, knt. held inter alia, as before, the manor of Witton, val. xvi.

Inq. p. m. 4 Jac. I. Thomas Venables, of Kinderton, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Witton, as before, val. x1. and lands therein val. vii11s.

The manor of Witton passed to the Vernon family, as parcel of Kinderton, and was sold by lord Vernon to sir Peter Leicester, of Tabley, bart. in whose son, sir John Fleming Leicester, bart. it is now vested. In the earlier ages of the barony of Kinderton it appears to have differed in no respect from the other dependencies of this great fee; but subsequently it became the head of several of those dependencies, forming a kind of petty honour under the greater one, and receiving that homage from several towns, which it owed itself to the head of the barony.

^a Salt-works in Northwich and “Le Ade Smythy” are enumerated among the appurtenances of the manor.

Sir John F. Leicester holds a court leet here for Witton cum Twembrooke, Marston, and Wincham; and at the same court he holds a court leet for the manors of Hartford and Castle Northwich in Edisbury hundred, at which the constables for those townships are appointed and sworn into office^b.

The township of Witton is situated adjacent to the confluence of the Weever and the Peover, and contiguous to the eastern side of the town of Northwich, the buildings of which extend into Witton.

THE PAROCHIAL CHAPEL of Witton is seated on elevated ground, near the bank of the Dane, communicating with Northwich by a low narrow avenue of pollard lime-trees. It consists of a tower embattled, but without pinnacles, containing six bells, a nave, chancel, and side-aisles, and a small chancel at the end of the south aisle. The entire church has roofs of oak richly carved, the dates 1686-8.

The nave is separated from the side-aisles by five pointed arches, over each of which are clerestory windows, obtusely pointed.

The arches of the nave are continued, one arch on each side, into the chancel. That on the south side opens into the minor chancel, at the end of the south aisle; and that on the other side, now walled up, appears to have opened into a corresponding one. Eastward of these arches are two large obtusely-pointed windows, beyond which is the communion space, forming three sides of an octagon, each side of which is lighted by windows of corresponding form.

The exterior of the church is handsomely finished. The general time of erection probably about 1560, which occurs on the pews amongst some ancient carvings.

There are no existing sepulchral memorials of interest or importance; but descriptions of the following ancient monuments, taken in 1580, are extant in Harl. MSS. 2151. p. 96. The words between books are represented by rude drawings in the MS.

"In the high windowes in the body of the churche, upon the South side, these armes painted in glasse, with the writting under them.

[Arms of Venables and Eaton, and] a man and woman praying, with seven sones behind him, and five daughters behind her:

"Orate pro bono statu Will'i Venables, armig. et Katherina ux' ejus.

"In the clerestories, or higher windowes, in the said body of the churche, on the north side, the arms and figures, with writting:

[Three coats of Leftwich (the Winnington shield) severally impaling Starkey, Mainwaring, and Merbury, and a man, habited Gules, kneeling at a desk, with four other figures kneeling at another desk behind him.]

"Deus propicius (propitius) esto Ric'o Leftwiche et Katharina ux. ejus.

"This superscription is in another windowe on the saide north side of the clerestorie. Orate p' a'i'abus Thome Wynnington de Birches, et Petronilla Daniell, ac Elene ux' ejus, et pro bono statu Rob'ti Wynnington filii dicti Thome, et item p' a'i'a Elizabeth ux' ejus-

dem Rob'ti defunete, qui quidem Rob'tus hanc fenestram vitream fecit a'no D'ni 1550.

In another window on the said north side, these coats: [Radeliff quartering Sandbach, Wheelock, and—Argent, a buck's head cabossed Azure.]

"In another of the said windows on the north side, these coates and writting under them:

[Pulford, Winnington, and Venables.]

"Pray for the souls of Richard Winnington and Jane his wife, sir Peter Warburton and Elizabeth his wife, daughter and heir of Richard Winnington his wife, and all his sons and daughters."

"These two writtings in glasse:

"Thomas Wynnington, et Elene ux' ejus.

"Pray for the soules of Roger Paver, Jonet his wife, Roger the younger, and Emme his wife, and for the good health of Rafe Paver and Jone his wife, Peter Paver and Ellen his wife.

"In another window (the coat and crest of Bromfield), and underneath,

"Pray for the good health of Robert Bromefeld and Elizabeth his wife, and Thomas his son'e.

"In the great window on the north side the chancel (the arms of Maisterson between two figures kneeling before desks), and . . . Maisterson et Cicille ux' ejus, qui hanc fenestram fieri fecerunt, a'no m.cccccc.xx.

In the same window (two other figures kneeling before desks) Edward —sey and Ellen his wife.

In another window (the coat and crest of Sandbach).

"In another window (the following coat for Sutton): 1 and 4, Or, a lion rampant Vert; 2, a chevron between three bingles strung; 3, Sable, a chevron Argent, between three cross crosslets of the second.)

"Orate p' bono statu Ric' de Sutton et Elizabeth' ux' ejus, qui istam fenestram fieri fec'unt a'no 1547."

The chapel was augmented in 1722, Mr. Richard Vernon of Middlewich, having given £200. towards the augmentation on the condition of having the nomination of the curate, which was accordingly granted by the dean and chapter of Christ church (as patrons of Great Budworth), and by the vicar of the parish; and was confirmed by the governors of queen Anne's bounty^c. The patronage is now vested in sir J. F. Leicester, bart. the manerial lord of the township.

In the parliamentary return of the value of small livings, printed 1810, Witton is described by the bishop of Chester, as a curacy, augmented, not charged; val. from augmentation and surplice fees £84. 15s. This chapelry is divided into four quarters, Witton, Northwich, Lostock, and Hartford, each of which chooses its own churchwardens^c.

The registers begin in 1561.

In the chapel yard of Witton is a school founded in 1558, by John Dean, clerk, the original endowment of which consisted of lands in Wirral and houses in Chester, parcel of the estates of the dissolved guild or fraternity of St. Anne in Chester. The school is under the direction of twelve feoffees, who have the appointment of the masters and scholars^d.

^b Information of sir J. F. Leicester, bart.

^c Gastrell Not. Cest.

^d In Harl. MSS. 2099. are the following documents relating to this school:

19. "Copies of the foundation of the free grammar-school at Northwich (Witton near Northwich), by sir John Deane priest, prebendary in Lincolne, and parson of Great St. Bartholomew's, near Smithfield in London, A. D. 1558," p. 421.

20. "Copie of the Statutes of the said Schole, made by the founder, p. 423:—Here he wills that upon Thursdaies and Saturdaies in the afternoon, and upon holydayes the scholars do refresh themselves; and that a weeke before Christmass and Easter (accordinge to the olde custome) they barre and keepe forthe of the schoole the schoole-master, in such sort as other schollers do in great schooles. And that as well in the vacations as the other dayes aforesaid, they use their bowes and arrowes onely, and eschewe all howleinge, carding, dyceing, quiteinge, and all other unlawfull games."

—Cat. Lib. MSS. Bibl. Harl. vol. II. p. 481.

It appears from a petition to parliament in the reign of Charles the Second, that the houses and buildings were destroyed during the siege of Chester, but it is not known that any relief was granted. A few years ago the income of the school was £149. 7s.; but is now (1817) only £114. 7s. a reduction having been made in the rent of one of the estates in consequence of the alteration of the price of produce. It is, however,

expected that the expiration of the leases will shortly increase the income to £200. per annum^d.

John Deane, the founder, died Oct. 9 Eliz. seized of lands in Northwich, Witton, Barnton, and Shocklach. His Inquisition taken the year following finds his niece Alicia, daughter of his brother Richard, his heir.

The other charities of the chapelry are specified in the parliamentary return.

NORTHWICH.

THE following description of this place, as it existed at the time of the Conquest, extracted from the notices of the three great Cheshire Wiches in Domesday, has an interest which few of the accounts of places given in that record possess, from its reference to the early state of the saltworks in this county, and the peculiar laws by which they were governed. This subject is noticed in another part of the work^a, but the introduction of the extract is requisite in this place, as proving the manor to have been a part of the demesne of the earldom at the time of the Norman survey.

“ In eodem Mildestvic Hundred erat tertium wich, quod vocatur NOR-WICH; et erat ad firmam pro octo libris: ipsæ leges et consuetudines erant ibi, quæ erant in aliis wichis; et REX et COMES similiter partiebant redditiones.

“ Omnes teini, qui in isto wich habebant salinas, per totum annum non dabant in die Veneris bulliones salis.

“ Quisquis ex aliâ scirâ carrum adducebat cum duobus bobus, aut cum pluribus, dabat de theoloneo quatuor denarios.

“ Ex eadem scirâ homo dabat de carro duos denarios infra tertiam noctem quâ reversus erat undè venerat: si tertia nox transibat, XL solidis emendabat.

“ De aliâ scirâ homo de summâ caballi unum denarium dabat, de eâdem verò scirâ unum minutum infra tertiam noctem ut dictum est.

“ Homo manens in ipso hundredo, si carro ducebat salem ad vendendum per eundem comitatum, de unoquoque carro dabat unum denarium, quotquot vicibus oneraret eum.

“ Si equo portabat salem ad vendendum, ad festum sancti Martini dabat unum denarium: qui in ipso termino non reddebant, XL solidis emendabant.

“ Cætera omnia in his wichis sunt similia: istud quando Hugo comes recepit erat wastum: modo valet xxxv solidos.”

After the death of the last local earl, the manor appears to have passed to the crown as part of the demesne of the earldom, and was granted by patent 12 Ric. II.^b to John Holland earl of Huntingdon, afterwards duke of Exeter. This duke was attainted and beheaded at Cirencester 1 Hen. IV.; but his son John Holland (second duke) was restored to his father's lands; and this manor most probably reverted to the crown by the attainder of Henry Holland, third duke of Exeter, 1 Edw. IV.^c

^dIn the succeeding reign the manor of Northwich was,

with many other manors, granted by Richard the Third to sir Thomas Stanley, knight, lord Stanley, and George Stanley lord l'Estrange, his son. In 1784, the present earl of Derby, by virtue of an act of parliament, obtained for the purpose, sold and conveyed the manor of Northwich to James Mort of Witton House, esq.; the said James Mort died in 1793, having devised the same manor to his son Jonadab Mort, who died in 1799, having devised the same to his only sister Anne, the wife of Thomas Wakefield, who, in 1808, sold the same to Arthur Heywood, who soon after sold the same to John Pemberton Heywood, of Wakefield in Yorkshire, esq. barrister-at-law, the present owner.

The privileges of the lord of the manor are said to have been more considerable than they now are. He now exercises the right of holding a court leet and court baron; at the court leet the constables, market-lookers, and other officers are chosen. He has also the right to hold markets and fairs, and is entitled to the tolls, and to pickage and stallage, &c. The market is held on Friday in every week; and three fairs are held, on the 10th day of April, the 2d August, and the 6th December. The first of these fairs is for horses and cattle only.

The extent of the manor and township of Northwich is small, not exceeding eight or ten statute acres in compass; nearly the whole is covered with buildings.

The whole manor and township of Northwich is in the hundred of that name, although the river Weever divides the same, as that stream ceases, for a short space within the limits of this manor, to form the boundary of the hundreds of Northwich and Edisbury. That part of the township on the western side of the river, is about one-third of the whole, and is bounded on the south and the west by Winnington and Castle Northwich. The township is divided on the south from Castle Northwich by a stream or brook (now covered with a plat), called Lamprey Ditch, which formerly abounded with the fish of that name, but which the increase of navigation on the river Weever seems to have totally destroyed.

Northwich suffered in a small degree from the civil disturbances of the seventeenth century. The following extracts from Cowper's MSS. relate immediately to the struggles at this point; but the general line of operations with which they were connected, is detailed in the introduction, the accounts of the sieges of Chester and Nantwich, and the battle at Middlewich:

^d Information of John Barker, esq. of Northwich.

^b Lysons's *Magna Britannia*, vol. II. pt. II.

^c From a copy of the original grant communicated by John Barker, esq. of Northwich (agent for this manor), together with the following particulars relating to it.

^a See the General Introduction.

^c Vincent's *Discoverie of Errors*, 1622, p. 266.

“ On Saturday Feb. 25, (1642-3), sir William Brereton, colonel Manwaring (of Kermincham) and several captains and officers, with about 500 horse and foot, marched from Nantwich to Knutsford, and having reconnoitred all that part of the county, they made a visit to Northwich, where they heard that a party from Chester were doing some damage between Frodsham and Warrington. They proceeded towards that part, and ordered Norton house, the seat of Henry Brooke, esq. to be fortified. On their coming back to *Northwich*, it was judged necessary to make fortifications there, and to station a strong garrison, which soon greatly harrassed the country round, and not only took many prisoners, but plundered several mansions and places in that neighbourhood, and brought in great numbers of horses and cattle, as also large quantities of goods and provisions of every kind^f.

On March 10 following, sir Thomas Aston marched from Chester to Middlewich, and endeavoured to make that place defensible^g, and from hence sir William Brereton was ineffectually attacked at Northwich by a party of royalist dragoons, under captain Spotswood^h. He made an attack from Northwich upon the royalists on the Sunday following, and on the next day advanced again from Northwich, and being backed by the Nantwich forces, stormed the town of Middlewich, and gave sir Thomas Aston a complete defeatⁱ.

In December following, when the king's troops had received an accession of force from Ireland, sir William in his turn received a defeat at the same place, which occasioned him to abandon this place^k. A garrison of royalists was then put into Northwich, which is noticed in the parish register, in consequence of having done some damage to the records of the place.

At this time the parliamentarians were shut up in Nantwich, the only Cheshire garrison left to them, but were relieved on the 25th of January 1643-4, by the advance of Fairfax, sir William Brereton, and the Lancashire forces. After the defeat of lord Byron which ensued, it is probable that Northwich was instantly evacuated by the royalists. It was, however, certainly in the possession of parliamentarians August 18 following, when colonel Marrow was shot at Sandiway in an expedition against it. Three days afterwards sir William Brereton advanced from Northwich upon Chester, and had a skirmish with the king's troops at Tarvin.

At the entrance of the town from Chester, on the left hand side of the road, is an antient house^l (now the property of John Barker, esq.) behind which is a curious garden, near to and about the height of the Castle Hill, consisting of five terraces, or platforms, one above the

other. In these a number of cannon balls have been found at various periods, and it has been thence conjectured, that these terraces were a part of the fortifications, and a point of attack during the civil disturbances before alluded to.

Below this, and adjacent to the bridge (on the Edisbury side of the river, but within the manor and hundred of Northwich, is a sessions house, now disused, which was one of the buildings of that description erected at the expence of George II. when earl of Chester. The church being situated in the contiguous hamlet of Witton, this is the only public building of importance which this place possesses.

The town is pleasantly situated at the confluence of the Dane and the Weever, and this circumstance must have made it a post of importance in the civil disturbances before mentioned. The same cause, joined to its position on the British Watling-street, made it an object of interest at a much earlier period, and caused the pass to be guarded by the strong earthworks on the Edisbury side of the river, which have been noticed in a former part of the Work.

In Harl. MSS. 2074, is a rude bird's-eye delineation of the place, as it appeared in the 17th century. It is at present a large, busy, and populous town, extending into the neighbouring vills of Witton, Castle Northwich, and Winnington. The Grand Trunk canal passes within a mile of the place, and the navigable Weever through the centre of it. Saltworks extend along the banks of this stream for a considerable distance beyond the outskirts of the town; and the place is chiefly inhabited by the proprietors of these works, and by the people employed in them. It is also a great thoroughfare on one of the roads from Liverpool to London, and another road from Manchester to North Wales, and is the seat of one of the meetings of magistracy, and of the committees for the management of the great county trust of the Weever navigation.

In the progress of getting the rock-salt, excavations have been made in the neighbourhood of Northwich, and under the town itself. These are abandoned when the pits are exhausted, and the earth above is left supported by pillars of salt, which give way in time from liquefaction, or from other causes. In some instances this has happened on the bank of the river, which has instantly supplied the space by widening itself: in other places large portions of land have subsided at once in the fields adjoining, roads have been obstructed, and houses destroyed. Many buildings have been weakened and thrown out of the perpendicular in the streets themselves, and others in the suburbs have been rendered totally uninhabitable^m.

^f Cowper's Chester MSS. vol. II. p. 33.

^g Ibid.

^h Sir Thomas Aston's Letter; see Middlewich.

ⁱ Cowper's MSS. II. 34.

^k See vol. I. p. 205.

^l This house was conveyed in 1642 by sir Humphrey Davenport, kt. a baron of the exchequer, as an antient mansion, to William Bentley, M. D. a descendant from an antient Staffordshire family, who entered his pedigree in Dugdale's Chesh. Vis. of 1663-4. His daughters in 1714 sold the same to Jonadab Vernon, gent. whose heiress sold the same to the present proprietor in 1799. The body of Dr. Bentley is interred in a vault at the summit of the garden, where his tomb was discovered (in taking down a summer-house built over it), with the following inscription:—*Depositum Gulielmi Bentley, M. D. de re Medica optime meriti, de amicis non minus; qui per quinquaginta saltem annos artem, quam suam fecit, pie, perite, benigne, exercuit, eoq; feliciter ornavit. Tres habuit uxores, quibus conjux simul et amicus fuit, primum desiderio, novissimæ curâ, hic jacet, spe beata resurrectionis. Obiit Sept. 13, An. Dom. 1680, ætat. 79.*

^m One of these falls is about an acre in size. Similar natural concussions have taken place in other parts of Cheshire (see Combermere, Bickley near Malpas, Weever, &c.) in the line of the salt, and where the cavities have been generally filled with salt water. It is difficult to account for these without supposing a natural process of excavation to have been carried on in consequence of the salt liquefying from subterraneous water or other causes, which has been followed by a subsidence similar to that over the artificial cavities.

At this place was born, in or about 1615, SIR JOHN BIRKENHEAD, master of request, descended possibly from the antient family of that name in this county, but of low immediate origin, being the son of a saddler. He was celebrated as a poet and political writer, but chiefly as the author of the court newspaper, the *Mercurius Aulicus*, which he wrote at Oxford, between the years 1642 and 1645. An ample account of his life and his numerous publications will be found in the *Biographical Dictionary of Chalmers*.

LOSTOCK GRALAM.

THIS township is unnoticed in Domesday; but it appears, from the deposition of John de Holford, Oct. 1, 1386, with reference to the celebrated Grosvenor cause, that Lostock belonged to one "Hame," who was slain at the battle of Nantwich, and that the vill was subsequently divided by Hugh Lupus, who gave Over Lostock or Allostock to Robert Grosvenor, and Nether Lostock to Hugh de Runchamp^a.
Gralam, son of Hugh de Runchamp, assumed the

local name of the township, which in its turn received an addition from the Christian name of its proprietor, which it still retains. The descent of the Lostocks, and of the Holfords who succeeded them, is given at length by sir Peter Leycester^b.

The manor of Lostock Gralam has passed in the same manner with the Holford Hall estate, in Plumley, to P. L. Brooke, of Mere, esq. who holds a court-leet for the same^c.

BIRCHES.

THE following account of the early descent of this township is given in Williamson's Villarc:

"This is a small town on Rudheath, formerly belonging to Emme, daughter of Stephen de Moreton, who gave to Nicholas her son, for his homage and service, the whole village of Birches, &c. paying to Geoffrey de Lostock and his heirs a pair of white gloves for their lands, in Edward the First's time; which Nicholas, I suppose, was called de Birches^d, whose (or his son's) daughter and heir, brought most of this place in marriage to Nicholas de Winnington, a younger brother of Robert Winnington of Winnington, in Edward the Second's time.

"Another part of this place was given him and his heirs, by Richard, son of Gralam de Moreton (viz. all lands in Birches near Shipbrook, 1320), doing to the capital lord the due service, and paying to Richard 20s. per ann.

"And 1329, I find that Robert, son of Philip Goldsmith, gave to Geoffrey, son of Robert de Winnington, a carucate of land here; and 6 Edw. II. Nicolas Winnington obtained from Philip Goldsmith of Halghton, three messuages, two bovates, &c. of land here: and Roger, son of William de Toft, gave to Nicholas, son of Robert de Winnington, all his lands, &c. in the territory of Birches by Lostock, during the justiceship of Hugh de Andelegh."

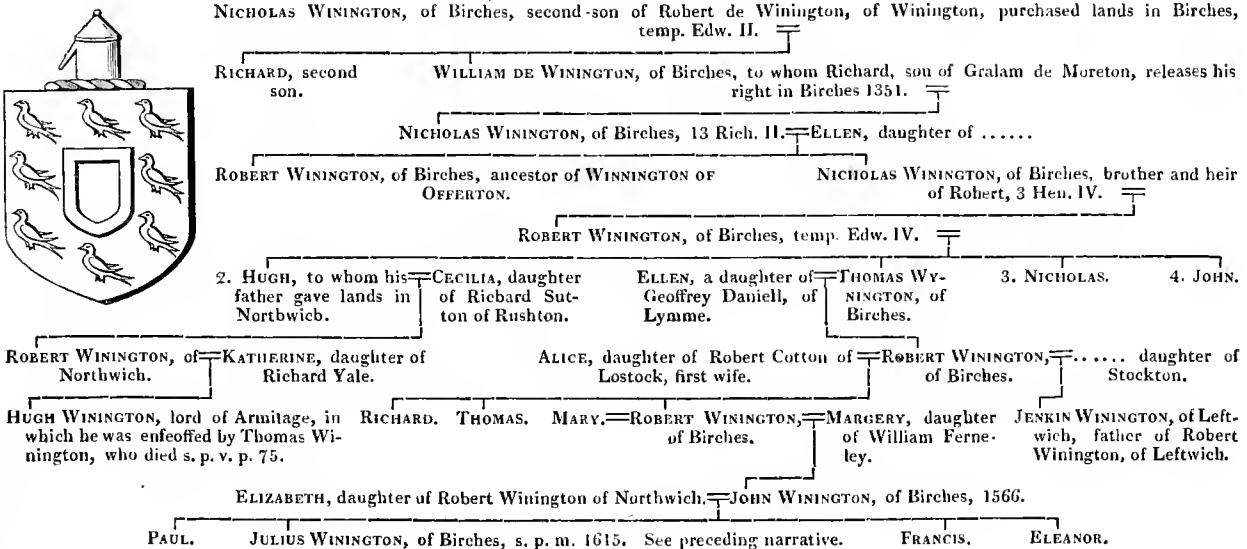
The annexed pedigree brings the descent of this family to the termination of the male line, when Birches passed, with the daughter and heiress of Julius Winnington, to Ralph Starkey, of Morthwaite, who, according to Dr. Williamson, devised Morthwaite and Birches to his said wife, and (from his monumental inscription at Daresbury) died in 1674^f.

WININGTON OF BIRCHES.

From Booth's general pedigrees, collated with his separate pedigree of the Croxton and Winnington family, and Randle Holmes' additions to the same.

ARMS. Argent, an inesccheon Sable voided of the field, within an orle of martlets of the second.

CREST. On a wreath a still Argent.



^a See Allostock in Nether Peover chapelry, p. 82 preceding.

^b In the account of Plumley, vol. I. p. 494. A collateral branch still existing in the female line assumed the name of Moreton, for whom see Little Moreton in Astbury parish in this hundred, p. 29.

^c Information of P. L. Brooke, esq.

^d The legal name of "de Burches" occurs several times in the chartulary of St. Werburgh. Harl. MSS. 1965.

^e Elizabeth, according to Booth; Ellen, according to Randle Holme. Harl. MSS. 2119.

^f Vol. I. p. 541.

Shortly after the termination of the male line of the Winningtons, and this devise, Mrs. Elizabeth Dobson was possessed of this place, and settled it, in or about 1695, on Thomas Cholmondeley and Peter Shakerley, esqrs. as trustees; and in the event of Peter Shakerley^f dying issueless, on the heirs of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. also in trust, to educate two boys from the profits of the estate, one of whom is to be the son of a counsellor, bred up in an inn of court, and the other the

son of an orthodox divine of the church of England. The trust has been regularly fulfilled, and is now vested in Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.^g

Birches Hall is a large brick mansion with bay windows, used as a farm-house. The township is within the jurisdiction of the court held by Mr. Brooke for (his manor of Lostock Gram?) at which the tenants attend^h.

H U L S E.

THIS township, at an early period, gave name to an antient family, which was undoubtedly the parent stock of the knightly line of the Hulses of Little Nestonⁱ, and the other families of the same name settled at Norbury, in Broxton Hundred, and at Clive and Elworth, near Sandbach. The Hulses of

deduce their descent from the latter family. Hulse became the property of the abbey of St. Werburgh, at Chester, by various successive grants recited in the chartulary. Lands here were granted to that abbey by Robert son of Herbert de Holys, by Yonas de Holys, and by William son of William de Burches; lands and rents by William de Lauton; lands and tithes by Ralph Triemleyn; and the wastes and assarts, and the homage of the said Ralph Triemleyn, by Richard son of Richard de Lostoc^k. From these last grants it

may be presumed that Hulse, which is unnoticed in Domesday, was part of the original estates of the Runchamps (afterwards Lostocks), the Norman proprietors of Lostock, and that it was probably formed out of that township.

From the plea of the abbot of St. Werburgh to a writ of quo warranto, 31 Edw. III. it appears that "Holes, was then one of the dependencies of his manor of Barnshaw, and that he claimed for it the various privileges noticed in the account of that manor. His rents in "Hulsse" were valued, at the dissolution, at XLIIIS. VII. ^l

The township is still considered a component part of the manor of Barnshaw, now vested in Sir H. M. Mainwaring, bart.

LACHE DENNIS

Is undoubtedly the place called "Lache Malbanke" in the foundation charter of Vale Royal Abbey, which vill was conferred on that house by its royal founder, having been ceded to him by John de Cotun, son of Matilda, daughter of Gram de Lostok. This connects Lache with the original fee of Lostock, in the same manner with the preceding township^m.

Walter, abbot of Vale Royal, afterwards gives Gayton and "Lache super Rudheth," to Randle de Merton, in exchange for Mertonⁿ.

One tenement here is noticed as the late property of Geoffry Shakerley, *Inq. p. m.* 1 Edw. VI. and Peter

Shakerley, *Inq. p. m.* 1 and 2 Phil. and Mar. This was held from the king in capite, as of the earldom of Chester.

Another tenement is stated to have belonged to Thomas Venables of Antrobus, *Inq. p. m.* 21 Eliz. tenure unknown, and as the late property of Robert Venables, of the same place, 25 Eliz. held from the queen as parcel of the lands of St. John of Jerusalem.

Lache Dennis now consists of two farms, which are the property of C. W. J. Shakerley, esq.: no manerial rights are claimed^o.

^f He married Elizabeth, daughter of sir Thomas Mainwaring, and died without issue.

^g Information of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq.

^h Information of the same. Lostock Gram is inserted conjecturally, with reference to the grants of Gram de Lostock, above mentioned, which would make Birches a dependency of his manor of Lostock. The townships owing suit and service to the courts leet of Mr. Brooke are omitted in the return made by his agent; and Mr. Cholmondeley's answer says, "to one of Mr. Brooke's manors."

ⁱ See Little Neston, Raby, and Brunstath, in Wirral, and Pickmere, in Bucklow Hundred, for an account of this branch of Hulse, of which the earl of Shrewsbury is representative in the female line. The other branches are noticed in their respective townships.

^k Harl. MSS. 1965. 33—33 b.

^l Vol. I. 227, 238.

^m Edish. Hund. p. 88.

ⁿ Ibid. p. 97.

^o Information of Mr. Shakerley, communicated by Holland Watson, esq.

Lordship of Rudheath.

THIS district is situated seven miles south of Knutsford, on the road from that place to Newcastle, and on the edge of the parishes of Sandbach, Great Budworth, and Middlewich, and is chiefly extra-parochial, but comprehends, nevertheless, many small portions of the surrounding townships. Here, as in Hoole and Over Marsh, a sanctuary for criminals was established by the Norman earls of Chester, the nature of which has been explained in the account of those places^a. The original extent of the heath has long been reduced by successive enclosures, and considerable plantations of Scotch firs have been formed of late years on the verge of what remained. This small residue, a sandy flat piece of ground, has been recently inclosed, but is hitherto chiefly uncultivated.

It is observable that the numerous cottages which are scattered in the solitary lanes round this district, contain inhabitants whose objects are not very dissimilar from those of the lawless race to which Rudheath antiently afforded protection.

In Harl. MSS. 2060, among extracts from the deeds

of Dieulacres abbey, is an account of the boundaries between Bylegh and Rudheath, as they were ridden by Randle earl of Chester; and in the same volume is an extensive collection of antient inquests ascertaining the general boundaries, and the various proofs and acknowledgments of the district being extra-parochial, with copies of court rolls, and rentals of the tenants of the earldom within the liberties.^b

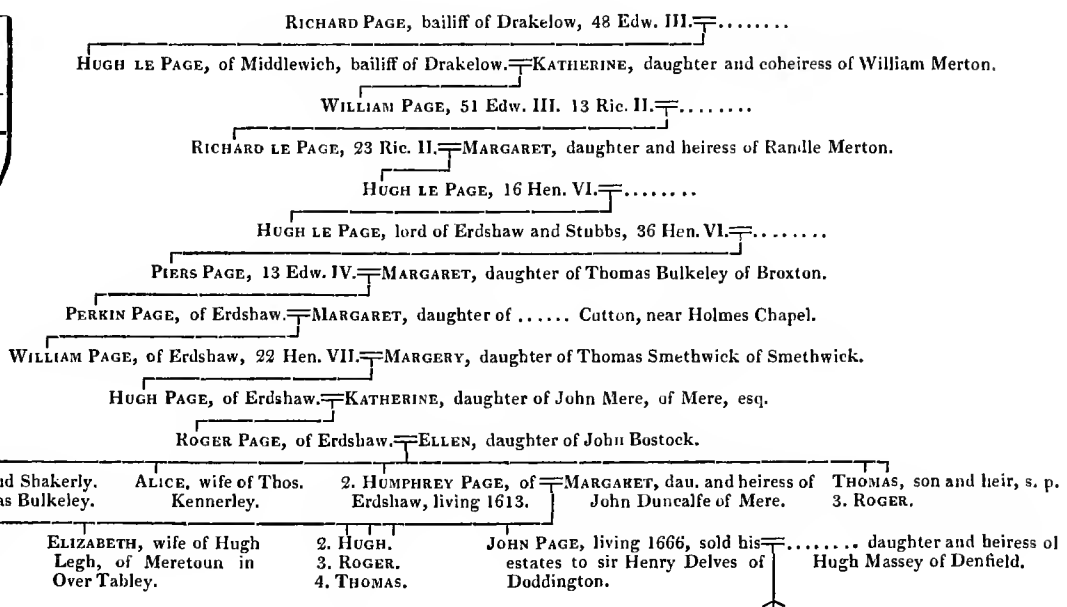
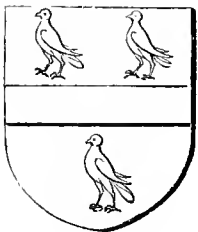
The lordship of Rudheath, which extends over divers estates in the circumjacent townships, passed with the earldom to the crown, and after being granted to the Portland family, was sold by the late duke to John Marshall, esq. The demesne lands were sold at the same time in parcels to various purchasers^c.

DRAKELOW is a manor of itself within Rudheath lordship, and antiently belonged to the Pages of Eardshaw in the adjacent township of Stublach^d. After being purchased by the Delves family, it passed from them by sale to the Prescotts, and was purchased from sir Charles Prescott, bart. by C. W. J. Shakerley, esq. the present proprietor^e.

PAGE OF ERDSHAW AND DRAKELOW.

From Booth's and sir Peter Leycester's MS. pedigrees.

ARMS. Sable, a fesse Argent between three birds of the second.



^a See Broxton Hundred, pp. 410, 440.

^b These documents extend from p. 218 to 253 of the MS. inclusive.

^c Information of C. W. J. Shakerley, esq. communicated by Holland Watson, esq.

^d See further particulars in Stublach.

Middlewich Parish.

THE parish of Middlewich comprehends fifteen townships, Middlewich, Kinderton, Moresbarrow cum Parme, Sproston, Byley cum Yatehouse, Stublach, Ravenscroft, Croxton, Newton, Sutton, Clive, Weever, Wimboldsley cum Lea, Occleston, and Minshull Vernon.

All these townships are in Northwich Hundred, with the exception of Weever, which lies on the Edisbury side of the river Weever, and is described in the account of that hundred. Middlewich is bounded on the side of Northwich Hundred by the parishes of Nantwich, Warmingham, Sandbach, and Great Budworth, and on the Edisbury side of the Weever, by the parish of Over.

MIDDLEWICH.

THE following description of the state of Middlewich at the time of the Norman Conquest, is more particularly noticed in the general introduction under the head of the Cheshire saltworks. It is inserted here only as a proof of the place having been held by the king and the earl in the time of the Confessor, and of its being retained as an appendage of the earldom after Hugh Lupus parcelled out the rest of the county among his followers :

“ In Mildestvich Hundred erat aliud wich intèr regem et comitem : non erant tamèn ibi dominicæ salinæ : sed eædem leges habebantur ibi et consuetudines, quæ in superiori wich^a dictæ sunt ; et eodem modo participabant rex et comes.

“ Hoc wich erat ad firmam pro octo libris : et hundret in quo jacebat pro xl solidis : rex duas partes, tertiam comes.

“ Quando Hugo comes recepit, wastum fuit : modò tenet ipse comes ; et est ad firmam pro xxv solidis et duabus caretedis salis : hundret verò valet xl solidos.

“ De his duobus wichis quicunque emptum salem carro portabat, de theoloneo quatuor denarios dabat si ad carrum quatuor boves aut plus habebat : si verò boves duos, denarium theoloneo dabat si duæ summæ salis crant : homo de alio hundredo de summâ caballi dabat duos denarios : homo vero de eodem hundredo non nisi obolum dabat pro summâ salis.

“ Qui carrum in tantùm onerabat, ut axis frangatur infra unam leuam circà ntrumque wich, dabat duos solidos ministro regis vel comitis, si infra leuam possèt consequi.

“ Similitèr qui caballum ità onerabat, ut dorsum frangeret, dabat duos solidos infra leuam consecutus ; extrà leuam, nihil.

“ Qui de unâ summâ salis faciebat duas, xl solidis emendabat, si minister eum posset consequi ; si non esset inventus, nil per alium emendabat.

“ Homines pedites de alio hundredo salem ibi ementes de octo oneribus hominum dabant duos denarios : homines ejusdem hundredi pro octo oneribus unum denarium.”

The royalty of Middlewich continued vested in the local earls, and after their extinction passed to the

crown with the other appurtenances of the earldom. It is now held by lease from the crown, by Thomas Wright, esq.

Middlewich was formerly one of the Cheshire burghs, which claimed peculiar privileges by charter of their local sovereigns, or immemorial custom. In plea to a writ of quo warranto brought against them 15 Hen. VII. the burgesses of Middlewich claim—

Yearly, at the court next after the feast of St. Michael the archangel, to elect a chamberlain, whose duty was to serve for a year for his salary, receive moneys on behalf of the town, and account for expenditure, and to be assisted in his office by two bailiffs. These bailiffs to have at each court, which is to be held from 15 to 15 days, “ unam sextam cervisiæ,” to be there drunk, and not carried away, paying for each “ lagena” of the said beer, a farthing below the usual price, which beer shall be supplied by two brewers at each court, going through the brewers in rotation. They claim also to boil and sell salt within their own vill, giving the thirtieth boiling to the prince, and to be free from toll, murage, and pannage, through the whole county of Chester.

In answer to questions put from William Greyle, on the part of the crown, they explain, toll, to relate to exemption from duties on goods bought or sold in the county of Chester ; murage, to exemption from employment on walls or camps ; and pannage, to exemption from payment for the hogs which they may keep in the prince’s woods in the fattening time (temp’è pessionis^b).

The township is now governed by constables, sworn in the usual manner in the court held by the lessee under the crown ; and there is nothing varying from ordinary custom in the form of their appointment, or the other usages of the court.

Middlewich is situated on the bank of the Grand Trunk canal, contiguous to the confluence of the Dane and the Croco, about twenty miles east of Chester. The town is considerable, and extends into the adjacent vills of Kinderton and Newton ; its trade chiefly consisting of the manufacture of salt from the brine springs. There are fairs on Holy Thursday, and the 25th of July, and two weekly markets.

This place was the scene of two battles in the civil

^a Viz. in Nantwich.

^b Vernon’s MSS. preserved at Somerford, and Harl. MSS. 2115. 185.

disturbances of the seventeenth century. The first was in March 1642-3, when sir Thomas Aston was defeated by sir William Brereton; the second, in December or the beginning of January following, when sir William Brereton and Colonel Ashton were in their turn defeated by the royalists (then reinforced by troops from Ireland), with the loss of two hundred men^b.

“In the first of these engagements the royalists lost two pieces of cannon, with proportionate ammunition, and nearly five hundred stand of arms. The number of the slain was small, and nearly equal, including none of the officers, but many of the principal royalists engaged were taken prisoners^d, and the townsmen were great sufferers in their properties. They were despoiled of their moveables, and the church was robbed of its plate, and whatever else was worth taking.

Sir Thomas Aston in a few days got back to Chester, though with difficulty, where he suffered much censure for his conduct, was put under arrest, and ordered to remain at Pulford. In this situation he drew up a state of his case by way of vindication, addressed to the lords and others of the garrison of Chester, which is given, as follows, entire, from the MS collections of Dr. Cowper^e.

“To the Right Honourable the Earl Rivers, the Lords Viscounts Cholmondeley and Kilmurrey, to the Honourable Thomas Savage, &c. &c. &c.

“MY LORDS!

“Though I know not what it is to apprehend feare of any man’s threat, nor know any cause given for them against mee in particular, yet I must thanke your care of my person, and shall have more cause to acknowledge your sense of my honour, if you will receive and divulge a true accompt of this unfortunate business, wherein I desire noe favour, but that truth may be knowne, and let that quitt or condemne mee.

“Your Lordships know how our progresse was retarded at our setting forth, the soldiers mutining for pay on the Fryday, and Mr. Bavand haveinge not issued it out on Saturday, nor the provisions, ’till it was soe late, I was forced to leave two troops of horse on the fforrest to guard it to Over, though they lay in danger that night.

“At our arrivall at Midellwich, a letter overtooke us from the Governour, recommendinge to us certaine propositions from the lord Brereton, which were,

“That he might have a convoe for his ladie, children, and goods to Chester, and then he would bringe in his men.

“Upon consultation had with the sheriff, sir Edward Fytton, and colonel Ellis, it was held for a considerable addition, and that it was worth our stay, and thereupon sent him a letter under all our hands, desiringe, though it were Sunday, he would provide carriage for his goods and come away, for that further delays would not be safe for him, nor could our designs admit it; yet his lordship did not accordingly, but came on Sunday himselfe to Midelwich, to confer further with us: of this notice was very speedilie given to Northwich (as by intelligence since from them), which occasioned the suddaine attempt upon us, to prevent him from joyninge with us, whose intentions were judged by this appearance.

“The accommodatige this, togiather with the she-

rife’s desire to summon in the country, with their contribution and assistance, necessitated a joynte consent to stay there on Monday, the rather hopeinge diversion of danger from Namptwich, by prayinge the governour that they at that place might receive an allarum from Whitechurch forces; but in steed of a support or countenance from that quarter, the forces there were disbanded; and to whatever accident we studie to impute the miscarriage of this designe, that was the ruine of this, and (I pray God it prove not soe) of both counties.

“Their whole force and power beinge thereby loose upon us, to assaile us on three sides, in an open towne, and where it was impossible for horse to doe service, yet the imputation of the misfortune must be laid upon the horse.

“Their dutie was not neglected. On one passage to the enemy a party of dragoniers, under captaine Spotswood’s command, was ordered to give them an allarum at Northwich (though with more caution than it was executed), the Lieutenant improvidently engageinge himself where he was expressly forbid, soe that way was secured.

“Captaine Prestwich was lodged at the other passage, and his scoutes discovered them, though they followed soe close that they fell upon some of his men, ere they could cleere their scattered quarters; but he chased them back to their foote, rescued some prisoners, at the bridge he wheeled aboute, and kept them at a stand ’till the foote came down^f.

“At their approach before the bridge from Northwich, the Welsh forces advanced so unwillingly, though it were but to line hedges, that two troops of horse, the major’s, and captaine Bridgeman’s, were sent down to face the enemy in a narrow passage, within half-musket-shott, where several of them were shott, otherwise the foote would not have advanced nor stayed by it^h.

“Bridgeman’s troop being called off, to face the enemy from Namptwich, the major’s troope and the gentlemen’s still made good the place, ’till such time as all our foote, beinge of the Welsh, did, by major Gillmore’s command, quitt the passage, and the enemy’s musketeers advanced on bothe sides the lane, beyond the hedges, where they could not at all engage, and beat them back: that streete end beinge guarded by musketeers in a breast-work, after our discharging at random, quitt the worke and runne awayⁱ.

“Another part of the enemy approachinge another passage called the Wall-inch-bridge, captaine Prestwich’s troope was commanded thither, to stay by the foote, which was of captaine Massie’s company, which he alsoe did, ’till all those foote likewaies were commanded off, and made good their retraite.

“Upon the approche of the third partie from Namptwich, I appointed the two trayned bands of two hundred men to make good that avenew, being the streete-end towards Booth lane, which was well advantaged by ditches and bankes on bothe sides, which, with the addition of some smal trenches, that they presentlie made, were convenientlie defensible, but those that would have stayed in them.

“And to check their approach, I drew out a partie of sixtie commanded horse, the other troopes beinge to

^b See vol. I. p. 205. col. 1.

^d Sir Edward Moseley of Hough’s-end hart, colonel Ellis, major Gillmore, captains Corbet, Morris, Lloyd, Eaton, Massie of Coddington, Hurleston, Jones, Horton, Starkie of Stretton, and Davenport of Woodford; lieutenants Dod, Chorley, Hosier, and Manley; ensigns Ward, Proudlove, Norreys, and Davenport; 3 cannoniers, 2 corporals, 2 quartermasters, 400 privates, and 100 horse.

^e There stated to be taken from a MS. copy in the possession of the rev. S. Aldersey of Aldersey.

^f Test. Tho. Prestwich, Tho. Beeston.

^g Wheelock bridge.

^h Test. Rich. Wiltshire, Tho. Holmes serjeant-major, John Wiltshire, Francis Aston.

ⁱ Test. Tho. Prestwich, Tho. Beeston.

back them, into the lane, there beinge no other ground for horse; and to make way for them to charge, I drew off some commanded musketeers, sixscore before to line the hedges, that the enimie might not take advantage of the ditches on bothe sides to gall the horse in the flank upon their charge^k.

“ But the enimie advancinge with a great bodie of musketeers, on either side the lane, at a great distance before their horse, our musketeers, and the lieutenant who commanded them, after the first fire given on them, fell down and crept away, leavinge their armes; soe that the enimie's foote receavinge no check, our horse could not charge, but to be flanked and cutt off by the musketeers on bothe sides the lane.

“ And colonell Ellis havinge drawn a piece of ordnance in the rear of our horse, they were forced to wheel off, to let his ordnance play, findeing the greatest of their force and strength to be then coming upon them.

“ I then called a partie of captaine Spotswood's dragoniers to make good the church-yarde, and placed a guard in the breast-workes at the other end of the towne, drew the other piece of cannon to the church-yarde, and planted it there with advantage, to scoure the streete. They attempted to approach in. I then brought up a companie of musketeers of colonell Ellis, commanded by a captaine, whom I knew not, to assist the two trayned-band companies, whoe were to make good that passage; but these, as soone as they came upon neere to where the cannon was pointed, laide themselves all downe in a sort of a hollowe way, and their arms bye them, soe that I was forced to ride amongst them, and with my sworde beate them up, and myselve on horseback, brought them up to the hedge, where the other musketeers lay; but neither these or those did or durst put up their heads, but shott their pieces up into the ayre, no one ffoote-officer beinge bye them to ranke or order them.

“ Dureinge all which time my own troope, Napper's, captaine Ratelyffe's, and lord Cholmeleye's troopes, stood directly in the reere of them, and not a man moved, although divers of their horse were shott under them, 'till our cannon made one shott, which grassed a greate way short, and mounted over their heads, and a second shott wente into a banke not fourtie yards from the cannoniere, at which the enimie made greate shouteinges, and advanced fast upon our ffoote, who all instantlie forsooke their stand and came away, leavinge the horse within pistoll-shot of the enimie, though there was somewhat of a trench between them; at which the horse wheeled back. But all men there must witness that I staid them per force, standinge fully exposed to shott 'till the cannon was brought off, and noe one ffoote-man left with it but colonell Ellis himself, who drew it off with his own hands, some of the horse-men helpinge to bring it off to the church.

“ Before this, upon the falling of those of Broxton hundred and the Welsh, from the first hedge, all the whole stand of pikes in the reere of the horse cleerly runne away, and all the musketeers placed for the defence of the end of the streete leading to Boothe-lane did quitt their trenches, haveinge never discharged a shott, nor ever seene their enimie, or any cause of feare but their fellows flyinge.

“ The horse then made an hastie yet an orderly retraite into the Lewon (or London) streete, and soe passed to the church-yarde, expecting to have founde it

made good by the parties left there for that purpose.

“ I found all the foote wedged up in the church, like billets in a wood-pile, noe one man at his arms, trusting there only to the cannon to scowre the two cheife streetes, which lay with as much advantage as was possible for pieces to be placed; and that the enimie came down Dog-lane, as well as approaching by the principal streetes, and advanced briskly upon our horse, who were in the condition of sheepe in a penn, and quite exposed to slaughter, and frustrated of the use and effect of our ordnance upon the enimie.

“ I then commanded them to draw up in a field at the end of the towne; but that entrance beinge barricadoed by captaine Spotswood, occasioned a separation of them, that they dispersed several waies, and by reason of distress could not meet of three fields breadth, and 'till they came beyonde Kinderton-house.

“ I nexte repayed to the cannon I had placed to scoure the streetes, and founde no cannonier with them, the other drawinge the cannon off; at which, beinge offended, he said he could not get one ffoote man to assist him; nor could I draw out ten musketeers foorth from the church, would it have saved the world.

“ Amongst these was even colonell Ellis himself, the cannon beinge deserted entirelie; but, as I understand not howe the matter was, I shall not now proceed to censures.

“ The enimie falling directly in three streetes upon mee, and likewise attackinge mee in the church-yarde, and the horse beinge marched out of sighte, I quite alone, all I could possibly hope to doe, was to reallie the horse again, if possible, to wheele aboute and fall on in the reere of them; but, by reason of several crosse lanes, I had lost the whole bodie of the horse, save some few stragglers, with which I had smal hope to repell the enimie that had expulsed us.

“ Perceaving that the enimie had possessed the towne, and hearinge that our horse had turned towards Warrington, I sent a messenger after them, to order them to reallie to Rudheath, intendinge to goe by Brereton, and with that convoe, to redeeme and receive the addition of the lord Brereton's forces. But they were advanced (by whose conduct I know not) past recall; yet I wente to him myself, bothe to give him an accompt of the action, and to know his resolution.

“ Findinge his lordship fixed, and that the sheriffe and sir Edward Fitton were gone towards Whitechurch, I repayed thither to see if the gentlemen of that countie were in a condition to lend any considerable assistance, whereby I might joyne with them; but there I found the trayne-bands disbanded, and a few dragoniers in feare of dailie surprise; so hopeless of any present reliefe, I returned to trye to reallie my men, desiringe, if I can be conceived to be noe further usefull, according to his majestie's command, I may repose in a quiett quarter to recreute my men, and repaye to the armie.

“ Where or how the occasion of this disaster can fix on me, I shall gladlie be informed:

“ The designe surely was approved and desired by all.

“ The staye at Middelwich was not occasioned by mee; it was necessarie, and was assented to by all, as the principal business, viz. the lord Brereton's men and his magazines lay there.

“ The intelligence fayled not, but was seasonable, though raw men and unready officers were long in answeringe the alarum, and drew out without either powder or shott.

^k Test. Wm. Radelif, Tho. Napier, Fran. Aston, Nat. Napier, John Wiltshire.

"The horse could doe noe more, unlesse there had bene a place for it, nor coulde anie horse suffer with more unmoved courage, 'till they were cleerly deserted by the foote; and I think noe man there will denie but that I was, to my best, assistinge in every parte of the action. I came in the reere of the horse, and was the last horse-man in the towne.

"This is the plaine truth: the enemie haveinge no diversion, but at libertie with their full power to fall on us from all partes, were much too hard for us, in a place not defensible; and without some more experienced foote-officers, I must freely say, noe number will be found sufficient to withstand readie men.

"If the event of an enterprise must condemne the man who is not successfull in it, I may very justly affirm that the service of this countrie will be but a very uncomfortable undertaking.

"But I cannot beleve that clamour or malice will soe far prevail as to take any impressions with your Lordships, untill you are satisfied of some particular wherein I have failed of my dutie, more than that it hath been my unhappiness or improvidence, or bothe, to expose myself to play an after-game soe oft for the redemption of my countrie, to which extremitie your lordships can witness that it was not brought by the consent or default of your humble servant,

"Pulforde, March 17, 1642. THOMAS ASTON."

"The particulars above recited are surtefied by us whose names are subscribed accordinge to our several knowledges, attested in the margin; and we all desire that we may not be restrayned the benefit of his Majestie's directions for quarters, to recreate our scattered men, that we may, with all possible speede, returne to the King's armie.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| " THOMAS HOLMES, | THOMAS PRESTWICH. |
| " WILLIAM RADCLYFFE, | FRANCIS ASTON, |
| " THOMAS NAPIER, | RICHARD WILTSHIRE, |
| " THOMAS BEESTON, | JOHN WILTSHIRE, |
| " WILLIAM NAPIER, | NATHANIEL NAPIER." |

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Michael.

Tax P. N. £53. 6s. 8d. Certif. val. 34l. 12s.

The patronage of the church of Middlewich was vested from an early period to the middle of the fifteenth century, in the Tochets, and was probably an append-

age of their manor of Tattenhall, from which various lands were held in Sutton, Newton, and Wimbaldsley, within this parish.

In the fifteenth century, sir Thomas Stanley presented, by permission of the abbot of Chester; and in 1484 the prior of Stone^m.

In 1504 the church was appropriated to the monastery of Lenton in Nottinghamshire, for which the monastery paid to the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, 13s. 4d.; to the dean and chapter of the same 3s. 4d.; and to the archdeacon of Chester 20s.ⁿ

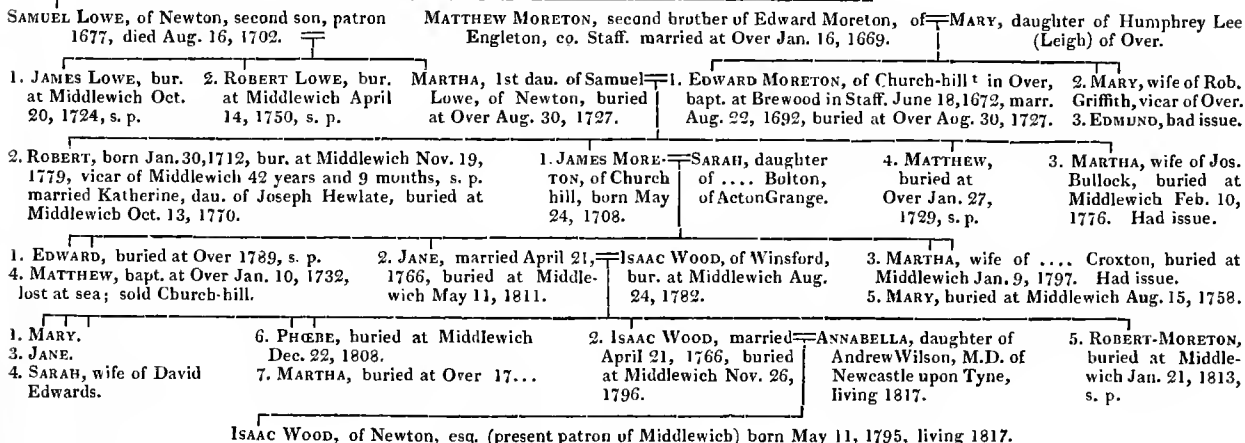
After the dissolution, the advowson of the vicarage was vested in the crown, and continued to be so as late as 1579^o, when the queen was patron. It shortly after passed to the Breretons of Brereton, with the appropriated rectory^p, the latter of which was chiefly sold by them in parcels to the several manerial proprietors within the township.

The appropriation of the tithes is as follows in 1817. The patron of the vicarage has the tithes of Middlewich, Newton, Occleston, Sproston, and Wimbaldsley, except the demesne of Lea Hall, in the latter, belonging to sir J. F. Leicester, bart. In Sutton, the impropiator is Mr. William Court; in Clive and Weever, George Wilbraham, esq.; in Croxton, Henry Tomkinson, esq.; in Ravenscroft and Moorsbarrow cum Parme, Daniel Vawdrey, esq.; in Byley cum Yatehouses, C. W. J. Shakerley, esq.; in Stublach, J. P. Brandreth, M. D.; in Kinderton, lord Vernon; in Minshull Vernon, W. Rigby, esq.

All tithes whatsoever belong to the impropiators above-mentioned, including Easter dues, &c. excepting the tithe of two farms belonging to Hervey Aston, esq. in Minshull Vernon, which were left to the vicar of Middlewich^o. The value of the vicarage in augmentation, tithes, stipend, and surplice fees, is stated in the bishop of Chester's return to the governors of queen Anne's bounty in 1809, to be £95. 12s.

The advowson of the vicarage was conveyed by deed, dated Dec. 16, 1663, by William lord Brereton, Eliz. his wife, sir William Brereton his son, and Frances his wife, to Robert Lowe and John Lowe his son^r, who conveyed the same, March 15, 1677, to Samuel, second son of the said Robert. The annexed pedigree^s brings down the descent of the advowson to the present patron Isaac Wood, esq.

ROBERT LOWE, purchaser of the advowson from lord Brereton, 1663. =.....



ISAAC WOOD, of Newton, esq. (present patron of Middlewich) born May 11, 1795, living 1817.

^m See lists of incumbents.

ⁿ Gastrell Not. Cest.

^o Ibid.

^p Ibid.

^q Information of Isaac Wood, esq.

^r Ibid.

^s Communicated by the same.

^t Church-hill in Over was an antient timber mansion near the church, which passed after the dissolution of Vale Royal abbey to the Holcrofts, and from them to the Persalls. Dec. 10, 21 Car. II. Edmund Persall of Over, and Thomas Persall, gent. in consideration of 500l. paid by Matthew Moreton to the said Edmund, conveyed this place and lands in Over to the trustees of the marriage settlement of his wife Margaret Lee, of that date.

The church of Middlewich consists of a handsome tower, containing six bells, a nave, chancel, and side aisle, with galleries. The nave is divided from the side aisles, by five pointed arches on each side, and from the chancel, by a large pointed arch, the piers of which are inclined inwards at base. The chancel^u is also divided from the smaller chancels in which the side aisles terminate, by two obtusely-pointed arches on each side. All the columns of these arches have ornamented capitals, and are octagonal, excepting a cylindrical pillar and corresponding pilaster, at the east end of the nave; the arch sprung from these is lancet-formed, and much lower than the other arches, and the space between the pillar and pilaster not more than four feet.

“ There was, as 'tis said, an old chapel on the north side of this church, belonging to the family of Wever, lords of Wever, but pulled down at the dissolution of abbies—no remains.”^x

The north-east angle of the church is occupied by the Kinderton chancel, inclosed by an oak screen, on one side of which are the arms of Venables impaling Cholmondeley, and Venables impaling Gargrave, with numerous quarterings; in another part are emblazoned the successive alliances of the Kinderton family, over which, “ Peter Venables baron of Kinderton, A. D. 1633.”

In the north angle is a small brass, representing a kneeling female figure, with one son and two daughters kneeling behind. Over the son's head—A'no etatis u'decimo; over the daughters, Elizabetha (Maria) supertites. Underneath in black letter:

Here lyeth buried under this gravestone, Elizabeth Venables, the wife of Thomas Venables, esquire, baron of Kynderton, the eldest daughter of sir William Brereton of Brereton, knight, who died the day of June 1591.

On a marble mural monument at the side of this brass:

Discite mortales, quam sunt mortalia vana,
Discite mortales, nulla secunda dies:
Nulla secunda dies; tenui pendentia filo
Omnia sunt hominum: mors inopina venit:
Attamen est nobis Christo morientibus ipsa
Mors, lucrum, requies, gaudia, vita nova.
Munde furas igitur, caro sævi, frende Satana,
Vivimus, hand moriuur: mors gemebunda malis.
Hæc vos spectando moveant spectacula nostra,
Quo mens majori flagret amore Dei;
Mundus in hoc mundo fac vivas, condito messes,
Condito, non semper tempora messis erunt.
Denique venturi vos mutet gloria mundi,
Commoveat Christus, comoveatq' salus.
Non obiit, requiescere
abiit an^o D'ni 1591.

Over the inscription, Venables impaling Brereton, with numerous quarterings.

On another marble mural monument:

H. S. E.
Franciscus Leveson,
Richardi Leveson de Lilshull, mil. barn.
ex sororis filia nepos,
ex testamento adoptivus hæres,
nomen ejus et insignia, concessione regia assecutus.
Patrem habuit

Richardum Fowler de Harnedge Grange in co. Salop. ar.;
matrem

Margaretam filiam Richardi baronis Newport et

Rachaelis filiæ Johannis Leveson, sororis dicti Richardi;
uxorem habuit

Annam filiam Petri Venables, baronis de Kinderton,
e quâ filios suscepit

Richardum et Petrum in cunis defunctos,
Franciscum superstitem, et
Franciscam filiam.

Vixit annos xxv, mens. ix, dies xxv.
diem obiit Kindertonæ
xvii Aug. A. D. MDCLXvii.

On a blue slab, near the above inscription:

Hic jacet
Franciscus Leveson,
filius tertio-genitus ac adhuc unicus
Francisci Leveson armigeri,
nuperrime defuncti,
qui obiit vii^o die mensis Septembris,
a^o D'ni MDCLXviii^o,
ætatis unius anni
trium mensium
et xxiiii dierum.

Arms: a chevron charged with three crosses patèe, between three lions passant guardant; on a chief three leaves.

On a large blue slab:

The honourable Peter
Venables baron of Kinderton,
died the 19 day of January 1679,
leaving by Katherine his wife,
sister of the right honourable
Robert lord Ferrers, two daughters,
Catherine and Ann. Catherine
dyeing in a short time after him
in her infancy, his ancient
honour and estate, which had
continued in his name and
family by an uninterrupted
succession from the Conquest,
descended to the said Anne as
his sole daughter and heire,
who married the right honourable
Montague lord Norreys,
afterwards carle of Abingdon.

At the side of this another large blue slab. Arms: within a lozenge, Venables impaling Shirley, paly of six a canton, inscription as follows:

The honourable Catherine Venables,
wife of the honourable Peter Venables,
last baron of Kinderton,
eldest daughter of sir Robert
Shirley of Astwell, in y^e county
of Northampton, and of Staunton
Harold, in the county of
Leicester, baronet, and grand-
child of the right honourable
and most noble Robert Devereux,
earl of Essex and Ewe, viscount
Hereford, lord Bouchier and
Lovaine, baron Ferrers of
Chartley, in Staffordshire, and
viscount Tamworth, baron
Bouchier and Louvain.

Died July y^e 6th, 1717, in the 65th year
of her age.

^u On the roof of the chancel, but now concealed by the plaster, is inscribed: “This roofe was builded at the cost of sir William Brereton, knight, patron of this church, an. D'ni 1621. Vivit post funera virtus. Raphe Walley of Stanthorne, and Richard Hatton of Detton, surveyors of this work, 1621. Robert Hallyly being preacher and vicar.”

^x Gastrell Not. Cest. 1719.

The other chancel of the Kinderton family is used, by permission of the barons of that place, as the vestry. Over the door are the arms of Venables, with the date, Peeter Venables 1632. This oratory was purchased by the Kinderton family, from sir Richard Bulkeley and the parish, and the sale was confirmed by the bishop in 1589, on condition that the baron repaired it^y.

Among other monuments in the body of the church are memorials,

Of the rev. John Hulse of Elworth, who died 13th of Dec. 1790, aged 82 years.

Of Daniel Vawdrey, who died 29th March 1801, aged 68, and Mary his wife, who died Feb. 1, 1774, aged 30.

Mary and Anne, daughters of Smith Kelsall of Bradshaw, gent. by Jane his wife, daughter of Thomas Yate of Middlewich, gent. who died Feb. 5, 1735, aged four and two years.

Matthew, son of the same, died 20th of the same month, aged 4 months.

Penelope daughter of the same, died July 6, 1737, aged 5 months.

Mary, daughter of the said Thomas Yate, by Mary his wife, daughter of Leftwich Oldfield of Leftwich, esq. died March 30, 1723, aged nine years.

The said Thomas Yate died July 25, 1747, aged 80.

Mary Yate, died Aug. 10, 1754, aged 78.

Lucy Kelsall, died May 13, 1755, aged 16.

Thomas Yate, M. D. eldest son of the above Thomas and Mary, died March 24, 1785, aged 73.^z

There is a School in Middlewich, in which eight boys are educated free of expence, who are selected from the parish by the four churchwardens, each warden nominating two boys^a. This school was founded before 1693, when the parish had the appointment of the master; in 1709 Robert Lowndes nominated, who claimed that right on account of his giving the school house^b.

An indenture, dated 24th June 1762, recites, that Ralph Lowndes, late of Lea Hall, in Wimboldsley, clerk, deceased, as owner of the mansion-house called Lea Hall, and the demesne lands thereto belonging, and of several other messuages, lands, tythes, and hereditaments in Lea, otherwise Wimboldsley in the said parish of Middlewich, and elsewhere in the county of Chester, was entitled to the nomination of a master or masters of the school situate in Newton near Middlewich, commonly called Middlewich school.

The deed is silent as to the number of boys free, where from, or in what to be instructed. The late sir P. Leicester purchased from the representatives of Lowndes. The school is endowed with the interest of £160. now in the hands of sir John Leicester, which is secured on a part of his property^c.

Other charities are given in the parliamentary return.

RECTORS OF MIDDLEWICH.^d

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1306 ante.	Ricardus Tuchet.		
1329.	Johannes de Ufford.	Robertus Tochet miles.	Ecclesia deserta.
1330, 9 kal. Mart.	Andreas Foord, acolitus. Johannes Lathrop.	D'nus Rob'tus Tochet miles.	P. res. Jo. de Ufford.
1349, 14 kal. Oct.	Johannes Bele de Ashwell, presb'r.	D'nus Jo. Tochet miles.	P. m. Jo. Lathrop.
1361, 8 kal. Sep.	Thomas Fraunceys.	D'nus — Tochet miles, d'nus de Mackworth.	
1402, June 14.	Johannes Tochet, cl'us.	{ Tho' Tochet, cl'us, rector de Mackworth, et Jo. Cock- ayne de Bredon, hac vice.	
1425, Feb. 5.	Johannes Thicknes.		
1455, Julii 11.	Johannes Tochet, cl'us. Johannes ap Blethin.	Nob. vir Jac. d'nus Audley. Tho' Stanley, miles, per donat. abb. Cest.	Permut. cum Jo. de Thicknes.
1440 ante.	Johannes Tochet ^e .		
1459.	Johannes Heynes, pr'b'r.	Johannes Needham, just. de Banco, et — Phimore cl'us.	P. m. Jo. Tochet.
1484, Jan. 18.	Johannes Bressnel. William Southworth.	Prior de Stone.	

VICARS OF MIDDLEWICH.

1504, Aug. 26.	John Formby. William Kinsey.	Ralph Caulwell.	Res. of William Southworth.
1616, Oct. 25.	Robert Hallyley.	William Brereton.	Death of William Kinsey.
1695, Aug. 25.	William Handforth, A. B.	William Rex, by lapse.	
1702, March 2.	John Cowper, A. M.	Samuel Lowe.	Depriv. of William Handforth.

^y Gastrell Not. Cest.

^z The following church notes taken at Middlewich in 1576, are extant in Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 39. In a window on the south side two kneeling figures, with the date 1524. The man's surecoat emblazoned with the arms of Croxton, and those of the female with the coat of Dokenfield.

In another window a man armed cap-a-pee in a gilt coat of mail with a church in his hand.

In another window in the south aisle, (Pray for the soules of) sir Richard Bulkeley and Katherine his wife, Richard Bulkeley, esq. and Margaret his wife, daughter to sir John Savage, and for Rowland and Richard, sons to the said sir Richard.

Arms relating to the families of Grosvenor, Brereton, Moston, Bulkeley, Venables, Rope, Cotton, Deddington, Massie, Swettenham, Fitton, &c.

Ibid. "Note—that it was tould me that on the north side of the s'd churche of Midelwiche, and in the church yard sep'ate fro' the s'd church, stood an old chappel, w'ch was prop' and belonging to the lords of Wever, whose surnames were Wever, w'ch chapel was pulled downe at the suppression of abbeyes, so that there is now neither armes nor monumentes of that aunient family remaininge there"

^a Information of Edward Braband, esq. The baron of Kinderton appoints two churchwardens, the vicar the third, and the parish the other. Gastrell. Not. Cest.

^b Gastrell, ibid.

^c Information obtained by Edward Braband, esq.

^d "Warin, parson of Wiehe" temp. Johan. is probably to be added to this list. See p. 73, col. 1. It is also observable that though Domesday notices neither church nor priest at Middlewich, it places a presbyter in the adjoining vill of Neutone, in which therefore it is probable that the church of this parish was originally situated. This may account for the singular circumstance of the patronage of Middlewich church being vested in the *Tochets of Tattenhall*, paramount lords of *Newton*, and not in the lords of *Middlewich*, though that was part of the demesne of the earldom.

^e See Inq. 18 Hen. VI. in Sutton.

PRESENTED.	VICARS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1719, July 13.	John Cartwright.	Francis lord Brereton.	Death of John Cowper.
1731, June 1.	John Swinton, A. M.	Robert Lowe.	Death of John Cartwright.
1737, Feb. 21.	Robert Moreton.	Robert Lowe, esq.	Res. of John Swinton.
1780, July 26.	William Kyffin.	Isaac Wood, esq. and Jane his wife.	Death of Robert Moreton.
1787, Aug. 8.	Joshua Powell.	Jane Wood, widow.	Death of William Kyffin.
1797, March 31.	William Henry Heron, A. B.	Jane Wood, widow.	Death of Joshua Powell.
1811, Jan. 31.	James Stringer.	Jane Wood, widow.	Death of Will. Henry Heron.

KINDERTON.

THE possessions of Gilbert de Venables, the Norman founder of this barony, are noticed in the Domesday survey, not only after the estates of all the other barons of the palatinate, but after those of several minor proprietors. This circumstance is observable, as affording a clear proof that the relative dignity of the several Norman barons of Cheshire cannot be gathered from the order of their enumeration in this record; and it may also be remarked, that in this, and in every other case, the vill which subsequently became head of the barony, occurs in its place in the regular succession of townships, and does not appear to have been selected for the residence of the baron at the period of the survey. Gilbert de Venables held at this time Eccleston, Alraham, Tarporley, Wettenhall, Hartford, Lymme (one half), High Legh, Wincham, Mere, part of Over Peover, Rosthorne, and Hope (in Exestan hundred, now in North Wales). The same person, under the name of Gilbert Venator, held Newbold (Astbury), Brereton, Kinderton, Davenport, Witton, and Blakenhall; and appears also to be the same Gislebertus, who had joint possession of Sunderland and Baggiley, with Hamo and Ranulphus. Several townships which were subsequently dependencies of Kinderton, are to be traced from the subdivisions of these original villis; and some, which still retain in their names an allusion to the moors and morasses of which they chiefly consisted at an early period, were most probably omitted.

Subinfeudations took place in most of these villis within a few generations after the Conquest, which are noticed in the several townships.

Kinderton itself is described as follows:

“*Isdem Gislebertus tenet Cinbretune; Godvinus tenuit, et liber homo fuit; ibi 111 hidæ geldabiles; terra est v carucarum; in dominio est una, et 11 servi, et 111 bordarii: ibi una acra prati; silva dimidia leuvá longa, et tantundem lata; et ibi haia; valet x solidos. Wasta fuit et invenitur.*”

I. Gilbert de Venables is supposed to have been a younger brother of Stephen earl of Blois^a, and before the year 1093 gave to the abbey of St. Werburgh the church of Astbury, and a moiety of Newbold, which gift is recited in the charter of Hugh Lupus to that abbey^b.

II. The name of his son does not appear.

III. Gilbert de Venables, grandson of the first baron, married Margery, daughter of Walthew Fitz-Wolfric,

with whom he had half of Marton in frank marriage^c, and by whom he had issue six sons and two daughters. His seal was a falcon sinister, regardant, which is appendant to a charter, witnessed by Ormus de Davenport and others, whereby he grants lands, and a release “*ab omni actione servili et ab omni vili consuetudine,*” to Osmund, son of Gamel de Eccleston, for which William and Richard de Eton pay one mark, and the said Osmund pays also one mark of silver. This deed is preserved in a valuable transcript of the Kinderton charters, made by “*Sampson Erdeswick de Sonde*” in 1600. It is numbered 2. in this collection, and the subsequent numbers here introduced refer to the same MS.^d The issue before-mentioned were sir William Venables, son and heir; Hugh Venables, to whom his brother gives (1) his right in the churches of Rosthorne, Eccleston, and Astbury, by a grant made in the synod held at Chester, next after the consecration of Hugh de Novant, who was made bishop in 1188. Gilbert, Michael, and R. Venables, witnesses to the charter last mentioned^e. Hamon de Venables (apparently the same person with Hamon, ancestor of Leigh of West Hall), grantee of lands in Wincham from his brother William, and his niece and sister, Maud Venables, and Mand Shireburne (5, 11, 12, 13)^f; Amabilia, wife of Richard de Davenport; and Mand wife of Ralph Fitz-Roger (9) and after of Hugh de Brexis (11, 12) by the first of whom she had Maud, wife of Nicholas de Letres, and Emma, wife of Robert Brant.

IV. Sir William Venables, knight, eldest son and heir of Gilbert, occurs in the grant before mentioned to his brother Hugh, about 1188. To this deed (1) he affixes a seal, representing a lion rampant sinister; by another deed without date (3) he grants to Richard de Davenport in frank marriage with his sister Anabella a moiety of Marton; by another (16)^g witnessed by Hugh earl of Chester, Hugh de Lacy, and others, he confirms the church of Astbury to God and St. Werburgh, “*sicut proavus meus Gilbertus de Venables eam dedit*” —“*nichil omnino retinens in ea præter orationes;*” in a fourth charter (17) he grants the wardship and marriage of William, son of Ralph Brereton to Richard de Sandbach; and occurs in another (63) as receiving a moiety of Hulme from Reginald de Bradwall. He had also licence for a domestic chapel at Merston for himself and his wife from Andrew prior of Norton (21).

He had issue sir Hugh Venables, son and heir, Robert

^a Leicester's MS. pedigrees, preserved at Tabley.

^b Vol. f. p. 13.

^c The original deed is at Capesthorpe. Information of the rev. W. Davenport. See more particulars respecting this Margery under Davenport and Marton, and a conjecture respecting her parentage in Croxton.

^d This MS. was formerly the property of sir Peter Leicester, and now belongs to sir J. F. Leicester, by whom it was obligingly communicated; the MS. is marked Lib. H. The charter above-mentioned is given at p. 34 of this volume.

^e “*Facta est hæc donatio sinodo apud Cestriam proximo celebrat' post consec' tionem venerab'lis ep'i n'ri d'ni Hugonis de Novante, et existente custode honoris Cestriæ d'no Adam de Aldithel': dat' que est tutor prænominato clerico Hugoni de Venables, Adam Panton ejus avunculus.*” Various deeds and other particulars connected with the Venables family will be found in the accounts of Davenham, Croxton, and Marton.

^f See High Legh, Bucklow Hund. p. 354.

^g This is entered in the Chartulary of St. Werburgh (Harl. MSS. 1965. 16.) with a confirmation by Richard Peché bishop of Coventry, 9—28 Hen. II.

parson of Rosthorne, Hamon, and William, who purchased lands in Wincham from Henry de Elets (23), and was father of Beatrix, wife of Ralph Wasteneys of Tixal, and of Lettice (eldest daughter and coheir), successively wife of Philip Bamville, Richard Wilburham, and Robert Crossleg, by the second of whom she was ancestress of the knightly family of the Wilbrahams of Woodhey.

V. Hugh de Venables, son and heir of William, grants to his son Roger, by deed (24) without date (witnessed by Charles abbot of Stanlaw, Roger abbot of Chester, and others), his lands in Eccleston, and the advowson of the church, to the intent that he should endow with ten pounds worth of land in the same, his wife Alice, daughter of Alan de Peninton; to the same Roger he grants the manor of Witton, and the advowson of Routhestorne (25): to this deed he affixes a seal charged with the present coat of Venables, and circumscribed "SIGILLUM HUGON' DE VENABLES." He occurs in various other deeds relating to Rosthorne (28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 61), and by the deed last cited grants the fourth of that vill to his daughter Elizabeth, who occurs from 1253 to 1261, after this grant (40, 41, 42). He had also issue Beatrix, wife of Roger de Toft^b.

VI. Sir Roger de Venables, knt. son and heir of Hugh, occurs in deeds marked 19, 36, 38, 40, 43, 44, 46, 48, 55, in addition to those already mentioned. He had issue sir William Venables, son and heir, and Roesia, wife of Alexander de Bamville (54), and probably Roger Venables, parson of Rosthorne, temp. Edw. I. In 1261 (44) sir Roger de Venables recovered possession of the church of Astbury against the abbot of St. Werburgh, but it was shortly afterwards gained by the abbot; and the monks had an opportunity of recording the death of their opponent, within a year after the ultimate decision, as the judgment of Heaven in their favour^c. The words of the chronicle are strong, "miserabiliter obiit."

VII. Sir William Venables, knt. occurs in several

deeds (45, 46, 49), as son and heir of sir Roger. The first of these bears date 1267. During the justiceship of Reginald de Grey, and the abbacy of Thomas de Byrchehylls, the latter of which commenced 1291, he restored to the monks of Chester the advowson of Astbury^k, of which his father had despoiled them, and died the year following, 20 Edw. I. 1292. In the following year Marston was assigned, as dower^l for his wife Margaret, daughter of sir Thomas Dutton, whom he had married in 1253 (40).

By this wife sir William Venables was father of sir Hugh, son and heir. Sir William Venables^m, of Bradwall, male ancestor of Legh of Booths, and Venables of Bradwall, and Cecilia, wife of Adam, the clerk of Allehulme, near Brereton (47, 60, 75).

VIII. Sir Hugh Venables, knt. son and heir, had a grant for life from his father of a moiety of the vill of Bradwall during his father's life-time. Test. Reg. de Grey, justic. Cest. (46)ⁿ. He grants the manor of the same to his son Hugh, with lands in Sproston, in 1308 (66), and occurs in many other deeds, too numerous for reference. In 23 Edw. I. he married Agatha, daughter of Ralph Vernon, of Shipbrook, with whom he had lands and services of tenants in Newton, Little Meols, and Leyrton (57), and by whom he was father of the numerous issue specified in the pedigree. Sir Hugh died 4 Edw. II. 1311.

IX. Sir Hugh Venables of Kinderton, knt. son and heir, married, to his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of William Mobberley, of Mobberley, and by her had issue William Venables, who died in the life-time of his father, in 1350, having had issue Maude and Catherine, who died without issue before him^o. Sir Hugh Venables, 17 Edw. III. had licence from the Black Prince to settle 40 marks land on this William and Maud his wife, which he settled accordingly (100); and 19 Edw. III. he settled on the same the manors of Bradwall and Newton in Wirral (106)^q.

^b This Hugh had the issue which succeeded him by Agnes de Oxtou, but he had also a first wife, whom he divorced (apparently very irregularly), after having had numerous issue by her. See Harl. MSS. 2077. and vol. I. p. 361. He was uncle of Robert de la Mere, ancestor of *Mere of Mere*, but whether paternally so does not appear.

^c The chronicle of St. Werburgh places the trial in 1259, and says that the baron recovered by a false assize. The charge of the monks may not be groundless. In a similar case, relating to the advowson of Sanbach, the abbot of Dieulacres failed in obtaining any thing like justice, until he had moved his cause into the court of King's Bench.

^k Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965. 16.

^l Leicester's MS. pedigrees.

^m He is called *D'nis Will'mus* in some charters of his brother Hugh, made to the second William Venables of Bradwall. See Bradwall.

ⁿ See Bradwall, p. 64, col. 1. This grant must have been in the first justiceship of Reginald de Grey, 1 and 2 Edw. I. ^o Leicester's pedigrees.

^p This Maud was daughter of Richard Vernon, of Shipbrook. She occurs 24 Edw. III. (113) as dame Matild' jadyz femme de mons'r Guillaum de Venables, and seals with the coat of Venables, impaling these arms for Vernon, Fretty, on a canton sinister, a crescent.

^q The following plea of this Hugh to a writ of quo warranto, gives a curious account of the old privileges of the barony. The entire plea is preserved in Harl. MSS. 2115. and in Vernon's MSS. in the Somersford Collection:

Hugh Venables of Kinderton, at the pleas at Chester, Tuesday after the feast of St. Hilary, 31 Edw. III. in plea to a writ of quo warranto, appeared in person, and claimed by prescription, view of frank pledge in his manor of Kinderton, of all his demesne and fee, infangtheif and outfangtheif, wayfe and straye, gallows (forcaes), pillory, tumbrell, and thew, stallage through his demesne and fee, stocks (stipites) for felons taken within his demesne and fee, and pelfe within the same. He explains these claims as follows, in answer to questions from William Bras, on the part of the earl:

By view of frank pledge he intends to claim the same yearly, at Michaelmas, on reasonable summons, and to have there assize of bread and beer, and amerements of effusion of blood, hue raised, or roads obstructed, on the presentment of 12 jurors, named by his seneschall. That his bedell shall present breach of peace or effusion of blood at each court, which shall be punishable by amerement. That offenders against the assize of bread and beer, scolds, bakers, and brewers, shall be punished thrice by amerements, and if they offend a fourth time, bakers shall be punished by the pillory, brewers by the tumbrell, and scolds by the thew, at the will of the lord or his steward.

By infangtheif, he claims, that if any robber is taken with the manner, within Kinderton fee, that at the suit of the party injured, he shall be brought up to the court thereof within three days, and if the accoser wishes to prosecute him there, the thief shall be arraigned, and if he wishes to put himself on the inquest of the court, an inquest shall immediately take place, and according to what is found by that inquest judgment shall be given in court; but if the thief is unwilling to put himself upon this inquest, he shall immediately be taken to the castle of Chester, and tried according to law and custom, and if convicted, and subject to capital punishment, he shall be brought back by the officers of the lord of Kinderton to his own gallows, and be there executed.

By outfangtheif he claims, that if any robber who is man or tenant of his, of his demesne or fee, shall be convicted of felony, and condemned in any court whatsoever, he shall be brought by the officers of the lord of Kinderton to his own gallows, and be there executed.

By wayfe, he explains himself to mean beasts or goods taken by any robber, and left in his fee, and by stray, animals found on the waste and not redeemed in a year and a day after proclamation made, and by stallage 4d. per annum from merchants and butchers within the same.

By pelfe he claims, that if any resident within his demesne shall have committed felony, wounded any one dangerously or fled, that he shall seize on all his goods and chattels by his headle, and after presenting to the earl at Chester castle what belongs to him, have for himself the best of his beasts of burthen, and the best of all his horned kine, and hogs or porklings, or if one only, then that one, his poultry, his killed meat, his malt and grain of every description, within one quarter, his lead, excepting what is in the furnace, if there is any, wooden vessels, linen and woollen cloths, all his carts not bound with iron, and his ploughs with all their appendages.

This claim was resisted by the Earl, and a decision was made by a jury in favour of the lord of Kinderton, on Tuesday before the Nativity of the

By his second wife Katherine (who occurs in various deeds about 16 and 20 Edw. III.) sir Hugh was father of, 2. Hugh, who succeeded him; 3. Roger, husband of Elizabeth Golborne; 4. Thomas Venables; 5. Richard, husband of Joane Fitton, of Bollin^r; and one daughter, Joan, wife of sir Thomas Lathom. Sir Hugh died 41 Edw. III. leaving his wife Katherine surviving (131).

X. Hugh Venables married twice, as mentioned in the pedigree. By the second marriage he was father of sir Richard Venables, son and heir; Thomas Venables, of Hartford, ancestor of Venables of Agden, and William Venables, whose issue succeeded by settlement to the estate of Kinderton, and who succeeded himself to Moston 13 Hen. IV. and to Golborne under a settlement by his cousin Hugh Venables of that place, 10 Hen. V. (162). This sir Hugh Venables was sheriff of Cheshire 2 Rich. II. during the king's pleasure, and died in office the year following. The inquisitions after his death, 6, 7, and 20 Rich. II. find his son Richard his heir, and state him to have held the barony of Kinderton by the service of ten knights fees.

XI. Sir Richard Venables, knt. son and heir, held the office of sheriff in 1386, as deputy to Hugh earl of Stafford. In 4 Hen. IV. he fought at the battle of Shrewsbury on the side of the Percies, and was taken prisoner and beheaded after the battle. He left issue Hugh Venables, son and heir. Henry, who finally succeeded to the barony, and one daughter, Jonet. The inquisition taken after his death, in the same year, describes him to have died seized of the barony of Kinderton, the manors of Eccleston and Marston, and the advowsons of Eccleston and Rosthorpe.

XII. *Inq. p. m.* 3 Hen. V. Hugh Venables of Kinderton died seized in demesne, as of fee, of the barony or manor of Kinderton, with its appurtenances, and the advowson of Rosthorpe; of the manors of Marston, Witton, Le Crosse, Eccleston, and Barterton; moieties of the vill of Sproston and Newton, in Wirral; salt-works in Middlewich and Northwich; and lands in the said towns and in Bradwall, Curtishulme, Old Waverton, Stanthorne, and Tetton: Hugh Venables son and heir.

XIII. This Hugh died without issue^s. He had a brother, Richard, on whom he settled lands in Kinderton, Sproston, and Hulme, 16 Hen. VI.^t (168), and two sisters, Joane and Elizabeth, wives of Richard Coton and Adam Bostock, whose issue were finally coheirs of this line.

XIV. Sir Hugh Venables, knt. nephew of Hugh Venables last-mentioned, married Elizabeth, daughter of William Troutbeck, of Dunham, and fell with his brother-in-law, sir John Troutbeck, and numerous other

Cheshire gentry, at the battle of Bloreheath, 38 Hen. VI. fighting under lord Audley, on the part of king Henry VI.

The inquisition taken the same year differs little from the one last noticed.

Richard Coton and Ralph Bostock, the sons of his aunts, were found, in the first instance, coheirs to the barony and lands^u, but the same nevertheless passed to his great uncle, Henry Venables, to whom they were delivered by Robert Grosvenor of Holme, trustee of Hugh Venables, who had licence to enter on the same by royal mandate, in the year last mentioned (177).

XV. Henry Venables, last heir male of the direct line, who thus obtained possession, anno 1 Edw. IV. (178), settled two years afterwards the lands, rents, and services, which he had in Kinderton, Mershton, Witton, Eccleston, Newton in Wirral, Stanthorne, Old Warton, Middle and North Wich, Tetton, Bradwall, High Aspes, &c. on William Venables, son and heir of Thomas Venables of Golborne, and the heirs male of his body (180).

This William Venables was great grandson of Hugh Venables, tenth baron of Kinderton, being grandson of his younger son William Venables constable of Chester, who obtained the manors of Golborne and Moston, as before mentioned. This succession was contested by the representatives of Joane and Elizabeth Venables, whose sons, as before mentioned, were found heirs to their cousin, sir Hugh Venables, anno 38 Hen. VI. and both parties are described in the inquisitions as seized of the barony. William Venables, who succeeds under the settlement, is so described 10 Hen. VII.; and Thomas Venables his son, (who was slain at Flodden Field) 5 Hen. VIII.; Richard Coton, 19 Hen. VII.; and Thomas Coton, his son, 21 Hen. VII. These disputes were partially settled by a compromise, and the marriage of Elinor (finally coheir of Thomas Coton, representative of Joane Venables) with sir William Venables of Kinderton and Golborne, grandson of William, who was heir under the settlement 3 Edw. IV.

XVIII. This sir William Venables was fifteenth in descent from the Norman founder of the barony, and eighteenth baron, if the title of his father and grandfather is allowed. He was sheriff of Cheshire 1526, and died 32 Hen. VIII.

Inq. p. m. 32 Hen. VIII. sir William Venables, knt. held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Kinderton, from the king, as earl of Chester, in capite, val. xxi. us. ivd. The advowson of Eccleston, the manors of Moston and Cotton, moieties of the vill of Burwardsley and Newton, and lands in Kinderton, Eccleston, Wytton, Crosse, Northwich, Bradwall, Mershton, Sproston, Orton,

Virgin, 32 Edw. III. excepting some of the slighter perquisites. The jury were Jo. Daniell, Wm. de Carrington, Ric. de Aston, Henry de Hooton, Wm. de Golborne, Henry de Beeston, Ric. de Hough, Tho. de Capinhurst, Jo. de Griffin, Ric. de Fouleshurst, Hamo de Massy de Podington, Tho. de Elton.

In another claim (34, 36 Hen. VI.?) *ibid.* 54 Thomas Venables, esq. claims also park and freewarren, and describes as his demesne lands, Bradwall, Kinderton, Sproston, Mershton, Witton, and Eccleston.

This claim corresponds with the tenor of a charter dated at Chester 12 Jan. 28 Edw. III. whereby prince Edward grants to sir Hugh Venables and his heirs, freewarren in the demesne lands belonging to his barony, in Kinderton, Sproston, Marston, Witton, and Eccleston; and also in all his demesne lands of the manor of Bradwall, held by Philip de Egerton and Matilda his wife for the life of the said Matilda. Harl. MSS. 2002. 14.

^r This is the order in which the sons occur in a settlement 41 E. III. (132).

^s To this thirteenth baron (whom sir Peter Leycester styles the impotent baron of Kinderton) must be assigned for wife Parnell Dutton whom Leycester's MS pedigree gives to his father, and who, by indenture dated Jan. 28, 29 Hen. VI. is proved to have survived her husband, and being still a minor, to have been remarried to Richard Boothe, by her nephew Thomas, and her brother Richard Dutton, in whose "governance" she was. Tabley MSS. C. 160. c. The following inquisition gives the name of the wife of the elder Hugh, the 12th baron, who also remarried.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VI. Cecilia, widow of sir Ralph de Radcliffe, knight, held in dower a third part of the manor of Kinderton, and of the lands and manors of the barony in Middlewich, Sproston, Bradwall, Curtishulme, Witton, Crosse, Northwich, Eccleston, Newton, Barterton, Tetton, Mershton, Old Waverton, and Stanthorne. All these she held of the dotation of Hugh, son of Richard de Venables of Kinderton, knight. Hugh de Venables, son of the said Hugh, son and heir.

^t On Richard and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Rateliff, of Ordeshall, for life, remainder to the said Hugh and the heirs of his body, remainder to the heirs of the body of Richard, remainder to the right heirs of Hugh.

^u "The king granted th'r sons (viz. the two sons of the coheirs here mentioned) a special livery of ye man^r of Kinderton, whereupon Rich^d Coton and Ralph Bostock were in possession till Henry, W^m, and Piers Venables, and many others, put y^m out. Whereupon S^r W^m Brereton, th^r guardian prayed ye king's letters to ye lord Stanley, to put y^m in possession, and imprison ye rioters." Williamson's Vill. Cest.

Lacheford, Middlewich, Mylton, Clutton, Doddleston, Tetton, Cotton, Northwich, Minshull, Golburne-David, and Curteshulme. Val. CLXVI. XIIIS. VIII. Obiit 31 July, 32 H. VIII. Thomas Venables, son and heir^x.

The descent being now brought down to the contemporary entries in the visitations, it appears unnecessary to enumerate the younger sons and daughters, which are specified in the pedigree subjoined.

XIX. Thomas Venables, found heir by the last inquisition, united in his person the claims of Venables of Golburne, under the settlement, with that of the Cotons, as coheirs in the female line of Venables of Kinderton. The claim of the Bostocks, descendants of the other coheir, was now vested in the Savages of Rock Savage; "but, after long suit, sir J'n Savage came to an agreement with sir Thomas Venables, and thereupon past a fine of half y^e manors of Kinderton, Eccleston, Marston, Bradwall, Witton, and Le Crosse, and half of 300 mess. 20 saltworks, 3000 acres of land, &c. in those places, &c. and half the advowsons of Rostherne and Eccleston, y^e Munday next y^e close of Easter, 6 E. VI." (Williamson, Vill. Cest.) Venables of Golburne had therefore now the entire barony under the settlement, in right of his father: in right of his mother he had the interest of one coheir, and the interest of the other by this compromise; but there yet remained the claims of Venables of Agden, as heir male, to be disposed of by the next generation.

This Thomas Venables was one of the Cheshire gentlemen who were knighted by the earl of Hertford at Leith in Scotland, in 1544, and survived to 22 Eliz.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. Sir Thomas Venables of Kinderton, knt. held the manor of Kinderton, with the advowson of the church of Rostherne, to the same belonging, and the hamlets of Kettleshulme, Brotherhulme, and Brerhulme, from the queen, as one entire barony, val. per ann. £20. 2s. 4d.; also, in the same manner, the manor and advowson of Eccleston, with the hamlet of Belgreave, and the manors of Witton, Bradwall, Marston, Sproston; and, by other tenures, the manors of Moston, Cotton, and Golburne David; salt-works in Middlewich; and lands in Middlewich, Milton, Hanley, Tetton, and Christleton: val. £118. 12s. 10d. Obiit 19 July, 22 Eliz. Thomas Venables, esq. son and heir.

XX. This Thomas Venables, last mentioned, purchased from William Venables of Agden, all his rights in the barony of Kinderton^y. A claim on behalf of the Agden family had been previously advanced by Hugh Venables (who died 5 and 6 Phil. and Mary), and he had two several recoveries of it, although he failed in obtaining ultimate possession. The claim of Hugh was as "next rightful heir^z," and it must necessarily have been advanced against the settlement by which the Golburne branch succeeded.

The partial success of the claim may be presumed to settle in favour of the Agden branch the relative seniority of the two sons of the tenth baron, from whom the lines of Agden and Golburne severally descended; and if the latter of these succeeded only by settlement against the pretensions of the heir male, the circumstance is fatal to the truth of the traditional unbroken lineal descent of this barony from the Conquest to the 17th century.

Inq. p. m. 22 April 4 Jac. I. Thomas Venables of Kinderton, esq. held the barony of Kinderton, with its members and appurtenances, from the king, as earl of Chester, as one entire barony; also the manor of Kinderton, with its hamlets and lands therein; the manor and advowson of Eccleston; the manor of Witton, and lands therein; the manor of Bradwall, and lands therein; the manor of Mershton; half the manor of Sproston, and lands therein; the manors of Bridgemeir and Moston, and lands therein; and in Elton, Middlewich, Northwich, Milton, Hanley, and Tetton; the manor of Cotton, and lands therein, and in Christleton; the manor of Golburne David; lands and mills in Stanford; lands in Stanthorne, Newton, Sutton, Parme, Moresbarrow, Wareton and Wington; saltworks in Nantwich; and lands in Cotton Hoppus, Comberford, and Wigniford, in Staffordshire. Val. tot. £85. 11s. 111d. Obiit 8 Dec. last past before this inquisition, Peter Venables esq. son and heir, aged two years and one day.

XXI. Peter Venables, found heir by this inquisition, is the person to whom Webb so quaintly alludes in his *Itinerary*, as "the towardly young gentleman, who, though scarce out of his minority," was "likely to replenish" the house of Kinderton "with a fruitful increase of his race." These hopes were disappointed. His eldest son died before him; and his grandson Peter Venables, the twenty-second baron, died without male issue in 1679.

The subject of Webb's eulogy must not, however, be dismissed without a tribute to his literary taste, displayed in his patronage of the first topographical work on the subject of Cheshire. Eleven plates of arms, containing the bearings of the entire county, emblazoned on 520 shields, were executed at the sole expence of this baron of Kinderton, to whom the later copies of this Work are dedicated, the first Dedication, to sir Orlando Bridgeman, being cancelled^a.

XXII. Peter Venables, last baron of Kinderton of the male line, left issue two daughters; Catherine, his eldest daughter, wife of Robert earl Ferrers, dying shortly after her father, without issue, the barony and estates passed to his second daughter, Anne, wife of Montague lord Norreys, who afterwards became earl of Abingdon. She also died without issue, and was buried at Rycote, with the subjoined inscription on her coffin.^b

After the death of the countess of Abingdon, the barony of Kinderton passed to the Vernons of Sudbury,

^x The inquisition after the death of Catherine, widow of sir William Venables, was taken 4 and 5 Philip and Mary. She died seized of the manor of Goulburne David, lands in Milton, Crosse, Northwich, Bradwall, Hollins, Kinderton, Middlewich, Minshull, half of the manor of Newton in Wirral, and lands in Eccleston. Obiit Nov. 6, anno p'd'to. Sir Thomas Venables, knt. next heir.

^y Leicester's Table MSS. pedigrees of Venables of Kinderton and Venables of Agden.

^z See Leicester in Agden.

^a This baron of Kinderton, and his eldest son, were fined by the Parliament in the sum of £6,150. Ashmole, the antiquary, who was connected with this part of Cheshire (by marrying the daughter of Peter Manwaring of Smallwood, a younger brother of the Carincham family,) spent the summer of 1644 at Kinderton, in attempting to get off the baron's sequestration.

^b "The right honourable Anne, countess of Abingdon, baroness of Kinderton, daughter and heiress to Peter Venables, baron of Kinderton, by his wife Catherine Shirley, one of the daughters of sir Robert Shirley, and sister of the present earl Ferrers of Chartley. By her father, the ancient barony of Kinderton descended to her in a direct line, without any collateral variation, from Gislebert Venables, one of the seven barons in the county palatine of Chester under William the Conqueror. She was born the 7th of May, A. D. 1674, and married, 22 Sept. 1687, to Montague lord Norreys, eldest son and heir to James, late earl of Abingdon, whom he succeeded in his estate and honours A. D. 1699. She was lady of the bedchamber to her late majesty queen Anne, from the first of her reign to the death of that excellent Queen, by whom she was highly regarded, and from whom she received such constant marks of a particular affection, that when her Majesty was prevailed on to displace her lord, with the rest of the nobility and gentry of the same loyal principles, all possible means were tried, in vain, by those then in great power, to get her removed; yet her love and duty to her lord made her choose to quit the court and to follow him in his retirement, till in a more happy juncture of affairs he was restored to his employments, and

in the county of Derby, in right of Mary, only sister of the last baron, and wife of Thomas Pigot, esq. The issue of this marriage was Anne, only daughter and heiress, wife of Henry Vernon, esq. whose son, George Venables Vernon, esq. succeeded to this barony, under

the will of his great uncle Peter Venables, and was raised to the peerage by the title of lord Vernon, baron of Kinderton, May 12, 1762.

The annexed pedigree brings down the further descent of this barony to the present period.

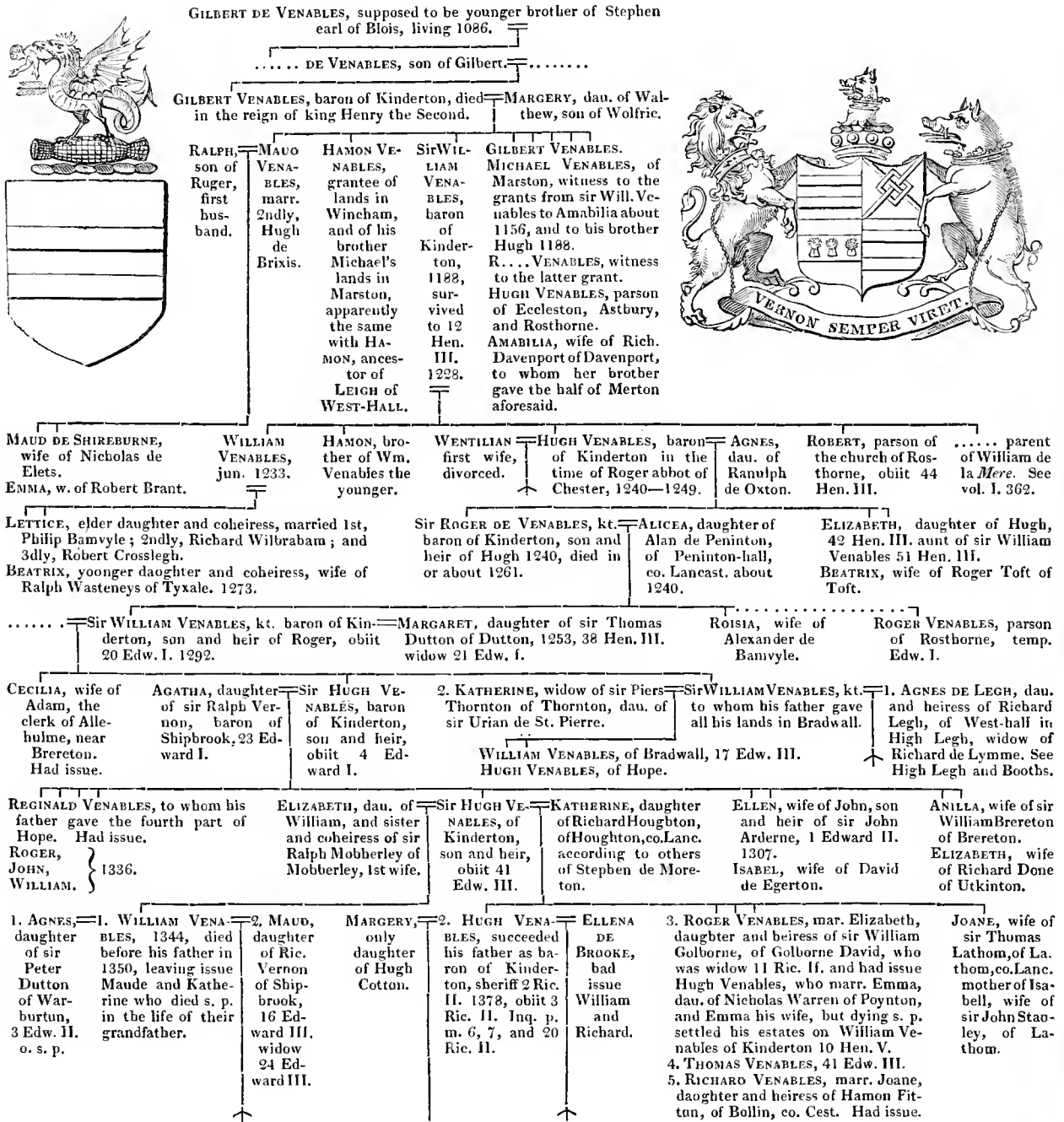
VENABLES AND VENABLES-VERNON OF KINDERTON.

The following pedigree down to the extinction of the male line is transcribed from a MS. pedigree by sir Peter Leyeester, which has been collated and corrected from Inquisitions p. m. and the Venables chartulary; the continuation was communicated by Edward Braband, esq. under the direction of lord Vernon.

ARMS OF VENABLES. Azure, two bars Argent. CREST. On a wreath, a wyvern Argent, pierced with an arrow, headed Or and feathered Argent, devouring a child proper, crined Or, and standing on a weir Argent, banded Azure.*

ARMS OF VENABLES-VERNON. 1 and 4, Venables as before. 2, Argent, a fret Sable, Vernon of Haddon (male ancestor of the Sudbury branch). 3, Or, on a fesse Azure three garbs Or, Vernon of Haslington. CREST. On a wreath a boar's head erased Sable, ducally gorged Or.

SUPPORTERS. Dexter, a lion Gules, collared and chained Or. Sinister, a boar Sable, ducally collared and chained Or.



she returned to her attendance on the best of queens: from which time she continued ever near to her till her Majesty's death, which happened August 1, 1714, which but a little preceded and perhaps hastened her own. She died April 28, 1715. Her body is here buried in peace, but her name, we trust, liveth for evermore." This inscription is observable for retaining the ordinary traditional error respecting the lineal descent of Kinderton.

* This singular crest is emblazoned here, as exemplified in Dalton's patent to sir T. Venables 1560, of which an abstract is given in the account of Moston following. In some cases (Harl. MSS. 1535, et alibi) it is emblazoned as given in the pedigree of Venables of Bradwall, and other differences occur in the hearing of Venables of Agden, vol. 1. p. 409, and Venables of Antrobus, *ibid.* p. 487.

a



^d The Vernons of Kinderton and Sudbury represent three several lines of the Vernon family, all of which are branches from Shipbrook. In the

The following is given as the antient extent of the barony in Harl. MSS. 2039. 155. b.

"Within the barone of Kinderton be these townes followinge :

"Hunsterton, Eccleston, Checkley, Bridgmeir, Dod-dington, Lea, Blaekenhall, Mere, dimid. de Bollington, Rouesthorne, Heigh Leigh, dimid. de Lymme, Wettenhall, Alpram, Utkinton, Torpley, Moreton-Alcumlow, Pevre, Newbold Astbury, Somerford Radnor, Davenport, Wymincham, Pykmere, Marshton, Wytton, Castlenorthwich, Hertford juxta Horton, Morebarrow cu' Parme, Brereton, Bradwell, Arclid, Stanthorne, Sproston, and Kynderton."

The jurisdiction of the barony over several of these townships is disused; and Marston, Wincham, Hartford, and Castle Northwich, formerly dependencies of Kinderton, are included within the jurisdiction of the leet of Witton, which was sold by lord Vernon to sir Peter Leicester of Tabley.

"A court leet with view of frank-pledge is however still held for the manor, barony, and fee of Kinderton, usually in October and November; and the jurisdiction of this court extends over Kinderton, Sproston, Bradwell, Moresbarrow, Morton Alcumlow, Newbold Astbury, Somerford Radnor, Arclid, and Davenport.

The halmote court for the same manor, barony, and fee is held twice a year, usually in May and November, and extends over Kinderton, Sproston, and Bradwell.

Constables for the several townships of Kinderton, Sproston, Bradwell, Moresbarrow, Morton Alcumlow, Newbold Astbury, Somerford Radnor, Arclid, and

Davenport, have been appointed at the court leet, and sworn before the steward of the court.

The antient privileges possessed by this barony have been already noticed; but there do not appear to be any present usages of these courts different from ordinary courts leet, halmote, or court baron.

The baronial power was exercised, for the last time in capital causes, in 1597, 39 Eliz. when Hugh Stringer was tried for murder in the baron's court, and executed^x. The place of execution still retains the name of Gal-lows Field^y; and in an earlier part of this work^z will be found a tenure which compelled the proprietor of the "Hangeman's Butts," in Ravenscroft, to provide the executioner.

The antient hall of Kinderton stood near the banks of the Dane, at the distance of two fields breadth from the site of the Roman works of Condate, which probably suggested a position for the Norman head of this barony. A part only of the moat is remaining, but it formerly inclosed a parallelogram of several acres, in the south-west angle of which is a large circular mound, which was most probably raised to support the keep tower. All remains of the antient castellated edifice, and of the later hall which succeeded to it have been taken down, and a brick mansion called Kinderton Lodge has been erected to supply their place on another part of the manor. The later edifice is said to have been a large quadrangular fabric of timber and plaister, and the upper story is described as having been decorated with imaginary portraits of the long series of the barons of Kinderton, painted in a rude style round the exterior of the building.

MOORESBARROW CUM PARME.

THERE is no notice in Domesday of either of these places. The township is now divided into two estates, one of which is reputed a manor; on the other is the site of the hall of Mooresbarrow.

The first of these estates occurs in the charter of Edward I. granted to the monks of Dernhale for the translation of their abbey to Vale Royal. In this he gives them "totam terram cum pertinentiis suis in Moresbarewe, quam per cartam nostram dederamus Jacobo le Vilur, et quam terram idem Jacobus nobis postmodum in manus nostras reddidit—."^a The lands of the monks in Moresbury cum Parme are noticed in the surrender^b, and a rent of £3. 6s. 8d. issuing from a tenement in the vill of Parme, occurs in the survey by special commissioners 36 Hen. VIII.^c

"These lands (I suppose) were purchased after y^e dissolution by Tho. Brown, &c. 25 March 7 Edw. VI. who sold y^m to sir Rich^d Brooke, father of Tho. Brooke, of Norton, esq. w^{ch} Tho. and his son sir Rich^d sold y^m to Tho. Venables, barⁿ of Kind^{ton} 5 Jac. I."^d

This estate passed with Kinderton to the Vernons of Sudbury.

"About the year 1791, the manor of Mooresbarrow cum Parm was purchased from lord Vernon by Josiah Perrin of Warrington, merchant, who, by his will, devised the same to his daughter Sarah, with a proviso, that in case she should marry a Scotchman, or a person

born of Scotch parents, the manor of Mooresbarrow, with other property, should descend to Maria Perrin and Josiah Perrin, two children of his nephew Joseph Perrin. The daughter did marry a Scotchman, viz. William Geddes, formerly of Warrington, now deceased. The will of the said Josiah Perrin has been contested in the different courts of law, and the condition in restraint of marriage contained in the said will has been declared a legal and valid condition. The property of the manor of Mooresbarrow cum Parme vested in consequence in the said Maria Perrin, now (1817) Cheetham, widow of Joseph Cheetham of Stockport, cotton manufacturer, whom she married in 1810, and who died in 1815."^e

The *Mooresbarrow Hall estate* was the property of the Beringtons in the reign of Edward I. Dr. Williamson deduces them from Gilbert, son of Henry de Croxton, but is apparently incorrect in so doing, as the Cheshire pedigrees generally bring them from the Berthintons or Barntons of Bucklow Hundred, and are confirmed therein by a pedigree drawn from original evidences (Harl. MSS. 2038. 86.) which has been given in the account of Bradwall (p. 67.)

Adam Berington, noticed in that pedigree, was father of Thomas, who, according to the MS. last quoted, had two bastard sons, Richard and Randle, who burnt down the hall of Mooresbarrow, probably in consequence of some dispute relative to the succession.

male line (as *Vernons of Houndskill*) they descend from Thomas, second son of Humphrey Vernon, of Hodnet, third son of sir Henry Vernon, of Harleston and Haddon, kt. and in the female line they represent the *Vernons of Haslington* by the marriage of Henry Vernon with Muriell, daughter and heiress of sir George Vernon, of Haslington, kt. and, lastly, the *Vernons of Sudbury*, by the marriage of sir Edward Vernon with Margaret, daughter and sole heiress of Henry Vernon, grandson of sir John Vernon, of Sudbury, brother of Humphrey above-mentioned. See Collins's Peerage, edit. Brydges, VII. 403, and the accounts of Haslington and Marple in this volume.

^a Communicated by Edward Braband, esq.

^x Gower's Sketch of Materials, p. 22.

^y Information of Edward Braband, esq.

^z Vol. I. p. 281.

^a Edisbury Hund. p. 28.

^b Ibid. p. 90.

^c Ibid. p. 92.

^d Transcribed from Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^e Communicated by Mr. Joseph Perrin 1817.

From this family the Mooresbarrow Hall estate passed with Bradwall, partly by descent, and partly by purchase, as has been mentioned in the account of that township.

Oct. 7, 1651, William Oldfield of Bradwall, in the county of Chester, esq. conveys to John Whittingham of Moresbarrow, in the same county, yeoman, Moresbarrow, &c. in the holding of Humphrey Whittingham, father of said John.

May 18, 1709, the same was conveyed to John Symkin of Plymouth, merchant (Whittingham's relative.)

July 30, 1713, the same was bequeathed by John Symkin to his son, Gilbert Symkin of Bristol, esq. and in default of issue to his daughter, Sarah, who married Darell, esq.

April 18, 1740, by will of said Gilbert the same estate was left to his sister Sarah Darell, widow, during her natural life; remainder to her issue; in default of issue "as for and concerning all his lands, hereditaments in Cheshire, called Hulme Street Hall, Moresbarrow, &c." he gave and devised the same to his kinsman Daniel Vawdrey of Cranage, in the county of Chester.

Dec. 31, 1748, Will of Sarah Darell of Trewornan, within the parish of St. Minver, in the county of Cornwall, confirming her brother's will.

Jan. 12, 1744, by will, the said Daniel Vawdrey devises Hulme Street Hall to his son Thomas Vawdrey of

Cranage, and Mooresbarrow to his son Daniel Vawdrey of Middlewich.

1802, by the decease of Daniel Vawdrey of Middlewich, the said estate passed to his son Daniel Vawdrey, esq. then of Stanthorne, now of Tushingam cum Grindley, who is the present possessor, 1817. The site of the old hall was formerly surrounded by a moat.

The tithes of corn, &c. "within the township, village, or hamlet of Moulsbrowe cum Parme," were conveyed by the honourable William Brereton, son and heir apparent of the right honourable William lord Brereton, baron of Laughlyn in Ireland, Dec. 22, 15 Car. II. to John Whittingham, of Hulme Street, near Tarvin, gent. the then possessor of this estate, with which they have since descended.

Dr. Williamson notices another estate in this township, which he states to have been considered a third of it in the time of Henry the Third, and to have passed through the Wincham branch of the Venables family to the Wilbrahams of Woodhey, under whom it was held by the Leversages in the time of Henry VIII. He adds that the Leversages had also lands here which they purchased from George Harrison, to whom they had been sold by the earl of Shrewsbury, and that these lands had descended to that family with the greater part of their other Cheshire estates, from the Mobberlies, through the lines of Hulse and Troutbeck of Dunham and Brunstath.

S P R O S T O N .

At the time of the Domesday survey Sproston was of the fee of Wich Malbank.

"Isdem Willelmus (Malbedeng) tenet Sprostune, Elmar tenuit et liber homo fuit; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est una caruca; ibi est cum uno radman, et uno servo, et 11 villanis, et 11 bordariis; ibi dimidia acra prati. Silva 11 quarentenis longa: tempore R. Edwardi valebat v solidos, modo iv solidos: wasta inveniuntur."

It does not appear when this vill was united to the fee of Kinderton; but the convenience which must have resulted from the possession of a township immediately contiguous to the head of the latter barony, would most probably dictate the policy of a transfer or exchange at an early period.

The manor of Sproston is now the property of lord Vernon, to whose family it passed in the same manner with the other portions of the Venables estates. It is

included within the jurisdiction of the leet and halmote courts of the barony of Kinderton, and is also recognized as a manor in itself in some of the later inquisitions, and in subsequent settlements.

One moiety of the vill of Sproston, and probably of a mcsne manor, was at an early period the property of the Breretons of Brereton, and was granted by sir William Brereton to Richard, son of Roger de Sandbach, to hold by military service, and the annual render of 3d. or two steel spurs. Test. D'no Will. de Venables, d'no Ric. del Holte, Will. de Venables, Jo. de Sandbache rect. eccl'ie de Rostherne, War. de Croxton, Rog. fr'e suo, &c. Harl. MSS. 2074. 188. b.

This moiety passed with Sandbach to the Radcliffes of Ordeshall, as stated in Sandbach.

Another moiety was at this period vested in the Croxtons of Croxton. Harl. MSS. 2074.

B Y L E Y .

BYLEY is described as follows in the Domesday survey, among the possessions of Hugo de Mara:

"Hugo tenet de comite Bevelei. Godric, et Godvin, et Archil, pro 111 maneriis tennerunt; et liberi fuerunt: ibi una hida geldabilis; terra est 11 carucarum: ibi 11 radmans, et 11 bordarii habent unam carucam: ibi 11 acrae prati, et 11 acrae silvae. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x solidos, modo tantundem."

This Hugh de Mara, or Hugh Fitz Norman, was the founder of the barony of Montalt. Byley passed from his successors at an early period to the lords of Aldford.

In the time of Philip de Orreby, just. Cest. Richard lord of Aldford, gives to God and St. Mary, and the monks of Pulton, his manor of Bifle, with the wood and mill, in pure alms. This grant was confirmed by Randle

Blundeville, to the said monks after their removal to Dieulacres, with an addition of many exemptions^a.

The abbot of Dieulacres claims court leet and other privileges here, in plea to a quo warranto, 14 Hen. VII.^b

Another estate in this township was the property of a family which bore the local name, and was granted by Warin de Biveley to Robert abbot of Dieulacres in exchange for the vill of Ravenscroft^c.

A third estate was the property of the prior and monks of Birkenhead, who claimed manerial privileges here, in their plea to a quo warranto 27 Edw. III.^d

At the dissolution, the Grange of Byurley was valued at £4. per ann.; and other lands held under the abbey of Dieulacres at £18. 3s. 10d. The same were granted July 9, 35 Hen. VIII. to Geoffrey Shakerley of Shakerley in the county of Lancaster, and are now (1817) the property of his representative, C. W. J. Shakerley, esq. who holds a court leet and court baron for this manor.

Byley is pleasantly situated on the right bank of the Dane, at the distance of about a mile from Middlewich.

RAVENS CROFT.

RAVENS CROFT is unnoticed in Domesday. At the time of that survey it probably formed part of the adjacent vill of Croxton, from the lords of which it was subsequently held. At a later period it became the property of the abbey of Dieulacres. Warin de Bivelie exchanged lands in the township of that name for lands in Ravenscroft, with this abbey; and settling on his new acquisition, assumed the name of Ravenscroft^e.

Roger de Ravenscroft, a son of this Warin, (according to Williamson's Villare Cest. but unnoticed in the pedigrees,) anno 16 Edw. I. gave lands here to William de Venables and Margaret his wife, and their heirs, to hold by the render of one penny per annum, or the render of a pair of white gloves. Among the other sons of Warin was Richard de Ravenscroft of Middlewich, whose descendant, Hugh Ravenscroft, about the time of Henry VI. married Isabella, daughter and coheir of Ralph Holland of Bretton, in Flintshire, and was ancestor by her of the Ravenscrofts of that place^f.

The direct male line terminated in the fourth descent, in Roger de Ravenscroft, whose daughter Margery married Roger Croxton, a descendant of the family of Croxton of Croxton^g, according to the pedigree annexed.

Anno 13 Hen. VIII. William Venables of Kinderton, esq. and William Croxton of Ravenscroft, esq. were bound to stand to the award of John Formby, vicar of Middlewich, respecting certain differences; and 37 Hen. VIII. sir Thomas Venables of Kinderton, and Thomas Croxton, of this place, put themselves to the award of sir William Brereton^h. To this Thomas the following inquisition relates.

Inq. p. m. 2 Edw. VI. Thomas Croxton held lands in Ravenscroft from the lord of Croxton, in socage, by the render of a pair of white gloves, val. per annum, 111l. x111s.: also lands in Nantwich, Middlewich, Newton, Kinderton, Croxton, and Drakelow. Obiit Mar. 3, 1 Edw. VI. William Croxton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 32 Eliz. William Croxton, gent. held a capital messuage and lands in Ravenscroft, as before, value 111l. x111s. and lands in the said townships and in Rudheath, Bexton, and Stanthorne. Died 21 June, 29 Eliz. John Croxton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 41 Eliz. John Croxton of Ravenscroft, gent. held in demesne, as of fee, lands in Ravenscroft, and one capital messuage *voc' vulgarit'* the Hall of Ravenscroft, as before, and lands in the townships mentioned in the inquisition preceding. Died 24 April, 41 Eliz. George Croxton, son and heir, aged upwards of 14 years, the 20th of February last pastⁱ.

Inq. p. m. 19 Jac. I. George Croxton, esq. held the hall of Ravenscroft, and lands therein, from Nicholas Oldfield and Eleanor his wife, as in her right, by fealty; also lands in Croxton, Drakelow, and Rudheath; Thomas Croxton son and heir, aged upwards of 17 years.

Thomas Croxton of Ravenscroft, found heir by this inquisition, was a distinguished political and military character in this county during the civil disturbances of the seventeenth century. He had for a time the office of governor of Chester castle on the part of the parliament; and in 1650, when four regiments were raised in this county, he had the colonelcy of one of the regiments, composed of the men of Northwich hundred and part of Nantwich^k. The castle of Chester was also under his care at the time of sir George Booth's attempt in 1659, and was summoned by sir George Booth and sir Thomas Middleton; to which the governor replied, "That as perfidiousness in him was detestable, so the castle which he kept for the parliament of England was disputable; and if they would have it, they must fight for it; for the best blood that ran in his veins, in defence thereof, should be as a snice to fill up the castle trenches!" The consequence of Croxton's steadiness was the division of the forces of the insurgent royalists, which led to the defeat of Middleton, on Prees Heath, and of Booth at Winnington.

^a See Broxton Hundred, p. 466, 20, 21, and Harl. MSS. 2060.

^c Williamson's Vill. Cest. See also Ravenscroft.

^d See Wirral Hundred, p. 258. It seems not improbable that these three estates were nearly co-extensive with the three Saxon manors noticed in Domesday. In the gamekeeper's appointment the manor is described as consisting of Higher Byley, Lower Byley, Higher Yatehouse, Lower Yatehouse, otherwise Byley cum Yatehouses.

^e Booth's Collections and Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^f Booth's pedigrees. There appear to be several descents wanting in this pedigree of Ravenscroft, or in the subsequent one of Croxton, to make up the necessary time.

^g Some pedigrees say John, others Thomas, and Harl. MSS. 2119. Roger. The last is obviously drawn from deeds, and is more worthy of credit than the others, which fix the match with the heiress of Ravenscroft at a time too late for her place in the Ravenscroft pedigree.

^h Williamson, Vill. Cest.

ⁱ See further particulars of this *Inq.* with reference to the tenure of the Hangman's Butts in Ravenscroft, vol. I. 231.

^k Marple papers.

^b See Broxton Hundred, p. 465.

¹ From a contemporary tract, entitled "A bloody Fight," &c. 4to, 1659. Brit. Mus.

Colonel Croxton had issue George Croxton and other children, with whom sir Peter Leycester's MS. pedigree of this family concludes^o.

This George Croxton died 1690, leaving issue George and Thomas Croxton, and two daughters. The rest of the descent of the Hall, and the appendant manor, or reputed manor of Ravenscroft, is given from title-deeds^o.

11 July 1702, by indenture of mortgage, it appears that Cicely Croxton, of Ravenscroft, co. Cest. was sister and heir of Mary Croxton, then late of Ravenscroft, spinster, deceased, which said Mary and Cicely Croxton were also sisters and coheirs of Thomas Croxton, late of Ravenscroft aforesaid, esq. deceased; and that by indenture bearing date 19th August, 1692, between the said Thomas of the one part, &c. the said Thomas did demise the capital message, late the inheritance of George Croxton, esq. (late brother of the said Thomas and Cicely) called the Hall of Ravenscroft, for 1000 years, &c. subject to redemption, &c.

26 and 27 Sept. 1704, Cicely Croxton conveys Ravens-

croft, by indenture of lease and release, to Peter Yates. 14 Dec. 1708, deed-poll, declaring that the mortgage had been paid, at different times, by Peter Yates, and Thomas Yates, his brother and heir.

The hall, manor, &c. passed from the said Thomas Yates to his son Thomas, and was sold by the latter in 1761, to his near relation, John Seaman (maternal uncle of the present proprietor); and after being devised by the said John Seaman to his son of the same name, was conveyed by him to the present proprietor, Daniel Vawdrey, esq. of Tushingham.

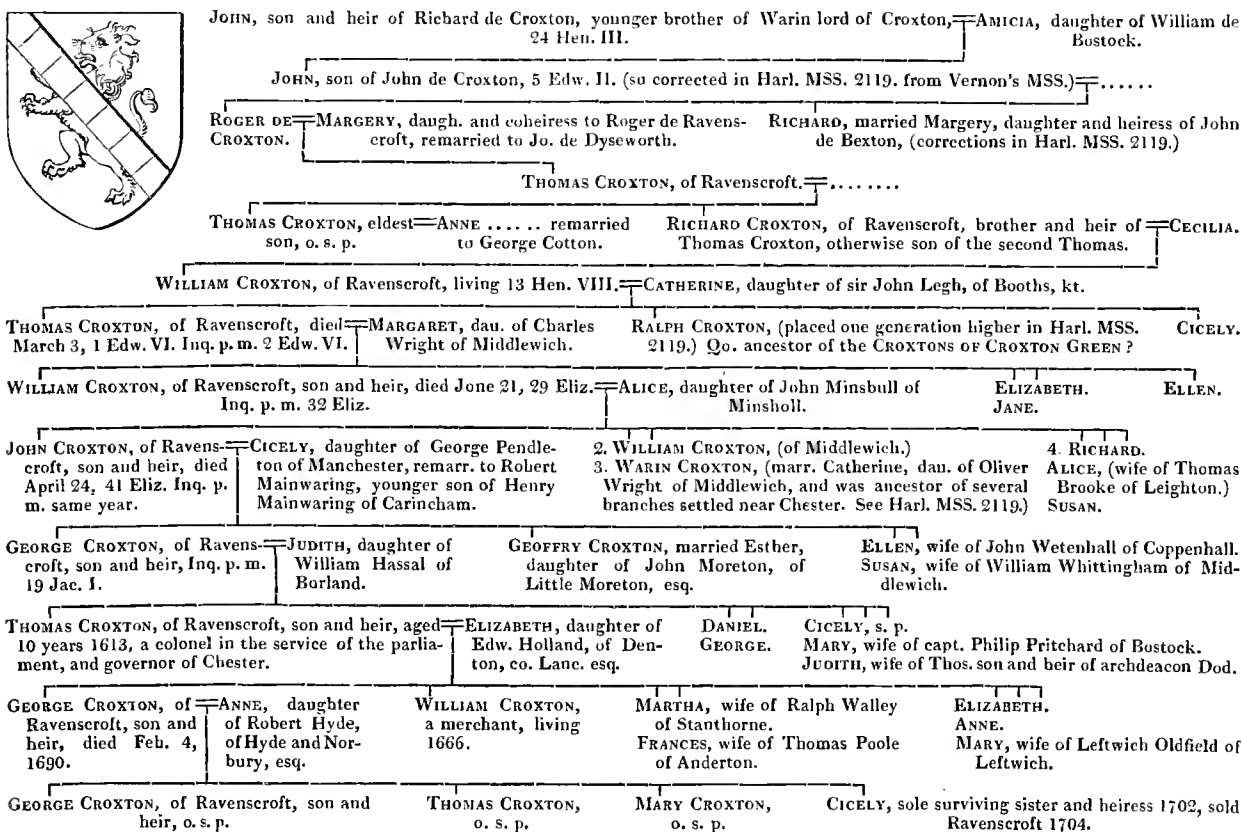
Ravenscroft hall is a respectable antient mansion, finished with gables; it is situated on the right bank of the Dane, near the line of the King-street, at the distance of about a mile from Middlewich.

The annexed pedigree brings down the descent of the Croxtons of Ravenscroft to their termination; and several memorials of the Yates's of this place will be found in the account of Middlewich Church.

CROXTON OF RAVENSCROFT.

Extracted from Harl. MSS. 2119, down to William Croxton (husband of Catherine Legh) inclusive, continued from sir P. and sir F. Leicester's MSS. with additions from the aforesaid MSS. (placed within hooks), and an additional descent from title deeds.

ARMS as Croxton of Croxton.



^o Tabley MSS.

^o Communicated by Daniel Vawdrey, esq.

STUBLACH.

THIS township, which is unnoticed in Domesday, appears to consist of two hamlets, Stubs and Lache, under which names it is designated in the Mise-book. At an early period Stubs gave its local name to a family, who under the more sonorous appellation of de Stolbis, occur in the chartulary of St. Werburgh's abbey as donors of land in Leyes^a. The present proprietor is Joseph Pilkington Brandreth, M. D. in right of his wife, one of the daughters and coheirs of the late William Harper, esq. of Liverpool, who purchased the same from sir George Prescott, bart. The intermediate descent was probably the same with that of the manors of Eardshaw and Drakelow, which were successively in the families

of Page, Delves^b, and Prescott^b. The first of these passed by purchase to the late William Harper, esq. who gave a deputation for the manors of Stublach and Eardshaw.

The descent of the Pages of Eardshaw has been already given under the lordship of Rudheath, p. 95.

The demesne of EARDSHAW lies partly in Stublach, partly in Lees, and partly in Rudheath lordship, but the HALL itself is supposed to stand within Stublach. It is a large brick building with gables, ruinous, and completely abandoned to farmers, but distinguished from the neighbouring farm-houses by its bulk and height, the courts which surround it, and a respectable grove of aged fir-trees.

NEWTON AND SUTTON.

THESE townships are contiguous to Middlewich, Sutton lying to the south, and Newton to the west of it, the latter containing a portion of the buildings of the town of Middlewich itself. Newton has a distinct notice in Domesday^c; but Sutton occurs only among six townships^d, or portions of townships, joined in one description, from which it appears that the earl retained "Sutone," and that it was "de iv bovatis terræ geldabilis."

In the reign of king John, Simon de Newton held the manors of Newton, Sutton, and Wimbaldsley. His son Richard de Newton, alias del Holt, was grandfather of John del Holt, who had estates in all these townships, as mentioned further in Wimbaldsley. The following extracts from the Inquisitions will however find a place more conveniently here than in Wimbaldsley, where they would interrupt the continuity of the matter copied from Williamson's Villare.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VI. William del Holt, with Johanna his wife, held the manors of Holt and Wymbaldsleigh from John Cukyn, justice of the Court of King's Bench, and John Tuchett, parson of Middlewich, as of his manor of Tattenhall. Val. p. ann. £.xx. Thomas del Holt, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 18 Hen. VI. Thomas del Holt and Johanna his wife held, in the manor of Holt and the vills

of Newton and Sutton, four messuages and 40s. annual reut, from sir James Tuschett, by military service, val. xiiii marks; and lands in Mynshull and Occleston, val. £6. Edward del Holt son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 18 Hen. VI. Johanna, widow of William del Holt (father of Thomas), held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Wymbaldsleigh, messuages, rents, &c. in Sutton and Occleston, from Thomas Stanley of Elford, as of his manor of Aldford, as half a knight's fee, value xxl.; also a saltwork in Middlewich, and lands in the manor of Holt and vill of Newton, from sir James Touchet, by military service, val. £17. 18s. 8d. Edward del Holt next of kin and heir.

It does not appear when these manors of Newton and Sutton were alienated, or to whom they were conveyed by the Holts or their representatives.

The reputed manors of both townships were the property of the late James Roylance, esq. by purchase. That of Newton was bought from the present lord Crewe, and that of Sutton from Daniel Carbonel, of London, esq. to whom it had been conveyed by Thomas Yate, M. D.

The said manerial interest in these townships, with a modern residence in Newton, called the manor hall, passed under the will of Mr. Roylance, who died in 1812, to Mr. William Court, the present proprietor^e.

CROXTON.

AT the time of the Domesday Survey Gozelin, one of the minor Norman grantees, was possessed of this township, Newton, and Nether Tabley.

"Isdem Gozelinus tenet Crostune; Godvin tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est una

caruca: quæ ibi est cum uno radman, et ii servis, et ii villanis, et uno bordario; valuit iv solidos, modo x solidos."

Shortly after this, Croxtton was vested in Orme the Harper, male ancestor of the noble family of Touchet,

^a Harl. MSS. 1965, 34, b.

^b Thomas Delves of Eardshaw was sheriff in 1699, and Thomas Prescott of Eardshaw in 1756.

^c "Gozelinus tenet de Hugone comite Neutone. Griffin tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est iii carucarum, in dominio est una, et ii bovarii, presbyter cum uno bordario habet unam carucam; ibi dimidia acra prati. Tempore R. Edwardi, valebat iv solidos, modo x solidos." The presbyter was most probably the officiating priest of the present parish of Middlewich, and his church at that time situated in this township. See note, p. 101.

^d Sanbec, Clive, Sutone, Wimbaldelai, Wevre, and Aculvestone.

^e In Newton are also the residences of Isaac Wood and John Braband, esqrs. A considerable portion of the buildings of Middlewich extend into this last-mentioned township.

as paramount lord; and under Orme, and his son Matthew, the said manor was held by Wulfrie, the patriarch of a variety of considerable Cheshire families, who assumed severally a local name. This is proved by the following confirmation to Linlph, representative of Wulfrie.

“Sciunt, &c. quod Mathens filius Ormi Citharistæ reddidit Liulfo de Crocstona totam terram de Crocstona in bosco et in plano, &c. tenendam de predicto Matheo filio Ormi Citharistæ, et de heredibus suis tam libere et quiete, quam Wulfrius avus suus tenuit melius et liberius de Matheo Tuschet vel de Ormo Citharista. Hiis test. Ada. de Alditbleia, Henr. fr’e suo, &c.”^a

In an elaborate pedigree of the ramifications of the Croxton family by John Booth of Twemlowe^b, which has been printed in an earlier part of this work, Liulph de Croxton, or Twemlowe, as he has been variously called, is made *son* of Wulfrie; whereas it appears from the preceding charter that he was *grandson*, but no positive authority occurs for the name of the intervening generation. An interpolation in a different hand in the pedigree calls him Walthew, and in other pedigrees in the same volume he is called Orme and William. If, however, it can be proved that Liulph de Croxton and Twemlowe were *two* successive proprietors, and not *one* generation as the genealogists have uniformly made them, Wulfrie, the *grandfather* of the first, will be thrown back to the Conquest or to the time of the Confessor, and there will then be no difficulty in point of time in crediting the interpolation before mentioned, which, after calling the second generation Walthew, makes Wulfrie the grandfather of “Margeria, filia Walthæi, filia Wulfriæ,” which Margery (so named in a charter) undoubtedly brought Marton in marriage to the grandson^c of the Norman baron of Kinderton.

This point will easily be established by referring to a charter printed in the notes to Halton barony (vol. I. p. 507), to which sir Peter Leycester assigns the time of Hen. I. (*ibid.* p. 476), executed by William Fitz-Nigell, second baron of Halton, and witnessed by “Lidolf de Crocstun.” After proving this point it will be clear that “Lidulfus vicecomes,” surnamed of Croxton and Twemlowe, whose shrievalty extended to the end of the reign of John, must be a distinct person, and that there were at least two, if not three Lidulfs successively, in the time which has been hitherto supposed to have been occupied by one.

IV. This last Lidulph, sheriff of Cheshire in the reigns of Ric. I. and John, and surviving temp. H. III. lord of Twemlowe, Croxton, Goosetrey, Cranage, and half of Winnington, had a second brother, Randle, to whom he gave the fourth of Cranage, and from whom the families of Cranage, Ermitage, Twemlowe, and Le Brun descended. He had issue Richard, Robert, and Michael. From the two sons last named descended severally the families of Winnington and Goostrey, as noticed in the accounts of those townships.

V. Richard de Croxton, son and heir of Lidulph, had a grant from his father of all his lands in Cheshire, excepting a moiety of “Wyneton” settled on Robert his son, and a moiety of his lands in “Gorestree” settled on his son Michael. In this deed Lidulph covenants that he will not alienate any of his lands in the said township from his son, by sale, waste, incumbrance, or mortgage;

that he will not endow any future wife with the same, bestow any part of it on any religious house, or give it with his body when he dies^d. This Richard de Croxton, by charter witnessed by Randle earl of Chester, Philip de Orreby justice, &c. confirms to his kinsman Henry de Crannach, the fourth part of Crannach, which his father Randle held there^e; and he also, by another charter, settles his capital mansion and lands of Croxton on his son Robert^f. This deed is witnessed among others by Roger de Grey, justice, and William de Praers, sheriff; and by another charter^g, witnessed by the same persons, he settles the same place in remainder on his younger son, Warin de Croxton.

VI. Warin de Croxton, who is a very frequent witness of antient charters, eventually succeeded.

VII. “Richard l’d of Croxton, y’e son of y’e foresaid Warin, gave to Richard Fretchet and Margery his wife a messuage in Croxton, and to Robert his son, his capital messuage cum p’tin. in Croxton, and divers other messuages and rents in Croxton^h.”—This Richard de Croxton, 16 Edw. I. used for his seal a lion rampant, debruised with a bend componè, which his father had also sealed with, 44 Hen. III.

The direct male line terminated in Ralph Croxton, who by *Inq. p. m.* 8 Hen. V. is found to have died seized of lands in Newton and Middlewich, held from the abbot of Diulacres, val. xs. and of the manor of Croxton, held from the abbot of the monastery of St. Werburgh, in Chester, by services unknown, val. xviii marks. Margaret de Croxton, daughter of Richard de Croxton, sister and heir.

This family of Croxton were great benefactors to Chester abbey, and a variety of their grants and confirmations will be found in the chartulary of that abbey. Harl. MSS. 1965. pp. 25, 33, 34, 35.

Margaret Croxton, abovementioned, brought this manor in marriage to Hugh Mainwaring, natural son of Randle Mainwaring, of Over Peover, by Emma Farington, whose descendants are thus noticed in the inquisitions.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. Charles Mainwaring, esq. held the manor of Croxton from Thomas Rode, in socage, val. per ann. xxi.; also lands in Middlewich, Newton, Church Hulme, Stanthorne, Wareton, Bostock, Davenham, Over Knutsford, Rosthorne, Moberley, Alderley, Warford, Wich Malbank, Christleton, Chester, Handbridge, Kinnerton, and Gorstilowe. Died on Monday, in the fifth week of Lent, in the same year. Isabel, daughter of James, and grand-daughter of Charles Mainwaring, of Croxton aforesaid, next of kin and heir, aged four years. Val. tot. £46. 13s. 4d.

This Isabel died issueless, and was succeeded by her uncle Charles.

Inq. p. m. 1 Eliz. Charles Mainwaring, esq. held the manor of Croxton and other lands, as recited in the last inquisition. Died 15 Aug. 6 Mariae. Charles Mainwaring, esq. son and heir.

James Mainwaring, brother and heir of Charles last-mentioned according to the Tabley MSS. but son according to the usual pedigrees, had issue three daughters, whereof Eleanor, the eldest, married Michael, son of Philip Oldfield of Bradwall, esq. whose son, Mainwaring Oldfield, sold the manor of Croxton to Roger Wilbraham, of Dorfold, esq.ⁱ

^a Harl. MSS. 2074, 128. The original in possession of Michael Oldfield of Croxton, esq. 1624.

^b Harl. MSS. 2119.

^c This appears preferable to saying the *third baron*, as the son of the first baron is not proved to have possessed Kinderton.

^d Harl. MSS. 2074, 128, and 2119, b.

^e Harl. MSS. 2074, 128, b.

^f *Ibid.*

^g *Ibid.*

^h Williamson's *Vili. Cest.*

ⁱ Sir Peter Leycester's Tabley MSS.

In April 1754, Roger Wilbraham, esq. representative of Roger Wilbraham abovementioned, sold Croxton and other manors to the late James Tomkinson, esq. whose son, Henry Tomkinson, of Dorfold, esq. is the present possessor (1817)^k of the manor and entire township^l. A court-baron is incident to the manor.

The township of Croxton is situated at the distance of about half a mile north-west of Middlewich, on the right bank of the Dane, near its junction with the Croc, from which latter stream it derives its name. The hall, which is of brick, stands on a slight elevation

above the Dane, but a part of it only is now remaining, finished with stone work at the angles, tall groups of chimneys, and bay windows.

The annexed pedigree is abstracted from one in Harl. MSS. 2119, evidently worked from deeds, and in the hand-writing of one of the Randle Holmes. Many interpolations are mingled with this, some of which are obviously incorrect; but others, which appeared interesting, have been placed within hooks, as have also a few additions from Booth's pedigree of the various branches of this family contained in the same volume.

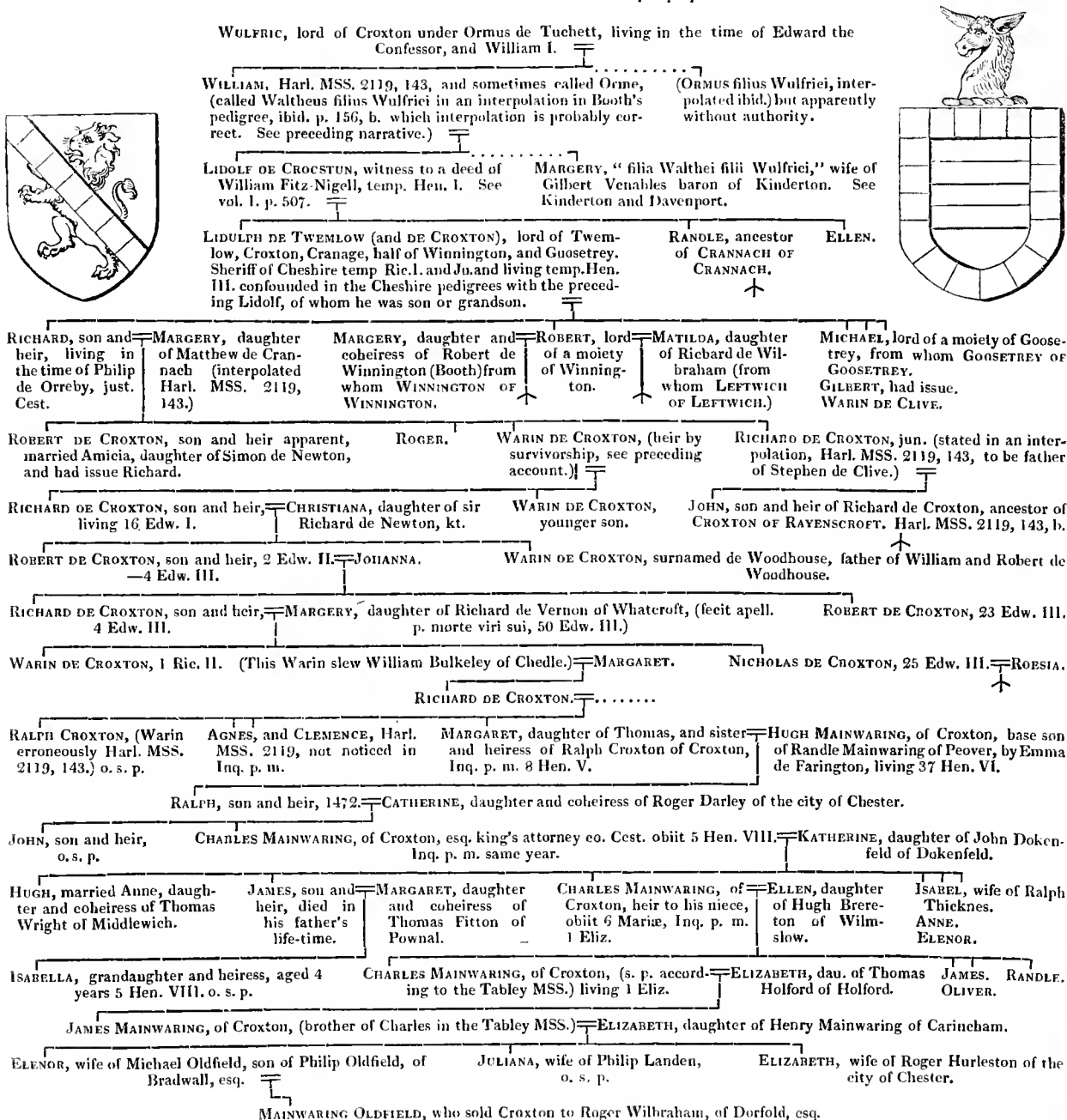
CROXTON AND MAINWARING OF CROXTON.

CROXTON founded chiefly on Harl. MSS. 2119, p. 143, with several corrections from charters; MAINWARING from sir Peter Leicester's MS. pedigrees.

ARMS OF CROXTON. Sable, a lion rampant Argent, debruised by a bend componè Or and Gules.

ARMS OF MAINWARING. Argent, two bars Gules within a bordure componè Sable and Argent.

CREST. On a wreath an ass's head coupè proper.



^k Information of Henry Tomkinson, esq.

^l With the exception of half an acre.

CLIVE.

THE Domesday Survey of this township is similar to that of Sutton already noticed. It is there joined with five other manors belonging to the earl, and stated to be, separately, "de una virgata geldabilis."

About the time of king John or Henry III. Warin de Clive, said to be a younger son of Lidulph de Twemlow, assumed his local appellation from this township. From him the noble and distinguished family of Clive traces its origin, and the place itself still continues the property of his representatives in the female line.

An account of the Clives, as far as they are connected with Cheshire, will be found under the head of Huxley. The following extracts from the Inquisitions relate to their estates in this township.

Inq. p. m. 2 Rich. III. James Clyve of Huxley held, inter alia, messuages and lands in Clyve and Wav'ton from the lord Audley and sir John Savage, by services unknown. Val. per ann. viii marks.

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VIII. Richard Clyffe, esq. held, inter alia, lands in Clyffe and Wav'ton, and one saltwork in Middlewich, from sir John Savage, ward of the king, by fealty, and the render of xiiid. per annum. Val. vi. vis. viiuid.

Inq. p. m. 5 Eliz. Richard Clyve, of Huxley, esq. held, inter alia, lands in Wareton, Davenh'm, Clyve, and

Ryshall, from sir John Savage, as before. Val. iiii.

This estate passed with Rachel, daughter and sole heir of Joshua Clive of Huxley, esq. to Thomas Wilbraham of Townsend, esq. His son and heir, Roger Wilbraham, esq. "had a law-suit with the heir of Hulse about the manor of Clive, and had a verdict in his favour."^a

The said manor is now vested in George Wilbraham of Townsend, and Delamere Lodge, esq. lineal descendant and representative of the before-mentioned Thomas Wilbraham and Rachel Clive.

A part of this township, in the time of Edw. IV. came with Margaret, daughter and heir of John Clive, to ——— Hulse^b. The Hulses afterwards removed to Elworth, in Sandbach township (under which head an account of them will be found), and their last representative, the rev. John Hulse, had an estate in Clive, which appears the same with the one here mentioned.

^cAnother part of the township came by Margery, daughter of Henry de Clive, to William de Congleton. John, son of this William, 3 Rich. II. passed over all his right in this place to William, son of Henry Weever of Clive, who was probably descended from the manorial lords of the adjacent township of the same name.

WIMBALDSLEY.

WIMBALDSLEY occurs in two notices in Domesday, being then apparently divided into equal moieties held by the earl and Bigot.

The earl's portion occurs in a mixed notice of lands in various townships, like the notices of the preceding and other townships.

"Ipse comes tenet et Wibaldelai de una virgata terræ geldabilis"

"In Wibaldela est una acra prati, et quarta pars silvæ, quæ habet unam leuam longitudine et iv periticas latitudine."

Bigot's portion is described as follows:

"Isdem Bigot tenet Wibaldelai. Leuvinus tenuit et liber fuit, ibi una virgata terræ geldabilis; terra est una caruca: ibi unus radman habet dimidiam carucam, et ii servos cum uno villano: valet ii solidos. Wasta fuit, et sic invenitur."

Bigot's interest in Wimbaldsley, or rather the paramount rights in his moiety, descended with the other portions of his estates, as Wimbaldsley is described to be a component part of the fee of Aldford. Harl. MSS. 2074.^d These rights have been long disused.

The earl's moiety appears to have passed to the barons of Shipbrook, as it is stated in Williamson's

Villare Cestriense, to have been granted with Hulgrev and Erdswick to Richard, son of Matthew de Vernon^e, by his grandfather Warin baron of Shipbrook.

Whether a younger son of the Erdswicks or Hulgrevs assumed the name of Wimbaldsley does not appear; but it is certain that a family bearing the local name had an interest in this manor, as Agnes, daughter of Robert de Wimbaldesley, quitclaimed in her widowhood to John, son of Richard del Holt, his heirs, &c. all his right in this village, and its appurtenances, by deed without date^f.

This Richard del Holt was son of Simon de Newton, lord of Newton, Sutton, and Wimbaldsley, and previously bore the name of Newton, 32 Hen. III. John Extraneus (or Strange), justice of Chester, issued a præcipe to Robert Tuschet, commanding him to do right to Richard de Newton, concerning the vill of Wimbaldsley, which he claimed to hold of Robert, by the third part of a knight's fee, of which the abbot and convent of Chester were deforciant^g.

John del Holt (son of Richard) under the designation of d'nus de Holt, grants lands in this place by two deeds executed severally in the justiceship of Reginald de Grey, and shrievalty of Robert Grosvenor^h. The same

^a MS. note by Mr. Stones, in Williamson's Villare Cestriense. Overlegh copy.

^b Williamson's Vill, Cest.

^c Ibid. The Weevers of Weever had lands in Clyve; and their successors, the Stanleys, had a moiety of the manor 43 Eliz. See Edisb. Hund. p. 114. These rights probably passed with Weever to the Wilbrahams.

^d See Aldford, Broxton hundred, p. 413.

^e In the copy in the British Mus. which is more full on the subject of Wimbaldsley than the Overlegh copy.

^f Williamson's Vill, Cest.

^g Williamson's Vill, Cest.

^h Harl. MSS. 2153. 174. b.

John, in consideration of fifty-two marks, demises to Urian St. Pierre his manor of Wimbaldsley for fifteen years, a^o 1287ⁱ.

^k1295. John de Holt, son of the preceding John de Holt, and Joan his wife, devised to John the father, the capital messuage and manor of Wimbaldsley, for the term of six years.

11 Hen. IV. Roger de Toft and Robert de Bulkelegh granted and confirmed to William, the son of William del Holt, and Joanna his wife, all the lands and tenements, rents, &c. in Middlewich, Sutton, Newton, Curtishulme, and Wimbaldsley, together with the reversion of ———, and the mill of Wheelock, which Clemence, wife of William del Holt, held during her life. Test. sir William Brereton, knight, sheriff, and others.

10 Hen. VII. George Cotton being admitted by the award of the Prince's Council to the possession of all the manors, &c. which late were William Holt's, covenants with Thomas, son of sir Robert Foulshurst, and Anne his wife, on payment of certain sums of money, to make them a right to a moiety of the manor of the

Hall of Ley.

22 Hen. VIII. Richard Cotton, lord of the manor of Ley and Wimbaldsley, leases to William Raynscroft of Stanthorne, part of the manor of Ley. He is described as Richard Cotton of Gopishill, co. Gloucester, esq.

36 Hen. VIII. The said Richard and Margaret his wife sold to Dame Elynor Brereton, widow of sir William Brereton, the manor of Ley, &c. who the same year settled it on her son Richard Brereton, upon his marriage with Thomasine, daughter of George Ashley of Ashley.

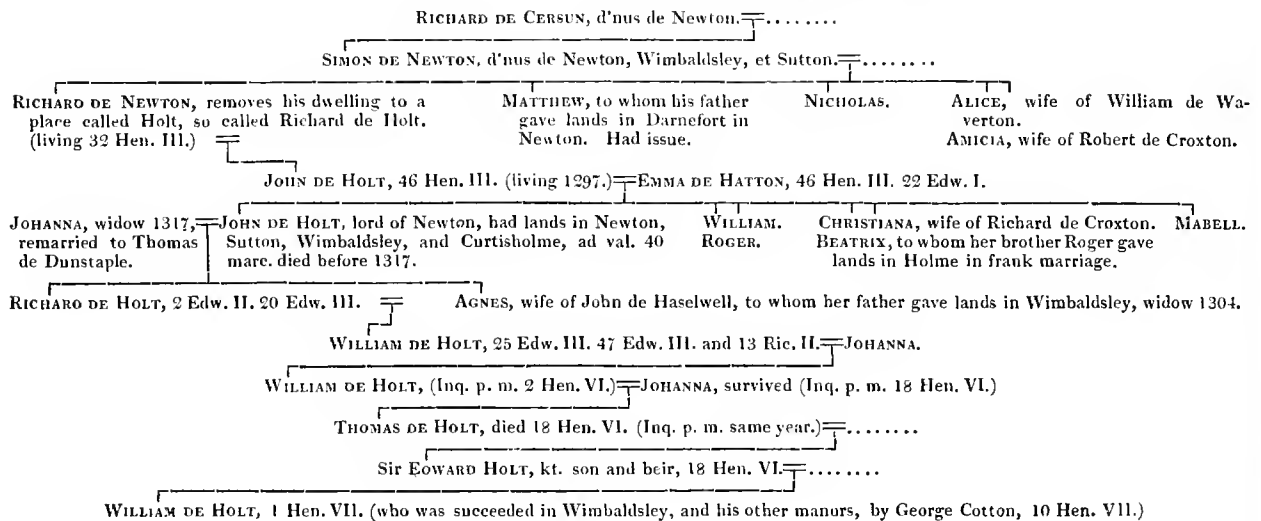
It does not appear when this property was alienated by the Breretons of Ashley, or their representatives. The manor of Wimbaldsley is at present (1817) the property of sir J. F. Leicester, bart. whose father purchased the same from the devisees of Robert Lowndes, esq.^l

The inquisitions relating to the Holts will be found in the account of Newton.

^lCourts have not been held of late years for this manor^m.

HOLT OF WIMBALDSLEY AND NEWTON.

From a pedigree by Randle Holme, apparently drawn from original evidences, Harl. MSS. 2153, 174, b, collated with inquisitions.



OCCLESTON.

THE description of this place in Domesday resembles those of the preceding townships, with which it occurs in a joint survey among the possessions of the earl, and is stated to be "de una hida geldabilis." The survey of the whole adds, "has terras tenerunt vi liberi homines pro vi maneriis: terra est sextem carcarum inter tota; wasta fuit et est tota."

It does not appear when Occleston became united to the barony of Shipbrook, of which it now forms a part, but it is certain, that in or before the time of king John

it belonged to local lords, who assumed the name of the place. The following notices of them are extracted from Williamson's Villare Cestriense:

12 Edw. II. John lord of Occleston gave to William, son of Thomas, son of Emma de Occleston, the land which his father Thomas, son of Emma, and Ellen his mother held, &c.

14 Edw. II. John lord of Wettehall gave to William lord of Occleston, a messuage called the hall of Occleston, in exchange for other lands in the said village.

ⁱ Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^k The following notices, down to the next reference, are abstracted from the copy of Williamson's Vill. Cest. in the British Museum.

^l Information of sir J. F. Leicester, bart. The Lowndes family were in possession in the early part of the seventeenth century. See the account of Middlewich school, p. 101.

^m Lea Hall in Wimbaldsley, was for some time an occasional residence of Dr. Fothergill:—"In 1766 he began regularly to withdraw, from Midsummer to Michaelmas, from the excessive fatigue of his profession, to Lea hall, near Middlewich in Cheshire, which, though he only rented it by the year, he spared no expence to improve. During this recess he took no fees, but attended to prescribe gratis at an inn at Middlewich, once a week." Chalmers, Biog. Diet. XV. 515.

1327. The same William gave the manor of Occleston to William his son and Christian his wife, and their heirs.

About the beginning of the reign of Edw. III. John de Occleston gives to Hamon, son of John Dobbese, his manor of Occleston, with his lands, tenements, rents, homages, marriages, escheats, &c.; which Hamon (by the name of Hamon, son of John Dobbisone), 43 Edw. III. constitutes John de Occleston his bailiff, to receive in his name all the profits arising from the said manor, and to dispose of the same for the use of Hamon, as the said John shall think fit.

"This John de Occleston sold this manor to sir Hugh Calveley, who gave it to David de Bunbury, together with all the lands which his brother David de Calveley purchased of John de Hole in Hole, for the patronage of Bunbury church, 16 Ric. II."

It is no very material discrepancy from this statement, that Dr. Williamson, in his account of Bunbury, mentions *the moiety* of the advowson of Bunbury to have been sold, and not transferred in exchange; but it may be better to add, that the sale or exchange is said by the best authorities to have taken place in the time of Wm. son of David de Bunbury, which agrees better with dates.

2 Hen. V. Amilia, widow of John Towyearold, cousin and heir of William de Occleston, senr. releases from her and her heirs, to Richard, son of David de Bunbury, all her right and title in the manor of Occleston.

The subsequent descent is given by the Inquisitions.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VI. Richard Bunbury held, inter

alia, in demesne as of fee, the manor of Occleston from the lord Audley in socage, by fealty only: val. per ann. v marks.

Inq. p. m. 9 Edw. IV. John Bunbury held, inter alia, as before, the said manor.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. John Bunbury held, inter alia, as before, the said manor.

Inq. p. m. 32 Hen. VIII. Richard Bunbury, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Occleston from the king as of his manor of Alderley, by fealty, and the render of 11s. viid. and suit to the court of the said manor: val. per ann. £3. 16s. 4d.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VIII. Henry Bunbury, esq. held, inter alia, lands in Occleston, tenure and value as in the last Inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz. Thomas Bunbury, esq. held lands cum pert. in Occleston, from the lord of Alderley, tenure as before: val. xls.

"In w^{ch} family (says Dr. Williamson), it (this manor) continued, till s^r Henry Bunbury in y^e 12th of K. James sold it to W^m Moreton of Moreton, esq. for £600. who sold it y^e 22nd of the same K^{ng} to s^r Jⁿ Davenport of Davenport for £1049."

The manor of Occleston subsequently belonged to the family of Whitmore of Apsley, probably by purchase from the Davenports; and is now the property of Edward Vernon, esq. whose grandfather^a, Ralph Vernon, purchased the same from the Whitmores^b.

Occleston is within the paramount jurisdiction of the manor and barony of Shipbrook^c.

MINSHULL VERNON.

THE Domesday survey notices both the Minshulls, which were then in the hundred of Mildestvic, and the property of William Malbedeng baron of Nantwich. Sir Peter Leycester believes the following description to relate to Minshull Vernon:

"Isdem Willelmus tenet Manessele: Levenot tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis; terra est una caruca; ibi unus radman, 11 servi, et 11 bordarii habent unam carucam: ibi una acra prati: silva una leuvâ longa, et unâ lata; et iv haiæ^d, et aira accipitris. Valebat et valet iv solidos. Wasta fuit."

In the division of the barony of Nantwich, this Minshull appears to have passed to the Vernons of Shipbrook, from whom it derived its additional name; and after the termination of the first line of Vernon in coheirs, one moiety at least became the property of Auda, wife of William Stafford.

Auda de Stafford, in her pure widowhood, grants to Randle de Oldinton, an entire moiety of Minshull, which belonged to Warin de Vernon her brother, in exchange for two acres of land in Wytchfeld, with the several shares of the advowson of Davenham, belonging to John de Littleburys, in right of Roesya his wife, and to Richard de Wilberham in right of Margery his wife. Witnesses, Alan then vicar of Sond, John de Littlebury, &c.^e

By deed without date, witnessed by sir Hugh Venables, sir William Brereton, and others, Ralph, son of Ralph Vernon, releases to Richard de Oldinton all his rights in lands, woods, wastes, &c. cum pertinentiis, at that time held by the same Richard in Minshull Vernon, Harl. MSS. 2149. 143. b.

This Richard de Oldinton was son of Randle de Oldinton, and father of John de Oldinton^f, who, by deed, dated at Erdeswick, Thursday before the feast of St. Austin 1322, enfeoffs John le Fenre, chaplain, with his manors of Oldinton, Minshull Vernon, and Erdeswicke.

The Oldintons terminated in three coheirs, Johanna wife of Peter Starkey of Nether Hall in Stretton, Ellen wife of Thomas Starkey of Wrenbury, and Margaret (unmarried 20 Ric. II.) wife of Richard Fitton of Pownall^g. The manor of Minshull Vernon was divided between the two last-mentioned coheirs^h.

"In Hen. IVth time a moyety of Fittons part came, by Ellen, d. and coh. of Thomas Fitton, to Humphrey Newton, esq. whilst y^e other moyety came by her sister Marg^{tt} to W^m Minshull of Erdeswickⁱ. But Nov. 20, 37 Eliz. W^m Newton of Pownall, esq. sold to Thomas Aston of Aston, esq. for £400. all his lands, messuages, &c. in this township; and Arthur Starkey, of Wrenbury, esq. sold (1 April 38 Eliz.) to y^e same Thomas Aston, esq. for £800. all his messuages, lands, and tenements,

^a See monuments of this family of Vernon in Warmincham, and in Chester cathedral, vol. I. p. 244. See also pedigree of Hall of Hermitage in this hundred.

^b Information of Edward Brahand, esq.

^c Information of John Barker of Northwich, esq. agent for the barony.

^d It was then on the verge of the forest of Mara and Mondrem.

^e Harl. MSS. 2038, 142.

^f See Oulton pedigree, Edisbury Hundred, p. 104.

^g See the respective pedigrees.

^h So Williamson, (Vill. Cest.) who calls it a moiety of the manor, with reference to Auda de Stafford's grant abovementioned. The descendants of the other coheirs had, however, lands in Minshull Vernon, and a third of Erdeswick in this township. See Oulton Lowe, Edisbury, p. 103.

ⁱ Quere whether Margaret's share was not the Erdeswick hall estate only, of which hereafter.

&c. in this township and Church Minshull^k." Williamson adds, "S^r Willoughby Aston is now (1701) possessed of all those lands in Minshull, w^{ch} were purchas'd by his ancestors. Quere, who is y^e 1^d."

The manor of Minshull Vernon is stated subsequently to have become "the property of Henry Newport earl of Bradford, who by his will, made in 1736, in the event of the decease of John Harrison, then an infant, without issue, bequeathed his estates to M^{rs} Anne Smith of Berkeley Square. By her devise they passed to William Pulteney earl of Bath, whose brother and heir, lieutenant general Pulteney, died in 1767, having devised the Bradford estates to William Pulteney, esq. (afterwards sir W. Pulteney, bart.) and on his death, without issue male in 1806, the manor of Minshull Vernon passed under the general's will to the earl of Darlington^l."

In or about 1812, the manor of Minshull Vernon, with the tithes, and a considerable estate therein, were purchased from the earl of Darlington by William Rigby, of Oldfield, esq. the present proprietor.

This township is situated on the left bank of the Weaver, by which it is divided from Church Minshull, and the hundred of Nantwich. It contains two hamlets, Hulgreve and Erdeswick.

HULGREVE is said to have passed, together with Erdswick, in marriage with the heiress of Reginald de Baillot, according to some pedigrees to ^m Hugh de Vernon of Slipbrook, and according to others to Warin his son. Both these estates were granted to Matthew, younger son of Warin Vernon, and were divided by his son of the same name, who gave Erdswick to his younger son Richard, who assumed the local appellation.

An award was made between John, son of Richard de Oldinton, and Matthew de Hulgreve, and Matthew his son, respecting the several rights of Hulgreve and Minshull Vernon, a^o 4 Edw. II.ⁿ In the 10th year of the following reign, the manor of Hulgreve was settled by Matthew de Hulgreve, on his son of the same name, and his heirs by his wife Johanna, daughter of William de Spurstow, with remainder to Thomas, younger son of the elder Matthew.

The direct male line of the family terminated as follows:

Inq. p. m. 13 Ric. II. Henry, son of William de Hulgreve, held, in demesne as of fee, the third part of the manor of Teverton, and lands in Erdeswick, and also "quandam placeam terræ vocat. Hulgreve," held from Ralph Vernon in socage, by the render of vi heads of barbed arrows: val. 1111 marks. Margaret and Ellen sisters and heirs.

Inq. p. m. 18 Ric. II. Alice, widow of William de Hulgreve of Teverton, held of the gift of Hugh de Toft, chaplain, a third of Teverton, "Maymesegh" in Erdeswick, and Hulgreve, as in the last inquisition; but val. 1111. Margaret, wife of John de Beeston, daughter and heir.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. V. Margaret, widow of John de Beeston, held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Teverton, and lands therein, one burgage in Torpley, and one messuage and lands in Mynshull Vernon (Hulgreve?) the last held by services unknown, val. L111s. 1vd. ° Isabella, daughter of John de Beeston, daughter and heiress of Margaret.

Inq. p. m. 34 Hen. VI. Isabella, widow of John Carington, held, in demesne as of fee, the manors of Teverton and Stoke, lands in Mayowee in Leighton, and in Great Aldersey; also one messuage in Mynshull Vernon, called Hulgreve, cum p'tin. held from John Strange in socage: val. xls. Richard de Aston, son of sir Robert Aston, knight, son and heir of Isabella.

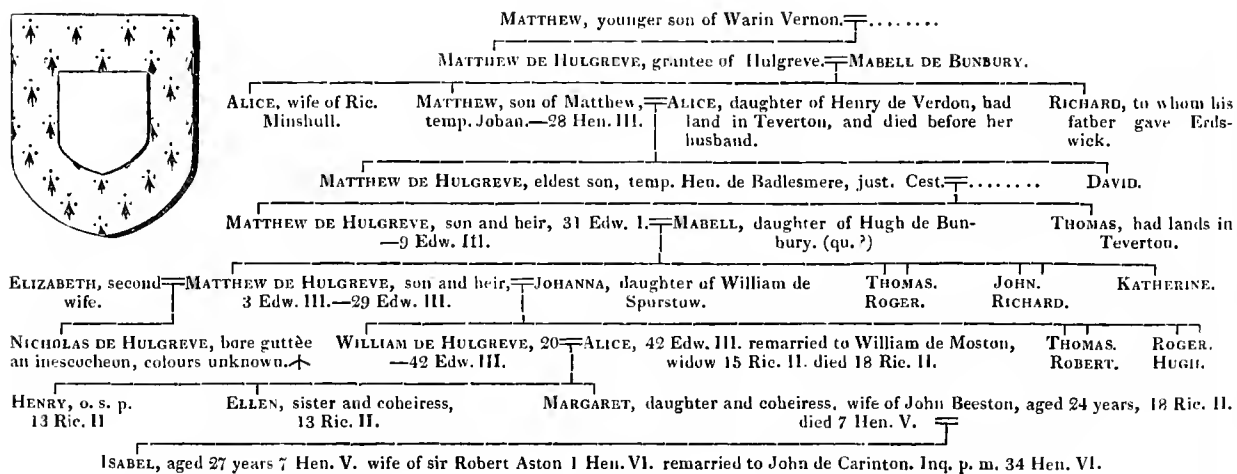
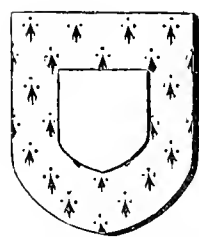
The estate of Hulgreve has descended from this period in the same manner with Aston, and is now (1817) the property of H. C. Aston, esq.

The hall is an antient building of timber and plaster, situated in a low part of the township, on the bank of the Weaver.

Several additional particulars of the Hulgreves will be found in the account of their manor of Teverton^p. The following pedigree is transcribed from one contained in Harl. MSS. 2119. p. 80, which has the appearance of being founded on an elaborate examination of original evidences.

HULGREVE OF MINSHULL-VERNON.

ARMS. Ermine, an inescoccheon Gules.



^k Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^l Lysons's Magna Britannia, vol. II. part 2. p. 691.

^m The inscription on S. Erdswick's monument at Sandun (erected in his life-time) says Hugh, and makes *Hugh*, father of Matthew Hulgreve, and a *third* Matthew father of Richard de Erdswick. See Pennant's Chester to London, 4to edit. 423. ⁿ Harl. MSS. 2038, 142.

^o In some of the Cheshire pedigrees two coheirresses are given, Isabella surnamed of Teverton, s. p. and Elizabeth, wife of John Beeston. This appears to have grown out of a confusion of the letters forming these two very similar names, well known to all genealogists.

^p Edisbury Hundred, p. 149.

ERDESWICK has been stated in the preceding account of Hulgreve to have been settled by Matthew de Hulgreve on his younger son Richard.

This property was vested in the Oldintons before 1322, as appears by a deed alluded to in the account of the manor of this township. "In 1328," (according to Dr. Williamson, *Vill. Cest.*) Thomas de Erdeswicke quit-claimed to Randle, son of John de Oldinton, all y^e right he had to the lands in Erdswicke, in Mynshull-Vernon, and in la Lowe, which he gave in exchange to him for lands in Leighton.

After the termination of the Oldintons in coheirs, Erdeswick lands, as appears by the Inquisitions, were divided between the Starkyes, severally of Oulton Lowe and Wrenbury, and the Fittons of Pownall^q. Margaret, daughter and coheiress of Thomas Fitton of Pownall, married William Minshull, who settled, in her right, at the *Hall* of Erdswick. This seat with its demesne was purchased from the representatives of the Minshulls of this place, by Richard Vernon of Middlewich, gent. and is stated in the *Magna Britannia*^r to have been bequeathed by him to a namesake, not related, who was mercer to queen Anne, and who devised the same, from political attachment, to James Murray, esq. afterwards earl of Mansfield^s.

Erdswick Hall, with its demesne, is the property of the present earl (1817). It is a venerable quadrangular mansion, of stone, brick, and timber, but abandoned to decay, and only partly inhabited. The situation is within a moat, in the more elevated part of the township: its style of architecture and general appearance will be more easily gathered from the annexed representation of the principal front than from verbal description.

The Erdeswicks, after the alienation of the estate from which they derived their name, were for several

generations seated in the adjacent township of Leighton, and finally removed to Sandon in Staffordshire, on marrying the heiress of the Staffords of that place, descended from Thomas Stafford and his wife Auda, coheiress of Warin Vernon, a new connection with the original house of Shipbrook. SAMPSON ERDESWICK, an antiquary known to the world at large as the historian of his native county, was the immediate representative of this family, and possessed the estates of his ancestors in Leighton, as will appear by inquisitions given in that township. If we may judge from his collections, dispersed among private hands, or preserved among the Harl. MSS. the respect which he felt for the antiquities of Staffordshire, was fully equalled by the ardour with which he pursued those of another county—the Palatinate, from whose Norman conquerors he drew his remoter origin.

The descent of Erdswick from the marriage with the heiress of Stafford of Sandon is given by himself, as follows: the earlier part of the pedigree involves many contradictions, though the general fact of the descent is undoubted.

"Sir James (Stafford) had issue Margaret his only daughter and heiress, married to Thomas Erdeswicke, in the 12th year of king Edward III^d.

"Thomas Erdeswicke and Margaret Stafford his wife had issue another Thomas, who had Hugh, Robert, Sampson, and Henry. Hugh, Robert, and Sampson, all died without issue. Henry Erdeswicke had issue Hugh, who had issue another Hugh, who had issue a third Hugh, and Sampson. Hugh the elder brother died without issue: Sampson had issue Hugh, who had issue Sampson, the collector of all that is (here) written."

This is given from an extract from his MS. (Harl. MSS. 381. 153.) the printed work being extremely corrupted.

^q See the respective pedigrees.

^r Vol. II. part 2. p. 692.

^s The following pedigree brings down the Minshulls to the lowest period to which they can be traced, the end of the seventeenth century, when, from the tenor of a monument at Church Minshull, erected by "the three surviving daughters" of Thomas Minshull, it appears that the family were much reduced from sufferings in the Civil War, and it is probable that the estate was purchased from these daughters.

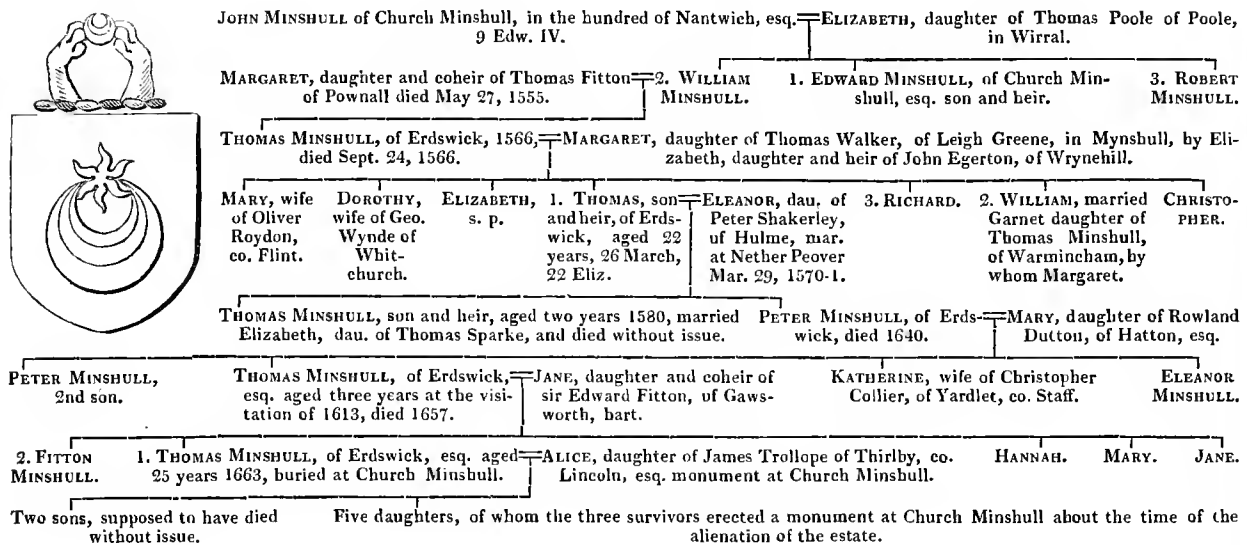
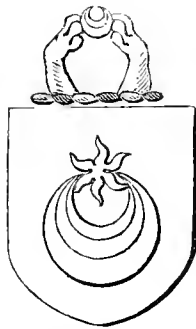


MINSHULL OF ERDSWICK HALL.

From Booth's pedigrees, continued from Dugdale's Visitation of 1663-4, and the monuments at Church Minshull.

ARMS. Azure, a star Argent, issuing from and partly included within the horns of a crescent of the second.

No Crest allowed by Dugdale.



Warmincham Parish.

IN this parish are comprehended four townships, Warmincham, Tetton, Elton, and Moston. It is bounded by the hundred of Nantwich, and the parishes of Middlewich and Sandbach.

WARMINCHAM, TETTON, AND ELTON,

FORM with Moston in this parish, and Wheelock in Sandbach parish, the remains of the great fee granted at the Conquest to Ranulphus, the ancestor of the Mainwarings, the jurisdiction of which extended at an early period over numerous townships, but is now confined to those here mentioned. The three townships enumerated above may conveniently be treated of together, from the circumstance of no mesne manors existing within them.

Sir Thomas Mainwaring observes that the Domesday Tadetune was the same with Warmincham^a, meaning that the latter was included within it, and the same may be said of Elton and Moston, the latter of which was probably formed out of the moors or mosses on its western boundary. At a later period, when the original vill was divided, Tetton, the former head of this fee, became one of its dependent members, in consequence of the chief seat of the Mainwarings lying within Warmincham.

“Isdem Ranulfus tenet Tadetune; Godit^b tenuit: ibi una hida et una virgata geldabilis: terra est 11 carucarum: ibi unus francigena, habet unam carucam, et 11 hovarios et unum radman, cum dimidia carucâ et 111 bordariis. Silva ibi xl perticatis longa, et una acra lata: ibi haia. Tempore R. Edwardi et post wasta fuit: modo valet x solidos.”

This Ranulfus had the vills (or parts of the vills) of Blaçon, Winnington, Tatton, Nether Peover, Warford, Over Peover, Cepmondwich, Owlarton, Snelson, Cogshull, Wheelock, Tetton, Northenden, Sunderland, and Baggiley in Cheshire, and the lordship of Warburne in Norfolk, all of which passed from him (by what was most probably a lineal male descent) to the Mainwarings^c.

Richard de Mesnilwaren, and Roger de Mesnilgarin, are supposed with probability which scarcely differs from certainty, to be the sons of Ranulfus.

^a Sir T. Mainwaring's Admonition, &c. p. 6.

^b A Saxon lady who had extensive possessions in Cheshire, and was suffered by Ranulfus to remain his subtenant in Warford.

^c Sir T. Mainwaring as before, p. 6.

The first of these, before 1093, gave to the abbey of St. Werburgh, "decimam de Blachenot, de annóná, de piscaria, et de omnibus de quibus decima dari debet: teste Rogero fratre suo, &c."^d

The second, before 1119, gave to the same abbey, "Plumleiam cum Widone filio suo quando factus est monachus. Test. Ranulfo et Willielmo filiis^e."

Roger le Mesnilwarin, son of William^f, (witness, as before mentioned, to his father's grant of Plumley) gave one third of Nether Tabley to Chester abbey about the time of Henry II.^g and was father of Ralph Mainwaring son and heir, and of Robert Mainwaring, possessed of lands in Winnington and Barnton^h.

Sir Ralph Mainwaring, kt. son and heir, was justice of Chester in the latter part of the reign of Henry II. and the beginning of that of his successor. He married a daughter of Hugh Kevelioc, earl of Chester, whose legitimacy was the subject of the controversy noticed in another part of this work, and who is conjectured by the best authorities to have been the legitimate issue of earl Hugh, by a first but unproved marriage, and consequently of half blood only to Randle Blundeville, and to the four sisters who were coheirresses of the lands of the earldomⁱ.

With this lady Ralph Mainwaring had the service of three knights' fees given in frank marriage by the charter annexed, to be held by the service of two knights' fees, and after this marriage he signs as witness to deeds before the constable, seneschal, and barons of the palatinate^k. He had issue Roger son and heir, Randle Mainwaring of Great Warford, and Bertred (so called after the countess of Chester) wife of Henry de Alditeleg, with whom her father gives Smallwood, Snelson, half of Picmere, and rents in Chester, in frank marriage, by a charter^l given in the account of Smallwood.

Sir Roger Mainwaring, knight, son and heir, was father of sir Thomas Mainwaring, knight^m, and of sir William Mainwaring, knightⁿ (ancestor of the Mainwarings of Over Peover), who had that place by gift from his father in the reign of Henry III.

Sir Thomas Mainwaring had issue Warin^o.

Sir Warin Mainwaring, knight, son and heir of sir Thomas, died 17 Edw. I.^o having married Agnes, daughter of sir Peter Arderne of Aldford, with whom he had lands in that township^p; by her he had issue Maud, Margery, and Joan. The first of these daughters brought Warmincham and its dependencies, in marriage to sir William Trussel of Cubbleston, the younger, 1 Edw. II.^q

The connection of the following inquisitions of the Trussels will be better understood by comparing them with the annexed pedigree. The heiress of Mainwaring had three sons, sir John, sir William, and sir Warin Trussel, each of whom was ancestor of a branch which possessed in succession the estates of the Mainwarings of Warmincham^r.

First line of Trussel of Warmincham.

Inq. p. m. 3 Ric. II. William Trussel of Cubbleston held the manor of Brueresstalghe, lands therein, and in Marleston and Lache, fisheries in Dee, common in Saltney, the custody of the East gate, and lands and rents in Chester: val. xx marks. Margaret wife of Fulco Penbrugge next of kin and heir.

Another inquisition was taken in consequence of a writ ad melius inquirendum in the same year, which finds Elizabeth daughter of Alured Trussel by Katherine daughter of the same William next heir. Other inquisitions were taken this year and 7 Ric. II. some of which notice the manor of Blacon, but none of them mention Warmincham^s.

The *second line of Trussel* ended in Margaret Trussel, wife of Fulco Penbrugge, and eventually heir of sir William Trussel, her second cousin before mentioned, on the death of his granddaughter without issue.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. IV. Margaret, wife of Fulco Penbrugge, cousin and heir of sir William Trussel, held in joint feoffment with her husband, the manor of Warmyncham, with the advowson of the church, from the earl of Chester in capite, by military service: val. xli. She held also the manors of Blaken, Northrode, and Ashton (by this inquisition), and (according to another inquisition of the same date for the lands in the city liberties) the manor of Bruardeshalge, and the custody of the East gate. William, son of Lawrence Trussel, next kinsman and heir.

This William was representative of the *third line of Trussel*, being grandson of sir Warin Trussel, youngest son of Maud Mainwaring, and uncle of Margaret Penbrugge. It appears by an inquisition taken 25 Hen. VI. with reference to Fulco Penbrugge, that Warmyncham had been settled on this William in the event of Margaret dying s. p. but that Blacon, a part of the Mainwaring estates, had been settled by the trustees on the issue of Fulco Penbrugge, by a second marriage; that after his death his widow entered into possession, and her son William Ludlow is found heir. Blacon, nevertheless, reverted to its legitimate line of possessors^t.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. IV. Sir William Trussel, knight, held, in demesne as of fee, the manor of Brewardeshalgh, and the privileges within the city liberties (to which only this inquisition relates) previously specified: val. xl. Thomas Trussel son and heir. Another inquisition taken the same year finds him to have held in the same manner, the manors of Northrode, Willaston, Blaken, and Ashton: and to have held the manor of *Warmincham*, and the advowson appendant to the same, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, by the service of one knight's fee, being of the annual value of xxxvii.

Sir Thomas Trussel found heir by this inquisition was father of William Trussel.

Inq. p. m. 21 Edw. IV. Sir William Trussel, knight,

^d Foundation charter of Chester abbey.

^e Earl Richard's charter to the same.

^f Leicester's MS pedigree.

^g See Nether Tabley in Bucklow hundred.

^h Leicester's MS pedigrees.

ⁱ See vol. I. pp. 31, and 461, respecting the controversy.

^k Hugo comes Cestr', constabular', dapifer', et omnibus baronibus suis, et univ'ersis hallivis et hominibus suis, Francis et Anglicis, tam presentibus quam futuris salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse et hac presenti karta mea confirmasse Radulpho de Menilwarin cum Amicia filia mea in libero maritagio, servitium Gilib' filii Rogeri, scilicet servitium trium militum, faciendo michi servitium duorum militum, ille et heredes sui, michi et heredibus meis. Quare volo et firmiter precipio ut nullus super huc eum vel heredes suos vexet, vel amplius quam servitium duorum militum de hoc predicto tenemento requirat. Teste R. abbate Cestr', Bertraia comitissa Cestr', Sim. Thuschet, Rogero de Livet, Gilib. filio Pigot, Rob' fratre suo, Frumh' de Ridford, Willielmo de Meisnilwarin, Rob' filio Ham', Bertr' Cam, Rob' de Meinilwarin, Ran' de Lee, Rad. clerico, Petro clerico, qui hanc kartam fecit, et multis aliis apud Lee.—Sir Thomas Mainwaring's Legitimacy of Amicia, &c. p. 2.

^l See Charter, p. 31.

^m Sir T. Mainwaring's admonition, p. 8.

ⁿ So called in sir T. Mainwaring's admonition, p. 7.

^o Leicester's MS pedigrees.

^p See the seal of Agnes, Edisbury hundred, p. 41.

^q Leicester's MS pedigrees.

^r An excellent account of the *Trussels of Cubbleston*, and some of their collateral branches, will be found in *Dugdale's Warwickshire* under the head of *Billesley*.

^s An inquisition respecting the manor of Northrode was taken 49 Edw. III. in which no heir is mentioned.

^t By another inquisition 10 Hen. IV. Juliana, widow of Richard Vernon of Harleston, had been ignorantly found sister of Fulco Penbrugge, and heiress to the manor of Warmincham, in which the said Fulco had only a life interest.

held, in demesne as of fee, the manor and advowson of Wermyncham, as in the last inquisition, val. l.x.l.; the manors of Willaston, Ashton, Northrode, and Blaken; and lands in Weston, Chorlton, Briddesmeire, Hunsterston, and Wollaston. Edward Trussel son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VII. Edw. Trussel, a minor and ward of the king, held the manor and advowson of Wermyncham, as in the last inquisition, and the four other manors there mentioned. John Trussel son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. John Trussel held the manors and estates mentioned in the last inquisition, which were in the hands of the king in right of his ward. Elizabeth Trussel sister and heiress.

zabeth Trussel sister and heiress.

This Elizabeth married John Vere, fifteenth earl of Oxford, whose grandson a° 22 Eliz. sold Warmincham and other Cheshire estates to sir Christopher Hatton, whose representatives re-sold the same to sir Randolph Crewe^s. His great grandson John Crewe, esq. dying without issue male, the family estates passed with Anne, (daughter and eventual heiress of the said John) to John Offley of Madeley, co. Staff. whose son assumed the name of Crewe in 1708, and was grandfather of John lord Crewe, manerial lord and patron of Warmincham 1818.

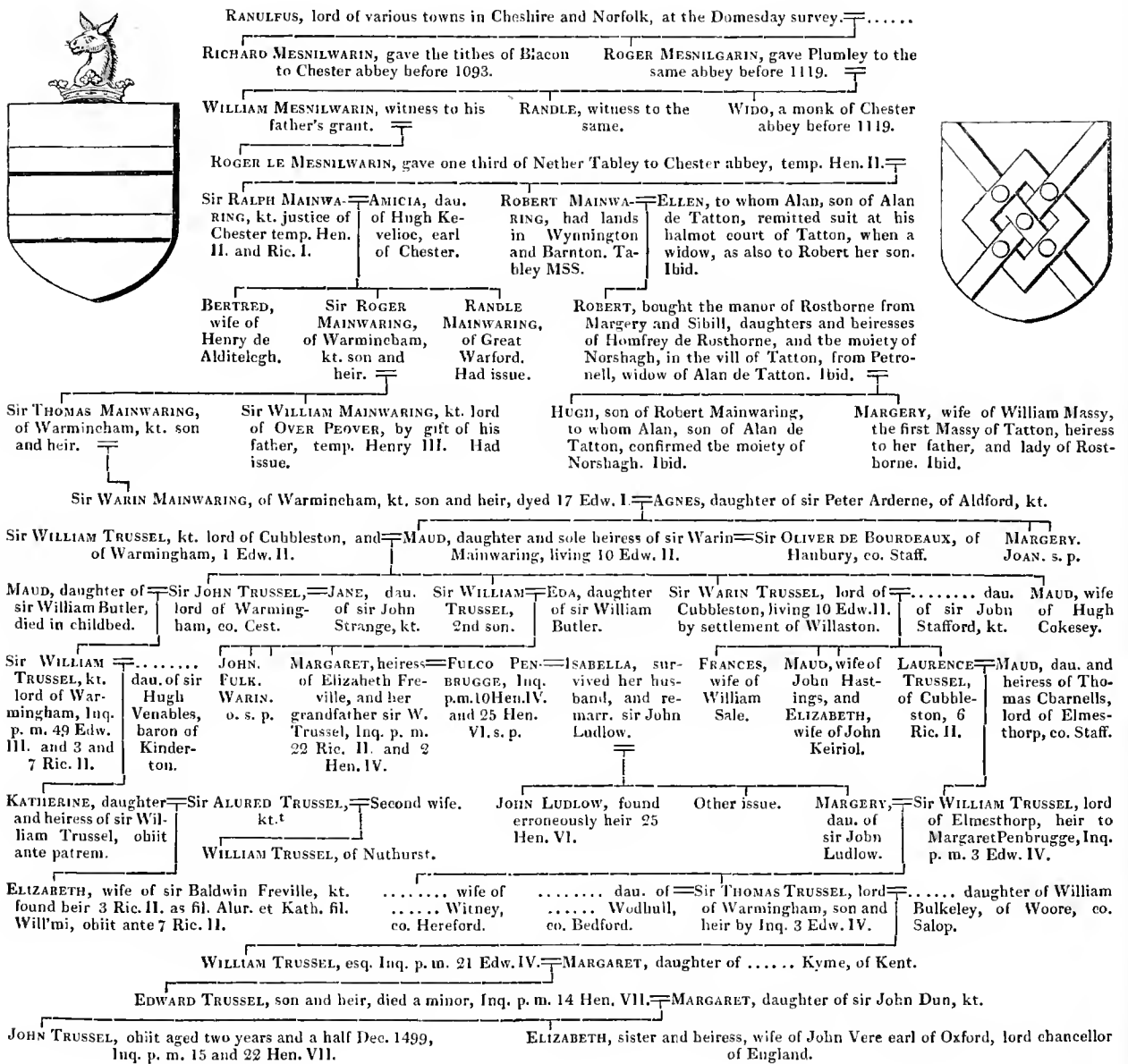
MAINWARING AND TRUSSEL OF WARMINCHAM.

From Leycester's MSS. and Harl. MSS. 1535 and 2119, collated with the Inquisitions.

ARMS OF MAINWARING. Argent, two barrs Gules.

CREST. An ass's head Sable, issuing from a ducal coronet, Gules.

ARMS OF TRUSSEL. Argent, a fret Gules bezantée. CREST. As Mainwaring.



^s This manor was probably sold at the same time with Crewe and Barthomley, which Dr. Williamson states to be sold by sir Christopher Hatton temp. Jac. I. This could not be, as sir Christopher died 1591, but the vendor of the whole was in all likelihood his nephew, sir William Newport (afterwards Hatton) who certainly succeeded to Warmincham, as Thomas Venables, esq. held Moston under him, as of his manor of Warmincham, 4 Jac. I. Inq. p. m. anno p'd'to.

^t Sir Alured was grandson of sir William Trussel, who, according to Knighton, was commissioned by parliament to renounce in their name their allegiance to Edward II. The said William was son of Edmund Trussell, uncle of the husband of Matilda Mainwaring. See Dugd. Warw. p. 539.

A court leet and court baron are held for the manors of Warmincham, Elton, and Tetton, to the former of which all residents in these towns and in Moston and Wheelock owe suit and service^u.

The appearance of the township, and of the greater part of the parish, is extremely displeasing. There is a general dearth of timber, the situation is flat, the soil cold clay, and the roads of the worst description. To this picture, however, an agreeable contrast is presented by the church and village, situated near the

banks of the Wheelock, in a pleasant valley, with a small wood in the back ground.

The site of the antient seat of the Trussels is immediately contiguous to the south side of the church, and is still marked by strong earth-works^v.

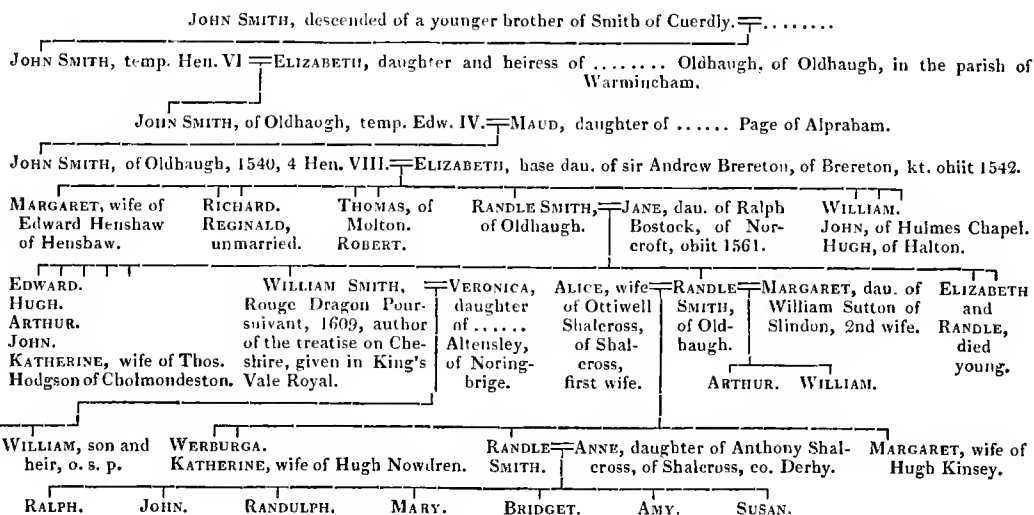
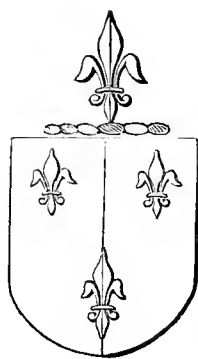
On the western side of the township is Old Haugh, formerly the residence of the Smiths. The annexed pedigree, transcribed from Booth, gives the connection of this family with the author of an early treatise on Cheshire antiquities, printed in the Vale Royal^x.

SMITH OF OLDHAUGH.

From Booth's pedigrees.

ARMS. Party per pale, Or and Gules, three fleur de lis counterchanged.

CREST. On a wreath a fleur de lis party per pale Or and Gules.



CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Leonard.

Tax. P. N. £6. 13s. 4d. Val. Eccl. £12. 4s. 7d.

The church stands between the bank of the Wheelock and the site of the antient residence of the Trussels. The tower, which is built with brick and stone, and has a fine effect at a distance, was re-erected in 1715. The body and chancel were rebuilt in 1797, and appear equally mean and displeasing in design and in execution, in general effect, and on a near examination. The parsonage-house has also been re-erected, and is a substantial building, not unworthy a considerable benefice, situated amongst pleasant grounds, on a slight elevation near the stream of the Wheelock.

On a brass plate in the chancel is the following singular inscription, commemorative of a rector.

Here William Lingard's body lies,
Late parson of this place,
Whose soul in Abraham's bosom rests,
Through Christ's merits and grace.
Amongst his good deeds manifold
Inscribe this on his stone,
What coste and charges he was att
Upon a neighbour's sonn.

First at the schoole, then at Cambridge,
Then with his people here,
Where he him kept God's will to preache
The space of sixteen yeare.
Then full of days and of the age
Of seventie yeares and fouer,
Was here interd when cruell Death
Would let him live no more.
Viz. August. xviii^{to}, 1620.

On a marble mural monument against the south wall of the chancel, is the following inscription; to which are added some verses, not worthy of preservation, either from merit or quaintness.

Here
rest the remains
of
Randulph Crewe, LL.D.
late rector of this parish,
born Feb. 6th, 1717,
died May 29th, 1777.
Also,
the remains of Anne Crewe,
relict of
the said Randulph Crewe,
born Nov. 2, 1722,
died Dec. 29th, 1793.

^u Information of H. Tomkinson, of Dorfold, esq. at the request of lord Crewe.

^v Sir John Trussel had licence to fortify it 12 Edw. III. but it probably occupied the site of a former mansion of the Mainwarings.

^x Inserted at p. 92, vol. I. where a brief notice of him is given in a note. A more ample account occurs in Chalmers's Biog. Dict. vol. XXVIII. 151.

In the body of the church, on a marble monument,
 Juxta jacent reliquia
 Gulielmi et Francescæ Vernon.
 Ille obiit sexto die Junii,
 anno Domini 1732º, ætatis 52º;
 illa obiit quinto die Martii,
 anno Domini 1727º,
 ætatis 42º.

Arms. Or, on a fesse Azure, between six swords Sable, with the hilts downwards, composing three saltiers, three garbs Or, Vernon; impaling, Azure, a chevron Argent between three cotton hanks of the second; Cotton. Crest, on a wreath a female couped at the waist, habited Vert, holding a garb Or.

Opposite to this another mural marble monument, inscribed :

Beneath
 are interred the remains of
 Ralph Vernon,
 who died 19th July, 1798,
 aged 84 years.
 Also the remains of
 Mary,

his former wife, who died 25th Nov. 1760,
 aged 44 years.

Also the remains of

Anne,

his second wife, who died 6th May, 1803,
 aged 83 years.

At the south side of the church is the marble slab of the monument of Matilda, heiress of the Mainwarings, which was rudely removed there on the re-erection of the church. A few letters of the inscription which ran round the edges, are still legible, and the general form of the brass may be traced, representing a recumbent figure surrounded by shrinework^γ.

The following coats were existing in the windows of Warmincham church in 1593^z.

..... (Gules, 3 pallets Or, a chief ermine;) Arderne, Vernon, Mainwaring, Brereton impaling Savage, Bruen impaling Brereton, Trussel, Bostock; (Gules, a mullet Argent) and Holford.

In one of the windows an armed figure kneeling, and supporting the crest of Mainwaring on his clasped hands. His surcoat emblazoned with the arms of Trussel.

RECTORS OF WARMINCHAM.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1300.	Ricardus de Eytonis.	Rex.	
1300.	Mag. Jo. de Havering.	Rex, rac'o'e min. ætat. her. Warini de Mainwaring, qui de R. tenet in cap.	
1306, Jan. 9.	Thomas Trussel, cl'us.	Agnes de Mainwaring.	
1318, Sept. 3.	Ricardus Longspee, cap.	Oliverus de Bourdeux, ex dimiss. Thomæ Trussel.	
	Robertus —		
1349, 11 kal. Maii.	Willielmus de Mulneton, cap.	Jo. Trussel de Cubbleston, miles.	P. m. Roberti —.
1350, 3 id. Julii.	Warinus Trussel, cl'us.	Willielmus Trussel, miles, fil. D'ni Jo. Trussel, mil.	P. res. W. de Mulneton.
1382, Nov. 14.	Johannes Deacon, pr'b'r.	D'na P. Walliæ, rac'o'e min. æt. fil. Aluredi Trussel, ver. her. D'ni Will. Trussel, defunct.	P. res. Warini Trussel.
	Johannes Caules.		
1433, April. 1.	Johannes de Wermincham.	Hugo de Pole de Sparrowgreve, hac vice.	P. m. Jo. Caules.
1435, Sept. 19.	Stephanus Bostock, cl'us.	Jo. Wermincham, scutifer, hac vice.	P. res. Jo. Wermincham.
1462, Oct. 3.	Thomas Fisher, M.A.	D'nus Will. Trussel, miles.	P. m. Steph. Bostock.
	Johannes Vernon.		
1465.	Johannes Ynce, cap.	D'nus Tho. Trussel, miles.	P. res. Jo. Vernon.
1478, June 28.	Johannes Mainwaring, cap.	Ran'us Mainwaring, sen. arm. ec. Jo. Higenson, hac vice, rac'o' donat. Will. Trussel, arm.	P. m. Jo. Ynce.
1500, Sept. 16.	Robertus Gostwicke.	Geo. comes Cantiaë, hac vice.	P. m. Jo. Mainwaring.
	John Beateborn.		
1511, Feb. 7.	Robert Wynsthall.		Death of John Beateborn.
	William Lingard.		
1620, Sept. 18.	Thomas Whittingham.	Randle Crewe.	Death of Wm. Lingard.
1622, Feb. 20.	Andrew Wood.	Randle Crewe.	
1680, Nov. 17.	Daniel Appleford.	John Crewe.	Death of last Incumbent.
1714, Oct. 9.	William Dugard.	Daniel Cotton.	Death of Dan. Appleford.
1747, March 10.	Randulph Crewe, LL.D.	John Crewe, esq.	Death of Wm. Dugard.
1777, Nov. 21.	Offley Crewe, A.M.	Edward Mainwaring, esq.	Death of Randulph Crewe.
1782, Oct. 29.	Charles Crewe, A.M.	Philip Egerton, esq.	Res. of Offley Crewe.
1795, Oct. 9.	Randulph Crewe, LL.B.	Mary Egerton, widow.	Death of Charles Crewe.
1813, Oct. 18.	James Tomkinson, LL.B.	Lord Crewe.	Death of Randulph Crewe.
1816, Oct. 15.	Willoughby Crewe.	Lord Crewe.	Res. of James Tomkinson.

^γ The chancel or ehauntry in which her body lay, was probably built about 9 Edw. III. when sir John Trussel her son gave xl. yearly rent issuing from his manor of (North) Rode, to three priests to celebrate divine service in this church for the health of his own soul, and those of all the faithful departed. See Dugdale, Warw. p. 532.

^z Harl. MSS. 2151, 122, b.

MOSTON.

MOSTON is omitted in Domesday, but there is every reason for supposing that it was attached at the time of that survey to the manor of Tadetune, or Warmincham, from the lords of which it was subsequently held, and that it consisted chiefly of swamps and morasses, stretching along the outskirts of that lordship, as its name implies, and even its present appearance indicates.

"This place," says Dr. Williamson, "gave name to, and was the inheritance of the Mostons, as under-lords thereof; for 18 Edw. I. I find that Richard de Moston held the manor of Moston of Warin Mainwaring in fee, by the service of vid. per ann.; whose son John, as lord of Moston, gave this manor, with the service of — de Whelock, and all other his free tenants, to William, son of Robert de Thorpe his kinsman, 12 Edw. II.

"The aforementioned was son of Roger de Moston, lord of Moston, who had a younger son, called Ralph, to whom his father by charter gave in fee simple two messuages cum pert. in Moston."

"One William Harryson and Ellen his wife settled this manor on William Gallock, and Henry Walsh, chaplains, 22 Ric. II. with the homages and service of Richard Gerard, Ellen de Moston, and two others.

"Henry Walsh, 6 Hen. IV. gave to William Venables of Kinderton, and Blanche his wife, this manor (with the reversion of all the lands which John Fisher and Ellen his wife held in dower, and the homages and services of all the free tenants) to them, and their heirs; with remainder to William Venables, son of Ellen Brooke and his heirs male."

William Venables, who succeeded under this settlement, was younger son of Hugh Venables, baron of Kinderton third son according to the pedigrees, but second if the subsequent claims of the Agden branch as heirs male of Kinderton were rightly founded. He was lord of Golborne, and ancestor of a branch of this house, which succeeded to Kinderton by successive settlements, marriages, and compositions with rival candidates. With that barony Moston passed to the Vernons, and was sold by the late lord Vernon, to the late rev. John Armitstead, whose son Lawrence Armitstead of Cranage, esq. is the present proprietor.

The township is within the jurisdiction of the courts leet and baron of Warmincham.

A very different account of the mode in which the Venables family became possessed of Moston, is given in a notable production, a grant of Crest and Augmentation of Arms "unto the right worshipfull Sr Thom's Venables, knight, barron of Kinderton, by Lawrence Dalton, esquire, al's Norrey Kinge of Armes, 30th Oct. 2 Eliz." Bostock MSS. Harl. MSS. 139. p. 39.

After a pompous preamble the patent states that Thomas Venables of Golborne was "lynally dyscendit frome s^r Gilbert Venables, knight, coosyn garman to kynge William Conqueror, and came with hym into Englande, &c. and was yonger sonne to the earle of Ble-vile, to whome was gyven th' *earledome* (so in MS.) or barrony of Kyndreton, and bare these armes, Blewe, two barres Silver, and *for hys crest a demy dragon Geules, yssuinge out of a wylson or wyer to take fishe, in Silver.* In whose tyme yt chaunced a terrible dragon to remayne and make his abode in the lordshippe of Moston, in the sayde countye of Chester, wheare he devowred all suche

p'sons as he laid hold on, which ye said Thomas Venables heringe tell of, consideringe the pytyfull and dayly destruction of the people w'thowte recov'ie, who in followinge th' example of the valiante Romaines, &c. &c. dyd in his awne p'son valiantlie, and courragiouslye, set on the saide dragon, where firste he shotte hym throwe with an arrowe, and afterward with other weapons manfullie slew him, at which instant tyme the sayd dragon was devowringe of a childe; for the which wor-thie and valiante acte, was given to him the saide lordshippe of Moston, by the auncestores of the earle of Oxford, the lord of the fee their."

The patent further states, that "en sence" the said Thomas and his heirs assumed a dragon for their crest, but that the same being done without due authority, sir Thomas Venables "weyinge and consyderinge" this great abuse, desired a legitimate grant, which being "so just and reasonable," Mr. Norroy could not "lawfullye denye the same," and that he accordingly set out for sir Thomas the following arms and crest: 1. Venables of Golborne; 2, Golborne; 3, a coat of augmentation (Vert, a dragon Silver scaled, and p'ced throwe the body w'th an arrowe Gold hedded and fethered Silver"); 4, Eccleston; 5, Cotton; 6, Venables of Kinderton. Crest. "Uppon t'helme a dragon Silver scaled, and pi'ced throwe the body with an arrowe Gold hedded and fetheredd Silver, devowringe a child chernell, heired Gold, sett on a wyar or wylson Silver banded Blewe, on a wreath Silver, Blewe and Redd."

This patent can be considered as evidence of nothing but the absurdity of sir Thomas Venables and of Mr. Norroy Dalton, if the latter could be supposed actuated by any other motive than turning the baron's credulity to a lucrative account. The legend itself, however, is a curious relic of the wild stories of the chivalrous ages; and the adoption of the cognizance relating to it must be as much anterior to the date assigned it in that part of the grant which refers the atchievement to Thomas Venables (who lived in the time of Hen. VI.) as the bearing of the wyer and dragon is later than the arrival of William the Conqueror, at which time the earlier part of the patent very contradictorily asserts it to have been used. The first of these assertions is proved by the crest having been borne variously by the houses of Venables of Bradwall, Agden, and Antrobus, which separated from the parent line before Thomas Venables was settled at Golborne; and the second, not only by the omission of the crest on the antient seals, but by the general fact of crests being then unknown. In the dark ages which followed, the fiction may have either grown out of some forgotten circumstance connected with Moston, or have been invented to account for a previous bearing, which had been merely conceived in the prevalent spirit of romance. The house of *Kinderton*, however, appears from the circumstances above-mentioned to have first used the crest: but whatever its origin may have been, the legend itself is still told by the peasantry of Moston; and the site of a piece of water lately drained, retains the name of the Dragon's pool. The Mostons of Moston also used the wyvern as their arms, which coat was quartered by the Venables family (of Golborne) after succeeding to Moston, and is the quarter mistaken by Dalton for an augmentation.

^a 13 Hen. IV. according to Leicester's MSS. pedigrees.

Davenham Parish.

THE parish of Davenham is bounded on the western side by the hundred of Edisbury, and within this hundred by the parishes of Great Budworth and Middlewich.

It comprehends eleven townships: Davenham, Shipbrook, Bostock, Whatcroft, Stanthorne, Newall, Surlach cum Bradford, Moulton, Wharton, Eaton, and Leftwich.

DAVENHAM.

THE vill of Davenham does not in itself possess any manerial rights, but is deemed a component part of the barony of Shipbrook, the descent of which will be found in the subsequent pages.

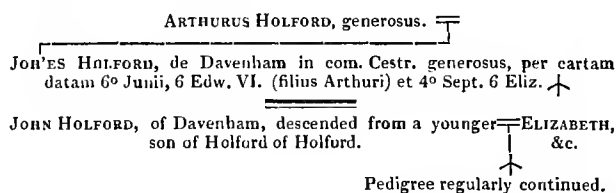
The Domesday description is as follows:

"Isdem Ricardus (de Vernon) tenet Deveneham. Osmer tenuit; liber homo fuit; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est in carucarum: in dominio est una caruca, et in servi et presbyter cum ecclesiâ: et unus villanus, et unus bordarius cum dimidia carucâ: valebat viii solidos, modo v solidos."

In this township was settled, from an early period, the family of La Bret, which terminated in the direct line in Richard Brett of Davenham, in the early part of the sixteenth century^a, which Richard had two daughters and coheirresses, — who brought an estate here in marriage to the Holfords, and Margery, wife of William Wyche of Alderley.

The HOLFORDS of this place branched from the family of Holford of Holford in the reign of Henry VII. when "sir George Holford (according to sir Peter Leycester) had four bastard sons, Thomas, Arthur, from whom the Holfords of Davenham, Raufe, and Robert; also Ellen, a base daughter, all living 22 Hen. VII."^b The abstract of a deed which sir Peter Leycester cites as authority for this assertion, is given in the note below from his MSS.^c from which it appears that his opinion was founded on the meaning of the word "naturalis," which he appears to have construed in its modern popular sense. The word is unusual in deeds, where, however, instances may be found of its being used to imply both legitimacy and illegitimacy^d; but in administrations and other proceedings of the ecclesiastical courts, as well formerly as at the present day, it is always coupled with the word legitimate, and received as synonymous

with it. Allowing, however, no further weight to these circumstances than to invalidate the word "naturalis" as being in any degree decisive, and putting out of the question the contradictory assertions of Randle Holme and Booth in their MS. pedigrees, all the other documents that can be recovered militate against sir Peter Leycester's opinion. Webb, in his Itinerary of Northwich hundred, speaks of ancient monuments existing at Davenham (about 1625) relating to the family, and their ancient descent; and in 1663-4, Dugdale allowed to this branch the arms of Holford differenced by a canton only, which, as is well known, he substituted for the usual mark of legitimate cadency. It is observable also, that he entered the pedigree of the family with considerable caution, describing the three first descents as follows:



The following extracts from the inquisitions will supply one chasm in Dugdale's pedigree.

Inq. p. m. 31 Eliz. John Holford, of Davenham, gent. held one capital messuage, and other messuages and lands there, from John Savage, esq. by fealty and the annual render of 111 shillings of silver, for all services, also the manor of Alsager, and lands in Moulton, Bostock, Leftwich, and Lawton. He died Feb. 28, 30 Eliz. John Holford, son and heir, aged upwards of twenty-seven years.

Inq. p. m. June 28, 3 Jac. I. John Holford, of Davenham, held as in the last *Inq.* val. tot. xli. iis. viiij.

^a The Bretts bore, Argent, a chevron Sable, charged with three trefoils slipped of the first. Six descents of the Wyche pedigree intervene between the time of their extinction and the entry in the Visitation of 1663-4. There is no regular pedigree of the Bretts in the Cheshire genealogical collections, but the name occurs occasionally among witnesses to deeds. Hamund la Bret witnesses the grant of Little Moreton to Gralam de Lostock, temp. Hen. III. See p. 26. "Richard le Brett de Danham" occurs among the contributors to the feast on the consecration of Vale Royal abbey, 1336. Edisb. Hundred, p. 26.

^b Vol. I. p. 495, col. I.

^c "Sciãnt, &c. quod ego Georgius Holford miles dedi Willielmo Bromley terras, &c. habendum ad usum mei prædicti Georgii, et Isabellæ uxoris meæ pro vitâ, &c. remanere Johanni filio meo primogenito, et Margeriæ uxori ejus, et hæredibus de corpore—remanere Georgio filio meo—remanere Thomæ, Arthuro, Radulfo, et Roberto filiis meis naturalibus—remanere Ellenæ filiæ meæ naturali. 22 Hen. VII."—Tabley MSS. C. p. 231, p. "taken from the original remayninge with Mr. Leigh of High Legh de West Hall, 1665."

^d Vide Glossar. Manuale, &c. edit. Hal 1776, tom. IV. 207, where one instance is given from Adrevarius Floriac. of its meaning a bastard. "Remigium Rotomageusem episcopum, naturalem suum ac Carlomanni fratrem cum imperio diregit;" the said Remigius being a natural son of Charles Martel. The Glossary proceeds: "filii naturales dicuntur ex conjugio procreati, si vir uxori suæ libellum dotis ut lege jubebatur dare neglexerat—legitimum quoque et ex legali conjugio procreatum significat in Ch. MS. 1354. &c."

He died Feb. 20 last past. John Holford, gent. son and heir, aged seven years Nov. 12 last past.

The entry in Dugdale terminates with the children of John Holford last mentioned, after which there is an apparent chasm of one generation, which registers and the knowledge of the family have failed in supplying. Alexander Holford, with whom the descents recommence, most probably was the Holford who married the heiress of Hewitt of Brindley, with whom the estates of the Allens in Burland^d and that township, passed to the Holfords. In the early part of the pedigree are also three marriages deficient, for which no regular evidence can be procured; but it is most probable that the first Arthur married the heiress of Brett, and the other deficiencies are supplied from Harl. MSS. 2119. From Alexander Holford before mentioned the pedigree

is brought down regularly to its termination in the coheirs of the late Allen Holford, esq.

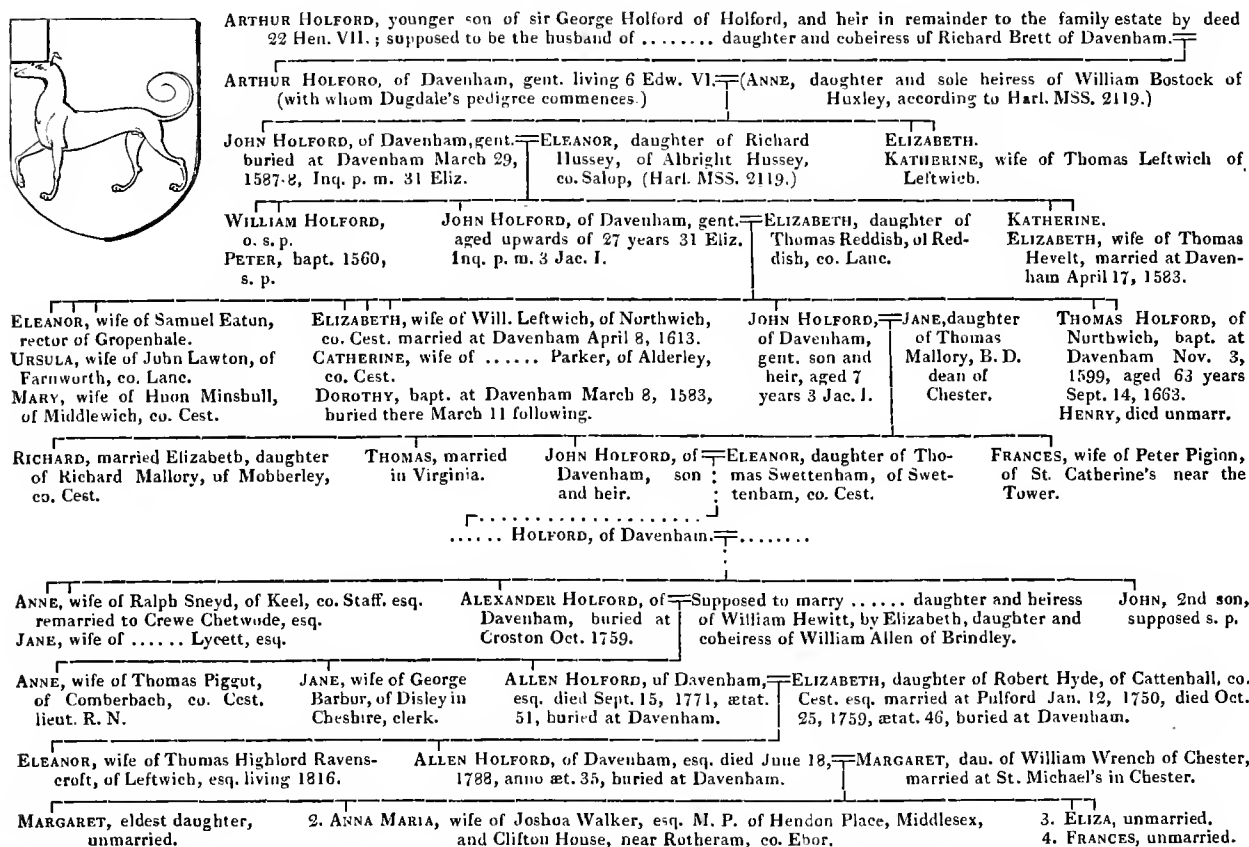
Davenham Lodge, the seat of the Holfords, was sold by the late Allen Holford, esq. to his brother-in-law Thomas Highlord Ravenscroft, esq.; and having passed by a subsequent sale to William Harper, esq. is now the property of his son-in-law, John H. Harper, esq. The antient house was of timber and plaister, on elevated ground, commanding the valley of the Dane: its site is occupied by a modern mansion, which is the residence of the proprietor.

The village of Davenham is considerable, and is situated at the distance of two miles south of Northwich, adjacent to the parish church, and at a short distance from the banks of the Dane.

HOLFORD OF DAVENHAM.

From Dugdale's Visitation, the parochial registers of Davenham, Harl. MSS. 2119, other evidences cited, and the information of the family in the later descents.

ARMS, as HOLFORD OF HOLFORD, Argent, a greyhound passant Sable; allowed by Dugdale with a canton Sable for difference.



CHURCH.

Ded. to St. Wilfrid.

Tax. P. N. £20. Val. Eccl. £23. 13s. 1½d.

The existence of the church is proved by Domesday to be anterior to the Conquest, and its patronage passed with the manors of Shipbrook, Davenham, and other villis adjacent, from Osmer the Saxon proprietor to Richard de Vernon.

From this period the same may be presumed to have been vested in the first line of the barons of Shipbrook, until the division of the estates among the coheirs.

After this event it appears from a deed given in the account of Minshull Vernon, that Randle de Oldinton was possessed of the Littlebury and Wilbraham shares^e, and that he gave them in exchange to Auda de Stafford, in whom the whole was thus united, and was probably given by her to the priory of Birkenhead.

In inquisitions of the Leftwiches it is nevertheless stated, that an interest in the advowson (which it is difficult to account for unless derived from the coheir who married sir Richard Wilbraham) was vested in that family temp. Hen. VIII. and Eliz.^f There are not however any presentations by this family to be found

^d See the pedigree of Allen in Brindley, Nantwich hundred.

^e Margery, or Matilda.

^f See Leftwich.

in the list of incumbents; and the statements in the inquisitions are contradictory.

The advowson certainly was vested in Birkenhead priory about the time of the conjectured grant from Auda de Stafford, and was sold for 70 marks to Ralph Vernon by the prior of Birkenhead anno 13 Edw. I.^g

Sir Roger de Trumpinton, who presented four times

in the fourteenth century, was probably possessed of the advowson in right of a marriage with the widow of one of the descendants of this Ralph, who was ancestor of the second and illegitimate line of Vernon.

With these exceptions, the advowson of Davenham appears to have been uniformly considered an appendage of the barony of Shipbrook.

RECTORS OF DAVENHAM.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1315, 16 kal. Feb.	Robertus de Rodeswell ^a . Ricardus de Vernon, pr'br. ^b	D'nus Rad'us de Vernon, sen. miles.	P. m. Rob'ti de Rodeswell.
1317, 10 kal. Sept.	Thomas de Vernon, cl'us. ^b	D'nus Rad'us de Vernon, sen. miles.	P. dimiss. m'ri Ric. Vernon.
1330, 3 kal. Feb. 1351.	Radulphus Brereton, cap. ^c Rogerus de Treford. Johannes de Ashton.	D'nus Rad'us de Vernon, miles.	P. res. d'ni Tho. de Vernon.
1353, 12 kal. Jun. 1353. 1354. 1363.	Robertus del Crosse, cap. Johannes de Ashton, cl'us. Radulfus ^d . Walterus de Damory ^e . Walterus Stanmore.	Rogerus de Trumpinton, miles, D'nus de Shipbrook. Rogerus de Trumpinton, miles. Rogerus de Trumpinton, miles.	Rac'o'e permut. cum Rogero de Treford. P. res. Jo. del Ashton. P. res. Rob. del Crosse.
1380, 2 non. Oct. 1384, 3 Jan. 1390, 3 Maii.	Thomas de Horton. Bartholomeus Legh, pr'br. Johannes de Akedon, cl'us. Hugo de Farington.	Rad'us de Vernon, miles. D'nus Rad'us de Vernon, miles. D'nus Rad'us de Vernon, miles.	
1405.	Willielmus Legh.	Hugo de Huls, rac'o'e custod. terr. Ric. de Vernon mil. defunct.	P. res. Hug. de Farington.
1418, 21 Mart.	Andreas Holes, cl'us.	P'nob. mul. d'na Eliz. nup. uxor Ric'i Vernon de Shipbrook, mil. def.	
1470, Dec. 3. 1486, 7 Maii. 1511, April 25. 1546.	Oliverus Legh. Thomas Savage, cl'us. Willielmus Wall, cap. Roger Savage ^f . Simon Shepard.	Jo. Savage, miles. Jo. Savage, sen. The King, in right of his ward, John Savage. John Savage.	P. m. Oliveri Legh, LL.D. P. res. Tho. Savage. Death of William Wall.
12 Eliz. July 15.	John Whatton. Thomas Hevelt ^g .		
1601, April 4. 1662.	Thomas Mallorie ^h . James Marbury ⁱ .		Death of Thomas Hevelt.
1678, Jan. 6. 1681, June 7.	Robert Ridgeway. James Marbury ⁱ .	Mary Broadhurst. Thomas lord Rivers, viscount Colchester, and Rock Savage.	Death of James Marbury. Death of Rob. Ridgeway.
1681-2, Jan. 10. 1686 ante. 1725.	James Arderne, S. T. P. ^k James Marbury ⁱ . Thomas Derbyshire ^l .	The King.	Res. of James Arderne. Death of James Marbury.
1745, Feb. 9. 1775, July 31.	Ashburnham Legh, A. M. ^m William Brock.	Edward Vawdrey, esq. Thomas Brock, esq.	Death of Tho. Derbyshire. Death of A. Legh.
1787, March 21. 1797, July 5.	Geo. Cotton, LL.D. ⁿ James Tomkinson, A. B. ^o	Edw. Tomkinson, esq. Henry Tomkinson, esq.	Death of W. Brock. Res. of Geo. Cotton, LL.D.

^g Gastrell Not. Cest. and Williamson's Collections, p. 2.

^a Archdeacon of Chester. See vol. I. p. 88.

^c Third son of William Brereton of Brereton. Vide pedigree.

^d Trustee of Hugh Venables of Kinderton, 17 E. III. Kinderton Charter Book, 102.

^e The Vernons of Shipbrook were at this time allied to the family of Richard Damory, Just. Cest. See pedigree.

^f The institution of George Savage, who was about this time Rector of Davenham, and father of the celebrated Bonner, and other illegitimate children (see vol. I. p. 527.) has not occurred, though a diligent search was made in the duplicate of the latest Lichfield institution book for this archdeaconry preserved at Chester, and in the abstract of the later series of Lichfield institution books for the same, preserved in Harl. MSS. 2070.

^g Thomas Hevelt R. buried 7 June 1600. See pedigree of Holford of Davenham.

^h Dean of Chester. See vol. I. pp. 220, 323, 329.

ⁱ James Marbury, sep. Nov. 20, 1678, and James Marbury his son, sep. June 19, 1725. Vide Croxton pedigree, Edish. Hund. p. 68.

^k Dean of Chester. See vol. I. p. 221, and Edish. Hund. p. 40.

^l Thomas Derbyshire, sep. Jan. 23, 1744.

^m Vide pedigree of Legh of Lyme. Macclesfield Hund.

ⁿ Dean of Chester, see p. 221, vol. I. and pedigree of Cotton of Combermere. Nantwich Hund.

^o Vide pedigree of Wetenhall of Hankelow, Nantwich Hund.

^b Most probably unidentified branches of the Shipbrook family.

The church consists of a handsome tower, surmounted with a spire, a nave, chancel, and side-aisles, which are separated from the nave by four highly-pointed arches on each side, and terminate in small chancels. That on the north belongs to the manor of Davenham, and that on the south to the manor of Bostock. On the south side of the chancel of the church is another chancel, divided off by an antient carved screen, and appropriated to Leftwich hall. Attached to one of the piers of the steeple are three coats of arms, Cholmondeley with a crescent, Leftwich of Oldfield, and a third, like the first, underwritten, "Beneficent promoters of rebuilding the steeple," with the names of the churchwardens from 1677 to 1680, and that of Henry Vernon of Lichfield, mason.

On brasses in the Davenham chancel :

Here

lies the body of Elizabeth Holford, who departed this life the 25th October 1759, in the 46th year of her age.

And also

the body of Allen Holford, esq. husband of Elizabeth, who departed this life on the 15th Sept. 1771, in the fifty-first year of his age.

On another brass :

Allen Holford, esq.

obit June 1788, ætatis suæ 35.

In the Bostock chancel is a very elegant pyramidal mural monument of black marble. On the tablet is the following inscription :

Sacred to the memory of
Elizabeth,

wife of Thomas France, esq. of Bostock hall, in this county, who departed this life July 9th, 1814, aged 49 years.

Also of Thomas France, esq.

who followed her to a premature grave in the 8th of January succeeding, aged 53 years.

Their eldest son James France France has erected this memorial

as a record of their virtues and of his affection.

Over the tablet is a female figure, executed in white marble, leaning on a cross, with a cup rested on a book placed on her right side near her feet.

On the south side of the principal chancel is a large pyramidal mural monument, inscribed as follows :

Sacred to the memory

of William Tomkinson, late of Bostock, in this parish, esq. a man of universal honour, probity, and virtue, accomplished with a liberal knowledge of his profession, which he practised with the greatest reputation and success.

With these endowments he possessed all the qualities requisite to render him amiable in private life ; being a tender and most affectionate husband,

a kind relation and sincere friend, an indulgent master and a liberal benefactor. In the year 1760 he married Sarah, the widow of James Marsden, esq. only daughter of Roger Sedgewick, of Manchester, esq. but died without issue on the 7th day of March, 1770, in the 46th year of his age, and was buried in this chancel. In just veneration for his virtues, and as a testimony of gratitude for his kindness, this monument was erected to preserve his memory to posterity, by his affectionate cousin and executor, Edward Tomkinson, of the Middle Temple, esq. Anno Domini 1771.

Arms. Azure, a cross patonce Or, between four martlets of the second ; impaling Or, a cross Gules.

On an altar-tomb near the chancel :

In memory

of

Richard Brock, of Bostock Hall, and Mary his wife.

Also of their son Thomas Brock, of the city of Chester, esq.

who departed this life 4th August, 1785, aged 56 years.

And of their daughter Mary, who died 6th October, 1807, aged 64 years, being the wife of John Yates of Preston Hill, esq.

by whom this tomb is erected, as a token of respect and sincere regret.

On a monument attached to the outside of the east end of the south aisle :

M. S.

James Roylance, esq.

late of Newton manor-house,

who died on the 3d day of May 1812, aged 67 years.

A volume of church-notes, taken towards the close of the sixteenth century (Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 72), notices the following inscriptions.

Under the arms of Bulkeley :—Hic jacet Willielmus Bulkeley de Ayton, quondam locum tenens justitiarum Cestriæ et North Wales, qui obiit primo die Maii 1467, anno 7 Edw. IV.

Hic jacet Richardus Brett et Petronella uxor ejus, quæ fuit filia Willielmi Bulkeley de Acton, quondam justic. Cestr. et Northwalæ.

There is a SCHOOL at Davenham endowed with land in Shipbrook, and with some other small benefactions, which are enumerated by bishop Gastrell in his Notitia, but the time of its foundation is not mentioned. Other parochial charities are specified in the parliamentary return.

BARONY OF SHIPBROOK.

THE antient lords of this place derive their name from the town of Vernon in Normandy, in which William de Vernon founded and endowed, in 1052, a collegiate and parochial church for a dean and secular canons, where his effigies is said to remain on an altar-tomb^a. In the castle of this place, Randle Gernons, fourth earl of Chester, was born, and assumed from it his local appellation^b.

The Domesday survey notices Richard and Walter Vernon, who are said to be sons of this William^c. Walter had lands granted to him in Cheshire and Buckinghamshire. It is most probable that he died without issue, as his Cheshire estates (Willington, Nesse, Prenton, &c.) appear to have reverted to the earldom, from which they were held in capite by subsequent lords. The same Walter witnesses a grant from earl Richard to Chester Abbey.

I. *Richard de Vernon*, elder brother of Walter, at the time of the Domesday Survey was proprietor of Ashton near Tarvin, Picton, Hooton, Cogshull, Shipbrook, Shurlach, Leftwich, Moulton, Warton near Over, Davenham, Bostock, Audlem, Crewe, Shavington, and Bradbury.

Shipbrook, which was subsequently made the caput baroniæ, is thus described.

“Isdem Ricardus (de Vernon) tenet Sibroc. Osmer tennit: liber homo fuit. Ibi 11 hidæ geldabiles; terra est v carucarum; in dominio est una et 11 servi, et 11 villani, cum 11 carucis. Ibi 111 acræ prati, et 11 acræ silvæ.

“Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos, modo x solidos. Wasta invenitur.”

This Richard de Vernon is noticed in the foundation charter of Chester abbey, as the donor of the tythes of Eston (Ashton) and Picheton, in or before 1093; and at the same time Walter Vernon dedit “decimas equarum suarum.”

III. *Hugh de Vernon* (according to some pedigrees son of Richard, but according to others, and more probably, son of his son (II.) William,) gave a house in Chester to the

abbey of that city. This gift is recited in earl Richard's confirmation charter; as is also a confirmation by the same Hugh of the gift of Bresseford, and a salt-work in Northwich by his sub-tenant Ranulfus Venator.

IV. Warin de Vernon is by some stated to be son, and by others brother and heir of Hugh. At this time the estates of Hulgreve and Erdswick, in Minshull Vernon, are said to have passed to the barons of Shipbrook in marriage with —, daughter and heiress of Reginald de Baillet; but the authorities differ as to her having been wife of Hugh or of Warin de Vernon. This Warin was father of Richard Vernon, baron of Shipbrook, and of Matthew, male ancestor of the families of Hulgreve and Erdswick.

^dV. Richard de Vernon, son and heir, had issue Warin, Ralph, William, and Robert. William Vernon, third son^e, judge of Chester 1230-32, was ancestor of the Vernons of Harleston, from whom all the acknowledged legitimate lines of this family and name now existing derive their descent.

VI. Warin de Vernon, son of Richard, and successor to him in the barony of Shipbrook^f, living in the time of king John, married Auda, one of the daughters and coheirs of William de Malbank, baron of Wich Malbank, and relict of Hugh de Altaribus. By her he had issue Warin, Matthew, Ralph, Nicholas and Richard. Matthew had Brichull^g by gift of his mother, and was probably ancestor of the Brichulls, of whom some particulars will be found in the account of Thurstanton, and who occur also repeatedly in the early part of the list of Chester Mayors. Ralph was rector of Hanwell, and had a bastard son of the same name, on whom he settled the portions of the barony, which he wrested eventually from his nieces; and he had also a legitimate daughter, Eustatia, of whom hereafter. Nicholas Vernon, fourth son, was ancestor of the Vernons of Whatcroft.

VII. Warin de Vernon, son and heir of Warin, married Margaret, daughter and heir of Ralph de Audeville, by whom he had issue Warin, who died without issue, and

^a Brydges' Collins's Peerage, VII. 396.

^b Gernons, or Vernon. See Leicester.

^c Peerage as before. The following particulars relative to the place from which the Vernons are thus stated to derive their name and descent may not be uninteresting. In Harl. MSS. 1967. are several charters relating to the Vernons of Vernon castle, mingled with other deeds of William Vernon earl of Devon, and the Cheshire Vernons, collected by Dugdale, apparently from a fruitless wish to connect the three families. William Vernon, first of that name, is noticed as “antecessor meus,” and as founder of the collegiate establishment at Vernon, in a confirmation charter by Richard Vernon, dated 1136, and witnessed by Baldwin and Richard, his sons.

Ordericus Vitalis mentions, that in July 1152 Lewis, king of France, besieged Vernon castle in Normandy with a great army, for fifteen days, and being unable to take it, entered into a secret negociation with Richard Vernon to raise the king's banner on the tower.

By deed dated Paris, 1195, Richard de Vernon, and Richard his son and heir, by command of Richard king of England, quitclaimed and abjured to Philip king of France and his heirs for ever, Vernon town and castle, and Longueville, with their appurtenances, in exchange for which he received other lands, rated at five knights fees, subject to the rent of eighty pounds, paid yearly at the feast of St. Remigius. Leicester's Table MSS. and Dugdale's MSS. Harl. MSS. 1967. Ex Chronicis D. Victoris, episcopi Turonensis, penes Franciscum Duchesne, reg. Franciæ historiographum.

^d In the last edition of Collins's Peerage, this Richard is said to have had a grant of the castle of Peak, 37 Hen. III. It appears more likely that this grant was made to Richard, son of William Vernon, the judge; and that the same also was the Richard Vernon, judge of Chester 33 Hen. III.

^e So Collins, Edmondson, and the usual MS pedigrees. In Shaw's Staffordshire, however, is a valuable pedigree of the Vernons of Harleston (descended from this William), drawn by a learned antiquary (Samuel Pipe Wolferstan, esq.) from original evidences, which throws considerable doubt on this William being a younger brother of Shipbrook, and *proves* that Harleston was previously possessed by Walter de Vernon, who had confirmations of the same, and of his grandfather Walter's lands, from Hugh Kevelioc and his mother Matilda. It is however possible, and not improbable, that William Vernon might succeed by settlement; and in many cases an estate has been settled on a younger brother, for the purpose of continuing a distinct family. The first Walter Vernon, of Herlaveston, must have been contemporary with Hugh Vernon of Shipbrook, and was probably his brother. This William de Vernon had a grant of Merpull (Marple) from sir Robert de Stockport to him and his wife Margaret, sister of the said Rubert, as the right and inheritance of Margaret, to be held by finding one forester for the earl's forest of Macclesfield. Test. Philip de Orreby, just. Cest. &c. among others, Warin de Vernon. Harl. MSS. 2074. 182, b. See Marple, in Macclesfield hundred, for the inquisitions relating to the descendants of this William.

^f He witnesses a grant of Alvanley, made in the time of Hugh Grylle, abbot of Chester 1208-26.

^g Apparently Brichul, in Buckinghamshire, which belonged, at the time of the Domesday Survey, to the earl of Chester. This Warin, or his son of the same name, occurs also frequently as a witness in the charters of Mobberley priory.

three daughters, coheirs to their brother: Maud, wife of sir Richard Wilbraham; Roesia, wife of John Littlebury; and Auda, wife of William Stafford^g.

After the death of the said Warin last mentioned, his uncle Ralph Vernon, rector of (Hanwell), entered on the barony, and retained possession for several years, but had his succession contested by the coheirs. An arrangement was finally agreed upon, by which one ^hmoiety of the barony, with the capital manor of Shipbrook, was given to Ralph Vernon, and the other moiety with the capital manor of Leftwich was given to the coheirs. The Shipbrook estates were subsequently settled on Ralph Vernonⁱ, bastard son of the aforesaid Ralph, by his father, and were confirmed to the said Ralph the younger by his legitimate sister Eustatia^k, after her father's death.

The settlement made by this last Ralph (called in the Cheshire Collections the long liver) led to various disputes, the circumstances of which shall be given in a document in the hand-writing of Augustine Vincent, preserved in Woodnoth's Collections, p. 58. b. It is followed in the MS. by two other accounts of the same facts, in the same hand-writing, but differing in a few particulars, which are marked in the notes^l.

"This was *s^r Raufe Vernon yo Olde*, the quich levett ^{xx}_{vii} years & x yeare: and he had to his first wife one Mary yo lords doghter of Dacre, & he had issue by her on *s^r Raufe yo Vernon of Hanewell*, Maister Richart persone of Stocport, oy two sonnes Nicholl & Hugh^m, yo quich were both freres; & two daughters Agatha & Rose. Then deghtet the foreset Mary, and after her death yo foreset old *s^r Raufe* tooke to paⁿmoreⁿ one Maude yo Grosvenor, and had issue by her Richard and Robert, bastards.

Yo foresaid *s^r Raufe yo Vernon of Hanewell* was married to one A Sempere, and had issue by her *Ralyn*,

Hichcock, John, & Thomas^o.

Yo quich *Ralyn* had issue *s^r Raufe yo Vernon of Mottram*.

^pYo quich *s^r Raufe* had issue yong *s^r Raufe*.

Yo forsaid *s^r Raufe, yo Vernon of Hanewell, Ralyn his sonne, & Raufe his son*, deghten levand yo old *s^r Raufe*, and the same time one *s^r Richard D'ammery* was justice of Chester, and yo foreset old *s^r Raufe* and he weren accordet that the yong *s^r Raufe* shold wed Agnes daughter to yo foreset *s^r Richard Dammery*, and that *s^r Raufe* yo old should by fine reret at Chester give all his lands, &c. to yo aforesaid Mr. Richard his sonne gotten by yo aforesaid Mary of Dacre, & to his ayers, & so it was done. And the same Richard p^sone of Stockporte give the same landes to the same old *s^r Raufe* againe to tyme of his life; and after his decease to yo yong *s^r Raufe* and to Agnes his wife, daughter to *s^r Richard Dammery*, & to yo ayers males of yoz bodies gotten: and for default of yssue male of y^e foreset yong *s^r Raufe* and Agnes, yat all the landes, &c. then remayne to ^q*Richard the sonne of Raufe yo Vernon of Shibroke gotten by Maude yo Grosvenor, and yo ayers of his body begotten male; and for defaut of yssue of his body begotten male, yat alle yo landes, &c. sholden remayen to the right heres of yo foresayt Mr. Richard* (the rector of Stockport) without end.

Yo forsayt yong *s^r Raufe & Agnes* deghten without yssue of hoz bodies begotten male.

And then entre *s^r Raufe* (that last deght^r) as sonne & heir to Richard yo Vernon, yo sonne of old sir Raufe yo Vernon, & Maud yo Grosvenor, by vertue of yo fine afore-reherst. Yo foresayd sir Raufe, Richards son, deght without ayere of his bodie gotten male.

And so *s^r Richard yo Vernon*^s, brother of yea last *s^r Raufe*, entret as ayre male, and continuet all his live, and had issue,

^g The preceding account is carefully compiled from pedigrees given in the general Cheshire collections, collated with that drawn up by sir Peter Leycester; but the early descents of this family are extremely contradictory and obscure.

^h So called by Woodnoth (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus. p. 15), but quere, whether a moiety? The portion of Ralph Vernun and his heirs appears to be considered an entire barony, though the lands dependent on it had been divided.

ⁱ Harl. MSS. 2008, 47, b.

^k See further particulars of Eustatia and her descendants in Thurstanston, Wirral Hundred, p. 277. Anno 41 Edw. III. John Whitmore and Cecilia his wife, granddaughter of Eustatia, claimed the barony in her right, as heiress of Ralph Vernon.

^l The orthography of Vincent's copy is exactly followed, but he appears in some instances to have used that of the original, and in others his own. The other accounts add another son (and as it appears correctly) to these here mentioned, "Thomas, on yo quich Thomas yo foreset Mary deght,"—"Tomkyn—yu last child that was between old *s^r Raufe* and dame Mary, for upon that childe she deght."

^m In one of the other accounts "mariet to Maud, yo quich Maud had been wife to Jack of Hatton."

ⁿ See this corrected in the note preceding the last, as far as relates to this Thomas being ancestor of Vernon of Haslington. The pedigrees introduce a Thomas here, but make him a clerk.

^o This generation is omitted in the other two accounts, and in most pedigrees.

^p This appears to be the Richard Vernon on whom the Grosvenor estate in Holme was settled in remainder 16 Edw. II. See Holme. He had then an uterine brother William, apparently elder, at least named before him in the settlement, and a bruther Robert, named after him. William either died before this settlement, or was intentionally passed over in it, as Thomas Vernon of Haslington, a son by the first venter, was. The latter is most prubable, as the settlement appears to have been about 1392, when Ralph de Vernon grants (May 20) the manor of Haslington to his son Richard, cognizee of the fine above-mentioned, Harl. MSS. 1535, 488; and by another deed (ibid.) he constitutes his son William Vernon, Robert chaplain of Haslington, and Ralph the clerk, his attorneys to deliver seizin to his son "Mr. Richard." The last deed is dated Wednesday after the feast of St. Philip and St. James, 1329. Seal to both, three garbs on a fesse; circumscribed SIG. RADULPHI DE VERNON.

^q Viz. last before this claim of James Vernon, not last of the Sir Ralphs before mentioned.

^r This was the sir Richard Vernon, who, as Holinshed tells us, was one of the "chiefteines" of the army of the Percies at Shrewsbury. Shakespeare, in his play of Henry IV. joins him with the earl of Worcester in concealing the gracious offers of the king, which is not noticed by Holinshed; but whatever may have been his connection with Worcester's guilt, he had his share of the punishment. He was taken after the battle, and "upon the Mondaie folowyng, the earl of Worcester, the baron of Kinderton, and sir Richard Vernon, knights, were condemned and beheaded."

^s "My cousin Vernon,"—whose horse were "not yet come up," see Hen. IV. (Part I. Act IV. Scene III.) was probably intended for Vernun of Harlaston, the proprietor of Marple in Cheshire, as Shakespear can scarcely be supposed to allude to sir Richard's nearer but more obscure kinsman, Vernon of Haslington.

Three Inquisitions were taken after the death of sir Richard, 6 and 10 Hen. IV. and 4 Hen. V.

The first states him to have held in fee simple a sixth of the harony of Wich Malbank, two parts of the manor of Haslington, and moieties of Hurdeleston and Pickton.

The second states that he held in fee tail the manors of Haslyngton and Mynshull Vernon, the sixth part of the barony of Wich Malbank, 1111 shillings rent in Aldelym, the manors of Hurdeleston and Pickton, 1111s. rent in Horepull, lands in Coule, the advowson of Davenham church and the advowson of the free chapel of Haslyngton, and messuages in Middlewich. All these held from the Prince as earl of Chester by mil. service.

The third Inquisition specifies two parts of Haslyngton and Hurdeleston, messuages, &c. in Wich Malbank and Cowle, parcell of that barony, with the free chapel of Haslyngton, two parts of the manor of Mynshull Vernon, the advowson of Davenham, and two parts of a messuage in Middlewich.

All the Inquisitions mention Richard as his son and heir.

S^r Richard, quich is now dead^s without issue male.

Raufe yo Vernon of Hanewell, as is before reherset, had 3 younger sons, that is to wit, Huchcock, John, & Thomas: yo quich Huchcock & John deghten without issue male of hoz bodies gotten. Yo foreset Thomas, brother to Huchcock & John^s, weddet one Jonet daughter to Richard of Lostock, & with her he had issue one Richard yo Vernon, yo quich Richard was married to one Beton (Beatrix?) daughter to Richard of Moreton, & by her he had issue one Richard, yo quich Richard was mariet to one Elyn daughter to Jenkyn of Dokenfield, and by her had ysseu *James yat now lives*, and clames all yo landes aforeset, as right ayre to Mr. Richard beforeset in yo remaynder, for allsmykel as yo ayres male contenet in yo fyne be all mys-pendet.”

Woodnoth mentions as the result of this claim, that James Vernon had Haslington, and that Joan Fulleshurst, daughter and heiress of the last Richard Vernon, had the sixth of the barony of Nantwich. It will appear from the following abstract of a fine, that James Vernon's success was much greater.

3 Hen. VI. Jo. le Vernay, &c. obtained from James Vernon, 200 messuages, 400 acres of land, 40 of meadow, 300 of wood, 100 of pasture, 100 of heath, and the render of four pairs of gloves and ten arrows, cum pert. in Surlach, Bradford, Stanthorne, Coule, Hurdleston, and Newhall, and the manors of *Shipbrook* and Minshull Vernon, two parts of Leftwich manor, the sixth part of the manor of Nantwich, and three knights fees, and the eighth part of a knight's fee in Tatenhall, Aldelym, Henhull, Merbury, Coule, Hurdeleston, Great Aldersey, Little Mouldsworth, Aston, and Horton by Tarvin, except the manor of Haslyngton, parcell of the 6th part (of Nantwich barony). Margaret widow of sir Ralph Vernon and Elinor wife of Richard de Wheelock held part of these for their lives^u.

Two years after this, a^o 5 Hen. VI. (as appears by a note appended by sir Peter Leycester to his account of Clifton^s), John le Vernay and other feoffees gave to sir John Savage and Ellen his wife, the manors of Picton and Shibrok, and the advowson of Davenham, held in dower by Margaret widow of sir Ralph Vernon; remainder after the death of Margaret to sir John Savage and Ellen, and the heirs of sir John Savage for ever.

Sir Peter Leycester observes on this, “so that Ellen the daughter and heir of sir Raufe Vernon seems to be the second wife of this sir John Savage.” He does not give any authority for the fact of *Ellen* being daughter of sir Ralph, but deduces the Savages from the first marriage of sir John with Maud Swinnarton. The Savages nevertheless quartered the coat of Vernon.

The Cheshire pedigrees differ from sir Peter, and state that sir Richard Vernon, on whose death James Vernon recovered the barony, had a younger brother sir Ralph, whose son Ralph had a daughter and heir *Dorothy*, wife of sir John Savage, slain at Boulogne, *great grandson* of sir John Savage abovementioned. This is most probably a groundless assertion, as sir Peter Leycester, who drew the Savage pedigree from original

evidences, found no wife for this sir John Savage, which could scarcely have been the case, if Shipbrook had been brought into the family by his marriage.

A passage in Woodnoth's collections (p. 82.) increases the confusion, and is by no means authenticated, but still appears too important to be omitted. He uses the following expressions—that James Vernon “could hardly have prevailed against that great man Fulleshurst, as he had married Joan Vernon his cozen in the 4th degree, if Savage, then likewise a great man, had not assisted him, which *Savage in the end did overthrow him as had the residue*. And where it hath been by the space of 40 years last past reported that John Savage, knight, married *Margaret*, the daughter of Ralph Vernon, knight, baron of Shipbrook, that is a mistake, for at that time lived no such Ralph nor Margaret.” This sir John Savage here meant was sir John Savage (grandson of sir John, husband of Ellen, and father of sir John slain at Boulogne) who married Catherine, sister of the earl of Derby.

Under these contradictory statements, and the want of original evidence, nothing can be determined, excepting that James Vernon recovered the greatest part of the barony under old sir Ralph's settlement, before 3 Hen. VI. and that his trustees conveyed the same to sir John Savage (according to Leycester) husband of an heir general of Shipbrook, but not father of issue by her. Haslington, however, continued vested in the issue of James Vernon.

The barony and its appendages are noticed in the inquisitions after the deaths of sir John Savage, knt. 19 Hen. VIII.; sir John Savage, his son, 20 Hen. VIII.; and sir John Savage (grandson of the first), 41 Eliz. An extract from one of these, of the part relating to this barony, and to those parts of the barony of Nantwich which passed with it, will suffice.

Inq. p. m. 41 Eliz. Sir John Savage, knt. held in demesne as of fee, inter alia, the manors of Shipbrook, Davenham, Wareton, Awdlym, Moulton, Henhull, Mynshull Vernon, Pickton, Hurleston and Poole, two thirds of Leftwich, half of Roade alias Odroade, various messuages and lands, ten marks of free rents; and the renders of one pound of pepper, sixteen pairs of gloves, twenty barbed arrows, and five roses; and six knights fees in these manors and towns: viz. Shipbrooke, Davenham, Wav'ton, Auldlem, Henhull, Mynshull Vernon, Pickton, Hurleston, Poole, Leftwich, Roade alias Odroade, Moreton, Shurlach, Bradford, Newhall, Handford, Copenhall, Walgherton, Wich Malbank alias Nantwich, Tittenleigh, Wrenbury, Coole, Aston, Hooton in Wirral, Chorleton, Great Molesworth, Marbury, Stanthorne, Hoole, Bradley, Newbold, Woodcote, Alsicher, Bridge Clyffe, Hankilow, and Horton; which lands, with the advowson of Davenham, are held from the queen in capite, as of her earldom of Chester, by military service. Value of the premises in Shipbrook, Minshull Vernon, Hurleston, Shurlach, and Bradford, cum pert. per ann. XLVII. IIII. and of the residue, XXIIII. XVIII.

Richard Savage, earl Rivers, 13th June 1711, con-

^u In the other account “that now is deight beyond the sea.” Sir Peter Leycester's MS. pedigree states him to have died in France.

^s Not brother to these, but uncle, according to the two other accounts, as well in the part already extracted as in a later part.—“Thomas, yo son of old s^r Raufe and Mary his wife, was mariet to one Joannet,” &c.—“Mr. Richard had a brother gutten by yo foreset s^r Raufe and dame Mary his wife, yat was called Tomkyn, yo quich was yo last child yat yo foreset dame Mary beare, for she deight upon him, and yat Tomkyn weddett yo daughter and here of one Richard of Lostok,” &c. The fact of *Thomas* being son of *old sir Ralph* is proved by a claim set up by the families of Venables and Brereton, heirs of Agatha and Roesia, sisters of the whole blood of Richard Vernon rector of Stockport, cognizee of the fine abovementioned, who wished to prove Thomas Vernon to be issue by the second marriage with Maud Grosvenor, and consequently only half blood with the said Richard, but failed therein. The Grosvenors, nevertheless, still continue to range the coat of Agatha among the Venables quarterings, as if she had been coheir of Richard Vernon.

^v Williamson's Collections, p. 35.

^x Bucklow Hundred, p. 526. The intricacies of this deduction will be explained by the following pedigree.

veyed the manor of Shipbrook, &c. to Charles duke of Shrewsbury and Robert earl of Oxford and Mortimer, to hold, to the use of the said earl Rivers and the heirs male of his body; and for default of such issue, to the use of the said duke of Shrewsbury and earl of Oxford and Mortimer, upon trust, to sell the same, or so much thereof as should be sufficient, to pay the debts and legacies of the said earl Rivers. The said earl Rivers died about the 18th August 1712, without issue male; and a decree of the court of Chancery was made, whereby a part of the estates of the said earl Rivers were directed to be sold; and in pursuance thereof, on the 2d August 1717, the barony, manor, and lordship, of Shipbrook, with its rights, royalties, &c. the demesne lands, farms, and the perpetual rectory of the parish-

church of Davenham, were conveyed by the said duke of Shrewsbury and the earl of Oxford and Mortimer, with the consent and by the direction of James earl of Barrymore, to Richard Vernon of Middlewich, who died in 1726, and devised the same to Henry Vernon of Hilton, Staffordshire, esq. who died 25 June 1732. His representatives, by an act of parliament in 1765, sold the barony, &c. to William Tomkinson, who devised the same to his nephew Edward Tomkinson, who afterwards assumed the name of Wattenhall, and whose trustees sold the same to the late William Harper, esq. Under the will of Mr. Harper, the said barony is now the property of his son-in-law, John Hosken Harper, esq. who assumed the name on succeeding to the estate.

VERNON OF SHIPBROOK.

From the preceding evidences.

ANTIEN ARMS. Or, a fesse Vert.

LATER COAT. Or, on a fesse Vert, 3 garbs of the first.

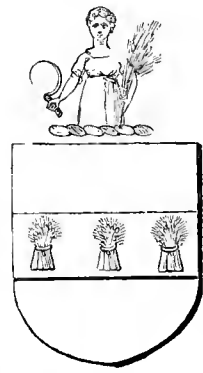
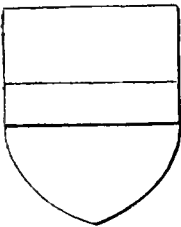
CREST. On a wreath a demi-female, vested Vert, holding a garb under the left arm Or, and a sickle in the right hand, handle Or, blade proper.

RICHARD DE VERNON, (said to be a son of William Vernon of Vernon Castle in Normandy) grantee of Shipbrook, and of fourteen other manors in Cheshire, before the Domesday survey. WALTER DE VERNON, grantee of Willington, co. Cest. and of other manors in Cheshire and Bucks, survived to the time of Richard earl of Chester, supposed s. p.

WILLIAM DE VERNON, baron of Shipbrook.....

WALTER DE VERNON, (brother of Hugh de Vernon?) HUGH DE VERNON, said by some to be son of Richard, and by others to be son of William, son of Richard de Vernon. DE VERNON. WARIN DE VERNON, said by some to be son, and by others to be brother and heir of Hugh de Vernon. daughter and heiress of Reginald de Baillot, described sometimes as wife of Hugh, and sometimes of Warin de Vernon.

WALTER DE VERNON, to whom Matilda, mother of Hugh Kevelioc, rendered Herlaveston, as her son did "all the land of Honour" which his grandfather Walter held. (qu. father of William?) Shaw's Staff. I. 404. RICHARD DE VERNON, of Shipbrook, son and heir, temp. Ric. I. MATTHEW DE VERNON, male ancestor of the HULGREVES OF HULGREVE, and ERDSWICKS OF ERDSWICK, afterwards of Sandon. ↑



WARIN DE VERNON, baron of Shipbrook, temp. Johan. AUDA, daughter and coheiress of Will. de Malbank, baron of Wich Malbank, widow of Hugh de Altaribus. RICHARD DE VERNON, brother of Warin, occurs as witness to a deed of Gilbert Bostock s. d. and supposed to die s. p. RALPH, witness to Bostock's deed before mentioned. WILLIAM DE VERNON, witness to Bostock's deed, apparently the same with William, judge of Chester 1230-32 and ancestor of the VERNONS OF HARLASTON AND MARPLE, HADDON, SUNBURY, HILTON, &c. &c. (but Qu. respecting their identity. See Shaw as before.) ROBERT, witness to Bostock's deed.

WARIN DE VERNON, son and heir, baron of Shipbrook. Seal, a fesse between 3 fleurs-de-lis. Harl. MSS. 2038, 124. MARGARET, daughter and heiress of Ralph de Audeville. 2. RALPH VERNON, a priest, rector of Hanwell, who recovered a moiety of the barony from his nieces. 3. MATTHEW DE VERNON, grantee of Brichull from his mother. 4. NICHOLAS VERNON, ancestor of the VERNONS OF WHATCROFT. 5. RICHARD VERNON, witness to Bostock's deed.

WARIN DE VERNON, son and heir, o. s. p. EUSTATIA, legitimate dau. and heiress, ancestress of the WHITMORES OF THURSTANSTON. See their claim, 41 Edw. III. under Thurstanston, and also Harl. MSS. 2008, 47, b. MARY, dau. of lord of Dacre. Sir RALPH VERNON, kt. who succeeded to his father's interest in the barony by grants from his father and sister, survived to the age of 150 years. He added three garbs to the fesse, and was called Old sir Ralph. MAUD GROSVENOR, (sister of Robert Grosvenor of Budworth according to some pedigrees, see qu.?) described sometimes as concubine, and sometimes as second wife.

ROESIA, wife of sir William Brereton, kt. Sir RALPH VERNON, kt. son and heir apparent, died before his father. MARGARET, dau. of Urian de St. Pierre. RICHARD VERNON, rector of Stockport 1306-1334, on whose right heirs the barony was settled in ultimate remainder by old sir Ralph. THOMAS VERNON, youngest son by the first venter, omitted in his father's settlement. JOANE, dau. of Ric. Lostock of Lostock Gram, widow of Wm. Toft, remarr. to Wm. Hallum, heir to her brothers. WILLIAM VERNON, first named in a settlement in remainder of the Grosvenor estate 16 Edw. II. living 2 Edw. III. RICHARD VERNON, named after William, 16 Edw. II. heir in remainder to young sir Ralph by his father's settlement. ROBERT VERNON, named after his brother Richard, 16 Edw. II.

RANDLE, of RAWLIN VERNON, died before his grandfather RICHARD VERNON, of Lostock Sir RALPH VERNON, baron of Shipbrook, heir to young sir Ralph, o. s. p. m. leaving Margaret, living a widow 3 and 5 Hen. VI. Sir RICHARD VERNON, kt. baron of Shipbrook, headed at Shrewsbury, 1404. ELIZABETH, dau. of sir Piers Malbank, widow 1418, when she presented to Davenham; remained John Whitmore of Thurstanston. Inq. p. m. 24 Hen. VI.

RALPH VERNON, died before his great-grandfather (omitted in some pedigrees.) RICHARD VERNON, of Lostock ELLEN, dau. and heiress (according to Leicester), wife of SIR JOHN SAVAGE of Clifton, on whom James Vernon settles the barony of Shipbrook, 5 Hen. VI. Sir RICHARD VERNON, kt. married by dispensation 1408, Ellen, or Eleanora, daughter of sir Hugh Holes, died in France, leaving issue Johanna, wife of sir Richard Fulhurst, who contested Shipbrook with James Vernon. Ellen, remarried Richard de Wheelock, Inq. p. m. 14 Edw. IV. AGNES, wife of sir William Atherton (Glover's MSS.)

Sir RALPH VERNON, kt. (called young sir Ralph) baron of Shipbrook, heir to his great-grandfather, married Agnes, daughter of Richard Damory, chief-justice of Chester (19 Edw. II.—2 Edw. III.) and died s. p. JAMES VERNON, of Lostock, heir to sir Richard Vernon (1404). Settled the barony of Shipbrook, 3 Hen. VI. on trustees, who granted the same, 5 Hen. VI. to sir John Savage and Ellen his wife. See Vernon of Haslington.

The townships which owe suit and service to the courts of the barony are Shipbrook, Leftwich, Davenham, Moulton, Shurlach, Wharton, Bostock, Whatcroft, Occleston, Croxton, Clive, Newall, Wimboldsley, and some others, which are not in the recent suit rolls. But as there are no copyholds within the barony, courts have not for some time past been held regularly, or the attendances of the suitors enforced.

The courts of the barony are similar to other courts leet and courts baron.

Davenham, Leftwich, Moulton, Shurlach, and Wharton, are not manors, but townships, forming part of the barony and manor of Shipbrook. The places claimed to be mesne manors within the barony are Bostock, Whatcroft, Occleston, Croxton, Clive, and

Wimboldsley².

The township of Shipbrook is situated on the right bank of the Weever, opposite to the township of Davenham. The view from the high grounds is extremely pleasing, commanding a rich vale watered by the stream above mentioned, to which the lands on each side slope in rapid declivities, verdant and well timbered. The military strength of the position probably induced the Norman lords of Shipbrook to select it for their residence, and the site of their fortress is still indicated by the name of Castle Hill attached to an elevation between Shipbrook Bridge and Shipbrook Hill Farm. The remains are said to have actually existed on this spot thirty years ago, and to have been cleared away under the direction of Mr. Edward Tomkinson.

BOSTOCK.

“*ISDEM* Ricardus (de Vernon) tenet Botestoch. Osmer tenuit; ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est 11 carucarum; ibi sunt cum 111 radmans, et 11 servis; et 11 acræ prati, et 11 acræ silvæ. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat 111 solidos; modo x solidos: vasta invenitur.”

Osmer, the Saxon proprietor of this place, was lord of Shipbrook, and of several other townships in the time of Edward the Confessor. The pedigrees deduce the line of the Bostocks from him, and state his fifth descendant sir Warin Bostock to have married Hawise countess of Lincoln in her own right, widow of Roger de Quenci, and daughter of Hugh Kevelioc earl of Chester.

Dr. Williamson, who very properly doubts the descent from Osmer, says, that “we may be assured by inquisition 2 Hen. II. y^t Warine de Bostock (second husband of Hawise, daughter to Hugh Kyvelioc earl of Chester), was y^e son of *Randle, son of Adam de Bostock.*” On what authority this marriage is stated does not appear, but it is certain that Hawise de Quency had a grant of the earldom of Lincoln from her brother as late as 17 Hen. III. being then widow of Roger de Quency. The descent of Warine, as given by Williamson, differs materially from the pedigree by Booth, which makes him son of William, son of Gilbert, son of Roger, son of Richard, son of *Osmer*, son of Hugh Fitz Richard.

In the beginning of Hen. III. “William, grandson of Warin Bostock, acknowledged in a full county court, that he held his land from Warin Vernon, baron of Shipbrook, by ploughing and shearing his lord’s demesne lands^a.”

The series of inquisitions in the exchequer of Chester commences with Adam Bostock, great grandson of this William.

Inq. p. m. 47 Edw. III. Adam de Bostocke held one messuage and one carucate of land in Little Stanthurle, from the heirs of John de St. Pierre, by military service: val. xx marks. Adam de Bostocke son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. V. Adam de Bostock held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Bostock cum pert. from Hugh son and heir of Walter de Cokesey, in cap. by military service: val. per ann. xxi.; also the manor of Huxley, half the manor of Wetenhall, and lands and messuages in Tattenhall, Newton juxta Tattenhall, Roe Christleton, Eccleston, and Monkes Coppenhall. Ralph de Bostocke son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. V. Ralph de Bostock, chivaler, held lands in capite in Eccleston, Calveleg, and Tetton, and half the manor of Wetenhall: val. tot. xiiii. vis. vii. d.

Inq. p. m. 22 Edw. IV. Ralph Bostock, esq. held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Bostock, and lands therein, from the Prince as earl of Chester: val. xl. iiii.; also lands in Norcrofte, Tetton, Newton, Huxley, Wigland, Fulwich, Bradley, Occleston, Mershton, Berleston, Leigh, and Northwich. William Bostock son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VIII. Sir John Savage, knight, held in demesne as of fee (inter alia) in right of his late wife, by courtesy of England, the manor of Bostock, from the king in capite, by military service: val. per ann. xviii. i. vs. i. d.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VIII. Sir John Savage, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Bostock, from the king as earl of Chester, by military service: val. with lands in Huxley and Alsager, xxi.

Inq. p. m. 21 Eliz. Sir John Savage, knight, held, in demesne as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Bostock, held from the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, as one knight’s fee, conjointly with the manors of Huxley and Wetenhall, and lands in them and in Tetton, Warmincham, Occleston, Norcroft, Acton, and Alraham, and valued with these lands at xlii. xii.

Bostock appears to have continued vested in the Savages until the termination of the direct male line in Richard lord Rivers, about which time it was alienated.

Subsequently Bostock became the property of the Tomkinsons of Manchester, and passed after the decease of William Tomkinson, esq. of that place, in 1770, by devise, to his cousin Edward Tomkinson, esq. who afterwards assumed the name of Wetenhall^b, and sold this property to Thomas France, esq. who died in 1815. It is now the property and residence of his eldest son, James France France, esq.

Bostock is a manor in itself, but is also considered to be within the jurisdiction of the barony of Shipbrook. The present hall is a spacious building of brick, situated among extensive plantations near the road from Northwich to Middlewich; and was erected by Edward Tomkinson, esq.

The family of Bostock branched into numerous lines, which were scattered over the county, in the rank

² The later part of the descent and the manerial usages, communicated by John Barker, esq. agent for the barony.

^a Williamson Vill. Cest.

^b See pedigree of Wetenhall and Tomkinson in Hankelow, Nantwich hundred.

of minor gentry, or substantial yeomanry, from whom it is probable that many of this name, which is yet common in Cheshire, descend. The Bostocks of Moulton came from Ralph, younger brother of the second Adam Bostock of Bostock. David Bostock, younger brother of Adam Bostock, whose inquisition was taken 2 Hen. V. was ancestor of the Bostocks of Churton; the Bostocks of Huxley and Tattenhall descended from Henry, younger brother of sir Ralph Bostock (6 Hen. V.) and William Bostock, another brother of the same, was ancestor of the Bostocks of Huntingdon, who terminated in an heiress married to Cotgreave. John Bostock, a younger grandson of the same sir Ralph, established a family at Belgrave, from which the Bostocks of Barton descended.

LAWRENCE BOSTOCK, representative of a natural brother of the last heir male of the direct line, was a laborious Cheshire antiquary, and the author of an historical poem of considerable merit on the subject of the Saxon and Norman earls of Chester.

HUGH BOSTOCK, the representative of a younger branch of this house, removed from Cheshire, and finally settled at Whethamstead, where he obtained in marriage Margaret, eldest daughter and heiress of Thomas de Makarey, by whom he had various sons and daughters.

Among these was John Bostock, twice abbot of St. Alban's, surnamed of Whethamstead, a chronicler himself of some celebrity, the patron of Lydgate, and the friend of the good duke of Gloucester, and distinguished by the honourable epithet of the Wykeham of his day, from his liberality and taste in the restoration of the buildings of his abbey.

In the History of Hertfordshire will be found an ample memorial of the abbacy of John Wheathamstead, who withdrew from his high office in 1440, having obtained a licence for that purpose in consequence of sickness. For eleven years after this period, as Laurence Bostock^d informs us, he retired to his maternal seat at Makarey, beautifying it with buildings, and enlarging its compass with various purchases. In 1451, he was called from this retirement to resume the rule of his splendid abbey, and after presiding over it for thirteen other years, at a most eventful period, during which the great battle of St. Alban's was fought under the walls of his monastery, he died in 1464, and was interred in a chauntry of his own construction, which yet remains.

In Bostock's MS. will be found a pedigree of his collateral representatives, and of his descent, which is confirmed by monuments of his successors and parents yet existing in the parish church of Whethamstead^e.

BOSTOCK OF BOSTOCK.

From Harl. MSS. 1535. and Booth's pedigrees, corrected from the inquisitions.

ARMS. Sable, a fesse humette Argent.

CREST. On a wreath, a bear's head muzzled Sable erased, on the trunk of a tree, erased Or.

Sir WILLIAM BOSTOCK, of Bostock, knt. temp. Hen. III. said in the Cheshire pedigrees to be descended from Osmer, the Saxon lord of Bostock, see preceding page. — ELIZABETH, daughter of James lord Audley of Heleigh.

Sir ADAM BOSTOCK, lord of Bostock, kt. — JANE, daughter of William de Brereton.

Sir WILLIAM DE BOSTOCK, kt. — daughter and sole heiress of William Multon lord of Multon.

ADAM DE BOSTOCK, 47 Edw. III. — MARGARET, daughter and coheirress of sir John de Wettehal, lord of Acton. — RALPH BOSTOCK, of Moulton, to whom his father gave lands in Marton, Bostock, and Tattenball.

ADAM DE BOSTOCK, fought at the battle of Sbrewsbury, Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. V. — JONET, daughter of sir Henry Bradshaw of Bradshaw. — DAVID BOSTOCK, of Churton, 2nd son, married Margaret, daughter and coheirress of ... Dec. Had issue.

MARGARET, wife of Huchon Davenport of Henbury. — Sir RALPH BOSTOCK, kt. son and heir, Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VI. — ISABELL, dau. of William Lawton, of Wigland. — HUGH, 2nd son, o. s. p. HENRY BOSTOCK, of Huxley, married Alice, dau. of Thomas Brett of Davenham. — WILLIAM BOSTOCK, of Huntingdon, whose heir general married ... Cotgreave.

Sir ADAM DE BOSTOCK, kt. — ELIZABETH, daughter of Richard Venables, sister and heiress of Hugh Venables. — THOMAS BOSTOCK, of Huxley. Had issue. — RICHARD BOSTOCK, ancestor of BOSTOCK OF TATTENHALL. — RANDLE THOMAS.

- 1. JANE, wife of sir Edward Hoult, co. Lanc. kt.
- 2. ELEANOR, wife of Humphrey Bostock of Moreton Say, co. Salop.
- 3. MARGARET, wife of William Whitney of Whitney.
- 4. ELIZABETH, wife of John Gatacre of Gatacre.
- RALPH BOSTOCK, lord of Bostock, Inq. p. m. 22 Edw. IV.
- ELIZABETH, daughter and coheirress of sir Thomas Dutton, kt. Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VIII.
- 2. JOHN BOSTOCK, of Belgrave. Had issue.
- 3. NICHOLAS BOSTOCK, of Moberley. Had issue.
- 4. WILLIAM BOSTOCK, of Stapleford, married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Robert Dune, and had issue.

JOHN BOSTOCK, base issue, great-grandfather of LAURENCE BOSTOCK THE ANTIQUARY, who died s. p. — ANNE, sister and heiress, wife of sir John Savage of Clyfton, who held Bostock in her right by Inq. 19 Hen. VIII. — WILLIAM BOSTOCK, son and heir by Inq. 22 Edw. IV. o. s. p.

^c Harl. MSS. 139. 93. Bostock's Collections.

^d Ibid.

^e In Mr. Clutterbuck's valuable History of Hertfordshire, (p. 520. vol. I.) among the monuments in the north transept of the church of Wheat-hamstead, is noticed the following (apparently unappropriated) inscription, "on the floor of the north transept, under the effigies of a man and his wife."—There cannot be a doubt from the tenor of the inscription that these were the parents of our abbot.

"Hic pater, hic mater, soror hic jacet, hic quoq; frater
Pastoris pecorum protomartiris Angligenarum.
Bostok Hugo patri, Maeri Margaretaq; matri,
Nomen erat, simile genitus trahit a genitore.
Huic qui pertransis rogo, femina, vir, puer an sis,
Ut pariter recubant in pace precare quiescant."

WHATCROFT.

WHATCROFT is omitted in the Domesday survey, but there can be little doubt that it formed at that period a part of the estates of the baron of Shipbrook. In the fourteenth century Nicholas Vernon, younger son of Warin Vernon of Shipbrook (the second of that name), settled in this place, and was ancestor of the Vernons of Whatcroft^a, whose heir is said to have married a younger brother of the family of Bulkeley of Eaton, and to have been ancestress of a branch settled in this township.

The Bulkeleys of Chedle subsequently succeeded to the manor of Whatcroft, and it was held by them from that portion of the barony of Shipbrook, which passed to the Leftwiches of Leftwich.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VI. Margaret, widow of Randle Mainwaring, held in dower, of the dotation of Richard Bulkeley, sometime her husband, (inter alia) messuages and lands in Whatcrofte, held from Robert Leftwich in socage: val. xls.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VII. William Bulkeley of Chedle, held in demesne as of fee tail (inter alia) the manor of Whotcrofte: val. per ann. 1111l.

Inq. p. m. 1 Edw. VI. Sir Richard Bulkeley, knight, held the manor of Whatcroft (inter alia) by knights service from the king, by reason of the minority of Ralph Leftwich: val. per ann. vi1. 11s. 1vd.

3 Eliz. Sir Richard Bulkeley and Richard his son levied a fine of the manor of Whitcroft, and lands in Timperley and Davenham, to the use of Humphrey Davenport.

27 Eliz. Sir Richard Bulkeley levied a fine of the manor of Whatcroft (inter alia) to the use of John Bulkeley, gent. and Rowland Bulkeley, clerk.

20 Jac. I. Sir Richard Bulkeley, knight, died seized of the manor of Whitcroft, held from Ralph Leftwich, by knight's service.

James Topping, esq. barrister at law, is the present proprietor of the manor of Whatcroft, in right of his wife, daughter and heiress of the late W. Robinson, to whose family it is stated in the *Magna Britannia*^b to have been sold about 1756, under an act of parliament for disposing of various estates of James, late lord Bulkeley, representative of the Chedle branch of this family. The house and grounds have been lately enlarged and improved by the present proprietor.

The abbey of Vale Royal had lands here confirmed them by Edward I. which had been granted by Ralph Vernon, and are described in the Charter of Translation, as lying within "Wertcroft," then forming part of the vill of "Parva Stanthirle^c."

STANTHORNE, ANTIENTLY STANTHIRLE.

THE vill of Stanthorne, which is unnoticed in Domesday, appears to have been originally divided between the fees of Kinderton and Shipbrooke. A portion also was held by the Duttons of Dutton, by services which the jurors on the inquisitions uniformly return unknown. Under one or other of these families, the Rahers were lords of Stanthorne, temp. Edw. I.

One portion of the Shipbrooke share was afterwards held by the St. Pierres (under whom (as by *inq.* 47 Edw. III.) Adam Bostock was mesne tenant), and descended from them to the Cokesays and Grevilles, in whose inquisitions it is noticed. A second portion of the same occurs in the inquisitions of the Leftwiches; and a third in those of the Dones of Crowton, being held by them under the Savages, heirs or rather successors of the illegitimate line of Vernon of Shipbrooke.

The Venables share occurs both in their own inquisitions, and in those of their subtenants, the Bulkeleys of Chedle.

From these inquisitions the vill appears to have been originally divided into Great and Little Stanthorne, or Stanthurle.

The mesne manor may be identified, with tolerable certainty, with the estate of the Dones of Crowton, which is stated by inquisitions 8 Hen. VI. and 24 Hen. VII. to be held from the Savages, as of their barony of Shipbrook; but by inquisition 5 Edw. VI. after the death of John Birkenhead of Crowton, esq. (their heir

general) it is found to be held in socage, by fealty, from sir Thomas Venables: val. 1xs.

This estate most probably passed with Crowton to the Breretons of Brereton, under whom the Venables family of Kinderton held a tenement here, which in the inquisition after the death of Thomas Venables, esq. 4 Jac. I. is stated to be held from sir William Brereton, knight, as of his manor of Stanthorne, by fealty, and the render of 1vd.

The manor (or reputed manor) subsequently vested in the Leicesters of Tabley, together with the old hall, (which is described in Webb's *Itinerary*^d, as an antient residence of the Walley family), and another mansion called Spital Hill^e. This latter mansion was most probably so named from some lazar house or spital established by the monks of Vale Royal on lands in this township, which are valued at 111s. per ann. in the Taxation of Pope Nicholas^f, and at 11s. in the valuation of the special commissioners, temp. Hen. VIII.^g and which is stated in the royal foundation charter to have been previously held by the several families of Vernon, Dufeyn, and "Royer^h."

The said manor and estates were alienated a few years ago by sir John F. Leicester, bart. the old hall being sold to Mr. Richard Dutton, who has built a farmhouse on its site, and the manor and Spital Hill to Mr. Jones of Manchester, the present proprietor and resident, 1817.

^a Collins's and Edmondson's pedigrees.

^b Lysons's *Magna Britannia*, II. part 2. 650.

^c Vide *Edisbury hundred*, p. 88.

^d P. 8. col. 2.

^e It has been latterly called Stanton (Stanthorne) hill.

^f *Edisbury hundred*, p. 91.

^g *Ibid.* p. 92.

^h *Ibid.* p. 88.

NEWALL.

THIS township is omitted in Domesday, and is considered to be only a component part of the barony of Shipbrook, possessing no distinct manerial rights.

An antient messuage in Newall is the property and residence of Joseph Yarwood, yeoman, by purchase from Edward Vernon, esq. Mr. Vernon still retains a

portion of the land attached to this tenement, which he inherited from his father the late Samuel Vernon, esq.

Another estate in Newall, nearly co-extensive with the preceding one, is the property of Edward V. Townshend of Wincham, esq. to whom it was bequeathed, together with Wincham, by Mrs. Hester Legh of Adlington^a.

SURLACH CUM BRADFORD, MOULTON, AND WHARTON.

THESE villis are not considered to possess manerial privileges, but to be townships dependant on the barony of Shipbrook^b. They are severally described in Domesday as follows, among the estates of Richard Vernon of Shipbrook.

"Isdem Ricardus tenet *Surveleg*. Edward et Bers tenuerunt pro 11 maneriis, et liberi fuerunt: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est 11 caruearum: in dominio est una caruca, et 11 servi, et 11 villani cum dimidia carucâ: et unus bordarius, et una piscaria, et 111 acræ prati. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat 1111 solidos, modo 111 solidos. Wasta invenitur.

"Isdem Ricardus tenet *Moletune*. Levenot tenuit, et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est 11 caruearum: ibi unus villanus et unus bordarius habent dimidiam carucam: ibi una aera prati. Silva una leuvâ longa, et una lata; ibi una haia. Valuit et valet 11 solidos.

"Isdem Ricardus tenet *Wanetune*. Haregrim et Alsi tenuerunt pro 11 maneriis, liberi homines fuerunt: ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est una caruca: ibi est in dominio: et 11 servi, et 11 bordarii. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat 111 solidos: modo 111 solidos. Wasta invenitur."

These townships stretch along the bank of the Weever between Over and Davenham. The Grange of Bradford, situated in the first township, has been noticed in the account of Vale Royal, to which it formerly be-

longed, and in whose proprietor it is now vested. It previously gave name to a family, who received in exchange for it the serjeancy of the East Gate, and Brueres Halgh near Chester^c.

MOULTON (which is exclusively the property of Thomas Cholmondeley of Vale Royal, esq.)^d occupies a high ridge of ground, running parallel with the general course of the Weever, and commanding a most extensive view over the vales of that river, and of the Mersey, in the several directions of Delamere Forest and Lancashire. On the highest point of the ridge is a tumulus of considerable elevation, and an extraordinarily large diameter. The "haia" of Domesday marks its position on the verge of the Norman forest of Mara.

A considerable part of this township came to the Bostocks of Bostock, in marriage with the heiress of Moulton, in the fourteenth century; and a collateral line of Bostock was long settled here, descended from Ralph Bostock, a younger son by this marriage.

WHARTON contains a considerable portion of the buildings of Winsford, which has been noticed in the account of Over^e. In the valuation of the lands of the Chester nuns^f Wharton is divided into Waverton juxta Medium Wicum, and Waverton juxta Overe. This subdivision is now obsolete, but the several portions were probably co-extensive with the two Saxon manors in it, noticed in Domesday.

EATON, OR AYTON JUXTA DAVENHAM.

THE earliest proprietors of this township that have occurred, were the Bulkeleys of Bulkeley, in Broxton hundred, but it does not appear when or by whom it was first granted to them.

Robert^g Bulkeley, second son, and finally heir male of William de Bulkeley, had Eaton (or a large portion thereof) from his father. He inverted the colours of the paternal coat, and omitted the chevron, giving for his arms, Sable, three bulls heads cabossed Argent. This Robert Bulkeley was living 15 Edw. II. when he constituted Randle de Spurstow his attorney to deliver seizin of his manor of "Eayton"^h.

This Robert had issue Robert son and heir, Richard Bulkeley of Cheadle, ancestor of the LORDS BULKELEY OF BEAUMARIS, and Peter Bulkeley of Haughton, in Edisbury hundred.

Robert Bulkeley of Allstanton, senr. 20 Edw. III. receives from Geoffry Denston, chaplain, the manor of Eaton by Davenham, with all the lands, &c. which Agnes, widow of Robert, son of William Bulkeley, held in dower in Alsacher, Hartford, and Codingtonⁱ.

^k47 Edw. III. Edward earl of Chester (the Black Prince) demised to William Bulkeley of Chedle, the custody of the manor of Eyton by Davenham, during the

^a The above particulars are from the information of John Barker, of Northwich, esq.

^b Information of John Barker, esq. agent for the barony of Shipbrook. Bradford in Moulton is nevertheless noticed as a manor in early deeds, and Moulton itself is considered one by the proprietor.

^d Information of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. 1817.

^e Edisbury Hundred, p. 99.

^f See vol. I. p. 275.

^g See Bulkeley, Broxton Hundred, p. 363.

^h Williamson, Vill. Cest.

ⁱ Ibid.

^k Ibid.

minority of John, son of Robert Bulkeley of Alstanton. This was Robert, son of Robert Bulkeley, sen. of Eaton and Allstanton above mentioned. During the life-time of his father, he was sheriff of Cheshire 1341, being styled Robert Bulkeley, junr.; and in addition to John Bulkeley here mentioned, had a younger son of his own name, who had the manor of Alstanton in Nantwich hundred.

5 Hen. V. William Bulkeley (son of John) levied a fine of this manor, sur cognizance de Droit, to the use of William Bulkeley of Chedle¹.

William Bulkeley of Eyton, probably son of the preceding, was deputy justice of Chester to William de la Pole, 26 Hen. VI.^m and died May 1, 1467. He was buried at Davenhamⁿ, and was most probably succeeded by William Bulkeley, junr. who married Margaret, widow of John Dutton of Dutton, 15 Edw. IV.

The following inquisition appears to relate to a younger brother of William last named.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VII. Thomas Bulkeley, esq. gave to feoffees in his life-time, without licence of the prince, the manor of Ayton (val. per ann. x1. but the tenure unknown); and in like manner the manor of Shocklach, and estates in Warmyncham, Alsacher, Leftwiche, Davenham, Bostocke, Middlewich, and Northwich. Thomas Bulkeley, son of Thomas, son and heir apparent of the aforesaid Thomas Bulkeley, senr. next of kin and heir.

This Thomas is probably the same with Thomas Bulkeley, who "was constituted one of the king's sergeants at arms, 26 Sept. 1 Hen. VII. (1485) for life, to receive 12d. per day out of the revenues of the city of London, and two long robes by the hands of the keeper of the great wardrobe. This was not five weeks after the battle of Bosworth, which gained Henry the crown, in which decisive action he had probably sustained a part."^o

One of the estates with which bishop Smyth in his life-time endowed the college of Brasenose, was called

Basset's fee, lying in and near the city of Oxford, which he purchased from Thomas Bulkeley of Eyton, esq. Elizabeth Bulkeley, widow, received an annuity out of this estate, as part of her dowry in 1535.^p

Leland observes in his Itinerary, "Bulke of Eitons stok cam to a daughter, and Leftwich had her, but sir Gul. of Breton bought Eyton^q." This daughter was Margaret, sole daughter and heiress of Robert Bulkeley, (brother of Thomas last-mentioned) which Margaret married Richard Leftwiche of Leftwiche. The manor was sold in the reign of Henry VII. by Thomas Bulkeley, esq. to the great grandfather of the first lord Brereton^r, which Thomas is the person found heir by the inquisition 10 Hen. VII. and was elder brother of Robert Bulkeley abovementioned^s.

These scattered notices form the pedigree annexed, in which every thing which has not been clearly established is marked with dotted lines. A very erroneous pedigree of this family in general is given in Lodge's Irish Peerage, under the head of the lords Bulkeley, which is singularly incorrect in all that is there stated of the Eaton branch.

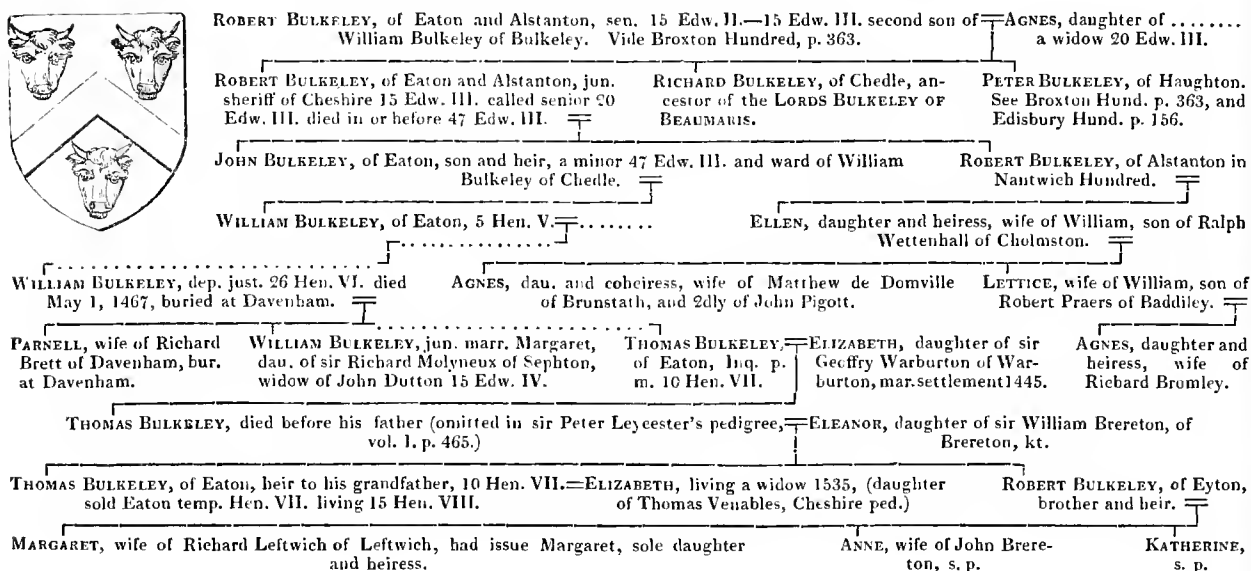
Eaton is now exclusively the property of Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq. and is occupied by one tenant^t. The hall is situated at the distance of a few fields from the Weever, in a part of the township to which the ground slopes rapidly from some neighbouring elevations, and which was doubtless selected from the facilities of supplying the antient moat. The general appearance differs little from other farm-houses, but the antient timber and plaister-work has not altogether disappeared.

By inquisition after the death of Margaret Praers, 17 Ric. II. it appears that she held in fee-simple a moiety of the manor of Eayton, from John de Ardren, in capite, by military service: val. x1. William Maynwaringe next of kin and heir. It is uncertain at what period this moiety became vested in the Bulkeleys.

BULKELEY OF EATON AND ALSTANTON.

From the preceding evidences.

ARMS. Sable, a chevron Argent between three bulls' heads cabossed of the second.



¹ Williamson, Vill. Cest.

^m Leycester's Lists.

ⁿ Churton's Founders of Brasenose, 229.

^o MSS. of archdeacon Churton, from Publ. Lib. Camb. MSS. More, 1 i 5, 31.

^p Information of archdeacon Churton.

^q Itin. vol. VII. p. 34.

^r Vill. Cest.

^s See Leycester in Wincham, vol. I. p. 465.

^t Information of Thomas Cholmondeley, esq. 1817.

LEFTWICH.

THIS manor has been connected with the barony of which it forms a part, from the earliest period to which records extend, one moiety of it having been the property of Osmer, the Saxon lord of "Sibroc," and of several of its subsequent dependencies, in the time of the Confessor. It is described simply as "Wice" in the Domesday survey, but is distinguished by the name of its proprietor (whose descendants were the subsequent lords of Leftwich), and by the simplicity of its description, from the other "Wich" situated in same hundred of Mildesvich, which is noticed at considerable length as one of the three great Wiches retained by the earl.

At the Conquest, Leftwich was granted to Richard Vernon of Shipbrook. "Isdem Ricardus tenet Wice; Osmer et Alsi tenuerunt pro 11 maneriis: et liberi fuerunt: ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est 111 carucarum, in dominio est una, et 11 servi, et 111 villani cum una carucâ, et 14 acræ prati. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x11 solidos, modo vi solidos."

In the first division of the barony of Shipbrook, Leftwich was included in the moiety which was allotted to the coheirs of Warin Vernon, and with certain portions of the lands of the barony passed to Maud, wife of sir Richard Wilbraham. The issue of this marriage was Maud, wife of Robert de Wyninton, who by an inquisition taken before Robert, abbot of Vale Royal, escheator of Cheshire, 23 Edw. I. had issue by her a son Richard, heir to his mother's manor of Leftwich^a.

The following series of inquisitions, commencing with Agnes, widow of this Richard, brings down the descent of Leftwich to 11 Eliz.

Inq. p. m. 26 Edw. III. Agnes de Leftwich held a sixth part of Shipbrooke Mill, and two bovates of land in Shipbrooke, as parcel of that barony, from the lord earl in capite: val. tot. 11. 1vs. v. d. Richard Leftwich, next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 19 Edw. III. Richard de Leftwich held in demesne as of fee, one messuage and lands in Leftwich, and a sixth part of the barony of Shipbrook, from the earl by baronial service: val. unknown; also half of a carucate of land in Rudheath, and of twelve acres, for the term of his life, which John Leftwich held for the same by service aforesaid; and also for the same term, and by service aforesaid, lands in Leftwich, Wich Malbank, Acton, Hurdleston, and Shipbrooke, and in joint feoffment with Margaret his wife, a saltwork in Northwich, in socage from St. John of Jerusalem: val. tot. x marks. Richard Leftwich son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 16 Ric. II. Richard Leftwich held in demesne as of fee, a sixth part of the villis of Leftwich and Shipbrooke, from the king as earl of Chester in capite, as the sixth part of a barony, val. 1111l.; also a thirty-sixth part of the barony of Wich Malbank, with its appurtenances (specified), the eighteenth part of the profits of the water-mill there, and rents in Acton, and Hurdleston. Robert Leftwich son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. IV. Robert de Leftwich held in demesne as of fee, a thirty-sixth part of the barony of

Wich Malbank, a sixth part of the barony of Shipbrook, and lands in Hurdleston and Acton. Richard Leftwich son and heir.

By another inquisition 11 Hen. IV. he is found to have held lands in Shurlach and Bradford.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VI. Richard, son of Robert de Leftwich, held, in demesne as of fee, three parts of a thirty-sixth part of the barony of Wich Malbank, and a third part of a sixth part of the barony of Shipbrooke, held from the king in capite secund. quantitat. baroniæ.

Another inquisition of the same date says, two parts of a thirty-sixth, &c. and six parts of Shipbrooke: val. of the first x111s. 1vd. of the other 1111s. 1vd. Robert de Leftwich son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VI. Agnes, widow of Richard de Leftwich, held in dower, lands in Hurdleston, Acton, Wich Malbank, Shipbrooke, Stanthorne, Leftwich, Bradford, and Shurlach. No heir mentioned.

Inq. p. m. 17 Edw. IV. Robert de Leftwich held in demesne as of fee, lands in Stanthorne, Little Shipbrooke, Davenham, and Leftwich, parcel of the barony of Shipbrooke, from the king as earl of Chester, and saltworks in Northwich. Richard Leftwich son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VIII. Richard Leftwich of Leftwich held the third turn of the advowson of Davenham, and lands in Leftwich, Shipbrook, Bradford, Shurlach, Davenham, Stanthorn, Wich Malbank, Hurdleston, and Acton, from the king as earl of Chester, per baroniam, viz. as the thirty-sixth part of the barony of Shipbrook: val. per ann. vi.; also saltworks in Northwich, val. vii11l.; val. tot. £13. Died on Wednesday before All Saints.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VIII. Ralph Leftwich held the manor of Leftwich, and lands in Shipbrook, Aughton, Wich Malbank, Stanthorne, and Davenham, from the king as earl of Chester as before: val. xviii11s. vii11d.; and lands in Moulton, Wincham, Lostock, Frodsham, Weverham, Middlewich, Northwich, Brydsmere, Anderton, and Rudheath: val. tot. £28. 5s. 8d. Died Oct. 6, 37 Hen. VIII. Ralph Leftwich son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 6 Edw. VI. Ralph Leftwich held the manor of Leftwich, and lands in Shipbrook, Aughton, Wich Malbank, Stanthorne, and Davenham as before; val. vii11l. vi11s. vi11d.; also lands in Moulton, Bostock, Middlewich, Northwich, Bridesmere, Anderton, and Rudheath. Died May 20, 6 Edw. VI. Thomas Leftwich next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 11 Eliz. Thomas Leftwich held the manor of Leftwich, as a thirty-sixth part of the barony, &c. and lands in Leftwich, Wich Malbank, Shipbrook, Davenham, Shurlach, Stanthorne, and Acton, and the advowson of the church of Davenham, from the queen, &c. val. vi11s. and xxd.; and lands in Middlewich, Anderton, Northwich, and Weverham. Died Jan. 8, 13 Eliz. Ralph Leftwich son and heir.

The annexed pedigree brings down the descent of the male line to the eighteenth century, when it terminated in coheirresses; and the antient estate of the Leftwiches in this township passed by sale to the family of Ravens-

^a See Winnington, Edisbury Hundred, p. 110, col. 2, for an abstract of this *Inq.*

croft, and was again sold by Thomas Highlord Ravenscroft, esq. to the late honourable Booth Grey. Leftwich Hall, and the greater part of the lands so purchased, were sold by his son, the present Booth Grey, esq. of Ashton Heys, to the late William Harper, esq. and are now vested in John Hoskin Harper, esq.

Leftwich is not now considered a manor, but merely a component part of the barony of Shipbrook. The

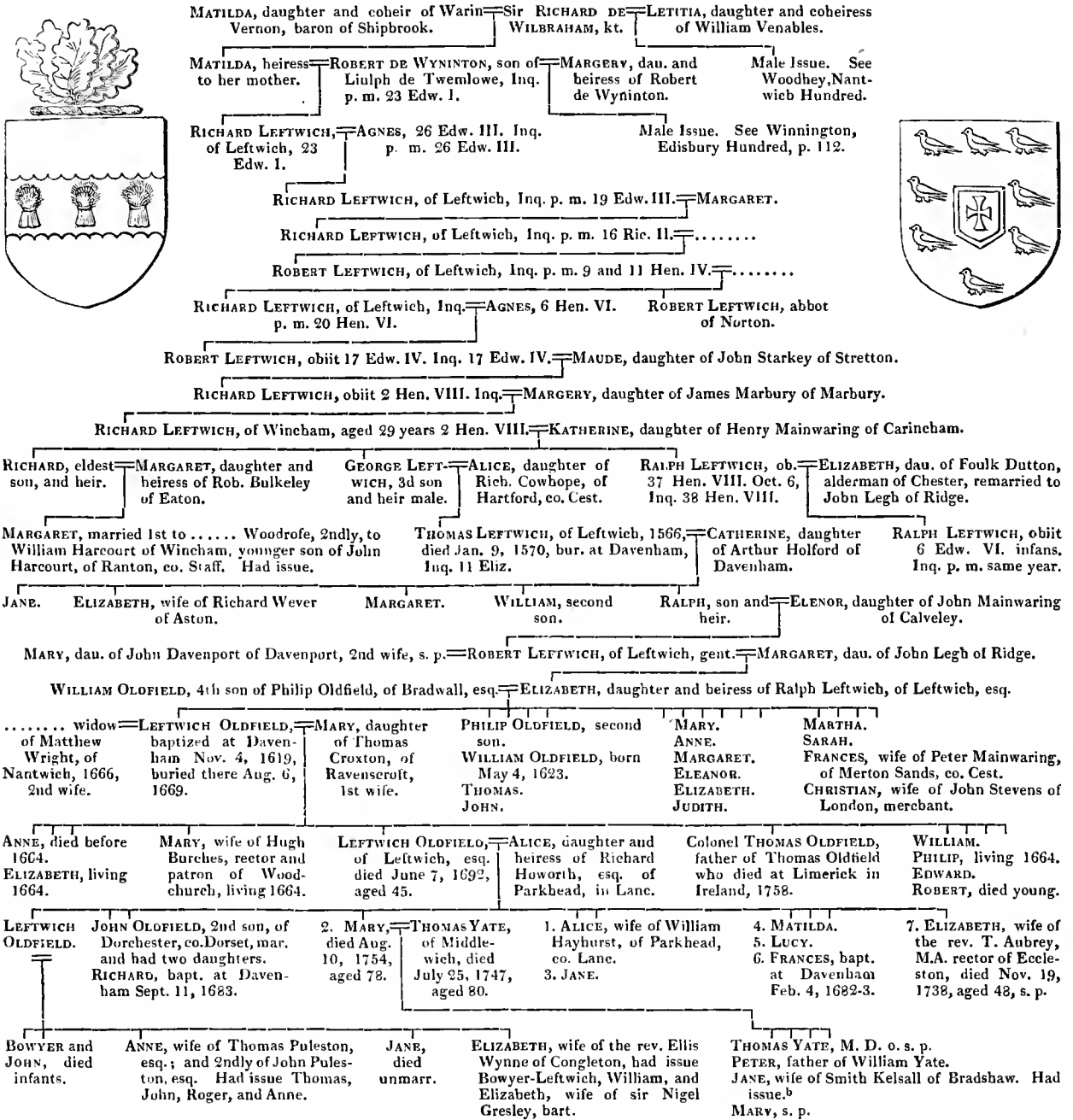
ancient hall has been taken down, and its site is occupied by a modern farm-house, pleasantly situated on a rising ground at a short distance from the church of Davenham and the bank of the Dane. The former mansion was a quadrangular building of timber and plaister, at one corner of which was a square stone tower, with machicolated battlements, the original fabric of which appeared to be of considerable antiquity.

LEFTWICH OF LEFTWICH.

From the Inquisitions and Visitations, and a pedigree compiled by the rev. Joseph Eaton, F.S.A. in the later descents.

ARMS. Argent, on a fesse indented Azure, three garbs Or. Sometimes, Argent, within an orle of martlets Sable, inesccheon Sable voided Argent, on the shield for difference from Winnington, a cross patée Gules.

CREST. On a wreath five leaves Vert.



^b See the pedigree of Kelsall of Bradshaw in Macclesfield hundred. The family of Yate (or Yates), who thus become connected with the Leftwiches, were settled at Middlewich for many generations, and allied themselves to various considerable county families. Several of their memorials are given in the account of Middlewich church (p. 101.); and in Harl. MSS. 2161. is a pedigree of the family brought down to Thomas Yate (apparently the same person with the husband of Mary Leftwich), and commencing with the great grandfather of Thomas Yate, principal of Brasenose, 1647.

Abstract of Returns of Charitable Donations, &c. 1787—1788.

SO FAR AS RELATES TO THE HUNDRED OF NORTHWICH.

Ordered by the HOUSE OF COMMONS to be printed 1816.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given.	Whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, and for what Purposes given.	Whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of that given in Land, after deducting the Rents issuing thereout.
						£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
ALLOSTOCK.	The charitable donations given to the poor of this township are comprised in the account now delivered in by the minister of the chapelry of Lower Peever, in which this township lies.							
ARCLID.	The charitable donations to the poor of this township are inserted in the account delivered in by Mr. Simpson (Sibson), minister of Sandbach, in which this township lies.							
BIRCHES.	-	-	- None -	-	-	-	-	-
BLACKDEN. John Eaton	1711	-	For bread to the poor.	Money	Lieut. Thomas Kinsey	2 0 0	0 2 0	-
BOSTOCK.	-	-	- None -	-	-	-	-	-
BRADWELL. Jane Yarwood	1776	Will	To poor housekeepers	Do	Uriah Cooper Edw. Pedley	20 0 0	0 18 0	-
BRERETON. Several persons	Unknown	Unknown	To the poor -	Land	{ The Overseers and Churchwardens. }	160 0 0		8 0 0 ^a
Rev. J. Skerratt	1755	-	- - -	Do	The Rector of Brereton	20 0 0		
Rev. J. Skerratt	1750	Will	{ For teaching poor children }	Money	The Rector of Brereton	20 0 0	1 0 0	-
John Ryley	Unknown	Do	To the poor -	Do	John Woolley	10 0 0	0 9 0	-
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Do -	Do	The Overseers	5 0 0	0 5 0	-
Thos. Rylands	Do	Will	Do -	Do	John Tipping	5 5 0	0 5 0	-
BUGLAWTON. Elizabeth Hulme	1725	Deed	{ For clothing six poor men and women alternately. }	Land	- (b) -	-	-	4 0 0
BYLEY-CUM-YATEHOUSE.	-	-	- None -	-	-	-	-	-
CHURCH HULME. Hugh Winton	Unknown	Will	To the poor -	Money	No Trustees	-	0 12 0	-
Mr. Bagnall	Do	{ Will suppose }	Do -	Do	Do -	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
Mrs. Bagnall	Do	- Do Do -	Do -	Do	Do -	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
John Amson	Do	Do	Do -	Do	- - -	5 0 0	-	- ^c
Thomas Vawdrey, sen.	1677	Do	To the poor of Cranage	Do	{ The Heirs of the Donor, and Overseers of Cranage }	5 0 0	0 4 0	-
Thomas Vawdrey, jun.	Unknown	-	To the poor of Cotton	Do	No Trustees	5 0 0	-	- ^d
Frances Liversage	1682	Deed	To the poor -	{ Rent Charge }	{ Thomas Podmore, John Furnival, Thomas Sourfield, William Whitehead, William Lowndes, Richard Darlington, William Chesworth, Henry Lowe, John Barrington, John Hilditch, }	-	-	1 0 0
— Woodcock	Unknown	Unknown	To the poor -	Money.	No Trustees	5 0 0	-	- ^e
Thomas Carter	Do	Do	Do -	Do	Do -	20 0 0	1 2 0	-
Peter Yate	Do	Do	Do -	Do	Do -	30 0 0	-	- ^f
Abigail Dean	Do	Do	To the poor of Cotton	Do	Do -	5 0 0	0 5 0	- ^g
Aney Downing	Do	Do	To the poor -	Do	Do -	5 0 0	0 5 0	-
Christian Davenport	Do	Do	To the poor of Cranage	Do	Overseers of Cranage	5 0 0	0 6 3	-
Mr. Stanley	Do	Do	Do -	Do	No Trustees	5 0 0	-	-
Richard Taylor	Do	Do	Do -	Do	Do -	5 0 0	0 5 0	-
Richard Taylor	Do	Do	{ For teaching a boy and girl of Cranage }	Do	Do -	10 0 0	0 10 0	-

Observations added in another Column, in the Copy printed by Order of Parliament.

^a The land has lately been out of lease, and is now re-let for £8. per annum.

^b The trustees originally appointed were three, and all supposed to be dead. By a clause in the deed, there is a power of appointing new trustees on the death of any one, so that the number may always be kept up. This power is given to the Chancellor of Chester for the time being. No application has ever been made to him for that purpose. Charles Arnett, esq. of Congleton or Buglas(w)ton, distributes annually the money at his own pleasure, unaccountable to any one.

^c Supposed to be lost.

^d Lost.

^e Lost.

^f Lost.

^g Answered in the Cotton inquiry.

Abstract of Return of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given.	Whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, and for what Purposes given.	Whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
						£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
<i>Church Hulme, continued.</i>								
Josiah Dean	Unknown	Will	{ For teaching and apprenticing a poor boy. }	Do	{ Mr. Hall, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Wright, Mr. Hodges, }	30 0 0	1 10 0	—
Sam. Leadbeater	1764	Do	To the poor of Cranage	{ Rent Charge }	{ No Trustees }	-	-	1 5 0
Thomas Hall	1708	Deed	For teaching poor boys	Do	Thomas Bailey Hall	-	-	10 0 0
Do	-	-	For teaching poor girls	Do	Do	-	-	4 0 0
Do	1713	Will	{ For clothes for the children }	Do	Do	-	About	4 10 0
Do	-	-	For bread to the poor	Do	Do	-	About	4 6 8
CHURCH LAWTON.								
John Probart	Unknown	Unknown	For bread to the poor	{ Un-known }	{ Rector of Lawton, Robert Cox, and John Morris }	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Mrs. Hall	Do	Do	{ For teaching 3 children to read, and other purposes }	Do	Do	20 0 0	1 0 0	—
Thos. Cartwright	1667	{ Codicil to Will }	For bread to the poor	Land	Churchwardens	-	-	2 12 0
CLIVE	-	-	- None -	-	-	-	-	-
CONGLETON.								
-	1735	{ Partition Deed }	To six poor widows	Do	Richard Martin	-	-	4 0 0
Wm. Parnell	1622	Will	{ For money and bread to the poor }	Do	Mayor and Aldermen	-	-	5 6 0
Ralph Stubbs	1661	Do	For bread to the poor	Do	Do	-	-	2 14 0
Eliz. Boothe	1622	Do	Do	Money	Do	100 0 0	5 0 0	—
Dr. Dean	-	Do	For clothing for the poor	Land	Do	-	-	14 0 0
Sam. Moreton	-	Do	For bread to the poor	Money	Overseers	20 0 0	1 0 0	—
Josiah Cragg, } by John Varden }	1761	Deed	For money to the poor	Land	{ 4th, 5th, and 6th Capital Burgesses }	-	-	8 8 0
Joseph Staton	1773	Will	For shoes to the poor	Money	{ Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses }	400 0 0	16 0 0	—
John Holford	1712	Deed	{ For poor persons not paupers }	Land	John Egerton	-	-	19 0 0
John Varden	1738	Will	To the poor	Do	Philip Antrobus	-	-	0 10 0
John Varden	Do	Do	Do	Do	Philip Antrobus	-	-	0 10 0
John Drake	1774	Deed	For bread to the poor	Land	John Whitfield	-	-	2 10 0
Jane Davis	-	-	To poor housekeepers	Money	-	50 0 0	5 0 0	—
Mr. Jolley	-	-	Do	Do	-	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Mr. Wilkinson	-	-	Do	Do	-	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Mr. Dean	-	-	Do	Do	-	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Mr. Buckley	-	-	Do	Do	-	2 0 0	0 2 0	—
Mr. Hancock	-	-	Do	Do	-	1 10 0	0 1 6	—
Mr. Jackson	-	-	Do	Do	-	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Mrs. Bellot	-	-	Do	Do	-	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Miss Armitt	1766	Will	{ To poor widows and needy sick persons, not paupers }	Land	{ John Barrett and Thomas Harwar }	-	-	5 0 0
COTTON. ^h								
Abigail Dean	Unknown	Do	To the poor	Money	Overseer	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Thos. Vawdrey	Do	Do	Do	Do	-	5 0 0	(ⁱ)	—
Josiah Dean	Do	Do	{ For teaching and apprenticing a poor child. }	Do	{ Thomas Bailey Hall, Stretthill Harrison, Jarvas Wright, and The Rev. Thos. Hodges, }	10 0 0	0 10 0	—
CRANAGE.	{	If there are any Charitable Donations in this township, they are inserted in the account delivered in by the Rev. Mr. Hodges, minister of the chapelry of Church Hulme, in which Cranage lies.						
CROXTON.	-	-	- None -	-	-	-	-	-
DAVENHAM.								
Mrs. Oldfield	1737	Will	{ To the poor of the townships of Leftwich and Davenham }	Money	Rector of Davenham	100 0 0	4 10 0	—
Several persons	{ At different times }	Legacies and Collections	{ To the poor - }	Land	{ Allen Holford, of Kingsley }	-	-	10 0 0
-	-	By timber	Do	Money	{ Thos. Highlord Ravenscroft }	200 0 0	9 0 0	—
Isaac Eton	{ About 1726 }	Will	Do	House	Churchwardens	-	-	0 5 0
Richard Wrench	1675	Do	{ To 19 poor householders, born and living in the parish, a noble a-piece; and another for the use of the Rector and Churchwardens. }	Land	{ Rector and Churchwardens }	-	-	6 13 4
DAVENPORT.	{	The Charitable Donations of this township are comprized in the account delivered in by the Rev. Mr. Sandford, minister of Astbury.						
EATON.	{	The township of Eaton lies within the parish of Davenham; and if any Charitable Donations have been left to the poor, the Minister or Churchwardens of Davenham will observe it in the return made by them.						
ELTON.	{	A return was made from the parish of Warmingham, to which the township of Elton belongs.						

^h N. B. The township of Cotton makes a part of the chapelry of Church Hulme.

ⁱ Lost.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

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						£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
GOOSTREY.									
Frances Laversage	1683	Deed	To the poor	Rent-charge	Thomas Podmore, John Fornivall, Thomas Somerfield, William Whitehead, William Lowndes, Richard Darlington, William Chesworth, Henry Lowe, John Barrington, John Hilditch,	-	-	1 0 0	
Josiah Kinsey	Unknown	Will	To the poor of Goostry cum Barnshaw	Do	Chas. Kinsey, the present possessor	-	-	1 10 0 ^k	
Eliz. Hobson	1785	Do	Do	Money	John Hodgkinson and George Groom	Un- known	Un- known	—	
A former owner of Kermincham Hall	Unknown	Unknown	Do	Do	Overseers	40 0 0	1 12 0	—	
Sir Hen. Mainwaring, bart.	1762	Deed	Applied the above charity of £40 towards erecting a house for the habitation of the poor	Annexed land to the house under a lease	Overseers	-	Uncertain	(^l)	
John Eaton.	1711	-	For bread to the poor of Blackden	Money	Thomas Kinsey	2 0 0	0 2 0	—	
Sam. Leadbeater	1761	Will	To the poor of Twemlow	Rent-charge	John Leadbeater, of Astbury	-	-	0 15 0	
HULME WALFIELD.									
John Morton	1709	Do	For bread to poor housekeepers	Money	John Beckett, sen.	20 0 0	0 18 0	—	
HULSE.	The township of Hulse lies within the parish of Great Budworth, and within the chapelry of Witton cum Twambrook, and the Minister of that chapelry will make a return as to the Charitable Donations, if any have been left to Hulse.								
KERMINCHAM.	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-	
KINDERTON CUM HULME.	There have been some charities given for the use of the poor within this township; but as it lies within the parish of Middlewich, the minister or churchwardens of that parish will make a proper return as to such charities or donations.								
LACH DENNIS. Edward Antrobus, Peter Shakerley, Charles Legh, and Hester his wife, Thomas Legh of Winsham, Glegg Lee, Daniel Lowe	1772	Deed	For the habitation of resident paupers belonging to the township of Lach Dennis, or to let in aid of the poor Leys	A cottage and land	Overseers	-	-	2 0 0	
LEES.	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-	
LEFTWICH.									
Mrs. Oldfield	1737	Will	To the poor	Money	Rector of Davenham	50 0 0	2 5 0	—	
Several Persons	Different times	Legacies and Collections	Do	Land	Heirs of Thos. Derbyshire All. Holford Rich. Wrench	-	-	0 17 5	
Several Persons	-	Timber sold from the Estate	Do	Do	Do	100 0 0	-	4 10 0	
Rich. Wrench	1679	Will	Do	Do	Rector of Davenham, and Churchwardens	-	-	1 0 0	
LOSTOCK GRALAM.									
Cholmondeley of Holford	-	Do	To poor housekeepers	Money	Job Bassnett	80 0 0	4 0 0	—	
-	-	Do	To Do in Lostock Gralam, minister of Witton	Land	Peter Maddock	-	-	1 7 0	
MIDDLEWICH.									
By Tables hung up in the church:									
1. Tho. Venables	Previous to the year 1710. but when particularly does not appear	-	-	-	-	10 0 0	-	—	
2. W. Woodcock.		-	-	-	-	10 0 0	-	—	
3. Geo. Mainwaring		-	-	-	-	6 0 0	-	—	
4. Alice Smallwood		-	-	To the poor of the township of Middlewich	-	-	Does not appear	-	—
5. Wm. Walley		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	—
6. Eliz. Challoner		-	-	-	Money	Martha Jackson, widow, and Ann Alcock	100 0 0	-	33 8 0 ^m
7. Rob. Harrison		-	-	-	-	-	10 0 0	-	—

^k The will of the testator is not to be found. Payment has lately been refused, being to arise from the effects of a bankrupt, when a dividend shall be made thereof.

^l No annual produce, otherwise than being habitations for the poor.

^m Laid out in land; exclusive of the casual profits of a graving dock, which on a medium of 7 years last past has yielded an annual income of 2l. 15s. 2d.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

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						£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
<i>Middlewich, continued.</i>								
S.Eliz.Charnock	1669	Will	To the poor of the parish at large	-	<i>See preceding page.</i>	100 0 0	-	-
9.Rev.Mr.Adams	Unknown	-		-	-	20 0 0	-	-
10. Ra. Lowndes	1690	Unknown		-	-	10 0 0	-	-
11. Sir Jeff. Shakerley, kt.	1695	Do		-	-	10 0 0	-	-
12. Thos. Newell	1719	Will	Do	Do	(n) - -	10 0 0	-	-
13. Peter Yates	Unknown	Do	To the poor of the townships of Middlewich, Kinderton, and Newton	Do	(o) - -	20 0 0	-	-
14. Ann Webb	1704	Do	For apprenticing a poor boy	Do	- -	156 8 0	-	(p)
15.Tho.Venables, or Peter Venables	Unknown	Do	To the poor of the parish at large	Do	Sir John Fleming Leicester, bart. John Crewe, Geo. Wilbraham, - George Prescott,	160 0 0	-	(q)
16. Eliz. Smith.	1727	Do	To Do, at the discretion of the incumbent	Do	Jas. Tomkinson, Ralph Vernon, Daniel Cabanel (Carbanel), and John Seaman	50 0 0	-	(r)
17. Rich. Vernon	1726	Do	To the poor of Middlewich, Kinderton, and Newton	Do	- -	101 14 10	- (s)	28 1 0 t
18. Mary Cotton	Unknown	Unknown	To poor housekeepers	Do	- -	22 4 8	-	-
- - -	-	-	Money collected many years ago	Do	- -	10 0 7	-	(u)
19. Dan. Hodgson	1691	Will	To poor inhabitants frequenting church	Do	- -	2 3 10	-	-
20. John Holford	1712	Deed	To the poor	Rent-charge	- -	117 8 0	-	-
21. Cranage Wilcoxon	1754	Will	To 10 of the poorest families of the township of Sproston	Do	John Egerton	-	-	1 0 0 x
22. Rev. John Hulse	1773	Deed	To the poor not receiving parish relief	Do	Geo. Wilbraham, Thomas Bayley Hall, Samuel Vernon, Robert Bridge, and Daniel Vawdrey	-	-	19 1 1
23. Wm. Moss	1770	Will	For purchasing linen cloth to the poor of Kinderton	Money	Overseers of Kinderton	50 0 0	2 0 0	10 0 0 y
MINSHULL VERNON.	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
MOORESBARROW.	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
MORETON CUM ALCOMLOW.	The charitable donations to the poor of this township are in the account delivered in by the rev. Mr. Sandford, minister of the parish of Astbury, in which parish the said township of Moreton lies.							
MOSTON.	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
MOULTON.	The charitable donations to this township are inserted in the account delivered in by the rev. Mr. Tench, minister of Davenham, in which parish this township lies.							
NEWHALL.	The charitable donations to this township are inserted in the account delivered in by the rev. Mr. Tench, minister of Davenham, in which parish Newhall lies.							
NEWBOLD ASTBURY.								
Eliz. Booth	1622	Deed	For bread to the poor	Money	Mayor and Corporation of Congleton	50 0 0	2 10 0	-
John Holford	1712	Do	To the poor not receiving parish relief, or for apprenticing children, at the discretion of the rector	Land	John Egerton	-	-	18 15 0
Eliz. Hulme	1725	Do	For clothing 6 poor people of the township of Boglawton, not receiving parish relief; men one year, and women another	Do	Charles Armett	-	-	4 0 0
Eliz. Hulme	1725	Do	To the poor	Do	Charles Armett	-	-	0 10 0
Thos. Henshaw	1739	Will	Do	Do	John Leadbeater	-	-	0 5 0
Ralph Leadbetter	1758	Do	For bread to poor housekeepers	Money	Alexander Brindley Robert French	20 0 0	1 0 0	-
Wm. Furnivall	1760	Deed	To poor housekeepers or other inhabitants of the township of Smallwood not receiving parish relief, or apprenticing poor children.	Land	John Lowndes, William Hilditch, Sam. Leadbetter, John Lockett	-	-	20 0 0

n See answers to the 11 preceding numbers. o Ditto.
 p Amount, in 1784, by accumulation of interest. q Ditto, by the like. r Ditto, Ditto.
 s Ditto, and of 271*l.* accumulated interest; a dividend of 3*s.* in the pound, and 1*s.* 10*d.* from the assignee of a bankrupt;—with 22*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* interest allowed by the assignee. t Laid out in land.
 u Ditto, and of 12*l.* 10*s.* arrear of interest, the like dividend; with 2*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.* were with money collected many years ago amounting to 117*l.* 8*s.*
 x No further information can be given. y No further information can be given.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

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						£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
<i>Newbold Astbury continued.</i>								
Sam. Leadbetter	1764	Will	To the poor of Newbold Astbury	Land	John Leadbetter	-	-	0 15 0
Josiah Sherrat	1765	Do	For bread to the poor	Money	Minister and Church-wardens	20 0 0	1 0 0	-
John Yarwood	1730	Do	To the poor of the township of Smallwood	Land	{ Sam. Yarwood, John Yarwood }	-	-	0 12 0
NEWTON	-	-	- Nonc.	-	-	-	-	-
NORTHWICH.								
John Hewett	1735	Do	To the poor	Do	{ Thos. Marshall, and Mrs. Denton }	-	-	1 0 0
-	-	-	Do	Bond	Mr. Litler	20 0 0	1 0 0	-
-	-	-	Do	Do	John Cheney	38 10 11	1 18 6	-
-	-	-	Do	Land	Abm. Butler	-	-	1 5 0
Tho. Lo(e)ftwich	-	Do	To the poor of Northwich, Winnington, or Castle Northwich, for books	Do	James Lowe	-	-	1 0 0
Thos. Key	-	Do	For teaching 12 poor children	Do	{ Ralph Done, A. Butler, John Cheney }	-	-	6 0 0
John Done	-	Do	To distressed housekeepers in Hartford, Castle Northwich, and Winnington	Do	{ Ralph Done, James Gildart }	20 0 0	-	1 0 0
John Hunt	1764	Do	To the poor of Castle Northwich, and Hartford	Do	John Hunt	-	-	0 15 0
OCCLESTONE	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
ODDRHODE.	{ The charitable donations to the poor of Odd Rhode are inserted in the account delivered in by the rev. Mr. Sandford, minister of Astbury, in which parish Odd Rhode lies.							
CHAPELRY OF NETHER PEOVER.								
Sir Jeffrey Shakerley	1696	Will	To the poor	Money	-	10 0 0	-	(*)
Richard Comberbach	1722	Do	For bread to the poor	Do	{ Trustees acting under Mr. Comberbach's will }	52 0 0	2 5 0	(a)
Jane Parker	1737	Do	Do	Do	{ Trustees of the late Mr. Comberbach's charity }	52 0 0	2 5 0	
Davenport Mear	1778	Do	Do	Do	Do	12 0 0	0 12 0	
ALLOSTOCK.								
Peter Shakerley	1726	Do	To the poor inhabitants being communicants at the chapel of Nether Peover, and not receiving parish relief	Rent-charge	Heirs of Peter Shakerley	-	-	5 0 0
Ann Shakerley	1759	Deed	For apprenticing poor children	Money	Representatives of Peter Shakerley	200 0 0	8 0 0	b
Edw. Acton	1569	Will	To the poor of several townships next adjoining to Peover hall, of which Allostock is allowed to be one of the 6 townships included in this charity	Rent-charge	Sir Hen. Mainwaring, bt.	The whole about	27 5 8	
PLUMLEY.								
Thos. Jennings	1769	Do	To the poor of Plumley	Money	Overseers	100 0 0	4 0 0	-
TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PEOVER	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE PEOVER	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
RADNOR	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
RAVENS CROFT	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
RUDHEATH.	{ The township of Rudheath lies within the parishes of Davenham and Great Budworth; and if any donations have been left to that township, the ministers will observe it in their returns.							
SANDBACH.								
Humphrey Royle	-	Do	For a weekly dole of penny rye loaves, to be made every Lord's day	-	-	33 0 0	-	-
Hugh Whelocke						22 0 0		

z Lost.

a No further information can be given.

b The donations belonging to the township of Allostock are included in the return heretofore made by the minister, &c. of Lower Peover, Allostock being a part of the said chapelry.

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						£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
<i>Sandbach, continued.</i>								
- -	1673	Deed	The above, with 25 other Legacies dated 1724 (whose original cannot be further traced) amounting to 299l. 6s. 8d. were increased to 420l. to the poor of the 6 townships	Money	The rev. John Hulse, Thomas Somerfield, William Lowndes, Richard Darlington, William Chesworth, Henry Lowe	420 0 0	-	55 5 0 ^c
- -	-	-	Money accruing from the above estate to the poor of 5 townships	Money lent to	Wm. Whitehead - Wm. Lowndes -	20 0 0 20 0 0	0 16 0 0 16 0	- -
- -	-	-	Other money has been laid out, and some lost.	-	-	-	-	-
Mr. Hewitt	-	Will	To the poor of Sandbach, for which 5s. yearly appears to have been taken from the above rent	Money	-	5 0 0	-	-
Hugh Whelocke	1676	Do	To the poor	Rent-charge	-	-	-	0 10 0
Frances Liversage	1683	Deed	Part of a benefaction to the poor	Land	Thos. Podmore, John Furnival, and others	-	-	7 0 0
Mrs. Boughy	-	Will	To the poor	Do	-	-	-	3 10 0 ^d
Francis Welles	1694	Deed	For bread to the poor	Rent-charge	John Welles	-	-	5 4 0 ^e
Sir John Crewe	1677	Do	To the schoolmaster, for teaching poor children	Do	-	-	-	0 17 4
Thomas Moore	1699	Will (supposed)	To the school £1, and to the poor 10s.	Do	-	-	-	1 10 0
Richard Wells	-	Will	To the school and poor; 100l. to the schoolmaster, and 200l. to the poor	Money	-	500 0 0	-	-
- -	-	-	15 other donations were made to the said school, amounting to	Do	-	157 0 0	-	-
- -	1718	Deed	The said building for a public school, and its endowments, were granted to trustees for the use of teaching 20 poor children, in the parish of Sandbach, in reading and English only, and the money to be laid out in the purchase of lands.	-	-	-	-	-
Chas. Ward	-	Will	For teaching 3 boys in the said school till they are fit for one of the Universities, and furnishing them with proper books	Do	-	200 0 0	-	-
- -	Before 1727	Deed	To the school 420l.; and Rich. Welles's gift of 200l. to the poor	Money	John Welles, son and heir of Francis Welles	620 0 0	-	(g)
- -	-	-	The clear yearly profits divided between the schoolmaster and the poor, in proportion of 21 to 10, at a medium of the 3-6 last years	-	-	-	-	23 3 1 Query 20 19 2
- -	-	-	School charity money now lent to the town of Sandbach	Do	-	10 0 0	0 8 0	-
Sir John Crewe Mr. Nash	About 1717	Will	To the poor; [the whole supposed to have been distributed]	Money	-	13 10 0 2 10 0	- -	- -
John Wheelock	1717	Do	For teaching poor children within the parish of Sandbach: If Catherine Craddock, his niece, should die and leave no child or children, nor grand-child or grand-children, to be laid out in freehold land	Do	-	500 0 0 or 200 0 0	- -	- -
Bryan Wheelock, sole executor of the said John Wheelock	1734	Will	For the above uses directed by his uncle.— John Wheelock's will appropriated 600l. Old South Sea Annuity Stock, and directed that his wife, his executrix, her executors, &c. should immediately after the decease of the said Catherine Craddock, pay and lay out the said 600l. or so much as should be necessary; and that the money yearly payable on account of said charity, should be applied by the minister and churchwardens of the parish of Sandbach in teaching poor children reading, writing, and accounts	Not laid out in land as directed	It does not appear that any property is duly vested or secured; annual stipend is paid by capt. John Wheelock	-	6 0 0	-

^c Laid out in land. ^d Lease lately expired; will now clear above 20l. ^e Likewise at his own costs erected a building for a public school. ^f Laid out in land. ^g Laid out in land.
^h It is believed that she left no child; in which case 500l. in money was assigned for the charity. 6l. is thought small produce for 200l. Charity commenced about 1753.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

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						£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
<i>Sandbach,</i> The rev. Thos. Wellesk }	<i>continued.</i> -	Will	To the poor -	-	-	-	-	-
Margaret Parrott	1742	Do	{ Part of the profits of a benefaction of 50 <i>l.</i> to be distributed to the poor }	Money	{ Vicar's estate in Betchton - - }	-	1 9 0	-
Mrs. Coggin	1758	Do	{ For bread to poor housekeepers in Sandbach and Arclid ¹ }	Do	-	-	10 0 0	-
Thos. Parrott	1760	Do	{ A benefaction of £4. yearly, for clothing the poor ^m }	Rent-charge	{ Thos. Twemlow }	-	-	4 0 0
John Hilditch	1769	Do	{ To be paid by trustees to such persons in Sandbach as they shall think proper }	Money	{ John Ho(i)lditch and Wm. Lowndes }	20 0 0	0 18 0	-
John Hulse	1773	Deed	To poor housekeepers	{ Rent-charge }	{ Geo. Wilbraham, and others }	-	-	4 0 0
Jane Yarwood	1776	Will	{ To the poor of Bradwall - }	Money	Executors -	20 0 0	0 18 0	-
Martha Holford	1786	Do	{ To the poor not receiving parish relief }	Do	-	5 0 0	-	-
SHIPBROOK.	-	-	{ The charitable donations in the township of Shipbrook are inserted in the account delivered in by Mr. Finch, minister of Davenham.					
SHURLACH.	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
SMALLWOOD.	-	-	{ The charitable donations to the poor of the township of Smallwood are inserted in the account delivered in by the rev. Mr. Sandford, minister of Astbury, in which parish Smallwood lies.					
SOMERFORD.	-	-	{ The only donation to the poor of this township is an uncertain proportion of the rent of an estate called Holford, or Holford charity, said to be of the value of 18 <i>l.</i> a year, and distributed yearly at the discretion of the rector of Astbury parish, wherein this township lies, for the benefit of the poor of the several townships in that parish.					
SPROSTON.	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
STANTHORNE.	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
STUBLACH.	-	-	{ The township of Stublach lies within the parish of Middlewich; and if any charitable donations have been left to the poor therein, the officiating minister or churchwardens of Middlewich will observe it in their returns.					
SUTTON.	-	-	{ The township of Sutton lies within the parish of Middlewich; and the charitable donations, if any have been given to that township, the officiating minister of Middlewich, or the churchwardens, will observe in their return.					
SWETTENHAM.								
Mr. Lawrence	1709	Will	To the poor -	{ Rent Charge }	Thomas Willis	10 0 0	-	0 10 0
TETTON.	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-
TWEMLOW.								
Sam. Leadbeater	1761	Do	To the poor -	Do	John Leadbeater -	-	-	0 15 0
WARMINGHAM.								
Thomas Clay	1747	Will	To the poor -	Money	{ Minister and Churchwardens }	100 0 0	4 0 0	-
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	{ To the poor of the township of Elton }	{ Do }	Minister	20 0 0	0 18 0	-

^k Vide infra, Mrs. Coggin's charity.¹ Laid out by the town; does not appear that they have paid for the bread.^m Said to be invalid by the Mortmain Act.

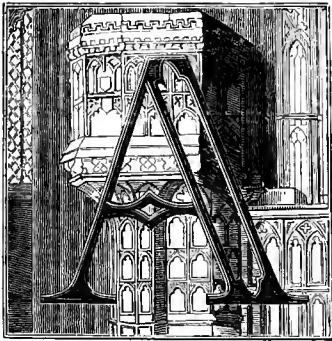
Abstract of Return of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

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						£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
WHARTON.	{ There are no donations in this township, except the gift of a noble, or 13s. 4d. to the poor not receiving parish relief, and which is paid by the churchwardens of the parish of Davenham, in which this parish (township) lies.													
WHATCROFT	-	-	- None.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WHEELOCK.	{ If there are any charitable donations in this township, they are inserted in the accounts delivered in by the minister of Sandbach, in which parish Wheeluck lies.													
WITTON.														
John Hewitt	1735	Will	To the poor -	Land	{ Thos. Marshall -	-	-	-	0	10	0			
-	-	-	Do -	Do	{ Mrs. Denton -	-	-	-	0	17	0			
-	-	-	{ To the poor of Witton and Lostock - }	Money	Abm. Butler -	13	0	0	0	13	0	-		
WIMBOLDSLEY.	{ The township of Wimboldsley lies within the parish of Middlewich; and if any charitable donations have been left to the poor of that township, the minister or churchwardens in Middlewich will observe it in the returns made by them.													

History of Cheshire.

Hundred of Nantwich.

INTRODUCTION.



ALL the Hundreds of Cheshire, with the exception of the present one, have their general outlines chiefly marked by natural boundaries; but those of Nantwich are almost exclusively imaginary. Its form nearly approaches to that of an ornamented heraldic lozenge, divided paleways (from south to north) by the stream of the Weever. The north-eastern side abuts on Northwich hundred, and the north-western on those of Edisbury and Broxton; the southern part is bounded by the counties of Salop and Stafford.

Four Roman roads are supposed to have traversed this hundred, three of which bore from the central point of Condate. The first of these, which has been traced in Bradwall in Northwich hundred, proceeded, according to all authorities, by Red Street and Street Forge for Chesterton near Newcastle. The second, which Mr. Whitaker traced also from the camp of Condate, bore for Mediolanum, according to Mr. Whitaker^a; but according to the bishop of Cloyne (who places Mediolanum at Chesterton), for Worcester and the stations on the Severn, and, passing by Betley, enters Staffordshire, where it may be traced for a considerable distance^b. The third is traced by the bishop (to whose account nothing can here be added), coming from Kinderton to Park Hall; thence it proceeds with a plain ridge, joins the road to Nantwich five miles from its commencement, continues with it nearly a mile, enters the fields again, crosses a brook three-quarters of a mile from Marshfield Bridge, subsequently crosses the Weever at Stanford Bridge, and then bears on over Bromhall Green, towards the station

of Wroxeter^c. The fourth and last road is a portion of the road from Colehester to Chester, which, after passing through the counties of Leicester and Stafford, is supposed by the learned antiquary last-mentioned to proceed from Chesterton by Nantwich and Beeston, and has been partially traced by him in the latter part of this course.

The description of the Saltworks of Nantwich in the Domesday survey are observable, from noticing the military works by which they were defended. This fortress, which is the only one that has occurred in Domesday within the limits of the county (considered as to the present extent), was probably formed with a view to the protection of the earl of Mercia's adjacent mansion in the vill of Acton^d; and induced the inhabitants to make a stand against the Norman army in their advance on Chester.

In the subsequent distribution of the lands of the hundred, William Malbedeng had a grant of Nantwich, with its saltworks, privileges, and the hundred court of Warmundestrou, and three-fourths of the lands of that hundred (considered as to value), the other part being divided between the bishop (the previous possessor of his portion) and the founders of the baronies of Kinderton and Shipbrook^e. Warmundestrou appears to have been co-extensive with the present Nantwich hundred, excepting that the vills of Alsager, Hassal, and Church Minshull, now included within the verge of Nantwich hundred, were then in Mildestvic. The first of these was held by the earl, the other by William Malbedeng.

The vills of William Malbedeng enumerated in Warmundestrou were, Nantwich, Acton, "Estune," Willaston, Wrenbury, Chorlton, Marbury, Norbury, Wirswall, Weston, Walgherton, Soond, Buerton, Hatherton, Wistaston, Barksford, Barterton, Worleston, Barthomley, "Essetune," Wilksley, Titley, Stapeley, Wisterston, Bromhall, the three Pooles, "Tereth," "Cerlere,"

^a See the extract in note, p. 2.

^b See the bishop's Essay on Roman Roads in Cheshire, Lysons's *Magna Britannia*, vol. II. part 2. p. 433.

^c *Ibid.*

^d The proprietor of this vill is called comes *Morcar* in the Domesday survey of Acton by an error of the Norman compilers, which is rectified by collation with the account of earl Edwin's saltworks at Nantwich, q. v.

^e See the Domesday survey of Nantwich.

Baddiley, "Stanleu" in Weston, Coppenhall, Aston in Mondrein, and Cholmondeston.

Richard Vernon had Audlem and Crewe.

Gilbert Venables had Blakenhall; and the bishop retained Wibunbury.

These villis of course comprehended towns, now adjacent to them, and distinct; as for instance, Doddington, and the other towns which owed suit to the fee of Kinder-ton, and not to that of Wich Malbank, may be supposed to have been included in Blakenhall.

An apparent contradiction in the Domesday survey of this hundred remains to be noticed. The enumeration of the grantees within the original hundred already mentioned, includes only those whose lands have been recited; but the survey states also Hamo de Masci to have held Potitone here, and Richard Pincerna to have held Pontone and Calvintone.

The list of the possessions of Hamo de Masci commences with Potitone, and being the only vill held by him in the hundred in which it was intended to describe it, this mistake of the Norman transcriber is easily accounted for. He undoubtedly wrote Warmundestrou for Wilaveston hundred, in which Potitone (Puddington in Wirral) is situated.^f

The other error is more difficult to explain. Richard *Pincerna* occurs under Warmundestrou in the midst of the entries of Richard *Vernon*, as holding *Pontone* and *Calvintone*. If these are to be considered *Richard Pincerna's lands*, it is clear from the enumeration before referred to they could not be in *this* hundred.

If *Atiscros* hundred was supposed omitted before Pontone, it would appear probable that this vill was Poulton, in that part of Broxton taken out of Atiscros, which certainly belonged to the family of Pincerna or Butler. Calvintone is supposed by sir Peter Leycester to be Shaventon in Wybunbury, which would prove another clerical error, in omitting to mark the return to Warmundestrou hundred, as well as the departure from it.

There are strong reasons for supposing, that these errors, like a more important one previously noticed^g, arose in the transcribing the original surveys—that in the first instance both these townships, from the identity of the Christian name, were confused with the census of the lands of Richard Vernon, (whose lands not only precede but follow these, as those of *isdem* Ricardus de Vernon), and that the clerk, perceiving this error, imagined he had rectified it, by interpolating "Pincerna" in small characters over "Ricardus," as it stands in the survey, and neglected to set to rights the confusion which his first error had made in the hundreds.

In imitation of their local sovereigns, the barons of Nantwich formed a forest within this district on the banks of the Weever, which is noticed by the name of the forest of Couhal, and Chouhyl, in the charters of Hugh and William Malbank to their abbey of Combermere. With reference to this forest, from which the township of Coole appears to derive its name, they reserve "*ccrvum, cervam, et aprum*" in their grants to the monks of the adjacent abbey, and except the forest also in their allowance of wood for fuel and timber.

The piety of these barons founded this opulent Cistercian Monastery within their domains; but the manerial interest of the Church was less in this district than in

most of the other hundreds of Cheshire. The circum-jacent demesne of Combermere was not extensive, and the other religious foundations were limited to the Hospitals of Nantwich, the local court of the prior of St. John of Jerusalem and the bishops manor house of Wibunbury. Nearly all the corn tithes of the hundred were, however, appropriated by the monastic establishments of Combermere, Dieulacres, and Stafford, or the see of Lichfield.

Time has removed all apparent vestiges of Combermere, of its reputed cells of Nantwich and Coppenhall, and the hospitals above mentioned. With these have perished the baronial Castle of Wich Malbank, and the later Castle of the Audleys at Newhall. The hundred is, however, by no means deficient in architectural antiquities. The greater part of the Churches, including one singularly fine specimen at Nantwich, are sumptuous and well preserved. A Tower of the antient mansion of the Delves family yet exists, which has survived the rest of the coeval castellet, and a later mansion which was erected near it. To this, as a most interesting fabric of the domestic kind, must be added the Hall built by sir Randolph Crewe in the reign of James the First, an early and rich specimen of the mixed style of Gothic and Italian, which has been fortunate to escape alike the effect of neglect or innovation. Nantwich itself is a curious specimen of the street architecture which prevailed in the reign of Elizabeth.

The greater part of those portions of the hundred which adjoin to Northwich or Edisbury are flat and uninteresting, bare of timber, and exhibiting in the roads a variety of clay or broken pavement. On the borders of Shropshire or Staffordshire, and more particularly in the districts of Barthomley and Marbury, and some parts of Wibunbury and Wrenbury, these unpleasant materials of roads change to gravel; the surface becomes varied with sufficient undulations, and enriched with luxuriant timber; and the prospect is agreeably varied by numerous small streams, and in some instances, as at Marbury and Combermere, by large natural sheets of water.

A great portion of the hundred is watered by the Weever, the main branch of which enters it at Cholmondeley, and proceeds by Wrenbury toward the south-east, and the edge of Shropshire, near Audlem; it then turns southwards nearly at a right angle, and proceeds in that direction, by Nantwich, through the very centre of the hundred, and leaves it near Church Minshall. In this course it receives the waters of the Combrus, the Betley, the Hurleston, the Wulvarn, and other small streams, the courses of which are noticed in the general account of the rivers^h.

The trade of the hundred in general is unimportant, and consists chiefly in the preparation of cheese, which is considered superior to that of the other hundreds. Inconsiderable quantities of shoes and gloves are made at Nantwich, and cotton manufactures have been introduced there.

The salt works of the place have long been on the decline.

Meetings of magistrates acting for the district are held at Nantwich; as is also the hundred court, which is distinct from that held for the barony. It is now the property of the marquis of Cholmondeley, and was lately purchased by him from the crownⁱ.

^f See the Inquisitions in Puddington, which fully identify this vill with Potitone, as part of the fee of Dunham Massey.

^g Vide Owlarton in Bucklow Hundred, p. 391, vol. I.

^h Vol. I. p. 107.

ⁱ Information of John Stephens, esq. agent of the marquis of Cholmondeley.

POPULATION TABLE

Of the Hundred of NANTWICH, extracted from the Returns to Parliament 51 Geo. III.

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.	Total.
ACTON. P.										
Acton	51	52	1	2	26	14	12	146	140	286
Aston juxta Mondrem	23	25	—	1	22	2	1	72	74	146
Austerson	6	6	—	—	6	—	—	28	29	57
Baddington	13	15	—	—	12	2	1	64	49	113
Brindley	16	27	—	—	22	5	—	74	79	153
Burland	105	126	—	—	93	27	6	230	204	434
Cholmondstone	23	33	—	3	10	—	23	95	94	189
Cool Pilate	5	5	—	—	5	—	—	20	23	43
Eddleston	15	18	—	—	15	3	—	39	45	84
Faddiley	48	48	—	—	35	13	—	122	119	241
Henhull	13	13	—	1	6	7	—	27	30	57
Hurleston	27	30	—	—	12	3	15	86	90	176
Newhall	127	173	—	—	140	31	2	423	436	859
Poole	32	32	—	—	28	4	—	84	92	176
Stoke	20	30	—	—	22	8	—	66	74	140
Worleston	58	60	—	2	43	17	—	150	144	294
AUDLEM.										
Audlem	200	246	—	1	192	52	2	512	528	1040
Buerton	61	73	—	1	60	10	3	209	220	429
^a Dodcot cum Wilkesly	110	119	—	2	80	27	12	308	314	622
Hankelow	41	42	—	2	23	12	7	109	107	216
Sound	36	44	—	—	40	4	—	91	116	207
Tittenley	4	5	—	—	5	—	—	18	25	43
BADDILEY	44	52	—	—	42	10	—	147	141	288
BARTHOMLEY.										
Alsager	62	71	—	—	56	13	2	172	177	349
Barthomley	79	79	—	2	71	8	—	231	234	465
Crewe	52	52	—	1	42	6	4	140	140	280
Haslington	160	181	—	8	160	21	—	456	466	922
COPENHALL.										
Copenhall Church	51	51	—	3	44	5	2	133	133	266
Copenhall Monks	22	22	—	—	20	2	—	57	57	114
MARBURY.										
Marbury cum Quoiesley	68	74	—	—	49	19	6	196	195	391
Norbury	69	81	—	—	61	20	—	190	197	387
MINSHULL, CHURCH. P.	77	77	—	—	59	18	—	120	138	258
NANTWICH. P.										
Alvaston	4	4	—	—	3	—	1	21	12	33
Leighton	29	38	—	—	38	—	—	87	69	156
Nantwich	816	851	—	57	90	609	152	1875	2124	3999
Woolstanwood	7	7	—	—	5	—	2	24	24	48
^b SANDBACH.										
Bechton	122	136	1	4	97	28	11	354	347	701
Hassal	31	32	—	—	30	1	1	102	103	205
^c WHITCHURCH.										
Wirswall	15	15	—	1	10	1	4	53	59	112
WISTASTON	52	55	—	—	39	11	5	144	151	295

^a Part in Wrenbury parish.^b The greatest part of Sandbach parish is in Northwich hundred.^c The greatest part of Whitchurch parish is in Salop, North Bradford hundred.

POPULATION TABLE, continued.

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.	Total.
WRENBURY. P.										
Bromhall	18	26	—	—	25	1	—	82	84	166
Chorley	25	30	—	—	29	1	—	88	98	186
d Dodcot cum Wilkesly	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Woodcot	5	5	—	—	4	1	—	12	14	26
Wrenbury cum Frith	67	89	—	1	49	30	10	234	221	455
WYBUNBURY. P.										
Bartherton	3	3	—	—	2	1	—	15	14	29
Basford	8	10	—	—	7	3	—	33	31	64
Blakenhall	33	33	—	—	31	2	—	119	100	219
Bridgemere	38	40	—	2	30	10	—	105	103	208
Checkley with Wrinehill	26	31	—	—	26	2	3	66	86	152
Chorlton	16	20	—	—	15	3	2	51	39	90
Doddington	9	10	—	—	5	3	2	28	34	62
Hatherton	52	68	—	1	56	12	—	165	214	379
Hough	40	42	—	2	18	20	4	117	121	238
Hunsterson	33	39	—	1	35	3	1	93	107	200
Lea	11	11	—	—	5	6	—	34	39	73
Rope	13	16	—	—	13	3	—	48	42	90
Shavington cum Gresty	36	41	—	3	36	5	—	92	107	199
Stapeley	50	50	1	1	42	7	1	117	144	261
Walgherton	39	45	—	—	27	16	2	101	105	206
Weston	54	80	—	—	54	24	2	212	214	426
Willaston	34	38	1	—	23	9	6	107	107	214
Wybunbury	76	85	—	1	37	32	16	174	177	351
	3480	3912	2	85	2382	1207	323	9568	10000	19568

d Partly in Audlem parish, where the whole is entered.

☞ The total is incorrectly calculated, but being given as an original document, it does not appear proper to alter it.

ITINERARY OF NANTWICH HUNDRED.

BY WILLIAM WEBB, M. A.

Reprinted from KING'S VALE ROYAL.

IN a more square-like, or rather a more lossengee form, the sharp angles whereof point south-east, and north-west, lies the hundred of Nantwicke, so named of the principal town therein; in the description whereof, I hold it the best course to begin there where the famous water of Weever, presently after it hath gotten the name of a stream, enters into this hundred, and grows by degrees, ere it part out of this precinct, to be of great fame. It enters this hundred near unto Cholmondley, and running along by Chorley and Norbury, town-members of that great signiory of Cholmondley, the inheritance of sir Robert Cholmondley, bart. it receives there a fair increase by a water that comes from a great mere, which gives name to Merbury, a parish with a church in it, howsoever a member of the great parish of Whitchurch, in the county of Sallop, two miles distant from it, the north-west angle of this hundred extending itself to Coisly, and another lordship called Wyrstal, which hath some time been the lands of the Hintons, an ancient family. We then turn our faces a little more easterly, to pass by Marley, a seat of the Pooles of Marley, a fair house and demesne, within the precincts of Merbury; and by Hadley, the seat anciently of the Hulses, a great name once in those parts, now the lands of a worthy knight, sir Thomas Brereton, descended from the house of Shochlach, and Malpas. We shall enter upon that fair and goodly demesne of Comber-mere, which containeth, or rather is contained of, that spacious and wide lordship of Newhall juxta Merbury, and which, in divers particular respects, we may call a most famous seat; it hath been an abbey built by Hugh Malbanc, and of the barons of Nantwich, in anno 1133, upon the bank of a goodly mere of a large length and breadth, and of a depth above credit. What the endowments were of that abbey, I am not acquainted: all I find concerning it, is an ancient record which hath this, Anno 1133, *Abbatia de Cumbermere fundata est, filia de Savanei. Anno 1153, fundata est abbatia de Pulton, filia de Cumbermere*^a.

Upon the very brow or bank of the mere is the abbey situate, with the park and all other parts for profit and pleasure surpassing, and environed on all sides to a large extent, with such goodly farms, which then, and yet are the holding of the tenants to this abbey, as that I know none for number and largeness comparable to them in all these parts. That which I make the greatest ornament of it now, is, that after the change of the idle owners it formerly had, it hath been since possessed by a branch of that renowned name of the Cottons, who have been of great account in many shires, and of whom this race hath now succeeded hereunto the present owner thereof, George Cotton, esquire, a man of singular account for his wisdom, integrity, gentleness, godliness, facility, and all generous dispositions: not to say much of Burldame, the furthestmost easterly part of this lord-

ship, wherein there is a little chapel for the ease of the furthest remote tenants of this abbey, this whole tract bearing the name of Dodcot and Wilksley: a brook called Combrus falling from this, a great mere, which also hath been called Comber-lake, meeteth shortly with the water of Weever, about Broomhall, a great township, the greatest part whereof hath been the lands of the lord Shavington in the edge of Shropshire, now sir Robert Needham's; and near whereunto is situate a demesne of the Whitneys, called the manor of Cole-Pilate, and another of the Cheswiss, called the hall of Mickley, from whence having on our right hand the parish church and township of Wrenbury, which hath been sometimes a member of the great church of Acton, but is now an entire parish within itself; and near adjoining unto it is the hall of Wrenbury, a very pleasant seat of one of that great name of the Starkeys, and belongs to the heir of a late worthy virtuous gentleman, Arthur Starkey, esquire, deceased.

We step over the said river Weever, at a bridge called Stanford-Bridge, where the said river, by the augmentation, as was said of the Combrus, and not far off, with another pretty brook falling out of Shropshire, first saluteth a village called Aston, near which there is an ancient seat of one house of the Egertons, called Egerton of Christleton, but more lately of Newhall; and then bendeth more easterly to Auldeline, adorned with a fair parish church, and is a goodly lordship of great extent, one angle thereof shooting with an inlet as it were into the county of Sallope, called Tittenley, and on the south enlargeth itself with a great lordship called Buerton, where the Pooles of Wirral hundred, a race of great antiquity and worship, have great possessions; and also the Gamulls of worthy repute, the heir being Francis Gamull, esq. yet under age, hath a stately house and good possessions: and on the right hand of it a township called Hankelow, wherein is a fair house and demesne of Hasals, gentlemen of good worth.

Which lordship takes up (together with another called Bridgemere, being the lands late purchased by sir Roger Wilbraham, knight, one of the masters of requests to the king's majesty, and now by marriage appertaining to that Wilbraham that is the hopeful heir to the house of Woodhay) the whole confine of this hundred, upon a good part of Staffordshire, till we come to Worme-hill, the goodly mansion of the Egertons of that house; which house and demesne, both do partake with either of the shires; from whence we must turn our course full south to take a view of Checley, a beautiful timber house, and fine seat, of the race of the Persalls of great worship, and so bend almost back again to two great lordships and ancient seats, both of them knights of renowned worth, Hatherton of the Smiths, and Dodington of the Delves, both of them at this day honoured with the owners singular merits and high estimation. And the one, sir Thomas Delves, being a knight, lately

^a Here follows in the first edition a translation of the Foundation Charter, the original of which is given under Cumbermere.

advanced to the degree of a baronet. The other, sir Thomas Smith, for his great wisdom and accomplished sufficiency, worthily at this time graced with the government both of this honourable city, as mayor, and of the county, as his majesty's high-sheriff^b; in whose deserved commendations I am not worthy to speak, being not able to do it as I should.

Weever holding his course towards Namptwich, hath on the other side of it Baddington, a fair demesne, where also hath been an ancient seat, being the lands of sir Robert Needham, of Shavington in the county of Salop, before-mentioned, and Austerston, where he hath had goodly woods that hath been the chief store-house and nursery of that fewel they call Wichwood; which being of twenty years growth, or thereabouts, is most fit for that service, and hath been usually fallen by yearly falls, as they call them, and sold to the town of Namptwich, for the boiling of their salt, and which is now worthy the recording the ingenuity and industry of providence, which animated thereunto by the great charge and laudable encouragement of the said sir Robert Needham, hath in this age of ours, found out by the side of the said Weever, at Baddington, a seth or pit of that brine, whereof they make great plenty of very good white salt; as also upon the bank on the other side, since the finding of this, is also the like within the lordship of Hatherton, in the lands of sir Thomas Smith: in both which they have taken a more profitable way of boiling their salt in pans of iron, to which the pit-coals, which are their ordinary fewel of that country, and whereof there is great abundance not far off, in the confines between the two counties of Chester and Stafford, is found a cheaper and more compendious way than that of boiling in pans of lead, with fewel only of wood, used in all the Wiches; which old way notwithstanding, the boilers in the Wiches, will maintain to be the best, and do most resolutely and deservedly hold their salt to be unmatched for colour and goodness of any other.

But because the Weever approacheth now unto Bartherton, an ancient seat of the Griffins, esquires, of long continuance, and a fair demesne thereunto, it receiveth into the bosom thereof, one stout water that they call Betley-water, of the place from whence it begins: Let us step a little easterly again towards the head of the same water, and take view of Wybunbury, a church town, and a parish church to a great precinct, and on every side so garnished and adorned with the seats and habitations of baronets, knights, and gentlemen, as is scarce to be found the like in any country parish so far remote from great and populous cities; the name is said to come from Wibba, a king; or, if I may so guess, from Hubba, a great nobleman of the Mercians.

The vicarage hereof is in the gift of the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. Neer unto the same church, is situate a fine lordship and town, with a decayed house, and demesne, of sir Thomas Smith before-named, called the Hough; and next adjoining unto it, the Lec, being an ancient seat of knights and esquires of that name; and now sir Richard Lee, a knight of worthy account, for wisdom, and singular virtue; and to whom I stand particularly bound for special favours received, which I must ever acknowledge.

I should think, that the water Lee, that runneth by the skirt of this demesne, should give name to that river that is afterwards so called, and meets with the flood

before they fall together into the Weever about Pool, to which we shall come anon. But first let us look a little more to the west, where stands the lordship of Blakenhall, and next to that Hunsterton, a great part of them both the lands of sir Thomas Delves, we come to Bartomley, a parish and a church; in which township we see an ancient handsome house, and demesne, the lands of the Lawtons of Lawton; and from a lake hereabout, hath the Wolvern brook its first beginning, which running by Weston, a lordship with an ancient seat and demesne, belonging to sir Thomas Delves, of Doddington before-mentioned, runneth along by Basford, a sightly habitation, sometime the lands of the Bramlees, but now the inheritance of sir Robert Cholmondeley; and so crossing the Lea brook again, we may first on the one hand take notice of Shavington, an ancient seat of the Woodnothes; a name, saith Mr. Cambden, descended from the English Saxons; the present owner hereof, John Woodnoth, esq. a great antiquary, and learned in the laws; and on the other, of Roppe, a township, which reacheth to another member thereof, called Stapley, in which there is another fair house and demesne, anciently the seat of gentlemen of good esteem of that name Roppe, whose issue-males are now failed, and the same come to the possession of Mr. Green, of Congleton, by the sister of Roppe, now like to begin another name, but a stock of the same tree still.

And from hence, having taken notice of one township called Willaston, and a little parish called Willaston, which hath in it the habitation of the Walballs, gentlemen of good worth, to whom, and to the Pearsals, the patronage of the church there belongeth; and it had in it a descent of gentlemen, the Brindleys, now all worn out and forgotten: We are here to enter upon the head town of that hundred, and of all the county, which is called Namptwich vulgarly, but in most of our ancient deeds, and other writings, *Wicus Malbanus*, Wich Malbank; and had the name from one William Malbenge, or Malbanc, who had this place given him at the Norman Conquest, and afterwards grew to be one of the baronies of the barons, made by the earls of Chester, as we shall have occasion hereafter to declare more at large.

We doubt the first raising it to the greatness it hath, was from the goodness of the salt there made; whereupon, and upon the whiteness of it, the Britons called the town Hellath-wen, the White-pit; which made them frequent it exceedingly, after that king Henry III. had, by stopping up these pits, and restraining all relief, which was hence gotten by the Welshmen for their needful sustenance. When all was quiet, and peace flourished again, the market here began to be of great frequency; besides that, it grew to be a special thorough-fair, for entertainment to all passengers in the great road from London to Chester, and especially since the government of Ireland fell to the kings of England. To which I may add, that special gift which God hath bestowed on the soil in and near to that place, for the excellency of the cheese there made; which, notwithstanding all the disputations which many make to the contrary, and all the trials that our ladies and gentlewomen make in their dairies, in other parts of the country, and other countries of the kingdom, yet can they never fully match the perfect relish of the right Nantwich cheese; nor can, I think, that cheese be

^b This fixes the date of the Itinerary at the latter part of the year 1621, in which sir Thomas Smith's shrievalty concluded, and his mayoralty commenced.

equalled by any other made in Europe, for pleasantness of taste, and wholesomeness of digestion, even in the daintiest stomachs of them that love it.

Whatsoever hath been the causes, or howsoever the inhabitants there have had their invancement, sure I am, there can hardly be found a town merely uplandish, as we term it, neither traded unto by waters, nor enriched by any special trades or manufactures, that hath such a knot of wealthy and landed men in so small a compass, there being within the same thirty, or more, that are usually assessed in the king's majesty's subsidies to pay for lands; and the greatest part of them gentlemen that pay with none of the meanest ranks.

The buildings within the same town are very fair and neat, and every street adorned with some special mansions of gentlemen of good worth; the middle and principal parts of the town being all new buildings, by reason of a lamentable fire which happened there in the year 1583, that consumed in one night all the dwellings from the river-side to the other side of the church; which church itself, by the great mercy of God, escaped, and was left standing naked without neighbours, saving only the school-house, in a few hours; yet such were the estates of many of the inhabitants, and so graciously did queen Elizabeth, of blessed memory, favour them with her own earnest furthering of a collection through the whole kingdom, and the business so well managed by the care and industry of sir Hugh Cholmondeley, Mr. John Masterson, and other the chief agents in the same, that the whole scite and frame of the town, so suddenly ruined, was with great speed re-edified in that beautiful manner that it now is.

The church is very large, and of so beautiful a structure, composed in form of a cross, like the great minsters or cathedrals, and the steeple erected in the middle juncture of the cross, with fair iles on each side; the monuments therein few, those that are here follow.

That it belonged to the abbey of Combermere is plain from hence, that indeed the same being claimed by the parishioners of Acton, a great parish church within a mile of it, as it were but a chapelry of that church; the rectory of them both being appropriate to the said abbot and his convent, the one hath a vicarage, the other a poor maintenance left by them out of that great commodity they reaped there, the same impropriations being now in better employments, though those maintenances yet remain towards the upholding of God's service, which I wish had means according to the great worth and dignity of the places.

The noble barony of Wich Malbanc, given by the first earl Hugh Lupus, at the time of the Norman Conquest, to his kinsman William of Malbanc, hath since come by several branches of heirs to a number of great families in the country, and some others in remote parts; yet by continuance of time have almost all knit together again, so that of more than twenty parts whereinto it hath been dispersed, it is at this day come all again within two or three portions, as I have heard, to be settled in the inheritance of sir Robert Cholmondeley, baronet, who hath here the greatest sway and jurisdiction.

The manner of making this salt here, and in the other Wiches, their authentic rules and customs, which they have made a binding law unto themselves, for equal division of the brine to the several owners of the Wich-houses therewith, rooms for stowage of their wood, even to an inch; the limitations of the times to draw the brine out of the seth, and conveying it by troughs into the several Wich-houses, all comprehended under

the term Walling; together with the venting the same into foreign parts, which is chiefly done in exchange of the best malt that the shires towards the Champion do send, in barter for it; with many pretty observations from their continual care and circumspection, lest their pit should lack any old rites or duties, or that the salt vein, which may seem to accompany that water of Weever for many miles together, should receive mixture or prejudice by fresh springs or other impeachments: All these things I leave to be read other where, knowing well their jealous love to be such towards this their beloved commodity, as I should soon incur some reprehension for being too busy to look narrowly upon such a beauty.

One happiness I will not forget to report, which it pleased our most gracious king, his most excellent majesty, to add unto them in the year 1617, the 25th of August, who vouchsafed to make that town the lodging-place for his royal person; and after he had for some hours accommodated himself in the house, then his royal-court, of Thomas Wilbraham, esq. it pleased him to walk so far as to the brine-seth, and with his eye to behold the manner of the well, and to observe the labours of the briners (so they call the drawers of the brine), whose work it is to fetch it up in leather-buckets fastened to ropes, and empty it into the troughs, which troughs convey it into the Wich-houses; at which work those briners spend the coldest day in frost and snow, without any cloathing more than a shirt, with great cheerfulness. And after his majesty's gracious enquiry among the poor drawers, of many things touching the nature of the same brine, and how they proceeded to convert it into salt, most princely rewarding them with his own hand, his majesty returned to the court.

The next day his majesty was likewise pleased to appoint a sermon to be preached before him in the church, and of his princely graciousness to stay while an oration was pronounced by one of the scholars of the school; which sermon was then performed by a divine of our own country, both by birth and dwelling, Mr. Thomas Dod, archdeacon of Richmond, and to which his majesty gave so great attention, and with the same was so affected, as it pleased his highness to grace the preacher with his princely and free election of him into the number of one of his chaplains in ordinary; which, for the honour of our country, and for an addition to the worth of this our eloquent and sweet preacher, I thought fit here to record.

There hath been a little chapel situate near this brine-seth, dedicated, as some say, to St. Anne; what endowment it had, or what was the decay thereof, except I would report fabulous tales, I can make no relation.

A strong timber-bridge over the stream of the Weever is maintained by the town, which requires no little care and cost, by reason of the monstrous carriages of the wood in carts, which is brought thither for the boiling of their salt.

I might speak of some charitable gifts that have been by well disposed persons given or bequeathed to charitable uses, whereof to make mention, I fear it would be rather to question their neglect, than to commend the inhabitants that perform not, for aught I know, the care that should be taken in that behalf; only the school, which was founded there by Mr. John Thrush, and Mr. Thomas Thrush, of London, wool-packers, is well and sufficiently upheld and maintained, to the furtherance of teaching the children of the poor and others; and an ancient and grave school-master of

very near fifty years continuance, Mr. Randal Kent, yet teacher there, with a learned assistant, a master of arts of Queen's college in Oxon. whose name is Mr. Shenton, of laudable pains and industry.

To which I must not omit to add the late charitable erection of an alms-house for six poor aged men, which sir Roger Wilbraham, knight, master of the requests to his majesty (scil. king James), at the town's-end, there new built for the said six persons, to be chosen out of Namptwich and of Acton parish; allowing them each one, an handsome lodging, a little garden, and five marks per annum, towards their relief in the latter end of their old age.

That worthy knight gave other the like charitable gifts in his life-time in other places, which I will not here recite; this I think very pertinent to this place, because here at this end of Namptwich he had his birth and breeding, being a younger brother of that house formerly mentioned, where his highness was lodged, and branched from the house of Wilbraham's of Woodhay, long aged, and by one of his co-heirs like again now to return a great tribute in augmentation to the same house from whence he came.

It may not seem amiss, though I reckon it not as a note of antiquity, yet (out of my love) to note one lustre of that town; that into the five entrances into the same, which way soever you come, your eye is entertained with a fair gentlemanly house at the end or entry of the first street every way; as namely, that which is called the Welsh-row, with that of Mr. Wilbraham's; that of Beam-street, where they hold yet weekly great markets of cattle, with a fine house of the Mainwaring's, and now belonging to the right worshipful and worthy ingenious knight sir Dudley Norton, secretary to his majesty's council in Ireland; that of the Hospital-street, with a fair timber-house of Mr. Randol Church, a gentleman of singular integrity; that of the Pillory-street, with a very ancient house of the worshipful race of the Masterson's; and Barkers-street or Mills-street, with a fine brick house of Mr. Wright's; to say nothing of a great number of very fair houses and neat buildings dispersed here and there throughout the middle part of the town. Here are also fair and profitable mills, for the service and use of the town, which are the inheritance of sir Richard Egerton, knight, before-mentioned.

And so taking only notice of a fine common, called the Croach, belonging to this town, and extending itself from the end of the Beam-street by Weever side to the length of a mile and a half, or rather more, and in breadth of about a quarter of a mile, which is an excellent pasture, and upon which the inhabitants have their cattle summered there, paying a small rent for it, to the number of four or five hundred every year, to their great convenience, and no small relief unto the poor: Only take view of Alveston, where the Prestlands were sometimes owners of great lands, so take leave of Namptwich. And first look upon that part of the hundred, which within the compass of the winding stream of the Weever we left unviewed.

Having first viewed on the south-west of Namptwich a lordship called Edlaston, which was anciently belonging to the Fullhursts of Crewe, a great name now almost extinguished; and another called Sound, a town well replenished with good farms, we see Baddiley, with a little church, and an ancient seat that belongs to sir Randal Mainwaring, knight, and hath been anciently the seat of the Preiers, who were in this country a race of great possessions, but are also long since utterly worn out and swallowed up by other names.

This is a goodly demesne, and hath been anciently a great nursery for wood and timber, as it is now for corn and grass, which exchange cannot be much faulted; it is an entire parish of itself, though some contend that it hath been a member of Acton parish; but in our memory the rectory there by itself hath been fully proved and confirmed. Part of this lordship hath descended to the ancestors of the Bruertons of Handford, of great place, in which is a rich farm called Blackhurst, which hath been the birth place of one race of the Davenports.

And now all the towns and spacious extents between us and the stream of Weever of this west-side of it, till you come to Minshull, are all contained within the parish of that mother church of Acton, being to the number of fourteen townships. From the very town's-end of the west of Namptwich begins Acton, leading almost a mile upon a fair stone causeway, or pavement, up unto the said church, upon which, as you pass, offers itself to your view a most neat and beautiful house of brick, lately erected by Ralph Wilbraham, esq. another younger brother of those Wilbrahams of Nantwich, in the place of an ancient capital messuage called Darford, or rather Derfold, which belonged anciently to the earls of Derby.

We may well think it worth taking notice of a goodly common lying near unto this church, by name Ravensmore, vulgarly Ranmore, extending itself more than a mile in length, and about half that breadth, a very sweet and fruitful piece of ground, at which many mens teeth have watered, but hath been by God's providence (raising up divers noble gentlemen to stand against the enclosing of it) hitherto preserved for the relief of the poor neighbours to it, and others. Upon the side of it, westward, we observe an ancient gentleman's seat, called Swanley, which hath long belonged to the Mainwarings of Carringham, another great branch of that famous name; and so we come to two intermixed townships, the one Burland, whereof the most part of it hath been appendant to the jurisdiction of Baddiley; the other Brindley, wherein I only note a fair seat and demesne of Mr. William Allen, a gentleman of good respect.

And so we come to Faddiley, another member, or rather entire lordship of itself, divided between the houses of Peover and Handford; and hereunto lyeth adjoining the demesne and hall of Woodhay, which as it was the first place where my feet had some rest after the variable courses of my youth, so I could here long dwell upon the remembrances of that ever worthy honoured owner of it, and of me his unworthy servant, Thomas Wilbraham, esq. if even here my ink were not forced to give place to the tears that fall from my eyes. But what need I think upon the commending of him, the world takes knowledge of his worth. The God whom he served is the God of his seed, the blessing of heaven is upon his house, and so I hope and pray it may long continue: much might be said concerning the now possessor of his place and virtues, sir Richard Wilbraham, knight and baronet; but for me to say it, it were to discover my own weakness, and to argue my folly that I knew not his wisdom, whereof all others take so much notice. That which is not so merely personal in him, I hope will be out of the compass of adulation to remember, that besides an hereditary wisdom from his said father, he is holden to be partaker of the like inheritance from both his most worthy grandfathers, Richard Wilbraham, esq. master of the jewel-house to queen Mary, who princely rewarded his worthy service unto her, and sir

Hugh Cholmondley the elder, who was likewise grandfather to sir Robert Cholmondley, baronet, as was formerly noticed.

So we return northward, and stepping a little back again, take a view of Hurlston, where the honourable sir Thomas Savage hath worthy lands, and by it Stoke, a fine lordship, and a neat capital house purchased from Aston of Aston, and now possessed by Edward Minshall, gentleman; beneath which township of Hurlston lies Henhull, where once stood a fair seat of the Claytons, gent. now almost worn out; and Worleston, wherein are seats of gentlemen of the Wilbrahams, Graftons, and Chetwoods; from which last-mentioned house the father of an honourable and worthy knight, sir Richard Chetwood, of Warkworth, in the county of Oxon, within some men's memories yet living, did descend.

The next to these are three townships of the names of the Pooles, and in them three fair demesnes and seemly houses, the inheritance of the Elcocks, and the Leicesters, where also was an ancient house of Boydels, a race of gentlemen of worship in this county, now worn out; and adjoining to these is Aston juxta Mondram, which name argues, some say, that the purlieus of the forest of Delamore have extended thus far; and there is a seat of the Astons, and another of the Weevers, gentlemen, and another of the Braynes, with a very large and ancient demesne and mill of the inheritance of sir Robert Cholmondley, baronet, often mentioned.

From hence we come to Cholmeston, a great precinct, which hath anciently been the lands of the Leighs, of Rushall, in Staffordshire, but now belonging to the right honourable the earl of Bridgewater, who hath in the same a goodly demesne, with an ancient seat, called the hall of Cholmeston, but now much ruined.

At the confines of this parish, we see next Minshall, a little parish impropriated with a church in the town; and near unto it the hall of Minshall, a very ancient seat, which hath continued the successions of a worshipful race in its own name, and never could boast of a more sufficient, for many gentlemanly parts, than the now lord of it, John Minshall, esq.; yet now that succession liketh to divert into another house by his only daughter and heir, which is by God's own appointment now married to Thomas Cholmondley, esq. brother of that said sir Robert. And near also to the church, upon the other side of the Weever, a very fine house called Hoograves; the inheritance of the heirs of the best of the Astons of Aston.

And here we must again step over the water of Weever at Minshall-bridge, where another branch of the same Minshalls have an ancient inheritance and a fair house and demesne, called Erdswick, from whence we must go more southerly to Leighton, where you shall find a fair seat of the ancestors of the Erdswicks, no doubt deriving that name from the place aforementioned; but now grown into a race of great worship, whose chief residence is at Sand in Staffordshire.

In this township of Leighton is also another fine seat, which hath been possessed by a race of ancient gentlemen, the Brooks, from which house those of Norton lately are descended, but the same now also for want of issue-male, is diverted another way, and is, by purchase by the lady Cholmondeley (as is said), assured to the said Thomas Cholmondeley, her youngest son, a gentleman of much regard and towardliness.

From hence, leaving on the right hand a township called Woolston-wood, a place likely to have had no small store of that commodity, we come into the Coppenhalls, whereof one is a church-town, having the parish church in it, the patronage whereof belongeth to the bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. The other called Monks Coppenhall; but to which society of that brood it once belonged, I know not.

Church Coppenhall is, and hath been, famous for the plentifulness of mosses, so they call the soft boggy ground, from whence are dug the square studs of soft loose earth in the summer time, which being well dried in the sun, becomes a good and ready fuel, and serves to great use. And within this township is an ancient seat of one of the Foulhursts, descended from them, late lords of Crewe, which is called the hall of Shaw, now almost gone to decay, and divers lands thereof sold and dispersed.

Eastward hereunto, advanced to the view of many miles every way, lifts up itself, that stately fabrick of the hall of Crewe, which for many years aforegoing, had drooped and fallen in much decay, as it were lingering, and longing for one that might raise up that name and seat; for so Mr. Cambden hath in these words: a place inhabited in old time by a notable family of that name, which having been the possession, for some ages, of the Foulhursts, men of great revenues in these parts, is now again made happy by the purchase of sir Randal Crewe, knight, one of the king's majesty's serjeants at law, and one of the most reverend and learned sages of the law in those days; who hath brought into these remote parts a model of that excellent form of building, which is now grown to a degree beyond the building of old times for loftiness, sightliness, and pleasant habitation, as in and near unto London, we see many in this age of ours.

The next neighbour yet further eastward unto this is Haslington, being an handsome street in the road-way, and adorned with a chapel that belongs to the parish of Berthomley; but that which is the chief ornament of this lordship, is the seat of that family of the Vernons, descended from those barons of the name of Shipbroke, which I have some hope to be better furnished in due place to speak of more at large, and content myself here to give it that whereof it may not a little glory, that the owner thereof now is a worthy gentleman, George Vernon, esq. so well known for the great estimation he hath for a great learned lawyer, that I need say no more.

Another ancient gentleman's seat there is in this precinct of the Moors, of good account; but now I take it, by the heir-general, it is descended to that name of the Walthalls; and within the same is that great mere, called Oakehangermere, from whence begins that water which afterwards gets the name of Fulbrook, till it meets with the Wheelock.

Beyond this there remains only Alsacher, the name of a township, and the race of a good family in the same; and Hassal, from whence great families may seem to have gotten their name, but from what house therein I am not instructed; and then to confine this hundred, lies Bechton, a goodly large seignory, the most part of which hath been the possession of the ancestors of the Davenports of Henbury, men of great place; but now is this Bechton parted into some other owners, and one great part of it the present inheritance of Thomas Wilbraham, of Nantwich, esq. formerly mentioned.

PAROCHIAL TOPOGRAPHY.

Part of Sandbach Parish.

COMPREHENDING the townships of Hassal and Betchton. The greater part of the parish has been described in the preceding hundred of Northwich, p. 55.

HASSAL.

IN the copy of Domesday, appended to sir Peter Leycester's Cheshire Antiquities, he has omitted his usual insertion of the present name, in the margin of Eteshale, and probably doubted the identity of that vill with Hassal from its being inserted in the hundred of Mildestvic. The circumstances of tenure, however, and the similarity of the name Eteshale to that of Hatishale given to Hassal in early deeds, seem fully to confirm this point.

The Saxon vill was divided into moieties, each of which belonged to the baron of Wich Malbank.

"Isdem Willelmus tenet Eteshale. Ova tenuit et liber homo fuit; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est 11 carucarum; ibi unus radman cum dimidia carucâ et uno servo, et unus radman, et 11 villani, et 111 bordarii, cum una carucâ. Silva una leuvâ longa, et haia ibi, et aira accipitris. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat 14 solidos; modo v solidos.

"Isdem Willelmus tenet Eteshale. Godric tenuit et liber homo fuit; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est 11 carucarum; ibi unus radman cum uno bordario habent dimidium carucan. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat v solidos, modo v solidos; wasta fuit."

By the Inq. 16 Edw. I. relating to the division of the barony of Wich Malbank, Hassal is ascertained to have fallen to the share of Elcanor, the second coheir, whose lands were granted by her to the Audley family.

Henry de Alditheleg' grants *Hatishale* to Henry de Beteleg', with its appurtenances and lands called Bundenhall by deed without date, Harl. MSS. 2074. 166.

This said Henry de Betley (or possibly a son of the same name) by deed without date^a (with the annexed seal of green wax appendant) quits claim "in plepo comitatu Cest." to Richard Draicote and his heirs, of all the homage and service of Nicholas de Chircheleg' and Randle his brother. "Hiis testibus, d'no Hamone de Masey, Will'o de Malo passu, Will'o de

Vernon, Ric' de Sandbeche, Ric' de Wibenbur', Pet'o de Stapeleg', Pet'o de Becheton, Hug' de Woloc, R. Bernard, et aliis."

Dr. Williamson observes, that the Hassals appear to have originally held only one moiety of the manor, as the inquisition taken after the death of Thomas, son of Nicholas de Audley, states Adam Wood and Richard de Hassal to have held the said manor from him by the third part of a knight's fee^b.

18 Edw. III. Richard de Hassal gave to Adam de Hassal, chaplain, his manor of Hassal by Haslington, cum pert. with rents, services, and escheats of all the free tenants, which Adam settled the same year on Richard for life; remainder to Richard Hassal, junr. and Ellen, daughter of Robert de Becheton, and the heirs of their bodies^c.

By Inq. temp. Rich. II. Roger Hillary, and Margaret his wife, sister and coheir of Nicholas de Aldithley, had the homage and services of Robert de Hassal, for tenements here of the val. of xx marks per ann.^d

After this the Hassals are described of Hankelow (in this hundred), as well in the following inquisitions, as in the Cheshire pedigrees.

Inq. p. m. 10 Eliz. William Hassal of Hankelow, esq. held lands in Hankelow, Creswallshaw, and Burches, and four messuages in Hassal. The latter held from the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, by military service, as the xxxth part of a knight's fee: val. 111. 11. 1111. Obiit March 26, 10 Eliz. Ralph Hassal son and heir.



^a In possession of W. Hamper, esq.

^b Vill. Cest.

^c Ibid.

^d Ibid.

Ralph Hassal here mentioned married twice, and on his death, his eldest son, and his second son William (eldest by the second marriage), "fell at variance about the estate, which was mediated by several gentlemen, who concluded that Ralph (his eldest son) should have Hassal, and William have Hankelow." Harl. MSS. 2151.

Ralph Hassal last mentioned, shortly after " sold this manor and lands in Becheton, to William Leversage of Wheelock, esq.; and William Leversage of Becheton^f sold this place to Thomas Stephens, who was lord of this town 1662, but Mr. William Wild was then lord of the hall, commonly called Little Hassal."

4 and 5 Jan. 1726. By indentures of lease and release, Richard Lowndes (in whom the manerial and the hall estate were united) conveys Hassal Hall, and other estates (heretofore the inheritance of Mr. Wild deceased), to trustees for the term of 500 years; remainder to the use of Richard Lowndes, eldest son of the settler, for life; remainder successively to his male issue; remainder to William, second son of the settler, with similar remainders to his male issue successively; the said trust being declared to be for the purpose of raising £2400. (by lease or mortgage, or other disposal of the said term) for the portions of William, Charles, Christopher, Edward, Thomas, Francis, Ellen, Margaret, and Anne, issue of Richard the settler^g.

By a decree in Chancery made in 1746, the said term

was nominally sold to Joseph Fluitt of Chester, gent. who assigned the same to Richard Lowndes, first in remainder by the preceding settlement, who left two daughters and coheireses, Joan, wife of William Penlington, M. D. and Ann, wife of Edward Salmon, esq.

The interest in the reversion hereupon passed to the line of William Lowndes, the second son, in whose grandson it is now vested.

The manor, the 500 years term in the Hall, and half of the Bostock Hall estate in this township, passed to Mr. Salmon, whose son the rev. Richard Lowndes Salmon, sold the said manor and term to the rev. John Armitstead, by whom the bargain was transferred to Mr. Walter Daniels, the present proprietor^h.

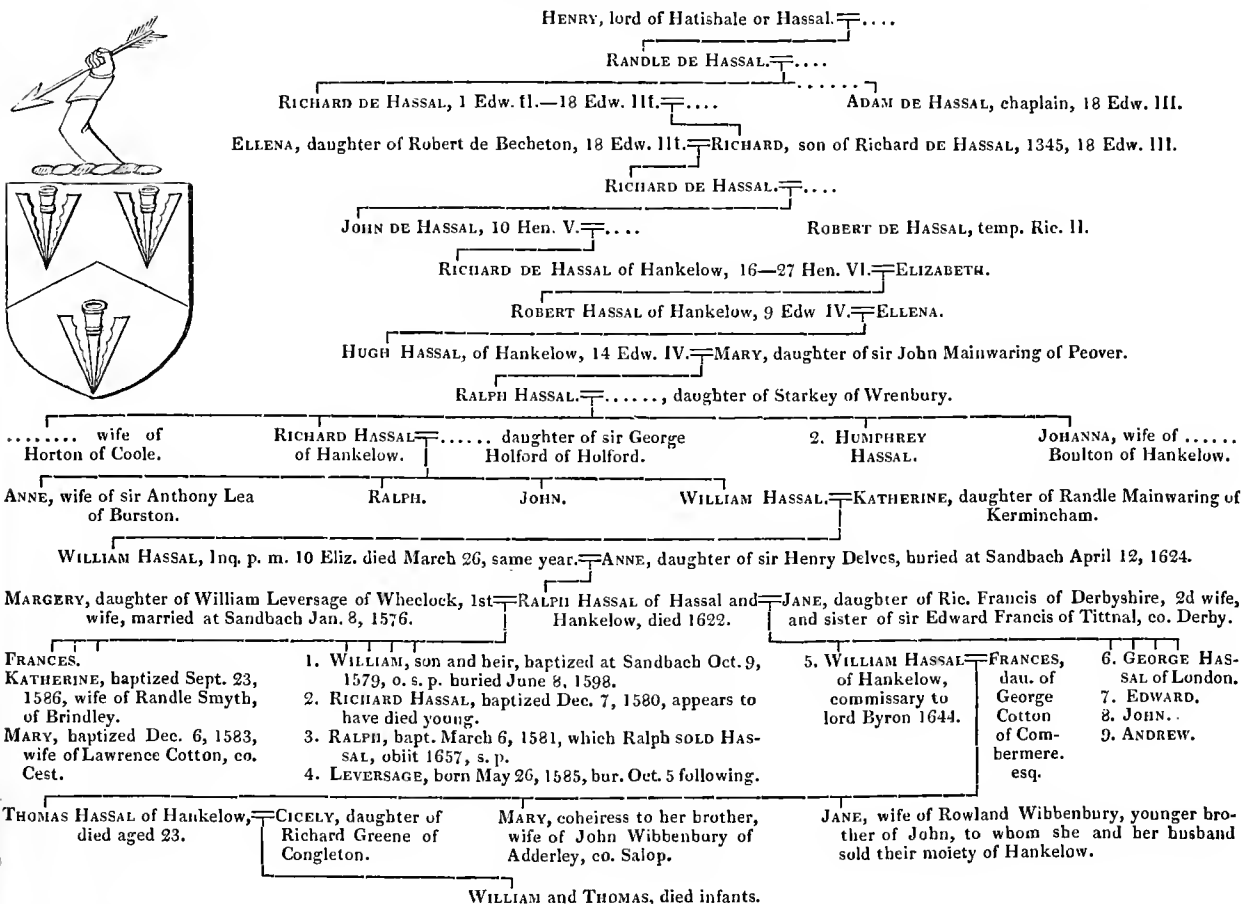
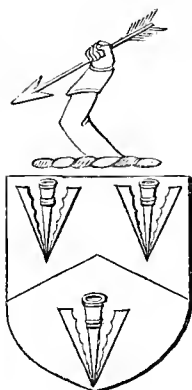
The other moiety of the Bostock Hall estate was allotted to the eldest coheiress, is the property of John Penlington, esq. of Rode Heath, and has been united to the first-mentioned portion of the said estate by purchase from Mr. Salmonⁱ. The hall from which this estate derives its name, is a farm house, containing within its walls some portions of an antient mansion, which was defended by a moat of which a part is remaining, and was the property and occasional residence of the Bostocks of Moreton Say, co. Salop. Henry Bostock of that place, by an *Inq. p. m.* 23 Eliz. is found to hold (inter alia) lands in Hassal from the lord of Hulfield, in socage: val. per ann. 111l. vis. vii11d.^k

HASSAL OF HASSAL.

From Booth's pedigrees, with corrections and additions from the Inquisitions and Harl. MSS. 2161. 257. b.

ARMS. Party per chevron Argent and Or, three pheons Sable.

CREST. An arm embowed, couped at the elbow, vested Or, and turned down at the wrist Argent, holding a dart with the point downwards, Or, feathered Argent, and barbed Sable.



^e Vill. Cest.

^g The said Richard by will, dated 1743, excludes his third son John from a share in this settlement, having given him his portion in his life-time.

^h Who died whilst these sheets were preparing for the press 1818; since which period Mr. Lowndes, in whom the reversion was vested, has purchased the termor's interest. ⁱ The preceding account from deeds and information communicated by the direction of the rev. R. L. Salmon.

^k Clotton Halfield in Edisbury hundred.

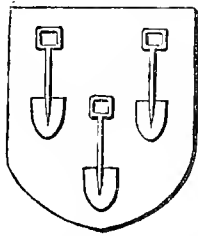
^f See Leversage pedigree, p. 70.

The Hall of Hassal is a very respectable residence, finished with gables, and surrounded with antiquated gardens and offices. The situation is on an elevated knoll, where the neighbouring country undulates agreeably, and the circumstances of the term interest of the

possessor, "with impeachment of waste," have already ornamented the pleasure grounds and hedge rows, with trees of growth and proportions strikingly distinguished from those of the adjacent townships.

BETCHTON.

THIS vill, which is unnoticed in Domesday (unless it can be supposed to have formed one of the moieties of Eteshale, noticed in the account of the preceding township), is ascertained by the *Inq.* 16 Edw. I. to have passed with that township to the Audleys, as parcel of that share of the barony of Nantwich, which was allotted to Eleanor Malbank.



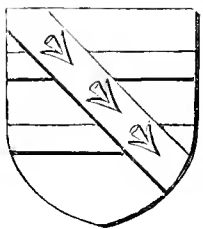
Under the Audleys, Betehton was held by a family which assumed the local name, and bore for arms, Azure, three spades Or.

Matthew de Beecheton, by *Inq.* 1 Edw. II. is found to have died seized of this village, which he held by the services of half a knight's fee, and the render of 2s. per ann.

from Thomas, son of Nicholas de Audley^b.

Immediately after this period notices of several generations of the family of Beecheton, or Bechinton, will be found in the accounts of Little Budworth, Storeton, Wallesey, and Bradwall; but whether of the direct line of the Beechetons of this place does not appear^c.

10 Edw. III. Matthew de Beecheton and Annabel his wife, and Peter son to John de Legh and Ellen his wife, obtained by fine from Robert, son of Matthew de Beecheton, eighteen messuages, and ten acres of land in this place, paying seven marks per ann. to Robert for life, and a pepper corn to his heirs, to the use of Matthew and Annabel for life; remainder to Ellen, and the heirs of her body; remainder to Robert and his heirs.



Peter de Legh (of Betchton, in right of his wife Ellen) was younger son of John Legh of Booths, and differenced his paternal coat with a bend Gules, charged with three dart heads Argent. He had two daughters and coheirs, Margaret wife of Thomas Fitton of Gawsworth, and Elizabeth wife of sir Jenkin Davenport of Henbury and Woodford.

FITTON SHARE.

Inq. p. m. 20 Ric. II. Thomas Fitton of Gawsworth held, inter alia, by courtesy, after the death of Margaret, daughter of Peter Leigh, half the manor of Betchton, cum pert. from Eliz. widow of Nicholas de Audley, by military service: val. per ann. xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. VII. Sir Thomas Fitton of Gawsworth knight, held, inter alia, a moiety of the manor of Betchton, from James lord Audley, by military service, and render of xiiid.: val. xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VIII. Edward Fitton of Gawsworth held, inter alia, the same from the heirs of the same James, as before: val. xiiii. vis. viiiid.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VIII. John Fitton of Gawsworth, esq. held, inter alia, the same from John Tochet lord Audley, as before: same val.

Inq. p. m. 2 Edw. VI. Sir Edward Fitton of Gawsworth, knight, held, inter alia, lands and tenements in Beehton, from the lord Audley, as of his manor of Audley, as before: val. xxi.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Sir Edward Fitton of Gawsworth, knight, held, inter alia, as in the last inquisition.

35 Eliz.^d "Sir Edward Fitton past over this manor to Thomas Egerton, esq. and thirty messuages, &c. for £1000."

A moiety of the manor of Beehton is subsequently stated (in Messrs. Lysons's *Magna Britannia*) to have been purchased in trust for the freeholders from the Egertons of Wrinehill^e.

The freeholders are the present proprietors of a moiety of this manor, and elect four lords, who are joint lords of the same for life, hold a court leet and court baron, and divide the quit rents. The present lords (1817) are the rev. Richard Levett, Mr. John Wilson, Mr. Thomas Summerfield, and Mr. John Podmore.

The DAVENPORT Share is stated in the *Inq.* after the death of John Davenport of Henbury, esq. (4 and 5 Ph. and Mary) to consist of lands herein, held from the king and queen as of their manor of Newhall (the Cheshire seat of the Audleys, which had escheated to the Crown by attainder), in capite, by military service: val. xxviss. viiiid. This portion of the manor is stated in the *Villare Cestriense* to have devolved with the other Henbury estates, in marriage with Isabella, the heiress of that family, to sir Fulk Lucy.

Manerial rights in this township, and twenty messuages, &c. were purchased 7 Jac. I. by Richard Wilbraham of Townsend, esq. from sir Hugh Beeston^f; but whether these were the paramount rights of the Audleys, or the Davenport share of the mesne manor, does not appear. This estate and interest in the manor have descended to George Wilbraham of Townsend and Delamere Lodge, esq. who gives a game deputation, but does not hold any court for Betchton.

Betehton Hall, with its demesne, was in the seventeenth century the property of a collateral branch of the Leversages of Wheelock, who succeeded by settlement to the property of the elder line^g. The same passed subsequently to the Jacksons; and on the death of Dr. Richard Jackson in 1796^h, passed to his three nieces, the daughters of Mr. William Day of Sandbach, who assumed the additional name of Jackson, and the survivors of whom are the present proprietors.

The Hall, which is chiefly of timber and plaster, is situated on the side of a picturesque and well-wooded valley, watered by a small rivulet, about two miles south-east of Sandbach.

^b Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^c Edisbury hundred, p. 116. Wirral hundred, pp. 250, 261. Northwich hundred, p. 67.

^d Vol. II. part 2. 767. Qu. however, whether of Wrinehill, as the purchaser 35 Eliz. was certainly Thomas Egerton, Attorney General, afterwards lord Brackley.

^e Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^g See Leversage pedigree, p. 70.

^f Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^h Vide ped. p. 67.

Barthomley Parish.

THIS parish is bounded by Lawton, Sandbach, Warmingham, Church Coppenthal, and Wybunbury in Cheshire; and on the south-east by the county of Stafford, in which one of its five townships, Barterley, is wholly situated. The others are, Barthomley, Crewe, Haslington, and Alsager. A small part of Hassal (which is chiefly in Sandbach) extends into this parish.

BARTHOMLEY.

THE following Domesday description of Barthomley places it among the dependencies of the barony of Wich Malbank:

“Isdem Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Bertemeleu; Seuardus tenuit, et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis; terra est 111 carucarum: in dominio est una et 11 bovarii: presbyter, et unus radman, et unus villanus, et 11 bordarii, cum 11 carucis: ibi una acra prati: silva una leuvâ longa, et dimidiâ lata, et una haia, et aira accipitris. Valuit et valet xx solidos, wasta invenitur.”

The mesne manor and advowson were shortly afterwards held under the barons of Wich Malbank by the Praers family; and in the first division of the barony, the paramount royalty passed to Philippa Basset.

From the Praers family of Barthomley descended collateral lines, settled at Checkley, Baddiley, Badington, Duddon, and Stoke, all of which terminated in heirs general at an early period. Booth and the other Cheshire genealogists have exhibited very confused and contradictory schemes of this difficult pedigree; but in Harl. MSS. 2119. is a copy of a laboured arrangement of it (and as successful a one as the materials will admit), drawn by one of the Randle Holmes from original evidences, which is here subjoined, and is confirmed, or corrected, by the Cheshire Collections as follows:

I. Richard de Praers gave Knoctirum to Chester abbey 1119, as witnessed by his sons Adam and William.

II. Adam de Praers witnesses the charter of Randle Meschines to Chester abbey in 1119^a.

III. Roger de Praers, son of Adam according to the pedigree, had issue Thomas of Barthomley, Adam, ancestor of the Baddiley family with its collateral lines, Robert, parson of Wibunbury, Randle, male ancestor of the Stokes of Stoke, and other issue. To the third of these sons, the said Roger grants the whole vill of Wibunbury, by deed without date; and to the same Robert, his brother Adam gives the church of Wibunbury, with the consent of Roger bishop of Chester^b. Dr. William-

son supposes him to have had issue who assumed the local name.

IV. Thomas de Praers, son of Roger, died 18 Edw. I. seized of the manor and advowson of Barthomley, cum pert. held of the king in capite, leaving Richard his son and heir^c.

V. This Richard (if the name is correctly given) is omitted in Harl. MSS. 2119, and appears to have shortly died s. p. and to have been succeeded by his brother Randle, to whom in the *life-time* of his father (as is evident from the preceding inquisition) Randle de Mer-ton grants the serjeancy of the countess of Warwick in Wich Malbank, a° 6 Edw. I.^d He had issue Richard and Thomas, who married two of the daughters and co-heiresses of Thomas de Crewe^e; William, who married Sibylla, sister of the said Thomas^f; and Robert, ancestor of Praers of Checkley^g; and died 30 Edw. I. leaving Richard his son a minor.

VI. Richard de Praers, son and heir, married, as before-mentioned, Johanna, eldest daughter of Thomas de Crewe, who by Inq. 22 Edw. I. was found to be aged 24 years. The said Richard was a minor 31 Edw. I. when the Black Prince presented, in right of his ward, to the church of Barthomley; and he himself presented a clerk of his own name to the same, twelve years afterwards^h. He left issue Randle and Thomas.

VII. “19 Edw. II. Randle Praers and Johanna his wife obtained from William de Dutton, chaplain, the manors of Bartomelegh, Crue by Weston, and Landecan, cum pert. and 18s. rent in Nether Bebington, with the serjeancy of the countess of Warwick, and the advowsons of Bartomeley and Woodchurch, to them and their heirsⁱ.”

VIII. Thomas Praers (brother and heir of Randle, as by inquisition after the death of his sister-in-law Johanna, 6 Edw. III.^k) by Inq. 23 Edw. III. is found to have held the manor and advowson of Barthomley, the manor of Crue, and the vill of Landecan, with the advowson of Woodchurch, from the Earl of Chester in capite, by military service. Elizabeth sole daughter and heiress^l.

^a See vol. I. p. 19.

^b Robert the clerk, rector of Wibunbury and Tarporley, Harl. MSS. 2119. is called Richard by Dr. Williamson, and Roger twice in Harl. MSS. 1535. in the grants above-mentioned, in which his father's name is also made Robert, by what appears a clerical error. This is most probably the “Roger Praers chaplain,” who founded a chantry at Nantwich, with a yearly obit, now corruptly called “Prior's obit:” see Nantwich church.

^c Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^d See Robert Fulleshurst's plea in Crewe.

^e Inq. 22 Edw. I. in Torr. Lond.

^f Crewe pedigree by Dugdale, and Harl. MSS. 2119. See Aston in Mondrem. Harl. MSS. 2119. however makes Sibylla daughter also of Thomas, and she appears to be placed one descent too high in Dugdale's pedigree, if William is not too low in this, which is most probable.

^g Harl. MSS. 2119.

^h See list of incumbents.

ⁱ Williamson's Fines.

^k Harl. MSS. 2038. 51.

^l Williamson Vill. Cest.

With this heiress the united estates of the Crewe and Praers families passed to sir Robert Fulleshurst, of whose family an ample account is given in Crewe. The following extracts from their inquisitions contain the successive notices of this manor; and the pedigree of the family, to the end of their connection with Barthomley, is subjoined.

Inq. p. m. 13 Ric. II. Sir Robert Fulleshurst was tenant by courtesy of the manor and advowson of Barthomley, included in one description with Crue and Landecan.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. V. Sir Thomas Fulleshurst held the same, inter alia, described as before.

Inq. p. m. 18 Hen. VI. Thomas Fulleshurst, esq. held

inter alia, the manor of Barthomley, from the king as Earl of Chester, in capite, by military service: val. xvii marks.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VII. Thomas Fulleshurst of Crewe, esq. held, inter alia, the same, joined in one description with Crue and Landecan.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VIII. Anne, widow of Robert Fulleshurst, held, inter alia, the manor of Barthomley, from the king as earl of Chester, by military service: val. per ann. xiiii. vis. viiid.

21 Eliz. Sir Christopher Hatton, knight, obtained by fine the manor and advowson of Barthomley, the manors of Crue, Newton, and Sutton, and 200 messuages, &c. from Robert, Thomas, and George Fulleshurst^m.

PRAERS OF BARTHOMLEY (WITH ITS COLLATERAL BRANCHES), AND FULLESHURST OF CREWE AND BARTHOMLEY.

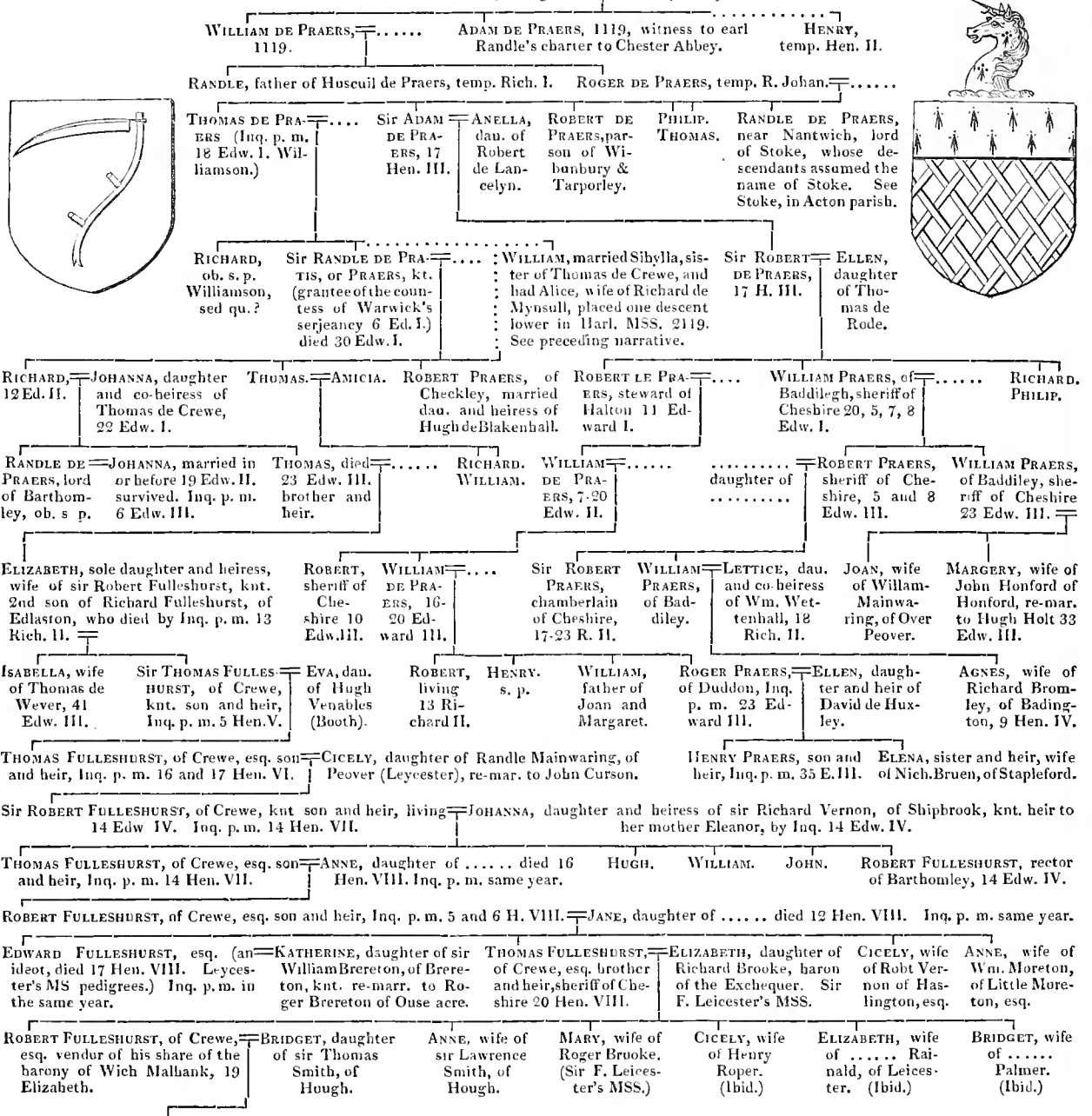
PRAERS from Harl. MSS. 2119. with a few corrections and additions; and FULLESHURST from Booth's and Leyeester's pedigrees, corrected throughout from the Inquisitions.

ARMS OF PRAERS. Gules, a scythe Argent.

ARMS OF FULLESHURST. Gules, fretty Or, a chief Ermine.

CREST. On a wreath, a unicorn's head Ermine.

RICHARD DE PRAERS, living 1119. — GALTHA, ux. ejus.



THOMAS FULLESHURST, son and heir, joins with his father in the sale of Crewe, Barthomley, &c. 21 Elizabeth.

^m Williamson's Fines.

Barthomley subsequently passed by sale to sir Randolph Crewe, and has since descended with Crewe to the present period. A court leet and court baron are held for this manor and Crewe, and the jurisdiction of the leet extends over the townships of Barthomley, Crewe, and Leightonⁿ.

The village is situated on the bank of a small brook, near the edge of Staffordshire, in a very retired but picturesque part of the hundred, and consists chiefly of farm-houses and cottages.

CHURCH.

Ded. to St. Bertoline.

Tax. P. N. £10. Val. Eccl. £25. 7s. 1d.

The advowson of this church has been uniformly appendant to the manor of Barthomley. The fabric consists of a handsome tower, with nave, chancel, side aisles, and two private chancels, in various styles of pointed architecture, excepting the north doorway of the chancel, which has a semicircular arch, with zigzag and embattled mouldings, resting on sculptured capitals, carved in soft red stone, but in excellent preservation^o. The side aisles are separated from the church by five pointed arches on each side, resting on clustered pillars with capitals, over which is a row of clerestory windows; and this part of the church has richly carved oak roofs, ornamented with knots at the intersections, and the arms of various families who were contributors to the building in 1589.

At the end of the north aisle is a chancel, enclosed with old carved work, belonging to lord Crewe. On the north side of it, under a broad arch, is the recumbent figure of an ecclesiastic, with hands clasped, laid on an alabaster slab, which covers an altar-tomb of the same materials, at the sides of which are six shields set within Gothic compartments. This monument probably refers to Robert Fulleshurst, rector, who died in 1475.

In the north aisle are brasses and achievements of Sara, wife of Thomas Malbon of Northwich, gent. aged Nov. 20, 1658.

Thomas Malbon of Bradley, gent. died June 12, 1658.

Elizabeth, second wife of George Malbon of Bradley, gent. died 27th of Sept. 1654.

Catherine, first wife of George Malbon of Bradley, gent.

George Malbon, son and heir of George Malbon of Bradley, gent. died Oct. 27, 1708.

In the same aisle is a memorial of Robert Hodgson of Doddlespool Hall, in Balterley, died Sept. 2, 1816, aged 77.

At the end of the south aisle is another private chancel appropriated to the Crewe family, and built by sir Randolph Crewe.

Attached to the north wall is a large white mural marble monument, ornamented with urns and wreaths of flowers, and three armorial shields of the coat of Turnor, severally impaling, bearing on a shield of pretence, and quartering, Crewe.

Underneath
lieth

the body of Mrs. Anne Crewe,
daughter of the late John Crewe of Crewe,
relict of John Offley of Madeley, esq.
and mother of the present

John Crewe of Crewe, esq. who died
May the 15th 1711, aged 62 years.

On a lower compartment :

Elizabeth,
the younger daughter of John Crewe of Crewe, esq.
who had children only by his first wife Carew,
the daughter of sir Arthur Gorge of Chelsey in ye county
of Middlesex, knt. and left no issue male ;
relict of Charles
the youngest son of sir Christopher Turnor
of Milton Erneys, in the county of Bedford, knt.
and sometime one of the barons of the Exchequer.
prepared this monument to be erected for a memorial of
her husband, their only child Elizabeth, and herself.

He dyed 13th August 1693,
Their daughter 23 October 1694, } aged { 42,
She on the 20th June 1696, } aged { 4,
 } aged { 45,

and their bodies are enclosed
in the vault beneath.

Opposite to this a large tablet, with the arms and quarterings of Offley, and many alliances of the Crewes of Crewe, very irregularly arranged. The coat of Offley in the centre, and the others placed almost at random, surrounding it.

On another mural monument, ornamented with the arms of Crewe, impaling Price. Crewe; quarterly, 1 and 4, Crewe, Azure, a lion rampant Argent; 2, Crewe ancient? Ermine, fretty Gules; 3, Offley. On an inescutcheon, Price, Sable, a fesse Argent, between three heads couped at the shoulders, entwined round each neck a snake Vert.

Beneath
lieth

the body of John Crewe, esq. of Crewe,
son of John Offley, esq.
of Madeley in the county of Stafford,
who died August 26th 1749,
aged 68,
to whose memory this monument
was erected by Sarah his wife,
who departed this life May 8th 1751,
aged 69,
and is likewise here interred.

On the north side of the chancel is the monument or sir Robert Fulleshurst, one of lord Audley's esquires at the battle of Poitiers. The tomb is embattled, and has figures of armed men and females ranged under Gothic niches at the side. The recumbent figure is habited in armour, with mail, gorget, conical helmet, and collar of SS. His feet rest on a lion^p.

And against the south wall, within the communion rails, is the following inscription :

M. S.
Mariæ uxoris dilectissimæ,
Brianus Shaw, A. M.
hujus ecclesiæ rector
brevem hanc tabellam
demortuæ virtutibus imparẽ
mœrens posuit.
Obiit Aug. 28,
1697.

On a brass plate, also affixed to the south wall of the chancel, is a memorial of Helen, wife of Zachary Cawdrey, rector of Barthomley, at one side of which is engraved in capitals :

Zacharias Cawdrey servus domini
nostri Jesu Christi, evangelista et
rector ecclesiæ parochialis de Bar-
thomley in comitatu Cestrîæ, filius
Zachariæ Cawdrey evangelistæ et

ⁿ Information of Henry Tomkinson, esq. on the part of lord Crewe.

^o Engraved in Lysons's Magna Britannia, II. 438.

^p Engraved *ibid.* vol. II. part 2. p. 447

vicarii ecclesiæ parochialis de
Melton Mowbray in comitatu
Lecestriæ, nepos Roberti Cawdrey,
evangelistæ et rectoris ecclesiæ
parochialis de North Luffenham
in comitatu Rutlandiæ, hic juxta
dilectissimæ conjugis Helenæ
Cawdrey et charissimi alumni
Johannis Crew (filii Johannis
Crew de Crew armigeri) exuvias
depositurus est suas si Deus
voluerit, lætam expectans earun-
dem resurrectionem et restitutionem.

In mundo labor,
in terra quies,
in cælo gloria.

Et deposuit *xxi*^o die Decem^b anno
Domini 1684.

A sum amounting to £610. including a benefaction of £300. by J. Crewe, esq. was laid out in the purchase of the Ravenslane estate, in the parish of Audley, for the benefit of the school and poor, in 1722. The entire

receipts in 1817 were £30. out of which £10. 4s. is paid to the schoolmaster, and the residue divided between the several townships, after deducting the receiver's salary. The school is free to two children nominated by lord Crewe, two by the rector, and was also free to the family of the Steeles of the Claycroft, by whom it was founded, who are extinct. The interest of £110. is distributed in bread weekly to the townships of Crewe and Barthomley^g.

The rector has the tithes of Barthomley, Alsager, and Barterley; lord Crewe those of Crewe; and sir John Delves Broughton, bart. and Mr. Sparrow of Wolsely, co. Staff. those of Haslington; but the tithes of the last township have been frequently disputed by the rector^r.

In Dec. 1643, this church was the scene of a dreadful massacre, committed by a division of the royalist forces, proceeding to the siege of Nantwich. Twenty of the inhabitants of the place fled to the church for safety, and were dragged from it by the soldiers, and twelve of the number were murdered. The particulars are given under the account of Nantwich, in the extracts from Burghall's diary of the siege.

RECTORS OF BARTHOMLEY.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1803, 9 kal. Ap.	Robertus de Chissulle, cl'us.	Edw. P. Wall. hac vice rac'o'e cust. Ricardi de Praers.	
1315, 8 kal. Nov. 1369.	Willielmus de Praers, acol. Thomas de Cholmondeleg, pr'b'r.	Ricardus de Praers. D'nus Rob. de Fulleshurst, mil.	P. m. Rob. de Chissulle.
1404, Feb. 20.	Johannes de Lobbenshaw.	D'nus Tho. de Fulleshurst, mil.	P. resig. Tho. de Cholmondelegh.
1437.	Ranulphus Keffer, pr'b'r.	D'nus Tho. de Fulleshurst.	
1468, Aug. 29.	Thomas Smith, cap.	Rob. Fulleshurst, miles.	P. m. Rob. Keffer.
1475, Oct. 9.	Robertus Fulleshurst, pr'b'r.	Rob. Fulleshurst, mil.	P. res. Tho. Smith.
1605 ante.	Thomas Elcocke.		
1617, July 7.	Richard Fowler.	William Fowler.	Death of Thos. Elcocke.
1649 ante.	Zachary Cawdrey ^a .		
1685, April 28.	Brian Shawe, A. M. ^b	John Crewe Offley.	Death of Zachary Cawdrey.
1703, March 23.	Philip Egerton, A. M.	Anne Crewe Offley.	Death of Brian Shawe.
1704.	Walter Offley.	Anne Crewe Offley.	Res. of Philip Egerton.
1721, Sept. 13.	Griffith Vaughan, A. M.	John Crewe.	Death of Walter Offley.
1726, Oct. 20.	William Evans, A. M. ^c	John Crewe.	Death of Griffith Vaughan.
1739, Oct. 21.	Joseph Crewe, A. M. ^d	John Ward and Davies Davenport, esqrs.	Death of Wm. Evans.
1758, Jan. 21.	Randulph Crewe, LL. D. ^e	Davies Davenport, esq.	Res. of Joseph Crewe, D. D.
1777, Oct. 14.	Offley Crewe, A. M. ^f	Edw. Mainwaring, esq.	Death of Randulph Crewe.
1782, Aug. 9.	Charles Crewe, A. M. ^g	Edw. Mainwaring, esq.	Res. of Offley Crewe.
1796, Jan. 14.	Benj. Barnard, A. M.	John Crewe, esq.	Death of Charles Crewe.
1796, Dec. 30.	Edw. Hinchcliffe, A. M.	John Crewe, esq.	Res. of Benj. Barnard.

^g From the Parish Book. A school has been recently established at Haslington, which is supported by annual subscriptions.

^r Information of the rev. Edward Hinchcliffe.

^a Obiit Dec. 24, 1684. Vide monuments. He was author of "A Discourse of Patronage, being a modest Enquiry into the Original of it, and a further Prosecution of the History of it. With a true Account of the Original and Rise of Vicarages, and a Proposal for enlarging their Revenues; also an humble Supplication to the pious Nobility and Gentry, to endeavour the Prevention of the Abuses of that honorary Trust of Patronage; with a Proposal of some Expedients for the regulating it, most agreeable to the Primitive Pattern, wherein at once the just Rights of Patrons are secured, and the People's Liberty of Election of their own Ministers in a great measure indulged. By Zachary Cawdrey, rector of Barthomly in Cheshire, 1675." 45 pp. Vide Hist. of Leicestershire, vol. II. 259, where a brief memoir is given of Cawdrey, who was M. A. of St. John's College, Cambridge. Ibid. is a brief notice of Daniel Cawdrey, S. T. P. supposed by Mr. Nichols to be his brother. Another of Robert his grandfather, with proceedings against him, 31 Eliz. for non-conformity, p. 259*—and an inscription to his father Zachary, and his wife, p. 256.

^b Obiit Dec. 11, 1703.

^c Buried at Audlem April 18, 1739.

^d Buried at Macclestone.

^e Buried at Warmingham.

^f Dean of Chester.

^g Died Aug. 16, buried Aug. 22, 1795.

C R E W E.

At the time of the Domesday Survey, this township belonged to Richard de Vernon, baron of Shipbrook.

“Isdem Ricardus tenet Creu, Osmer tenuit: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est 11 carucarum: ibi est unus radman, et unus villanus, et 11 bordarii cum una carucâ: ibi una acra et dimidia prati. Silva una leuva longa et dimidia lata. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x solidos, modo v solidos. Wasta iuvenitur.”

Subsequent to this, Crewe (probably by some early exchange) became a component portion of the barony of Wich Malbank; and the inquisition taken 16 Edw. I. relative to the first division of the barony, mentions that the homage and services of the lords of Crewe were allotted to the eldest coheir of that house, Philippa Basset.

The original grant of Crewe to its mesne lords has not occurred in any of the Cheshire collections. They are traditionally said to be a branch of the Montalt family, and have borne, from an early period (but not uniformly) the arms of that house undifferenced.

I. Henry de Criwa, the first of the name and place that is known, attests a deed of William Malbank, which must have been executed about the middle of the twelfth century, by the names of the witnesses: Nicholas Fitz-William; Reginald Fitz-Herchenbald, seneschal of the barony of Wich Malbank; Roger Fitz-Odard, Adam Fitz-Liulph de Aldithley, Alured. de Cumbray, Roger his son, and others^a.

II. Sir Thomas de Crue, knt. appears in a charter witnessed by William de Wistaneston, Roger le Bresci, and others. He is made son of Henry in Dugdale's pedigree of the family^b; but if the dates of 26-51 Hen. III. are correct, was most probably grandson^c.

III. Thomas, son of Thomas de Crue, by deed without date, grants to Patric his son and Margaret his wife, lands and messuages in Aston. Seal, checquy, the spaces between the intersections filled up with quatrefoils^d. By a first wife he had issue Sybilla, grantee of a mesne manor in Aston from her half brother Thomas Crue^e; and by his second wife Agnes he had issue, Thomas his successor, David ancestor of Crue of Holt, Nicholas, Patric ancestor of the Crewes of Pulcroft and of Sound, and William, from whom the Crewes of Aston in Mondrem. These are all enumerated in Dugdale's pedigree, and occur in various deeds in the MS collection before referred to; and an inquisition taken as late as 41 Edw. III. respecting lands improperly alienated by this “Thomas de Crue, d'nus de Crue,” notices also his brothers David and William, and his sisters Margery and Rose.

IV. Thomas de Crewe, son and heir of Thomas, married Amicia, daughter of —, who, describing herself as “widow of Thomas lord of Crue,” releases to her daughter Jane, by deed without date, all that she had

in Crue, in right of her dower. The same Amicia, 26 Edw. I. being then widow of Robert de Thykeness, releases in her pure widowhood, to Richard de Praers and Jane his wife, her daughter, a grange, which she had for dower, after the death of Thomas de Crue, in Crue.

The said Thomas de Crue died 21 Edw. I. seized, by inquisition of the year following, of a knight's fee in Crue and other places, holding his lands in Crue by military service, and by sending an armed man twice a year to keep the peace during the fairs at Chester. He left three daughters and co-heiresses; Joan, aged 22 years; Amicia, aged four years; and Eleanor, two and a half^f.

Joan married Richard Praers of Barthomley, and had issue, Randle, who died without issue, and Thomas, whose daughter and heir Elizabeth brought Crewe and other estates in marriage to sir Robert Fulleshurst, a younger brother of the house of Fulleshurst of Edlaston, who received also with his wife a share of the barony of Wich-Malbank, called the serjeancy of the countess of Warwick, granted 6 Edw. I. by Randle de Merton to sir Randle de Praers.

This Robert Fulleshurst, who was one of the four esquires amongst whom the lord Audley divided the present of five hundred marks which he received from the Black Prince at the battle of Poitiers, died 13 Rich. II. His armed figure, yet remaining on an ornamented altar-tomb, has been described in the account of Barthomley, and, as appears by the institutions to that church, he was a knight in 42 Edw. III.

Inq. p. m. 13 Rich. II. sir Robert Fulleshurst of Crue, knt. held for life, by courtesy of England, the manors of Crue, Bartumlegh, and Landecan in Wyrhall, with the advowsons of the churches of Bartumlegh and Woodchurch, after the death of Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Thomas Praers of Bartumlegh, who held the same in demesne, as of fee, from the king, as earl of Chester, by military service, and the render of xiiii. iiii. d.; also lands in Badington and Wich Malbank, held from the Vernons of Shipbrook. Value of Crewe, x l. Thomas, son of Robert and Elizabeth, next of kin and heir.

II. *Inq. p. m.* 5 Hen. V. Thomas Fulleshurst, of Crue, chivaler, held the manors and advowsons recited in the last inquisition, and lands in Acton juxta Hurleston, called Le Newbold, and lands in Badyngton. Thomas, son and heir.

III. *Inq. p. m.* 17 Hen. VI. Thomas Fulleshurst, of Crue, held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Crue, from the king, as earl of Chester, val. per ann. xx marks; also the manor and advowson of Bartumlegh, the manor of Landecan, the advowson of Woodchurch, and lands in Newbold in Acton, Badyngton, Sonde, Coysley, Wirswall, Over, Church Copenhagen, Wich

^a MS. collection of Crewe Evidences, communicated by lord Crewe.

^b Splendidly illuminated on vellum, and containing all the collateral branches, now preserved at Crewe.

^c Crewe's Evidence, as before.

^d *Ibid.* The neighbouring family of Praers of Barthomley used also the same coat before their alliance with Crewe See seals, drawn in Harl' MSS. 1967.

^e Vide Aston, in this hundred.

^f Williamson's Vill. Cest.

Malbank, Nether Bebington, Acton, Stoke, Tranmoll, and Leighton. Robert, son and heir.

A less complete inquisition was taken the year following, which mentions no heir.

IV. Robert Fulleshurst, found heir by this inquisition, succeeded to the manor of Edlaston, and a thirty-sixth part of the barony of Wich Malbank, by the failure of the male line of that house, the eldest branch of his family. He was an esquire of the body to prince Edward, son of Henry VI.^s; was afterwards knighted, and living 14 Edw. IV.; and left issue Thomas, son and heir, as appears by an inquisition in all respects agreeing with the following one, and taken in the same year^h.

V. *Inq. p. m.* 14 Hen. VII. Thomas Fulleshurst, esq. held in demesne, as of fee, the manors of Crue, Bertumley, and Woodchurch, with the advowsons of the two latter, from the prince, as earl of Chester, by the services of one knight's fee; lands in Marbury, Over, Wirswall, Church Coppenthal, Coole, a thirty-sixth part of the barony of Wich Malbank, the manor of Edlaston, and lands in Worleston, Henhull, Woodcote, Cholmondeston, Wheelock, Haslington, Aston, Acton, and Badington. Robert Fulleshurst, esq. son and heir.

Robert Fulleshurst, found heir by this inquisition, in 15 Hen. VII. pleads as undermentioned to a writ of quo warrantoⁱ, relative to his share of the barony of Nantwich; and to him the following inquisition relates.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. Robert Fowlehurst, esq. held the manor of Crewe from the king, as earl of Chester, by military service, val. per ann. vii.; also the manor of Edlaston, and lands in Sounde, Wich Malbank, Woodcote Hill, Cholmondeston, Over, Henhull, Moston, Aldim, Wistanston, Badington, and Acton. Died Sept. 9, 5 Hen. VIII. Val. tot. £55. 12s. 2d.

An *Inq. ad melius inquirend.* taken the year following, notices only the serjeancy of the fee of the countess of Warwick in Wich Malbank, a thirty-sixth part of that barony, the manors of Crue and Edlaston, and lands in Sounde.

The two following inquisitions were taken 12 and 16 Hen. VIII. after the deaths of the widows of the last Thomas and Robert Fulleshurst.

Inq. p. m. 12 Hen. VIII. Jane, widow of Robert Fowlehurst, esq. held lands in Crue from the earl of Chester in capite, by the service of the fourth part of a

knight's fee, val. per ann. xiii.; also lands in Cholmondeston, Edlaston, Sounde, Wich Malbank, Woodcote Hill, Over, and Henhull. Died Nov. 30, anno p'd'to. Edward Fowlehurst son and heir. Val. tot. £41. 13s. 10d.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VIII. Anne Fulleshurst, widow, held lands in Crue from the earl of Chester by military service, val. per ann. xiiii. vis. vii. d.; also the manor of Bartomley, and lands in Edlaston, Marburie, Coysley, Aldersey, Aston, Wich Malbank, Acton, Henhull, and Copenhall. Died April 20, same year. Edward Fulleshurst son and heir. Val. tot. £27. 12s.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VIII. Edward Fulleshurst, esq. (an ideot) held the manor of Crue from the king as earl of Chester, by military service, val. per ann. vii.; also the manors of Newbold and Edlaston, and lands in Wich Malbank, Cholmondeston, Sounde, Coole, Woodecote, Aston, Leighton, and Over. Thomas Fulleshurst, esq. next of kin and heir^k. Val. tot. xl. iiii. s. xd.

Thomas Fulleshurst last mentioned was sheriff of Cheshire, durante hene placito, 20 Hen. VIII. and had issue Robert, who, in the 19th year of Elizabeth, sold his rights in the barony of Wich Malbank to sir Hugh Cholmondeley^l, and two years afterwards joined with his son Thomas Fulleshurst, George Fulleshurst, and others, in the sale of Crewe, and other dependent estates^m, to sir Christopher Hatton, afterwards lord chancellor and K. G.; from whom, or from whose representatives, it shortly afterwards passed again, by sale, to sir Randolph Crewe, afterwards chief justice of the King's Benchⁿ. Both these purchases originated, doubtless, in an affection for the county of their ancestors, which long and active professional employment, and the influence of a court, might in both cases have been likely to have extinguished^o.

The following pedigree exhibits the descent of sir Randolph Crewe from the original proprietors of the manor, which his professional success enabled him to re-purchase, every step of which is authenticated by copies of deeds preserved in a large volume deposited at Crewe, which probably formed the basis of sir William Dugdale's magnificent pedigree roll of the family. He had one brother only who reached years of maturity, and two sons. His brother, sir Thomas Crewe, was like him distinguished in the law, and became founder of a family which was elevated by Charles the Second to the peerage, by the title of Crewe of Stene^p in North-

^g Booth's pedigrees.

^h This sir Robert married Johanna, daughter and heiress of sir Richard Vernon, of Shipbrook, by Eleanor, daughter of sir Hugh Holes, of Raby, who re-married Richard Wheelock. See *Inq.* 14 Edw. IV. in Haslington. In her right he contested Haslington and the barony of Shipbrook with James Vernon, and obtained a portion of the barony of Nantwich, which had become united with Shipbrook.

ⁱ Robert Foulshurst, summoned to answer, &c. why he claims for himself and his heirs the serjeancy of the fee of the countess of Warwick, in cum. Cest. &c. answers (Harl. MSS. 2115. 186.), that Edward I. late king of England, when earl of Chester, by letters patent dated at Westminster June 22, anno regni 6^o, gave the same, cum pert. to Randle de Merton, to him and his heirs, to be held by the render of one mark yearly, by two payments; who being seized of the same, gave it, on the 22d of August in the same year, to sir Randle Praers of Bertumlegh, with all commodities, approveaments, and issues, from the same, as well within as without the town of Wich Malbank, to the said serjeancy belonging, to be held to the said sir Randle and his heirs; and further, that Robert the claimant is son of Thomas, son of Robert, son of Thomas, son of Thomas, son of Johanna, daughter and heiress of sir Randle Praers—(it ought to be, son of Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas, son of Richard, son of sir Randle Praers)—and that he and all his ancestors, from the time of the said sir Randle, have enjoyed the same without impediment.

^k Filius et hæres, in the old official abstract of the inquisitions; but it is undoubtedly an error for "frater," according to the concurrent testimony of all the other abstracts and notices. This abstract is also wrongly dated 13 Hen. VIII.

^l See the descent of the barony of Nantwich.

^m Williamson's Vill. Cest. and Fines. See also Barthomley.

ⁿ Williamson says Crewe was sold by sir Christopher himself, temp. Jac. I. He is obviously wrong either in the vendor or the date of the sale, as sir Christopher Hatton died 1591. Bishop Gastrell also falls into the same error in his MS. Notitia. The probable circumstances of the sale are given in a note, p. 122.

^o See sir R. Crewe's letter to the duke of Buckingham, in which the pleasure which he derived from re-purchasing the seat of his remote progenitors breaks in upon the statements of a letter of business. Among other proofs that sir Christopher Hatton was not unmindful of his Cheshire descent, see a letter to bishop Chaderton, 27 Oct. 1584 (Peck's Des. Cur. I. lib. IV. 44.) in which, alluding to a difference between John Dutton of Dutton and Eleanor his wife, which he wishes to compromise, he excuses his interference in a business relating to a gentleman, who was certainly 'not nearer to him than eleventh cousin, "in respect of alliance and of other good friendship."

^p An ample pedigree of the Crewes of Stene is given in Nichols's Leicestershire, IV. 839; and an interesting memoir of bishop Crewe, 5th and last baron of Stene, in Surtees's Durham, I. cxv.

amptonshire. His elder son, sir Clippesby Crewe, continued the direct male line of the family; and his younger son, John Crewe, became also the founder of a distinct branch of Crewe, settled by marriage at Utinton in this county, who are noticed in another part of this Work, with reference to their connection with the county, as well as the part they took in the civil disturbances of the seventeenth century^q.

The direct male line of the family, re-settled here, ended in John, grandson of sir Randolph, whose daughter and sole heiress by survivorship, married John Offley of Madeley, esq. whose son assumed the name and arms of Crewe, and was grandfather of the present proprietor of this manor and its dependencies; who, after serving the county in six successive parliaments, was elevated to a peerage in 1806.

Sir RANDULPH CREWE, the restorer of this branch of the family, and the builder of the present hall of Crewe, was born in 1558^r, most probably at Nantwich, being the second son of John Crewe of that place, by Alice, daughter of Humphrey Mainwaring^s. He was bred up in the study of the law; was made serjeant July 1, 12 Jac.^t; and 26 Jan. 22 Jac.^u, was appointed lord chief justice of the King's Bench; "and therein," says Dr. Fuller, "served *two* kings, though scarce *two* years in his office, with great integrity."

"King Charles's occasions (Fuller quaintly proceeds) calling for speedy supplies of money, some great ones adjudged it unsafe to venture on a parliament (for fear, in those distempered times, the physic would side with the disease), and put the king to furnish his necessities by way of loan. Sir Randal being demanded his judgment of the design, and the consequence thereof (the

imprisoning of recusants to pay it), openly manifested his dislike of such preter-legal courses, and thereupon, Nov. 9, 1626, was commanded to forbear his sitting in the court, and the next day was by writ discharged from his office, whereat he discovered no more discontentment than the weary traveller is offended when told that he is arrived at his journey's end."

The subjoined original letter from sir Randolph Crewe to the duke of Buckingham, will however shew that the chief justice regarded his dismissal with very different feelings from those which Fuller attributes to him. The context of the letter will supply the date of the year (1628^x) which is deficient; and it appears that he had then confined himself two years to his house, to manifest his sense of the royal displeasure; that the object which had cheered him through his legal toils was the aggrandizement of the family which he had been fortunate enough to restore to the seat of their ancestors; and that he looked back with regret to the profitable exercise of his talents at the bar, from which his short-lived employment had removed him.

The honest warmth and simplicity with which sir Randolph states these feelings to the duke, added to his manly vindication of the conduct which had deprived him of a situation which he still clung to the hope of being restored to, could scarcely fail of effect on a mind open to an impartial view of his case, and it would seem that the Duke had for a year been well disposed to him. A note^y added to the copy of it states that "a little before the D. going to the isle of Ree, he told sir Randal, in the presence of the lord treasurer Weston and sir Robert Pye, that he would at his return right him in the king's favours, for it was he that had injured

^q See Tarporley and Utinton, in Edisbury Hundred, for their monuments, pedigree, and other notices.

^r Sir John Crewe's MS notes. Cole's MSS. Brit. Mus.

^s See Nantwich Monuments.

^t Dugd. Orig. Jurid.

^u Dugd. Orig. Jurid. Fuller says, "after some steps in his way thereunto;" but no intermediate appointment occurs in Dugdale.

^x He says he is in his 70th year, which he would complete Jan. 10, 1628-9.

^y In the hand-writing of sir John Crewe of Utinton, at the end of a large volume of private genealogical collections, bequeathed by him as an heir loom to his family, and now in possession of lord Crewe. The following is an exact copy of the letter:

A copy of sir Randolph Crewe's Letter to the Duke of Buckingham, 28th of June.

My duty most humbly done to your grace,

Vouchsafe, I beseech your grace, to read the misfortunes of a poor man herein, and take them into your noble thoughts, whose case is considerable. I have lived almost two years under the burthen of his majesties heavy displeasure, deprived of the place I held, and laid aside as a person not thought of, and unserviceable, whereof I have been soe sensible, that ever since living at my house att Westminster, I have not sett my foot into any other house there or at London (saveing the house of God), but have lived private and retired as it best became me.

I did decline to be of this late parliament, distrusting I might have been called upon to have discovered in the publick, the passages concerning the removall from my place, which I was willing should lie lapped up in my own bosome.

I likewise took speciall care if my name were touchit upon in the Comons house, that some of my freinds there should doe their best to divert any further speech of me, for I alwaies resolved wholly to relie upon the king's goodness, who I did not doubt would take me into his princely thoughts, if your grace vouchsafed to intercede for me. The end of the parliament was the time I prefixed myself to be a suitor to your grace, and I have now encouragement soe to be: the petition of right whereunto your grace was a party speaks for me, and for the right of my place, but I humbly desire favour. God doth knowe, it was a great affliction to me to deny anything com'anded me, the king that my heart soe loved, and to whom I had been soe bound, prince and king: but had I done it, I had done contrary to that all his judges resolved to doe (and I only suffer), and if I had done it and they had deserted me therein, I had become a scorne to men, and had been fitt to have lived like a scritch owl in the darke; soe likewise if I had done it, and had been knowne to have been the leader herein, and the rest of the judges had been pressed to have done the like, the blame and the reproof would have been laid on me, and by me they might in some measure have excused themselves. But yet there was a greater obligation to restrain me then these (for these be but morall reasons), and that was the obligation of an oath, and of a conscience, against both which (then holding the place of a judge) I in my own understanding had done, had I subscribed my name to the writing which the king was then advised to require me to doe, for therein I had approved the com'ission, and consequently the proceedings thereupon, wherein here I had been cundemned, and with how loud and shrill a voice, I leave to your grace to judge.

Wherefore, most noble lord, vouchsafe to weigh these my reasons in the ballance of your wisdome and judgement, and be soe noble and just as to excuse me to the king herein, and in a true contemplation of that nobleness and justice, be soe good as to be the means, that I may be really restored to the king's grace and favour. Your grace bath in your hands Achilles speare which hurts and heales. I am grievously hurt, your grace bath the meanes to heale me, to whom I make my address. The time is now fitt for me: now you are upon a forraigne expedition, you may take my prayers, my wife's, and my children with you, I hope yo^r journey will be the more prosperous.

I am now in the 70th year of my age; it is the general period of man's life, and my glass runs on apace. Well was it with me when I was king's serjeant, I found profit by it: I have lost the title and place of cheife justice. I am now neither the one or other; the latter makes me uncapable of the former, and since I left the cheife place, my losse hath been little less than 3000l. already.

I was by your favour in the way to have raised and renewed in some measure my poor name and familie, which I will be hold to say hath heretofore been in the best ranke of the famileys of my countrey, till by a general heir the patrimony was carried from the line male into another sirname, and since which time it hath been in a weak condition. Your grace may be the means to repair the breach made in my poor fortune, if God soe please to move you, and you will lose no honour by it. Howsoever I have made my suite to your noblesse, and your conscience, for I appeal to both, and whatsoever my success be, I shall still appear to be a silent and a patient man, and humbly submitt myselfe to the will of God and the king. God be with your grace, He guide and direct you, and to his holy protection I com'itt you, resting ever,

a most humble servant to your grace,

RANULPHE CREWE.

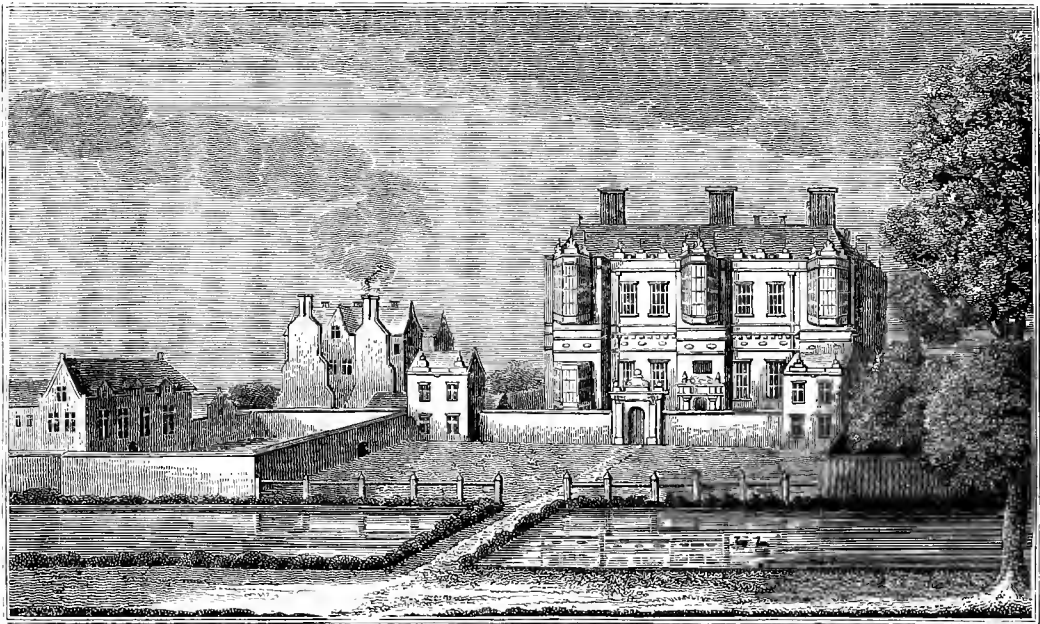
Westminster, 28 Junii.

him, and therefore was in honour bound to do it." Whether the letter renewed these favourable intentions does not appear, but it is certain that, in little more than a month after the date of the letter, the arm of Felton prevented the duke from putting such intentions in practice.

Thirteen years after this, an ineffectual attempt to restore the chief justice to favour was made by Mr. Hollis (July 7, 1641), who concluded a very singular speech, which is to be found in Rushworth's Collections, by moving an address to the king to bestow such an honour

on his former judge, "as may be a noble mark of sovereign grace and favour, to remain to him and his posterity, and may be in some measure a proportionable compensation for the great loss he hath with so much patience and resolution sustained^z."

At this time sir Randolph Crewe was 82, and he survived five years more, "out of office," as Fuller says, "not out of honour, living at his house at Westminster, much praised for his hospitality." At this house he died Jan. 13, 1645-6, and was brought to Cheshire for interment in the Crewe chancel at Barthomley^a.



The Hall of Crewe, as re-built by sir Randolph Crewe, is represented in the annexed vignette^b, with the antient seat of the Fulleshursts to the left of it. From a painting preserved at Crewe, it appears in its original state to have been surrounded with offices and square courts and gardens, built in a style corresponding with the house, and laid out in trim parterres, according to the fashion of the day. The mansion itself remains nearly unaltered, but the grounds have been disposed in the modern taste. The land in the immediate neighbourhood of the house has considerable undulations, and the general effect is heightened by the formation of a lake, in which the waters of several small brooks are collected. To the south of this water stands the mansion, on a gentle elevation.

Crewe Hall itself is a quadrangular building: the materials are chiefly red brick; but others of darker

colours are disposed in diamonds throughout. The door-cases and mullions of the windows, coinings, strings, and cornices, are of stone. Each front is broken by the projections of large bay windows, giving an unusual relief and boldness of light and shade to the building, which is much increased by the open work of the battlements. Heavy groupes of tall octagonal chimneys add also to the variety of effect, and the impressiveness of the architecture.

There are entrances in the east and south fronts, the latter of which opens to an old staircase of singular curiosity and beauty, ascending to the apartments on the first floor, in many successive turnings. The uprights at the angles are carved in the style of mingled architecture prevalent at the time of the building, and support rampant figures of various animals, supporting armorial shields. The sides are of open work, designed in a similar style^c.

^z After several animadversions on the corruption of judges, Mr. Hollis speaks as follows of sir Randolph Crewe. (Rushworth's Collections, IV. 346.)

"But what honour is he worthy, who meerly for the publick hath suffer'd himself to be divested and deprived of his particular—such a judge as would lose his place rather than do that which his conscience told him was prejudicial to the commonwealth: is not he worthy of double honour?"

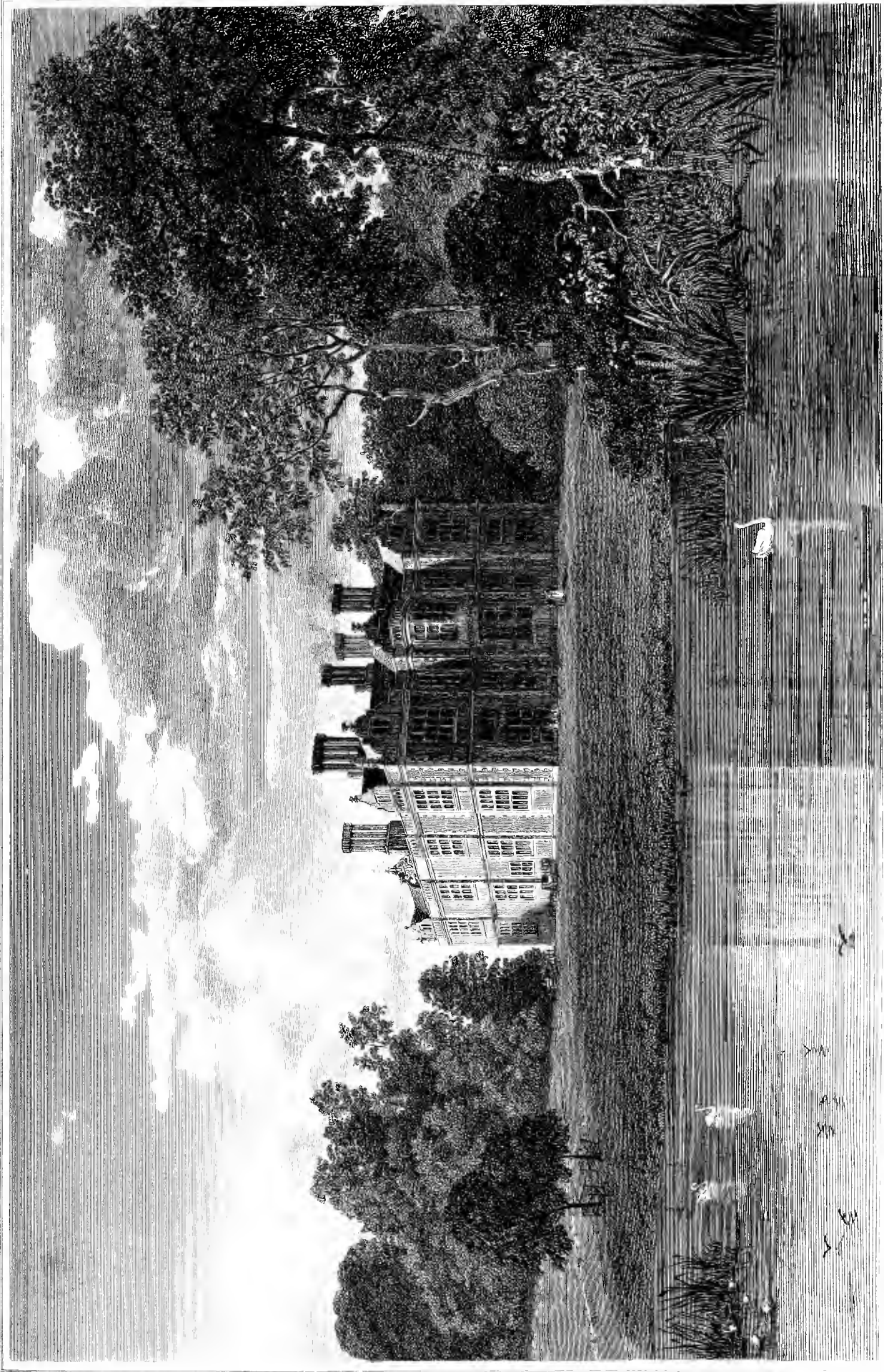
"And this did that worthy reverend judge, the chief judge of England at that time, sir Randal Crewe; because he would not by subscribing countenance the loan in the first year of the king, contrary to his oath and conscience, he drew upon himself the displeasure of some great persons about his majesty who put on that project, which was afterwards condemned by the petition of right, in the parliament of the 3d, as unjust and unlawful, and by that means he lost his place of chief justice of the King's Bench, and hath these fourteen years, by keeping his innocency, lost the profit of that office, which, by a just calculation, in so long a revolution of time amounts to 26,000l. or thereabouts.

"He kept his innocency when others let theirs go, when himself and the commonwealth were alike deserted, which raises his merit to a higher pitch; for to be honest when every body else is honest, when honesty is in fashion, and is Trump, as I may say, is nothing so meritorious: but to stand alone in the breach, to own honesty when others dare not do it, cannot be sufficiently applauded, nor sufficiently rewarded; and that did this good old man do: in a time of general desertion, he preserved himself pure and untainted."

^a His marriages, &c. are given in the pedigree. There is a fine print of the Chief Justice by Hollar (after a painting now at Crewe) in the Origines Juridicales.

^b This cut is a fac-simile of a plate in King's Vale Royal, and exhibits the S. E. front. The N. E. front is the subject of the annexed engraving.

^c A beautiful engraving of this stair-case is given in Britton's Architectural Antiquities. Crewe Hall was garrisoned by the Parliament, and after a bloody contest, on the 27th Dec. 1643, was surrendered to lord Byron. Captain Fisher, who held it subsequently for the Crown, surrendered it by capitulation, after the raising of the siege of Nantwich, Feb. 4 following. See Burghall's Diary, under Nantwich.

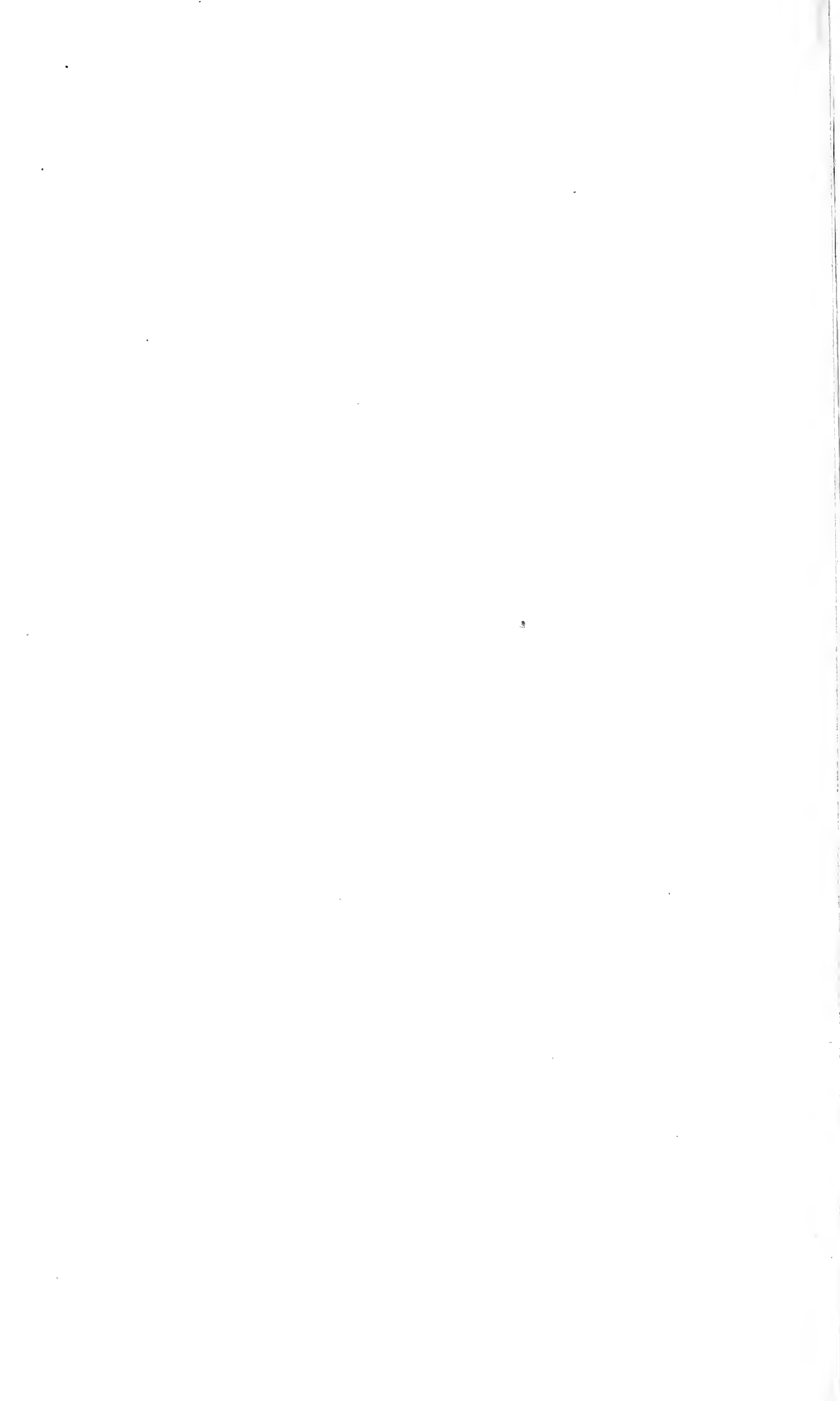


G. Hollis sculp.

Printed and Published by Tinsdall & Co.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

P. De Witt delin.



In the south-east angle, at the foot of the staircase, is the great dining-room, a spacious apartment, wainscotted partly up the wall, the rest being ornamented plaister-work. At the end is a large screen, profusely decorated in the mixed style before mentioned. The ceiling is enriched with pendants.

The same style is exhibited in another dining-room on the right of the staircase, in a manner still more elaborate. Every part of the wainscot is covered with a display of the fanciful designs of the architect; and the stucco which intervenes between the wainscot and ceiling is loaded with ornaments also, the principal portion of which consists of a series of allegorical figures, arranged in circular compartments.

Over the dining-room is the drawing-room, from which the old decorations have been partially removed. It however still retains its ceiling with pendants, and an enormous chimney-piece of marble, charged with armorial insignia, which reaches nearly to the top of the apartment.

On this floor also is a gallery, which extends along the entire south front. In this room, and in the great staircase, are arranged the family portraits.

On the north side of the hall is the domestic chapel, the architecture of which is of a plainer cast. The fittings-up are of dark varnished oak. A gallery on the east side is appropriated to the family; and opposite to

this is a large painting of the Last Supper. In the altar window are two subjects in antient stained glass: the Annunciation, and the Offering of Isaac.

There are perhaps few buildings in the kingdom which could at any time have exhibited better specimens than this of the singular style prevalent at the revival of Grecian architecture in England; and there can certainly be none more indebted to their proprietors for preserving the original style unaltered, and for the manner in which the antient fabric has been made to groupe with modern landscape.

The following are the principal family-pictures in the gallery:—

Miss Knightley, of Fawsley; sir Peter Lely, Thomas Offley, lord mayor of London 1556^b, wearing his gold chain, gloves in his right hand, the left hand resting on a scull; “ Petrus Pourbus faciebat 1565.” Master — Offley. Cornelius Jansen. Miss Crewe; sir Peter Lely. Sir John Crewe, of Utkinton; sir Randolph Crewe, in his judge’s robes; ‘sir — Crewe, of Utkinton; master Crewe; lord Crewe of Stene; Hinchcliffe bishop of Peterborough, by Hone; Mrs. Hinchcliffe, and one of her sisters; the present lord Crewe; Sarah Crewe, grandmother of the present lord; sir Thomas Crewe, ancestor of the lords Crewe of Stene; Fulk Greville, esq.; and two fine whole-lengths of a Mr. Offley and his lady.

CREWE OF CREWE.

From Henry de Criwa to sir Randolph Crewe from an illuminated pedigree roll by Dugdale in the possession of lord Crewe; and from that period to the end of the male line from sir John Crewe of Utkinton’s entries in his prayer-book, copied in Cole’s Collections, Brit. Mus. and compared with monuments and entries Coll. Arm. The residue from Reg. Coll. Arm. 3. D. 14, continued from the information of lord Crewe.

ARMS. Azure, a lion rampant Argent.

CREST. A lion’s gamb erect Argent, issuing from a ducal coronet.

SUPPORTERS. Dexter, a lion rampant Argent, gorged with a collar Azure charged with three roses Or. Sinister, a griffin Sable, armed Or, winged Argent.



HENRY DE CRIWA, (witness to a deed of William de Malbank) about 1150. —.....
 THOMAS DE CREWE, 26 and 51 Hen. III. (apparently grandson of Henry.) — ALICE, 50 Hen. III.

1. — Sir THOMAS CREWE, of Crewe, — 2. AGNES. (DAVID, WILLIAM, MARGERY, ROSE, mentioned in an Inq. taken 43 Edw. III.)
 kt. living 13 Edw. I.

SIBILLA DE CREWE, THOMAS DE AMICIA, re- DAVID DE PATRIC DE MARGARET, WILLIAM CREWE,
 “ d’na de Aston,” DE married to CREWE, daughter and heiress
 wife of William CREWE. Robert de Thykenes, ancestor of CREWE OF
 Praers of Barthum- died 21 Thynes, and again HOLTE. living of Thomas
 ley. H ad issue. Edw. I. a widow 26 Edw. I. 29 Edw. Worleston, I. and 10 Edw. II.
 1. JANE, wife of Ric. Praers, aged Edw. I. NICHOLAS 1. and MARGARET, widow 12 married Amicia,
 22 years 22 Edw. I. Had issue. DE CREWE, 4 Edw. Edw. III. dau. of Thomas
 2. AMICIA, dau. and coheir, wife of Thos. 10 Edw. II. Had issue. Minshull of Min-
 Praers of Barthomley, 30 Edw. III. 1301. 3. ELIANORA, 3d daughter and coheir, o. s. p. Inq. 24 Edw. III. shull, from whom CREWE OF ASTON.

THOMAS CREWE, — CECILIA, dau. 2. EMMOTE, dau. DAVID CREWE, of 1. MATILDA, PATRIC DE CREWE, EMMMA, wife of John, son of John,
 of Pulcroft, son of Adam le of John, son of Sound, living 10 dau. and jun. and Margaret son of Richard Donnes of
 and heir, of Guyz, citizen of Ashby, kt. 1361. 14 and 16 Edw. II. coheir, William de his wife, living Wrenbury.
 32 Edw. I. of Chester. 14 and 47 Edw. III. Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. V. 1330, 4 Edw. III. MARGARET, wife of Hugh Roer,
 4 and 24 Edw. III. lord of Stanborne, 14 Edw. II.

ALICE, wife of Richard, son ROBERT, son of David WILLIAM CREWE, of ALICIA. THOMAS CREWE, of Worleston, May 18,
 of Richard, son of Roger de Pull. de Crewe, 27 Edw. III. living 14 Ric. II. died 4 1401, o. s. p. Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. V.

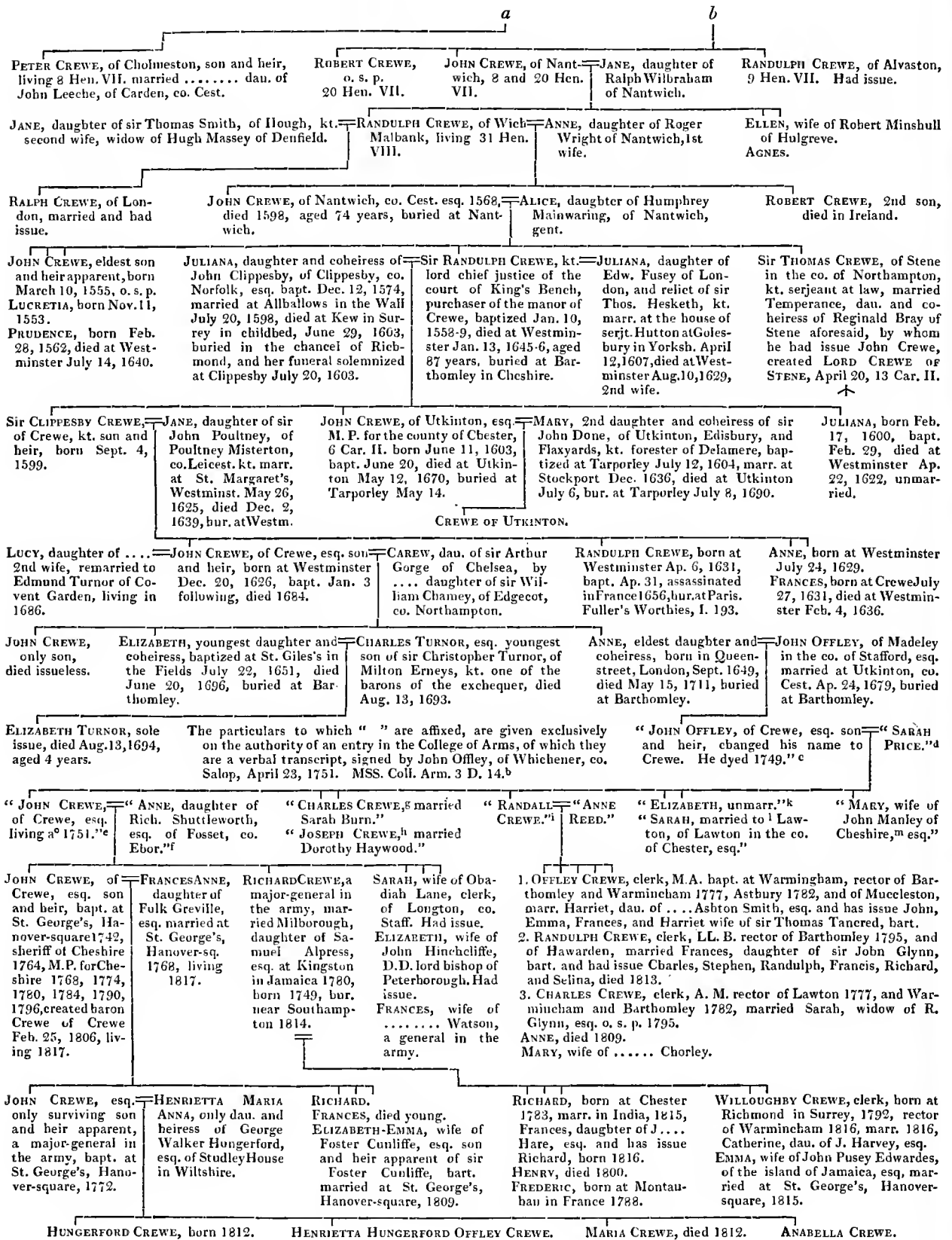
THOMAS, son of William Crewe, aged 16 years 14 Ric. II. lord JOHN CREWE, of Sonde and Nantwich, daughter of John Cholmondeley
 of Worleston, o. s. p. 8 Hen. IV. living 1 and 6 Hen. V. of Chorley.

ELIZABETH, daughter of Henry Norbury, sub-treasurer of Eng- — THOMAS, son of John Crewe of Nantwich, — MARGERY, daughter of John Partriche
 land, 6 Hen. VI. 23 Hen. VI. of Nantwich.

ELIZABETH CREWE. ELLEN, daughter of William Venables of Golborne, — THOMAS CREWE, of Nantwich, — FRANCES, daughter of Robert Aston
 co. Cest. 1st wife. 4 Hen. VII. of Grange.

a b

^b Vide vol. I. p. 286, note. ^c So marked. Quere, whether it is not John Crewe, esq. sir J. Crew’s father?
 § 2 x



^b All the additional particulars relating to this part of the pedigree which have come within the author's knowledge, or been communicated to him, are given as notes with their several authorities. ^c Born 1681, married at May Fair chapel in London 1707. Information of lord Crewe. ^d See monument at Barthomley. ^e Born 1709. Information of lord Crewe. M. P. co. Cest. 8, 15, and 21 Geo. II. ^f Elizabeth Shuttleworth, married 1737, died 1788, buried at Barthomley. Information of lord Crewe. ^g Had issue Sarah, wife of R. Glynn, esq. and Anne, wife of John Lawton, of Lawton, esq. Information of lord Crewe. He succeeded his brother as M. P. for the county of Chester. ^h Had issue John Crewe, of Bolesworth, esq. whose sole daughter and heirress, Anne, married George Evelyn, viscount Falmouth. Information of lord Crewe. He was D. D. and rector of Barthomley and Astbury, and died 1782. ⁱ Randolph Crewe, LL. D. rector of Barthomley and Warmincham. See monuments at Warmincham. ^k Afterwards wife of John Foulkes, of Chester, esq. Information of lord Crewe. ^l Robert Lawton. See pedigree. ^m Wife of John Manley, of Oakhanger, co. Cest. esq. and after of the rev. ... Lee, buried at Barthomley June 28, 1795, aged 87. Parish Register of Barthomley.

HASLINGTON.

THE inquisition taken 16 Edw. I. relative to the division of the barony of Wich Malbank among the co-heirs of William the last baron, ascertains Haslington to have been an original part of this fee, and to have been retained by its lords in demesne; and also that one third was allotted to Philippa Basset in the partition, and the residue to Auda Vernon of Shipbrook.

Certain reserved rents and feudal services which were the remains of the first share, are to be traced in the inquisitions of the successors of Philippa Basset. The other two-thirds constituting the share of Auda Vernon, after the subsequent disputes between her descendants and Ralph Vernon, passed to his illegitimate issue, and are noticed as the manor of Haslington, in the inquisitions after the death of Richard Vernon (slain at Shrewsbury) 6 and 10 Hen. IV. and 4 Hen. V. as being held from the earldom in capite; as they also are in the inquisition after the death of his son Richard Vernon 8 Hen. V.

After the termination of this second male line in an heir general, disputes (which as well as the preceding ones have been detailed in the account of Shipbrook^a) broke out between their female representative Joanna Fulleshurst, and James Vernon of Lostock; and terminated in

Haslington, and a large portion of the barony of Shipbrook, passing to the latter. The barony shortly after went to the Savages in a manner which remains involved in considerable mystery; but Haslington continued vested in the heirs male of James Vernon^b.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VI. James Vernon held in demesne, as of fee, two parts of the manor of Haslington, with the advowson of the chapel, and the reversion of the third part, held in dower by Eleanor, widow of sir Richard Vernon: val. tot. xvii. Richard le Vernon son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VI. Richard Vernon held various messuages and lands, &c. in Haslington, with two parts of the mill, cum pert. and the advowson of the chapel, and the reversion of a third part of two parts of the manor, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite: val. xv marks; and other lands, value not specified. John Vernon son and heir.

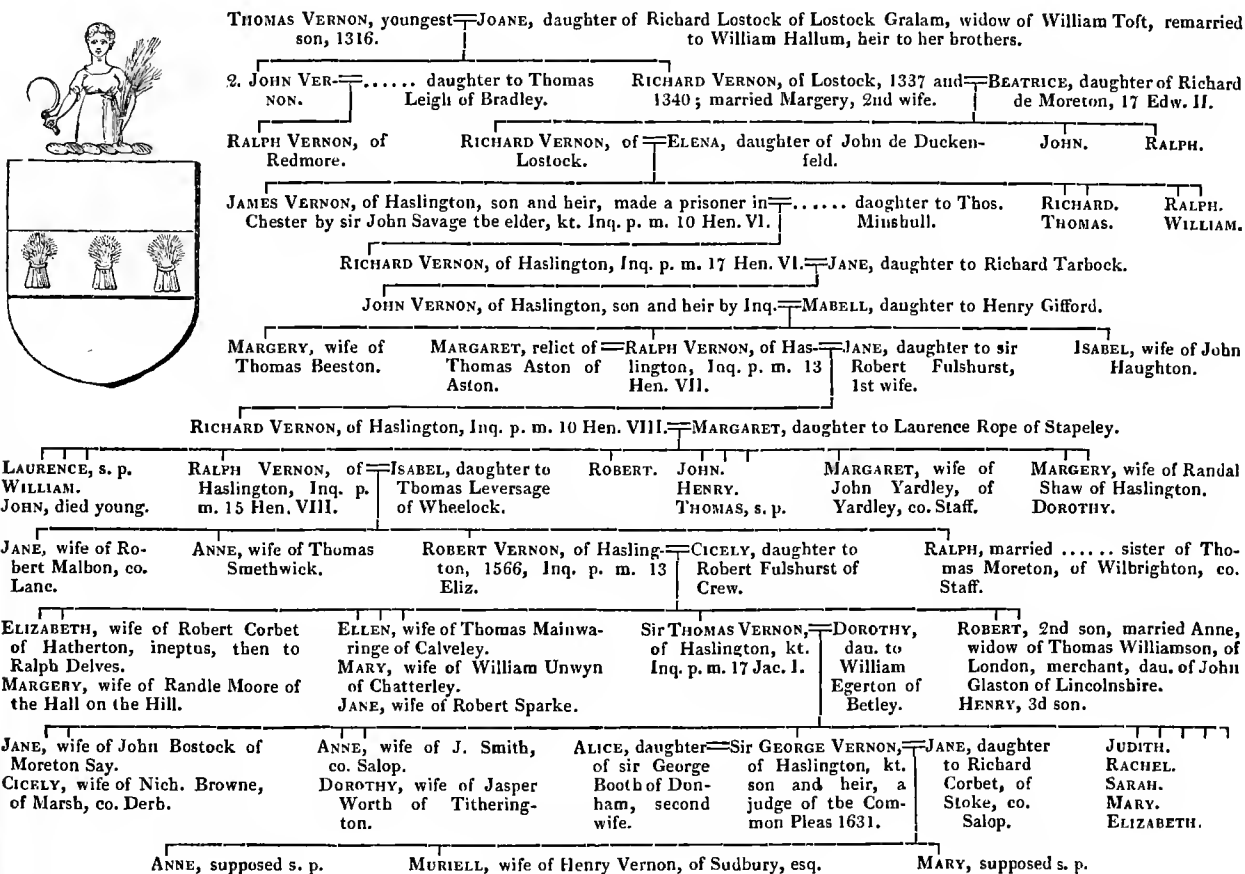
Inq. p. m. 14 Edw. IV. Eleanor, widow of Richard Wheelock (the widow also of sir Richard Vernon al- luded to in the preceding inquisition), dies seized of certain lands, &c. in Haslington, and other townships (of which her daughter Johanna, wife of Robert Fulleshurst, is next of kin and heir).

VERNON OF HASLINGTON.

From Harl. MSS. 1535, and the Inquisitions.

ARMS. Argent, on a fesse Vert three garbs Or.

CREST. On a wreath, a demi-female, habited Vert, crined Or, holding a garb Or in the sinister arm, and a reaping-hook (handle Or, blade proper) in the dexter hand.



^a Vide Shipbrook, p. 132.

^b See *ibid.*

Inq. p. m. 13 Hen. VII. Ralph Vernon (by charter shewn to the jurors) granted his manor of Haslington, cum pert. to his son Richard Vernon, Thomas Aston, and others, which manor is held in capite from the prince as earl of Chester, by the service of the fifth part of a knight's fee: val. per annum xxxvi marks. Richard Vernon son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 10 Hen. VIII. Richard Vernon, esq. held the manor of Haslington, as in the last inquisition: val. per ann. xiiii. vis. viiid. Died on Saturday before the feast of the Annunciation a° p'd'to. Ralph Vernon son and heir, aged upwards of 24 years.

Inq. p. m. 15 Hen. VIII. Ralph Vernon held the said manor, and two water mills, as before: val. vii. xs.; and died Aug. 15, a° p'd'to. Robert Vernon son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 13 Eliz. Robert Vernon, esq. held the manor of Haslington, and lands in Haslington, Wintley, and Woodside, as before: val. xxxiiii. xvs. iiid. He died March 13, a° p'd'to. Thomas Vernon son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Jac. I. Sir Thomas Vernon of Haslington, knight, died seized of the manor of Haslington, with lands and messuages therein, and in Haslington, Wyntley, Cleyhunger, Okehunger, and Woodside, within the said manor; of 6s. 8d. rent issuing from Hall o'Heath (paid by Alex. Walthall, senr. gent.) and 1s. rent, paid by Thomas Malbon of Bradeley; also of the manor of Shaventon-Woodnoth, the advowson of Haslington Chapel, the corn-tithes of Haslington, Wyntley, Bradeley, Cleyhunger, and Woodside, and lands and rents in Hatherton. George Vernon son and heir, aged upwards of 40 years.

George Vernon found heir by this inquisition, and afterwards knighted, was constituted one of the judges of the court of Common Pleas, May 1631^c. He had issue three daughters specified, of whom Muriel (finally sole heiress) brought this manor in marriage to her husband, Henry Vernon of Sudbury, esq. ancestor of the present lord Vernon, in whose family it continued at the beginning of the last century.

After several intermediate alienations the manor of Haslington passed by sale to the Broughtons of Dodington, and is now the property of sir J. D. Broughton, bart.

WINTFLEY, on the side of the township nearest to Sandbach, gives name to a large pool or mere, chiefly artificial, and used for the ordinary purposes of a mill-dam. At a short distance from the pool is an antient meeting-house for Dissenters, built of timber and plaster, and said to have been erected about the close of the sixteenth century.

OAKHANGER HALL, successively the property of the Actons, and a branch of the Manleys, passed with the heiress of the latter family to the late John Ready, esq.

CLAYHONGER passed by purchase from the late rev. Weston Bayley to the present owner, John Bridge Aspinall, esq. who has by subsequent purchases added considerably to the original estate, and enlarged the hall, which is his occasional residence.

HALL O' HEATH, now a farm-house, took its name

from the family of the Heaths, its antient proprietors, from whom it was transferred by marriage to the Mores, and in the reign of Elizabeth, passed with Cecilia, daughter and heiress of Randle More, to Alexander Walthall, ancestor of Peter Walthall, of Wistaston, the present proprietor, 1817.

BRADELEY HALL, with its demesne, was for many centuries the property and residence of the Malbons, and was granted by Joanna, daughter and coheir of William Malbank, last baron of Nantwich, to her *kinsman* William Malbon. The arms of this antient family, "Or, two bendlets componé Argent and Gules," were disallowed by Dugdale in the visitation of 1663-4.

The estate was alienated about 1720, after which the Malbons removed from this neighbourhood, and terminated in an heir general, who married into the family of Bover, about the middle of the last century, the estate having been previously alienated. It is now, by a recent purchase, the property of John Ford of Abbeyfield, esq. Like most of the old Cheshire mansions, Bradeley Hall is of timber and plaister, finished with gables and bay windows, and has once been moated, but it has now little to distinguish it from other farm-houses.

The halls and estates here enumerated are scattered round the outskirts of the township. The village itself is a long straggling street, composed chiefly of half-timbered farm-houses, situated on the road from Sandbach to Nantwich; and in the centre of it is a moated parallelogram, which is most probably the site of the original mansion of the Vernons of Haslington.

Their later mansion stands in a sequestered situation, east of the village. It has been quadrangular and moated, but one side only of the original building is remaining, partly brick, and partly ornamented timber-work, with large windows, and projecting upper stories. The centre of this side has been occupied by a large apartment, which from the arrangement of doors at the east end of it, apparently leading to the former kitchens and buttery, may be safely supposed to have been the Hall, but local tradition asserts it to have been a domestic chapel.

"The CHAPEL of Haslington (says bishop Gastrell in his MS Notitia) was built by the Vernons for the ease of themselves and their tenants, but not consecrated. An Act of Parliament was prepared to make this a parochial chapel, at the desire of the bishop, and J. Crewe, esq. patron, and Zachary Cawdrey rector of Barthomley, and G. Vernon, esq. lord of Haslington. The reason of which is stated to be in the preamble, to appease the several suits that had been between the Vernons, lords of Haslington, and the patrons of Barthomley."

This chapel antiently was termed "libera Capella," had clerks regularly instituted to it, and appears in no way to have differed from the similar chapels (Barrow, Brereton, Wistaston, &c.) which afterwards became parish churches, paying a small pension to the mother church.

The institutions at this period were as follows:

^c Dugd. Orig. Juridic. 108.

INSTITUTED.	CHAPLAINS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1302, 7 kal. Aug.	Henricus de Kaveyleya.	D'nus Rad. de Vernon.	
1317, 8 id. Dec.	Thomas de Vernon.	D'nus Rad. de Vernon.	
1319, 10 kal. Sept.	Willielmus de Vernon, cl'us.	D'nus Rad. de Vernon, senior, miles.	P. res. Tho. de Vernon.
1331, non. Sept.	Edmundus de Cotton.	Ricardus de Vernon de Has- lington.	P. res. Will. de Vernon.
1339, 8 kal. Sept.	Walterus D'ameray.	Rad'us de Vernon, mil.	P. res. Edm. de Cotton.
1356, 3 id. Maii.	Johannes de Scolehall.	D'nus Rog. de Trumpington.	P. m. Walteri D'ameray.
1364.	Willielmus de Thickness.	— de Delves.	Eo quod Jo. de Scolehall matr. contrax.

Subsequently the great tithes appear to have been appropriated by the Vernons, and are recited among the appurtenances of the manor in their inquisitions, but were afterwards claimed by the rectors of Barthomley.

“By a decree in the court of Exchequer at Chester in Charles the First's time, the tithes of Haslington were adjudged to the rector of Barthomley (see copy of the decree Reg. B. 4.^g) There has been since a dispute between Mr. Offley, rector, and Thomas Vernon, and a decree given for the former, in the bishop's court, but the suit was afterwards removed to common law, where there has yet been no decision, a^o 1722.

“Mr. Offley, rector, and Mr. Vernon, lord of Haslington, nominated a curate distinctly, a^o 1704 (but the same person), Pap. Reg.”

The patronage of the curacy, and the impropriation of the great tithes, have been of late years appendant to the manor. The registers commence in 1648; the

value of the curacy was returned by the bishop of Chester in 1809, as arising from augmentation, stipend, and surplice fees, to be £36. 15s.^h

An antient Chapel of timber and plaister was taken down a few years ago, and its site has been occupied by a modern building of brick, the eastern window of which contains some specimens of antient painted glass from Doddington Hall. Bishop Gastrell, apparently referring to this chapel, mentions, “that the Hall of Haslington, with the chapel, and all other buildings thereunto belonging, were licensed for a meeting a^o 1302.” This licence probably refers to some building formerly enclosed within the moated area, mentioned as the probable situation of the antient Hall; from whence the chapel may have been removed to its present site, when the later residence of the Vernons (with which the wooden building above mentioned corresponded in style of architecture) was erected to the east of the village.

ALSAGER.

THIS township appears to be intended under the following description of “Eleacier,” in Mildestvic hundred, held by the earl, at the time of the Domesday survey:

“Ipse comes tenet Eleacier, Uluric liber homo tenuit: ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est una caruca: wasta est. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat 111 solidos.”

In the division of the barony of Nantwich, after the death of William Malbank, Alsager, which had immediately become a portion thereof, was allotted to Auda Vernon, whose descendant, sir Ralph Vernon, leased two-thirds of this manor to Michael de Muneshall, 30 Hen. III. and from whom lands here, held from the Crown in capite, descended to the Savages, as appears by the inquisitions.

Two families also, among whose possessions small portions of the lands of the Vernons of Shipbrook were included, had subsequently a manerial interest in this township, both holding from the barony of Nantwich.

These were the Bulkeley of Eaton, and the Holfords of Davenham.

By Inq. 10 Hen. VII. Thomas Bulkeley of Eaton is found to have conveyed manors, messuages, &c. in various townships (including Alsager) to trustees. 21 Hen. VII. John Marburie is found to have held

lands here from the same, by a peppercorn rent. 4 Eliz. James Marbury is found to have held the same from William Brereton, esq. (possessor of the Bulkeley estate in Eaton); and in the Villare of 1666, Harl. MSS. 2010, the Hall is stated to be vested in Ralph Alsager, aged 20 years; but the manor is described as belonging to the lord Brereton, subject, nevertheless, to the jurisdiction of the court of Nantwich.

The manerial interest of the Holfords occurs in the inquisitions after the death of John Holford, 31 Eliz. and his son John Holford, 3 Jac. I. In the first the manor of Alsager is stated to be held from the queen, as of her barony of Nantwich, by military service: val. per ann. XLVIIS. 1vd.; and in the latter from sir Robert as of the same barony, by the services of the 100th part of a knight's fee: val. as before, besides reprises.

These rights are now unknown^a, and the manor is reputed to be vested in the Alsagers of Alsager Hall, who from the following extracts from Williamson's Villare, appear also to have possessed mesne manerial rights, at an early period, and were settled here at least as early as the reign of Henry III.

^bIn the shrievalty of Robert Bressy (31—33 Edw. I.) Thomas, son of Adam, son of Gilian de Alsacher, occurs in a deed relating to two assarts here.

^f Gastrell Not. Cest.

^g The registers at Chester referred to by bishop Gastrell have been lost.

^h So returned by the bishop of Chester in the answers to the Governors of queen Anne's Bounty, printed by command of Parliament 1810.

^a They were probably shares of a divided mesne manor, which may have been disused, or conveyed to the Alsagers.

^b Williamson Vill. Cest.

10 Edw. II. William, lord of Alsager, grants a licence to Hugh, son of William Smith of Hatteshall, to get turves in the liberties of Alsager.

13 Edw. II. Henry, son of Roger le Hunt of Thelwall, obtained by fine, the manor of Alsacher cum pert. from William de Alsacher, to the use of the said William for life, with remainder to Richard his son, &c.

The direct male line of this family terminated in John Alsager, esq. (sheriff 1763), who died in 1768, leaving five sisters and coheirresses. Under the wills of the two survivors of these, the manor and demesne of Alsager passed to their collateral relatives, the four daughters of James Williams, esq. by —— daughter and heiress of Roger Wilbraham of Dorfold, esq. by his wife ——, daughter and heiress of Samuel Alsager, clerk^c. The eldest of these ladies assumed the name of Alsager, and the estate is now vested in her three surviving sisters.

In this township is a CHAPEL, which was returned by the bishop of Chester to the governors of queen Anne's Bounty, Feb. 3, 1809, as a curacy not augmented or

charged: val. from glebe and surplice fees, £110. 10s. per ann. This chapel was erected by Mary, Judith, and Margaret, surviving sisters of John Alsager, esq. abovementioned, in 1789, under the provisions of an Act of Parliament, by which the appointment of the minister and inferior officers of the chapel was vested in the material lords of Alsager, and the chapel was endowed with 59 acres of land, and the privileges of burial and baptism, saving the rights of the mother church.

A School was endowed by the same ladies with land to be enclosed from the waste, and the surplus profits from the pew rents, after the repairs of the church had been deducted. The appointment of the master, and regulation of the school, are vested in trustees, but the minister has previously the option of the office.

Alsager Chapel is erected on a large heath, with stone; and though on a near view its details will be found extremely deficient and inaccurate, the size of the building and the height of its tower steeple give it at a short distance a handsome and imposing appearance.

Coppenhall Parish.

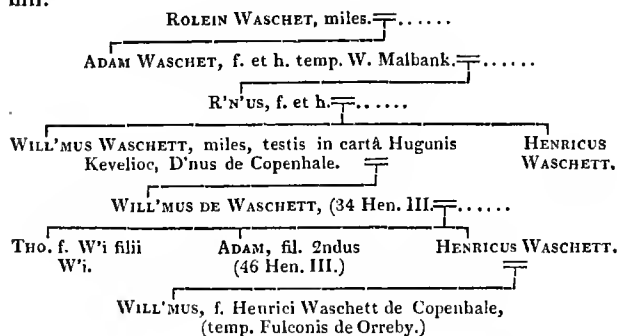
CHURCH COPPENHALL.

"COPEHALE," which probably included both the Coppenhalls, is thus described in Domesday, as parcel of the barony of Wich Malbank:

"Isdem Willelmus (Malbedeng) tenet Copehale: Halden et Ulfac pro 11 maneriis tenuerunt, et liberi fuerunt: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est 14 carucarum: in dominio est una, et 11 bovarii, et unus radman, et unus villanus, et unus bordarius cum una caruca: ibi 111 acrae prati. Silva una leuva longa et una lata: ibi 11 haia. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xxiv solidos, modo x11 solidos."

In the subsequent partition of the barony, the paramount royalty of Church Coppenhall, as appears by the Inq. 16 Edw. I. passed to the third coheirress of that house, Auda, wife of Warin Vernon of Shipbrook. Under this family, Church Coppenhall was held by the Waschets, who were lords also of Monks Coppenhall.

The following short descent of this family is transcribed (excepting the dates within hooks taken from charters) from Booth's pedigrees, and is stated by him to be drawn "ex chartis Tho. Smyth de Hatherton, mil."



William Waschett, fifth in this pedigree, occurs hereafter in the account of the church; Adam Waschett his son (46 Hen. III.) gives to Roger Meuland, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and his successors, two delves in Coppenhall Moss, to cut turves in, free from all services and exactions. "Not long after (adds Dr. Williamson in his Vill. Cest.) as I suppose, this place was given by Henry de Waschett to Foulk de Orreby, which family continued lords of this place till Richard the Second's time (for 20 Edw. II. John de Orreby and Joan his wife obtained by fine from Henry Wibbenbury, chaplain, this manor, and the manors of Walgherton and Hatherton cum pert. for their lives, then to come to John their son), when it came to Richard Corbet of Leighton, after the death of Mary Roos, who was granddaughter to sir John de Orreby^d."

The matter of the inquisitions on this subject is as follows:

Inq. p. m. 18 Ric. II. Mary wife of John de Roos held in demesne, as of fee tail, the manors of Walgherton, Hatherton, and Church Coppenhall, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, by military service: val. per ann. xxl.; also the manor of Fulke Stapleford. William Bagot son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. IV. A repetition of the same. Richard Corbet son and heir. This Richard de Corbet according to the Cheshire pedigrees (Booth, Harl. MSS. 1535. et alibi) was great grandson of Alicia, wife of Peter Corbet, which Alicia was sister of John de Orreby, son of Fulco de Orreby before mentioned, and great great grandfather of Mary Roos.

Inqs. p. m. 9 and 10 Hen. IV. Richard Corbet of Leighton, son of John Corbet, held in demesne, as of fee

^c Said to be great uncle of John Alsager abovementioned (Magna Britannia, vol. II. part 2. under Alsager), and probably younger son of Ralph Alsager, living 1666. Harl. MSS. 2010. See also the pedigree of Wilbraham of Dorfold in Acton, and the monuments at Congleton, p. 22.

^d See the Orreby pedigree in Gawsorth.

tail, the manors of Walgherton, Hatherton, and Church Copenhale; also the manor of Fulke Stapleford. Richard Corbett found heir generally in the first inquisition; and in the second, Alice, wife of William Brereton, found sister of the deceased, and heir to the manor of Fulke Stapleford.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VI. Thomas Fulleshurst of Crue is found to hold lands here from *Roger Corbet*, as is also Margery de Wettenhall 11 Hen. VI.

Inq. p. m. 17 Edw. IV. Cecilia wife of Robert Corbet holds cs. rent in dower from the heirs of Robert Corbet in Church Copenhale, also lands in Fulk Stapleford, and the manor of Church Copenhale, the latter being held from the lord prince as earl of Chester, in capite. No heir expressed.

14 Hen. VII. Thomas Fulleshurst is found to hold lands herein from Robert Corbett of Hatherton, which Robert Corbett by another inquisition 111 Hen. VII. had been found heir to the manor of Walgherton, held by his father of the same names.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VIII. Robert Corbett leaves Robert Corbett son and heir. Walgherton and Hatherton only mentioned in this inquisition; died 5 Hen. VIII.

Inq. p. m. 4 Eliz. Robert Corbet holds the manor of Church Copenhale from the queen as of her earldom of Chester, by military service, as the 100th part of a knight's fee: val. per ann. vii. vis. vii. d.; also the manors of Hatherton and Walgherton, and lands in Shaventon and Stapeley. Robert Corbet son and heir, died 18 July 4 Eliz.

^b *Inq. p. m.* 12 Eliz. Robert Corbett, esq. died seized of this manor, held of the queen as before. Thomas Hulse next of kin and heir, as son of Margaret, sister of Robert, father of Robert, who died a° p'd'to.

How the manor passed from this family does not appear; but in 1616, sir Thomas Vernon of Haslington, knight, is found to have died seized of the manors of both Coppenhalls, and of lands and rents therein.

The manor of this township is now vested in sir John Delves Broughton, of Doddington, bart. by descent from the Delves family of that place; to whom it is stated in the Magna Britannia to have passed with the daughter and heiress of Hall Ravenscroft, esq. of Horsham, co. Sussexⁱ.

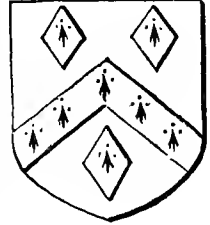
The parish is situated at about an equal distance from Sandbach and Nantwich, in a flat and moorish part of the country.

By the inquisition after the death of William Bulkeley, 23 Edw. III. and from other inquisitions, it appears that an estate in this place belonged to the order of St. John of Jerusalem.

In this township is also the site of the HALL OF SHAWE, which Webb mentions as an antient seat of a branch of the Fulshursts of Crewe, and almost gone to decay. The lands of Shawe are stated by Dr. Williamson to have been given about the time of king John by Randle Mainwaring to Robert de Leycester, to hold by

the render of a pound of cummin seed yearly on the day of St. John the Baptist; the said lands having been held by the father of Randle Mainwaring from Randle Waschet and his heirs. Shortly after which sir Randle Mainwaring gave the Hall of Shawe, cum pert. to Henry Hiccockson, who gave the same to Thomas Shawe of Church Coppenhall and his heirs.

A pedigree of this family is given in Booth's Collections. The arms were, Argent, a chevron Ermine, between three lozenges of the second: and the direct line ended in William le Shaw, temp. Hen. IV. who left two daughters and coheirresses, of whom Joanna married Francis Fulleshurst, ancestor of the family abovementioned.



The same Collection gives five descents of the *Parkers* of Coppenhall, ending in Thomas Parker of Coppenhall, 18 Ric. II.

CHURCH.

Ded. to St. Michael.

Val. Eccl. £6. 10s.

Anno 34 Hen. III. Robert de Waschett, lord of Coppenhale, gave to Roger, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield (patron of Wibunbury), the donation of the chapel of Coppenhall, being then a chapel of Wibunbury^k. The said chapel was endowed as a distinct benefice, 7 cal. Aug. 1373, by Robert Stretton, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, who then collated John Simpson to the same chapel, which is termed in the ordination of this benefice "Capella de Copenhale, ecclesie nostrae de Wibbenbury, ad mensam nostram episcopalem, appropriata et unita, annexa."^l

The living is a rectory, and still continues in the patronage of the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry.

Coppenhall church (1817) is a very curious fabric, in the style of Elizabeth's reign, built originally of wood and plaister, the latter of which has been replaced with brick. The side aisles are divided from the centre by rude wooden pillars, and are lighted by a row of transom windows running down each side uninterruptedly. At the west end is a wooden belfry, and at the other a chancel rebuilt with brick.

In the windows are various specimens of painted glass, including a shield several times repeated, portraying the five wounds of Christ; and the antient oak pews are ornamented with cumbrous carvings of armorial bearings, human faces, and animals. The floor is the bare clay, on which, for the convenience of kneeling, are placed circular lumps of wood chained to the seats.

Within the rails of the chancel is a flag-stone inscribed, "Here lyeth interred the body of John Harrison, rector of this place, May the 9th, 1681."

^b Williamson Vill. Cest.

ⁱ Magna Britannia, vol. II. part 2. p. 645. This was Elizabeth Ravenscroft, wife of sir Thomas Delves; her father purchased Walgherton from the Vernons, and Coppenhall was probably bought at the same time.

^k Williamson Vill. Cest.

^l Collacio et Ordinacio ecclesie de Coppenhall. Communicated by the rev. J. S. Catlow.

RECTORS OF COPPENHALL.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1373, 7 kal. Aug.	Johannes Simpson.	Robertus Ep. Cov. et Lichf.	
1384, 22 Oct.	Willielmus Parker, cap's.	R. Ep. Cov. et Lichf.	
1481, 11 Feb.	Georgius Massey, pr'b'r.		
1498.	Willielmus Kent. John Smallwood.		
1583, Dec. 9.	Anthony Johnson.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of John Smallwood.
1621, June 28.	Stephen Haxbie.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of last incumbent.
1627, Oct. 10.	Thomas Baddeley. Isaac Simpson.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Res. of Steph. Haxbie.
1676, Dec. 15.	Jonn Harrison, A. B.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Res. of Isaac Simpson.
1681.	Griffith Vaughan ^m .	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of John Harrison.
1721, Nov. 6.	Lawrence Gardner, A. M.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Res. of Griffith Vaughan.
1750, Dec. 17.	Richard Podmore ⁿ , A. B.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of Law. Gardner.
1783, June 13.	Joseph Catlow ^o , A. M.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of Richard Podmore.
1784, Sept. 9.	Thomas Unett ^p , A. M.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of Joseph Catlow.
1785.	Francis Meeke.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of Thomas Unett.
1797, Jan. 12.	Richard Spurgeon, A. B.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Cess. of Francis Meeke.
1805, Feb. 6.	John Stevenson Catlow, A.M.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Res. of Ric. Spurgeon.

MONKS COPPENHALL.

THIS vill was probably co-extensive with one of the two manors which formed the Saxon vill of Copehale, and which were united according to Domesday at the Conquest, and formed a portion of the barony of Nantwich, under which both Coppenhalls were held by the Waschets.

The Inq. 16 Edw. I. states the paramount royalty of this part of Coppenhall to have passed to the Audleys, having fallen to the share of Eleanor Malbank, and to have then assumed its additional appellation, which had reference to its possessors the monks of Combermere^a.

By deed without date, Idonea, widow of William Waschet, gives to God, and St. Mary, and the abbey of Combermere, licence to erect a mill in the vill of Coppenhall, upon the water called Woritherne, and to make and attach a pool to her land of Gresty^b.

Temp. Edw. I. John de Mere and Maud his wife, daughter of Brice de Leighton, give all their lands and tenements in Coppenhall to the same abbey^c.

By another deed without date, Adam, abbot of Combermere, and the monks of that place, quitclaim to Robert Burnell, lord bishop of Bath and Wells, all the lands, tenements, and woods, which they had in Coppenhall, to be held by doing the usual services due to the capital lord of the fee, and the render of a rose yearly,

for which the bishop gave them his part of Grenfordley, and £213. 6s. 8d. to relieve the necessities of the convent^d.

To the same bishop and his heirs, Thomas lord of Crue quitclaims all his rights, claims, and demesne in Coppenhall, with homages, &c. to the same belonging, and his right in a certain wood called Odwood, to be held from the capital lords of the fee by the usual services; for which confirmation the said bishop paid xlv marks of silver^e.

Coppenhall was included in the grant of free warren made to bishop Burnell, 15 Edw. I.; and descending with his share of the barony of Nantwich to the lords Lovel of Tichmarsh, became forfeited to the Crown by the attainder of their representative Francis lord Lovel, temp. Hen. VII.

By an abstract of an inquisition taken after the death of sir Thos. Vernon May 9, 1616^f, he is stated to have been possessed of the manors of Church and Monks Coppenhall, and various lands and quitrents in both townships.

The said manor subsequently passed to the Cholmondeleys of Cholmondeley; and having been purchased from the present marquis by the late Mrs. Anne Elcock of Poole, is now (1817) under her will the property of her nephew William Massey, esq.

^m Supplied from the Register; he signs as rector 1682; his predecessor died May 1681.

^o Died Sept. 2, 1784.

^a The country people have a tradition that there was a religious foundation here; and bishop Gastrell observes in his MS. Notitia, "Mon. formerly at Monks Coppenhall: no footsteps of it now remaining. 1722." It is possible that there might be a Cell to Combermere in the township.

^b Williamson Vill. Cest.

^c Ibid.

^d Ibid. quoting the MSS. of sir H. Lee, bart. p. 149.

^e Ibid.

^f Williamson's Fines, &c. p. 96.

ⁿ Died Ap. 30, 1783.

^p Died Feb. 15, 1785.

Wistanston, or Wistaston Parish.

THIS parish comprehends one township only, which is probably described in Domesday under the following notice of part of the barony of Nantwich^a.

"Isdem Willielmus tenet Wistetestone. Leuinus et Osmer pro 11 maneriis tenuerunt, et liberi fuerunt. Ibi 111 virgatæ geldabiles: terra est 11 carucarum, in dominio est una et dimidia, et 111 bovarii, et unus villanus cum dimidia carucâ, et unus bordarius; ibi una pertica prati; silva dimidia leuva longa et tantundem lata. Valebat 1111 solidos, modo x solidos."

By the inquisition 16 Edw. I. relating to the first partition of the barony of Wich Malbank, the homages and services of the lord of Wistaston are stated to be allotted to the eldest coheiress of that house, Philippa Basset.

The earliest deed which Dr. Williamson states himself to have met with relative to this place, is a deed, without date, "of William Malbank, baron of Nantwich, in which he gives notice that he has received of Robert de Bracy, his black nephew, y^e homage and service of three k^{ts} fees, viz. for Wistanston, &c."^b The first mesne lords, nevertheless, appear to have been the Wistanstons; from whose grantees, the Brecsies, who were settled in this township by the preceding charter, obtained finally a moiety of the manor.

Temp. Hen. III. sir William de Wistanston, knt. held the manors of Wistanston, Willaston, and five bovates in Whitepoole, from sir Thomas Sandford, knt. as of his portion of the barony of Nantwich^c.

34 Edw. I. William, son of Hamon de Wistaston, obtained from the said Hamon various messuages and lands in Wistanston^d.

3 Edw. III. William son of William de Wistanston, and Alice his wife, levy a fine of lands, &c. in Wistanston, Nantwich, Leighton, Norbury, and Wirswall^e.

10 Edw. III. Hamon, son of William de Wistanston, passes over one fourth of Wistanston to Richard Hogh de Thornton, for £20^f; and, in the same year, another quarter to Thomas del Wood^g.

"44 Edw. III. Richard, son of Thomas del Hogh, sells his lands here to John, son of William de Brescy; and, 1369, Thomas, son of Richard de Wode, of Wistanston, sells his lands here to the same John Brescy."^h

By these purchases, the Brecsies had a moiety of the vill, exclusive of the lands originally granted to their ancestor by Wm. Malbank, which, according to Dr. Williamson, passed as follows to the Egertons of Caldecote.

"John Brescy (last mentioned) and Margery his wife gave to John their son, all their messuages, &c. in Wistanston, Blakenhale, &c. 6 Hen. IV.; to which John Brescy, jun. of Wistanston, his coz. John Hull, son and heir of John de Birchcull, remitted all y^e right he had in y^e man^r of Wistanston, cum pert. and in all y^e lands, &c. w^{ch} of right and inheritance, after y^e death of Wm. de Wistanston, and Hamon, son of y^{is} same William, to him descended, 7 Hen. IV.; and 16 Hen. VI. John, son of Richard de Wistanston, gave to Ralph Egerton, &c. the whole right of Wistanston, which he had of the gift and feoffment of John, son of John de Brescy, &c.; and 18 Hen. VI. Ralph Egerton gave to ——— (invested in trustees) half the manor of Wistanston, with the advowson of the church." This moiety occurs as follows, in the inquisitions of the Egertons of Caldecote.

Inq. p. m. 31 Hen. VI. Roger Egerton held, inter alia, and enfeofed William More, dean of Stafford, with, his manor of Wistanston.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VII. Hugh Egerton, esq. held, inter alia, a moiety of the manor and the church of Wistanston, from the heirs of Brescy, by fealty. Val. per ann. xxs.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. VIII. John Egerton, esq. held, inter alia, lands in Wistanston, and a moiety of the advowson, from the heirs of Bressie, by fealty. Val. per ann. vii.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VIII. John Egerton, esq. held, inter alia, as in the last inquisition. Shortly afterwards this moiety of the manor passed, by sale, from the Egertons of Caldecote, to the family of Alexanderⁱ; and Margaret, daughter and heiress of John Alexander, brought the same in marriage to Richard Walthall, younger son of Roger Walthall, of Nantwich, and immediate ancestor of Peter Walthall, esq. the present manerial proprietor of Wistanston, 1817.

The other moiety is stated by Dr. Williamson to have passed in marriage with Ellen, daughter and coheiress of Hamon de Wistanston, to Adam de Praers^k; and from his family, by a daughter and heiress^l, to Hugh Malpas, of Checkley; and by his daughters and heiresses, to two brothers of the Peshall family^m. By their representatives it was alienated to the Delves's of Dodington, from whom it descended to the late sir Thomas Broughton, bart. and was conveyed by him to Peter Walthall, esq. before mentioned.

^a Another description of "Wistanestune" will be found in the account of the adjacent township of Wisterston, Willaston, or Wigstanton, in Wybunbury parish; and it is impossible to establish any distinction between the two places at the period of the survey. The *modern* names are frequently confounded, and the orthography and pronunciation is extremely variable. The penultimate *n* is generally omitted in *writing* the name of the Cheshire towns of this termination, as Thurstanston, Allstanston, &c.; and the *an* in the second syllable pronounced *er*, omitting the *t* in the last syllable.

^b Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^c Ibid.

^d Williamson's Fines, p. 4.

^e Ibid.

^f Ibid.

^g Vill. Cest.

^h Ibid.

ⁱ Ibid.

^k This, from the presentations, was about 1388.

^l It appears, however, that she was daughter of Richard de Blakenhall, whose predecessor married an heiress of Praers. (See Checkley.) And from a presentation to Wistaston, 1388, it is probable that this township was originally *triply* divided between Penreth, Brescy, and Praers, as Checkley was. The Penreth share must have subsequently merged in that of Brescy.

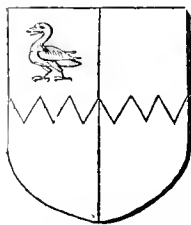
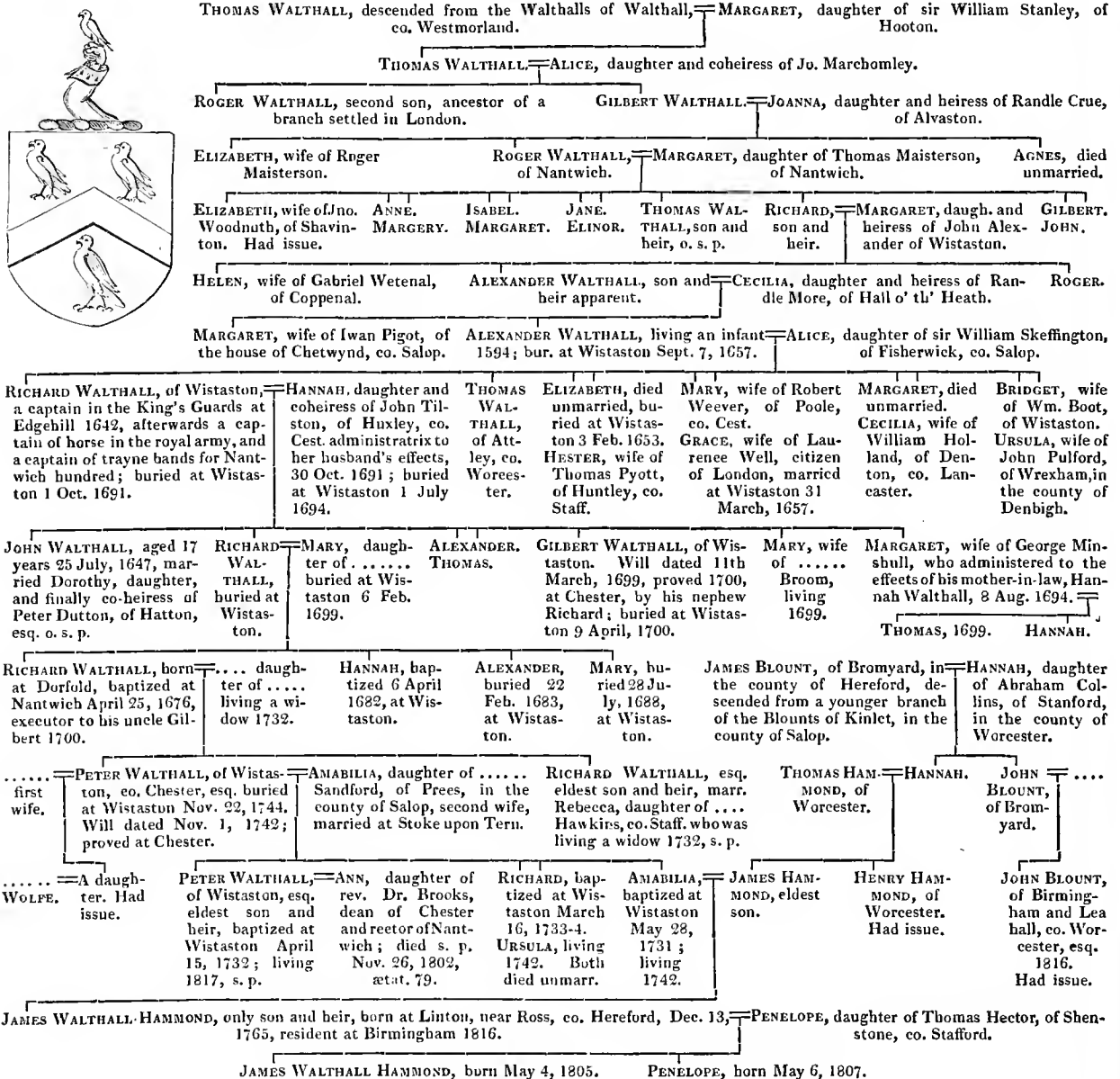
^m After 1424. See presentations.

WALTHALL OF WISTASTON^y.

ARMS. Or, a chevron Vert, between three hawks close Sable.

CREST. On a wreath, an arm embowed, vested Gules, cuff Ermine, hand clenched proper, thereon a falcon proper, close, beaked Or.

From the Visitations, Parochial Registers, and the Information of the Family, in the later descents.



The antient family of BRESKY (or Bressy) of WISTASTON, who appear connected with this parish shortly after the Conquest, and subsequently became possessed of a share of the manor, which they alienated before 16 Hen. VI. were the parent stock of numerous branches. Robert Bressy was sheriff 31 and 23 Edw. I. One branch of the Wistaston family ended about the time of Edw. III. in Jane, who married successively into the families of Sparke, Woudhouse, and Bradwall; and Anne, wife of Richard Vernon, which sisters were daughters of Richard Bressy. Wileoocke Bressy shortly before left two daughters, Alisonia wife of Wheloeke, and Beatrix wife of John de Bryndeley, whose descendants were of Wistaston at the Visitation of 1566. Hamon Bressy, uncle of these coheirresses, was ancestor of a branch still existing, which has been noticed in the account of Bulkeley, and another male branch, which in 1666 (Harl. MSS. 2010.) was in possession of Wileock's Heath, the original seat of the family in Wistaston, and has been mentioned in the account of Teverton, where it continued until the last century. From this last line the Bressies of Chester descended. These particulars are extracted from Booth, the Visitation of 1566, and Harl. MSS. 1535; but the connection of the branches is not sufficiently identified to form a regular pedigree. The Arms were, quarterly, indented per fesse Sable and Argent, in the first quarter a mallard Argent.

^y Communicated through William Hamper, esq. The Author is also indebted to C. G. Young, esq. (Rouge Dragon poursuivant) for a complete series of extracts from the registers of Wistaston on the subject of this pedigree.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Mary.

Omitted Tax. P. N. Certif. Val. £.33. 16s. 8d.

The church, or "free chapel," of Wistanston, as it is antiently called, is unnoticed in the Taxation of pope Nicholas; and it is most probable, that shortly afterwards this parish was taken out of the adjoining one of Wibunbury, to the lessee of the tithes of which the incumbent of this parish owes a yearly pension of v shillings^z.

The advowson has passed, from the close of the fourteenth century to the commencement of the seven-

teenth, with the two shares of the divided manor, the two lords of which antiently presented jointly; but, since that period, the presentations have been made by the Walthalls only. The rector has the tithes of the entire parish.

Wistanston Church is a small antient building, situated on a gentle rise, between the hall and the road from Sandbach to Nantwich, at the distance of two miles from the latter place. It is chiefly built of wood, and consists of a nave, with side-aisles and small chancel, and a belfry at the west end, containing three bells. No memorials of any importance are now remaining.

The registers commence in 1572.

RECTORS OF WISTASTON.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1352, 2 non. Jan.	Walterus Chilterne. W's de Kecele, pr'b'r.	M'r Walterus Chilterne, can. Ecc. Cath. Lichf.	P. res. Walt. Chilterne.
1361, 5 id. Feb. 1388, 8 Julii.	Jo. de Eccleston, pr'b'r. Willielmus Pollard, pr'b'r.	D'nns Hugo de Northburgh, cl'us. Margeria q. f. ux. Joh'is Penrith; Ellena q. f. ux. Adami Praers; Jo. fil. Jo. de Brescy et Ellena ux. ejus.	P. m. Jo. de Eccleston.
1392.	Henricus Woodstock.	Jo. fil. W. de Brescy, Margeria ux. Hug. fil. Rog. de Malpas, et Ellena ux.	P. m. Will. Pollard.
1400.	Johannes Wrastingworth, cap.	Jo. Brescy et Marg. ux. ejus, Hugo de Malpas et Ellena ux. ejus.	P. m. Hen. de Woodstock.
1404.	Hugo de Malpas.	Jo. fil. Will. de Brescy, et Hugo fil. Rog. de Malpas.	
1404.	Hugo de Rayhalle.	Jo. fil. Will. de Brescy, et Hugo de Malpas de Chakeley.	P. m. Hug. de Malpas.
1411, 5 Sept.	Walterus Seymour, cap.	Jo. fil. Jo. de Brescy, et Hugo Malpas de Checkley.	P. m. Hug. de Rayhalle.
1412, 14 Jun.	Willielmus Baguley.	Jo. Brescy et Hugo Malpas de Checkley.	P. res. Walt. Seymour.
1414, 11 Sept.	Galfridus Boseley. Georgius Radclyffe, cap.	P'nob. vir Rob. del Booth, qui recup. adv. Galf. Boseley, ult. rect.	
1422, 18 Nov.	Ricardus Greene.	Hugo Malpas de Chakeley, et Jo. Brescy de Wistanston.	
1424.	Jo. Hulfield, pr'b'r.	Hugo de Malpas de Chalkley, et Jo. Brescy de Wistanston.	P. res. Ric. Greene.
1483, 12 Jun.	Thomas Silxton. Robertus Taverner.	Hugo Egerton et Hugo Peshall, arm.	P. m. Tho. Silxton.
1496.	Hugo Greves. William Brown.	Iidem.	P. res. Rob. Taverner.
1569, Sept. 6.	George Ashton.	Thomas Persall and George Alexander.	Death of Will. Brown.
1570, Aug. 21.	George Ashton. William Allen ^a .	The same.	Cess. of George Ashton.
1606, July 5. 1607, Oct. 9. 1653.	Hugh Holland. William Mainwaring. Andrew Downs ^b .	The Bishop of Chester by lapse. Richard Walthall.	Death of William Allen.
1674, July 30. 1704, Oct. 17.	John Wettenhall ^c . Richard Weever ^d , A. M.	Richard Walthall. Richard Walthall.	Death of Andrew Downs. Death of John Wettenhall.
1737, May 12.	Peter Walthall ^e .	Peter Walthall, esq.	Death of Rich. Weever.
1761, March 11.	Ralph Eddowes ^f .	Peter Walthall, esq.	Death of Peter Walthall.
1789, May 14.	William Morgan, A. B.	Peter Walthall, esq.	Death of Ralph Eddowes.

^z Gastrell, Not. Cest.^a Buried Jan. 1606.^b Inducted 1653; buried June 3, 1674.^c Buried May 16, 1704.

^d Buried at Wistanston, Dec. 31, 1736. Vicar of Over 1695, and rector of Barrow 1707, which he held, with Wistanston, to the time of his decease. He is supposed to have been the last heir male of the Weevers of Poole, in this hundred, descended through those of Aston in Mondrem from the parent family settled at Weever in Edisbury Hundred. The Weevers of Poole entered a continuation of their pedigree in Dugdale's Visitation of 1663-4, and had an allowance of the family arms.

^e Died Dec. 13, 1761.^f Died Feb. 19, 1789.

Church Minshull Parish.

THIS parish, which was formerly a Chapelry of Acton, contains one township only, which is surveyed among the estates of the baron of Nantwich in Domesday :

“ *Isdem Willelmus tenet Manessele; Levenot tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est una caruca; ibi unus radman, 11 servi, et 11 bordarii habent unam carucam: ibi una acra prati, silva una leuva longa, et una lata, et 1v haia, et aira accipitris. Valebat et valet 1v solidos; wasta fuit.*”

In the first division of the barony of Nantwich, the paramount royalty (as appears by the *Inq.* 16 Edw. I.) was allotted to the eldest coheir of that house, Philippa Basset; and it subsequently passed to the lords Lovell.

The mesne manor was the property of a family which assumed the local name very soon after the Conquest, and divided into two branches, both of which were settled here, and are given in the pedigree annexed.

The *eldest* line of Minshull ended in Henry de Minshull, who had one daughter and coheir Johanna, to whom the following inquisition relates.

Inq. p. m. 11 Ric. II. Johanna, daughter of Henry de Minshull, held in demesne, as of fee, the manors of Aston in Mondrem, and Church Minshull, cum pert. (excepting a third part of those manors, which Margaret, wife of sir John Davenport, held in dower); the said manor of Church Minshull being held from lord John Lovell, by military service, and of the value of xx marks. Peter son of Edmund de Dutton by the said Johanna next of kin and heir.

The pedigree of the Duttons of Dutton^a brings down the descent of this manor to the reign of Henry VII. when sir Thomas Dutton of Dutton died without male issue.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VII. Anne widow of sir Thomas Dutton held in demesne, as of fee, of frank tenement for the term of her life, inter alia, the manor of Church Minshull, from the heirs of the lord Lovell, by services unknown: val. per ann. xv. s. xl. Anne wife of sir Thomas Molineux, Elizabeth wife of Thomas Scriven, Margaret wife of Ralph Vernon, John Sotheworth, and Richard Cholmeley, next of kin and heirs.

In the subsequent partition of Dutton lands between sir P. Dutton and the coheirs, 1534, Church Minshull was allotted to the former, and on the division of the same passed to the representatives of Elinour Cholmondeley, the youngest coheir.

Inq. p. m. 30 Hen. VIII. Richard Cholmondeley, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Church Minshull, from the king, by military service: val. viii. l.

Inq. p. m. 39 Eliz. Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Church Minshull, with lands, messuages, and quitrents therein, from the queen as of her earldom of Chester, by military service, as the 20th part of a knight's fee: val. per ann. £v.

Inq. p. m. 43 Eliz. sir Hugh Cholmondeley, knt. held, inter alia, the manor of Church Minshull, with lands, messuages, and quit-rents^b therein, as in the preceding inquisition. Val. per ann. x marks.

After the separation of the Cholmondeleys of Vale Royal from the parent-stock, this manor was vested in that house, most probably by family settlements made at the time of the division of the two branches.

The *second* line of the *Minshulls* of Minshull descended from William, younger brother of Adam Minshull, the ancestor of the manerial lords.

The following inquisitions relate to this line of the family.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VI. Edmund Mynshull held in demesne, as of fee, two messuages and 60 acres of land, cum pert. in Church Mynshull, from sir P. Dutton, knt. as of his manor of Church Mynshull, by military service; val. per ann. lxi. s. viii. d. Also lands in Wymbalds-legh. Peter Mynshull son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 18 Edw. IV. Peter Mynshull held as in the preceding inquisition, the lands in Mynshull being valued at cs. John Mynshull son and heir.

The direct male line of the Minshulls, of Minshull hall, terminated, in 1654, in John Minshull (great great grandson of John, found heir by this inquisition), whose only surviving daughter and heiress brought her family estates in marriage to Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.

From this family the manor and the Minshull Hall estates passed, by sale, to the Brookes of Norton, and are now vested in Thomas Brooke, esq. younger brother of the late sir Richard Brooke, bart.^c

Church Minshull is situated in a small neat village, situated on the bank of the Weever, at the division of the roads from Nantwich to Middlewich and Over, the former of which crosses the river by a stone bridge at the north-east end of the village, at the distance of about six miles from each of the first mentioned places.

^a Bucklow hundred, p. 478.

^b “ *Ac de tribus sagittis barbatis exeuntibus de terris Sampsonis Yardswicke, arm. in Churche Mynshull p'dieto, &c.*” This was Sampson Erdswick of Sandon, the Staffordshire antiquary; and the lands were either parcel of the estate which his ancestors originally possessed at Erdswick hall, in the adjacent township of Minshull Vernon, in Northwich Hundred, see p. 119; or of the estate at Leighton, in this Hundred, which they received in exchange for it.

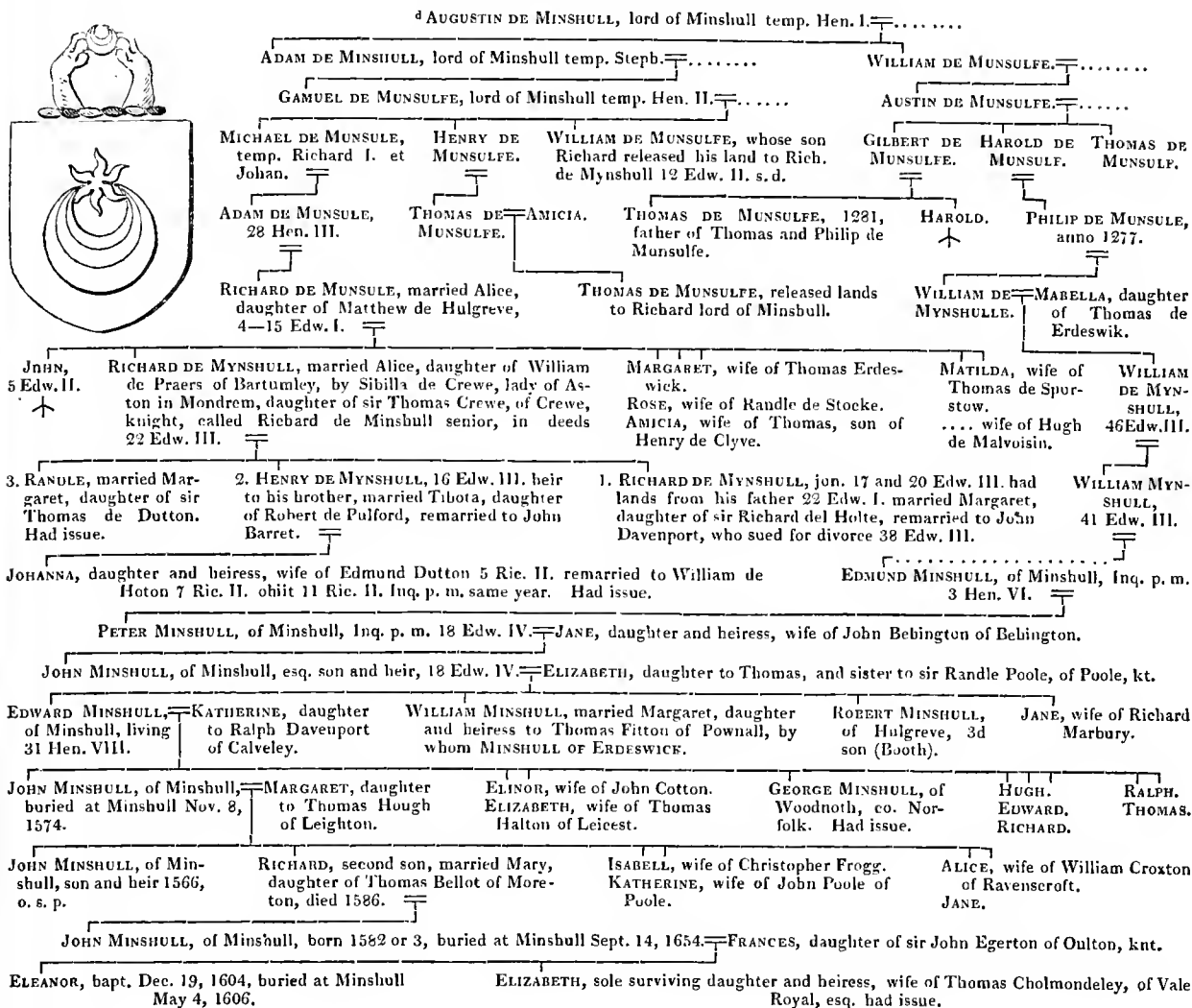
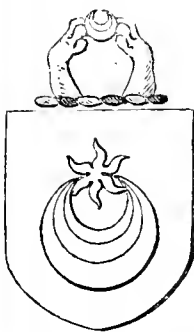
^c Vide Brooke pedigree, p. 504. The entire parish is the property of Mr. Brooke, excepting the house and estate of Lea Green Hall, which is the property of Mr. John Done, of Tarporley, by purchase. Minshull Hall has been taken down, and a brick farm-house occupies the site.

MINSHULL OF MINSHULL.

From Harl. MSS. 2119, 213, continued from the Visitations and the Minshull Registers.

ARMS. Azure, a star Argent issuing from between the horns of a crescent of the second.

CREST. On a wreath two lions' gambes Gules, supporting a crescent Argent.



CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Bartholomew.

Certif. val. £.23. 12s. 6d.

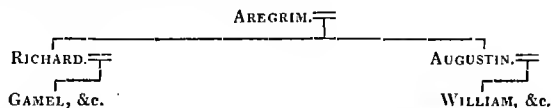
The chapel of Munschull is mentioned by earl Randle Gernons, in his confirmation charter to Combermere, as being an appendage of the church of Acton.

The rectory of the place was appropriated by that

monastery, and is stated to be leased to Edward Mynshull of Mynshull, esq. in a valuation of its estates 31 Hen. VIII.^e

The same was subsequently vested in the family of Daniel of Daresbury, and sold by John Daniel of Daresbury to John Minshull of Church Minshull, esq.^f From that period it appears to have descended with the Minshull Hall estate; and is now vested, together with

^d The descent is given differently in another pedigree in Harl. MSS. 2119, on the authority of Booth, who deduces the two branches from Aregrim (a Saxon noticed in Domesday), as follows, but probably on very slight evidence :



The descent from Aregrim is, however, recognized in a patent granted to sir Richard Minsbull of Bourton, co. Bucks, by Henry lord Mowbray, deputy earl marshal, July 4, 1642, which deduces the said sir Richard from Randle third son of Richard de Minshull by Alice Praers. This grant mentions that Michael de Minshull noticed in the pedigree (who was a benefactor to Combermere) served against Saladin under Richard the First, and there won the arms and crest of his family; and the said grant further allows sir Richard to assume for crest, instead of using a filial distinction, "the sultan Saladin kneeling on his knee and holding a crescent." The circumstances of this grant are adverted to in Fuller's Church Hist. B. 3. p. 42.

This sir Richard Minshull was created baron Minshull of Minshull, co. Cest. Dec. 1, 17 Car. I. with remainder to the heirs male of the body of Edward Minshull his great grandfather; and also viscount Minshull of Leominster, co. Hereford, Jan. 4, 1642, Harl. MSS. 2119, as before. Messrs. Lysons, who notice the sequestrations of this branch of the Minshulls in their account of Buckinghamshire, observe also (Mag. Brit. vol. II. part 2. p. 352) that the patents were never enrolled, and that the titles were discontinued by sir R. Minshull's descendants.

^e Vernon MSS. 3, 322. preserved at Somerford.

^f Ibid.

the donative of the curacy, in Thomas Brooke, esq. The impropiator has the corn-tithes, and the curate the rest, whether the same are gathered, or paid for by modus^g.

By imperceptible degrees, this chapel became parochial, and like the neighbouring one of Nantwich, is now reputed a parish-church.

The church is built of brick; the date 1702 worked with dark glazed bricks into the steeple. It consists of a tower containing five bells, and a nave with side-aisles, divided by a range of four arches on each side from the nave. At the east end is the vault of the Cholmondeley family, in what is considered the chancel, but is not in any way divided from the nave.

Over the north-east door is a wooden tablet, on which is painted the following inscription:

In the middle of this chancel lieth interred y^e body of Jane, daughter of sir Lionel Talmache of Helmingham, in the county of Suffolk, bart. and late the wife of Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, in y^e county palatyne of Chester, esquire, who had yssue several son'es and daughters, of whome Robert, Elizabeth, Jane, Mary, Anne, and Diana, were only living at her death. She dyed y^e 14th of April, anno D'ni 1666.

Arms, Cholmondeley, with five quarterings, impaling Talmache, Argent, a fret Sable.

On a blue slab, fixed to the outside of the east end:

Near this place lye interred the bodys of

Thomas Minshull, late of Erdswick,
in the county of Chester, esquire, and Alice his wife,
who was daughter of James Trollope of Thirlby,
in the county of Lincoln, esqu^r.

They left two sons and five daughters.

This monument is erected by the three surviving daughters, in dutiful remembrance of parents upright and just in all their ways.

Both they and their children suffered great wrongs by unjust people.

He was loyal to his king and true to his country.

His mother was sister to sir Edward Fytton, of Gawsworth, in Cheshire,

who suffered for king Charles the First, of blessed memory.

Arms: Minshull, impaling Thirlby, 3 stags trippant. Crest, Minshull.

In the church-yard is a school-house, built in 1785, previous to which the master of the school (which was established about the beginning of the seventeenth century) taught in the church. The master is appointed by Mr. Brooke, and its endowment consists of £.300, of which £.200 was given by Christopher Minshull of Essex, clerk, 50 by the Wilbrahams of Nantwich, and 50 by various benefactors^h.

The registers begin in 1561, and contain the following curious entry, which is written in words at length, and in the same hand with the other parts of the register. "1649, Thomas Damme, of Leighton, buried the 20th of Februarie, being of the age of seven score and fourteene."

In the returns of the bishop of Chester to the governors of queen Anne's bounty, this living is returned as a "curacy, augmented not charged. Value of augmentation, tithes, stipend, official house, and surplice fees, £.114. 14s."

Acton Parish.

THE Parish of Acton originally comprized nearly a moiety of the hundred of Nantwich, having certainly contained within its limits the present parishes of Nantwich and Church Minshull. It is bounded by the parishes of Audlem, Wybunbury, Nantwich, and Church Minshull, the hundreds of Edisbury and Broxton, the parochial Chapelry of Marbury, and the county of Salop. In its present limits it contains twenty-one townships, specified in the Parliamentary Population Return, five of which are included in its parochial Chapelry of Wrenbury*.

ACTON, OR AGHTON.

THE Domesday description of this manor, which was of considerable importance, as one of the seats of the earl of Mercia, is as follows:

"Isdem Willelmus (Malbedeng) tenet Actune: *Morcar* (Edwinus?) comes tenuit. Ibi viii hidæ geldabiles: terra est iii carucarum, in dominio sunt tres, et ii servi, et xiiii villani, et xv bordarii cum vii carucis: ibi molinum serviens curiæ, et x acræ prati: silva vi leuis longa et una lata, et una aira accipitris: ibi ii presbyteri cum una caruca, et ii francigenæ habentes unam

carucam et dimidiam, et unus servus et vi villani, et vii bordarii cum iv carucis.

"Hoc manerium habet suum placitum in Aula domini sui, et in Wich unum domum quietam ad salem faciendam: totum tempore R. Edwardi valebat x libras, modo vi libras."

This survey may be rendered more interesting by a comparison with the account of the earl's other manor houses of Macclesfield and Frodsham, the description of the latter of which, by an error of the compilers or

^g Information of Mr. Stringer, the incumbent.

^h One of them, Dodecot cum Wilkesley, lies partly in Audlem parish.

^h Gastrell, and inscription in the church.

transcribers of Domesday, is annexed to Alretune^b. In the present extract there is an error of the surveyor, of no less importance than substituting the name of the earl Morcar, for that of his brother Edwin^c.

In the first division of the barony of Nantwich among the coheirs of the descendants of William Malbedeng, the Norman grantee, Acton was triply divided^d; but after the later subdivisions of the said barony, Roger Littlebury sold his fifteenth part of the same (which then included this manor) to John de Wettenhall. John de Wettenhall and Agnes his wife were seized of this manor 27 Edw. III.; and Richard Wettenhall, trustee, by deed without date, grants to John de Wettenhall, his manors of Acton and Hurleston, with common of pasture through all Ranmore^e.

The descent of the Wettenhalls has been given in another part of this work, to its termination in six coheirresses^f. Ellena and Margery, severally wives of Henry de Arderne, and Geoffrey de Bromhale, divided the Nantwich estates; the first mentioned having, inter alia, the manor of Acton, with the demesne of Dorfold, which is in some deeds and inquisitions termed a distinct manor.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. IV. Ellena, widow of sir Henry de Arden, knight, held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Acton cum pert. from the prince as earl of Chester in capite per baroniam, sec. quantit.: val. per ann. xii.; and in the same manner lands in Hurleston and Stoke; the whole being parcel of a thirty-sixth part of the barony of Wich Malbank. Ralph de Arden son and heir.

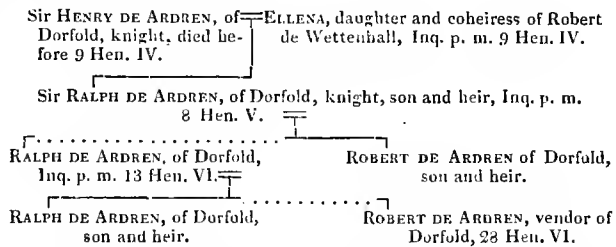
Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. V. Ralph Arden, chivaler, held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Dereford cum pert. (val. vi.) and xxs. free rent in Acton, from the king as earl of Chester, by military service; also messuages and lands in Hurdleston. Robert de Arden son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 13 Hen. VI. Ralph de Arden (probably brother of Robert) held the manor of Dereford, and rent in Acton, as in the last inquisition; and other rent in Acton and Wich Milbank, and lands in Hurdleston, Wich Malbank, and Whitfield. Ralph de Arden son and heir.

“28 Hen. VI. Robert Arden, esq. past a fine hereof to Henry Wettenhall; and 4 Hen. IV. y^e K. granted letters of alienation to Thos. s. to Henry de Wettenhall, for y^e man^r of Dereford, and nineteen messuages and much land in Acton, Hurleston, Nantwich, who feoff'd Tho. Ferrers, &c. herewith to y^e use of Sr J^o Bromley, who past it to y^e lord Stanley^g.”

It does not appear how these Ardenes were connected with the parent stem, but they have been improperly introduced by the old heralds into the pedigree of the eldest line of that house, as its actual representatives, and have produced a confusion which it has cost no small labour to rectify.

If the old pedigrees are right in making Henry Arderne son of John Arderne of Alvanley, who married Cicely Warren, that John, as well as his brothers, must have been illegitimate, or his uncle Peter could not have recovered Alvanley^h. It is, however, most probable that they err as widely in their mode of connecting Henry with the parent stock, as they do in their account of his lineal descendants, which the preceding documents prove to be as follows:



The subsequent account of Williamson is extremely confused and inaccurateⁱ, but it appears from it, that the earl of Derby held this manor from the Davenports of Bramall 14 Hen. VIII. and that the Bromleys came again into possession, as “Willm Bromley sold all his estate to Sr Roger Wilbraham, M^r of Requests, who 44 Eliz. past over to Ralph Wilbraham, his younger bro. y^e manors of Acton, Hurleston, and Dereford.”

This branch of the Wilbraham family continued in possession of Dorfold Hall, and the manor of Acton, until April 1754, when the said estates, together with the manors of Hurleston and Croxton, and a moiety of the manor of Wettenhall, were sold by Roger Wilbraham in 1754 to James Tomkinson, esq. father of Henry Tomkinson, esq. the present proprietor. A court baron is incident to the manor^k.

Dorfold Hall is situated south-east of the village of Acton, in grounds as favourably placed as the general flatness of the country will admit, and ornamented with trees of respectable age and growth. The house stands at a short distance from the highway at the end of an avenue, and is a fine specimen of the style which prevailed when it was rebuilt at the commencement of the seventeenth century, being a lofty pile of dark brick, finished with large bay windows, and groupes of massy chimneys. Dr. Williamson, with considerable probability, conjectures the identity of this place with the park of Yarfield, which appears, from deeds noticed in Hurleston, to have been held in demesne by Joanna lady Basset, one of the coheirs of the last baron of Nantwich.

The village of Acton is situated upwards of one mile north-west of Nantwich on the road from Chester to London, at the side of which stands its church, which as well as the Hall of Dorfold shared largely in the troubles of the Civil Wars of king Charles I.^l

^b See Additions to Owlartun, Bucklow hundred, p. 391.

^c This is proved by the following passage in the survey of Wich (Nantwich): “ibi erant octo salinæ inter regem et comitem Edwinum, ita quod de omnibus exitibus et redditionibus salinarum habebat rex duas partes et comes tertiam; ipse vero comes præter has habebat unam salinam propriam quæ adiacebat suo manerio de Acatone; de hac salina per totum annum habebat comes salem suæ domui, &c.” It is presumed that no clerical error could have existed without discovery, in a statement, which runs through all the Wiches, of the mode in which the king and the local prince Edwin earl of Mercia divided the revenue arising from the salt; and as either the survey of them, or of Acton, must be wrong, it will be difficult to do otherwise than to suppose the name of Morcar, which only occurs once in the latter, to be an error of the transcriber.

^d See the *Inq.* 16 Edw. I. respecting the land of William Malbank, under Nantwich.

^e Williamson's Vill. Cest. on the authority of the deeds of the Wilbrahams of Dorfold.

^f Williamson Vill. Cest.

^h See Edisbury hundred, p. 38.

ⁱ Edisbury hundred, p. 106.

^j He cites, for instance, the circumstance of the earl of Derby holding under the Davenports, as a proof of the Stanleys being capital lords, and proceeds with conjecturing that the Bromleys held under the Stanleys, as immediate lords thereof. This error of immediate for mediate runs through all the Villare.

^k Information of Henry Tomkinson, esq.

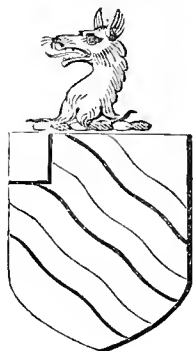
^l Lord Capel in the first instance seized both for the king, and they were subsequently Parliament garrisons, and reduced successively by lord Byron. After the battle at the raising of the siege, both were occupied by a large body of the royal army, which surrendered to sir Thomas Fairfax. The particulars will be found in Burghall's Diary, under the head of Nantwich.

WILBRAHAM OF DORFOLD.

The first five descents from Dugdale's Visitation 1663-4, with additions from the Wilbraham (of Townsend) MSS. and parochial registers. The rest from a pedigree and information communicated by the rev. John Hill.

ARMS. Argent, three bendlets wavy Azure, for difference a canton Gules.

CREST. On a wreath a wolf's head erased Argent.



MARGARET, daughter of Alexander Elerch, gent. widow of R. Wright, of Nantwich, married Aug. 7, 1591, o. s. p. 1606. — RICHARD WILBRAHAM, of Nantwich, esq. (see ped. of Wilbraham of Townsend, Edisb. Hund. p. 65) died Feb. 6, 1612. — ELIZA, daughter of Thomas Maisterson, of Nantwich, esq. married Oct. 20, 1550.

1. RICHARD WILBRAHAM, esq. son and heir, ancestor of WILBRAHAM OF TOWNSEND AND DELAMERE LODGE. 2. Sir ROGER WILBRAHAM, kt. purchaser of Dorfold, master of the Court of Requests; left female issue. 3. THOMAS WILBRAHAM, of London; left issue. 4. RALPH WILBRAHAM, (to whom his brother sir Roger Wilbraham transferred Dorfold 1644) feodary of Cheshire and Flintshire, born March 20, 1557. — ALICE, daughter of Thos. Mainwaring of Nantwich, married Feb. 7, 1580.

1. THOMAS WILBRAHAM, born Dec. 1581, s. p. 2. ROGER WILBRAHAM, of Dorfold, esq. born May 5, 1589, living 1663. — MARY, daughter of Thomas Ravenscroft, of Bretton, co. Flint, died April 30, 1632, æt. 37, buried at Acton. — ELIZABETH, born March 12, 1583, s. p. MARGARET, wife of Henry Hardware of Peele, born Jan. 5, 1586, ob. June 11, 1611. — ELIZABETH, born Nov. 8, 1587.

1. THOMAS. 2. RICHARD. 3. RALPH, o. s. p. — HANNAH, daughter of Smythe, mar. Sept. 16, 1684. — PETER WILBRAHAM, of Dorfold, esq. 4th son and heir, aged 37 years Sept. 10, 1663. — MARY, dau. of Tho. Stanley, of Alderley, esq. mar. at Alderley Sep. 6, 1647. — ELIZABETH, died unmarr. Dec. 6, 1645, ætat. 24, buried at Acton. — GRACE. — ANNE, wife of sir John Bellot, of Moreton, bart. died Sept. 27, 1711, æt. 84, buried at Asbury. — ALICE, wife of Roger Wilbraham, of Townsend, esq. died Sept. 7, 1676.

THOMAS WILBRAHAM, baptized at Alderley Oct. 23, 1649, buried there the same year. — FRANCES, daughter of Thomas Ravenscroft, of Bretton, esq. died Sept. 5, 1706, aged 49, buried at Acton. — RALPH WILBRAHAM, of Dorfold, esq. aged 8 years Sept. 10, 1663, died Oct. 19, 1722. — ALICE, daughter of Roger Wilbraham, of Townsend, esq. married at Wren-bury May 26, 1709, died Jan. 9, 1713, s. p. — ROGER. PETER. — CHARLES WILBRAHAM, elected fellow of Brasenose College 1684, marr. dau. of Swan, co. Oxon, by whom he had lady Comyns, living 1764, and Peter who died s. p.

ROGER WILBRAHAM, mar. daughter and heiress of the rev. Samuel Alsager, and had issue one daughter and heiress, wife of James Williams. — Four children died before their mother. — THOMAS. JOHN. GEORGE, o. s. p. — RALPH WILBRAHAM, of Dorfold, obiit 1731. — ELIZABETH, dau. of John Bromhall of the Hough in Wybunbury. — HUGH WILBRAHAM, rector of St. Mary's, Chester, June 13, 1715, died Jan. 6, 1723. bapt. July 11, 1723, bur. Dec. 1, 1724. — ANNA MARIA, daughter of Anthony Townshend, of Hemhouse, esq. died without surviving issue. — Two other sons, and four daughters survived.

JOHN WILBRAHAM, rector of St. Mary's, Chester, Nov. 8, 1744, baptized at St. Andrew's, Holborn; died 1765, buried at Wybunbury. — MARGARET, dau. of Windsor. — ESTHER, daughter of Thomas Cowper, of Chester, esq. died at Dorfold Nov. 1740, buried at Acton Nov. 10, 1740. — JOHN WILBRAHAM, only son, bapt. at Acton Nov. 2, 1740, buried with his mother Nov. 10, 1740. — ROGER WILBRAHAM, of Dorfold, esq. died Jan. 24, 1768, ætat. 52, buried at St. Mary's in Chester. — CATHERINE, dau. of Roger Comberbach, of Chester, esq. aged 79 years, 1817.

JOHN, baptized Aug. 2, 1743, o. s. p. Sept. 1766. — MARY, daughter and coheir, wife of the rev. Rob. Hill, rector of St. Mary's July 25, 1772, living 1817. — ELIZABETH, bapt. at St. Mary's Nov. 6, 1746. — MARGARET, baptized Jan. 2, 1747-8. — ELEANOR, baptized June 6, 1745. — JAMES WATKIN WILBRAHAM, in orders, living 1817; married Jane, daughter of . . . Croucher, of the county of Hereford, s. p. — ANNE, unmarried, living 1817. — MARIA, married in May 1800, to Christopher Palles, esq. of Mount Palles, co. Cavan, and remarried April 1814, to James Henry Cottingham, esq. of Summerville in the same county, s. p.

1. ROBERT WILBRAHAM BROMHALL HILL. 2. JOHN. 3. ROWLAND. 4. SAMUEL. 5. RICHARD. 6. MARY. 7. MARGARET. 8. BRIAN. 9. JANE. 10. BRIAN, ob. infans. 11. THOMAS. 12. ELIZA ANNE. 13. EMMA. 14. WILLIAM, ob. infans.

CHURCH.

Ded. to St. Mary.

Tax. P. N. £5.¹ Val. Eccl. £19. 9s. 7d.

Two priests are mentioned to be resident at Acton in the Domesday Survey; and about fifty years afterwards the charter of earl Randle to Combermere abbey notices three dependent chapels. From this circumstance it is by no means improbable, that one of the priests discharged parochial duties in the more remote parts of his extensive cure, whilst the other officiated at the mother church; and consequently that some of the chapels were founded before the Norman Conquest.

The church of Acton was at this period an appendage of the barony of Wich Malbank, and was granted by the second baron to Combermere abbey, to which it was confirmed in 1130 by Randle Gernons, with its three chapels, Nantwich, Wrenbury, and Minshall.

A licence for the appropriation of this rectory, with its dependencies, was granted by Richard bishop of Coventry (Richard Peche, 1161—83), and was confirmed by the prior and convent of Coventry, and by a bull of pope Alexander. The ordination of the vicarage was made in 1265 by Roger de Molend, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry^m.

¹ This relates to the vicarage only. There is a distinct valuation of the impropriated rectory at £48.

^m The three first mentioned documents are preserved in a collection of Monastic Records, Harl. MSS. 3868. pp. 12, 13. and have been printed by Dugdale; the matter of the ordination is as follows, being abstracted from a translation of the original deed in the possession of the rev. William Morgan of Wistaston, 1817.

Roger, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, lately visiting the archdeaconry of Chester, ordains that the vicar of Acton shall have the entire cure of the whole parish, the vicar to receive in the church of Acton, and in the dependent villis, oblations and obventions to the altar belonging, so that the abbot and convent of Combermere shall receive tithes of corn, and half the tithe of hay. The vicar shall receive in Wrenbury chapel all oblations and obventions to the altar of the said chapel; and in the chapel of Wich Malbank, all oblations accruing or arising on the days of Nativity, Easter Sunday, the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and All Saints; and oblations for purification of women after childbirth. The vicar to support a chaplain and a clerk to officiate in the said chapel. The chaplain to swear as is fitting on the Holy Evangelists, to be diligent and faithful, and will in no wise commit any deceit or fraud in the portions belonging to the said abbot and convent; and the same priest shall by no right claim the tithes and obventions, but if it shall happen that any shall be made by the faithful in Christ to him, he may receive them, so as long as the tithes or obventions shall in no manner be assessed. Dated at La Lee, id. March A. D. 1265. in the 9th year of our consecration. The date in translation is 1285, which must be incorrect if the date of the consecration is right, that event having taken place in 1257.

After the dissolution, the rectory of Acton and the advowson of the vicarage were granted by Hen. VIII. to Richard Wilbraham of Woodhey, whose representa-

tive, the earl of Dysart, is the present patron. The registers commence in 1717^k.

VICARS OF ACTON.

PRESENTED.	VICARS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1300.	Thomas de Prescote, diac.	Abbas de Cumbermere.	
1399 ante.	Rogerus Salghall ^l .		
1412, 28 Feb.	Thomas Bamville, cap.		
1435, April 11.	Radulphus Heydoke, pr'br.	Abbas de Cumbermere.	P. m. Tho. Bamville.
	Urianus Davenport.		
1495, Sept. 16.	Robertus Taverner.	Abbas de Cumbermere.	P. m. Uriani Davenport.
1508, Jan. 8.	Robert Cauley.		Death of Robert Taverner.
1512, Feb. 27.	Richard Ormestane.		Death of Robert Cauley.
— Jan. 8.	John Lorre.	Hugh Cholmeley.	Death of Rich. Ormestanc.
1601, Sept. 30.	Thomas Bostock.	Thomas Wilbraham.	
1628, May 14.	Richard Hunt.	Sir Richard Wilbraham, bart.	Death of Tho. Bostock.
	Edward Burghall.		
1662, Oct. 28.	Thomas Kirkes.		Dispossess. of E. Burghall.
1673, Dec. 18.	William Uxsham.	Sir Thomas Wilbraham, bart.	Cess. of Tho. Kirkes.
1674.	Samuel Edgeley.		
1722, May 10.	Joseph Harwar, A.B.	Earl of Dysart.	Death of Samuel Edgeley.
1745, April 17.	Joseph Brereton, LL.B.	Earl of Dysart.	Death of Joseph Harwar.
1787, March 28.	Thomas Cotes, A. M.	Hon. Wilbraham Tollemache.	Death of Joseph Brereton.
1791, Sept. 10.	Thomas Cotes, A. M.	Hon. Wilbraham Tollemache.	Cess. of said Tho. Cotes.
1798, March 3.	Edward Hinchcliffe, A.M.	Hon. Wilbraham Tollemache.	Cess. of Tho. Cotes.

The Church of Acton is an extremely handsome and well-finished building of red stone, consisting of a tower containing six bells, a nave with side aisles, and chancel.

The western entrance is under a lancet window placed between two smaller ones of the same description, and leads into a vestibule under the steeple, communicating with the nave by a massy pointed arch, resting on pilasters, with capitals, in which the nail head moulding is introduced. On each side are two similar arches, resting on shorter pilasters, and opening to the Dorfold chancel on the south side, and the extremity of the north aisle on the other.

The nave is separated from the side aisles by five acutely pointed arches on each side, over which is a row of clerestory windows.

The tower is apparently the most antient part, the rest being in a richer style of pointed Gothic, with handsome buttresses, battlements, and pinnacles. From this, however, must be excepted the top of the tower, which being injured by a storm in 1757, has been restored in a style very incongruous with the rest of the fabric; the vaulting of the nave, repaired at the same time; and a parapet of open work, over the chancel. These additions, though executed in a laboured and costly manner, materially take away from the general beauty and uniformity of the church.

At the dissolution there were four endowed CHANTRIES in this church. Two chancels at the south-west and south-east angles of the nave are still appropriated to the Halls of DORFOLD and WOODHEY; and a third at the north-east angle, which contains the monument of sir William Manwaring^m, had an additional endowment

under his will, which mentions this chantry being dedicated to St. Mary^m. The names and pensions of the priests who were ejected from the chantries at the reformation are given as follows in the pension roll of 1556.

Penc'o'es.

Rad'hi Wright presbiter' nup' celebran' eccl'ia de Acton, p' ann' vi li.

Rad'hi Minshall unius alter' pre'biter' ibid'm, p' ann' iiii li.

X'rophiery Wenynghon, p'sbiteri nup' celebran' in villa de Acton, p' ann' iiii li.

Thome Potter nuper incumben' in eccl'ia p'ochial' de Acton, p' ann' iiii li.

MONUMENTS.

In the Woodhey chancel is an altar-monument of white marble, on which are the recumbent figures of sir Richard Wilbraham, of Woodhey, bart. and his wife Elizabeth Wilbraham of Dorfold.

The knight is habited in plate-armour. The heads of both repose on pillows, and the feet on couchant wolves. At the east end are the arms of Wilbraham of Woodhey quartering Wilbraham of Dorfold, and at the other end the arms of Wilbraham impaling Savage.

On the south side this inscription has been added:

Lectissimorum conjugum par.

Ricardus Wilbraham eques et baronettus,
Thomæ Wilbraham de Woodhey armigeri
et Franciscæ filiaë Hugonis Cholmondeley
de Cholmondeley equitis
filius;

^k Returns to the Episcopal Registry. The Charities are given at the end of the hundred, to which must be added a School founded by private subscription about the time of the Restoration, as a maintenance for Edward Burghall, a puritanical intruder into the vicarage (from which he was subsequently ejected) and the author of a curious Diary, relating to the siege of Nantwich, the greatest part of which is given in the account of that place.

^l Roger de Salghall is inserted on the authority of the general act of pardon to the adherents of king Richard, 1 Hen. IV. in which he is excepted. Urian Davenport is noticed among the rectors of Malpas.

^m See Bucklow hundred, p. 370. The Woodhey Chancel probably originated in the will of William Wilbraham, q. v. in Faddiley.

unica et pientissima uxor,
nomine et re Gratia, Johannis Savage de Rock Savage,
equitis et baronetti, filia.

Utrosq' cœlo dignos, terris majores, reddiderant
pietas, virtus, fides,

hic fortis, justus, sapiens;
illa benefica, affabilis, pia,
numerosa sobole, filiis sex, filiabus septem, donati.

Mortuus est 3^o Aprî's, an^o Domî MDCXLIII.
ætat. LXIV.

Mœrens uxor marito et filiis omnibus supervixit: Infœlix!
conjugis pariter et prolis vidua
mortua est 8^o Martiⁱ MDCLXI

ætat. LXXVI.

Ne posteros capiat oblivio
hoc sacrum nurus fideli commisit marmori.

On the North side is the original inscription.

Siste advena,
qui vir hic situs sit te moræ pretium erit.

Thomas Wilbraham, baronettus,
Richardi Wilbraham, militis ac baronetti,
ac Gratia conjugis,
filius hæresq.

Uxorem duxit Elizabetham, Rogeri Wilbraham,
equitis aurati

(regi Jacobo libellorum supplicum magistri),

filiam cohæredem.

Physicis, theologicis, perlegendo, scribendo,
plurimum versatus;
summa humanitate, sapientia, amœnitate, et probitate
æternum celebrandus;
paucis tamen (humilitate propria, sæculoq. iniquo)
celebris.

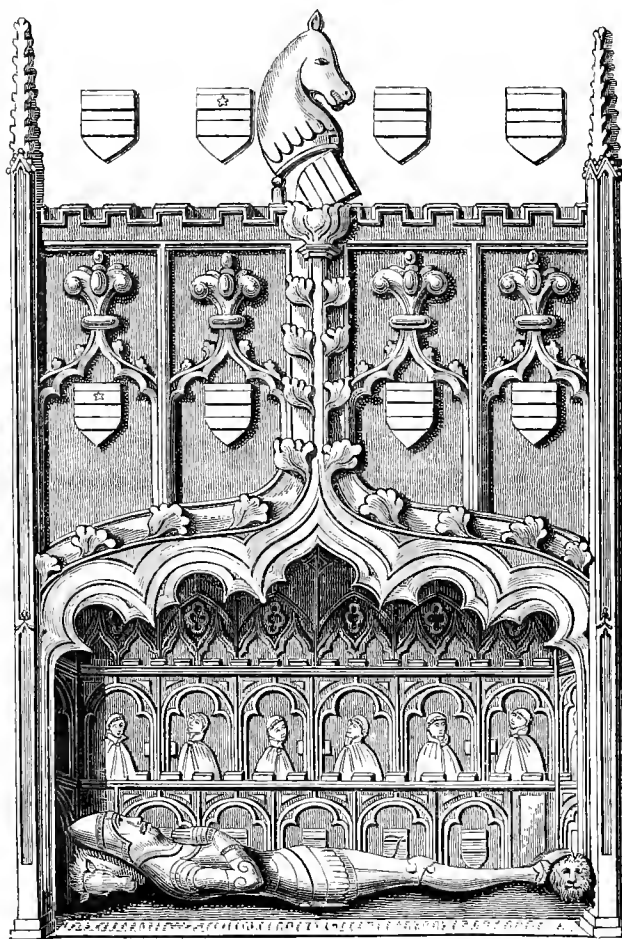
Septem habuit filios, filiam unicam, amicos plurimos,
inimicum neminem.

Tempora optimus supervixit pessima,
cœlumq' rediit Oct. xxxi.
anno salutis MDCLX.

Amantissimo et optimè merenti conjugî uxor mœrens P.
usque dum dilectos cineres complecti datum sit,
luctûs monumentum spirans, et majus ipsa superfutura.

At the end of this oratory, vestiges of the altar are
visible, and there is a piscina in the south wall. Some
brasses have been torn from the pavement.

Near the end of the North side aisle, in a portion
of the church which formed ST. MARY'S CHAPEL, pre-
viously mentioned, is the monument of sir William
Manwaring of Baddiley and Peover, of which the an-
nexed vignette will give a better idea than verbal de-
scription. On the edge of the tomb was inscribed:
"Hic jacet Willielmus Manwaring, quondam dominus
de Badeleye, qui obiit die Veneris xx^o, ante festum
Pentecostæ, anno Domini m^o.ccc^o. nonagesimo nonoⁿ."



ⁿ See Bucklow Hundred, p. 370.—In Harl. MSS. 2151. are notes of the existing monuments of the families of Mainwaring and Wilbraham, and of a profusion of armorial bearings, which formerly decorated the windows of the church.

In one of the windows was a kneeling armed figure: over his head was St. George, with a cross on his shield, and under him, *Orate pro anima Willielmi Mainwaringe de Badelegh*. His lady was habited in a blue dress, and the inscription under her gone. Over her head was a figure of St. Michael holding a shield emblazoned, quarterly Argent and Gules, a cross patonce counterchanged.

In the clerestory were two figures in stained glass, with seven sons and two daughters. Over them, Vert, a cross engrailed Ermine, and underneath, *Orate pro animabus Thomæ Wetenhall, et Johannæ uxoris ejus*.

In the DORFOLD CHANCEL, at the West end of the south aisle, are these inscriptions, on mural monuments:

M. S.

Spe resurgendi hic jacet Francisca,
filia natu minima Thomæ Ravenscrofte
de Bretton, in agro Flint. armig.

uxor 1^a Radulphi Wilbraham de Dorfold,
in com. Cestriæ armig.

cui peperit 17 liberos, reliquit 13, viz. filios 9, filias 4,
quæ gravi et diuturno morbo confecta, firma in Christo
fide, et invicta animi patientiâ,
in cælum rediit, cum vixisset annos 49.

Obiit { die Septembris 5^o,
anno salutis 1706.

Arms of Wilbraham, Argent, three bends Azure, for difference a canton Gules, impaling Ravenscroft. Crest, a wolf's head erased proper.

Near this another mural tablet, with the same arms and crest.

To the deare memory of Mary
Wilbraham, wife of Roger Wilbraham,
of Derfould, esq. daughter to
Thomas Ravenscroft, of Bretton,
in Flintshire, esq.
who, through the
pangs of childbed passed to eternal
rest, ult^o April anno D'ni 1632,
æt. suæ 37^o.

Here lyes the earthy part of her whose name
Gives honour to this stone; who knew no flame
But that of zeale, and conjugale pure love;
Ambitious of no place but heaven above.
More paynes to put on Christ, then clothes she tooke,
The law her glasse, where she loved most to looke.

Meeke she was, yet her vertues caused a strife,
Whether she was Christian more rare, or wife:
A better daughter or a mother; more
Bounteous to friends, or kinder to the poor;
During this strife, ere it was throughly tried,
Whilst grace grew, nature weaken'd, and she died.

Opposite to this another tablet, inscribed,

To the memory of Elizabeth, daughter
of Rog. Wilbraham, of Derfold, esq. by
Mary his wife, daughter of Thomas
Ravenscroft of Bretton, esq. She
dyed Decemb. y^e 6th, anno D'ni 1645,
æt. suæ 24.

Here lyes her body—Hould! some one replies,
'Tis not her body, 'tis this marble lyes;
For her fayre clay, ere death could reach her bed,
Sly sickness (to cheat him) thence ravished,
And in its roome conveyed a skelleton,
Which scarce her lookinge glasse or friends could
owne:

A skelleton so bare, that as she lay,
She seemed a soule abstracted from its clay.
Thus lighten'd, she could act, and never faint,
But moved more like an angell than a saint;
Whilst, through those weather-beat thin walls of skin,
Each looker-on might see what dwelt within:
Sound judgment, joy'n'd to active piety,
Wit, sweetness, patience, and humility.
A virgin too! save that, just such another
In all perfections as her neighbour mother.

In the principal chancel is an unusually long inscription, in memory of Samuel Edgeley, vicar of Acton, who died 18 Dec. 1721, aged 89, after having been vicar 47 years.

P O O L E.

THIS township has two distinct notices in Douiesday.
"Isdem Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Pol. Hacon
tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis.
Terra est una caruca, ipsa est in dominio cum 11 bo-
variis, et 111 bordariis. Ibi dimidia acra prati. Valebat
v solidos, modo v111 solidos.

"Isdem Willelmus tenet Pol. Ulvena tenuit, et li-
bera fuit. Ibi una virgata geldabilis. Terra est una
caruca; ibi est unus villanus, et 111 bordarii cum dimi-
dia caruca. Ibi 11 acræ prati, et una acra silvæ modicæ.
Valuit et valet 111 solidos."

One virgate of the lands of Bromhale is also said to
lie "in Pol manerio."

The township is at present divided into three manors.
Warpool, the property of the earl of Dysart; Barrets-
pool, belonging to sir John Grey Egerton; and White-
pool, the property of William Massey, esq. The two
last only are noticed in the inquisition 16 Edw. I.;
Wytpull being mentioned as having been allotted to
Philippa Basset, and Barrettespull to Auda Vernon.

A court-baron is held by lord Dysart for the manor of
War Poole, and it owes suit and service to the court
leet held by the marquis of Cholmondeley for his part of
the barony of Nantwich.

In the inquisitions after the death of Joanna, widow
of Philip Egerton, of Egerton, 1 Hen. VIII.; Philip
Egerton, 26 Hen. VIII.; and sir Philip Egerton, 6
Eliz.; the estate of that family in *Barrett's Poole* is

noticed as having been held by them from the abbot of
Combermere in socage, by fealty and suit to his court,
val. x11s. per ann. This estate most probably passed
from the elder line to the ancestor of sir John Grey
Egerton, in the same manner with Egerton and Oulton.
The courts are disused for this manor, as well as for
Whitepoole.

In the fifteenth century, *Whitepoole* was vested in a
collateral line of the family of Cranage, and passed in
marriage with Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Tho-
mas Cranage, to Alexander Elcocke of Stockport, the
subject of the following Inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 4 Edw. VI. Alexander Elcocke held lands
in Whitepoole, Horpoole, Worleston, Cranage, and
Wich Malbank, from sir Thomas Gravenor, knt. and
Richard Leigh, of Baguley, esq. in socage, by fealty,
val. xl.; also lands in Wincham, Stockport, and Wim-
bald's Trafford. He died Nov. 15, 3 Edw. VI. Francis
Elcocke son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 33 Eliz. Francis Elcocke, gent. held, con-
jointly with Elizabeth his wife, messuages and lands in
Whitpoole, Horepoole, and Worleston, in capite, from
the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, as the hun-
dredth part of a knight's fee, val. per ann. nihil; the said
Elizabeth holding the same for life and surviving. He
held also lands in Stockport, val. vs. per ann. and died
Oct. 24, 33 Eliz. leaving Alexander Elcocke son and
heir, aged upwards of fourteen years.

Alexander, found heir by this inquisition, entered his descent in the visitation of 1613; and his descendants of the name of Elcock continued in possession of Whitepoole until the death of Mrs. Ann Elcock, in 1812, when this manor, with other neighbouring ma-

nors and estates, passed under her will to her nephew William Massey, esq. the present proprietor. Poole Hall, the residence of Mr. Massey, has been lately re-built, and the grounds laid out under the direction of Webb.

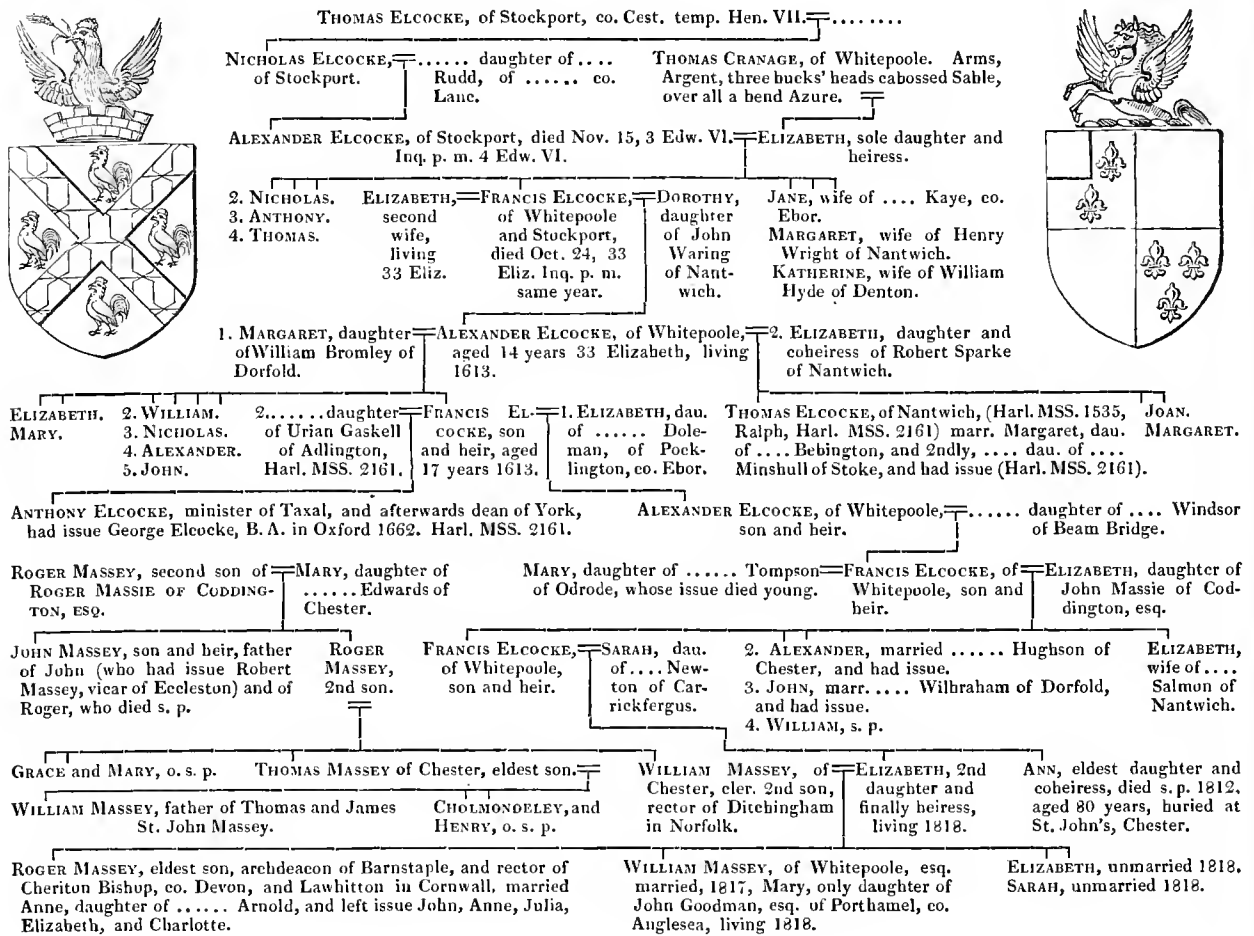
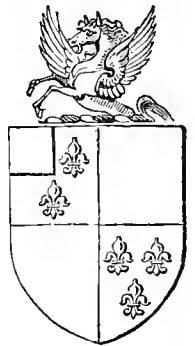
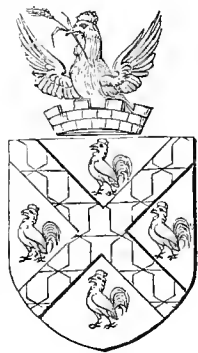
ELCOCKE AND MASSEY OF WHITEPOOLE.

From Inquisitions p. m. the Visitation of 1613, Harl. MSS. 1535, 2119, and 2161, 198, and the information of the family in the later descents.

ARMS OF ELCOCKE. Gules, a saltier varyy, between four cocks statant Argent.

CREST. Rising from a mural coronet Or, a demi cock Azure, comb, beak, wattles, of the first, in his mouth an ear of corn of the same.

ARMS OF MASSEY, as Massie of Coddington, see Broxton Hundred, p. 399.



WORLESTON.

"ISDEM Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Werblestune; Hacon, Elward, et Edric, tenuerunt pro 111 maneriis, et liberi fuerunt. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est 11 carucarum: in dominio est una et 11 bovarii, et unus villanus, et unus radman, et 11 bordarii cum una caruca. Ibi silva dimidia leuva longa, et dimidia lata: et una haia. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat v11 solidos et 1v denarios, modo v111 solidos. Wasta fuit."

In the division of the barony of Nantwich, Worleston (as appears by the Inquisition 16 Edw. I.) passed to Eleanor Malbank, and afterwards to the Audleys.

The subordinate royalty was held, temp. Hen. III. by Matilda the heiress of a family which possessed lands in Wrenbury, and several other contiguous townships; and passed with her in marriage to sir

Robert Cowdray, whose name frequently occurs in charters in the time of Randle Blundeville. She subsequently married Hugh de Longford^a, and in her first widowhood gave the tenth of the multure of the mill here to the abbey of St. Werburgh.

Jane de Cowdrey (sole issue by the first marriage) married sir Wm. Essey, and afterwards Walter de Worleston, who, conjointly with Jane his wife, anno 29 Edw. I. settled a moiety of the manor of Worleston on Robert de Harecourt by fine, excepting the homages and services of Richard de Wrenbury, Robert de Bebington, and Hugh de Barneston, which were to remain to Walter and Joan, and the heirs of Joan for ever^b.

This moiety of the manor passed, according to Dr. Williamson, to the Cholmondeleys and Bromleys with

^a Vernon's Somerford MSS. 4, 105.

^b Williamson's Fines, p. 4.

the daughters and coheirresses of Robert de Harcourt, jun.; and it is probably the same with a moiety of the manor, which was inherited by the Drummonds from the Werdens of Burton^c, and which has recently been sold by H. Drummond, esq. to William Massey, esq. of Poole Hall^d.

The *other moiety* (according to Dr. Williamson) was settled by Matilda Cowdray on her daughter Joan de Esseby, temp. Hen. III. with the homages and services of Katherine, daughter to the said Maud, Bertram Gryffin, Randle de Bebington, Hugh de Berneston, and others; and was again settled in 1337 on Thomas de Worleston (grandson of Joan de Esseby), remainder successively to his sons John and Richard and their heirs, and then to their sister Margery.

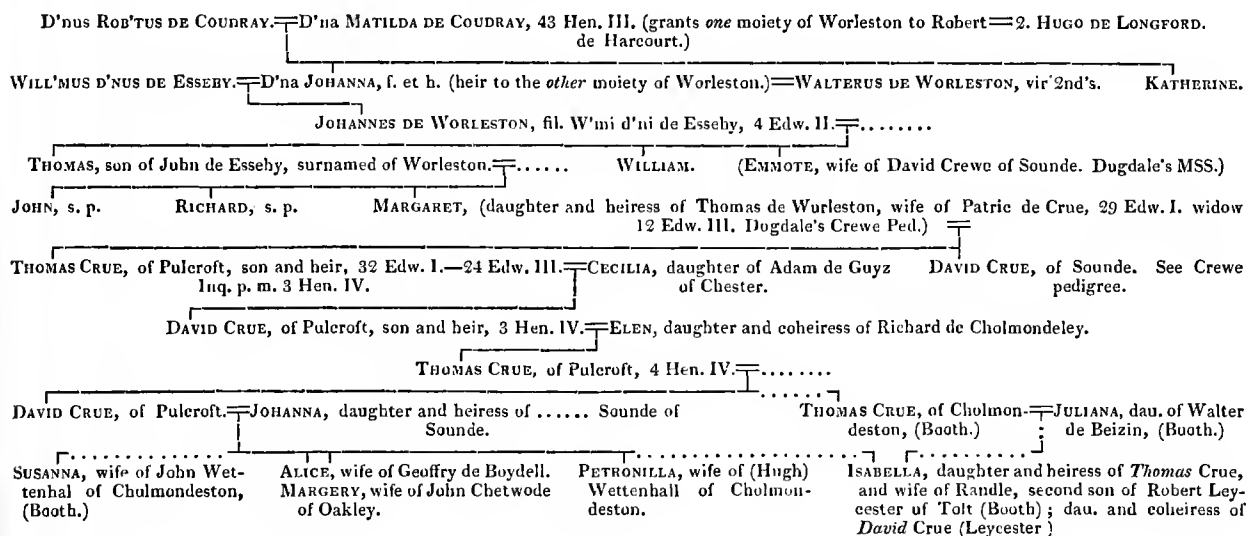
According to Dr. Williamson John had issue two daughters and coheirresses, wives of Crewe and Knolles: but according to a pedigree drawn from original deeds by sir William Dugdale, Margery (or Margaret) sister of John, became sole daughter and heiress of Thomas de Worleston before mentioned, and married Patric de Crue, younger brother of sir Thomas Crue of Crue, by whom she was mother of Thomas Crue of Pulcroft in Worleston, who had the Cowdray estate in that town-

ship, and David Crue, ancestor of the present family of the Crewes of Crewe^e.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. IV. Thomas de Crue, de Pulcroft, held in demesne as of fee, lands in Wha-Poole, Aston, Worleston, Wich Malbank, and Barret's Poole: the estate in Worleston being held from John Tockett, ch'v'r, by military service, and of the value of xls. per ann. David de Crue son and heir.

From this David the Crues of Pulcroft are traced in the annexed pedigree to their termination in *three* coheirresses, according to sir William Dugdale. Booth adds a *fourth* coheirress (who is added in brackets); and sir Peter Leycester a *fifth*, who is the most important of all, being the coheirress with whom this moiety of the manor of Worleston appears to have passed to the Leycesters. She is given with dotted lines connecting her with the coheirresses according to Leycester's conjecture, and with an uncle of the coheirresses, of whom Booth makes her sole daughter, apparently with more probability.

These are all the variations from Dugdale in the four lower descents; the upper part (referring to the preceding narrative) is from Vernon's MSS. (Somerford, IV. 105) excepting two additions from Dugdale's MSS. and Williamson in brackets.



Geoffry de Boydell appears to have had by this marriage the estate of *Pulcroft* in this township. He was paternally descended from the knightly family of Boydell of Dodleston, and his male issue were settled here in 1559, when John Boydell of Pulcroft, by *Inq. p. m.* was found to have died seized of estates in Pulcroft, Lymme, Heatley, Reddish, and Oughtrington, val. xviii. l. xiiii. s. id. (Nov. 18, 6 Mar.) leaving issue Thomas Boydell son and heir. A pedigree of the family down to this period, transcribed from sir Francis Leicester's MSS. is subjoined: it is probable that they soon after left Pulcroft, or became extinct in the direct line, as Webb, writing in 1621, speaks of them as a race of gentlemen of worship, "now worn out."^f

Roger de Chetwode was representative of an antient family settled originally at Chetwode, co. Bucks, and had lands in Worleston and Sound. His family after this match had a seat in Worleston, and have since formed additional connections with Cheshire by successive marriages with the heiresses of Rowley, Touchet of Nether Whitley, and Venables of Agden^g.

The coheirress (and possibly the coheirresses) who married into the *Wettenall* family had lands in Cholmondeston.

Robert Leycester was of the house of *Toft*, and his descendants had an estate in Worleston on which they resided for several generations, and with which this moiety of the manor appears to have descended. It was subsequently vested in a family of the name of

^c See Werdens pedigree, Edisb. Hundred, p. 179.

^d Information of W. Massey, esq.

^e Vide pedigree under Crewe, p. 169.

^f A family of this name, of which several branches are settled in the neighbourhood of Dodleston, the original seat of the Boydells, deduces a descent traditionally from the Pulcroft family, but (as the author is informed by the rev. Joseph Eaton, F. S. A. who is connected by marriage with the family) was seated in Lancashire temp. Eliz. and Jac. I. beyond which time their authentic documents do not extend. Three branches of this line were then settled, at Much Woolton in Childwall parish, Upholland in Wigan, and Pennington in Leigh. Which of these was eldest is not known; but if the last was so, it is a probable, though a mere conjecture, from contiguity of situation to Lymme, that this branch was of the Pulcroft stock, which had property and a residence there. John Boydell, D.D. third in the pedigree of this family, born in Shropshire, and beneficed at Ashborne and Mapleton in Derbyshire, was grandfather of the celebrated alderman Boydell, of whom it would be frivolous to say any thing in these limits, but of whom a memoir will be found in Chalmers' Biog. Dict. VI. 301. He died s. p. himself, but had five younger brothers, four of whom left male issue.

^g The later descents of the Chetwode family will be found in Nether Whitley, Bucklow Hundred, p. 489: the earlier ones are given in all the Baronetages.

Tagg, and was sold by Mrs. Craven, relict of Mr. — Tagg, to the late Mrs. Elcock of Poole^h, by whom it was bequeathed to her nephew, William Massey, of Poole, esq. in whom the whole manor is thus united.

A collateral line of the *Wilbrahams* was settled at

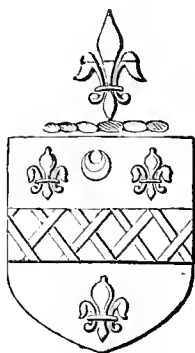
Rease Heath Hall in this township, which passed by marriage to the Windsors, and was purchased in 1772 from Mrs. Sarah Windsor, and her son, Edward Charles Windsor, esq. by Henry Tomkinson, esq. the present proprietor^l.

LEYCESTER OF WORLESTON.

From sir Peter Leycester's MS pedigrees.

ARMS. Leycester of Toft, a crescent for difference.

CREST. On a wreath, a fleur-de-lis party per fesse, Or and Az.



THOMAS LEYCESTER, of Worleston, son of Randle, second son of Robert Leycester of Toft, and of his wife Isabel, daughter and coheir of David Crew, of Pulcroft. — CECILY, daughter of Thomas Ow-singer, of Owsinger.

ANNE, daughter of John Fouleshurst, younger brother of sir Robert Fouleshurst, of Crewe. — RANOLE LEYCESTER, of Worleston. — AGNES, daughter of John Crewe, of Nantwich, had issue Thomas, who died without issue.

GEORGE. — KATHERINE, wife of Ralph Croxton. — HENRY LEYCESTER, of Worleston, living 1566. — MAUD, daughter of James Huxley, of Brindley. — CICELY, wife of Robert Highfield.

ANNE, wife of Edward Minshall, of Nantwich. — 4. RICHARD, s. p. — 5. RANOLE, s. p. — 6. RALPH, s. p. — 1. THOMAS LEYCESTER, of Poole, son and heir, married Susan, daughter of sir Thomas Lodge, alderman of London; by whom Richard and Margaret, who died s. p. — 2. GEORGE, had thirteen children. — 3. WILLIAM LEYCESTER, mayor of Chester 1609, obiit 1616. — JANE, sister of Ric. Stokes, of Chester.

RANOLE, 2nd son, married Martha, daughter of Uryan Bebbington, of London. — ROBERT LEYCESTER, of Poole, alderman of Chester, obiit 1658. — JANE, daughter of John Fitton, of Chester, alderman. — ELIZABETH, dau. of Peter Newall, of Chester. — MARGARET, unmarried. — MARY, wife of Hugh Capper, of Chester. — ELIZABETH, wife of Randle Minshall, of Hampton.

ANNE, s. p. — MARY, wife of sir Henry Delves, of Doddington, second wife, living a widow 1666. — THOMAS, died young.

BOYDELL OF PULCROFT.

From Sir Francis Leicester's MSS. with a few additions.

ARMS. Vert, a chevron Or between three crosses patonce of the second.



JOHN DE BOYDELL, younger son of Boydell of Doddleston, temp. Edward III. —.....

JOHN DE BOYDELL, of Groppenhall, Ric. II. —.....

WILLIAM BOYDELL, of Groppenhall. —..... — JOHN BOYDELL, of Pulcroft, Hen. IV. —.....

THOMAS DE BOYDELL, of Groppenhall. —..... — JOHN BOYDELL, Hen. V. Inq. p. m. 15 Hen. VI. —.....

ELIZABETH, wife of Thomas Daniel, of Tabley. — GEOFFRY BOYDELL, son and heir, 15 Hen. VI. —.....

GEOFFRY BOYDELL, Edw. IV. —.....

GEOFFRY BOYDELL, Hen. VII. — ALICE, daughter of David Crewe, of Pulcroft, remarried to Thomas Brindley. Crewe ped.

(JOHN) BOYDELL, Hen. VIII. —.....

JOHN BOYDELL, Edw. VI. (died 18 Nov. 6 Mary. Inq. p. m. 3 Eliz.) —..... — MARGERY, wife of William Wylme, of Oughttrington, marriage portion, xll.

THOMAS BOYDELL, of Pulcroft, son and heir by Inq. 3 Elizabeth.

STOKE

Is omitted in Domesday, but occurs in the Inq. 16 Edw. I. as a dependency of that portion of the barony which fell to the share of Philippa Basset.

The mesne lords, who assumed the local name, were, according to Dr. Williamson, a branch of the Praers family, descended from Randle, son of Randle de Praers, who settled on lands here given by his father^a.

18 Edw. III. Alice, widow of Roger de Stoke, sued Randle, son of the said Roger, son of Randle, for her third of eighteen messuages, a mill, and 160

acres of land cum pert. in Stoke by Cholmondeston, for her dower^b.

Randle, son of Randle last named, married Beatrix, daughter and heiress of John de Codinton^c; and 24 Edw. III. bought from the Black Prince, in right of his daughters Isabel and Cicely, cousins and heirs of John, son of John de Codinton, the wardship of the said John, with custody of his lands, and the reversion of the other lands then held in dower by John Roer and Maud his wife. In 1357, the said Randle lord of Stoke enfeoffs

^h Information of William Massey, esq.

^a Williamson, Vill. Cest.

^b Ibid.

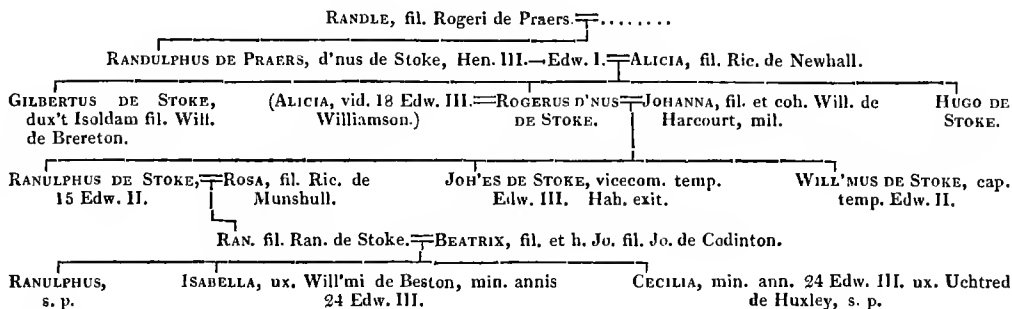
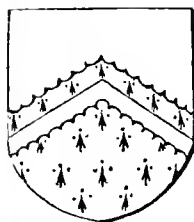
^c Information of Henry Tomkinson, esq.

^e Beeston pedigrec.

Laurence, chaplain of Acton, with his said manor, &c. who shortly after re-encofes him with the same^d.

The pedigree of this branch of the Praers family is given as follows, Harl. MSS. 2038. 50.

ARMS. Party per chevron Vert and Ermine, a chevron engrailed counterchanged.



Isabella de Stoke, before mentioned, brought this manor in marriage to William, son of Henry de Beeston, by whom she had issue John Beeston, who married Margaret de Teverton, heiress of that manor; which Margaret, by *Inq. p. m.* 7 Hen. V. died seized of that manor, and lands in Tarporley and Mynshull Vernon, leaving Elizabeth (or Isabella), daughter of the said John, her heir^e.

Elizabeth Beeston, married successively sir Robert Aston and sir John Carrington; and by *Inq. p. m.* 34 Hen. VI. died seized of the manors of Stoke and Teverton, and other estates^f, leaving Richard, son of sir Robert Aston, her son and heir. In this inquisition the manor of Stoke is stated to be held in socage from Robert Fulleshurst of Crue, by military service, and the render of one penny per ann.: val. cs.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VII. Sir Richard Aston, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Stoke, as in the preceding inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VIII. Richard Aston, esq. held the same from Thomas Fulleshurst of Crewe, esq. as before.

Inq. p. m. 16 Eliz. John Aston, esq. held the same from Robert Fulleshurst of Crewe, esq. as before: val. viii.

In this name (says Dr. Williamson) "it continued until Edward Minshull, son of Geoffry Minshull of Nantwich, bought this manor from John Aston of Aston, esq. whose great grandson Edward Minshull, esq. is lord thereof, 1701." Mr. Stones has added in the Overlegh

copy, "This lordship was late purchas'd by Mr. Tho. Williams, a cheese-factor in Nantwich."

Stoke shortly afterwards was sold by Mr. Williams to the Wilbrahams; and by a subsequent sale became the property of Mr. Richard Craven, whose daughters are, or were lately, the proprietors.

It remains to speak of the Minshulls of Stoke, who, in addition to their claim to notice, as descendants from one of the most antient families of the county (the Minshulls of Church Minshull), derive no inconsiderable interest from their connection with the chief of English poets. The Cheshire pedigrees are silent on the subject of this branch of the Minshull family, and a narrative pedigree which they had affixed to a monument in Nantwich is concealed by the gallery. Dugdale, however, fortunately transcribed it in 1663-4, and his copy of it is subjoined^g. Geoffry Minshull, the erector, died in 1663, and his own memorial, now destroyed, but copied in Harl. MSS. 2151, will be found among the Nantwich monuments.

From this pedigree it will appear that the wife of Milton, though of kindred to both parties, was nearly related in blood to some of the best and noblest of the Cheshire royalists. May we not believe that her feelings were like those of her kinsmen, the Breretons of Brereton, the Fittons, and the Gerards, and thence deduce a worthier motive for her wish to re-establish her husband in the royal favour, than one of his biographers has assigned to her^h.

^d Vill. Cest. ^e The copy of the Inquisition has the common error of Isabella for Elizabeth; another daughter named Isabella had died s. p.

^f See vol. I. p. 411.

^g "Geoffry Minshull, esq. in due respect to his ancestors, hath erected this memorial. Nicholas Minshull, a second brother of the house of Minshull, married with Alice, daughter of Yewen Clutton, by whom he had issue Yewen, who married with Jane, daughter of James Calveley of Peckforton, by whom he had issue Edward, who married Margaret, daughter of Hugh Mainwaring of Namptwiche, who died the second of December 1557, and left behind him Geoffrey, who married with Ellen, daughter of William Bromley of Dorfold, who died upon St. Stephen's day 1603, being aged 64, and left behind him Edward, John, Richard, Randle, Margaret, and Elizabeth; Edward married with Margaret, daughter of Thomas Mainwaring of Namptwiche, who died upon Tuesday morning, the 17th Jan. 1627, being aged 68, and had issue Geoffrey, Edward, Margaret, and Ellen. Margaret died a mayd upon Thursday morning, 22 Aug. 1616, being aged 20. Geoffry married with Mary, daughter of sir Edward Fitton of Gawsworth, baronet, and hath issue now living, Edward, Richard, Thomas, Anne, Jane, Margaret, Mary, and Ellen."

Edward Minshull, son of Geoffry, (and grandson of the purchaser of Stoke) was apparently the father of Elizabeth Minshull of Stoke, the third wife of Milton, and if Dr. Williamson's assertion as to Edward Minshull, great grandson of the purchaser, being living 1701, is correct, was buried at Nantwich July 13, 1698, and his wife Anne, Aug. 2, 1694. These dates, however, probably refer to that great-grandson, as the Edward Minshull buried is called *Esq.* in both entries, and the monument to the memory of Geoffry Minshull, 1663 (see Nantwich monuments) describes his eldest son as "Edwardum Minshull, militem." The Villare of Nantwich Hundred, Harl. MSS. 2151, (written 1666) adds also after Stoke, "S'r Edw. Minshull, d'nus," and as this confirmation does away with the suspicion of a clerical error on the part of the copyist of the destroyed monument, there seems no reason to doubt the veracity of a monument erected most probably by the knight himself, though his dignity escaped the biographers of his immortal son-in-law.

The Acton registers previous to 1717 are destroyed, which does away with the possibility of giving the Minshull pedigree down to Milton's time in regular form. Nicholas Minshull, with whom the pedigree on the monument begins, according to usual computation on the dates given, must have been born about 1460, which would make the Minshull of Minshull, whose "second brother" he was, Peter Minshull, the husband of Jane Bebington. The ancestor of the Stoke branch is not, however, noticed in the pedigree, which is very defective about this time. See p. 181.

^h "Soon after their marriage, a royal offer was made to Milton of the resumption of his old department of Latin secretary, and being strongly pressed by his wife to an acceptance, he scornfully replied: "Thou art in the right; you, as other women, would ride in your coach; my aim is to live and die an honest man." Richardson, quoted by Todd, *Life*, edit. 1802, p. 167.

There is a local tradition at Nantwich respecting the connection of MILTON himself with the neighbourhood, and his burial at Nantwich, the latter part of which is indisputably erroneous: the rest would not be so readily confuted. It is certain that Milton's father and grandfather lived in London and Oxfordshire, and tradition has deduced them from the Miltons of Milton (a family said to have suffered sequestration in the wars of York and

ASTON IN MONDREM.

THIS township derives its additional appellation from its situation near that portion of the earl's forest of Mara and Mondrem which extended into Nantwich hundred; and is thus described in Domesday:

"Isdem Willelmus (Malbedeng) tenet Estone, Ravenate tenuit et libera fuit. Ibi una virgata terræ geldabilis: terra est una caruca; ibi unus radman habet dimidium carucam, cum 11 bordariis; ibi una acra prati, et dimidia; silva una leuvâ longa, et dimidiâ lata. Valebat v solidos, modo 111 solidos: wasta est."

In the first division of the barony of Wich Malbank, as appears by the inquisition 16 Edw. I. one third of this manor was allotted to Philippa the eldest coheirress, and the two other shares to Eleanor the second coheirress, held under their representatives by the Crues of Crue; and Thomas de Crue alienated the principal estate here and land in Cholmondeston to his sister Sybill (surnamed of Aston) who married William Praers of Barthomley, and had issue one daughter and heiress, Alice, who brought the said estate (which was formerly considered a mesne manor) in marriage to Richard Minshull of Minshull, temp. Edw. I.^a

Johanna, daughter and sole heiress of Henry Minshull, brought the manor of Church Minshull, and an estate in Aston in Mondrem, to Edmund Dutton of Dutton, in marriage^b, about the time of Richard II.

By the award relative to the disputes between the heirs general of the Duttons and sir Piers Dutton of Hatton 26 Hen. VIII. the said estate in Aston in Mondrem was confirmed to the daughters and coheirresses of sir Thomas Dutton^c, and either by partition or buying out the rights of the other sisters, had previously been in possession of the youngest of these coheirresses, Elinour Dutton, wife of Richard Cholmondeley of Cholmondeley, which Richard by *Inq. p. m.* 10 Hen. VIII. is found to die seized (inter alia) of the manor of Aston, holding it from Robert Fulshurst (but wh^r her by military service does not appear), and then valued at £5. 7s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 30 Hen. VIII. Richard Cholmondeley, esq. held the manor of Aston from sir Thomas Fulleshurst, knight, by military service: val. xiiii. vis. viiij.

Inq. p. m. 39 Eliz. Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, knight, held (inter alia) the manor of Aston juxta Mondrem, with one water mill, and lands, &c. therein, with various quitrents, and a pair of gloves due from the lands of Thomas Leicester in Aston, and three barbed

arrows due from the lands of Robert Wever, gent. &c. from the queen, in capite, as of her earldom of Chester: val. x marks.

Inq. p. m. 43 Eliz. Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, kt. held (inter alia) as in the preceding Inquisition. Value 20 marks.

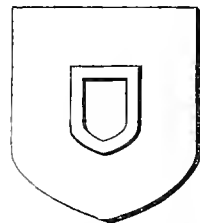
In May 1748 Aston Hall was purchased from the earl of Cholmondeley (grandfather to the present marquis) by Mr. John Darlington, whose daughter married Henry Tomkinson, of Dorfold, esq. the present proprietor^f.

The rights of this mesne manor appear to have fallen into disuse, and the paramount rights of the representatives of the grantors of this estate only to have been recognized, which descended as follows. Thomas Praers, whose father Richard married Johanna, one of the coheirresses of Crue, (niece of Sibylla de Crue before-mentioned) died seized of the services of Richard de Minshull, holding this vill under her 23 Edw. III.^d Robert Fulshurst and Elizabeth his wife (daughter of the said Thomas) levied a fine of the said manor 5 Ric. II.^e; and these manerial rights most probably passed afterwards by successive purchases to the Hattons, and to sir Randolph Crewe, with the Crewe Hall estate. They descended by the same title to the present lord Crewe; and being sold by him in 1803 to Henry Tomkinson, esq. before-mentioned^f, were re-united to the former mesne manor, and the Hall of Aston.

The family of BRAYNE were settled in this township from a remote period, at least as early as the reign of king John, and continued resident there to nearly the present time, having intermarried, according to Booth's pedigrees, with heiresses or coheirresses of the families of Lumbarde of Fadylegh, of Crewe of Aston and Tatton, of Golborne of Henhull, and Brooke of Leighton. Their arms were Or, an inescoccheon Azure.

Brayne Hall was purchased from Mr. John Brayne, the representative of this family, by the late Mrs. Elcocke of White Poole^g, and is now the property of her nephew, William Massey, esq.

A collateral line of the Crewes, who settled in this township, and terminated in coheirs in the fifteenth century, is given as follows in sir William Dugdale's pedigree of the Crewes of Crewe^h.



Lancaster); but the late editor allows, that this tradition is too loose to fix whether the Berkshire or Oxfordshire village of Milton is intended, and that the monuments and registers which have been appealed to as its basis, do not exist. Todd's Life, edit. 1809, p. 2.

None of the commentators of Milton appear to have been aware that there was a Milton in Cheshire (Handley parish, Broxton hundred, p. 396) from which a natural son of the fifth earl of Chester assumed a local name, and where his descendants remained seated until the reign of Hen. VI. The name of Milton, or Milneton, was not generally common in the county; but at the time of the civil wars of Charles I. the Miltons were *very numerous in and near to Nantwich*, as appears from the decisive evidence of the parish register. "H. Milton" signs a mize of Bucklow, Macclesfield, and Northwich hundreds, as dep. cler. pac. 14 Car. II.; another of the Miltons was manerial lord of Stapeley, near Nantwich; and from the additions made by the parish-clerk in the register, several of the Nantwich Miltons appear to have been in respectable situations of life.

At the time of our great poet's alliance with the Minshulls, the homely local adage of "better over the mixon than over the moor" was strictly attended to, and the Cheshire families had certainly a repugnance to connections with strangers, and it is also to be observed, that all the alliances of his near relations are referred to the neighbouring districts of Wales, Shropshire, or Lancashire. It would be idle to follow up a conjecture whether the remoter ancestors of Milton were of the family here noticed, and to imitate the *early* biographers of the poet, in making deductions for which no evidence can be produced; but if the county of Chester had not more connection with the family of Milton than has ever been given to it, the coincidences of time and place here noted are certainly remarkable.

^a Williamson's Villare Cest. and the pedigrees of Crewe and Minshull.

^d Williamson Vill. Cest.

^g Information of W. Massey, esq.

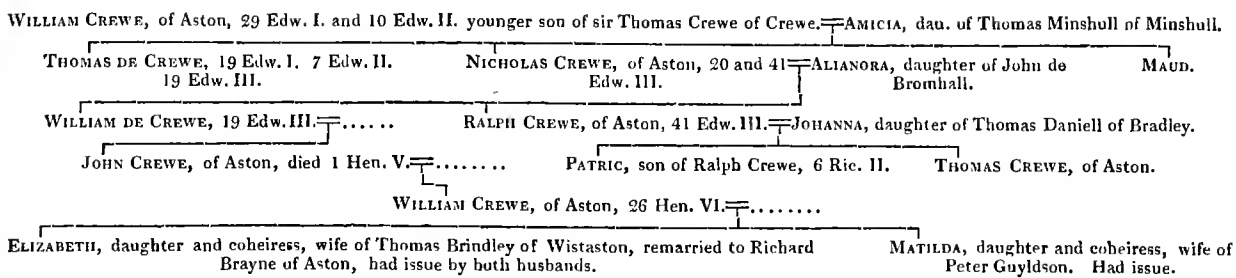
^e Ibid.

^b Bucklow Hund. p. 478, col. 2.

^c Ibid.

^f Information of Henry Tomkinson, esq.

^h In the possession of lord Crewe.



CHOLMONDESTON.

“ ISDEM Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Chelmondestone, Ulvena tenuit et libera fuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est II carucarum; ibi est unus Radman habens unam carucam, et III villani cum una caruca. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x solidos, modo vi solidos.”

In the subsequent division of the barony, this was one of the villis, the homages and services of which were allotted to the eldest coheirss of the last baron, Philippa Basset. The vill itself was held from her heirs by the Crewes of Crewe.

The following descent is copied from Dr. Williamson’s MS Vill. Cest. “ 22 Edw. I. Thomas de Crue died seized of this manor (then valued at £5. 2s. 2d.), and of so much lands in Crue, Aston, Nantwich, and Leighton, which were held of the king, as amounted to a knight’s fee in the marches of Wales, according to the custom of the country, held by finding a judger in the county court, and a man armed in the fairs of Chester (to guard the gates for the preservation of the king’s

peace), leaving his daughters Joan aged 22, Amilia 4, and Eleanor two years old, his next heirs.

“ Each of which married a brother, the sons of sir Randle Praers of Barthomley, whose grandson Thomas Praers, 23 Edw. III. died seized of this village, being part of the manor of Crue^a, then held by three quarters of a knight’s fee by Ralph Wettenhall of this place, as under lord, whose family enjoyed this place as under lords, till Susan, daughter and co-heirss of William Wettenhall, brought her purpart to Laurence Wright, who purchased all the rest from his wife’s sisters and their husbands, and after sold it to sir Thomas Egerton, after he was created viscount Brackley.”

In the reign of James II. the earl of Bridgewater, sold this manor to sir John Werden, of Burton and Chester, from whom it has descended, with other estates, to the present proprietor, George Harley Drummond, esq.

The pedigree of the family is given under Burton, Edisbury Hundred, p. 179.

HURLESTON.

THIS township is omitted in Domesday, but was a portion of the original barony of Nantwich, in the distribution of which the chief interest in this township passed to Auda, wife of Warin Vernon; and the manor has passed, from that time to the present, by the same title with that of Acton, in the account of which place its descent to the present proprietor, Henry Tomkinson, esq. has been already given.

Joan, lady Basset, another of the coheirs of the last baron, held lands in this place and in Acton, which she gave with her whole part of the park of Yarfeld, and her natives, and the suit of them, to Peter de Stapelegh,

to be held from her and her heirs by the render of half a mark yearly, by four quarterly payments. These lands, or a considerable portion of them, were given by the said Peter to Thomas de Chanu (Cheney of Willaston) and Joan his wife, to be held for his life by the render of xxxs. i vd. and afterwards by the wonted service. The said lands were bought from John Cheney by Richard Sneyd, recorder of Chester, together with the manor of Willaston, temp. Hen. VIII. and were afterwards sold by William Sneyd, esq. to sir Thomas Wilbraham, of Woodhey.

A court-baron is incident to the manor.

^a Dr. Williamson means a dependency of the manor of Crue. The Wettenhalls of Cholmondeston (the mesne lords, as above stated,) obtained their interest in this place by marrying a coheir of David Crewe, of Pulcroft, who descended from Patric, younger brother of sir Thomas Crue abovementioned, and who was most probably lord of this place by his brother’s gift. See Worleston for an account of this branch of the Crewes.

BADINGTON

Is unnoticed in Domesday. It was however a part of the barony of Wich Malbank; and by the Inquisition 16 Edw. I. is ascertained to have been a dependency of that portion of the barony which passed from Eleanor Malbank to the Audleys. The Chettultons were the mesne lords, whose representative, William Chettulton, dying without issue about the time of Richard II. his sister Arabella brought this manor in marriage to William Bromley, of Bromley in Staffordshire.

The issue of this marriage was Richard Bromley, who increased the Cheshire property of his family by a marriage with Agnes, daughter of William Praers, chamberlain of Chester, descended from a collateral line of the Praers family of Baddiley^a, the issue of which (as by inquisition 23 Rich. II.), given in Alstanton, was a distinguished warrior, sir John Bromley.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. V. John de Bromley, chivr. held in demesne, as of fee, the manors of Badinton and Bromhall, from James lord Audelegh, by military service, val. 40 marks. He held also the manor of Cholunston, and half the manor of Alvaston, and lands in Alstanton, Wolstanwood, Monks Copenhall, and Church Copenhall.

Sir John Bromley, according to Booth's pedigrees, had issue (by Margery daughter of sir John Masey of Tatton^b) Thomas, William, Richard, and Randle. William succeeded his brother Thomas, who died without issue; and by *Inq. p. m.* 11 Hen. VI. he was also found heir to Cecilia, widow of his younger brother Richard.

^a See Praers pedigree, in Barthomley.

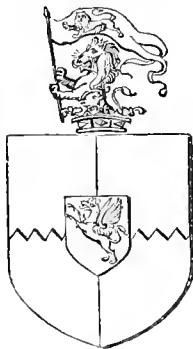
^b See Lyecester, in Tatton.

ⁿ Sir John Bromley above-mentioned was one of the warriors distinguished in the French expedition of Henry V. and occurs first in Holinshed in 1415, at the battle of Corbie in Picardy, where sir Hugh Stafford, lord Bourchier, commander of the right wing for the king under his standard of Guienne, was defeated, and the standard beat down by the French, and carried away. "Whereat one John Bromley, of Bromley in Staffordshire, esquier, a neere kinsman unto the lord Bourghchier, was even streight so pearsed at hart, as he could not containe him, but by and by ran eagerlie upon the French, and with his souldiers, in whose wrath and teene had already inflamed furie and desire of revenge, did so fiercelie set upon them that they were not only heaten backe, but also forced to abandon the place. At this push the capteine cutting through the thickest, strake down the champion that bare the standard, and so gloriouslie recovered it againe, and after, during the fight (where as manie of the French lost their lives) courageously over his shoulders advanced it himselfe. The rest that fled awaie our people pursued in chasing and slaughter unto Corbie very gates. So in victorie, honour, and great joy, with our small loss (in comparison) thanks unto God's Majestie, the cheifteine brought his host into his campe and order againe." In reward of this service, which opened the way for the passage of the Some and the battle of Agincourt, lord Bourchier granted to John Bromley for life an annuity of £40. per annum, leviabie on all his manors, by deed dated at Madeley, March 10, 4 Hen. V.*

On the king's return to France, in July 1418, John Bromley had "conduct of charge afore him," and by royal letters patent dated at Baieux on the 18th of April following, the king granted the hospital of Molay Bacon, and all the forfeited Norman estates of Alan de Beaumont, to be held by rendering to the king and his heirs yearly the belt of a coat of mail at his castle of Baieox. The king further "did in the most worthie wise that to that order belongeth doh him knight of warfare in field," and made him captaine-general of the castle of Damfront, and seneschall and great constable of Bosseville le Rosse and March†.

At this castle, 12 Aug. 6 Hen. V. sir John Bromley, in conformity with the custom of the time, granted to his kinsman Walter Audeley, twenty pounds rent and other privileges connected with his estates in Staffordshire. The deed (which is given at length by Holinshed) is remarkable from the appendant seal and the names of the witnesses. The seal was the old coat of Bromley, having an inescoccheon charged with a griffin segreant; the crest, a demi-lion issuing from a crown, and supporting a standard charged with a lion passant gardant, an augmentation, "as like is, given him in laudable remembrance for his valiant recoverie of the standard at the sharpe and bloodie skirmishe of Corbie." The names of witnesses are precisely those who might have been expected to have witnessed a deed at Badington Hall or the County Court of Chester, being, with one exception of a Lancashire warrior (who was closely connected with the sister county), gentlemen of Cheshire, and his comrades in arms whom his hospitality had assembled in his French castle. "Hijs testibus, Roberto de Bruyn milite, Johanne de Holland, Gulielmo de Brereton, Richardo le Grevill, Johanne de Egerton, Richardo le Bestan, Thoma le Creu, et aliis. Datum apud Dampfront, &c.‡

The last service of sir John Bromley mentioned by Holinshed, was in a fight between three hundred English and eight hundred Frenchmen (in the same year), the former having been dispatched by the earl of Warwick to maintain themselves at a small castle near Cawdbeck under the command of sir John Bromley and George Umfreville. The French were defeated with the loss of their commander, two hundred slain, and two hundred wounded; George Umfreville being slain on the part of the English, and John Bromley and Walter Audeley (then aged only 18 years) severely wounded. The first of these friends died Sept. 4, in the year following (7 Hen. V. 1419); and in the next year "Walter Audeley died at Warwick the seaventeenth day of July,—and was buried at Acton in Cheshire, neere the bodie of sir John Bromley." §



* Holinshed, vol. III. p. 77.

† Ibid. p. 97.

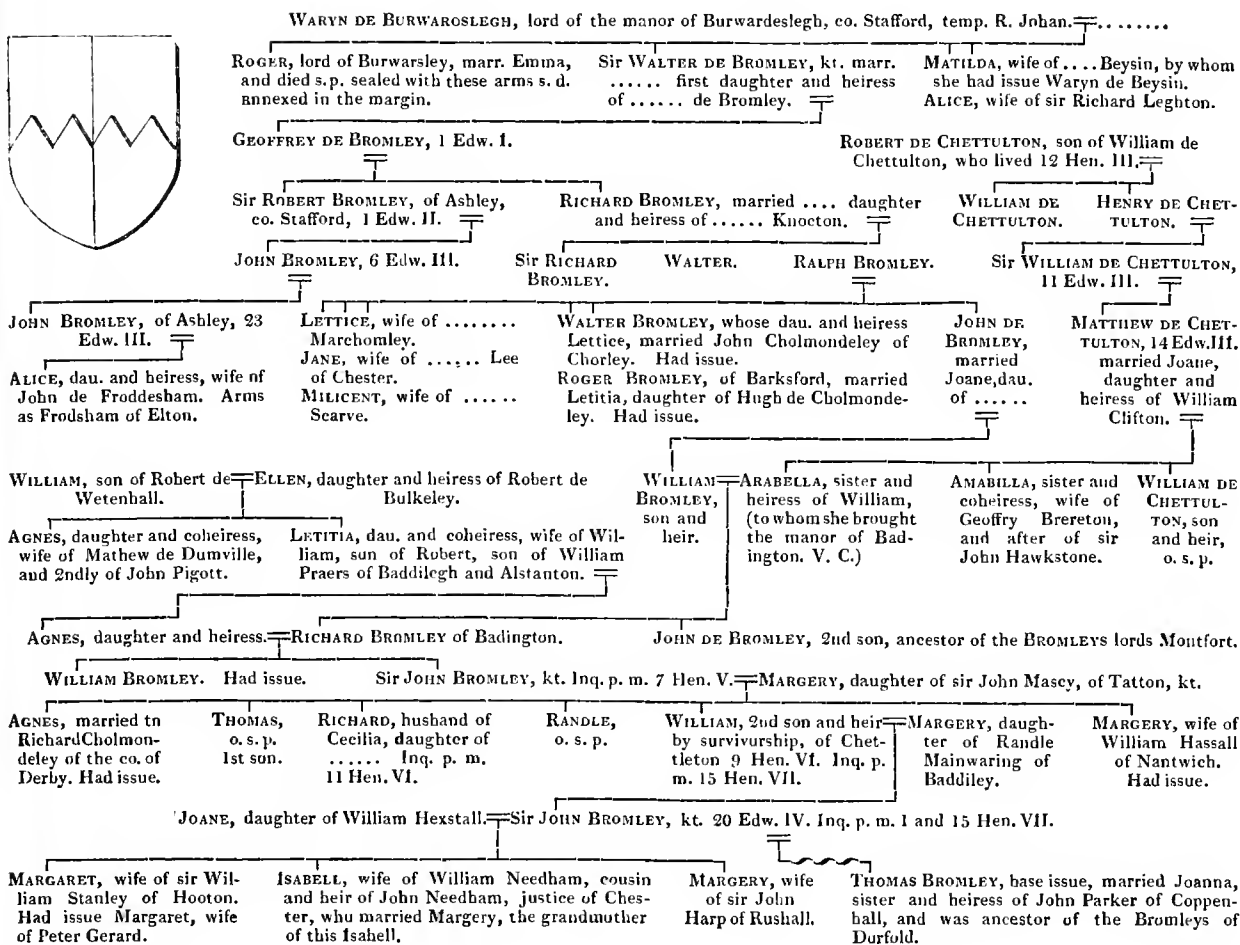
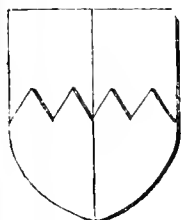
‡ Ibid. p. 98.

§ Ibid. p. 101.

BROMLEY OF BADINGTON.

From Booth's pedigrees.

ARMS. Quarterly Gules and Or indented per fesse.



BRINDLEY AND BURLAND.

THESE townships are omitted in Domesday; and the latter only is noticed in the Inquisition 16 Edw. I. which states it to have been a dependency of that portion of the barony of Nantwich which was allotted to Auda Vernon.

The manerial interest in the said townships subsequently was the property of the Praers family of Baddiley, and passed in moieties, with two of the coheiresses of that family, to the Honfords of Honford, and the Mainwarings of Peover.

The *Honford* estate, in these townships, passed in marriage to the Breretons of that place, and is described as being held by them in socage from the heirs of William Pagett, in inquisitions after the deaths of sir Urian Brereton, 22 Eliz.; Randle Brereton, esq. 25 Eliz.; and William Brereton, esq. 8 Jac. I. It is now reputed one moiety of these manors, and is the property of the earl of Dysart^a.

The *Mainwaring* estate, after the death of William Mainwaring, sole issue of William Mainwaring by

Joanna Praers, passed to his brother of the half blood, and descended with the Peover estate. In the inquisitions, after the death of Randle Mainwaring 5 and 6 Phil. and Mary, and Philip Mainwaring 16 Eliz. it is stated to be held from the crown, as appendant of the earldom of Chester, by military service.

After the death of sir H. Mainwaring, of Peover, this moiety of these manors was sold, and conveyed in Sept. 1798, by lord Grey (eldest son of the earl of Stamford) and Ralph Leicester, esq. his devisees in trust, to Henry Tomkinson, of Dorfold, esq. the present proprietor^a.

Courts-baron only are held for these manors; and persons residing therein appear at the court-leet of the earl of Dysart, held for his manor of Faddiley^a.

Burland Hall was formerly the seat of a collateral line of the Griffins of Barterton; and Swanley hall in Burland, was purchased by Randle Mainwaring, of Kermincham, temp. Hen. VIII. and was an occasional residence of that family.

^a Information of Henry Tomkinson, esq.

The hall last-mentioned, with several other farms in the parish of Acton, was in the year 1690 the property of Sackville Tufton, earl of Thanet, who sold the same to William Saville, marquis of Hallifax, in the year 1699. The marquis died in 1700, leaving lady Anne Saville, wife of the earl of Aylesbury; lady Dorothy Saville, wife of the earl of Burlington; and lady Mary Saville, wife of the earl of Thanet, his daughters and coheireses. A partition was made of the estates of the Marquis between his three daughters; and the Cheshire estate, with others, was allotted to lady Anne, who married lord Aylesbury. She left two daughters; the eldest married the marquis of Carnarvon, and the youngest the hon. Benjamin Bathurst, who in right of their ladies became equally entitled to the estates. In 1754 the

marquis Carnarvon, grandson of the earl of Aylesbury, purchased from Mr. Bathurst his moiety of the Cheshire estate; and in 1777 the marquis, then duke of Chandos, sold both moieties to the late James Tomkinson, esq. whose son, H. Tomkinson, esq. is the present possessor^c.

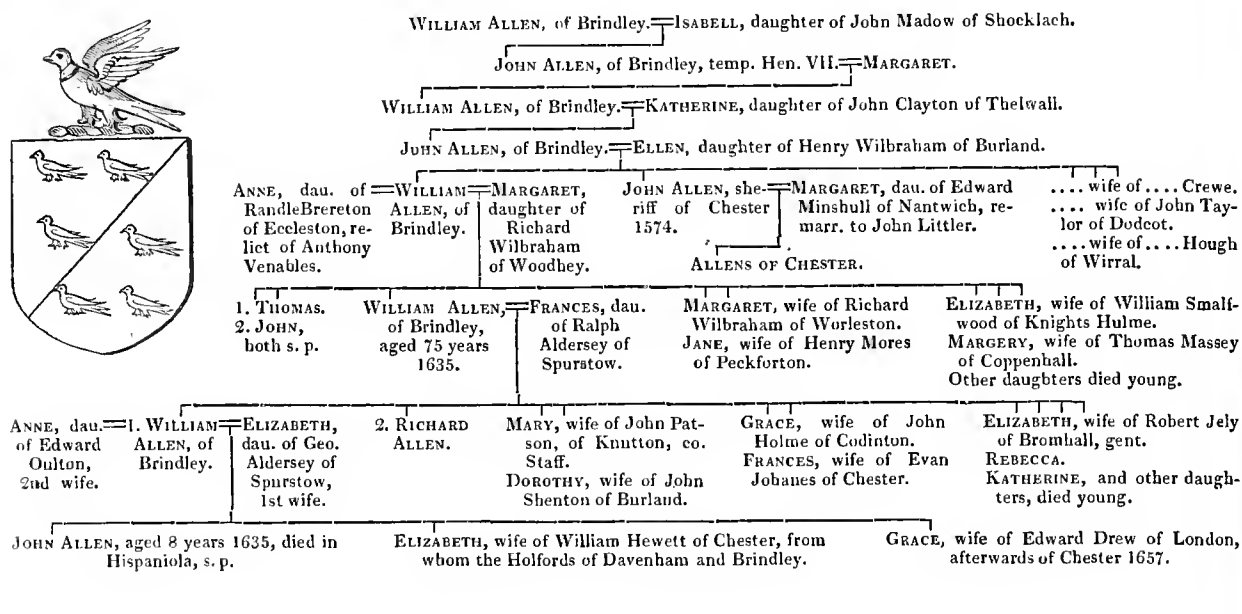
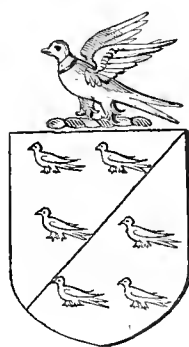
The ALLENS, of *Brindley*, were seated in that township in the time of Edward IV. and continued in possession of an estate there until the middle of the last century, when the same passed with Elizabeth, sister and coheir of John Allen of Brindley, to William Hewett of Chester. By marriage with the heiress of this family, Brindley Hall was transferred to the Holfords of Davenham: and after the death of Allen Holford, esq. in 1788, was sold by his executors to Mr. Richard Darlington, the present proprietor.

ALLEN OF BRINDLEY.

Transcribed from a pedigree by Randie Holme. Harl. MSS. 2153, 26.

ARMS, granted by sir Richard St. George, 1613. Party per bend sinister Or and Sable, six martlets counterchanged.

CREST. On a wreath a martlet Or, wings elevated Sable, collared Gules.



FADDILEY.

THE Inquisition taken 16 Edw. I. respecting the first division of the barony of Wich Malbank, mentions the homage and service of the lord of Fadyleghe as an appendage of the share allotted to Auda Vernon.

At this period, or shortly afterwards, the lordship of Woodhey, as this manor is termed in the inquisitions, and a dependent estate in Faddiley, were vested in the Golbornes.

2 Edw. II. "John del' Lee and Agnes his wife obtained by fine, from Philip de Golborne and Felice his wife, v carucates of land, cum per. in Faddilegh, to them and their heirs, paying vid. a year; and if they died without issue, the said lands to revert to the said Philip and Felice^a."

In this family the Woodhey estate continued vested to the reign of Edward IV. when the same passed to Thomas Wilbraham, of Radnor, in marriage with Margaret, daughter and heiress of John Golborne.

Thomas Wilbraham, who became possessed by this marriage of the estate which afterwards continued the chief seat of the parent branch of the Cheshire WILBRAHAMS, was fifth in descent from sir Richard de Wilburham or Wilburgham, the earliest known ancestor of the family, who is supposed to have derived his name from the manor of Wilbraham in Cambridgeshire, where a family, bearing the local name, was settled about the time of Henry II.^b

^c Information of Henry Tomkinson, esq.

^a Williamson, Vill. Cest.

^b Wilbraham MSS. (described in the account of Townsend in Nantwich) communicated by E. B. Wilbraham, esq. M. P. A search was made into the records of the Tower by the Wilbraham family in 1635, at the instance of sir W. Le Neve, who stated that there was a knight in Cambridgeshire, temp. Hen. III. of the name of sir Richard Wilbraham; but the search was only successful in procuring the names of the antient lords of Witbraham, who could not be proved to be connected with this family, and in finding a manor in Cheshire, belonging to the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, temp. Hen. III. called *Wilverburne*, which Le Neve supposed to be the same name with *Wilbraham*, but which was doubtless misread for *Wibbenbury*, then and still belonging to that see. In the same collection is a copy of a letter from Mr. Lisle (proprietor of Wilbraham) to his brother Captain Lisle, stating that he had examined his deeds, and found among the previous proprietors of the estate Osbert de Wilburgham, and Illarius, son of Osbert de Wilburgham, s. d. but from names of witnesses apparently living temp. Hen. II. The seals were worn off.

This sir Richard de Wilburgham married, to his first wife, Margery, daughter and coheir of Warin Vernon, baron of Shipbrook, by whom he had one son, who died without issue, and two daughters, finally coheiresses, wives of Richard de Lostock and Robert de Winnington.

To his second wife he married Letitia^c, daughter and coheir of William Venables, of Wincham and Radnor, younger son of sir William Venables, of Kinder-ton; and by her had William de Wilburgham, son and heir. He was sheriff of Cheshire 43 Hen. III. and died 2 Edw. I.

II. William de Wilburgham, of Wincham and Radnor, by his first wife Christiana, daughter of Richard de Crosley, of Preston, had issue William de Wilburgham, son and heir. By deed without date^d, Robert de Crosle and Letitia his wife (widow of sir Richard Wilburgham) quitclaim to him (as William son of Richard de Wilburgham) their lands in Curteys Hulme and Kyrkeby Waley. Witnesses, sir William de Venables, John de Wetenal, Hugh de Calvele, Randle de Astebyri, and others. This family of Crosle' (miswritten *Crofts* by Brooke) were apparently a collateral line of the Crosleys of Crosley in Buglawton. An. 4 Edw. II. he had a grant of lands in Bradwall from Richard, son of Richard the Clerk, of that place^e; and by another deed^f, the same William "de Wylb'ham grants to William his eldest son and heir, and Cecilia his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, all his lands in the manor of Kne-tisholm, and the territory of Bradewalle, excepting the land of Holcroft, which he had previously given to his son Randle. Witnesses, sir William Brereton, sir Hugh Dutton, William de Venables de Bradewall, John de Coton, &c. Dated at Holm, Wednesday before the feast of St. Hilary, 1312.

III. William, son of William de Wilburgham, occurs in the deeds subjoined from 1314 to 1334^g, and died 36 Edw. III. 1362. His inquisition, taken the same year, states him to have died seized in fee simple of a sixth part of the vill of Leftwich, and a sixth part of Shipbrook mill, held from the earl per baroniam, val. 1111 marks; and the manor of Radnor, and lands in Knighteshulme, held from Hugh Venables, chivaler, in socage, val. 1x1. x111s. 1vd. Ralph de Wilbraham son and heir.

IV. Ralph de Wilbraham married to his first wife, Felicia, daughter of John de Hulme, and to his second, Matilda, daughter of Robert Leigh of Adlington; he died 11 Ric. II. and by inquisition of the same year was found to have held a moiety of a sixth part of Leftwich, and a sixth part of Shipbrook water-mill, as before; val.

xx111s. 1vd.; and in joint feoffment with Matilda his wife, in fee tail, the manor of Radnor, lands in Knightes Hulme, and in Castleton juxta Northwich, and the mill of Wymyncham, from the baron of Kinderton, in socage: val. v111. 1vs. Thomas de Wilbraham son and heir^h, aged upwards of 22 years.

V. This Thomas Wilbraham died at the age of 38 years, on the Tuesday next after the feast of St. Nicholas the bishop 11 H. IV. 1410. *Inq. p. m.* in the same year.

VI. *Inq. p. m.* 9 Edw. IV. Thomas Wilbraham held the estate in Leftwich and Shipbrooke before mentioned, the manor of Radnor, and rents in Northwich and Middlewich (val. tot. v11. v111s. v111d.) and died in the said year. By the inquisition after the death of his father, he was found to be aged 21 years, on the feast of St. Bartholomew, 11 Hen. IV. By his wife Margaret Golborne, the heiress of Woodhey, as before mentioned, he left issue a son of his own name, heir to their united estates, and four other sons, from the second of whom descended the Wilbrahams of Nantwich, and their collateral branches.

Thomas Wilbraham of Radnor and Woodhey, esq. son and heir, married (12 Hen. VI.) Margaret, daughter of Thomas de Swettenham by Alice his wife, daughter of Robert, and sister and heiress of Roger de Overton, with whom he had lands in Middlewich, Clotton, and Hulfieldⁱ. Two several inquisitions were taken after her death, and that of her husband.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VII. Thomas Wilbraham held in demesne, as of fee, lands in Leftwich, the manor of Radnor, and lands in Kettle-shulme, Castleton, Wynyngton, and Wimincham, the manor of Waley, and lands in Fadilegh and Buerton, the manor of Leghes and lands in Swalwood. (The manor of Waley, and one messuage, with lands in Fadilegh (Woodhey) are stated to be held in socage by the render of x111d. from John Mainwaringe of Peover, in socage, val. 11111.) William Wilbraham son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VII. Margaret, widow of Thomas Wilbraham, held in demesne, as of fee, lands in Clotton, Hulfield, Broxon, Leighe, Shocklache, Oveatt, Bunburye, Ortworth, and Torporley; heir as before.

Thomas Wilbraham died, by the first of these inquisitions, on the Tuesday next after the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula 7 Hen. VII.

VIII. William Wilbraham, esq. son and heir, was aged thirty years at the time of his father's decease. He had issue by his wife Helena, daughter of Philip Egerton of Egerton, esq. two sons, Thomas and Richard (who successively possessed Woodhey), and died Aug. 7, 1537.^k

^c Reginald de Bradwalle gives to Richard de Wilburgham, and Letitia his wife, one messuage in Bradwalle; witnesses, Tho. de Meynwar^l, sir Rich. de Holte, sir Will'm de Venables, &c. Extract from original deeds in possession of Mr. John Bowen, of Shrewsbury, communicated by E. B. Wilbraham, esq. 1817.

^d *Ibid.*

^e *Ibid.*

^f *Ibid.*

^g Robert de Magn. Mort'(on) grants for himself and his heirs, to Will'm, son of Will'm de Wilb'm, for their homage and service, and 3s. 6d. of silver annual rent, lands, &c. in Hulm, of the feoffment of Ralph de Morton. Witn. Sir Hugh de Adel' just. Cest. Rich'd de Fowelehurst, sheriff, &c.

Richard de Bradewalle gives to Will'm, son of Will'm de Wilburgham, 5 buttes of land in Bradewalle, in exchange for the said William's land in Curteyshulme. Witn. Richard de Fouleshurst tunc vic. Cest. Rob't de Bulkylegh, Will'm de Venables, &c.; dated at Middlewich Monday after the feast of St. Gregory, 1320.

William de Wilberham, jun. releases to Hugh de Venables, lord of Kinderton, all his rights in common of pasture or estovers in the woods or wastes of Bradewalle. Witnesses, John de Davenport, Adam de Bostoc, Richard de Holt, Richard de Vernon de Watcroft, &c.; dated at Hulm, 1334.

^h Another inquisition taken 17 Ric. II. values Leftwich and Shipbrook at a quarter of a mark less, and the manor of Radnor at cs.; and two intermediate ones 16 Ric. II. severally state the same Ralph de Wilbraham to have held Castleton juxta Northwich, val. x111s. 1vd. and half of Hulme Walfield from Robert Grosvenor chev. in socage, val. 1111. x11s.

ⁱ Wilbraham MSS. See also Clotton, Edisb. bund. p. 176. col. 2. respecting the ancestors of Margaret Swettenham.

^k "He bequeaths his body to be buried before the image of our Lady in the chancel of the church of Acton; and bestows xs. to be laid out on a tenor bell, if the parish will provide the rest. But if not, then the money to be laid out on a pix and two cruytts of silver to serve at the high altar on good days. He further wills that 12 white gowns be given to 12 poor men; as also that 12 torches be made to hold about his body the day of his burial; and that a light be over him with viii tapers, in the middle whereof a bigger taper should spring out; also that a penny dole should be given

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VIII. William Wilbraham, esq. held the manor of Woodhey, and one messuage in Fadyley, from Randle Maynwarding, as of his manor of Badiley, in socage, by the render of 111¼d. per ann. val. vii. l.: also the manor of Radnor, and lands in Leftwich, Kettleshulme, Castleton juxta Northwich, Wynnyngton, Northwich, Fadyley, Buerton, Smallwood, Clutton, Huxley, Bexton, Ley juxta Dutton, Bunbury, and Worth, and saltworks in Middlewich. Thomas Wilbraham, esq. son and heir, aged 40 years.

IX. *Inq. p. m.* 1 Eliz. Thomas Wilbraham, esq. held the manor of Woodhey, and lands and messuages in Woodhey and Fadyley, by tenure, and of value as the last inquisition, rendering xviii. d.; also the manor and lands mentioned in the last inquisition, and other lands in Tilston Farnhill, Wolstanwoodd, Calveley, Walgherton, Hatberton, Shurlache, Burland, Clutton, Chorley, Willaston, Wordhill, Buckley, Spurstowe, Halghton, Brindley, Middlewich, Teverton, Hurleston, Acton, Church Copenhall, Wich Malbank, Sanbache, Broxon, Burwardsley, and Wistaston: died July 3, same year¹, leaving his brother Richard next heir, who died seized of the said estates, leaving his son Thomas Wilbraham, aged upwards of five years, next of kin and heir.

X. Richard Wilbraham, who by the preceding inquisition appears to have had a short possession of Woodhey and its dependencies, by *Inq. p. m.* 1 Eliz. is found to have been seized of the before mentioned manors, and of others in contiguous townships, amounting in the whole to nearly eighty, and including the advowson of Acton, and the corn tithes of Acton, Edlaston, Henhull, Hurleston, Stoke, Horepoole, Barrattspole, Whitpoole, Cholmeston, Aston, Burland, Fadeley, and Brindley: val. tot. ccviii. l. xis. xd. ob.; and to have died 6 Aug. 6 Mary. He was master of the jewel house^m, and also master of revelsⁿ to queen Mary; and in the three first years of her reign represented the county of Chester in Parliament^o.

XI. Thomas Wilbraham, son and heir of Richard, died July 2, 1610, at his seat of Tilston Fearnall, in Edisbury Hundred, possessed of nearly one hundred various estates and tenements, which are recited in his *Inq. p. m.* (taken March 23, 10 Jac. I.); and of the manors of Mottram Longdendale, Radnor, Woodhey, Shocklach Ovyatt, Church Shocklach, and Tilston Fearnall, co. Cest. and Walsall, co. Staff.^p By his wife Frances, daughter of sir Hugh Cholmondeley, he had issue, besides his successor Richard, various sons and daughters,

enumerated in the pedigree, one of whom was lady Done of Utkinton, of proverbial excellence, who has been noticed in an earlier part of the work. Webb, who enjoyed his patronage has paid an affectionate tribute to the memory of "his dear departed master," in his Itinerary of the hundreds of Nantwich and Edisbury.

XII. Richard Wilbraham, son and heir, aged upwards of thirty-two years in 1610, is styled knight in the inquisition after his father's death, and was elevated to a baronetcy May 5, 1621. He died 1643, and was buried in the south-east chancel of Acton church, where an inscription to his memory remains on an altar tomb.

On the north side of the same tomb, on which are recumbent the figures of his son sir Thomas Wilbraham, and his lady, is another inscription, which commemorates that son (the thirteenth possessor of Woodhey, of this family), and does justice to his excellent moral and religious qualities, and his scientific acquirements. Sir Thomas Wilbraham lived through the struggle of the civil wars, in which he distinguished himself by his loyalty, had to compound for his estate at the price of £2500. and died seven months after the restoration, 31st Oct. 1660.

His son and successor of the same name, who had also been distinguished in the royal service, was nominated one of the knights of the intended order of the Royal Oak, his estate being then valued at £3000. per annum. He was the thirteenth in lineal descent from sir Richard de Wilburham, and the fourteenth possessor of the estate of Woodhey; and in him the direct male line of this antient family terminated.

The memory of private worth seldom survives the contemporaries of its possessors, but this is not the case with the Wilbrahams of Woodhey. Wherever it is possible to glance beyond genealogical deductions, and obtain a knowledge of the individual representatives of the family, they appear to have been graced with every social virtue that could render rank endearing to their equals, and venerated by their dependants, and their family is rarely noticed in the Cheshire collections, without ardent expressions of respect and affection.

Sir Thomas Wilbraham had four daughters, three of whom married, as mentioned in the pedigree. Woodhey and the Cheshire estates passed with Grace Wilbraham to Lionel Tollemache, earl of Dysart in Scotland, from whom it has descended to his great grandson, of the same names and title, the present proprietor.

at his burial to every person that would take it.—He moreover requires his executors to buy a stone of marble to lie on him in the said chancel of Acton, with pictures of himself and his wife, and their arms; also that they put out xli. under sure keeping, to pay xis. yearly to a well disposed priest, to sing (during xx years) for him, his children, wife, father, and mother, and all that God would be prayed for; and the said service to be performed in his chapel of Woodhey; which priest should likewise have vi. l. more, yearly, for his salary, if so be his heir is not pleased to give him his board and chamber-room." Collins's Baronetage, vol. II. p. 291, edit. 1725.

¹ This date appears to refer back to 5 and 6 Phil. and Mar. the date which is nearest to it, being that of the decease of Hugh Venables of Agden, in the Inquisition, placed immediately before it in the old official abstract of Inquisitions formerly in Chester castle, from which this Inquisition was taken. If it was to refer to the date 1 Eliz. prefixed as a general head to the abstract of Inquisitions in which this was included (viz. 1559) it would agree with the date in Brooke's pedigree, but it would make Thomas outlive his younger brother Richard, who by the following Inquisition is ascertained to have died Aug. 6 Mary, 1558, which is incompatible with the assertion in the first Inquisition that Richard was a short time seized of the Woodhey estate, and the confirmation of that assertion by the tenor of the second.

^m Webb's Itinerary.

ⁿ Brooke's MS. pedigree.

^o This representative of the Wilbraham family is traditionally said to have been a patron of the early years of lord chancellor Egerton, and to have settled an annuity of £20. upon him, which the Wilbraham MSS. assert to have been paid by their family to the chancellor's "dying day."

^p The Faddiley estate, in this Inquisition, is described as consisting of the manor of Woodhey, and three messuages and 174 acres in Faddiley and Woodhey, held from Randle Mainwarding of Peover, in socage, as of his manor of Baddelegh, by the render of xviii. ob. per annum for all services, val. vii. iis. Other lands in the same, held from the same by the render of iis. val. xxiv. s. Other lands in the same, of the same value, tenure unknown, but purchased by sir Edward Lee from the lord of Baddelegh; and other lands in the same, val. xviii. s. held from the heirs of William Hanford, esq. (representative of a coheir of Praers of Baddiley), by tenure unknown.

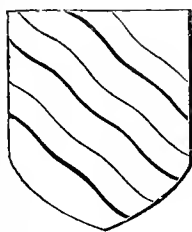
WILBRAHAM OF WOODHEY.

From a pedigree by J. C. Brooke, esq. Somerset Herald, in possession of E. B. Wilbraham, esq. M. P. 1815.

ANCIENT prescriptive COAT. Argent, three bends wavy Azure.

LATER COAT (granted by Flower). Azure, two bars Argent, on a canton of the first a wolf's head erased Argent.

CREST. On a wreath a wolf's head erased Argent.



WARIN VERNON, baron of Shipbrook. — ADA, daughter and coheirress of William Malbank, baron of Nantwich, son of Hugh, founder of the abbey of Combermere. — WILLIAM VENABLES, of Wincham and Radnor, younger son of sir William Venables, baron of Kinderton.

ADA, 2nd daughter, wife of William de Stafford. — MARGERIA, eldest dau. and coheirress, 1st wife. — SIR RICHARD DE WILBURGHAM, lord of Wymincham and Radnor, in right of his 2nd wife, sheriff of Chesh. 43 Hen. III. ob. 2 Edw. I. — LETITIA, eldest dau. and coheirress, marr. cov. s. d. late in the possession of sir Thos. Wilbraham, of Woodhey, bart. remarr. to sir Philip de Bamville, and thirdly to Robert Crosle'. 2d wife. — BEATRICE, 2nd dau. and coheirress, wife of Ralph Westneys.

RICHARD DE WILBURGHAM, son and heir, o. s. p. circa 6 Edw. I. — EDITH, 2nd wife, living by deed 12 Edw. III. — WILLIAM DE WILBURGHAM, lord of Radnor and Wymincham, living 1312 per chart. — CHRISTIANA, dau. of Richard de Crosley of Preston, sister and coheirress of Richard de Crosley.

2. RANULPH DE WILBURGHAM, of Radnor, ancestor of WILBRAHAM OF BRINDLEY AND WORLESTON. — 3. ROBERT DE WILBURGHAM, living 28 Edw. III. as by deed. — 1. WILLIAM DE WILBURGHAM, of Radnor, obiit 36 Edw. III. (Inq. p. m. same year.) — CECILIA.

2. PETER DE WILBURGHAM, 2nd son. — 3. ELLEN DE WILBURGHAM, wife of Henry de Cranach. — MATILDA, daughter of Robert Leigh of Adlington, by Matilda his wife, dau. of Thomas de Norley, kt. — RALPH DE WILBURGHAM, of Radnor, obiit 11 Ric. II. a^o 1328. (Inq. p. m. 11 and 17 Ric. II.) — FELICIA, daughter of John de Hulme.

THOMAS DE WILBURGHAM, aged 22 years and upwards at the death of his father in 1328, died 11 Hen. IV. 1410, aged 38 years, Inq. p. m. same year. — MARGERY, daughter of Thomas de Leighes.

THOMAS DE WILBURGHAM, lord of Woodhey, jure uxoris, obiit 9 Edw. IV. (Inq. p. m. same year.) — MARGARET, daughter and heirress of John Golborne, lord of Woodhey, marriage covenants dated at Woodhey 3 Edw. IV.

2. RANULPH DE WILBURGHAM, ancestor of the WILBRAHAMS OF NANTWICH, LATHOM, RODE, AND DORFOLD. — 3. WILLIAM DE WILBURGHAM, o. s. p. — 4. RICHARD DE WILBURGHAM. — 5. JOHN DE WILBURGHAM. — 1. THOMAS WILBURGHAM, of Woodhey, esq. marriage covenants dated 12 Henry VI. died 7 Henry VII. (Inq. p. m. same year.) — MARGARET, daughter of Thos. de Swetenham, by his wife Alice, daughter of Robert, and sister and heirress of Roger de Overton, aged 36 years 22 Hen. VI. heirress to her mother.

THOMAS WILBRAHAM, 2nd son. Had issue. — WILLIAM WILBRAHAM, of Woodhey, esq. son and heir, obiit Aug. 7, 1537, 28 Hen. VIII. as per Inq. p. m. — HELENA, daughter of Philip Egerton, of Egerton, esq. — ALICE, wife of John Wright of Bickley. — ELIZABETH, wife of Thomas Bromley, of Hampton, gent. — JANE, wife of Laurence Woodnoth, of Shavinton Woodnoth, esq. — MARGARET, wife of Thomas Hill, of Malpas and Hodnet, father of sir Rowland Hill, knight, lord mayor of London. wife of Thomas Chetwood.

RICHARD WILBRAHAM, esq. 2nd son and heir to his brother, M. P. co. Cest. 1 & 2, and 2 & 3 Ph. and Mary, master of the Jewel House and of the Revels to queen Mary, obiit Aug. 6. 1552, Inq. p. m. 1 Eliz. — DOROTHY, dau. of Richard Grosvenor, of Eaton, esq. remarr. to Henry Savile, of Barrowby, co. Linc. esq. — THOMAS WILBRAHAM, of Woodhey, esq. son and heir, married Margaret, daughter of sir John Mainwaring, of Peover, kt. o. s. p. July 3, 1558, Inq. p. m. 1 Eliz. — MARGARET, wife of Thomas Daniel, of Tabley, esq. — ELLEN, wife of Ralph Done, of Flaxyards, esq. — ELIZABETH, wife of John Whitmore, of Thurstanston, esq. — MARGERY, wife of Ralph Liversedge, of Wheelock, esq.

FRANCES, daughter of sir Hugh Cholmondeley, of Cholmondeley, kt. 1st wife. — THOMAS WILBRAHAM, of Woodhey and Tilston, esq. son and heir, died at Tilston July 12, 1610, buried at Acton, co. Cest. 10 Jac. I. Inq. p. m. — MARY, eldest daughter and coheirress of Peter Warburton, of Arley, esq. by Mary his wife, daughter of John Holcroft, of Holcroft, esq. 2nd wife, married Jan. 25, 1587.

DOROTHY, wife of sir John Done, of Utkinton, kt. — ELIZABETH, wife of sir Rich. Grosvenor, of Eaton, kt. and bart. — MARY, wife of sir Thomas Delves, of Doddington, bart. — 1. SIR RICHARD WILBRAHAM, of Woodhey, kt. created a baronet May 5th, 1621, and died April 1643. — GRACE, dau. of sir John Savage, of Rock Savage, kt. sister of Thomas, first lord viscount Savage. — 2. THOMAS WILBRAHAM. — 3. HUGH WILBRAHAM, of Eccleston in Cheshire, and St. Andrew, Holborn, in London, marr. Margaret, dau. of Rich. Grosvenor, of Eaton, esq. 1st wife, remarr. to Elizabeth, dau. of Hen. Heron, of Theobalds, co. Herts, esq. — FRANCES, wife of William Davenport, of Bromball, esq. obiit 1665. — ANNE, wife of John Hurlston of Pickton. — MARY, wife of sir Tho. Mauleverer, of Allerton Mauleverer, co. Ebor.

ELIZABETH WILBRAHAM, wife of sir Humphrey Briggs, of Houghton, co. Salop, bart. obiit June 24, 1659, aged 37, bur. at St. Michael's, in Chester. — MARY WILBRAHAM, aged 11 years, 1614, wife of Peter Venables, baron of Kinderton. — SIR THOMAS WILBRAHAM, of Woodhey, kt. and bart. aged 13 years 1614, obiit Oct. 31, 1660. — ELIZABETH, 2nd dau. and coheirress of sir Roger Wilbraham, of Bridgemere, co. Cest. kt. solicitor general to queen Eliz. and master of Requests. — 2. RICHARD WILBRAHAM, o. s. p. — 3. RALPH WILBRAHAM, o. s. p. — 4. JOHN WILBRAHAM, o. s. p. — 5. WILLIAM WILBRAHAM, o. s. p.

ELIZABETH, wife of Mutton Davis, esq. son and heir apparent of Robert Davis, of Gozanna, co. Flint, esq. — 6. RALPH WILBRAHAM, of Gray's Inn, co. Middlesex, esq. and of Newbattle, co. Northamp. marr. Christiana, dau. of Edward Leigh, of Bagulegh, esq. by whom Elizabeth, dau. and sole heirress, wife of Sackville Tufton, ancestor of the EARL OF THANET. — SIR THOMAS WILBRAHAM, of Woodhey, bart. aged 38 years 1668, buried at Woodhey Aug. 19, 1692. — ELIZABETH, dau. and heirress of Edward Mitton, of Weston under Lizard, co. Staff. esq. — 2. RICHARD WILBRAHAM, o. s. p. — 3. HUGH WILBRAHAM, o. s. p. — 4. ROGER WILBRAHAM, o. s. p. — 5. JOHN WILBRAHAM, o. s. p. — 7. WILLIAM WILBRAHAM, o. s. p.

ELIZABETH, daughter and coheirress, wife of sir Thomas Middleton, of Chirk castle, co. Denbigh, bart. — GRACE, daughter and coheirress, wife of Lionel Tollemache, lord Huntingtour and earl of Dysart in Scotland, obiit 1726, possessed of the Woodhey estate jure uxoris, married 1680. Had issue. — MARY, daughter and coheirress, wife of Rich. earl of Bradford. Had issue. — CECILIA WILBRAHAM, died an infant.

The village of Faddiley is an assemblage of cottages and farm houses, situated on a slight elevation, about three miles west of Nantwich. About one mile south-west of the village are the remains of Woodhey, in a very flat and lonely part of the country, but commanding a pleasing view of the neighbouring range of Broxton Hills. The house has been completely destroyed, but some of the stables which are yet remaining, large garden walls, and a small chapel, mark the site at the first glance, by an obvious variation from the appearance of the neighbouring farm-houses. An avenue of decayed oaks points also to the spot; and near the place where it diverges from the highway, are the steps and base of an ancient cross, an unusual appendage to the seats of the Cheshire gentry.

The name of Woodhey refers now only to the site of the house and its demesne, the manor being termed that of Faddiley, for which a court leet is held by the earl of Dysart, which by a somewhat singular inversion, extends over Baddiley, of which Faddiley was formerly a dependency, as well as over Brindley and Burland, which were held also from the first-mentioned manor.

It remains to speak of the armorial bearings of Wilbraham. In the reign of Elizabeth, the coat of Venables was granted by William Flower to this family (differenced by a wolf's head on a canton), with reference to their descent from the coheirress of a younger line of that house. This patent was confirmed by sir Richard St. George Nov. 23, 1613; but Mr. Woodnoth, a Cheshire antiquary, having certified to sir Richard Wilbraham, that the ancient coat of his family was bendy wavy of six pieces Argent and Azure, an inquiry was instituted at the Heralds' College, when it appeared that this coat belonged to sir Thomas Playter of Suffolk, and that the ancient coat of Wilbraham was Argent, three bends wavy Azure.^f

This last mentioned coat has been since borne by all the Wilbrahams, excepting the Dorfold branch, the coat of Flower being retained in the second quarter; but from the circumstance of its having been disused, and re-assumed, its original seniority over the granted coat has been overlooked in all heraldic arrangements of the Wilbraham quarterings, in which it is uniformly, but improperly, described as the modern bearing.

ALSTANTON.

THIS township is omitted in Domesday, but is mentioned in the inquisition 16 Edw. I. as being one of the villis owing service and homage to the second coheirress of the Malbank family, Eleanor, whose property passed to the lords Audley.

The manor was from before Hen. III. (according to Dr. Williamson) "y^e Allstantons, till by Milisent d. and h. to Vincent de Allstanton, it came in marriage to Rob^t Bulkeley, whose son Rob^t dying Edw. III. I find y^t the Black Prince 47 Edw. III. granted to W^m Bulkeley of Chedle, y^e custody of the manor of Ayton by Davenham w^{ch} he had by reason of the minority of J^{no} s. and h. of Rob^t Bulkeley of Allstanton; who I suppose *dying young or w^{thout} issue*, Ellen d. and h. of Rob^t Bulkeley, brought it to W^m son of Ralph Wettenal of Cholmston, whose d. and h. (coheir) Lettice brought it to W^m son of Rob^t Praers of Baddiley, whose d. and h. Agnes brought it to Rich^d son of Will^m de Bromley."

On this it must be observed, that Dr. Williamson is mistaken in his conjecture as to John Bulkeley, who was male ancestor of the Bulkeleys of Eaton, and had a younger brother Robert, who doubtless obtained Allstanton, and his other estates, by a family partition. The

pedigree of the family is given in the account of Bulkeley and Eaton^a. From the following inquisition also it will appear that Alstanton passed from Letitia Wettenhall, to her grandson, and not to her daughter's husband.

Inq. p. m. 23 Ric. II. Letitia widow of William Praers of Badilegh, daughter and one of the heiresses of William de Wettenhall of Cholmeston, held in demesne, as in fee, a moiety of the manor of Allstanton, from William de Bromlegh, by military service, and the annual render of one pound of pepper; val. vl.: and a fourth part of the said manor from John Lovell, chivaler, in socage, val. xxx. John, son of Richard Bromley, next of kin and heir.

Alstanton descended, with the other estates of the Bromleys, in the manner mentioned in the account of Badington; and is noticed by the name of Over and Nether Alstanton, in the inquisitions after the death of William Bromley and sir John Bromley 1 and 15 Hen. VII. In the inquisition after the death of his son-in-law sir John Nedham 2 Hen. VII. it is described as the manor of Nether Alstanton, with lands in Over and Nether Alstanton. From this period it has descended with the other estates of the Needham family, and is now vested in their representative lord Kilmorey.

^f In the Wilbraham MS. is a note of the disbursement in this business between sir Richard Wilbraham and sir Thomas Playter (A. D. 1635) being £32. 9s. 6d. of which £20. was paid to sir William Le Neve as a gratuity, and £5. to Mr. Northgate, the earl marshal's secretary. These inquiries probably originated in the arrangements consequent on sir R. Wilbraham's being elevated to a baronetcy, and led to the examination of the deeds of Wilbraham manor previously noticed.

In the royal instructions to the commissioners of James I. for treating with those who wished to comply with the terms of obtaining a baronetcy (viz. maintaining 30 foot soldiers in Ireland for three years at 8d. per day, and paying one year's wages into the king's hands on passing the patent) it was provided that they should proceed with none who were not worthy of the same for quality, state of living, and good reputation, bearing arms paternally in the third descent, and possessing £1000. clear per ann. of which one third might be in reversion.

The following is the certificate which was delivered on this occasion for sir Richard Wilbraham:

"Being required to certify our knowledge concerning the antiquity, blood, and parentage of sir Richard Wilbraham, of Woodhey, in the county of Chester, kt. and of his fitness to be honoured with the degree of a baronet accordinge to an order set downe by his majesty in that behalf, and in discharge of our duties herein; we doe by these presentes certifie, that his ancestors were ancient even from the time of Henry the Third, his paternal ancestor being then a knight, and his ability answerable to his worthiness, such as we hold him without exception, if it shall please his majesty to conferre it upon him.

WILL. SEGAR, Garter.

HEN. ST. GEORGE, Richmond.

RIC. ST. GEORGE, Norroy."

^a Broxton Hundred, p. 363. and Northwich Hundred, p. 138.

EDLASTON

Is omitted in the Domesday survey, but is ascertained by the inquisition 16 Edw. I. to have been a dependency of that portion of the barony of Wich Malbank, which was allotted to Auda Vernon. The paramount royalty was attached to the demesne of Dorfold.

Under the representatives of this family a mesne manor was possessed by the Edlastons (according to Dr. Williamson), "for Will'm de Chetilton and Isabell his wife, d. and h. of Ely de Flamstede, gave to Ralph Vernon y^e land wh^{ch} she had of y^e gift of her coz. Peter L^d of Edlaston, and it was th^t inheritance till Rich^d son of Peter de Edlaston gave this village 27 Edw. I. to Rich^d de Foulhurst, unto which Richard, 10 Edw. II. Mabley, widow of Rich^d de Edlaston, released her dower."

This statement is confirmed by the general Cheshire collections, excepting that Richard, to whom the confirmation was made, and who was several times sheriff of Cheshire, was son of Richard, "perquisitor man' de Edlaston," as Booth terms him. He had three sons, Richard son and heir, Robert from whom the *Fulleshursts of Crewe*, and John.

The said Richard last mentioned, and Ellen his wife, 19 Edw. II. settled the manor of Edlaston, and lands in Badington and Newbold, on themselves for life; remainder successively to their sons Richard, Matthew, Robert, and John, and the heirs of their bodies; remainder to the right heirs of Richard the father^a.

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. Richard de Fulleshurst held lands called the Westhawe in Acton, from the earl in capite: val. xiiis. 1vd.; and the manor of Edlaston

cum pert. from John de Wettenal: val. per ann. vii. Robert son and heir.

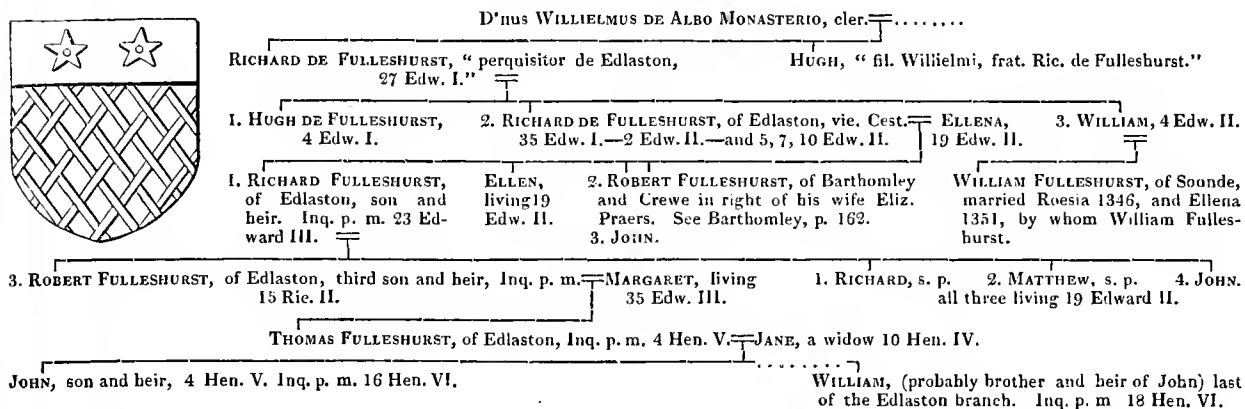
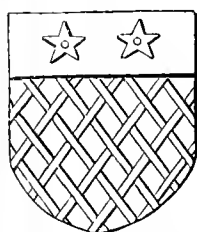
Inq. p. m. 15 Ric. II. Robert Fulleshurst of Edlaston held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Edlaston cum pert. from the manor of Dorfold, in socage, by the render of 1d. per ann.; val. ten marks: he held also a thirty-sixth part of the barony of Wich Malbank, and lands in Acton, Sonde, and Wylaston. Thos. son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. V. Thomas de Fulleshurst of Edlaston held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Edlaston, by services unknown, and a 36th part of the barony of Wich Malbank. John de Fulleshurst son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VI. John Fulleshurst held as in the last inquisition. The heir returned, illegible.

Inq. p. m. 18 Hen. VI. William Fulleshurst (most probably brother and heir of John) held in demesne, as of fee, two parts of the manor of Edlaston, and the reversion of the third, from the heirs of Richard de Ardren, by services unknown; also a thirty-sixth part of the barony of Wich Malbank, and lands therein, and lands in Worleston, Whitfurlonge, Henhull, Rosserying in Wylaston, Acton, Woodcote, and Great Aldersey. Robert de Fulleshurst cousin and heir.

This was Robert Fulleshurst of Crewe, male heir of the Fulleshursts on the termination of the Edlaston branch (under the settlement 19 Edw. II. before mentioned), the descent of which is thus given by Booth, with corrections from inquisitions in the later descents. The arms were the same as those of the Crewe branch, with the substitution of two mullets pierced Sable in a chief Argent.



The subsequent notices in inquisitions relate to the Fulleshursts of Crewe, whose pedigree is given in the account of the manor of Barthomley.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VII. Thomas Fulleshurst, esq. held, inter alia, the said manor from the heirs of Ralph Arderne, by services unknown: val. xii.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. Robert Fowlehurst, esq. held, inter alia, the said manor from the heirs of sir Ralph Arderne, as before: val. viii.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VIII. ad mel. *inq. val.* upwards of viii. vis. viiiid.

Inq. p. m. 12 Hen. VIII. Jane, widow of Robert Fowlehurst, held lands in the same from the heirs of sir Ralph Arderne, as before: val. vii. iiis. 1vd.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VIII. Anne Fulleshurst widow held, inter alia, lands in Edleston, from the heirs of Ralph

Arderne, as before: val. xis.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VIII. Edward Fulleshurst, esq. (ideot) held, inter alia, the manor of Newbold and lands in Edlaston, from the heirs of Richard Arderne, as before: val. £13. 13s. 4d.

Shortly after this, the manor of Edlaston appears to have passed by sale to the Cholmondeleys, with the other portions of the barony of Nantwich, purchased from the Fulleshursts; and in the inquisitions after the deaths of the two sir Hugh Cholmondeleys, 39 and 43 Eliz. it is described as being held with the manor of "Newbold juxta Wichmalbank," and lands therein, from the king as of his earldom of Chester, by military service, as the 40th part of a knight's fee: val. xx marks. From this period the manor has descended with the other family estates to the present marquiss of Cholmondeley.^b

^a Williamson's Fines.

^b The manerial privileges used are confined to a game deputation.

HENHULL.

HENHULL is omitted in Domesday, but by the inquisition 16 Edw. I. relative to the partition of the barony of Wich Malbank, it is ascertained to have been a part of the barony; and the homages and services due from it are stated to have fallen to the share of Auda Vernon.

The homages and services of Richard de Henhull, and others, are included in a fine which Ralph de Vernon, sen. levied, of three knight's fees, 19 Edw. II.^a

In another Richard de Henhull (probably son of the preceding), the direct male line of the mesne lords terminated. He had issue Alice, wife of Richard de Cholmondeley, who was found his eldest daughter and coheiress, by inquisition 2 Rich. II.^b; and according to Dr. Williamson, who omits this coheiress, he had also issue John, on whom Henhull was settled 7 Edw. III. then married to Alice, daughter of Hugh de Bickerton, (who

died without issue), and three other coheiresses; Margaret, wife of Richard de Golborne; (Johanna), wife of Philip Filkin, of Tattenhall; and —, wife of John Cheswis, of Burland.

A MS Villare of Nantwich Hundred describes the manor of Henhull as being vested in Robert viscount Cholmondeley in 1666^c; but it does not appear whether he inherited it from the match of his ancestor with Alice Henhull (who died issueless), derived it from a subsequent purchase, or claimed it as a part of the paramount rights of the barony of Nantwich. The latter is most probable, as no mention is made of the manor of Henhull among the manors noticed in the early Inquisitions of the Cholmondeleys.

From the period last mentioned, the manor of Henhull has descended with the other family estates, and is the property of the present marquis of Cholmondeley.

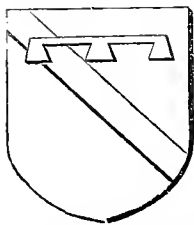
COOLE, OR COOLE PILOT.

THE inquisition 16 Edw. I. relating to the division of the barony of Nantwich, states the paramount rights of this township (which is unnoticed in Domesday^d) to have been parted equally between the three daughters and coheiresses of the last baron. These rights were afterwards subdivided into various minute portions, following the partitions of the several shares of the barony. The manerial rights are at present claimed by lord Kilmorey^e.

There were antiently two families settled in this township, which require a distinct notice, the *St. Pierres* and the *Whitneys*. Their estates were detached portions of the barony, and that of the first-named family was considered manerial.

The Whitneys (says Dr. Williamson) "had th'r estate, viz. one messuage, 60 acres of land, four of meadow, 20 of pasture, and 16 of wood, cum p'tin. here and in Aston by Bromale, by the feoffment of Nicolas de Audley to Howell Whitney, 12 Rich. II. 13 Jac. I. Rob^t. Whitney died seiz'd of these lands, leaving Hugh his grandson and heir^f."

This estate is now the property of Henry Tomkinson, esq. of Dorfold, whose father-in-law, Mr. John Darlington, purchased the same from Hugh Whitney, the representative of this family, in 1744^g.



The *St. Pierres* of Coole branched off from a Norman family of that name settled at Malpas, in the person of David de St. Pierre, younger son of John de St. Pierre of Malpas; and bore Argent, a bend Sable, debruised in chief by a label of three points Gules.

Inq. p. m. 33 Edw. III. David de Seyntpier held from the earl of Chester, in cap. per baroniam. Robert de Seyntpier next heir. Val. xls.

Inq. p. m. same year, Cecilia, widow of the aforesaid, held in dowry a third part of her husband's lands in Cowle, as before, val. xliis. lvd.

Inq. p. m. 3 Rich. II. Robert de Seyntpier held, in fee simple, lands in Cowle from the king, as earl of Chester, by military service, val. ixs.; also lands in Chorley, Woodcot, and Bromall. John de Seyntpier son and heir.

In a licence granted 21 Hen. VII. to sir Roger Horton (as next of kin and heir to sir Thomas Cokesay) to enter on the barony of Malpas, this John is stated to be son of Robert son of David, and to be father of Alice, daughter and heiress, mother of William, father of Roger Horton before mentioned^h.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VI. Roger de Horton held in demesne, as of fee, in right of Alice his wife (the heiress above mentioned), 20 acres of land cum pert. in Coole, from the king, as earl of Chester, by military service, val. xliis. lvd. William son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 21 Hen. VIII. John Horton of Coole (most probably son of sir Roger Horton) held lands in Coole as before, val. viiil.; and lands in Worleston, Lostock, Northwich, and Twembrook. Died Dec. 9, a^o p'd'to. Roger Horton son and heir, aged 34 years.

Inq. p. m. 24 Eliz. Ralph Horton, gent. held the manor of Coole from the queen as before, val. viiil.; also an eighth part of the manor of Worleston, and lands in Lostock Gralam, Northwich, and Twembrooke. Richard Horton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 28 March, 6 Jac. I. Richard Horton held the manor of Coole, &c. as in the last Inquisition, and died May 28 last past, val. tot. xlii. xviiis. Ralph Horton son and heir, aged upwards of 24 years.

The last male heir of the Hortons is stated, in the *Magna Britannia*ⁱ, to have died about 1740, when the estate devolved to Dr. William Davenport, of Laycock Abbey, co. Wilts, by whose representatives it was sold to Joseph Skerret, esq. in or about 1786.

The "CHOICE OF EMBLEMS" of GEFREY WHITNEY, who was of the family of Whitney of Coole are noticed in the account of Nantwich.

^a Williamson, Vill. Cest.

^b Coffins.

^c Harl. MSS. 2010.

^d It probably occupies the site of the forest of Chouhy or Couhull; see Charters of Combermere, pp. 214, 215.

^e Lysons's *Magna Britannia*, vol. II. part 2, p. 473.

^f Vill. Cest.

^g Information of H. Tomkinson, esq.

^h See pedigree of the barons of Malpas, Broxton Hundred, p. 333, and the abstracts of Inquisitions, &c. following.

ⁱ Vol. II. part II. 473.

NEW HALL.

THE manor of Newhall, as might be expected from the import of its name, is unnoticed in Domesday, but was certainly a portion of the barony of Wich Malbank, and the head of the estates which passed by partition to Eleanor de Malbank.

By her grant, and the confirmation of the earl of Chester annexed^h, the said estates passed to Henry de Audley, to whom the same were subsequently confirmed by Henry III. with various lands in Cheshire, Staffordshire, and other counties.

The said Henry married Bertred, daughter of Ralph de Mainwaring by his wife Amicia; and by inquisition 4 Edw. I. was found to have held the castle of Newhall, with various other lands and manors parcel of the barony of Wich Malbank, from the king in cap. by military service. Heleigh, the chief seat of his warlike successors, distinguished by their pilgrimages to the Holy Land, and their military exploits in Wales, Scotland, and France, is situated beyond the limits of this work; but the reader will find an ample account of its owners in the Baronage of Dugdale.

James, last lord Audley of the male line of this family, had issue, by two marriages, three sons who died s. p. and three daughters, Johanna, wife of sir John Touchet; Margery, wife of sir Roger Hilary; and Margaret, wife of Fulk Fitzwarine. The second of these daughters died s. p.ⁱ the others divided the inheritance, and both had lands in Newhall; but the castle and manor appear to have vested in the Touchets, and to have passed by attainder to the crown.

After an intermediate grant to sir Anthony Browne and surrender by him^k, the manor of Newhall was possessed by George Cotton, esq. (probably in right of some grant to his father, sir Richard Cotton of Warblington), and was sold by him, with court-leet and lands here and in Wrenbury, 33 Eliz. to Thomas Egerton, esq. solicitor-general^l, who six years afterwards levied a fine of the same and other manors with his son, Thomas Egerton, esq.^m Webb, about 1625, in his Itinerary of this Hundred, describes Newhall as being then vested in a branch

of the Egertons which had previously been settled at Christleton.

Shortly after this, Newhall passed to the Cottons of Combermere. Sir Robert Cotton is stated to be possessed of it in 1666 (Harl. MSS. 2010); and it has descended from him to the present proprietor, lord Combermere.

From the inquisition before cited, it appears that the castle of Newhall was existing in the time of Henry de Audley, grantee from Eleanor Malbank; and it was probably erected while the barony of Nantwich remained entire, as a check on the incursions of the Welsh, who in several instances penetrated into this part of the Palatinate.

Leland observes of this fortress in the time of Henry VIII. "there was a place of the lord Audeleys in Cestreshyre, betuixt Cumbremere and Nantwiche, caullid Newhauill Tower. It is now doune. There be motes and fair water."ⁿ

Dugdale, in his account of the lords Audley, speaks of some remains of it as then existing, but these have also now disappeared.

From an inquisition relating to the Griffins of Barterton preserved among the Audley deeds in Harl. MSS. 2038, it appears that they held lands by the service of watch and ward at this castle, as was most probably the case with other dependents of the Audleys, and was usual at Aldford, Dodleston, and other fortresses on the Welsh borders. The lands held from Nicholas de Audley were in this instance two carucates, and the service which was required of Geoffry, son of Geoffry Griffin, was castle watch with three men at Newhall in war-time.

Lord Combermere holds a court leet and court baron at Newhall, the seat of the Audleys, which seems to be a paramount court over the manors of Wrenbury and Wirswall, the inhabitants doing suit at Newhall. At this court surrenders and admittances pass for a great portion of the property within the manor, but some part has been enfranchized. Constables and burleymen are also appointed at this court for the manor^o.

^h Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Aenor Malbank in legitima potestate mea, dedi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Henrico de Aldithley et heredibus suis pro homagio et servicio suo totam terram eam quam habui in *Cestresiria infra Lymam* cum omnibus pertinentiis suis et libertatibus, et toto servicio feodi et et feodo et hereditate, tenendum et habendum de me et heredibus meis illi et heredibus suis, in perpetuum liberè et quietè, &c. &c. reddendo inde annuatim mihi et heredibus meis, illi et heredibus suis, pro omni seculari servicio et exactione XL solidos sterlingorum, ad 11 terminos, viz. XXs. ad festum sancti Michaelis, et XXs. ad festum S. Mariæ, annuatim, salvo forinseco servicio. Pro hac donatione et concessione dedit mihi prefatus Henricus c marcas argenti et unum palefridum. Et ego Aenor Malbank, &c. (general warranty). Hiis testibus, Philippo de Orreby, justic. Cest. Hugone Dispensatore, Thoma Dispensatore, Rogero de Monte Alto, Warino de Vernon, &c. Erdswick's Collections, Harl. MSS. 506, p. 14.

By another charter, *ibid.* the same grants to the same as before, et totum feodum de Chestertone, et totum feodum quod Robertus de Cowdrey tenet de me in *Cestresiria* et in Dorset.

Ranulfus comes *Cestriæ*, &c. &c. Nutum sit vobis me concessisse et hac presenti carta confirmasse Henrico de Aldithlega totam terram de *Cestresiria* quam tenet de domina Aenor de Malbanc, habendum et tenendum sibi et heredibus suis libere et quiete sicut carta predicta dominæ Aenor de Malbanc quam inde habet testatur. Ut haec autem antedicta concessio et confirmatio rata et stabilis permaneat, eam presenti scripto et sigilli mei appositione corroboravi. Hiis test. Philippo de Orreby, tunc justic. Cest. &c. *Ibid.*

Ibid. p. 15, is another confirmation by Henry III. king of England (alluded to above) of the lands of the said Henry de Audley, reciting the names of his several estates, and of the grantors of those estates to the Audleys.

ⁱ Inquisitions of the Audleys, Harl. MSS. 2038.

^l Williamson's Fines, p. 86.

^m *Ibid.* p. 88.

^o Information of Philip Humberston, esq. on the part of lord Combermere.

^k Lysons's *Magna Britannia*, 478.

ⁿ *Itin.* vol. VII. fo. 40. p. 31.

Wrenbury Parochial Chapelry.

THIS Chapelry extends about six miles in length and four in breadth, and comprizes the townships of Wrenbury cum Frith, Bromhall, Chorley, and Woodcote, and parts of those of Dodecote cum Wilkesley, Soond, and Newhall, the two last of which have been described in the account of Aeton.

WRENBURY CUM FRITH.

Is noticed in the Domesday survey as follows :

Isdem Willelmus tenet Wareneberie, Carle tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Ibi una hida et dimidia geldabilis: terra est 11 caruearnm, et dominio est una, et 11 bovarii, et unus bordarius: ibi silva 11 leuis longa, et una lata, et 11 haiaæ, et aira accipitris. Valuit et valet v solidos: wasta invenitur."

The Inq. 16 Edw. I. relative to the division of the barony of Wich Malbank, states the homage and service due from the lord of Wrenbury, to be included in the portion which passed to the Audley family by grant from Eleanor Malbank. Other inquisitions also notice certain paramount rights, which passed with Auda Malbank to the Vernons of Shipbrook, and which may be traced in the inquisitions through the Savages and Cholmondeleys.

The representatives of these two coheiresses of the Malbanks still exercise a jurisdiction over this township. That of lord Combermere in right of the manor of Newhall, has been already noticed in the preceding township, and a court leet for Wrenbury is also held by the marquis of Cholmondeley^a, to whom, and to lord Combermere, the district called Wrenbury Frith belongs in equal moieties^b.

The *manor* of Wrenbury is vested in lord Combermere, and J. C. Starkey, esq. in unequal shares, the former having two-thirds of the same, being^c paelel of the possessions of Combermere, which passed to his ancestor, George Cotton, 32 Hen. VIII. among other estates of the monastery by the king's grant^d.

The estate of Mr. Starkey passed to him by bequest from the relict of the last representative of the antient family of Starkey of Wrenbury.

This last portion of Wrenbury appears to have formed part of the estates of Matilda de Coudray, temp. Hen. III.^e; and passed by grant, under the description of the manor of Wrenbury, from her daughter Johanna, and Walter de Worleston, husband of the said Johanna, to Richard de Wrenbury^f.

Inq. p. m. 14 Edw. III. John de Wrenbury held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Wrenbury from sir Ralph de Vernon, by the render of xiiid. in silver, or one sparrow hawk; val. xxxl.: also lands in Willaston,

Worleston, Tussingham, and Newton juxta Tattenhall. John de Wrenbury son and heir.

John de Wrenbury found heir by this inquisition, had issue three daughters and coheiresses, Agnes wife of Randle de Oldinton, Anabilia wife of Hugh Massie of Tatton, and Alicia wife of John Wetenhale^g. The first of these had the Wrenbury share of this manor.

The account of the Oltons has been given in another part of the work^h. John de Olton (son of Randle before mentioned) had three daughters and coheiresses, Johanna and Ellen, severally wives of Peter and Thomas sons of Thomas Starkye of Stretton, and Margaret, wife of Richard Fitton of Pownallⁱ, among whom his lands were divided. In the inquisition after his death 20 Ric. II. he is found to have held, inter alia, the manor of Wrenbury (excepting the lands of John Massy of Tatton, Jane widow of Richard Hedy, and the heirs of Nicholas de Audley) from sir Ralph Vernon, by military service, and the render of 11s.: val. xl marks.

The manerial rights of the Oltons passed to the second of these coheiresses, from whom the Starkeys of Wrenbury descend; and lands also passed to the Fittons and their successors, the Newtons of Pownall, which in *one* Inq. 16 H. VI. (after the death of Richard Fitton, husband of Margaret Olton) are termed a moiety of the manor.

The following inquisitions have occurred relative to the Wrenbury branch of the Starkey family.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VIII. Thomas Starky of Wrenbury, esq. held the manor and mill of Wrenbury, from the heirs of sir Ralph Vernon, by military service, and the render of 11s. per ann., val. xiiii. xs.; also lands in Woodcote, Olton low, Erdswick, and Minshull Vernon; val. tot. xxvi. xviii. s.; obiit May 3, a^o p'd'to. John Starkey son and heir, aged 30 years.

Inq. p. m. 34 Hen. VIII. John Starky, gent. held the park, capital messuage, and mill of Wrenbury from sir John Savage, knight, val. vii. xiiis.; and lands, as before; died on St. Andrew's day, a^o p'd'to. Thomas Starkey son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. Thomas Starkye held the manor and mill of Wrenbury, and lands therein, from sir John Savage, knight, by military service, and the render of xiiid. per ann.; val. xvii. xs.; and lands, as before;

^a Information of Messrs. Edleston and Elwood, on the part of the marquis of Cholmondeley.

^b Information of Philip Humberston, esq. on the part of lord Combermere.

^c Information of Messrs. Edleston and Elwood on the part of J. C. Starkey, esq.

^d Vernon's MSS. at Somerford.

^e Ibid.

^f See the pedigrees of Fitton of Pownall, and Starkye of Olton and of Stretton.

^d See Combermere.

^e See pedigree in Worleston.

^h Edisbury hundred, p. 102—104.

obit July 13, a^o p^dto. Arthur Starkey son and heir.

This John Starkey entered his descent in the visitation of 1566, which is given in the pedigree annexed, with all that can be recovered of the subsequent descent of his posterity, to Thomas Starkey, the last heir of this family, who died Oct. 31, 1802.

Under the will of his relict Eleanor, dated March 17, 1809, the Wrenbury Hall estate passed to her nephew,

John Cross, esq. (son of William Cross of Bloomsbury, by his wife Mary, sister of the said Eleanor), who assumed the name and arms of Starkey in addition.

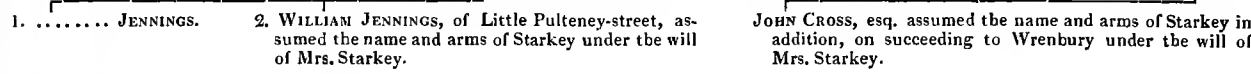
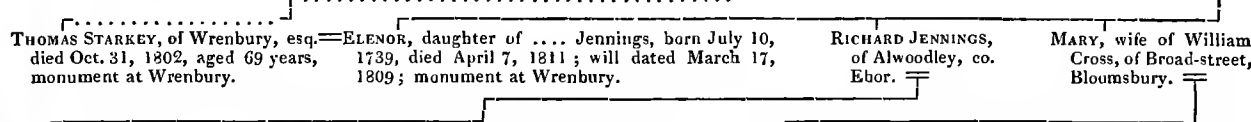
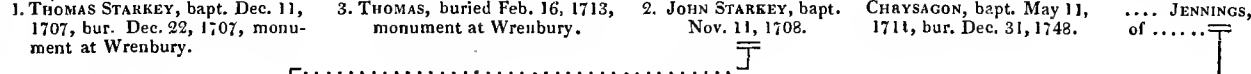
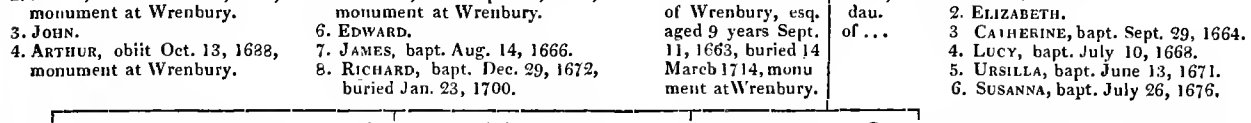
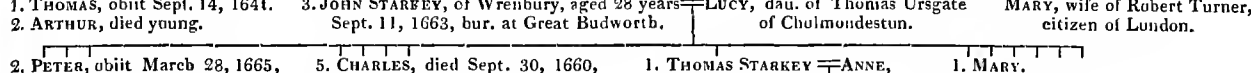
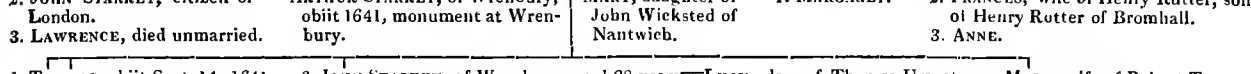
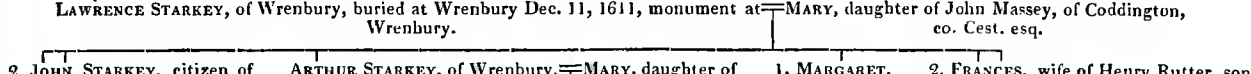
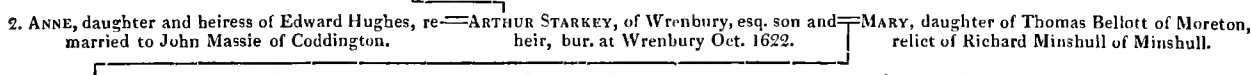
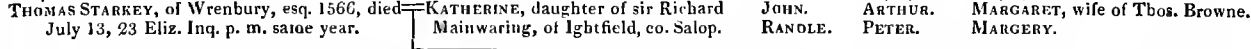
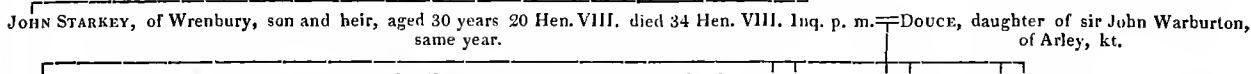
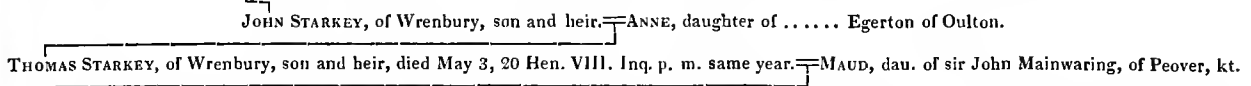
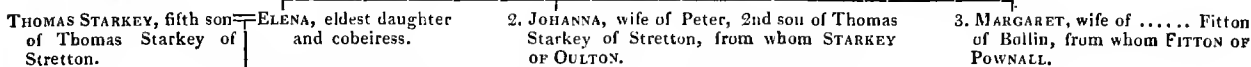
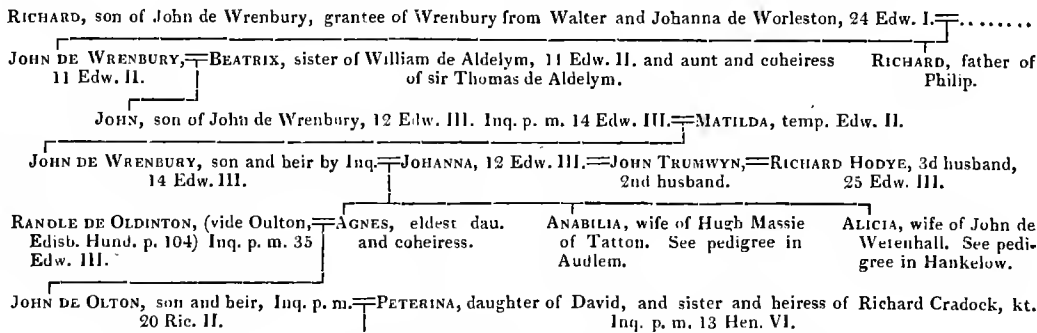
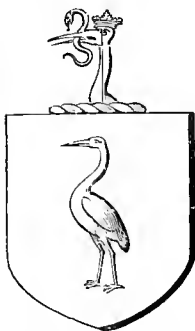
Wrenbury is a small neat village, in a flat sequestered situation, about five miles south-east of Nantwich. The Hall is a large white building, finished with gables, and surrounded with park-like grounds, and considerable plantations.

WRENBURY, OLTON, AND STARKEY OF WRENBURY.

From Vernon's Collections Somerford MSS. Booth's pedigrees, and the Visitation of 1663-4.‡

ARMS. Argent, a stork Sable, beaked and legged Gules.

CREST. On a wreath, a stork's head and neck coupéd, party per pale Argent and Gules, ducally crowned Or. In the beak Gules, a snake Vert.



‡ The subsequent names and dates (connected with dotted lines where information fails) are extracted from the Wrenbury registers and monuments, and the recitals in the patents granted to Messrs. Jennings and Starkey on their assumption of the name of Starkey. In the grant of arms to Mr. Starkey the stork is differenced with an annulet on the breast, and the coat is directed to be borne quarterly with one granted for the name of Cross.

PAROCHIAL CHAPELRY.

Wrenbury, like the other dependencies of Acton, has been sometimes loosely termed a parish, and has been erroneously returned as such under the Population Act. The tithes were appropriated by Combermere, together with those of the mother church, and were granted after the dissolution to Robert Needham, esq.^h

In the bishop of Chester's return to the Governors of queen Anne's Bounty, Feb. 13, 1809, the curacy (which is in the gift of the vicar of Acton) is stated to be augmented, not charged: yearly val. of augmentation, stipend, and surplice fees £47. 12s. The Registers begin 1593ⁱ.

The chapel of Wrenbury consists of a handsome tower, with nave, side aisles, and chancel. The nave is divided from the side aisles by a row of five pointed arches on each side, resting on octagonal pillars with capitals, over which are a row of clerestory windows. All the roofs, excepting that of the chancel, are of carved oak. The general appearance of the church is extremely uniform and handsome.

In the south aisle are memorials of Samuel Barrow, esq. of Sheppenhall (died Feb. 23, 1798), and of Samuel Manning of London.

On the south side of the chancel are the memorials of the Cottons of Combermere; and on the opposite side those of the Starkeys of Wrenbury.

COTTON MONUMENTS.

1. A mural tablet of white marble inscribed:

Beneath lies interred the body
of Stephen Cotton, esq.
who died Dec. ye 7th, 1727, aged 27
years;

to whose memory this small
monument was erected by his
brother s^r Robert
Salisbury Cotton,
Bart.

Vere youngest daughter
of s^r Thos. Cotton,
bart. was beneath inter'd
Sep. 23, 1730,
aged 17.
Arms, Cotton.

II. A wooden tablet, with the arms of Cotton, with 12 quarterings, and an escocheon of pretence, inscribed: Under the stone, in this south side, half part of Wrenbury chancell belonging to Combermerc, lyes the body of Geo. Cotton, esq. fifth and youngest son to s^r Robert Cotton of Combermere in the county of Chester, knt. and bart. and of Dame Hester his wife, sister and heir to s^r John Salusbury, of Lewenny, in the county of Denbigh, bart. who died the eighth day of July 1702.

There also lyes interr'd Hugh Calveley Cotton, gent. an infant, eighth son of Thomas Cotton, esq. and Philadelphia his wife, daughter and heir of his excellency s^r Thomas Lynch, knt. late governor of Jamaica. He died June the 24th, 1707.

III. A mural tablet of white marble, with the arms of Cotton. Inscription:

Underneath
lyeth the body of
lady Elizabeth Cotton,
obit Aug. 16, 1745,

^h Harl. MSS. 1967.

ⁱ There is a School at Wrenbury which was founded in or about 1605 by Ralph Bulkeley, the master of which is paid from the public stock of the chapelry. Among the benefactors to this chapelry in the parliamentary return of charities will be found the name of Arthur and John Cartwright. The Cartwrights of Aynhoe in Northamptonshire descend from a family of that name formerly connected with this township. See Bridges's Northamptonshire, i. 137.

aged 63.

Also the body of
Sir Robert Salusbury Cotton, bart.
her husband,
obit Aug. 27th, 1748,
aged 53.

IV. A large pyramidal mural marble monument, inscribed:

This marble
perpetuates the memory
of sir Lynch Salusbury Cotton, bart.
of Combermere abbey, in this county.
He died the xiv day of August,
MDCCLXXV.

towards the close of his LXX year.

And
of his wife dame Elizabeth Abigail,
who died the iv day of January
M.DCCLXXVII.

in the LXIV year of her age.

She was daughter of Rowland Cotton, esq.
of Etwell in the county of Derby,
and Bellaport in the county of Salop.

They had issue nine sons and five daughters,
twelve of whom survived them.

Their remains are deposited near this place.

STARKEY MONUMENTS.

I. An elegant mural pyramidal monument of white and grey marble, by J. Bacon, jun. inscribed in capitals:

Sacred to the memory of

Elinor Starkey,

widow of Thomas Starkey, esq. of Wrenbury Hall,
who was born the 10th of July MDCCLXXIX.
and died the 7th of April MDCCLXXI.

Piety and charity directing her conduct,
in every Christian virtue she was truly exemplary:
in social and relative virtues surpassed by none,
and equalled but by few;

hospitable, and zealous of good works.

She lived universally respected,
and died sincerely lamented.

Over the tablet is a female figure, standing, holding an open book in the right hand, and leaning on an urn with the left.

Underneath, a quotation from Psalm lxi. verse 3; and Starkey, impaling Jennings.

II. Another pyramidal mural monument of white and grey marble, by the same sculptor, inscribed:

Sacred to the memory of

Thomas Starkey,

of Wrenbury Hall, in this township, esquire,
who departed this life on the 31st day of October, 1802,
in the 69th year of his age;
and lies here interred with his ancestors.

He was descended

from a very antient and honourable family,
who in the page of early history are found to have possessed
the township of Stretton, and other large demesnes
in Cheshire.

His immediate lineal descent was from
Richard Starkey, of the Lower Hall, lord of Stretton;
from which root emanated
the family of Starkey of Over Hall,
in the 16th year of king Edward the First, 1287.
The deceased was lord of the manors and demesnes

of Wrenbury cum Frith, in this county, which were possessed by his ancestors for many centuries, who there signalized themselves by their eminent virtues, from the time of king Richard the second.

He was blessed with a most amiable disposition, and a firm and independent mind.

Gentle in his manners, humble in his deportment, sincere in his friendships, kind to his dependents, universal in his hospitality, he was beloved by all,

but chiefly by his afflicted widow,

who mourns a most tender husband and faithful monitor.

Such was the man; the Christian rises higher:

for to a pious course of life,

and firm reliance on the Saviour's merits, he added

a fervent devotion and charity to his fellow-creatures.

To perpetuate his memory,

and to give a lasting memorial of her just regard,

Elinor, his widow, (by whom he has left no issue)

hath erected this monument.

Over the inscription is a fine figure of a sick man reposing on a couch, and resting the left arm on an open book, inscribed: "The sting of Death is sin; but thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Behind him is a female figure raising his head, and pointing with a crucifix to emblems of immortality. Underneath are the arms and crest of Starkey, quartering Oulton and Wrenbury, and another shield for Jennings.

III. A similar monument by the same artist, inscribed:

Sacred to the memory of

John Jennings, of London, esquire,

who departed this life February the 1st, 1808,

in the 69th year of his age.

He was a kind and affectionate relative,

a true and constant friend; courteous, humane, benevolent; unremitting in his endeavours to console the afflicted, assist the indigent, and alleviate distress;

but, as a Christian, he placed

no confidence in these moral virtues,

the merits of his Saviour being the only ground of his hope for acceptance and salvation.

He lived universally esteemed,

and died sincerely lamented.

As the last tribute of affection,

his sister, Elinor Starkey, hath erected this monument.

Over the tablet a figure of Faith, pointing with a telescope to emblems of Immortality, and supporting a drooping figure of Hope. Underneath the arms of Jennings, as before, impaling —, a chevron Azure between three crescents.

IV. Between the two last monuments is a wooden tablet, with the arms and crest of Starkey, as before, inscribed:

Interred in this chancel lie the bodies of

Lawrance Starkey, esq. buried Dec. 8th, 1611.

Arthur, his father, Oct. 1, 1622.

Arthur, son of Lawrance, July 19th, 1641.

Thomas, eldest son of Arthur, Sept. 14th, 1641.

George, son of George Starkey, esq. Sept. 17th, 1641.

Charles, son of John Starkey, esq. Sept. 30th, 1660.

Peter, son of John Starkey, esq. March 28th, 1665.

George Starkey, esq. August 15th, 1666.

Arthur, son of John Starkey, Oct. 13th, 1688.

John Starkey, esq. interr'd at Great Budworth.

Richard Starkey, esq. Jan. 23d, 1700.

Thomas, son of Thomas Starkey, esq. Dec. 22, 1707.

Thomas, son of Thomas Starkey, Feb. 16th, 1713.

Thomas Starkey, esq. March 14th, 1714^k.

BROMHALL.

In the Saxon period this was a divided manor, held by two free proprietors of the same manor.

"Isdem Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Brunhala; Edric et Edui pro 11 maneriis tenuerunt. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est una caruca: in dominio est dimidia cum uno bovario; silva est una leuvâ longa, et dimidia lata, et haia ibi."

The Inq. 16 Edw. I. relative to the division of the barony of Wich Malbank, ascertains the paramount rights of Bromhall to have passed with Eleanor de Malbank's share to the Audleys.

Previous to this the Chetiltons were settled here as mesne lords, the particulars of which, and the further descent, are given from Dr. Williamson's MS Villare:

"1 Edw. I. James de Audley died seized of 1111d. rent in Bronhale, and William de Chetilton, held of him a knight's fee, which by the Inq. taken 1 Edw. II. upon the death of Thomas, son of Nicholas de Audley, is further explained; for there it is said, that William de Chetilton died seized of this village, Badington, &c. and (in lib. 2. c. 4.) I find that Amicia, lady of Bromhale, in her widowhood gave to Robert de Chetilton,

her capital lord, by deed without date, her capital mesuage of Bromhall (which is called the Hall), and the whole village with the wood adjoining, together with the services of John de Worleston and his heirs, William de Soude and his heirs, and some others (by reason of their lands which they held of her in Bromale) for a rose yearly to be paid to her on St. John Baptist's day, in the hall at Badington, for all services, for which Robert gave her 1111 marks sterling in hand.

"From which family of the Chetiltons, it came by Annabella, daughter and heiress of William de Chetilton, to William de Bromley, in Edward the Third's time; in which family it continued, till it and the other manors of sir John Bromley of Badington, &c. came to be divided among his daughters and coheiresses in Henry the Seventh's time. For William Needham held this manor and Badington of that king by the forfeiture of James lord Audley^a: val. at £40."

The manor of Bromhall has subsequently descended with the other Cheshire estates of the Needhams, and is now vested in their representative lord Kilmorey.

^k A volume of antient Church Notes (Harl. MSS. 2151.) mentions various armorial bearings, and the following inscriptions, existing at the close of the 17th century in Wrenbury Chapel:

Here lyeth the body of Geo. Starkey, youngest son of Arthur Starkey, esq. and Anne his wife, daughter to Thomas Burrough of Bickley, by whom he had issue six sons and two twine daughters. He died 15 Aug. 1666, aged 67 years. His said wife died 11 Nov. 1670, aged 68.

An alabaster stone, at the chancel door, with two recumbent figures, and part of the inscription, "Mainwaring de Ightfeld."

Under Cartwright impaling Starkey: Jo. Cartwright of Sbeppenhall, gen. died 16, and was buried 18 of Jan. 1634, and Ermine his wife died 8 Feb. and was buried 12, both in this place; she being daughter to Arthur Starkey of Wrenbury, esq. anno Domini 1671.

^a Viz. the previous paramount lord of Bromhall.

CHORLEY.

THE following description of "Cerlere" appears to apply to this township:

"Isdem Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Cerlere; Aluric liber homo tenuit. Ibi 111 virgata geldabiles: terra est una caruca et dimidia; ibi sunt 11 villani, et unus bordarius cum dimidia caruca. Silva dimidia leuva longa, et 11 quarentenis lata; ibi baia. Valet 111 solidos."

In the division of the barony, Chorley passed (as by Inq. 16 Edw. I.) to Eleanor Malbank, and from her to Henry de Audley, under whose family it was held by the Harcourts.

1 Edw. II. *Inq. p. m.* Tho. fil. Nic. de Audley; Robert Harcourt held of the said Thomas the villis of Cherle and Barksford, by the services of half a knight's fee.

This Robert de Harcourt had two daughters and co-heiresses, wives severally of Hugh and Robert Cholmondeley.

The issue of Robert Cholmondeley settled at Chorley, and alienated their share of the manor to the Cholmondeleys of Cholmondeley, temp. Hen. VI.^a

The other share passed by marriage as above mentioned to Hugh Cholmondeley, "whose daughter and heiress Lettice brought it to Roger Bromley, whose son Richard died seized of half this manor 2 Hen. VI. and his grandson John died seized of it 20 Edw. IV. and 7 Hen. VIII. Richard Bromley died seized of half this manor, which he held of James lord Audley^b."

In a later Inq. 6 Edw. VI. the estate of Robert Bromley in Chorley, valued with lands in Basford at xxvii. 111s. 1vd. is stated to be held from the lord Audley by fealty only.

3 Eliz. John Bromley (found heir by the last inquisition) sold his estate in Chorley to Hugh son of sir Hugh Cholmondeley, knight^c; from whom it has descended with the moiety above-mentioned to the mar-

quis of Cholmondeley, the present proprietor, who holds a court leet and court baron for this manor^d.

THE CHOLMONDELEYS OF CHORLEY are said to have been resident here until the reign of Henry VII. when they were represented by SIR RICHARD CHOLMLEY, who was knighted by the earl of Surrey (12 Hen. VII.) for his services against the Scots, who had given aid to Perkin Warbeck, and was subsequently made lieutenant of Berwick, and governor of Kingston-upon-Hull. With the forces of this garrison he served in the royal army at the battle of Flodden, and was rewarded for his conduct on that day by the offices of lieutenant of the Tower, and supervisor general of the castle and manor of Richmond, and eleven other castles and manors in co. York.

Sir Richard Cholmley, by will dated Dec. 26, 1651, bequeaths the bulk of his estate to his brother sir Roger Cholmley, with remainder to the Cholmondeleys of Cholmondeley, and with certain provisions in favour of his natural son ROGER CHOLMLEY, then of Lincoln's Inn, who after a gradual rise in the law was constituted lord chief justice of the Court of King's Bench, March 21, 6 Edw. VI.

Sir Roger Cholmley, brother and heir of sir Richard, was knight of the body to Henry VIII. and died April 28, 1538, and was father of sir Richard Cholmley of Thornton, constable of Scarborough Castle, 2 Edw. VI. By his first wife Margaret, daughter of William lord Conyers, sir Richard had issue Roger Cholmley, ancestor to the Cholmleys of Brandesby and Thornton; and by his second, Catherine, daughter of Henry lord Clifford, he had issue sir Henry Cholmley, ancestor to the Cholmleys of Whitby, and afterwards of Housham, co. Ebor.^e Of this latter family was the gallant SIR HUGH CHOLMLEY of *Whitby*, the defender of Scarborough Castle against the Parliament forces in 1645.

DODCOTE CUM WILKESLEY

Is situated partly in this parish and partly in the parish of Audlem.

The manor of Wilkesley, styled variously, in the old charters, Wivelesde, Winclestle, and Wilkesle, is surveyed under the first denomination in Domesday^f.

"Isdem Willielmus (Malbedeng), Dot, et Godric, tennentur Wivelesde pro 11 maneriis, et liberi homines fuerunt. Ibi una hida et una virgata geldabilis: terra est 111 carucarum; ibi unus radman, et unus villanus, et vi bordarii, habent unam carucam. Ibi una acra prati. Silva una leuva longa et tantundem lata, et v haia et una aira accipitris. Tempore regis Edwardi valebat xviii solidos, modo v solidos.

The said manor was granted by Hugh Malbank, in his foundation charter, to the monks of Combermere,

and confirmed to them in the subsequent charters of his son William and earl Randle Gernons. After the dissolution it passed, with the adjacent demesnes of the abbey, to sir George Cotton, from whom it has descended to the present proprietor, lord Combermere^g.

In that part of the township, which is in the parish of Audlem, is the chapel of BURLEY DAM; a neat modern building, close to the road side, inclosed with a circuit of handsome rails, said to have been brought from Llewenny. The ground plan of the building is cruciform. On the right of the communion rails is a large tablet, with the arms of the founder, sir Llynch Cotton, bart. impaling those of his wife, Elizabeth Cotton, of Bellaport.

In the other part of the township is the site of

^a Lysons' *Magna Britannia*, vol. II. part. 2, p. 478, quoting Cholmondeley evidences, 33—35 Hen. VI.

^b Williamson, *Vill. Cest.*

^c *Ibid.*

^d Information of Messrs. Edleston and Elwood on the part of the Marquis of Cholmondeley.

^e Collins's *Peerage*, vol. IV. edit. 1768, pp. 215, 216, from which the preceding particulars are taken.

^f The *d* appears to be an obvious clerical error for *cl*.

^g Lord Combermere holds twice a year, in May and November, a court leet and court baron for this manor, which extends over both divisions of the township, viz. Dodcote in Audlem, and Smeaton Wood in Wrenbury parish, for each of which a constable and burleyman is appointed in this court. Information of Philip Humberston, esq. on the part of lord Combermere

The Cistercian Monastery of Combermere,

founded early in the twelfth century^a by Hugh de Maubanc, son of the Norman grantee of the barony of Wich Malbank.

The original donations of the founder consisted of adjacent demesne lands, the manor of Wilkesley, free pasture, &c. in the moors and woods near Wich Malbank, the fourth part of that town, and Acton and Sandon churches, with their dependant chapels, and various privileges enumerated in the charter. These were confirmed by William de Maubanc, in a charter which added other privileges, and the donation of lands in Dychely, and the mill of Checkley.

Next after these, in point of consequence, is the confirmation of Randle Gernons, earl of Chester, who by a charter given in the *Monasticon* (p. 767, vol. I.) ratifies the donations of the founder and his son, and confirms to the monks all their demesne in Cheshire, the place called "Combermere" where the abbey is built, the manor of Winclestele (Wilkesley), and the church of Acton, "cum capellis suis, videlicet, Wiko Malbano, et Wrennebury, et Munschulf," with all privileges, &c. contained in the original grants. "Concedo etiam dictis monachis et eorum successoribus, quod habeant liberam curiam et tholneum, et assisam panis et cervisie, et uthesium et blodwit, et catalla felonum, forisfacturas et felonias, et omnes mensuras, et omnimodo amerciamenta et emendas de omnimodis transgressionibus hominum et tenentium ipsorum vel aliorum quorumcunq' existentium infra terras vel limites seu bundas ipsorum monachorum nostrorum infra dominium meum Cestresire, et habeant in predicto manerio furcas, et infangetheof et utfangetheof in manerio predicto in perpetuum." To these privileges he adds an acquittance from toll for the monks, their successors, and their tenants, through the city and county of Chester; with similar acquittance from puture, suit to shires and hundreds, murage, pavage, passage, pontage, scutage, and works in parks or castles, and all kinds of liberties and exemptions whatsoever. He grants further to the

monks, and their successors, an exemption from pleading before any one besides the earl or his chief justice; and a prohibition of his escheator entering their manor of Wivelscle, or other lands of the same, or making distress therein, without a special warrant from the earl or his chief justice, and being in that case accompanied by the bailiff of the monks, under a forfeiture of x pounds. Dated at Chester 1130.

The grants of successive benefactors will be gathered from the annexed list of references connected with this monastery, extracted with a few alterations and additions from bishop Tanner's *Notitia*^b.

Various dates are given for the commencement of the building the abbey, but all place it within a few years after the date of the earl's confirmation charter.

The following list of ABBOTS, though far from being complete, is original; but it is to be regretted that the Cheshire collections, and such other documents as have been accessible, should have related almost exclusively to legal transactions, and contained few of the collateral anecdotes of monastic life, which can only give interest to a dry catalogue of successive dignitaries.

William, first abbot of "Combermere," was surviving at the foundation of the abbey of Pulton in Cheshire (1153 or 58) being made trustee of the lands given by Robert Pincerna for that purpose, and witnessing his donation charter along with Gemmanus, a monk of his convent^c. Pulton appears, in consequence, to have been peopled with monks from Combermere; and the new foundation of Dieulacres in Staffordshire, to which the abbacy of Pulton was removed, was hence subsequently reputed a filial dependency of Combermere, as was also the abbey of Hilton in the same county, and that of Stanlaw in Cheshire, afterwards removed to Whalley in Lancashire^d.

Robert was abbot of Combermere in the time of John Scot, earl of Chester, and Walter, abbot of St. Werburgh in that city^e.

G, abbot, 1240-41^f.

^a The Confirmation Charter of Randle Gernons is dated 1130.

^b In Dugd. I. 764.—Carta fundationis per Hugonem Malbank, temp. Rog. Ep. Cest.

Donationis de Chestbull confirmatio per R. Henricum III. Cart. 4 Edw. III. n. 4. per inspex.

Alia carta ejusdem regis. Ibid. (confirmans varias donationes.)

Carta Wyonis filii Jonæ de decimis piscationis et molendinorum manerii de Overton.

Carta Owini filii Griffini de Bromfield de eisdem decimis tam in manerio de Bromfield, quam in Overton, dat. 1195.

Carta Ranulfi com. Cest. confirmans varias donationes. A^o 1230.

Carta Huberti de Burgo, Justit. Angl. confirmans Chestheoll et Hulle.

Ibid. tom. II. p. 913. Carta Ranulfi filii Willielmi de hoscis et terris juxta Combermere secundum metas divisas inter ipsum et Will. Malbanc.

Carta Rogeri de Ichtefield, pro med. ecclesiæ de Ichtefield.

Carta ejusdem de parte memoris de Wivelside qui dicitur Tbrepwode.

Carta Huberti archiepisc. Cantuar. confirmans Eccl. de Acton, Namptwich, Sandon, et Alstonesfield.

In Lib. Nig. Scacc. p. 220, de feod. dimid. mil. ten. de Willielmo com. de Ferrariis.

In Prynne's Papal Usurpations, III. 303. Rot. Wall. 11 Edw. I. m. 3. de protectione.

Cartæ originales, rentalia et computi, &c. penes D. Rob. Sal. Cotton, bart^{um}.

In a Collection of Records of Abbey Lands in Lichfield Diocese, formerly belonging to Le Neve, but now (1818) Harl. MSS. 3868, p. 12, 13:

Carta Willielmi Maubani confirmans donationes ecclesiar', libertat', &c. per Hugonem, patrem fundatorem, p. 12.

Carta Ricardi Episc. Coventr. de appropriandis Eccl. de Actona, de Namptowich, de Sondona et Alstonesfield, p. 13.

Carta confirmans earundem ecclesiarum donationem per priorem et conventum Cuventr. p. 14.

Bulla P. Alex. confirmans Eccl. de Acton, cum capellis Alstaneston et Sandon.

Claus. 4 Hen. III. m. 8.—Cart. 30 Hen. III. m. 11 vel 12, pro merc. et feriâ apud Drayton, co. Salop.—Cart. 37 Hen. III. m. 11. 9.

Assis. in com. Derb. 8 Edw. I. rot. 7. pro terris et pratis in Hartington.—Pat. 11 Edw. I. m. 9.—Cart. 14 Edw. I. n. 28 vel 29 d. pro clauso voc.

Ruenilde Ruddings, ex concess. Episc. Bath. et Well.—Pat. 23 Edw. I. m. . . .

Claus. 17 Edw. II. m. 27. de maner. de Erlynde, co. Staff.

Cart. 4 Edw. III. n. 4. plures donationes in rot. quam in Mon. evulgatas.—Pat. 9 Edw. III. p. 1. m. 34. pro Eccl. de Ercalive approprianda.—

Pat. 20 Edw. III. p. 1. m. 2.—Rec. in Scacc. 49 Edw. III. Pasch. Rut. 4.

Cart. 1 Hen. IV. p. 2. n. 4.

Pat. 6 Hen. VI. p. 1. m. 12 vel 13.—Pat. 7 Hen. VI. p. 1. m. . . .—Rec. in Scacc. 33 Hen. VI. Mich. Rut. 26.

Pat. 18 Edw. IV. m. 33 vel 34.

In Harl. MSS. 1967, are various ancient rentals of the Nantwich estates of this abbey, and other particulars of like nature.

^c See Bruxton Hundred, p. 464.

^d Vide Whitaker's Whalley, edit. 1818, p. 136.

^e Harl. MSS. 280, 78 b.

^f Ibid.

Adam occurs in a deed with Randle de Copenhale respecting lands in Nantwich, 1296 (Harl. MSS. 1967, 94.) The same abbot, with the convent, quitclaims all their lands, tenements, woods, &c. in Copenhale to Robert Burnell, bishop of Bath and Wells, (1275—93.) in consideration of the Bishop's part of Grenfordley, given in exchange, and the payment of £213. 6s. 8d. to relieve the necessities of the house^g.

William de Lee, abbot "de Cumbermar", was present at the dedication of the greater part of the abbey of Whalley by Thomas de Candida Casa, deputed by the diocesan, in May 1306. In the list of Church dignitaries and officers of the lord of Clithero present, William de Lee is placed first, preceding the abbot of Whalley, Gregory de Northbury, as "abbot of the parent house^h."

Richard de Rodierd (or Rodiberd) probably succeeded. He was originally a monk of Stanlaw Abbey, and was one of those who migrated to Whalley with Gregory de Northbury in 1296ⁱ. He was subsequently appointed by that abbot to transact at Rome the important business of obtaining a licence to appropriate the vicarage of Whalley, is then termed "nostre Clerk" in a recommendatory letter to Henry de Lacy, and is authorized to contract a loan of LX marks or upwards, in the name of the Convent, "a quoquo potuit Xtiano^k." The abbacy of Combermere was probably the reward of talents and exertions which were manifested in this business; and the monk subsequently occurs, as head of that house, in holding a chapter of the Cistercian Order with the Abbots of Vale Royal and Dieulacres, "ad filialem domum de Whalley," where he institutes an enquiry into charges which had been laid by "Fr. R." a depraved member of that house, before the abbots of Fountains and Kirkstall^l. Abbot Richard died in 1316, and was buried at Whalley. (Whitaker's Hist. of Whalley.)

In the same work, pp. 134, 135, are several complaints of Gregory, abbot of Whalley, "de patre suo abbate de Cumbermere, quod nimis graviter eum taxavit," addressed to the abbot of Savignè, in right of his paramount authority over Combermere. One of these letters, p. 135, gives *H* as the initial of the abbot of Combermere.

The following page gives an agreement, by which this contest was settled between *William* and the before-mentioned Gregory, abbots severally of *Cumbermere* and *Whalley*. Dated at London, xvii kal. Ap. 1335.

Robert occurs as abbot 5 Rich. II. 1382, in a charter by Henry Brayne. (Harl. MSS. 2074. 232.)

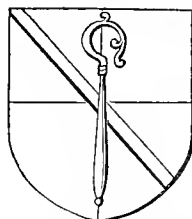
Thomas Lymmor, abbot of Combermere, 1401, 2 Hen. IV. occurs in a series of Andlem deeds. Vernon's Somerford Collections, 9. 95.

The following names are extracted from minutes of leases in Nantwich, granted by the abbey, transcribed from papers arranged by John Massy, subprior of the convent, anno 1524. Harl. MSS. 1967. 94.

Roger, 1453—1461. *John*, 1464—1468.

Robert, 1468—1483. *John*, 1498—1500.

Roger, 1504. . . *John*, 1515--16. . . *Christopher*, 1519, 1525. *John Massy* (to whose labours as subprior we are indebted for these later names) succeeded before the



year 1535, being noticed as abbot in the general ecclesiastical survey, 26 Henry VIII. On the 27th of July, 30 Henry VIII. he surrendered the monastery into the hands of the King, and retired on a pension of L lib. per ann. which continued to be paid to him in the year 1556. The seal annexed is appendant to the deed of surrender, now remaining in the Augmentation Office.

The arms of the abbey of Cumbermere were those of the founder, Hugh de Maubanc, (Quarterly, Or and Gules, a bendlet Sable,) debruised by a crozier in pale Or, the head turned sinisterways.

In the valuation before-mentioned (of which an abstract is annexed) the lands of the monastery are valued at £258. 6s. 6d.; and in a subsequent valuation, 32 Hen. VIII. (also annexed) they are stated to amount to £275. 17s. 11½d. Shortly afterwards (34 Hen. VIII.) the site of the monastery, with its church, bell-tower, lake of Combermere, and cemetery, was granted to George Cotton, esq. and Mary his wife, by the King's letters patent. In this grant were included the lands called Dodcote, in the parish of "Chilesarcoll," in com. Salop; Cliffe, in Drayton; Hales, in the same county; Erdly Grange, in Staffordshire; Wincell Grange, co. Cest.; Newton Grange, in Ashburne; and Cotes grange, or Cote field, in Hartington, in Derbyshire: val. tot. £64. 18s. 7d. To be held by them and their heirs male from the crown, by the services of the tenth part of a knight's fee, and the payment of £19. 6s. 7d. to the Court of Augmentation of the king's revenue^m.

Sir George Cotton, grantee of Combermere, was the second son of John Cotton of Cotton in Shropshire, and an esquire of the body to king Henry VIII. His younger brother, sir Richard Cotton, knt. comptroller of the household, a privy counsellor in the reign of Edward VI. and M.P. co. Cest. 1 and 2, and 2 and 3 Phil. et Mar. participated still more largely in the lands of the dissolved abbeys, and has been often noticed in the pages of this Workⁿ.

By *Inq. p. m.* 2 Eliz. Mary, lady Cotton (widow of sir George, and joint grantee with him of this dis-

^g Williamson, Vill. Cest. Monks Coppenhall.

^h Whitaker's Whalley, edit. 1818, p. 131.

ⁱ Wirral Hundred, p. 224.

^k Whitaker's Whalley, edit. 1818, 126-7.

^l *Ibid.* p. 118.

^m Somerford MSS. 3. 322, and Harl. MSS. 1967. 40. This, however, appears to be a confirmation and extension of two former grants (Harl. MSS. 1967. 17 b.) whereby the King grants, 3 Feb. 32 Hen. VIII. the site, belfry, church, and cemetery of the monastery as above-mentioned, with all its appurtenances in the county of Chester, with mills, woods, and lands in Wrenbury and Awdelim, to be held as the hundredth part of a knight's fee, by the render of 53s. 4d. Also the manor of Wylkesley, and various lands thereto belonging in Wrenbury and Awdelim, and Winkell-grange, to be held by them and their heirs, as the tenth part of a knight's fee, by the render of £56. 13s. 4d. which reserved rent the king is said to have remitted to them, April 3, the year following, with another grant of the reversion of Wincle Grange and Cotes Grange, and the land called Dodcote.

ⁿ See, *passim*, the descents of the manors, &c. granted by Hen. VIII. to Chester Cathedral, and extorted from dean Cliffe by sir Richard Cotton, of which a particular account is given from contemporary MS. documents, in vol. 1. p. 216. Sir Richard Cotton died Oct. 2, 1556, and two Inquisitions *p. m.* were taken relative to the abbey lands in Cheshire possessed by him. The second was taken 4 & 5 Phil. et Mar. and specifies only the Dee mills, omitted in the first inquisition: the other, taken the year preceding, states him to have died seized of the manors of Tattenhall and Newhall, Stanlaw Grange, and lands in Eastham; the manors of Huntington and Cheveley; the manor of Sutton in Wirral with lands in Great and Little Sutton, Thornton, Over Poole, and Whitby; the manor of Brombrorough, with lands in Bebington, Plimyrd, and East-

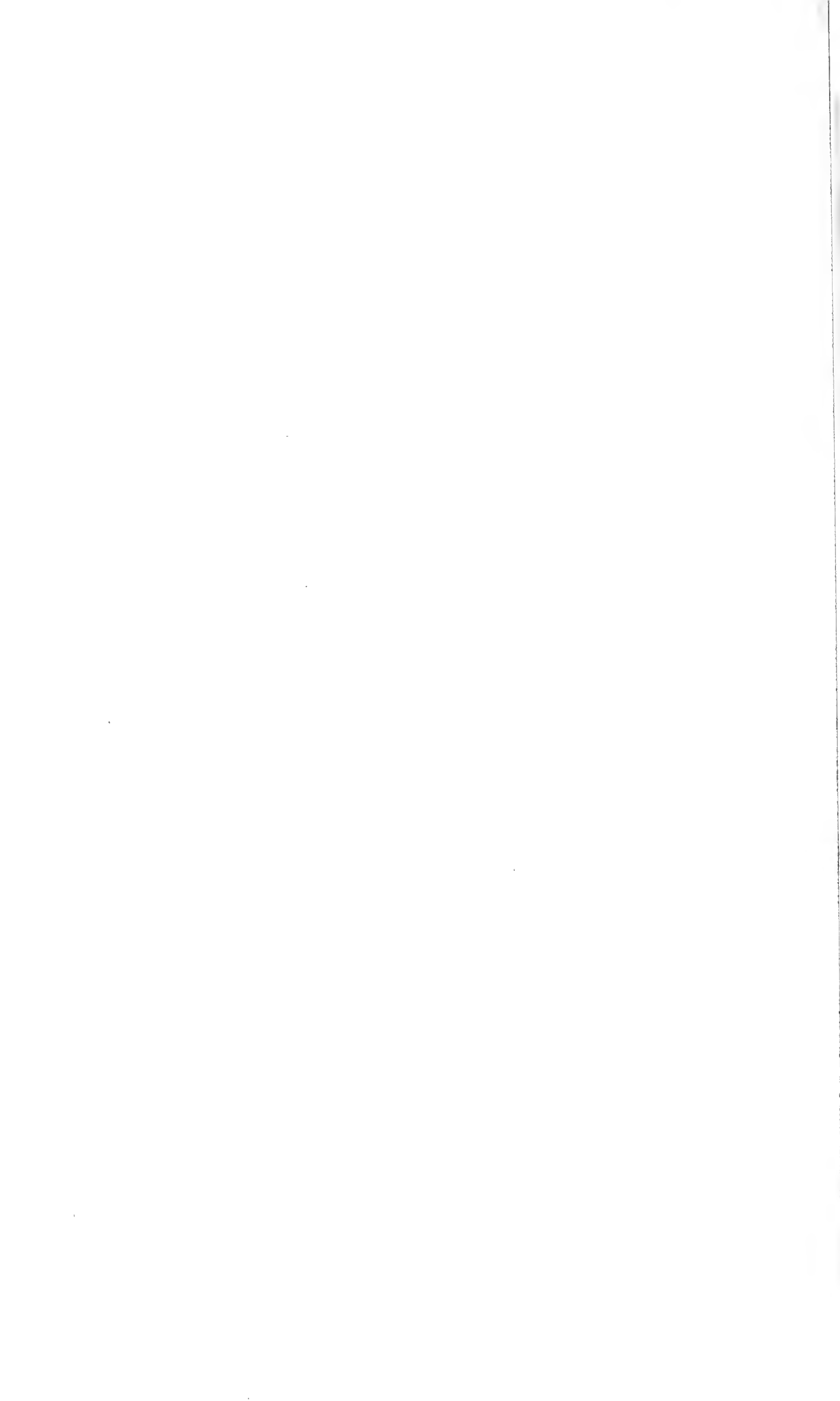


C. Heath, Engr.

Engr. Pub. July 1858 by Linsdun, Peck, & Co.

COMBERMERE.

F. De Witt, delin.



solved abbey) is found to have died seized of the same, with its lands and tenements in the parishes of Wrenbury and Audlem, held from the queen in capite, by military service, as the 10th part of a knight's fee, and the render of LIIIS. IVD. val. £.XII; and also of the manor of Wilkesley, held from the same in capite, as before, as the 20th part of a knight's fee, and by the render of IIII. XIII. VIIND. val. £.LVI. Obiit March 13, 2 Eliz. Richard Cotton, son and heir.

Richard Cotton, esq. found heir by this inquisition, died June 15, 44 Eliz. leaving issue George Cotton, esq. son and heir, aged upwards of 40 years. His inquisition, in all respects resembling the preceding one, was taken April 6, 3 Jac. I.

The annexed pedigree brings down the descent of Combermere and its dependencies from this time to the present period. Its proprietors have repeatedly represented the county of Chester in parliament; and their descendant, in whom these estates are now vested, in reward of long and distinguished military services, has been recently elevated to the peerage by the title of Lord Combermere.

The situation of the abbey was selected with the taste which generally shews itself in the mansions of the Cistercian fraternity, in one of the most romantic spots which the Cheshire domains of their founder could offer, on the banks of a natural lake°, in a rich and well-wooded country, undulating sufficiently for pic-

turesque effect in the immediate vicinity of the abbey, and rising at a short distance into elevations which command noble and extended prospects over Cheshire, Shropshire, and North Wales.

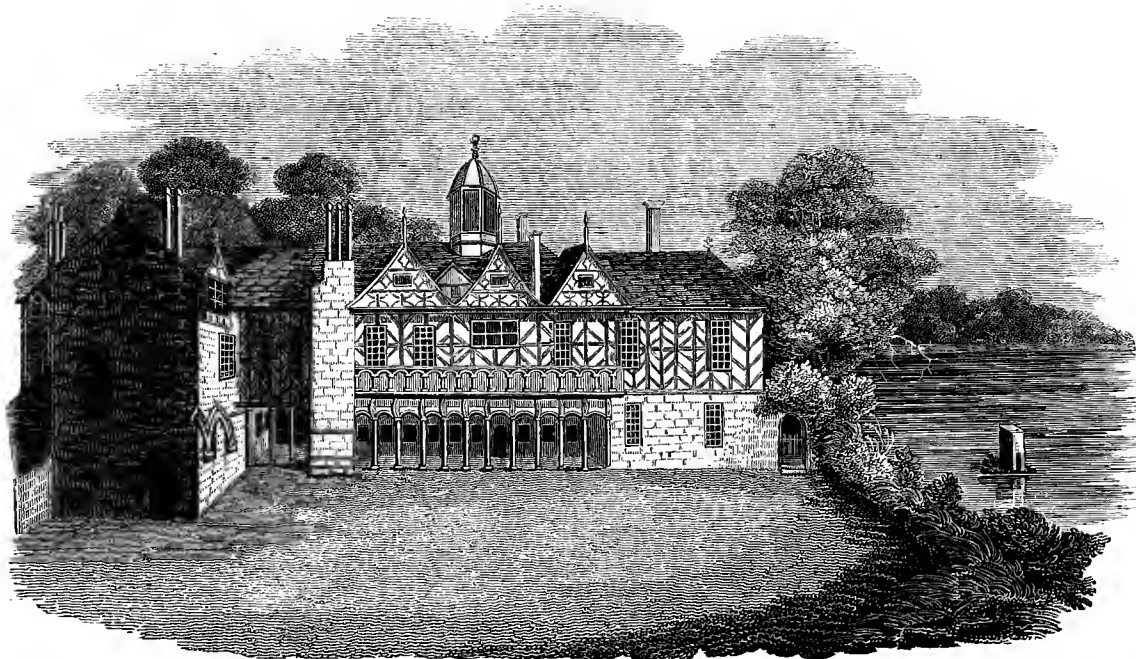
A more correct idea will be formed of the adjacent lake from the annexed engraving than from verbal description. It is at present about three quarters of a mile in length, winding like a natural river; and appears, from a general view of the surface of the ground, to have formerly extended itself at the back of the abbey, and added thereby to the difficulties of approaching in time of warfare—a circumstance which the neighbourhood of Welsh marauders would render desirable.

After the dissolution, a part of the conventual buildings are said to have been preserved in the mansion which the Cottons erected here, among which was the refectory, supposed to exist in the present library, and which was probably approached by a large flight of external steps, as at Vale Royal and Norton. The annexed vignette represents the seat of the Cottons, in which the remains of the abbey were thus incorporated, as it was drawn by Buck at the beginning of the last century; but, though the walls of this mansion are preserved in the present fabric, their appearance is completely done away with, and their architecture concealed by recent alterations in imitation of the pointed Gothic style.

ham; the manor of Upton, with lands in Croughton, Christleton, Chorlton, Lee, and Moston; the manor of Ince, with lands in Bridge Trafford, Manley, Alvanley, Idencot, and Hellesby; the manor of Saughton, with lands in Church en Heath, Huxley, and Cuddington; lands in Shotwick, Saugball, Nortbenden, and Crue; and the rectorial tithes of Great and Little Neston, Willaston, and Sutton.

George Cotton, found son and heir by these successive inquisitions, granted out these manors and lands to various gentlemen, as mentioned at large in the account of Chester Cathedral. Henry Cotton, a younger son of the same sir Richard Cotton, and noticed in the pedigree, took orders, and was raised by queen Elizabeth to the see of Salisbury.

° In Leland's Itinerary is the following passage relative to a subsidence of the earth here, which appears to have been produced by the melting of the rock-salt by subterraneous springs, and explains those which have occurred at Bickley, Weever, and other places:—"A mile from Combremere Abbay, in time of mind, sank a pease of a hill having trees on hit, and after in that pitte sprang salt water, and the abbate ther began to make salt; but the menne of the wichis compond with the abbay, that ther should be no salt made. The pitte yet hath salt water, but much filth is faullen into hit." Itin. vol. V. fol. 82, p. 92, edit. 1759.

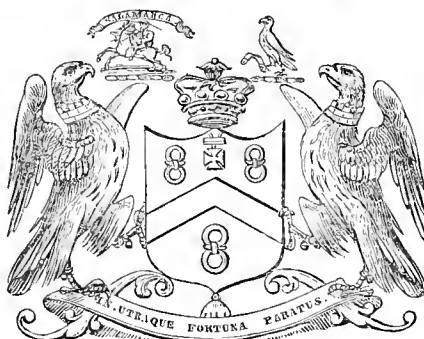


COTTON OF COMBERMERE.

ARMS. Azure, a chevron between three cotton hanks* Argent. In the chief point, pendent by a ribband Gules, fimbriated Azure, a representation of the Gold Cross conferred upon lord Combermere for his services at Talavera, Fuentes d'Onor, Salamanca, Orthes, and Toulouse.

SUPPORTERS. On either side a falcon rising proper, murally gorged Gules.

[* The ordinary heraldic phrase is here used, but this bearing is supposed by family tradition to designate the strings antiently attached to the falcon's lure.]



WILLIAM COTON, of Coton, co. Salop.

CREST. On a wreath a falcon close proper, the dexter leg elevated, and holding a belt proper, buckled Or.—ADDITIONAL CREST. A mount Vert, thereon a Dragon of the 20th regt. mounted on a horse Sable, accoutred proper, and in the act of charging the enemy. In an escrol over, the motto "Salamanca."

Compiled from sir P. and sir F. Lyecester's MS. pedigrees, with additions from Harl. MSS. 2153, Inquisitions, and Monuments, and collated by sir George Naylor, York Herald, with the documents deposited with him for entry in the College of Arms.



VALORES ECCLESIASTICI, &c. SPECTANTES ABBATIAM DE COMBERMERE.

I.

E TAXATIONE ECCLESIASTICA P. NICHOLAI.

The numbers before the extracts refer to the pages of the copy printed by the Commissioners of Public Records.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
242 b. Archidiaconat' Staff.				Et h'et ib'm de redd' assis' cu' prato e' pas-			
Ecclesia de Sondon app'ata abb'i et con' de				tur' p' ann'			5 0 0
Comberm'e	-	-	-	Item h'et apud Badyleye ij caruc' terr' et val'			
Abbas de Comberm'e p'cipit (in ecclesia de	8	0	0	caruc' p' ann'			0 10 0
Draytone)	-	-	-	Item h'et de redd' assis' in Wyco Mauban'			
243. Decanatus de Alveton et Leek.	0	3	0	p' annu'			5 0 0
Ecclesia de Astanesfield app'at' abb'i et con'				Item h'et apud Wynkebull' in Dec' de Macles-			
de Comb'mere	-	-	-	feld ij caruc' terr', et val' caruc' p' ann'			0 10 0
245. Arch. Salop'.	13	6	8	Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' stauri p' ann'			2 0 0
Abbas de Cumb'mer' p'cipit (in ecclesia de				S'ma	£22	0	0
Ichefeld)	-	-	-	Ind' decima	2	4	0
252. Abbas de Combermere h'et apud Herlede	0	15	0	261. Taxacio bonor' temporal'm abb'is de Comb'm'e in			
in Decanat' Stafford iv caruc' terr' et valet				Arch' Salop'.			
car' p' ann'	-	-	-	(Abb' de Comb'm'e ord'is Cist'c' Coventr' et Lichf'			
Et h'et p'fic' stauri p' ann'	2	13	8	dioc' eoq' q'd in taxac'o'e bonor' suor' temporal' in			
It' h'et apud Bromhale in eodem Dec' ii ca-				grang' de Cotes et Neuton in Ar'd' Derb' et Dec' de			
ruc'at' terr' et valet car' p' ann'	-	-	-	Esseburne i'juste taxat' ad £10. annui reddit' p'tint' q'			
Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' stauri p' ann'	0	10	0	nullum ann'm reddit' n' p'tin'es dec'ile h't ibidem, p't			
Item h'et apud Tatch'm in Decanat' de Alve-	1	10	0	xiii. in D'no *** et hoc petit q'd inq'ra'.)			
ton unam caruc' terr' et valet p' ann'	-	-	-	Abbas de Comb'm'e h'et in villa de Dray-			
Et h'et in p'd'c'is man'iis de redd' assis'	0	12	0	ton in Dec' Nov' Burgi de redd'	£10	0	0
Et h'et ib'm de p'ficuis stauri	1	6	8	Et h'et de redd' molendinor' de Longeforde et			
Summa	£11	2	4	Hull			3 0 0
Inde dec'	1	2	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	Et h'et apud Clivam ij carucat' terr' et val'			
et rest' ob' non dec'.				caruc' p' ann'			0 10 0
258. b. Taxatio bonor' temporal' abb'is de Cumb'm'e.				Et h'et ib'm et alibi p' arch' de p'fic' stauri p'			
Decanat' de Wyco Malbano.				ann'			10 0 0
Abbas de Cumb'm'e h'et apud Wynelestr' in				Et h't apud Chesthull et Borwhull quinq' ca-			
Dec' de Wyco Mauban' sexdecim caruc'				ruc' terr' et val' caruc' p' ann'			0 10 0
terr' et val' caruc' p' ann'.	0	10	0				

CHARTÆ SPECTANTES ABBATIAM DE COMBERMERE.

CARTA DE FUNDATIONE Cotton MSS. Faustina B. VIII. 124.

In nomine sanctæ et individuæ Trinitatis, Patris, et Filii, et Spiritus Sancti, Ego Hugo Malbank, ex una parte, domini applaudens promissioni qua dicit, electis suis, "quod uni ex minimis meis fecistis, mihi fecistis; intrate in regnum cælorum mundi a primordio vobis paratum," ex altera parte ejusdem expavescens conminationem quam reprobis dicit, "quandiu uni ex minimis non fecistis, nec mihi fecistis; propterea discedite a me maledicti in ignem æternum"—Ideirco revolvens in mente mea frequenter illud dominicum præceptum, in quo dicit, "facite vobis amicos de Mammona iniquitatis, ut et ipsi vos recipiant in eterna tabernacula." Hæc et alia verba domini saluatoris sæpius in animo meo pertractans, mutabilitatem, et rerum temporalium miseriam, atque brevitatem vitæ humanæ considerans, disposui in corde meo firmiter pro celestibus bonis, mutare atq. cambire terrestria atq. caduca, pro veris umbratilia! et hominibus illis, qui propter amorem Dei omnia mundana et vanitates bujus sæculi contempserunt, et propter eternæ vitæ desiderium divino servitio sese totaliter mancipaverunt, hanc donationem facere decrevi.

In principio igitur, Conditori meo maximo, bonæ voluntatis affectu, et ex concilio et assensu domini mei Ranulfi, comitis Cestriæ, et domini Rogeri Cestrensis episcopi, viri sanctissimi, et Williæli filii mei et heredis, do et concedo pro salute et incolumitate mea, et Petronillæ uxoris meæ et liberorum meorum, et omnium amicorum meorum, et omnino pro redemptione animarum nostrarum, do inquam humiliter et devote, Domino Deo omnipotenti, locum et situm qui vocatur Combermere, ad fundandam et construendam quandam abbatiam monachorum secundum regulam sancti Benedicti, in honore beatissimæ et gloriosissimæ virginis Mariæ, et genetricis ipsius Dei et Domini nostri Jesu Christi, et sancti Michaelis archangeli, et boscum, et planum, et aquas, et aquarum cursus, et piscarias, et prata et pascua, cum omnimodis aliis pertinentiis suis, et cum omnimodis aliis commoditatibus, et rebus quæ ibi sunt vel quæ ibi fieri poterunt, tam subtus terram, quam saper, in perpetuum, infra has divisas—viz. ab exitu de Haremos quæ est inter Marburiam et Bromkelawam, sic sequendo et descendendo per Rivulum, usq. ad boscum de Rubale et medietatem dieti bosci—et sic ascendendo de dicto rivulo versus aquam de Combermere usq. ad verticem montis, et sic sequendo directe verticem montis, per medium boscum de Rubale, versus Austrum usq. ad inferiorem partem dieti montis, et sic a dicta inferiori parte dieti muntis, directe ex transverso usque ad quandam sichtetum versus Austrum, juxta inferius caput de le Nonne Poule, et inde usque ad inferius caput cujusdam terræ quæ vocatur Dicbeley, et sic usque ad quandam viam, quæ ducit versus villam de Wiehe, et sic sequendo dietam viam versus occidentem, directe usque ad boscum qui dicitur Grovefordley, sic sequendo semper Grovefordley, et demittendo dictum boscum a manu sinistra, usque ad bundas et divisas inter terram Williæli de Warrena, et terram meam, et semper sequendo dictas bundas et divisas usque ad dictum exitum de le Haremos.

Do etiam dictæ abbatie et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus manerium meum de Wincleste, et villam de Ruhull et Lodmore, et illam terram adjacentem quæ vocatur Burleya et villam de Doddecote cum bosco dictæ villæ, et villam de Cholley cum toto stagno et piscinâ quatercunq. ex utraq. parte, et centum pedes ultra stagnum, terram meam de Chouhal ad reparandum stagnum predictum et molendinum, quotiescunq. et qualitercunq. viderint expedire, sine calumpnia vel contradictione mea, vel heredum meorum, seu assignatorum meorum quorumcunq. Et etiam

Et h't ib'm unu' molendinu' quod val' p' ann' 2 0 0	Et h'et ib'm unam bercaria' que vocat' le
Et h'et apud Dodecote ij caruc' terr' et val'	Cotes cu' iij acr' terr' et val' p' ann' - 0 1 8
caruc' p' ann' - - - - 0 10 0	Et h'et ib'm de redd' et aliis p'tin' - - 10 0 0
S'ma £29 10 0	Et h'et ib'm de p'fic' stauri p' ann' - - 19 10 0
Inde decima 2 19 0	S'ma £31 19 8
263. Taxacio bonor' abb'is de Coumb'mer' temp'al'.	Decima 3 3 11½
Abbas de Comb'mer' h'et apud Neuton in	
Dec' de Esseburne iij car' terr., et va' ca-	
ruc' p' ann' - - - - 0 12 0	

II.

GENERAL ECCLESIASTICAL SURVEY.

Office of First Fruits, 26 Hen. VIII. Communicated by John Caley, esq.

Monasterium de Cumbermere com' Cestr'

Valet in redditibus et proficuis annuatim provenien', v'del't, Cumbermere in terris dominical' ibid', et in manu Abbatis existen' per ann' xiil. iiiid. Et in proficuo vendito com' annis xs. Grangia de Dodcote per ann. iiiil. vis. viiid.; grangia de Hayfylde per ann. lxxvs. viijd.; Wylkesley per ann. iij^{xx} iijl. ijs. ix. d.; Wicus Malb'us per ann. xiiijl. xiijs. vd.; Cestr' xs. viijd.; Grang' de Wyncull lijs. iiijd.

cxxijl. iijjs. xd.

Salop'.

Valet in redditibus et proficuis annuatim provenien' et crescen' ibidem, viz. Shipforde graunge xvjs. viijd.; Drayton per ann. xxiiijl. xvijjs. iiijd.; Chesthull viijl. ix. s. iiijd.; Tyrnhull ixl. viijs. xd.; Dodcote per ann. xlvjs. viijd.

In toto xlviijl. xd.

Valet in reddit' molendini de Ulverton per ann. iijs. iiijd. et Longforde libere per ann' vjd.

In toto iijs. xd.

Derb' Com'

Valet in redd' grangie de Newton ib'm per ann. vjl. xiijs. iiijd.

Staff'

Valet in reddit' crescen' ib'm annuatim vil.

Mynshulm in com' CESTR'

Valet in garbis decimalibus ib'm com' annis iiiijl.

Wrenbury in Com. pred'co.

Valet in garbis decimalibus ib'm com' annis viijl. vis. viijd.

Acton in Com' pred'.

Valet in garbis decimalibus de Acton, Cholmeston, Wici Malb'i, Badyngton, et Leghton, com' annis xxijl. vjs. viijd.; rotulo paschali Wici Malb'i viijl. vjs. viijd. per annum.

In toto xxxl. viijs. iiijd.

Arcall parva in com' Salop.

Valet in terr' gleb. per ann. xxixs. iiijd. in pensione de abb'e de Dieulacres xvijjs.; in pensione de r'c'ore de Draycote per ann. iijs. Et in garbis decimalibus ib'm iijl.

In toto vjl. xs. iiijd.

Sondon in com' Staff'.

Valet in garb' et feno decimalibus com' annis, iiiijl. xiijs. iiijd.

Astonfeld in dict' com' Staff'.

Valet in garbis, lana, et agnis decimalibus ibid' comunibus annis xxijl.

Sunna totalis valoris tam spiritualium quam temporalium monasterii predicti, cclviijl. vjs. vjd.

boscum qui vocatur Brendwood, et boscum qui vocatur Bichewood, et boscum qui vocatur Buterlehey, integraliter cum omnibus pertinentiis et commeditibus suis, et in boscis, et vastis, planis, in viis, semitis, in aquis, in aquarum cursibus, et in piscariis in pratis, in pasturis, in mariscis, in moris, et in omnibus aliis rebus, quæ ibi sunt, vel quæ ibi poterunt subtus terram, vel super terram infra has divisas—Videlicet, ab illo loco ubi rivulus de Burleya descendit in aquam de Wever, et sic sequendo dictum Rivulum ascendendo, usque ad illam terram quæ vocatur Burleya, et sic sequendo semper divisas inter Burleyam, et boscum qui vocatur Grovefordley, usque ad boscum qui vocatur Esseburne, et inde sequendo semper oralam bosci usq. ad le Trepwood, et sic sequendo quandam sicheum qui currit inter boscum de Dodcote, et antedictum boscum de Trepwodde, usque ad boscum qui vocatur Morehey, et inde usq. ad le Sparthisshe, et inde usq. ad bundas et divisas de Schavinton, et sequendo sic quandam sicheum, usque ad quandam aquam quæ vocatur Douclesbrooke, usque ad illum locum ubi cadit in aquam de Wever, et ascendens per aquam de Wever, usque ad molendinum de Chekley, et sic semper ascendendo et sequendo aquam de Wever.

Omnis vero istas bondas et divisas tam supradicto loco de Combermere, quam de dicto manerio de Winclastle, Ego vero Hugo Malbane cum Petronilla uxore mea, et Willielmo filio meo cum pluribus aliis hominibus perambulavi et circuivi, et dictæ abbatie de Combermere et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus, et eorum successoribus omnia infra supradictas bondas et divisas existentia, cum omnibus suis pertinentiis libere dedi, sine retenemento alicujus rei temporalis mihi vel heredibus meis, seu assignatis in perpetuum; et faciant de bosco et de plano quicquid voluerint; videlicet ad includendum et assartantum, et assidendum quodcumque illis placuerit.

Du etiam eisdem monachis communam pasturæ ad omnimoda animalia sua, in omnibus boscis et pasturis meis Cestresbyriæ, et præter quod poterint capere boscum ad arandum, et meremium ad edificandum, tam extra abbatiam illorum quam infra, pro voluntate ipsorum, in omnibus boscis ita libere, sicut usibus meis propriis, excepta foresta meâ de Coubull.

Et etiam concedo eisdem monachis, quartam partem villæ de Wico, et decimam salis mei, et salinarum meorum, et aliarum quarumcunque existentium et denariorum meorum, et salem B. Virginis, et salem in die Veneris, et salem ad mensam abbatiss, ita libere sicut habeo ad mensam meam. Et habeant curiam suam in separali de burgensibus suis, seu de tenentibus suis, et assisam panis et cervisiæ, et omnimodas mensuras, et tholneum, et blodwit, et amerciamenta et omnimodas emendas, de omnimodis transgressionibus de omnibus tenentibus vel hominibus eorum, ita libere sicut ego habui usibus meis propriis. Similiter concedo eisdem monachis, et omnibus burgensibus seu tenentibus dictæ villæ, communionem pasturæ in omnibus boscis, pasturis, pratis, moris, mariscis, brueris, et campis dictæ villæ partim et per totum Ranemore et boscum de Creche, sine impedimento alicujus. Et si contingat quod aliquis de burgensibus, tenentibus, vel hominibus eorum implacitetur in curia mea pro aliqua transgressione, volo et concedo pro me et heredibus meis, vel assignatis meis, quod predicti monachi mei habeant amerciamenta et emendas sine contradictione vel impedimento mei, vel heredum seu assignatorum meorum quorumcunque. Do etiam eisdem monachis unam carucam terræ in villâ de Acton cum ecclesia ejusdem ville, et capella de Wike Malb. . . . cum omnibus pertinentiis suis. Concedo etiam eisdem monachis, et eorum successoribus liberum chîminum per omnes terras meas ubique, cum libero introitu, et exitu, ad capienda omnia necessaria sua, quandoque et quotiescunq. voluerint: et habeant omnia et singula supradicta in liberam, puram, et perpetuam elemosinam, ita liberè et absolutè ab omni seculari

III.

C. M. 32 Hen. VIII. Augm. Off. Communicated by John Caley, esq.

Cumbermere.				Nantwyche.										
Firm' terr' d'ni caliu'	-	-	-	£64	18	7	Redd' assis'	-	-	-	-	0	10	10½
Ulverton, Longforde.							Firm' terr'	-	-	-	-	15	3	4
Redd' assis'	-	-	-	0	3	10	Firm' mol'i	-	-	-	-	0	3	4
Wrenberye.							Exit' casual' in vendic' bosci'	-	-	-	-			null.
Man'in' de Drayton, Salop.							P'quis cur'	-	-	-	-			null.
Firm' terr'	-	-	-	32	18	1	Wylkesley.							
Firm' rectoriar'	-	-	-	69	15	0	Firm' tocus man'ii	-	-	-	-	91	17	11
Penc'ones	-	-	-	0	7	0								£275 17 11½

IV.

ANNUITATES ET PENSIONES. 1556.^a

Cumb'mere nup' Mon'.

Ffeod.

Francisci comit' Salop. capit'lis sen'li omn' possess' d'co nuper mon' p'tin' p' ann' iijli.

Annuit' Corrod'

Thome Bickerton p' ann' xiijs. ivd.
 Ric'i Wilbram p' ann' xls.
 Pet'ri Orphe p' ann' xxs.
 P'reivalli Creswell p' ann' liijs. ivd.
 Ric'i Manwaringe p' ann' xls.
 Joh'is Manweringe p' ann' xiijs. ivd.
 Rob'ti Nede'he p' ann' xls.
 Thome Okenthorpe p' ann' xxvis. viijd.
 Ric'i Hassall p' ann' xxs.

Caroli Sandforthe p' an' xls.

Phi' Houlse p' an' xxvis. viijd.

Galfri' et Isabell Ridiell p' ann' iijli.

Alicie Massey p' an' xls.

Penc'

Joh'is Massey p' an' nup' Abb'is ibid' lli.

Edmundi Dugdale p' ann' iijli.

Joh'is Oliv' p' ann' cs.

Joh'is Cockesey p' ann' cs.

Gilb'ti Grene p' Jo' Deane assignati p' ann' cs.

Thomæ Lee p' ann' cs.

Thomæ Eaton p' ann' lxxvs. viijd.

Ranulphi Smythe p' ann' cs.

Humfridi Lightefote p' ann' cs.

exactione, et terreno servitio, sicut aliqua elemosina liberius et quietius habere vel vindicare, vel exigere poterimus in perpetuum, nisi spiritualia beneficia, et orationum suffragia tantum.

Propterea ex bona voluntate mea concedo, quod dominus meus Ranulfus, comes Cestriæ, sit principalis fundator, et defensor dictæ abbatie, et monachorum ibidem Deo servientium, et heredes ipsius post ipsum sint participes omnium bonorum quæ ibi fiunt in eternum. Testes hujus ordinationis et concessionis sunt, Ipse dominus meus Ranulfus comes Cestriæ, Rogerus episcopus Cestrensis, Aldeleia mater mea, Petronilla uxor mea, et Willielmus filius meus, Willielmus abbas Cestrensis, Robertus capellanus, Willielmus filius Radulfi et Archibaldæ, et multi alii qui audierunt et viderunt.*

Et ego Rogerus episcopus Cestrensis ad piam supplicationem domini Hugonis Malbanc, et aliorum nobilium, ad perpetuam rei memoriam et ut presens donatio et concessio robur obtineat perpetuum, in presentia Ranulfi comitis et aliorum nobilium apud Cestriam, sigillum episcopatus mei apponere feci. Et ideo si quis elemosinam istam, donationem et concessionem in aliquo violaverit, vel diminuerit, aut scienter impederit, maledictionem Dei et beatæ Virginis et sancti Michaelis archangeli, quibus hæc omnia spiritualiter donantur, et meam finaliter (consequatur) nisi ad emendationem congruam venerit. Fiat! fiat! Amen.†

CARTA WILLIELMI DE MAUBANC.

Harl. MSS. 3868, 12.

In no'i'e S'e'e Trinitat. Ego Will's Maubanc, b'n'fic'or. D'i non immemor d'no d'o o'ipotenti conditori meo, e' s'e'e Marie s'e'oq. Mich. ar'n'o e' o'ib's s'e'is e' monach's de Cu'b'm're elemosinario m're concedo e' confirmo q'c'que p'r meus Hugo Maubanc dedit eis a'que concessit. Concedo e' confirmo lib'e e' quiete honorifice et absq. om'i seculari exac'o'e ac posic'onem abb'ie de Cumb'm're e' ecc'e, et'm q'tuor carueatas t're i' Wilkesle, e' quicquid p'tinet isti manerio ac sup'dic'e Cumb'm're in plano ac bosco, in campis, e' pascuis, in aquis, viis, e' semitis, e' q'd faciunt in bosco e' plano quicquid voluerint ad assertandum, claudendum et assidendum, et h'eant o'ia que ibi sunt, v'l fieri possunt in pe'tu'm, p'ter cervum, et cervam, et aprum. Do e' atq. concedo comuna. past'e ad o'imod. a'i'alia sua de o'imodo bosco e' om'ibus boscis e' pasturis meis ad Stone p'tinentibus ext'a foresta' mea' de Chouhyl (sic), et decima' salis mei, et denarior' meor' de Wych, et decima' co'rodii domus mee. Do insup' e' concedo p'd'e'is monachis ejus pat'nat. ecc'ar' de Actona, de Sandona, de Asranfeld cu. capell, e' om'ibus p'tinentib. e' t'ram unam que d'r Dycheley, et molendinum de Cbekyleye cu' piscac'o'ibus e' om'ibus p'tinen's suis in lib'am pura' elemosina' i' p'pe'tum. Testes huj' donac'onis e' concessionis su't hii. Arch. fil. Will'i, Will. capellan's fil., Rob. le Praers, Reginald fil. Arch' m'bank, Adam de Audeleye, Will. de Areci, Adam Wachuset, Rob. fil. Will'i, Hugo de Draycote, Rog. de Henhull, Will's fil. Hunfredi, Ric. de Aresci, Clemens clericus, cu' multis aliis.

^a From an original pension roll of that date in possession of Mr. Thomas Sharp of Coventry.

* This order of witnesses is observable. The earl of Chester, as a sovereign Prince signs before the Diocesan, and the family of the donor have precedence of the other clergy.

† Confirmed at Woodstock Feb. 18, 7 Edw. I. and again confirmed by prince Edward, son of Edward IV. at Chester, Jan. 23, 15 Edw. IV.

SOUND, OR SOOND.

THE Domesday survey takes no notice of this township^a, but it appears from the Inq. 16 Edw. I. that it was parcel of the barony of Wich Malbank, and that falling to the share of Eleanor de Malbank, it passed with her lands to the Audley family.

The manor is the property of the marquis of Cholmondeley (probably as parcel of the barony of Wich Malbank), but the estate formerly attached to it has been alienated^b.

This township antiently gave its local name to a family. Johanna, daughter and heiress of John de Sound, married David Crewe of Pulcroft^c, one of whose coheir-

esses (as mentioned in Worleston) married Roger Chetwode of Oakley, in whose descendants an estate in this township is still vested^d.

David Crewe, nephew of the last possessor of Crewe of the first line of that family, and younger brother of the ancestor of the Pulcroft branch, settled in this township in the time of Edw. II. From him descended the Crewes of Nantwich, who re-established themselves by a fortunate purchase in their original seat, and from whom the present lord Crewe of Crewe is, in the female line, descended^e.

WOODCOT.

THIS inconsiderable township is omitted alike in Domesday, and in the inquisition taken 16 Edw. I. with reference to the division of Wich Malbank barony. It may, however, be collected from the inquisitions, that it was a portion of that barony, and that a part of it passed from Eleanor Malbank to the Audleys, and was an appendage of their manor of Newhall.

Inq. p. m. 36 Ric. II. Robert le St. Pierre of Coole holds lands here in right of his wife, from the lord Audley, in capite, by military service.

After the termination of the Audleys in coheiresses, the paramount rights appear to have been divided between the Touchets and the Bouchiers. An inquisition 18 Hen. VI. finds William Fulleshurst of Edlaston to have held lands here from William Burghchier and Thomasine his wife, in right of the said Thomasine, by services unknown.

The same tenure occurs in the inquisition after the death of Thomas Fulleshurst of Crue, 14 Hen. VII. and

an estate which appears to be the same with that of the Fulleshursts, is noticed among the lands of the Wilbrahams of Woodley at a later period, as being held from the heirs of the said Thomasine.

The interest of the Touchets lord Audley, representatives of the other coheiress, passed by attainder to the crown, under which the Starkeys of Wrenbury are stated, in their successive inquisitions, to have held lands in Woodcot.

Another part of Woodcot is ascertained by similar evidence to have passed with Auda Malbank to the Vernons, and their successors, the Savages of Clifton, as Woodcot is uniformly mentioned among those appendages of that portion of the barony of Nantwich, which, by the marriage of the before-mentioned Auda, merged in that of Shipbrook.

It does not appear from the inquisitions that any mesne manor was recognized within this township.

^a Unless it is intended to be described in the following survey of Santune. Sand is still pronounced Soont in the Cheshire dialect. ^c Isdem Wilhelmus (Malbedeng) tenet Santune. Godvinus et Dot tenuerunt, et liberi homines fuerunt, pro II maneriis; ibi III virgatæ geldabiles. Terra est una caruca, ibi unus radman habet dimidiam carucam, et II bordarios."

^b Information of John Stephens, esq. on the part of the marquis of Cholmondeley.

^c Booth's pedigrees. See Pulcroft in Worleston.

^d Information of sir John Chetwode, bart.

^e See pedigree in Crewe.

Nantwich Parish,

FORMERLY CONSIDERED A PAROCHIAL CHAPELRY OF ACTON,

CONTAINS the townships of Nantwich, Alvaston, Leighton, Woolstanwood, and part of Willaston.

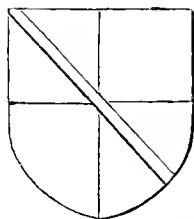
BARONY OF WICH MALBANK.

THE subjoined extract from the Domesday Survey * gives a particular description of the state of the salt-works at Nantwich, and the laws by which they were regulated at the period of the Norman invasion, which are noticed in another part of the Work. In speaking of the descent of this head of a Cheshire barony, it will be sufficient to observe, that before the Conquest it was unequally divided between the king and earl Edwin; that it lay immediately adjacent to earl Edwin's mansion of Acton, which is expressly mentioned in Domesday, and must be presumed to have had a castellated residence of considerable strength; and that the wich itself was fortified by a fosse, where it was not protected by the channel of the Weever. It was the only wich so defended, and the only one which Hugh Lupus did not retain as parcel of the demesne of the earldom^a.

From the last particular of this description it appears, that WILLIAM MALBEDENG, grantee of this wich, which from him derived its additional appellation, received with it the entire hundred in which it was situated, and three fourths of the lands of the hundred, the rest being divided between the Bishop, Richard (Vernon of Shipbrook), and Gislebert (Venables of Kinderton). The other entire villis, or parts of villis, granted him within the palatinate were as follows:—

In Dudestan Hundred, Tattenhall and Golborne Belleau; in Riseton, "Ulvre;" in Wilaveston, Wervin,

Poole, Landican, Upton, Thingwall, and Knoctorum; in Mildesvic, "Eteshale" (Hassal?) Church Minshull, Minshull Vernon, and Sproston; in Warmundrestrou, (besides this wich,) Acton, Willaston, Wrenbury, Chorlton, Marbury, Norbury, Wirswall, Walgherton, Buerton, Hatherton, Wistaston, Barksford, Berterton, Worleston, Barthomley, "Essetune," "Wivelesde," Titley, Stapeley, Wisterston, Bromhall, Poole juxta Worleston, "Tereth, Cerlere," Baddiley, Coppenhall, Poole, Aston juxta Poole, and Cholmston; in Aticros, "Claitone and Wepre^b."



This William Malbedeng, before the time of the charter granted to Chester Abbey in 1093, gave to the same, Whitley, the third of Wepre, the church and tithes of Tattenhall, one saltwork in Nantwich, and the tithes of Salghall, Claiton, and Yrodduc, with two bovates of land in Salghall^c. He was surviving in 1093, when he occurs as a witness to the charter before-mentioned; and he had to wife Adelia, who witnesses her son's foundation charter of Combermere Abbey before 1130^d.

II. Hugh Malbanck, second baron of Wich Malbank, son and heir of William and Adelia, witnesses the charters of earls Richard and Randle I. to Chester Abbey, the first of which was dated 1109; and a little before 1130 grants his charter (witnessed among others

* Tempore regis Edwardi erat in Warmundestrou hundred unum Wich, in quo erat puteus ad salem faciendum; et ibi erant octo Salinæ inter regem et comitem Edwinum: ita quod de omnibus exitibus et redditibus salinarum habebat rex duas partes, et comes tertiam: Ipse vero comes præter has habebat unam salinam propriam, quæ adiacebat suo manerio Acatone. De hac salinâ per totum annum habebat comes salem sufficientem suæ domui: si quid autem indè venderetur, de theoloneo habebat rex duos denarios, et comes tertium.

In eodem Wich habebant salinas plurimi homines Patriæ, de quibus erat talis consuetudo. Ab Ascensione Domini usque ad festum sancti Martini poterat quisque habens salinam portare salem proprium ad suam domum: Qui vero indè aliquid venderet, sive ibi sive in toto comitatu Cestrensi, dabat theoloneum regi et comiti; Post festum sancti Martini quisquis indè portaret salem, vel proprium vel empticum, dabat theoloneum exceptâ salinâ comitis supradictâ, suâ consuetudine utente: Illæ octo prædictæ salinæ regis et comitis in ipsâ ebdomadâ, quâ bulliebant et exercebant, in die Veneris reddebant xvi bullitiones: ex quibus xv faciebant unam summam salis: Aliorum hominum salinæ ab Ascensione Domini usque ad festum sancti Martini non dabant has bullitiones in die Veneris: Transactâ vero festivitate sancti Martini usque ad Ascensionem Domini dabant omnes consuetudines bullitionis, sicut salinæ regis et comitis.

Omnes istæ salinæ, et comunes et dominicæ, cingebantur ex una parte quodam flumine, et quodam fossato ex alia parte.

Qui infra hanc metam forisfecisset, poterat emendare pro duobus solidis, aut per xxx bullitiones salis, excepto homicidio vel furto, de quo ad mortem judicabatur latro: hæc si ibi fiebant, emendabantur sicut per totam cestram.

Si quis ex præscripto circuito salinarum alicubi per totum comitatum detulisset theoloneum, probatus inde referebat, et per xl solidos ibidem emendabat, si liber homo erat: si non erat liber, per quatuor solidos.

Tempore regis Edwardi reddebat xxi libras de firmâ istud Wich cum omnibus placitis ejusdem hundredi.

Quando Hugo comes recepit, erat vastum præter unam tantum salinam.

Modo tenet eundem Wich Willielmus Malbedeng de comite, cum omnibus consuetudinibus ibidem pertinentibus, et totum ipsum hundredum, quod appreciatur xl solidos: de quibus denariis ponuntur super terram ipsius Willielmi xxx solidi, reliqui x solidi super terram episcopi et super terras Ricardi et Gisleberti, quas habent in eodem hundredo; et Wich est ad firmam pro x libris.

^a Domesday description.

^b These two last were in Wales, and do not afterwards occur as dependencies of the barony.

^c Confirmation Charter of Chester Abbey.

^d The arms assigned to this baron were, "Quarterly, Or and Gules, a bendlet Sable."

by his wife Petronilla) to the abbey which he had recently founded at Combermere, and on which, among various donations, he bestowed one fourth of the *vill* of Wich Malbank.

III. William Malbank, son and heir, was last of the Norman barons of Wich Malbank in the male line. He had a younger brother, Philip, and another brother or sister, parent of Robert de Bressy of Wistanston, whom in a deed without date, acknowledging his having done homage for three knight's fees, he calls "his black nephew." Another line also separated at this time from the parent stock, from which the Malbons of Bradley descended.

This last baron left three daughters and coheirresses, Philippa, Eleanor, and Auda, between whom the entire barony of Nantwich (exclusive of the portion granted to Combermere) was divided, according to the Inquisition subjoined^d, and shortly after split into successive subdivisions, and new divisions of these subdivisions, until nearly the whole became re-united in the Cholmondeley family by successive purchases made in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I.

A general account of the ramifications of this property is subjoined; but the following them on the scale in which manerial property has been previously traced, would require a labour which might be thought much misapplied, and would produce a mass of materials far beyond the limits of the work. It is also to be observed, that much confusion is produced by the description of the shares appearing to relate sometimes to the paramount rights, and sometimes to the demesnes of the barony, and that the denominations of the several proportions of the same (in all thirty-six) present, even in the original and authentic deeds, a mass of

absolute contradiction. The Reader, however, whose inclination or interest may lead him to wish a more minute sketch, will find in Harl. MSS. 2038. and 1967. if he has courage to wade through them, nearly every thing which can be collected from deeds and inquisitions, relative to the divisions of the barony, and the dependencies holding from each division; and he will also find in this Work abstracts of the inquisitions relating to those dependencies, classed under the several villis, which will illustrate the descent of the shares of the barony from which they were held.

THE SHARE OF THE FIRST COHEIR, PHILIPPA, WIFE OF THOMAS LORD BASSET, OF HEDINGTON, CO. OXON.

The issue of this marriage were three daughters and coheirs, PHILIPPA, JOHANNA, and ALICE, which three did homage for their father's lands to the king 4 Hen. III. Philippa being then wife of Henry earl of Warwick, and Johanna wife of Reginald de Valletort^f. Alice, who was then unmarried, was wife of John lord Biset, in the year following^g.

In 14 Hen. III. Philippa was remarried to Richard Siward^h.

The first Subdivision of this Share, allotted to Philippa countess of Warwick, is expressly stated in the inquisition 16 Edw. I. to have been surrendered by the earl of Warwick into the hands of the earl of Chester. After remaining merged in the earldom until the time of Edw. I. the same, or a large portion of it, passed by royal grant to Randle de Merton, under the appellation of the serjeancy of the countess of Warwick, who re-granted the same to "sir Randle Praersⁱ;" from whom the same descended, in the female line, to Robert Fulleshurst, who states these circumstances in plea to a

^d Harl. MSS. 2115, 135. Dominus Willielmus Malbanek nuper tenuit baroniam Wici Malbani integralis, et quia obiit sine heredibus masculis baronia divisa fuit inter filias forma sequenti, ut patet per inquisitionem captam die Martis proximo post festum ascensionis Domini anno regni regis Edwardi primi decimo sexto* coram Reginaldo Grey tunc iustituario comitis Cestriæ.

PRIMA FILIA habuit tertiam partem Wici Malbani cum Castro ibidem, exceptis illis terris quas idem Willielmus prius dedit abathie de Combermere: tertiam partem manerii de Newhall, Aston juxta Hurlleston, Acton, et Haselington in dominico, et ii partes de Cowell et de Wolstanwoode; et habuit homagium et servitium dominorum villarum subscriptarum, viz. Bartumlegh, Crewe, Leghton, Aston in Mondrem, Cholmeston, Stoke, Lancan, duas partes de Tranmoll, Boyrton, Alvaston, Church Mynshull, Wistaston, Rope, Willaston, Wytpull, Norbury, Wirswall, Row Shotwick, et Thingwall. *Ista filia habuit duas filias*, inter quas terræ prædictæ de purparte sua partitæ fuerunt.

Prima habuit Castrum Wici Malbani, sextam partem maneriorum de Newhall, Aston juxta Hurlleston, Acton et Haslington, et sextam partem de Cowell et Wolstanwoode in dominico, et alienavit inde diversas parcellass terræ ut patet per tenentes inde, et in homagio et servicio habuit Bartumlegh, Crewe, Leghton, Aston in Mondrem, Cholmeston, Stoke, Lancan, duas partes de Tranmoll, quæ quidem servicia reddita fuerunt, in manum domino Ranulpho comiti Cestriæ, per comitem de Warwick tunc tenentem, et quæ modo sunt in manu Johannis Griffin, et habuit servitium de Burton, Alvaston, et Church Mynshull, quæ dominus Johannes de Ganlowe nunc tenet.

Secunda filia habuit sextam partem Wici Malbani, sextam partem maneriorum de Newhall, Aston juxta Hurlleston, Acton, et Haslington, et sextam partem de Cowell, Wolstan Wood, in dominico, et alienavit inde diversas partes, prout patet per tenentes inde et in homagio et servicio habuit Wystaston, Rope, Willaston, Witpull, Norbury, Wireswall, Roo Shotwick, et Thingwall, quæ Alex. de Venables et Johanna uxor ejus modo tenent.

SECUNDA FILIA habuit tertiam partem Wici Malbani exceptis terris concessis abathie de Combermere, tertiam partem de Cowell, Wolstanwoode, et ii partes manerii de Newhall, et Aston juxta Mondrem, Hurlleston in dominico, et Acton, et habuit homagium et servitium dominorum villarum infra scriptarum, viz. de Becheton, Hassal, Worlaston, Wrenbury, Chorle, Backford, Monke Copenbale, Over Bebinton, ii partes de Barneston, Badington, Bromehall, Sunde, Alstanton, († Bertherton, ii partes de Cherleton, ii partes de Teverton,) quæ quidem tenementa cum servicio modo sunt in manu Jacobi Audlegh: et sciendum quod Hatherton est de hundredo Wici Malbani, sed in quam partem devenit ignoratur; et Blakenball, Chackiley, Dudington, Briddesmere, Hunsterton, et Lee, non sunt de baronia ista, sed de baronia de Kinderton, et Shipbrooke.

TERTIA FILIA habuit tertiam partem Wici Malbani exceptis terris concessis abathie de Combermere, tertiam partem de Cowell et Wolstanwoode, partem manerii de Hurdleston et Acton, et ii partes de Haselington in dominico, et habuit homagia et servicia dominorum et villarum de Audlim, Hankelow, Titenlegh, Merbury, Stapelegh, Badelegh, Fadelegh, Burlond, Edlaston, Barrettespull, Weston, Wydinbury, Houghe, Savinton, Walkerton, Church Copenhall, Henhull, (‡ Alsager,) tertiam partem de Cherleton, et Wightreson, (et ‡ Penesby.) *Ista filia habuit duas filias* inter quas tenementa predicta cum servitiis partita fuerunt. Prima habuit sextam partem Wici Malbani, sextam partem de Cowell et Wolstanwoode, sextam partem maneriorum de Acton et de Hurdleston, duas partes de Haselington in dominico, et homagia et servicia habuit in sep'ali Audlem, Hankelow, Henhull, et Alsager, quæ dominus Radulphus de Vernon modo tenet; cum omnibus serviciis quæ sunt in conjunctione inter ipsum et parcenarios suorum, viz. Jubannem de Sancto Petro, Johannem de Wettenhall, et Ricardum Leftwich.

Secunda filia habuit sextam partem de Cowell et de Wolstanwoode, et sextam partem maneriorum de Hurdleston et de Acton, sed de Haselington nihil. Quæ quidem habuit tres filias inter quas pro parte sua partita sunt, quæ tres filie vendiderunt, pro parte sua diversis tenentibus, viz. Jobanni de Sancto Petro, pro parte unius, et Johanni de Wettenhall pro parte alterius, et Ricardo Leftwich medietatem propartis tertie sororis, et Radulpho de Vernon, avo ultimi dicti Radulphi, aliam medietatem propartis tertie sororis.

Memorandum quod dicta baronia tenetur de domino rege in jure comitatus Cestriæ in capite.

^e The Inquisition 16 Edw. I. given hereafter, mentions only two, but the fact of there being three is indisputable.

^f Ex Rot. Fin. 4 Hen. III. part I. m. 5. Vincent's Discoverie, &c. 571.

^g Dugdale's Baronage, I. 632.

^h Vincent, as before.

ⁱ See Crewe.

* The date is corrected from an exemplification at Chester.

† Interlined.

‡ Interlined.

writ of quo warranto, 15 Hen. VII. Harl. MSS. 2115. f. 186. The Fulleshursts obtained also two other shares of this barony, besides the lands in it which they obtained in marriage with the heiress of Crewe: one by succeeding to the Fulleshursts of Edlaston, and the other by marrying the heir-general of the Vernons of Shipbrook. In 17 Eliz. Robert Fouleshurst, esq. sold his right in a 36th part of the barony to sir *Hugh Cholmondeley*, knight^k; and in the following year passed over by fine to the same, his interest in Wich Malbank, as of the barony of Wich Malbank cum pert. and the serjeancy of the fee of the countess of Warwick, and Audley fee, with one messuage and 200 acres of land, and 3s. 4d. rent in Wich Malbank, Crue, Haslington, Stoke, Cholmeston, Whitpoole, Barretspoole, Aston, Leighton, and Landecan^l.

The second Subdivision of this Share fell to *Johanna*, who is above proved to have been wife of Reginald de Valletort, and is said in some pedigrees to have re-married William Courtenay, and in others lord Lovell. She appears to have died s. p. and her estate to have passed to the Sanfords, who are incorrectly deduced in the Cheshire pedigrees from the third of these sisters, as proved hereafter. This family of Sanford terminated in *Johanna*, daughter and heiress of sir Lawrence Sanford, who married sir John Maltravers, and afterwards Alexander le Venables, and by *Inq. p. m.* 23 Edw. III. (Harl. MSS. 2038. 137.) confirmed by another *Inq.* 9 Ric. II. is found to have died seized, inter alia, of a sixth part of Wich Malbank, and to have had a daughter *Johanna*, successively wife of Richard Warren, and Alban Cheney, who died s. p. leaving Alice, (sister of the second *Johanna*), wife of William Browning, her heir. John Browning is found to have died seized of the same 3 Hen. V. (ibid.) and John, son of John Browning, is also found to have died seized of the same 8 Hen. V. (ibid.)

In 21 Hen. VI. Oct. 2. William Browning of Melbury, co. Dorset, gives a sixth of the barony of Wich Malbank to William lord Lovell, Burnell, and de Holland, in exchange for 20 marks rent issuing from the said lord's manors in Wiltshire (Harl. MSS. 1967. 118. a.) This share by this means became united with the one next treated of, and passed with it to the *Cholmondeleys* as hereafter mentioned.

The third Subdivision of this Share fell to Alice Basset, who is ascertained already to have been unmarried 4 Hen. III. and to have been wife of John lord Biset the year following, but is unaccountably omitted in the *Inq.* 16 Edw. I. previously referred to. The issue of this marriage were Ela, Margaret, and Isabel. Dugdale notices only the marriage of the second to Richard de Ripariis, or Rivers; but Messrs. Lysons, in the *Magna Britannia*, on the authority of Woodnoth's Collections, state that Isabel married — de Plessetis, whose family appears to have divided this share with the issue of Margaret. In 14 Edw. I. Philip, son of Hugh de Plessetis^m, grants lands in Wich Malbank to Robert Burnell, bishop of Bath and Wells, and Thomas de Saundford does homage for the same (Harl. MSS. 1967. 120. a. c.); and (ibid. 119. a.) about the same time by deed s. d. John de Ripariis, "d'nus de Aungre," conveys his right in the barony of Wich Malbank to the said bishop, to be held

by rendering the due service to the capital lords of the fee, and viid. annually to the said John and his heirs. Maud sister and heiress of Edward lord Burnell brought the estates of this family in marriage to John lord Lovell; and the same were confiscated, by the attainder of Francis lord Lovell, after the battle of Stoke, 3 Hen. VII.

ⁿ 4 Hen. VII. The king grants to sir William Stanley, chamberlain of Chester, the manor of Longendale in com. Cest. with the vill of Tyngtyswell, the advowson of Mottram, the sixth part of the barony of Wich Malbank, and the advowson of the chapel of St. Nicholas, and the third part of the chapel of St. Lawrence, and the sixth part of the barony late belonging to William Browning, and the third part of the manor of Monkes Copenhall, and the lands of lord Lovell in the said places, to be held by him and his heirs, as the 20th part of a knight's fee.

^o *Inq.* 21 Hen. VIII. on the attainder of sir William Standley, knight, finds that he held the manor and vill of Wich Malbank in fee, with its appurtenances in Cowlane, Newhall, Copenhale, Wolstanwood, and Acton, with the chapel of St. Nicholas, and the third part of the chapel of St. Lawrence, (val. per ann. £70.) and £66. 4s. rent in the vills aforesaid.

^p 8 Feb. 19 Hen. VIII. The king grants to sir Anthony Browne, knight, and Alice his wife, the manor and barony of Wich Malbank, the manor of Newhall and Copenhale, and the advowson of the church of the same, to be held by him and the heirs male of his body, by the service of one knight's fee.

^q 5 Aug. 21 Hen. VIII. The same granted to sir John Vage, knight, for the term of his life.

^r 3 June 22 Hen. VIII. On surrender of the patents aforesaid, in consequence of their insufficiency, the king grants to sir Anthony Browne, knight, and Alice his wife, half the manor and vill of Wich Malbank, and £66. 4s. 2d. yearly rent issuing from Wich Malbank, Cowlane, Copenhalle, Wolstanwood, and Acton, and the manors of Newhall and Copenhalle, parcel of the barony of Wich Malbank, and late possessed by sir William Stanley, &c. to them and the heirs of their bodies, to be held in capite by the service of one knight's fee.

^s 37 Hen. VIII. The king grants to sir William Paget, knight, "totum illud manerium nostrum de Nantwich," &c. with all its privileges largely enumerated, to be held by him and his heirs by the service of the 20th part of a knight's fee; and late parcel of the possessions of sir Anthony Browne.

^t D'nus Paget de Bewdesarte sells the said barony, as far as belongs to him, with its appurtenances in Nantwich, Acton, Copenhall, Newhall, Aston, Cowlane, and Wolstanwood, 3 Edw. VI. to Roland Hill, mayor of the city of London, and to Thomas Legh, of the same, merchant. This sale appears to have been afterwards rendered void, for

^u March 11, 1 Mary. William Paget, K. G. lord Paget of Beaudesert, in consideration of his faithful services, grants to his servant Robert Fletcher, all his rights in the barony of Wich Malbank, viz. one-third, which was the property of the lords Lovell, and other two parts of a third, which belonged to the lord Audeley.

^k Harl. MSS. 1967. 118.

^l Ibid. g. The transcriber of the deeds adds a "quere, how s'r Hugh Cholmondeley p'ted wth s'jancie of ye countesse of Warwick's fee."

^m This Hugh was son of John de Plessetis, earl of Warwick jure uxoris, as appears in a grant of Kidderminster to bishop Burnell from the said Hugh. Harl. MSS. 2038.

ⁿ Harl. MSS. 1967. 118. b.

^o Ibid. c.

^p Ibid. d.

^q Ibid. e.

^r Ibid. f. 22.

^s Ibid. g.

^t Ibid.

^u Ibid. 119. b.

* 3 & 4 Ph. and Mary, 26 April. Robert Fletcher, in consideration of £100. sells the same to sir HUGH CHOLMONDELEY.

THE SHARE OF THE SECOND COHEIR, ELEANOR DE MALBANK, WHO DIED UNMARRIED.

By deed s. d. (printed in p. 203.) Aenor Mauban gives to Henry de Aldithel' all her lands in Cheshire "infra lymam," to be held by the render of 40s. yearly, and in consideration of the payment of 100 marks, and the gift of one palfrey. Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester, occurs among the witnesses. This portion of the barony of Wich Malbank was vested in James de Audley, at the time of the inquisition 16 Edw. I. and finally passed in moieties, or possibly in unequal shares, with the coheirresses of the Audley family, to the Touchets lords Audley, and to the lords Fitzwarine. In Harl. MSS. 2038. 139. will be found extracts from the inquisitions of these families, relative to their shares of the barony. The Fitzwarines were succeeded by the Bouchiers lords Fitzwarine, and afterwards earls of Bath.

24 Nov. 27 Jac. I. William earl of Bath, representative of the lords Bouchier, in consideration of £100. sells to sir Robert Cholmundelegh, bart. all his right in Wich Malbank, &c. (Harl. MSS. 1967. 119. d.) Another portion has been already stated to be sold to sir Hugh Cholmondeley, by Robert Fletcher, which was two parts of the *Audley share*, but whether of the Touchet or Fitzwarine portion does not appear; and there is the same difficulty with respect to another part of the *Audley fee*, which the same sir Hugh Cholmondeley bought from Robert Foulshurst 17 Eliz.

SHARE OF THE THIRD COHEIRESS, AUDA WIFE OF WARIN DE VERNON, BARON OF SHIPBROOK.

The eldest issue of this marriage, as already stated at large in the account of the barony of Shipbrook, was Warin Vernon, between whose three daughters and coheirresses, and whose younger brother, this portion of the barony of Nantwich was divided, in the same manner with the barony of Shipbrook. In the inquisition 16 Edw. I. will be found an assertion, contrary to the best established facts—that this coheirress had *two* daughters, between whom her portion was divided. The following observation on this subject, written in an old hand in Harl. MSS. 2038. 145, suggests the only mode of solving the difficulty.

"It is thought that the inq. of Edw. I. in his 16 year is to be (thus) taken touching Auda Malbanck her purparty, for it is difcult; vidltz, she had the 3 p^t; then whear it is sayd she had 2 daughters, the meaning of that is that her p^t was divided into 2 p^{ts}, which was the truth, for Rafe Vernon her husband's brother had the one halph, and the 3 coheys the other halph—and it must be so expounded, or els taken that she had no issue male, whereas she had Warrin her son."

The moiety of this share which thus passed to the second line of the *barons of Shipbrooke*, descended with that barony to the Savages (excepting certain portions which the Fulleshursts had with the heir of sir Richard

Vernon, and other small fragments), and was sold by sir John Savage, of Frodsham, knight, Jan. 3, 17 Eliz. to sir Hugh Cholmondeley (Harl. MSS. 2038. 119. b.)

The other moiety, which passed to the coheirresses of the second Warin Vernon, passed as follows:

Maud (or Margery^z) wife of sir Richard Wilbraham, had issue Maud wife of Robert de Winnington, who by him had Robert de Leftwich. This share will be found noticed in the inquisitions of the Leftwiches of Leftwich, and was sold by Ralph Leftwich, as a 36th part of the barony to sir Hugh Cholmondeley, 17 Eliz. and confirmed to him by a fine the year following. (Harl. MSS. 1967. 119. h. i.)

Roesia, the second coheirress, married John de Littlebury, and her share in this barony is stated in Harl. MSS. 2038, to have been sold by Roger de Littlebury to John de Wettenhall, and this portion, in partition of the estates of the Wettenhalls of Wettenhall^y, passed with two of the coheirresses of that house to the Bromhalls of Bromhall in Macclesfield hundred, and to a branch of the Ardernes, whose connection with the parent house of Aldford and Alvanley does not appear, and who, by being confounded with the main stem from similarity of names, have introduced no small confusion into that pedigree^z.

The first of the shares of this subdivision of Roesia's portion passed with Bramall to the Davenports. 20 Jan. 22 Jac. I. William Davenport, of Bramall, knt. and William Davenport, esq. his son and heir apparent, sold their interest in the barony of Nantwich to sir Robert Cholmundelegh, bart. for £100. (Harl. MSS. 1967, 119, d.)

The share of the Ardernes, consisting of the manor of Acton, and lands in Hurleston and Stoke, called a 36th part of the barony, occurs in the Inquisition after the death of Ellen Wettenhall, widow of Henry Arderne, 9 Hen. IV.; in the Inquisition after the death of her son Ralph, 8 Hen. V.; and in the Inquisition after the death of sir Ralph Arderne, 13 Hen. VI. This branch of the Ardernes appears to have become extinct shortly afterwards. The estates which they enjoyed as a share of Wich Malbank are more fully noticed in the account of Acton township, and are variously described in the Inquisitions, but their successors do not appear to claim any portion of the paramount rights of the barony.

Auda, the third coheirress, married William Stafford, from whom, or whose descendant of the same name, this last share passed by purchase to John St. Pierre^b. This was conveyed by Walter Cokesay and Isabella his wife (heirress to the St. Pierres) to the Bagot family. William Bagott, ch'v'r, died seized of this portion (which is described as an 18th), as appears by an Inquisition taken 9 Hen. IV. which finds his daughter Isabella his heirress. This lady brought the same in marriage to Thomas Stafford, but on her death without issue it passed to her aunt Cecilia Rathbone (Harl. MSS. 2038, 144). Before the third of Hen. VII. this share was vested in the Mainwarings of Carincham, as appears by the Inquisition after the death of Randle Mainwaring in that year, and was sold by Randle Manwaring, Jan. 13, 17 Eliz. to sir Hugh Cholmondeley.

^w Ibid. c.

^x It occurs in deeds by both names.

^y See Wettenhall pedigree, Edisbury hundred.

^z See Dorfold in Nantwich hundred, p. 123. and Alvanley in Edisbury, p. 38.

^b Pedigrees relating to Wich Malbank, Harl. MSS. 2038.

The several portions of this barony have thus been deduced to the two successive SIR HUGH CHOLMONDELEYS, with the exception of the shares of the *Bouchers* and *Davenport*s which were purchased by sir Robert Cholmondeley. The Inquisition after the death of the younger sir Hugh Cholmondeley states him to have died seized of nineteen twentieths of the manor or barony of Wich Malbank, alias Nantwich, with all its rights (which are largely enumerated), and various lands and messuages therein, including "le Booth Hall, alias dict. le Court Howse," and another tenement called the Escheator's Hall. It further states that such parts of his share of the barony as belonged to the lords Lovell or the lords Audley, were held in capite from the queen as of her crown of England as one knight's fee, and the rest was held as the twentieth part of a knight's fee from the said queen as of her earldom of Chester.

Sir Robert Cholmondeley, eldest son of sir Hugh Cholmondeley, was created baron of Wich Malbank, Sept. 1, 1645, and afterwards earl of Leicester; after his death without issue, the family estates passed to his nephew of the same name, from whom the present marquis of Cholmondeley is lineally descended. His lordship, whose oldest title is the barony of "Cholmondeley of Wich Malbank," (1689) retains a proportion of the feudal barony of this place, and holds a court for the same, distinct from the court which he also holds for the hundred of Nantwich^c.

"Persons residing within certain limits in the town of Nantwich owe suit and service to the courts held by lord Crewe for Audley Fee and the countess of Warwick's Fee^d." No opportunity has occurred of ascertaining the period when these portions of the barony were again severed from the shares concentrated by successive purchases in the Cholmondeleys.

A court-leet is also attached to the Abbot's Fee, the jurisdiction of which extends over a part of the town of Nantwich^e. This was the fourth of the *vill* of Wich Malbank granted to the abbey of Cumbermere, which, after the dissolution, passed to the Wilbrahams of Woodhey, and has descended to lord Dysart.

It remains to speak, of the *antient extent and privileges* of the Barony.

The vills granted out to the Norman baron have been already noticed. A more ample list of dependant vills

which formed the lordship of Wich Malbank at the time of its partition among the coheireses (all of which were most probably formed out of the original ones mentioned in Domesday), has been already given in the Inq. 16 Edw. I.

Some statements in this Inquisition, which are apparently at variance with all acknowledged evidence on the subject, have been explained in the preceding deduction of the descent of the several shares. The proportions of these shares will be best explained by a table given in Harl. MSS. 2038, which, before the attainder of lord Lovell, states them to have been 36 in number, and to have been thus distributed: lord Lovell 12 shares, or a third of the whole; lord Audley 8, or two parts of a third; lord Fitzwarine 4, or the residue of the second third. Of the last third sir John Savage had one moiety, viz. 6 shares; sir William Davenport had 2 shares, Henry Mainwaring 2, and the 2 remaining ones were held by Robert Fulleshurst and Ralph Leftwich.

In the 15th of Henry VII. a writ of quo warranto was issued to inquire into the privileges of this barony; and from the circumstance of the lords Lovell and Audley having been recently attained, was of course only pleaded to by the remaining parceners, John Bouchier lord Fitz-Warine, John Savage, kt. William Davenport of Bromhall, Robert Fulleshurst, Randle Mainwaring, and Richard Leftwich. Copies of the plea are extant in the Exchequer of Chester, Harl. MSS. 2115, and Vernon's MSS. at Somerford, 3, 51.^f

The customs and local jurisdiction in use at the Conquest have been noticed in the extract from Domesday. In addition to the court held by the Norman barons of Nantwich and their successors, there was formerly a Guild or brotherhood established here for its better regulation. The present school-house in the church-yard was the common-hall of this society, and persons not incorporated in any of its respective confraternities, were not allowed at their decease to have any ornaments of the church, or to have more of the bells rung for them than the third bell. In matters which the guild had no legal power to redress, its members were aided by the court leet; and from its contributions, six perpetual chaplains were provided to say mass, for the brethren and sisters composing it, as appears by a deed bearing date 1461, which is noticed in the account of the church.

^c The *Vill of Nantwich* only owes suit to this court for the barony, but that of the hundred extends to Acton, Alsager, Alvaston, Audlem, Austerson, Baddington, Bartherton, Basford, Betchton, Bromhall, Buerton, Coole Pilate, Edlaston, Hankelow, Hassal, Henhull, Hough, Hurleston, Monks Coppenhall, Poole, Rope, Sound, Stapeley, Tittenley, Wistaston, Willaston, Woodcot, Worleston, Wirswall, and Woolstanwood. Information of Messrs. Edleston and Elwood on the part of the Marquis of Choimondeley.

^d Information of Henry Tomkinson, esq. on the part of Lord Crewe. A Villare of Nantwich hundred, written in 1666, states the countess of Warwick's fee and Audley fee to belong to Mr. Crewe at that time, to whom at first sight this share would appear to have descended with Crewe, as Smith, in his account of Nantwich temp. Eliz. mentions the "rule of the town" to be vested in sir Christopher Hatton, who, as is well known, bought Crewe with its dependencies from the Foulshursts, and sold it to sir Randle Crewe. This however cannot be if the transcriber of the deeds before cited, from Harl. MSS. is correct in stating, from an express fine, that sir R. Foulshurst sold the countess of Warwick's serjeancy, &c. 18 Eliz. to sir Hugh Cholmondeley; and the quære which (as before observed) he adds to his abstract, proves that he was not guilty of any clerical error or inadvertency. It is most probable that the Cholmondeleys resold this part to sir R. Foulshurst, or to sir C. Hatton.

^e Information of Henry Tomkinson, esq. as agent of Lord Dysart.

^f The liberties claimed were view of frank pledge with its appurtenances, with respect to all residents therein, twice in the year, and a hundred court, with its appurtenances, to be held from 15 to 15 days; wayfe, stray, *gallows*, tumbrell, and thewe, with manerial rights in the vill of Wich Malbank; a yearly fair on the feast of St. Bartholomew, and the four following days; and a market weekly, on Saturday, with the appurtenances of fair and market, and 4d. toll from every horse or beast of burthen sold therein, piccage and stallage in the market and fair, 2d. from every cart-load of leather, and 1d. from every bundle of leather sold therein or exposed to sale; and, lastly, pelfe in the said manor.

In explanation of the appurtenances of their view of frank pledge, the said parties claim assize of bread and beer, cognizance of effusion of blood, punishment of butchers and fishermen selling tainted flesh or fish, and punishment of bakers by the pillory, victuallers or innholders (pan-doxatores) by the tumbrell, and scolds by the thewe (*huc est cuckstole*), with all fines and amercements belonging to the same. That piccage means the erection of a "scabellum" to expose merchandize on, stallage the right of erecting stalls, and pelfe the right of appropriating the goods of any robber taken within the manor.

The BURGESSES of NANTWICH are entitled by prescription, not to be put upon any assize, juries, recognizances, or inquests whatever with strangers, concerning lands and tenements lying out of the vill of Nantwich or its liberty, or concerning any trespasses, contracts, or agreements made and happening out of the same. They were found to be entitled to this privilege by an inquisition taken 13 Edw. II. a confirmation of which by queen Elizabeth 20 March a^o reg. 10, was enrolled on Aug. 23 following, between which time and 8 Will. III. these liberties were ten times confirmed by the justices of Chester, and since that time to 1818 inclusive, by every succeeding chief justice. Extracted from copy of Enrollments and Allowances.

Among its antient inscriptions, given hereafter from Harl. MSS. 2151, will be found one in which this fraternity is described under the appellation of the brethren and sisters of the Holy Cross.

This establishment was new modelled and regulated by the ordinances of sir Thomas Fulshurst of Crewe, and a jury assembled for that purpose, 30 Hen. VIII. After its suppression, and the forfeiture of its revenues by the stat. of Edw. VI. one of its old officers, a bailiff, continued to be annually chosen in the lord's leet, and although possessing no legal power, was looked upon as the supreme officer of the town. This custom subsequently fell into disuse, and Nantwich, like the ordinary villis of the hundred, is now under the jurisdiction of constables.

The other antient officers enumerated by Mr. Partridge (from whom this account of the guild is chiefly taken) were, "the rulers of Walling, the Heath keepers, the Leave lookers, the Ale tasters, the Fire lookers, and Keenel lookers." The first were curators of the brine springs, and the next of the adjacent common of the Croach or Beam Heath, belonging to the town. The leave lookers were the inspectors of markets, and the fire lookers were appointed to view and present defective chimneys, and prevent the recurrence of casualties by fire. The duties of the others are explained by their names; and all of them were amenable to the court, to which they made their presentments.

It has been already mentioned, on the authority of Domesday, that NANTWICH at the period of the Norman invasion, had immediately adjacent to it a manerial residence of the great earl Edwin, its Saxon proprietor, and was itself defended by works drawn along the bank of the Weever. When the Norman army advanced upon Chester, where queen Alghitha was placed for security, every opposition might be consequently expected at this point, which its natural and artificial strength could supply the means of, or which could be prompted by the united national and personal animosity of the tenants of king Harold's brother in law. We learn from the depositions in the cause of Scoop and Grosvenor, though history is silent on the subject, that such opposition was made; and that after his victory Hugh Lupus granted to Gilbert le Grosvenor the lands of one of the Saxon thanes who fell in the contest^g. This battle took place in 1069^h, the year preceding that in which the earl of Mercia was murderedⁱ, and subsequent to the one in which he fled to Scotland, but it is not improbable that the tumults which raged generally

through the north might have recalled him to the defence of his possessions, as it did many of the Saxon nobility, and that he commanded his tenantry here in person.

In a leaf inserted in Harl. MSS. 2155. p. 59. (in the hand-writing of Dugdale), from a MS. chronicle in Bibl. Bodl. K. 84. the Welsh are stated to have laid waste the county of Chester, during the imprisonment of earl Randle the Second, "sed apud Wycum Malbanum intercepti sunt."

In 1438 the town suffered considerably by fire^k, but experienced a much more tremendous visitation of like nature in 1583^l. This second fire broke out through the negligence of some persons brewing at a place called the Waterlode, at six o'clock on the 10th of December. The flames catching the thatch burst forth to the roof of the house, and in a short space of time the flames were dispersed so furiously into the south part of the town, that a great part of that quarter, and a considerable part of the east side, were burnt down to the ground, the buildings being generally constructed of timber with thatched roofs. This fire continued until six o'clock the following morning, having consumed two hundred dwelling houses, besides brewhouses, barns, stables, and other buildings, in all six hundred.

Mr. Partridge states the damage done on this occasion to have exceeded £30,000. A general collection for the sufferers was set on foot through the kingdom, and the queen presented the town with £2000. and timber from Delamere forest, for its rebuilding. Webb notices the activity of sir Hugh Cholmondeley and Thomas Maisteron in superintendance of the restoration of Nantwich; to the latter of whom the success of the general collection, and the rapidity with which the town was restored, are chiefly ascribed, in a long and quaint copy of verses which remains suspended over his monument in the chancel at Nantwich^m.

Shortly afterwards Nantwich was visited by various successive epidemic disorders, which are noticed by Partridge, and in the parish register. In 1587, upwards of a hundred and forty persons were swept off by a kind of ague. In 1596 George Allowes, a reduced soldier, and native of this town, who had served under the earl of Essex in the expedition against Cadiz, introduced the flux into Nantwich, by which a considerable number of people was cut off. On the 12th of June 1604, the plague broke out, and destroyed between four and five hundred people, before its ceasing on March the 2d following. The assizes were then removed to this town,

^g See Allostock in Northwich hundred.

^h See vol. I. 193, col. 2.

ⁱ Ibid. p. 8.

^k Partridge's Hist. of Nantwich.

^l Ibid.

^m AN EPITAPH VVPO' YE DEATH OF JOHN MAISTERSON GEN. 1586.

Nowe Malbank mourne, lament your losse, lay mirthe asyde, be sade,—
Lett fall your straeninge siluer tears, for him that made you glade,
Your Joy and Jewell wears to duste, his bones are clad in elay.
Your Piller and your Proppe is gone, gonne is your gemme and stay.
The turrett trewe and steedfast towre, is battred to the grounde,
The captane cheefe of all the charge, dead in the campe is founde.
Traile downe youre Ensignes and retire, the steede hath loste his breathe,
Lett trumpetr sound, strike one the drum, the dumpe of dreedfull deathe.
Fowle of youre scattringe shott at one's, dragg on your pearring picke,
Close up youre gates, shutt up your doores, you neuer saw the like.
Pull downe youre hangings and begene to attire youre walls with blake,
Send forthe youre greefed sighes, youre happe is gone to wreack.
This dismall day canicular, one this tenthe of December
Youre towne was burnde, your frend did die, that was youre cheefest member.
Youre extreame losse he did repaire, he wypte youre tears away,
But now youre glorie and youre gain, shall be no more youre stay.
JOHN MAISTERSON hath changed his life, to Malbanke beaueie greefe;
Good change to him, hard change to them that felt his sweete reliefe.
Unto the poore he franckly gaue, the needie shall him wante,
To those that lacke, his happie hand was neuer proued scante.

When this poore Towne to ashes fell, deuourde with frie flame,
By pittie moued, he founde the way, howe to repaire the same.
Whoe by the grace of our good Queene and nobles of this land
This poore Towne was builte up againe, in state as it dothe stande.
The timber had els growing in woods, which nowe sweete dwellings are,
Soe had the seats and plotts of ground, remain'd to this day bare.
Had he not bin, this Towne had bin noe Towne as nowe it is;
That which he had, he did procure, the trauaille all was his.
His deeds wcell doon noe faute can foyle, nor deathe the same expell,
Noe ruste nor tonge can tuch his life, nor furies slaught can quell.
Nor thoghe that deathe dothe put downe life, a nature yealds her dewe,
Yete this Towne shall from age to age, his Pearles fame renew.
The living and the unborne tow, and all that shall succede
The roofes and walls shall blase his fame, for this his worthy deede.
His endless labour in this case deserues an endless crowne
With goulden garlands of great thankes, and wraythes of high renoune.
The Soun shall witness of his woorks, suruayde with his bemes so brighte,
Soe shall the moone and statly stars, that veve the same by nighte.
And all good hearts shall yeald him prayse and moniment his name,
And so long as the world endures shall spread abroad his fame.

and the exchequer court to Tarvin, in consequence of Chester, from which the contagion had been brought, still continuing afflicted.

The royal visit of king James is the next circumstance of local history worthy of record, which is noticed in Webb's Itinerary, and in the account of Townsend.

In the subsequent disturbances, Nantwich was first occupied on behalf of the parliament, and was wrested from them by lord Grandison on the eve of the battle of Edge Hill in 1642. Sir William Brereton afterwards obtained

ⁿ Extracts of the passages relating to the siege of Nantwich, printed in Chester in 1778.

Aug. 12, 1642. There had like to have been a hot contest between the army and the militia on Beam heath; but by the mediation of Mr. Wilbraham of Darfold, on the one side, and Mr. Werden of Chester on the other, it was for that time prevented.

Sept. 21. Lord Grandison came to Nantwich, with 700 men, entered the town and disarmed it, and the country round: some that came to aid the town were imprisoned and fined: a fine was also laid upon the town, but few or none paid.

Sept. 23. The King came to Chester with his forces, where sir Richard Wilbraham, sir Tho. Delves, and Mr. Mainwaring of Peover, and Mr. Wilbraham of Darfold, were commanded to wait the King's pleasure by the sheriff, who had charge of them from Chester. He went to Shrewsbury, where they attended about three weeks, in hopes of being dismissed; but sir Richard Wilbraham, and Mr. Wilbraham of Darfold, were kept prisoners there a long time, and sir Richard died a prisoner there.

Col. Hastings was called into Cheshire to assist the army against the deputy lieutenants of the militia, which were at Nantwich with a competent number, but a kind of peace was agreed upon between them, Dec. 23, which was afterwards disliked by the parliament. Col. Hastings's soldiers did much hurt by plundering. Jan. 28, was a hot skirmish at the further end of Nantwich, between sir William Brereton's forces and sir Tho. Aston's: sir Thomas, intending to take the town, came in the morning with 200 men, but was repulsed by about 80 led by Capt. Bramhall, and in his retreat was set on by sir William's company, who took prisoners 100 or near it, and killed divers: he took also 80 horse with arms, cloak-bags, and pillage, to the value of £1000. Immediately upon this victory, came to the aid of sir William, colonel Mainwaring, captain Duckenfield, captain Hyde, captain Marbury, with other gentlemen, and their companies of horse and foot well appointed, to the number of 2000, who many times issued out, and brought in much provision and many prisoners. Sir William, in the name of the Parliament, sent out his warrants, and summoned all, from 16 to 60, to come to a general muster at Tarporley and Frodsham, February 21: which the commissioners of array hearing of, issued out of Chester with all their forces and two great pieces of ordnance, and entrenched themselves on the side of Ruddy-heath, near to a place called The Swan's Nest, where sir William met them with his forces.

February 22d. The army had the advantage of the wind and ground: shots were made on both sides, but little or no hurt done. The night before, 300 of the parliament side had taken Beeston castle, who coming down to assist the military, were met by the horse of the array on Te'er-ton town field, 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.

March 10th. Sir Thomas Aston came out of Chester with 500 horse and many companies of foot, and the next day entered Middlewich. The soldiers plundered many houses and other goods, even upon the Sabbath Day, and sent much of the pillage to Chester. He sent out warrants to command the country people to provide for him and his forces, upon pain of being proceeded against as traitors.

Sir William Brereton came with his forces from Nantwich, and faced Middlewich March 12th, being the Lord's Day, twice discharging some shot against the town. He returned to Nantwich that night, and upon Monday morning early came to Middlewich with his forces to fight sir Thomas, who had taken his ground, planted his ordnance, and gotten the advantage of the wind upon the heath at the town's end. The fight began, and was somewhat equal, but violent, till nine or ten of the clock, and then some horse and foot came from Nantwich to Booth, to the aid of sir William, and entered into Newton, at the end of the town, where sir Thomas had planted a great piece of brass ordnance, and manned it well with horse and foot; which the Nantwich forces perceiving, leaped, both horse and foot, into the fields, forbearing to come into the mouth of the cannon in the open lane. They plied it with muskets on both sides, and forced the master-gunner away, whereupon the enemy fled, and within an hour the Nantwich forces entered the town without the loss of a man; which sir Thomas, and colonel Lee, then high sheriff, perceiving, they both fled, and as many more as could get away. There were taken prisoners captain Massey, captain Hurlston, colonel Ellis, major Gilmore, captain Corbet, captain Starkey of Stretton, captain Morris, and many more; two pieces of ordnance, four barrels of powder, two harrels of matches, 400 soldiers, and arms for 500 men.

possession and fortified it, and it continued his head quarters during the greatest part of the war, notwithstanding an ineffectual attempt to regain it by sir Thomas Aston, and a regular siege which was laid to it by lord Byron. Of the occurrences which took place here, a minute account was written in the form of a Diary, by Edward Burghall, vicar of Acton, a zealous puritan, who was an eye-witness of the facts which he describes, and his quaint narrative is subjoined verbatim, except a few necessary omissions^a.

Burghall's "Providence Improved." Written 1622-63, and published at Here was taken sir Edward Moseley, a rich Lancashire baronet. They were all brought prisoners to Nantwich, with loss of less than ten on sir William's side, and not one captain or commander either slain or hurt. For which victory, which much weakened the army in Cheshire, was kept a solemn thanksgiving in Nantwich church the Wednesday after.

Sir William was sent for to the assistance of sir Edmund Gill and his forces near Stafford, which was taken and fortified by the king's troops (many papists being amongst them); and on Sunday, March 19th, was a hot and fierce battle fought between the Stafford forces (which were said to be 1,700 horse, but what foot I never heard), sir William's and sir Edmund's being far less in number, for the report was that the enemy was eight to one. It was fought on Salt-heath, two miles from the town. At first those of Stafford gave so fierce an assault, that they forced sir William and sir Edmund to retreat, took their ordnance, and killed fourteen common men; but the serjeant-major of sir William, a Scot, by name Lothian (who after in many battles did excellently with his foot-soldiers), rallied the dispersed troops, gave a fresh onset, regained the ordnance, slew the chief commander, the earl of Northampton (a great antagonist to lord Brook), brought his body away, took one Mr. Chamberlaine and some others prisoners, slew most of the captains and chief commanders, to the number of 60 (whereof captain Bagshaw was one), and 5 or 600 common men. They had the pillage of some of the dead. Upon this victory, sir William having driven the enemy into Stafford, returned to Nantwich on Thursday, March 23, with a great mortar-piece, many grenades, and other rich spoil.

1643. The week after, sir William, with most of his horse, went to Northwich, and in Easter week the Manchester men and he agreed to meet at Warrington, to gain that town from the earl of Derby, who had strongly fortified it, being there himself. On Monday, in Easter week, captain Arden and some other captains, with their companies, faced the town. The earl perceiving their strength but small (for neither sir William nor the Manchester forces were come up to them), issued forth with great strength into the Cheshire side, where the parliament forces were, slew some, took others prisoners, and had like to have routed them all, had not sir William with his forces come at the instant to their aid, which the earl perceiving (being on Stuckton heath, where the skirmish was) retired speedily into the town, having left some of his men; and towards the middle of the week, the Manchester forces being then come, sir William and they begirt the town about and fiercely assaulted it, having gotten Sankey bridge, a fair house of one Mr. Bridgeman's, and some of the outer walls, and within a short space were likely to get the whole. Which the earl perceiving, set the middle of the town on fire, protesting he would burn it all ere they should have it; which the parliament forces perceiving (seeing the fire increase), to save it from utter desolation, withdrew their forces, after they had been there three days, and so departed for that time.

Whitchurch was now filled with many soldiers for the king, of which the lord Capel was commander, who did much hurt by plundering the country, especially about Nantwich.

April 10th. They plundered captain Massey of the Moss-house, and took from him 60 head of cattle and some of his household goods, and horses from many others; which the Nantwich soldiers having intelligence of, pursued, hoping to have rescued them, but they came half an hour too late; yet they overtook some, and slew three of them, took eleven oxen, and some arms they threw away in flying, and brought back 15 prisoners, whereof young Bulkeley of Buntingdale was one.

The next day after, the Nantwich forces hearing the Whitchurch men, now grown strong, intended, with many carts, to fetch away all that was left at Mr. Massey's, raised almost all their strength, both horse and foot, about 1000, and marching towards Burleydam Chapel, met the enemy, who after a little skirmish fled to Whitchurch. They slew five, and took two or three prisoners, without the loss of one man, except three taken and carried off. About this time (Easter week) sir Richard Wilbraham died a prisoner in Shrewsbury.

The next week the Nantwich forces went and faced Chester, and when they came to Boughton they killed one of the guards, which greatly frightened the city, but they returned speedily.

On Tuesday morning, at break of day, the Nantwich forces went to Cholmondeley hall, where they were informed 400 of the army were billeted, whom they found ready to receive them. A fierce battle was fought; at last, the Nantwich forces, having slain and wounded many of

The earl of Clarendon observes that Nantwich was the only garrison which the Parliament had then left in Cheshire, and that from the beginning of the troubles

it had been the only refuge for the disaffected in that county, and the counties adjacent. He adds that the pride of late success, and the terror which the royal

them, drove them into the house, and so returned, many of their own being hurt and slain, with a booty of six hundred horses. The report was, that fifty or more of the enemy were slain in and about the house.

April 24. The cavalries from Whitechurch and Cholmondeley came near to Nantwich (their horse being then out of town), and took a great prey from Darfold, Acton, Ranmore, Sound, and all that neighbourhood; namely, all the cows and young beasts they could find, with horses and household stuff from many, to a great value, and carried all away with them, the Nantwich forces not daring to pursue them lest the town should be endangered, for they were in number 50 horse, besides divers foot-companies, and had given two alarms to the town two days together; but when sir W. B. with his horse, was returned, which was May 30, a considerable number of horse and foot went towards Whitechurch, and near the town took captain Morrice, a lieutenant, a quarter-master, and three or four common men, and brought them prisoners to Nantwich, with about sixty cows and young beasts.

About this time some horse and foot went out of Nantwich towards Drayton, where sir Vincent Corbet and some others of the king's party, to the number of 300, were beginning to entrench themselves and make works about the town; but they were prevented in that design; for the Roundheads suddenly surprized them, entered the town when they were in their beds, having neither guards nor scouts abroad, killed nine of them, took many prisoners, and horses, and arms, so that their foot-soldiers were on horseback, and many of them had three or four muskets or carbines a-piece, besides cloaths and other goods. There were taken three ensigns, four drums, and other weapons. Sir Vincent fled away in his shirt and waistcoat, leaving his cloaths behind him, which captain Whitney took, with all his money and his letters found in his pockets.

Here captain Kynaston and captain Sandford were slain on the king's side. After the Nantwich forces had thrown down their works, the enemy subdued, they returned home without the loss of any, or doing the townsmen any hurt. Three or four of the common men were shot out of the windows, but not slain.

May 15. Sir W. B.'s horse and dragoons gathered about Audley, and joining colonel Ridgley from Newcastle-under-line and Leek, on Friday morning, by three o'clock, they almost peaceably entered Stafford and took the town, all being in their beds, without the loss of a man, seized a great number of prisoners, whereof some were gentlemen of worth, and many captains; viz. Sneyd, Biddolph, Lee of Adlington, Bagot, Hunt, and Greswell, with many other commanders. Colonel Lane was slain.

May 17. Lord Capel with his forces, to the number of fifteen hundred, came near to Nantwich, almost to the end of Hospital street, and discharged against the town, which returning the like, slew some of his men and wounded others. They endeavoured to have planted four pieces of ordnance about Malpas field; but finding the town inconvenient, and the town-gunners flinging wild balls among them, between one and two on Thursday morning they returned to Whitechurch with shame, hurting no man; but they killed a calf of Mr. T. Mainwaring's, and broke barns for hay; on which the soldiers rhymed:

The lord Capel with a thousand and a half,
Came to Barton cross, and there they kill'd a calf;
And staying there until the break of day,
They took their heels, and fast they ran away.

At this time sir William Brereton, and all his horse, were at Stafford, from whence they came to Nantwich, and some forces out of Cheshire marched to meet the Manchester forces at Warrington. On Whitsunday, May 21, they planted ordnance, and beset the town around, played upon it, and it upon them, all that week, it being strongly fortified, and the soldiers behaving themselves bravely. But bread and other necessaries being scarce, on Saturday they came to a parley, when it was agreed the town should be rendered up, and that the captains and commanders should depart with every man his horse and pistols, and all the soldiers to pack away, and leave all their arms, ammunition, and provisions behind them. On Trinity Sunday Sir G. Booth, being lord of the town, entered it, and was joyfully entertained by the inhabitants. There were slain on the parliament side only four, and two of the town; wherein the mercy of God appeared.

On May 29, about twelve in the night, sir William Brereton, with his horse and foot in Nantwich, being eight hundred, marched towards Whitechurch, and got thither at three in the morning, and assaulted the town, which had in it about seven hundred horse and foot, who defended the town very stoutly; but it pleased God, after two hours' dispute, to deliver the town into their hands, with the loss only of one man, and two or three dangerously hurt, who died afterwards. He entered on the north side of the town, and many other streets being open, many of the town, the horse and soldiers fled; they took twenty prisoners, four good pieces of ordnance, many arms, much money, and brave apparel of the lord Capel's and other gentlemen, two covered waggons, many drums, one trumpet, and many horses, so that not a soldier returned but well horsed or laden with pillage, or both; they came to Nantwich

the same day about five o'clock in the afternoon; they left very much cheese, ammunition, and goods behind, for want of carts; and much bacon, malt, wheat, &c. which were fetched away the day after, upon fourteen carts and waggons, without opposition; they dealt friendly with the townsmen, taking little of their goods, only the enemies.

June 12. Four or five companies of dragoons went towards Holt, and being then the time of the fair, and coming into Farn unexpectedly gave them a great alarm, and frightened them not a little; from thence they went to Shockledge, whence they took ninety-eight beasts, oxen, and other cattle, with many horses, and returned safe at night to Nantwich; they plundered Mr. Leech's house at Carden, who was one of the arrays, and in shooting against the house, which opposed them, they killed a woman servant, and brought Mr. Leech and others prisoners to Nantwich.

June 13th. Sir William having been at Liverpool unloading a ship from London with ordnance and ammunition, came back with his troop, with many captains and commanders, and brought with him Dr. Byrom prisoner.

June 17th. J. Bostnck of Tattenhall, counsellor at law, and clerk of the council of war at Nantwich, being found guilty of adultery with one Alice Chetwood, in the minister's house, on the Sabbath-day, at the time of divine service, was adjudged to stand in the market-place, at the highest of the market, with a paper on his breast signifying his offence, which was executed accordingly; the whore, with another paper, standing by him.

June 20th. Nantwich troops, captain Bulkeley, and many other companies, went beyond Whitechurch to Hanmer, and further into the enemies quarters, where they were met by lord Capel and the Welch forces who had laid in ambush for them, and were all dispersed and scattered, many of them taken prisoners, and some slain, and many sore wounded; a lieutenant-colonel, and captain Sankey of sir William Brereton's horse, were taken prisoners. Some also of the other party were slain, and some commanders of special note. This was said to be the worst day's work the Nantwich soldiers did from the beginning of the war. Much about this time a number of horse came from Cholmondeley, then a garrison for the king, to Bunbury church, and burnt it; there being a congregation assembled to hear a funeral sermon, they aimed to take some Roundheads, especially me, but through God's mercy I escaped.

One Edward Moreton, drying some powder in his house which he said was to make an end of the Roundheads, burned his house, himself, and four of his children, with his goods; his wife, who had reproved him for his threatening speeches, thro' God's mercy escaped. He belonged to sir Edward Fitton.

July 17th. Sir William Brereton with his forces, assisted by some out of Staffordshire and Manchester, marched towards Chester: they set out in the evening, marching all night in hopes to have surprized them, and so to have taken their outworks early in the morning; but their design was discovered by letters sent privily from Nantwich that he would sit down before it in three days. The city was too strongly fortified for them to do any good at that time; besides he had intelligence that lord Capel, with the Shropshire forces, was come as far as Overton Madock for their relief; therefore he returned to Nantwich the Thursday following, having lost two men, and four wounded, but not mortally.

Friday, July 28th. Colonel Hastings's forces, about 400 horse, came from Lichfield and faced Stafford, lately won to the Parliament, and relieved them in the castle, which stood out. But colonel Greave's company issuing out against them, they fled into the castle; but not fearing so small a number, they very confidently went to dinner, when some of the castle spied sir William Brereton coming with about 1000, whom he had quartered the night before at Stone: they presently fled out of the castle, leaving the table covered with provision and some plates; they left too their muskets, arms, and all they had behind them, and they in Stafford did not know it till a boy discovered it: then entering the castle, they found good store of beer, hedding, and goods to a great value; there were slain colonel Greave's lieutenant, and others; they of the other side were not known.

August 3d. Lord Capel with about 3000 men came to Ranmore, not at once, but in different parties; at the first, two or three troops appeared, so Nantwich went confidently against them with the forces that were ready, sir William Brereton being then at Stafford: the enemy seeing this, brought up more of the horse that staid behind at Baddington-lane, and advanced towards them; but when the Nantwich men saw the enemy increase so, they retreated in time, without loss of any save one Richard Massey, and lieutenant Ashbury, who was slain by one of his own men by chance.

That night the enemy with all their ordnance, carriages, &c. lay quietly on Ranmore, and on Friday morning about six o'clock (there being a very thick and dark night) they set upon the town, on the side between March-lane and the Weaver; and being very near the walls

soldiers believed their names carried with them, led them before this place at the most unseasonable time of the year, but that "it cannot be denied *the reducing of that*

place at that time would have been of unspeakable importance to the king's affairs, there being between that and Carlisle no one town of moment (Manchester only ex-

before they could be seen by the townsmen, they fired very fiercely, and played mightily with their cannon, but did little hurt; the townsmen, out of their works, returned the like, both with ordnance and muskets. This hot work lasted till nine or ten o'clock, when the sun dispelled the mist; the enemy then perceived themselves to be too near their works, and so fled away apace, and they of the town followed them with shouting, and killed about forty of them, and wounded sixteen, and from that time Nantwich was quiet from the Lord Capel and his forces; only their frequent coming near it occasioned burning many houses, cots, and barns, that afforded them shelter; and that very night and the next day the garrison were employed in that business.

A report that Nantwich was besieged brought many of the allies out of Lancashire and Staffordshire, both horse and foot, to have aided the town, but the enemy being departed they returned back; among the rest, there came the Moorland dragoons as far as Haslington, Saturday August 5th, where they quartered that night; in their return they gave a strong alarm to Mr. Biddulph's house in Staffordshire, where was a garrison. This Biddulph was a great papist.

August 10th. Sir William Brereton being at Stafford, went with his forces against Mr. Giffard's house of Chillington, a garrison furnished with three great pieces of ordnance, and one set of drakes; they besieged it, and playing hard upon it two days, on Friday the besieged yielded, being sore battered, and not able to hold out any longer. The house was surrendered upon fair quarters given: they took Mr. Giffard, his two sons, a seminary priest, and above sixty others, and carried their prisoners to Stafford, and arms for 200 men, and store of ammunition, and all this with the loss of one man and a boy; sir William returned to Nantwich, and that night sir T. Middleton with all his forces, seven great pieces of ordnance, four cases of drakes, and above forty carriages of ammunition, came to him.

August 28th. 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, Wales, 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.

August 29th. Lord Capel and colonel Hastings, with other great forces, relieved Eccleshall castle, then in the keeping of the king's party, and carried in great store of provisions; but took the ladies and gentlemen, and chief captain, away with them, having pressed seven carts to carry off the goods and treasure; but some of the Stafford forces, being in garrison in Eccleshall town to assault the castle, fled into the church, whence they shot at them so fiercely, that they hindered their design for the present; and hearing that sir William Brereton and his forces, then at Stafford, were marching against them, they all fled away, with but little of the castle wealth; and carried the dead body of the bishop of Lichfield to the draw-bridge, thinking to have carried it off; but the flight and fear was so sudden and great that they left it behind, and almost all the money and plate, treasure, ammunition, and goods, having put in a new captain: Stafford forces seeing they fled, fell upon the castle with such violence and courage, that August 30, a breach was made upon the draw bridge, and part of the castle; upon which the new captain sounded a parley, and they came to terms, viz. that he and his soldiers should depart with their arms; so the castle was yielded up, with forty barrels of beer, great store of provisions, money, plate, and other wealth to the value of £10,000, which was all delivered to sir William Brereton, who returned with it to Nantwich, where he had left sir T. Middleton with his forces: they all continued there till Tuesday September 4th, when a great part of the army marched out, and were quartered in Blakenhall, Checkley, and Doddington; and on Friday, sir William Brereton and sir T. Middleton, with their forces, marched after them, with sir T. Middleton's ordnance and drakes, and they went that night to Drayton, and were billeted there and the adjoining towns, keeping their rendezvous till Tuesday after; they called in all the country to a general muster; and after the whole camp marched to Wem and fortified it, quartering their forces there and in the towns about.

Thursday. Captain Bromhall and some others came to Loppington, two miles from Wem, and were assaulted by the enemy, being about 2000; they kept them in play for awhile, but at last were forced to take the church; and before aid could come from Wem, the enemy fired the church, and by that means forced them out; and Captain Bromhall with his company and some others were taken prisoners; sir Thomas's lieutenant and some few more hurt, and three slain of the enemy; a son of the lord Killmorry's, a brother of sir Vincent Corhet's, and divers others were taken prisoners, and some slain. This skirmish lasted about two hours, the king's party being about 2000, the Parliament's not more than 600. Night coming on, the enemy sorely handled and scattered, fled, and Wem forces had the better.

Michaelmas-day. The train-bands of Nantwich hundred marched towards Wem, to aid the forces there; they lodged the first night at Drayton, and the second at Wem in safety, fortifying the town, many times sallying out, they gave alarm to Shrewsbury, provoking the enemy to battle, but they had no mind to it.

October 14th. Report came to Nantwich, that lord Capel, with 3,600 men, 140 carriages, great ordnance, and a mortar piece, was coming against them. On which sad news, the townsmen and many others, and a double guard, sate up all night, but heard no more of the enemy than that they were at Whitchurch, Combermere, Marbury, &c.

October 16th. About one in the afternoon, the enemy got to Acton with all the carriages, before any intelligence came to the town; when two companies of foot and some dragoons issuing out towards Acton, set upon the enemy, and drove them into the church, which they fortified for safety; some of them also took Darfold-house, where being sheltered, the Nantwich forces were fain to retreat, firing at them, as occasion served, over the wall. The enemy dispersed themselves into the fields, and down Henshall-lane to Beam-bridge, continually shooting at the town, but came not near the walls; which the townsmen observing, some few active men, of their own head, leaped over the walls with their muskets, and ran disorderly towards the enemy, firing one at another all that afternoon till night, when the enemy fled, both horse and foot, some slain, and eight or nine taken, and then all was quiet on both sides. At night, all the townsmen and countrymen that came in to the aid of the town, and a great number of horse and foot, watched carefully at the walls, expecting hourly when the enemy would assault the town, being so near as Acton and Darfold; and on Tuesday morning, when a great assault was feared, tidings came that the enemy were marched away; at first it was not credited, but it proved true; they marched off about midnight. That morning sir William, sir Thomas Middleton, and colonel Greaves, with almost all the army, save what they left for the security of Wem, came to aid Nantwich, not hearing of the enemy's departure. They presently sent forces after them, and brought in about 40 prisoners of the meaner sort; the best escaped. So they preserved the town without the loss of one man.

St. Luke's-day. Sir William hearing the enemy had besieged Wem, drew out the army and townsmen to relieve it; coming to Priest heath, they were informed the enemy had assaulted the town, coming up to the very walls, but were beaten off with great loss; colonel Wynn, captain Wynn, captain Ellis, captain Jones, and to the number of 100 being slain, the rest marched off to Shrewsbury; the Parliament forces followed and overtook them at Lee-bridge in the evening, for there they had pitched, and taken the ground to their own advantage. It began to grow dark, they then fired one upon the other, three were slain on the Parliament side, and fifteen on the king's, besides captain Chapman and some others taken prisoners. The royalists fled to Shrewsbury, and the Parliament forces to Wem, after they had pillaged the field. Next night they came to Whitchurch, and fined the town £200, to save it from plunder; and the next day came to Nantwich, all except some horse which went towards Chester. At Churton the forlorn hope took eleven prisoners before the rest came up. They pursued them towards Aldford, where they took captain Davenport, who had broke prison at Nantwich, lieutenant Hart, cornet Lees, cornet Mainwaring, cornet Healy, ensign Thorcroft, a quarter-master and a surgeon: captain Lee and his lieutenant were wounded but not taken, four men slain, and divers taken. On Saturday they were all brought to Nantwich, no Parliament-man either killed or hurt, only one Buckley was taken prisoner, staying behind his fellows to plunder in Aldford.

October 23d. Some of sir Thomas Middleton's troops went into Wales and fetched in sir Edmund Broughton from his own house at Broughton, and two of his sons, and brought them prisoners to Nantwich.

November 7th. Sir William and sir Thomas marched out of Nantwich towards Holt, then a garrison for the king. The first night they quartered at Woodhey and thereabout; the next day they advanced towards the enemy, and quartered at Barton, Stretton, and thereabout, where they had an alarm given them by the Holt soldiers, whom they drove back, and slew some of them, without the loss or hurt of a man.

The Lancashire and Cheshire forces joining, they set upon Holt about one o'clock in the afternoon, and won the bridge without the loss of a man; the enemy were supposed to be about 1000 horse, and 700 foot, who, upon taking the town and castle, fled; the Parliamentarians pursued them, and took captain Price, captain Jones, and lieutenant Salushury, prisoners. Sir William and sir Thomas having a considerable force in Holt, marched to Wrexham, where they quartered that night, and then marched farther into Wales, where the gentry and people submitting themselves, the army was much increased. Sunday Nov. 12, Chester forces issued out towards Tarvin (a garrison kept by captain Gerard for the parliament), but they were fought with at Stamford bridge, and kept from passing it; they skirmished all the afternoon, but then some soldiers

cepted), which declared against the king : and those two populous counties of Chester and Lancashire, if they

had been united against the parliament, would have been a strong bulwark against the Scots."

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.

The Parliament army stationed in Wales increased, and prospered exceedingly ; till hearing of great forces landed out of Ireland, both English and Irish, to the number of 2500, they all retired back to Holt, and Nov. 24, sent all their ordnance back to Nantwich, the whole army following ; the Nantwich forces to their own garrison, and the Lancashire going home ; no enemy appearing any where to disturb them.

It was a wonder they made such haste as not to relieve Hawarden castle, a strong hold, lately taken, only they left one Mr. Ince, an able and faithful minister, and about 120 soldiers in it, with little provision, and in great danger. It was also thought strange, that they should leave Wales, which in a manner was quite subdued a little before, and so many good friends who had come to them, were left to the mercy of the enemy.

Dec. 5. Hawarden castle was delivered up to the Chester forces on fair terms, though not in all performed ; for whereas the soldiers should have marched safely, it fell out, that they who marched towards Wrexham, were cruelly used by the Welsh, who beat and wounded some, and slew others, and took their cloaths from them. Dec. 5, Mr. Ince, and some of the rest, came after to Nantwich ; the day after six of the Irish over-ran them from Chester with their arms, and were entertained at Nantwich.

Dec. 13. A little before day, capt. Sandford, 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, upon a short parley, delivered up ; Steel and his men having liberty 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. 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.

Every day after, till Sabbath-day, they had alarms at Nantwich from the enemy ; on the Sabbath, at sermon time, they heard the enemy were advancing towards them, whereupon the captain, with the soldiers, and

serjeant-major Lothian, who led them, went out, and hearing the enemy were at Burford, a mile from Nantwich, they drew towards them, and before the foot could come up, they charged some of the enemy's horse, slew some and wounded others, and took some prisoners ; yet not without a great loss to the town, for major Lothian, a discreet and valiant man, was taken prisoner, and when the foot was coming up they fled ; yet that night gave an alarm to the town, which from the time of taking Beeston Castle had no rest, day or night, but were upon guard continually.

The enemy now drawing nearer to the town, spread themselves into Stoke, Hurleston, Brindley, Wrenbury, and all the country about, robbing and plundering every where ; till December 22 they passed over the river to Audlem, Hankelow, Buerton, Hatherton, and on Saturday they came to Bartomley (giving an alarm to the garrison of Crewe Hall) ; as they marched they set upon the church, which had in it about twenty neighbours, that had gone in for safety ; but the lord Byron's troop, and Connought, a major to colonel Sneyd, set upon them, and won the church ; the men fled into the steeple, but the enemy burning the forms, rushes, mats, &c. made such a smoke, that being almost stifled, they called for quarter, which was granted by Connought ; but when they had them in their power, they stripped them all naked, and most cruelly murdered twelve of them, contrary to the laws of arms, nature, and nations. Connought cut the throat of Mr. John Fowler, a hopeful young man, and a minor, and only three of them escaped miraculously, the rest being cruelly wounded. Christmas-day, and the day after, they plundered Bartomley, Crewe, Haslington, and Sandbach, of goods and cloaths, and stripped naked both men and women.

On St. Stephen's day the Parliament's army (leaving some to keep Nantwich) marched towards Middlewich, Holmes-Chapel, and Sandbach, and in Booth-lane met the enemy, where there was a great fight, but in the end the Parliament forces were worsted, and retired to Middlewich, the enemy following them and driving them quite away ; there the Parliament left their magazines and two hundred men that were slain and taken prisoners ; many were slain and wounded on the other side.

The royalists laid siege to Crewe Hall, where they within the house slew sixty, and wounded many, on St. John's day ; but wanting victuals and ammunition, they were forced to yield it up the next day, and themselves, a hundred and thirty-six, became prisoners, stout and valiant soldiers, having quarter for life granted them.

December 29. Four hundred of the royalists came back to Wrenbury and thereabouts, and so beset Nantwich round on that side, and the rest of their army in Wistaston, Willaston, and those parts, on the other side ; and January the 2d, they took Darfold-house without resistance, so that the town was now straightly begirt on each side *, and the inhabitants and soldiers were forced to guard their walls night and day. But Acton church was kept by the Parliament with a small company, captain

* The correspondence which took place between the besiegers and the garrison is given as follows in Partridge's History of Nantwich, as printed at Chester in a collection of tracts appended to Poole's reprint of the Vale Royal in 1778. From the reply to the second summons it appears that the defence of the town on the part of the Parliament during the absence of sir William Brereton was confided to the celebrated sir George Booth of Dunham Massey, afterwards distinguished for his exertions in behalf of King Charles II.

"To the Commanders, Soldiers, and Inhabitants of the town of Nantwich.

"That it may appear to all the world, that neither I, nor the army under my conduct, desire the blood or ruin of any (as we have been most falsely and maliciously scandalized in that behalf), but that our chief aims and endeavours are to reduce the people to their obedience to his majesty, and settle the country in peace without shedding of blood : I have thought good, before I engage myself upon the town, to let you know, 1st, That I do in his majesty's name charge and command you to deliver up the said town of Nantwich, with all the arms, artillery, ammunition, and other things therein, into my hands for his majesty's use ; and that all commanders, soldiers, and others, immediately lay down their arms and submit to his majesty's mercy. 2nd, I promise pardon to such as shall readily lay down their arms and submit, and shall give safe conduct to such as shall desire to go to their own houses in the country, and will protect both them and the inhabitants of the town in their persons and estates, except such as his majesty hath excepted. 3d, If you refuse these conditions, I shall, by God's help, use other means for the recovery of his majesty's rights, and vindicating of his and the country's wrongs ; whereby, if you and those many good people who are forced to be among you shall perish, both your own blood and theirs shall rest upon your own heads. I am content to allow you two hours for the return of an answer, and admit a cessation of arms till that time be expired. If you send two men of quality, the one a soldier and the other a town's-man, to treat with me (or such as I shall appoint), of the time and manner of the render of the town, I will give safe conduct and caution for their safe return. JOHN BYRON."

To this a verbal answer was returned, importing that the town was kept for the use of the king and the parliament, and by their special directions ; and that they were resolved to keep it against him and his forces so long as God should enable them. As soon as this answer was received, the cannonading the town began in a furious manner, not only with cold but hot hullets night and day ; yet so little execution was done, that only one man and one woman were killed, and a stack of kids, at the back of Mr. Wilbraham's house, burned ; although, on the 17th of January, they fired a hundred shot from one mount only against the town and its works. These vigorous measures not producing the desired effect, lord Byron was determined to storm the town ; but before he put his resolution into practice sent the following summons :

"To the Inhabitants and Commanders of the town of Nantwich.

"Whereas I am certainly informed, as well by divers of the soldiers who are now my prisoners, as by several other creditable persons, that you are not only in a desperate condition, but that the late summons I sent to the town hath been suppressed and concealed from the inhabitants thereof, and they most grossly abused, by being told that no mercy was intended to be shewed by this army to the town, but that both man, woman, and child should be put to the sword : I have therefore thought fit once more to send unto you, that the minds of the people with you may be dispossessed of that false and wicked slander which hath been cast upon this army ; and I do charge you (as you will answer Almighty God for the lives of those persons who shall perish by your perfidious dealings with them), that you impart and publish the said summons I sent to the people with you, and that you yield up the town of Nantwich into my hands for his majesty's use, and submit yourselves to his majesty's mercy, which I am willing to offer unto you. Though I am confident that neither of yourselves, nor by any aid that can come unto you, there is any possibility for you to escape

On the 18th of March following the raising of the siege, the garrison were alarmed by a predatory excur-

sion of royalists under colonel Marrow; but no serious attempt was subsequently made upon the place, which

Sadler being entrusted with it, who defended it against many assaults of the enemy, and shots of cannon; they killed the cannoneer out of the church, and five more.

January 4. The enemy besieged Doddington Hall, kept by captain Harwar, with a hundred and sixty men; they took it without resistance, though they had all necessaries for a fortnight, which the enemy got; Harwar and his men being sent off to Wem with their cloaths, not being allowed to go to Nantwich, which night and day they assaulted and harassed by their continual alarms.

Saturday, January 12. The besieged sallied out, and fetched in seven carriages, drawn with great oxen, and provisions in them, which so enraged them, that they fired Thomas Evenson's barn, Sabbath Church's lodge, and some others, and many stacks of hay.

About eleven o'clock at night the enemy planted a great piece of ordnance near Darfold House, and shot into the town many red-hot balls, one of which lighted into a rick of kyds in Mr. Wilbraham's hack-yard, which made a terrible fire, but through God's mercy, and the industry of many women, who were employed to quench it, not much hurt was done,

only the enemy shooting continually with their cannon, killed a daughter of John Davenport's, the first that was slain since the siege began. The besieged seeing many of the enemy sheltered in and about Mr. Minshull's house and barn, sallied out again, fired the barn, and a cote or two of Dutton's, which they burned to the ground, took two prisoners, and killed nine or ten; they brought in a woman too, who had ten half-crowns in her pockets, without the loss of a man.

The siege had now continued from December 13th to the middle of January, and the town wholly without supply of provisions, for no market could be kept, nor were any suffered to bring in any, yet there was no want of necessaries during the time.

January 16th. Some of each company issued out at the sconce in Mr. Mainwaring's back-yard, where the enemy were entrenched; they quickly entered their works, killed some of them, drove the rest away, and brought in cloaths, arms, and ammunition, with the loss of one Blackshaw. The day after the enemy shot against the town very much, and discharged their cannon ninety-six times, but did no execution at all.

* Thursday morning at break of day they strongly attacked the town on

the hands of this army. If you please to send two gentlemen of quality to me, the one a commander, the other a town's-man, whereby you may receive better satisfaction, I shall give safe conduct and hostages for their return. I do expect a present answer from you.

Jan. 16th, 1643.

JOHN BYRON."

To which the following answer was returned:

"We have received your last summons, and do return this answer; that we never reported, or caused to be reported, that your lordship or the army intended any such cruelty, we thinking it impossible for gentlemen and soldiers so much to forget humanity: and if any have informed you otherwise, it is their own conceit and no reality. Concerning the publishing of your former summons, it was publicly read among the soldiers and town's-men, as your trumpeter can inform you, and since that time multitudes of copies have been dispersed amongst the town's-men and others, and from none hath it been concealed or detained. For the delivery of this town; we may not with our consciences, credits, or reputations, betray that trust reposed in us for the maintaining and defending this town as long as any enemy shall appear to offend it. Though we be termed traitors and hypocrites, yet we hope and are confident, God will evidence and make known to the world in his due time (though for the present we should suffer) our zeal for his glory, our unfeigned and unspotted loyalty towards his majesty, and sincerity in all our professions.

"GEORGE BOOTH."

* The following extract from Partridge's History of Nantwich is more particular than Burghall's account, with respect to the assault and the relief of Nantwich, and it is therefore subjoined, together with the official dispatch from Fairfax to the earl of Essex. This extract agrees with Clarendon as to the royalists being divided when they were defeated, but differs in this point from Burghall and from the official dispatch, both of which agree in stating, that lord Byron's entire forces were collected at Acton.

"The assailants now, finding all their summonses disregarded, formed the resolution to attempt the capture of the town by storm; accordingly, the besiegers gave a general assault on the 18th day of January, from five different quarters at once, a little before day-break, on notice given to one another by a shot of one of their cannon, but were so warmly received by the garrison, that they were repulsed at every attack with great slaughter, and compelled to draw off with the loss of betwixt three and four hundred men; leaving dead, at the Wall-lane-end, lieutenant-colonel Bolton, one captain, and many officers, and the prime of their soldiers, of the red regiment. Many were cast into the river, and many others carried off dead and wounded. At Wicksted's Sconce (besides captain Sandford, mentioned before) were killed, his lieutenant and several soldiers, with many more carried off dead and wounded. At Pillory Street end left dead, one captain, two lieutenants, two ensigns, and seventeen common men of the green regiment, and sixty slain and wounded carried off. At the back of Mr. Manwaring's were killed two lieutenants and thirteen common men, besides many dead and wounded carried off. At the Sconce, near lady Norton's, one captain was killed and fifteen soldiers, besides the dead and wounded conveyed away; and there were taken prisoners by the garrison, eighteen officers and soldiers mortally wounded. Yet, notwithstanding the army suffered so greatly at this bloody attack, they still made good their siege, determined, if possible, to master the town, but success began now to forsake them; for this siege, hitherto protracted to a length which exhausted the patience of the assailants and baffled all their attempts, now drew towards a crisis. Fairfax, being victorious at Selby in Yorkshire, led a good body of horse hitherwards, and calling at Manchester, brought from thence and the neighbouring parts near 3000 foot, which being joined by sir William Brereton, who had left the command of the garrison to the next in rank, supposed to be the person who signed George Booth to the answer to lord Byron's second summons, and collecting the scattered forces of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, and the fugitives from the fight of Middlewich, his army becoming considerable by these reinforcements, determined him to attempt the relief of the town. Lord Byron had early intimation of his motions, but believing that his utmost design was to induce him to rise from before the town and to retire without fighting him; and prickt on by the success of his former exploits, became too confident and kept his posts too long, which in the end proved fatal to him. Yet resolutely waiting for Fairfax, a battle became unavoidable, the consequence whereof was a total defeat to the royalists, and the raising the siege of the town. One principal thing which contributed to lord Byron's defeat was, the inactivity of the horse, occasioned by the sudden thaw, which came on at this juncture, who, being confined in deep lanes with great and high hedges, were rendered incapable to sustain or relieve the suffering infantry. His troops occupying both sides of the Weaver, the thaw so swelled it, that it parted one body of his army from the other, which compelled him to fetch a compass of five miles about, in order to effect his junction with the separated corps. The experienced Fairfax took advantage of this incident, and (aided by a timely sally from the town) charged and defeated that body, which, before lord Byron could come to its relief, was entirely broken, and forced to take shelter in Acton church. Here they were soon compelled to surrender, being 1500 foot, with the cannon and carriages, besides a considerable number of officers, amongst whom was colonel Monk, afterwards a famous general, and the happy instrument of restoring king Charles II. Lord Byron, with all the horse and the rest of the foot, made good their retreat to Chester. I cannot quit the account of this memorable siege without taking notice of the great service and activity of the town's-women, headed by an heroine of the name of Brett, who defended the works with the utmost bravery, and did great execution on the 18th of January, when the desperate assault was given, by pouring hot brine upon the assailants, one of whom gaining the wall, too prematurely cried out, *the town is our own*. In commemoration of the raising the siege, which happened upon St. Paul's day, 1643, upon every anniversary of it, till of late, the inhabitants wore sprigs of holly in their hats in token of victory, and the day itself, upon that account, was called the Holly-Holy Day. Some remains of these earthen fortifications are still to be seen, which cost in constructing 335 pounds eight shillings and seven pence: a proof (it may be said) of the cheapness of labour in those days. I rather apprehend, the town and adjacent parts having been (as before was observed) cruelly and impolitely treated by lord Grandison, and dreading no doubt the same, or worse, from the army under lord Byron, did voluntarily and largely contribute to the construction of these works, both in labour and money." P. 616—19.

The following is sir Thomas Fairfax's letter to the earl of Essex, upon occasion of this victory:

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—I desire your pardon, that I have not given your Excellency an account before this, of the great mercy God hath shewed us, in giving us a happy victory over the Irish army, to the total ruin of their foot, and purchase of their chief commanders. Upon the 21st of January, I marched from Manchester towards Nantwich, to relieve that town, with 2500 foot, and 28 troops of horse: the enemies forces were above 3000 foot, and 1800 horse. The first encounter we had was with a party of theirs, upon the forest of Dclamere, where about 30 were taken prisoners; about six miles further they maintained a passage (Bar-bridge) against us, with about 200 men. I caused some foot and dragoons to be drawn out to force it, which, by God's assistance, they did in half an hour's space, and there took a major and some prisoners. Having advanced

continued to be the head-quarters of sir William until Chester and the rest of the county were subjected to the

arms of the Parliament. After this the place was dis-garrisoned, by order of the lieutenantancy, in Jan. 1646.

every side; and the soldiers and townsmen as stoutly defended themselves for an hour or more: very great valour was shewn on both sides, but at last the enemy fled away as fast as they could, leaving their scaling-ladders and wood-kids they had brought with them, some arms, and a hundred dead bodies behind them, whereof captain Sandford was one, who was killed upon the spot, where one of his firelocks was sore wounded and brought into the town, but died quickly. The town soldiers had the pillage of them all, and their arms, and lost but six common men. There was found in captain Sandford's pockets, when he was stripped, a paper containing the order of the assault for taking the town. The field word was, God and a good cause. A letter also was found upon him, dated January 13, in these words:

"To the Officers, Soldiers, and Gentlemen in Nantwich:

"GENTLEMEN,

"Let these resolve your jealousies about religion: I vow by the faith of a Christian, I know not one Papist in our army, and as I am a gentleman, we are not Irish, but true born English, and real Protestants born and bred. Pray mistake us not, but receive us into your fair esteem, and know we intend loyalty to his majesty, and will be no other than faithful in his service. Thus believe, from your's,

"T. SANDFORD."

Another was found, dated the 15th, viz.

"GENTLEMEN,

"Mr. Drum can inform you, that Acton church is no more a prison, but now free for honest men to do their devotion therein: wherefore be persuaded from your incredulity, and resolve: God will not forsake his anointed. Let not your zeal in a bad cause dazzle your eyes any longer, but wipe away your vain conceits, that have too long led you into error: loth I am to take the trouble of persuading you into obedience, because your erroneous opinions do most violently oppose reason among you; but, if you love your town, accept of quarter; and if you regard your lives, work your safety by yielding your town to lord Byron for his majesty's use. You now see my battery is fixed, from which fire shall eternally visit you day and night, to the terror of your old and females, and consumption of your thatched houses. Believe me, Gentlemen, I have laid by my former delay, and now am resolved to batter, burn, and storm you. Don't wonder that I write to you, having officers in chief above me; it is only to advise, because I have some friends among you, for whose safety I wish that you accept lord Byron's conditions, for he is gracious, and will charitably consider you. Accept of this as a summons, that you forthwith surrender your town; and by that testimony of your fealty to his majesty, you may obtain favour. My firelocks, you know, have done strange feats, by night and by day, and hourly we will not fail in our visits of you; you have not yet received my alarm, wherefore expect suddenly to hear from

"T. SANDFORD, Captain of Firelocks.

"From my battery and approaches before the Welsh Row."

The siege continued; things began to be very scarce, both for man and horse; many cattle being within the walls, for fear of plundering, wanted forage; a special Providence now appeared, for it pleased God, upon the thawing of the snow, the Weaver began to rise, and the enemy fearing the water would take down the platt, which they had laid over it a little below Beam-bridge, for their free passage to relieve one another:

Some two miles further, we found a good body of them planted about Acton church, a mile from Namptwich. We drew up within cannon shot, which sometimes played upon us, but without hurt, God be thanked. We there understood that the lord Byron, who had besieged the town on both sides the river, was prevented, by the overflowing of the water, from joining that party at Acton church; but heard that he was taking a compass to get over the river to join with it, we resolved to fall upon that party at the church before he should get up to it; but staying to bring up our rear and carriages, we gave him time to obtain what he sought for. Then we resolved to make way with pioneers through the hedges, and then to march to the town to relieve it, and to add some more force to ourselves, to enable us the better to fight with them; but being a little advanced on our march, they told me the enemy was close upon the rear; so facing about two regiments, being colonel Holland's and colonel Booth's, I marched not far before we came to be engaged with the greatest party of their army, then the other party presently after assaulted our front; there sir William Brereton and colonel Ashton did very good service, and so did colonel Lambert and major Copley with the horse. They were once in great danger, but that they, being next the town, were assisted with forces which came to their succour in due time. We on the other wing were in as great distress, but that the horse commanded by sir William Fairfax did expose themselves to great dangers to encourage the foot, though capable of little service in those narrow lanes; yet it pleased God, after two hours fight, they were forced by both wings to retreat to the church, where they were caught as in a trap. A list of what we took I have here sent your Excellency, &c. &c.

"I am your Excellency's most humble servant,

"THO. FAIRFAX."

"Namptwich, January 29, 1643.

A list of the prisoners taken at Acton church, January 25, 1643, near Namptwich.

Major-general Gibson. Colonels, sir Michael Earnly, sir Richard Fleetwood, Monk, and Warren. Lieutenant-colonels, sir Francis Butler, Gibbs. Major Hammond. Captains, Atkyns, Sydenham, Finch, Disney, Fisher, Cook, Ward, Dean, Lucas, Liteole, Betts, Spotswood, Banbridge, Willier. Lieutenants, Long, Norton, Roe, Pawlet, Goodwin, Liverson, Duddleston, Pate, Morgell, Lestrangle, Shipworth, Ankers, Billingsley, Castillion, Milner, Bradshaw, Walden, Lyons, Poulden, Smith. Ensigns, Brown, Brereton, Bach, Fines, Wright, Davis, Touchwood, Addisse, Smith, Mahoone, Rise, Deudsworth, Musgrave, Pemicoock, Dunsterfield, Elliar, Eiclash, Philips, Heard, Thomas, Morgan, Lewis, Godselue, Busby, Temingham, Witber. Cornets, Lee, Carpenter. Quarter-masters, Lee, Petty. Gentlemen of companies, 20. Serjeants, 41. Drums, 40. Corporals, 63. Cannoneers, 4. Colours, 21. Women, many of whom had long knives, 120. Common soldiers, 1560. Ordnance, whereof five were brass, 6. Carriages, 20. Divers waggons and rich plunder.

Besides these, sir Ralph Done, and the rev. Mr. Shurlock, a chaplain to a regiment, were taken prisoners; and lieutenant-colonel Vane was killed in the fight.

LOCAL DESCRIPTION.

The town of Nantwich is situated in a low flat country on the banks of the Weever, about twenty miles south-east of Chester. A very large proportion of its buildings are timber and plaister, with large bay windows and projecting stories. This kind of architecture gives an air of gloom, when introduced in masses in the narrow streets of a crowded town, and when in the lapse of time such buildings fall into the hands of the lower orders, their exterior becomes necessarily ragged and unsightly. There are, however, many respectable modern mansions of the more opulent inhabitants, in various streets of Nantwich; and in its outskirts and more open parts, where the antient timber buildings have trees and gardens around them, they assume an air which is pleasing and picturesque as well as venerable.

Beam Street, Hospital Street, and Welsh Row, are the three principal streets of the town: the first leading to Middlewich, over the common from which it derives its name. The Hospital Street, which is the London road, is so called from the hospital of St. Nicholas, said to have stood in or near it; and the Welsh Row extends over the bridge, in the direction of Chester and North Wales. At the end of each of these streets are *Alms-houses*, the objects and foundations of which are noticed in the parliamentary returns of charities. Those at the end of Hospital Street are of two stories, and have a stone gateway before them, and this inscription over the door of the alms-house:

Sir Edmund Wright, borne
in this towne, sole founder of
this almshouse a'no Dom. 1638.

Arms, Argent, a chevron between three bull's heads cabossed. Crest, a bull's head on a wreath.

On the alms-houses at the end of the Welsh-row are the arms of Wilbraham and the date 1613, and on those at the end of Beam-street is this inscription:

These almshouses were erected
in the year of our Lord 1767,
by
John Crewe of Crewe, esq.
in trust of the wills
of
sir Thomas Crewe, knight,
and sir John Crewe, knight.

There are also other alms-houses in Love Lane, supported chiefly by the benefactions of Mrs. Ermine Delves.

The Church is situated near the junction of these streets. In the churchyard is the *Free School*, an antient timber building, formerly the common hall of the guild of Nantwich, on a projecting part of which, bearing the date of 1611, is inscribed: "Ranulphus Kent, hujus scholæ gymnasiarchus, singulari suo in bonas literas amore, et summâ in natale solum pietate, hanc ipsam musarum sedem novo hoc adjecto ex suis ipsius impensis auxit et donavit."

This school-house, vesting in the Crown at the suppression of the guild, was purchased for its present purposes from queen Elizabeth. The benefactions to it, and to the Blue Cap School, are specified in the parliamentary return of charities.

Near the church is the *Town-hall*, which, with a ses-

sions-house over it, was erected in 1720 by George the Second (then prince of Wales and earl of Chester), at the expence of £600.

In the year 1737 part of the fabric fell down on a market-day, whereby nine or ten lives were lost, and many people were bruised. It was again rebuilt; but some years afterwards, while the justices were holding their sessions, a sudden crash from some cause unknown, alarmed the court, and many people were hurt in the confusion which ensued. The sessions were in consequence removed from Nantwich about the year 1760^a.

West of the town-hall are the Bridge over the Weever, and the site of the *Castle of Wich Malbank*, of which no vestige remains.

It is unnoticed in the plea of the coparceners of the barony, 15 Hen. VII.; and Mr. Partridge mentions, that about this time the south transept of the church was enlarged, under the sanction and with the assistance of the lord Audley, with "the remains of the town castle."

A *bridge* of stone was first erected over the Weever at this place, in 1663, at the expence of the county, for £90, including the old materials. Twenty-six years before, a former bridge had been destroyed, or much damaged by floods, and a timber one was then substituted, to "the discredit of the overseers and undertakers," according to the Wilbraham MSS.

The market of Nantwich is on Saturday, and held by prescription. The marquis of Cholmondeley has toll of cattle, roots, and fruit, and lord Crewe those of corn and fish. There are three fairs; March 26, September 4, and December 4. The second of these was granted (as a three days fair, for the eve, the day, and the morrow of St. Bartholomew,) to Robert Burnell, bishop of Bath and Wells, by Edw. I. in a charter dated at Aberconwey, in Snaudone, 9th May, anno reg. 11.

The manufactory of SALT at Nantwich is now inconsiderable, and is confined to one salt-work, which is worked at intervals.

In former times, the saltworks of Nantwich appear to have been of greater notoriety than any others in the county. Leland speaks of the single pit at Nantwich being more productive than those of the other wiches; and adds, "wherfore ther be at Nantwich a 111 hundred salters. At a distant period (as mentioned by Webb) the place had the British appellation of Hellath Wen, from the superior whiteness of the salt; and the resort of the Welsh here was so considerable, as to induce Henry III. to stop the works, in order to distress them. Fuller, speaking of a place in the Holy Land, where salt was made, calls it "the Nantwich of Palestine."^b

The saltworks of Cheshire are generally noticed in the introduction to this Work; but the following passage, in Partridge's History of Nantwich, relating to a local custom, is too remarkable to be omitted here:

"Enriched by the profits, and gratefully sensible of the benefits from the saline springs, which so copiously flow around Nantwich, every Ascension Day our pious ancestors sung a hymn of thanksgiving for the blessing of the brine. That ancient salt-pit called the old Biat (ever held in great veneration by the townspeople, and, if a tradition, not improbable, may be credited, worked before the entrance of the Romans into Britain,) was on that day bedecked and adorned with green boughs, flowers, and ribbands, and the young people had music,

^a Partridge's History of Nantwich; who also mentions, that two other towns in this county (Northwich and Knutsford) owe the erection of their town-halls to the munificence of the same king, when earl of Chester.

^b Communication of archdeacon Churton.

and danced around it; which custom of dancing and adorning the pit continued till a very few years ago^c.

NANTWICH was the birth-place of THOMAS HARRISON the regicide, of infamous notoriety in the annals of treason and fanaticism, said to be the son of a butcher of this town. Here, also, in 1545, was born JOHN GERARDE the herbalist, most probably a collateral descendant of some of the great Cheshire families of his name; and here also about the same time GEOFFREY WHITNEY, an English poet of the reign of Elizabeth.

An ample memoir of Gerarde is given in the Biographical Dictionary of Chalmers.

Whitney, according to Anthony Wood^d, was descended from the Whitneys of Herefordshire; but as the annexed reference^e proves him to be nearly allied to those of Coole in Acton parish, the remoter deduction may be questioned. He was educated at Audlem school^f, and probably at that of Northwich also^g, spent some time at Oxford, and afterwards removed to Leyden, where he published in 1586 his collection of Emblems, printed in the house of Christopher Plantin. About the same time he published a collection of fables or epigrams, illustrated like the former work, with a wood-cut in each leaf,^h some of which have considerable merit, but many of them are obscure in their design, and "almost all of them" are stated to be "copies of what had appeared in various publications, especially in Paradinⁱ."

The Choice of Emblemes (which according to the last cited authority^k, is probably the only English book which owes its existence to the matrices and puncheons of the immortal Plantin,) is indebted for its celebrity more to the beauty of its embellishments than its matter. The subjects are chiefly treated in couples of stanzas (but the form and length of the verses is varied occasionally), and some of them are inscribed to his relatives and friends. A specimen of one entire Emblem is subjoined from its connection with a subject mentioned in the preceding pages^l.

Webb, in his Itinerary, mentions six considerable houses, "at the ends of the several streets, the residences of the families of WILBRAHAM, MAINWARING, NORTON, CHURCH, MAISTERSON, and WRIGHT^m."

The MAISTERSONS, although they never appear to have possessed manerial property in Cheshire, or to have resided in any other seat than a burgage of Nantwich, were a family of high antiquity and importance, dis-

tinguished for military prowess, and connected by marriage with the best families of the county. The first of the family that is known to have settled here, was Robert Filius Magistri, or Masterson, temp. Edw. I.

Thomas Maisteron, grandson of this Robert, served Edward the Third in his French wars, and went into Spain with Edward the Black Prince, in his expedition for the restoration of Pedro king of Castile. "He fought in the vantgard with Jo. of Gaunt duke of Lancaster against the French, where sir Bertram de Cleaquin constable of France, and the marshall Dandrehen were, which part of the army was in the cruelst fight, notwithstandinge that Henry the Bastard that usurped, restored and staid his men thrise that day when they were on the point to fly. For the great valour of the sayd Tho. shewed that day, upon ther return to Burdeux, the duke of Lancaster did wyn the sayd Tho. to his service, and by indenture interchangably did bind him to serve him in the warrs, upon honorable termes, and honorable conditions, and to pay him yearly the sum of x*l*. per annum, out of his receipts of his honor of Halton."

On their return from Spain it was found "that the Prince was behind with him for his pay for himselph, his men at armes, and archers, the som'e of 2738 fortz of Gwyan gold, w^{ch} sayd money he could never be payd, although the prince appointed his recevors in Cheshire, John Sonde and Jo. Allen, to make payment thereof."

After this, in the reign of Richard the Second, he was made eschaetor of Cheshire, and again went over into Spain in the service of the duke of Lancaster, in his expedition respecting the crown of Castile. Subsequently his services were required by king Richard in a royal letter addressed to him on the subject of the disturbances fomented by the earls of Huntingdon and Salisbury, and the lord Spencer.

On the eve of the rebellion of the duke of Lancaster, the same Thomas Maisteron had invitations to join both parties, and siding with the duke, he fought on his part at the battle of Shrewsbury, "w^{ch} caused his house to be spoyled, and all his goods carried away by the lord Percie's servantes, for which afterward he was a petitioner to the K. H. IV. Lastly, he received his pension of x*l*. p^r an. of K. H. 5. of whom he was greatly esteemed for the service done to his father and grandfather. He lived in the last yeare of K. H. 5, so as I conceave he was livinge in the beginninge of H. 6. his raigne. I gather by this his great age, for he served E. 3, the

^c Partridge's History of Nantwich, published 1774, reprinted in Poole's History of Cheshire, vol. II. 608.

^d Vol. I. 527. edit. Bliss.

^e P. 91. *ad Agnatum suum R. W. Coolensem*. Other inscriptions are "To his brother Mr. Br. Whitney, 88. Ad affinem suum R. E. medicum insignem, 90. Ad D. H. Wh. patruelis mei f. 92-3. To his sister M. D. Colley, 93. Ad Ra. W. 94. To his father M. Geoffry Whitney, 164. To his uncle Geffrey Cartwrighte, 166. To his kinsman M. Geffrey Whitney, 181. To his nephew Ru. Burrton, 191." These references are taken from the original, but the same are accurately given in archdeacon Churton's life of Nowell, p. 289.

^f P. 172. Ad juventutem scholæ Aldelemensis in Anglia.

"For what I would unto myself should chauce,
To you I wish, wheare I my prime did spend."

^g One of his Emblemes is dedicated to Stephen Lambert, "Scholæ Nordovicensis Magistro;" but this man, who was probably his tutor, *might* have been previously master of Audlem school.

^h Wood, edit. Bliss as before.

ⁱ Dibdin, Bihliog. Decameron, I. 275.

^k *Ibid*.

^l To my Countremen of the Namptwiche in Cheshire.

Device, a phœnix surrounded by flames.

The Phœnix rare, with fethers freshe of hewe,
Arabia's righte and sacred to the sonne;
Whome other birdes with wonder seeme to vewe,
Dothe live untill a thousand yeares be ronne:
Then makes a pile, where when with sonne it burnes,
Shee flies therein, and soe to ashes turnes.
Whereof behoulde another phœnix rare,
With speed doth rise most beautiful and faire:
And thu for truthe this manie doe declare,
Yet thereunto I meane not fur to sweare:
Although I knowe that aucthors witnes true,
What here I write, both of the oulde and newe;

Which when I wayed, the newe, and eke the oulde,
I thought upon your Towne destroyed with fire:
And did in minde the newe Namptwiche behoulde,
A spectacle for anie man's desire:
Whose buildings brave, where cinders weare but late,
Did represente (me thought) the phœnix fate.
And as the oulde, was manie hundreth yeares
A towne of fame, before it felt that crosse:
Even so, (I hope) this Wiche, that now appeares,
A phœnix age shall laste, and knowe no losse,
Which God vouchsafe, who make you thankfull, all,
That see this rise, and saw the other fall.

Black Prince his sonne, John of Gaunt D. of Lancaster his bro', Rich. the 2, H. 4, H. 5, and saw the entrance of K. H. 6."ⁿ

Richard Maisteron, son of this warrior, was seneschall to the earl of Exeter, for his manors of Adderley and Sponley.

To the exertions of another representative of this house Nantwich was mainly indebted for its restoration from the consequences of a tremendous conflagration in the sixteenth century, as has been elsewhere mentioned. Another of the family was slain at Floddon, where his son was taken prisoner; and later branches distinguished themselves in the civil wars of the seventeenth century. These, and other particulars, are detailed in the pedigree

annexed, which is continued to the present time, from such information as the parish registers and local information could supply. Several memorials of the family will be found among the monumental inscriptions.

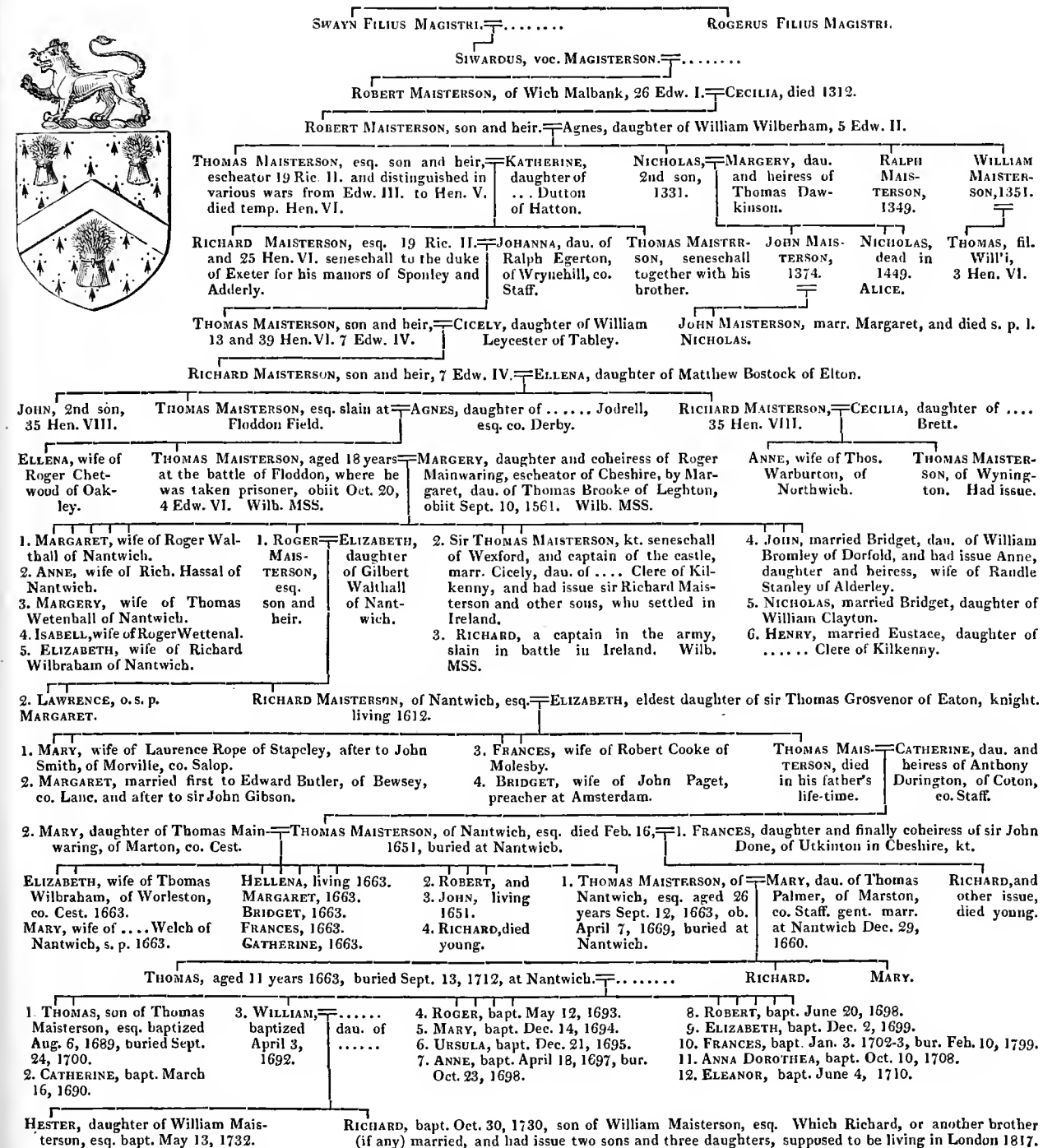
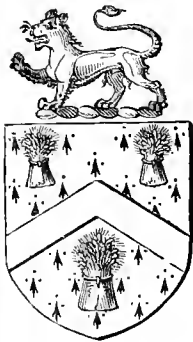
In the inquisition after the death of Thomas Maysertson, gent. June 24, 1 Jac. I. portions of his lands in Nantwich are stated to be held severally from the King (as earl) in cap. and from the coparceners of the barony of Wich Malbank; but his "capital message," (now taken down,) with a mill, a dovecote, and 206 acres of various kinds of land in Nantwich, val. x.l. is stated to be held from the king in socage, by fealty, as parcel of the estates of the dissolved priory of Trentham.

MAISTERSON OF NANTWICH.

From Harl. MSS. 2119, the Visitation of 1663, and the parish Register.

ARMS. Ermine, a chevron Azure, between three garbs Or.

CREST. On a wreath, a tiger passant Argent.



ⁿ This notice of Thomas Maisteron is abstracted from memoirs of the family by Thomas Maisteron of Nantwich his descendant. Harl. MSS. 2119, 42 b.

Two branches of the MAINWARING family settled in this town. One of these descended from William Mainwaring, fifth son of Ralph Mainwaring of Carincham, and the other from Peter, base son of William Mainwaring, a younger son of William Mainwaring of Peover by Jane Praers. The latter of these lines ended in an heir general, married to Edward Dod of Edge. Pedigrees of both lines will be found in Harl. MSS. 1535, and various sepulchral memorials among the following church notes.

The NORTONS became extinct in the seventeenth century, and their estates passed probably by bequest to the Dods of Edge, and were afterwards alienated by that family. The exact connection does not appear, but the following Church notes mention baron Dod, his wife (the heiress of the branch of the Mainwarings above-mentioned), and the lady Norton, as being buried in one grave about 1640.

The WRIGHTS are noticed under Mottram Andrew, in Macclesfield Hundred.

The WILBRAHAMS of Nantwich branched out from the original stock about the beginning of the sixteenth century, in the person of Randolph, second son of Thomas Wilbraham of Woodhey. From this house descend the younger lines of Lathom, Rode, and Dorfold, the particulars of which are given in the pedigree annexed to the account of Delamere Lodge in Cuddington, the present seat of the representative of this family, George Wilbraham, esq.

In the possession of the family is a curious series of journals commenced by Richard Wilbraham of Nantwich, who died in 1612, and continued regularly to the time of his great great grandson, who died in 1732. As a genealogical document, such a memorial is invaluable, and it contains many curious incidental notices of passing events, and of minute particulars relating to the town of Nantwich, of whose rights the Wilbrahams of Townsend were the never-failing and active guardians.

One of the entries gives an account of the royal visit of James I. not materially differing from that inserted in Webb's Itinerary. The King arrived at Nantwich on his return from Scotland, Aug. 25, 1617, and was received by Mr. Thomas Wilbraham at Townsend, where he lodged one night with his retinue, including the duke of Lenox, lord steward of the King's household; the duke of Buckingham, master of the horse; the earl of Pembroke, lord chamberlain; and divers other lords and knights. The following day he visited the church and brine-pit, as noticed by Webb, and after dinner proceeded to Gerard's Bromley.

The same Thomas Wilbraham was sworn an esquire of the body in 1628, and in 1639 was summoned by the lord chamberlain to attend his Majesty in his journey to Scotland, and to come to York, where the court was, in such equipage as befitted his place. He was then sworn a gentleman of the privy council extraordinary, and attended the king to Edinburgh, where a temporary pacification was concluded.

In the next year the earl of Strafford, lord lieutenant of Ireland, and his suite, were entertained at Townsend.

"The said Thomas Wilbraham lived to see the beginning of the war which broke out, and having had a taste of the troubles that ensued, being made a prisoner in his own house for refusing to lend monies to carry

on the war against his sovereign king Charles, whose sworn servant he was; being set at liberty, he retired into Sussex, where he spent some time with his kind friend, sir Robert Pelham, bart. in his house at Hal-land, where he died of a fever 1643, 18 Oct. his elder son Thomas being then in France."

Roger Wilbraham, second son, and finally heir of Thomas, was nominated one of the knights of the intended order of the Royal Oak at the Restoration, and married Alice, daughter of Roger Wilbraham of Dorfold. His two eldest sons by this marriage died in 1675, in the 19th and 16th years of their age. On the anniversary of their decease, their mother, after spending the day in prayer in her closet, retired to rest apparently well, and almost instantly expired. In consequence of this domestic affliction (which is told in his journal with affecting simplicity), Mr. Wilbraham erected his alms-houses, as a monument to the memory of his departed lady, on his return home three months after her decease, and endowed them for six widows, who took possession on the eve of the Virgin next afterwards. Similar feelings, two centuries before, would have led to the endowment of an altar at Combermere.

On the 11th of August 1759, the celebrated sir George Booth, then in arms to restore king Charles the Second, fixed his head quarters at Townsend for one night. On the Monday following, and the two next days, it accommodated major-general Lambert and his officers, marching with their forces in pursuit of him.

The house of Townsend, of which a small portion is yet standing at the end of the Welsh Row, appears from these remains to have been a lofty and spacious edifice of brick, with large bay windows, surrounded with numerous outbuildings of timber and plaister, and gardens with high walls of brick, ornamented with stone carvings of armorial bearings and grotesque devices. The Wilbraham MSS. fix its erection in 1571⁵.

Several memorials of the family of CHURCH of Nantwich, will be found among the following monumental inscriptions. Thomas Church, Principal of Brasenose, and author of several works, of whom a life is given in Chalmers' Biographical Dictionary, was probably of this family. Their pedigree is given in Dugdale's Visitation of Cheshire 1663-4, with the arms as depicted on their monuments; and another pedigree, compiled from the information of Saboth Church, vicar of Tarvin, is preserved in Harl. MSS. 2119.

Branches of various other county families had residences in this town, which are not noticed by Webb. Among these were the CREWES and WETTENALS, whose pedigrees will be found in the account of Crewe and Hankelow; a branch of the HASSALS, descended from the manerial lords of that township; the BEBINGTONS of Chorley, and the WALTHALLS of Wistaston, whose house was destroyed in the civil wars. In Harl. MSS. 2153. is a pedigree of the family of COMBERBACH of Nantwich, brought down to Roger Comberbach, aged 22 years 1688, apparently the same with Roger Comberbach recorder of Chester, and a Welsh judge, author of several legal works.

The WICKSTEDS of Nantwich, who enjoyed considerable property in this neighbourhood, are deduced, in the following pedigree, from the eldest house of their name, the Wicksteds of Wicksted, in Marbury chapelry.

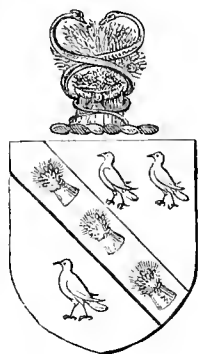
⁵ In the Inquisition after the death of Richard Wilbraham of Nantwich, Oct. 23, 11 Jac. I. one moiety of this mansion is stated to be held in common and free burgage, and the rest to be held by military service from the king in capite. The rest of the Inquisition particularizes estates in Wich Malbank, Acton, Bechton, Sound, Baerton, Newton, Fadley, Brindley, Somerford Radnor, Walgherton, Hatherton, Blore, Henhull, and Leighton; obiit Feb. preceding. Thomas Wilbraham grandson and heir.

WICKSTED OF NANTWICH.

From the Heralds' Visitation of the county palatine of Chester anno 1613, with a continuation of the same extracted from the records of the College of Arms, Oct. 11, 1815.

ARMS. Argent, a bend Azure (charged with three garbs Or) between three crows Sable, beaked and legged Gules.

CREST. On a wreath two serpents proper, issuing from and twining round a garb Or.



JOHN WICKSTED, a younger son of Wicksted of Wicksted, temp. Hen. VIII. — ANNE, daughter of Henry Bradford.

HENRY WICKSTED, son and heir, married Mary, daughter of Henry Hassal of Hankelow. THOMAS. ELIZABETH, wife of William Kent. MARGARET, wife of Kymer. CECILY, wife of John Rutter.

HENRY WICKSTED, second son, married Ellen, daughter of John Rutter, by whom he had Henry, who married Anne, daughter of Lewis Ap Preece, Eleanor, and Elizabeth. RICHARD WICKSTED, of Nantwich, in the county palatine of Chester, gent. born 1543, purchased the Weaver meadows and other property there of Thomas Bromley, which were, inter alia, settled by his son and heir, Richard Wicksted, as a jointure upon Lucretia Yonge on her marriage with Richard Wicksted, grandson of the purchaser, by indenture dated Nov. 29, 12 Car. I. 1636. Administration of his effects granted to Ric. Wicksted his son, at Chester, Oct. 22, 1623. MARGARET, dau. of Roger Walthall. Her will (in which she is described of "Wich Malbanke, widow,") dated March 13, 1626, proved at Chester Ap. 12, 1629, by the sole executor Ralph Wicksted.

MARY, dau. of William Browne of Namptwich. RICHARD WICKSTED, of Nantwich, gent. eldest son and heir, settled his lands 1636, preparatory to the marriage of his son Rich. Wicksted, bur. at Nantwich April 21, 1681. JANE, living 1636. JOHN WICKSTED, 2nd son, living 1626, married daughter of William Browne. 3. THOMAS WICKSTED, of Shrewsbury, died 1623; marr. Eleanor, daughter of Rowland Langley, of Salop, living 1626. Had issue. 4. RALPH WICKSTED, of Nantwich, living at the date of the settlement, 1636. 5. ROBERT WICKSTED, named in the will of his mother 1626, and administrator to his brother Ralph Oct. 9, 1638, mar. Margaret, dau. of the rev. Thomas Elcock. ELIZABETH, wife of Ralph Huxley 1613, named in the will of Margaret Wicksted 1626. living 1626. ANN, living 1613, wife of William Judson 1626.

MARGARET, et. 2, 1613. RICHARD WICKSTED, of Nantwich, gent. son and heir apparent, born after the heralds' visitation in 1613, party to a deed Oct. 17, 1642, containing a further settlement of lands upon his wife Lucretia, and in which settlement he is described "Rich. Wicksted of Wich-Malbanke the younger, gent." died before Sept. 1, 1673. LUCRETIA, dau. of John Yonge, of Pembly, co. Salop, gent. settlement before marriage dated Nov. 29, 1636, described as the "relict of Rich. Wicksted, late of Wich-Malbanke, alias Namptwich, gent. deceased," in an assignment of part of her jointure to her son Thomas Wicksted, dated Sept. 1, 1673; party to the settlement after the marriage of her son, Thomas Wicksted, with Susanna Haycock, dated April 2, 1675; buried at Nantwich Dec. 11, 1690.

JOHN WICKSTED, 1642, died before April 3, 1675. THOMAS WICKSTED, of Nantwich, gent. named in the settlement 1642, party to the assignment 1673, settled his lands after marriage with Susanna Haycock, by indenture of April 2, 1675, bur. at Nantwich Nov. 26, 1701. SUSANNA, daughter of . . . Haycock, marr. 1675, bur. at Nantwich Feb. 24, 1685. RICHARD WICKSTED, of Mickley, in the co. pal. of Chester, gent. described as younger brother of Thomas Wicksted in the settlement of April 3, 1675. ELEANOR, only daughter, unmarried April 3, 1675.

THOMAS WICKSTED, of Nantwich, gent. baptized there Ap. 11, 1683, killed by a fall of his horse, and was buried at Nantwich July 7, 1707. KATHERINE, daughter of Samuel Watkiss, of Aston, co. Salop, gent. articles before marriage dated May 26, 1705, married at Wem, in the said county of Salop, May 27, 1705.

THOMAS WICKSTED, of Nantwich aforesaid, gent. posthumous son, baptized there March 4, 1707-8, buried there Jan. 11, 1769. GRISEL, daughter of Charles Fletcher, of Whitchurch, co. Salop, esq. by his wife daughter of Ralph Thicknesse, of Balterley, esq. and of Bridget, one of the daughters of sir John Egerton, bart. (N. B. Upon the death of her brother, John Fletcher, of Lichfield, esq. without issue male, the manor of Wigland, and other property in the co. of Chester, vested by settlement in her son Thomas Wicksted) buried at Nantwich Aug. 21, 1784.

THOMAS WICKSTED, of Nantwich, esq. bapt. there April 3, 1732, marr. Anne, eldest dau. of John Bennion, of Chorlton, co. Cest. died without issue Jan. 27, 1814, bur. at Malpas, will dated July 16, 1803. RICHARD WICKSTED, baptized at Nantwich Feb. 2, 1743; remarried to Margaret, daughter of Joseph Richardson of Beeston. ANNE, dau. of Samuel Gerrard, of Moreton Say, co. Salop. GRISEL, s. p. ELIZABETH, baptized at Nantwich Dec. 18, 1735, marr. to Simon Horner of Hull Feb. 12, 1772. Had issue a son and a dau. both died s. p. MARY, bapt. Feb. 17, 1736, and bur. Nov. 17, 1752, s. p. FRANCES, bapt. at Nantwich July 5, 1739, married there July 4, 1771. WILLIAM JOLLIFFE, of Hull in the co. of York.

MARTHA, wife of James Swan, of Wavertree, co. Lanc. esq. marr. at Cbildwall, has issue James Wicksted Swan, esq. B.A. of Trinity College, Cambridge; and Mary Anne, living unmarried 1815. MARY. GEORGE TOLLET, of Betley Hall, in the county of Stafford, esq. FRANCES, only surviving child and heiress. THOMAS JOLLIFFE, died young.

CHARLES TOLLET, only son, born Oct. 22, 1796: by royal license dated March 25, 1814, he and such of his issue as may hereafter succeed to the estates devised by the will of his maternal great uncle Thomas Wicksted, of Nantwich, esq. are authorized to take and use the surname and arms of Wicksted only. PENELOPE MARGARET TOLLET, born Oct. 1, 1797. FRANCES ELIZABETH, born July 3, 1800. ELIZABETH, born June 29, 1802. MARIANNE, born Nov. 15, 1804. GEORGINA, born Feb. 27, 1808. ELLEN, born May 29, 1812. CAROLINE, born Ap. 27, 1815.

PAROCHIAL CHAPEL (OR PARISH CHURCH) AND OTHER ANTIENT RELIGIOUS FOUNDATIONS OF NANTWICH.

Several ecclesiastical establishments are to be noticed in this township. The Chapel of St. Mary of Wich Malbank, (with its Chantries of St. George and St. Mary) afterwards considered a parochial chapel, and now a parish church—The Chapel and Hospital of St. Nicholas—The Chapel and Hospital of St. Lawrence, with the Chantry of St. James—The Chapel of St. Anne, and a

reputed Cell of Combermere called the *Priory*. Before 1130 Acton church was given to Cumbermere abbey, with its Chapel of Wich Malbank, mentioned by name in the foundation charter of Hugh de Malbank of that date as a chapel, and also stated to be such in the subsequent confirmation by earl Randle himself. The church of Acton is mentioned cum capell', in

the Ecclesiastical Taxation of 1291, but the "Capellæ" are not noticed by name. Twenty years before this an ordination of the vicarage of Acton had taken place (given in p. 184), in which Wrenbury and *Wich Malbank* are expressly mentioned as *Chapels*, in the latter of which the vicar was to maintain a chaplain and clerk, and to receive all oblations.

In Dugdale's *Monasticon*, II. 914, is a charter of Hubert archbishop of Canterbury, ratifying Baldwin's confirmation of William Malbank's grant to Combermere, of "*ecclesia de Actona, de Rametwico, de Sandona, et Alstonefield.*" Rametwico is decidedly a clerical error of Dugdale or his transcriber.

In Tanner's *Not. Mon.* is a reference to Le Neve's MSS. for a charter of Richard bishop of Coventry (and a ratification by the chapter of Coventry) granting a license to Combermere abbey to appropriate *ECCLESIAS de Actona, de NAMTOWICO, de Sandona, et Alstonesfield.*

In the general ecclesiastical valuation, 26 Hen. VIII. there is *no notice of Wich Malbank among the Parish Churches*; neither in the survey of Acton is there any notice of Wich Malbank as a Chapel; but after the account of Aldelym vicarage, though this *chapel* is itself omitted, there occurs the following survey of a Chantry within the *Chapel*^a.

Cantaria in *Capella Wici Malb'i.*

Will'm's Wright capellanus ib'm. Valet clare in denarijs eidem capellano celebranti pro anima Rogeri Praers defuncti et antecessorum suorum fundatorum ejusdem cantarie, per annum vijl. vjs. viijd.

Inde solv. pro obitu dicti Rogeri capellani clericis et alijs pauperibus juxta fundationem ejusdem cantarie xxvjs. viijd. Et rem. clare vjl.

x^{ma} inde xijs.

In the pension roll of 1556, the priests of the Chantries of St. Nicholas and St. Laurence are described as being in *Acton*, which can of course only imply within that *parish*, as they were certainly in the *vill* of Nantwich.

William Smith (temp. Eliz.) instancing the market towns of Cheshire, "*which although they have fair churches of themselves, yet are they accounted but Chapels,*"

adds, "*as Nantwich is in Aighton parish.*" (see vol. I. p. 110); and Webb, in his preceding Itinerary in this hundred, writing about 1625, states the same to be "*claimed by the parishioners of Acton, a great parish-church within a mile of it, as it were but a Chapelry of that church.*"

In 1673, sir Peter Leycester enumerates among the parochial chapels of Nantwich hundred, "*Nantwich within Aghton parish.*"

Four years after this, Gabriel Stringer was instituted to Nantwich as to a parish-church, "*et admissus in Curatum perpetuam ejusdem ecclesie.*" The practice has since been continued, but the succeeding incumbents have been termed Rectors in the institutions.

It is observable that bishop Gastrell, who notices in his MS. *Notitia* (written in 1722), that Stringer's institution to Nantwich as "*a parish church,*" is the first that occurs, remarks that it had been "*lately*" considered a "*parochial chapel.*"^b

The patronage of the church is vested in lord Crewe. In the *Notitia Cestriensis* of bishop Gastrell the value of the living is described to be £27. 3s. 4d. which differs from his enumeration of items, viz. £4. 13s. 4d. reserved out of the Easter roll belonging to Mr. Crewe; dwelling house and garden £3.; house given by Mr. Sparks 10s.; left by Mrs. Anne Smith £1. compensation for tithe hay in Alvaston, £2. tithe pigs, geese, hemp, and flax; £5. left by Roger Wilbraham for reading prayers on Litany days; fees, £10.; twelve lead wallings, not to be certainly valued; yearly contributions about £8.

In a further part of his account the bishop adds, "*An. 1719. Mr. Crew, Mr. Bromhall, Mr. Wilbraham, and others, contributed £200. towards the augmentation: the three gentlemen each £50.*" This sum and the augmentation were expended in purchasing the tithes of Alvaston, and of that part of Willaston which lies in Nantwich parish.

The return of small livings made to the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, Feb. 13, 1809, printed by order of Parliament, states the living of Nantwich to be *not* augmented or charged, and of the yearly value of £106. 3s. 9d. arising from tithes, composition for tithes, surplice fees, stipend, rents, and official house.

^a Communicated by John Caley, esq. It was probably the same with the Chantry called St. Mary's Chapel, in the north transept, q. v.

^b These circumstances are more fully noticed, in consequence of pains having been taken (in Partridge's History of Nantwich) to disprove the fact of Nantwich having ever been a dependency of Acton. No entire original evidences are there adduced; but Mr. Partridge asserts that lands were given, before the time of Richard II. by Robert, son of Robert de Hextal, "for the health of his soul and those of his friends, Deo et beatæ Mariæ, et Ecclesie beatæ Mariæ de Vico Malbano, for the maintenance of a perpetual priest to say service in the said church, the said priest to be elected by him and his heirs, cum concilio et consensu totius parochiæ." Of another deed, "proving Nantwich Church to be a parish church, and not a chapel," he gives a translation, from which it appears only that William Rudduck and William Lynch, stewards of the guild of Wich Malbank, on Jan. 8, 1461, admitted William Howe and Sybill his wife, in consideration of their having "munificently contributed to the maintenance of the guild aforesaid, and six priests daily to officiate in the church of the blessed Mary, in Wich Malbank aforesaid, for their brethren and sisters, alive and dead"—"to the participation of all the masses which in the said church shall be celebrated, &c." In Harl. MSS. 2074. 166. a. is a copy of the deed, translated by Partridge; and in the same page another deed, not noticed by him, by which Randle Wode of Wich Malbank, and Margery his wife, as executors of the will of Thomas de Bickley, alias Wright, who was executor of the will of David Bickley carpenter, grants a third part of a burgage and salt-work in Nantwich to Randle Crue and Richard Pikton, "p'positis eccl'ie b'ie Marie Wici p'dic." The originals of these copies are stated to be in the possession of Mr. Wilbraham of Nantwich.

From these documents nothing can be collected beyond the fact of the endowment of chantry priests in a religious building, to which, in these deeds, as well as in the instances mentioned in the text, the term "*ecclesia*" may have applied in a loose general sense, and not in a strict meaning as "*Ecclesia per se*" in contradistinction from *Capella*. Nor does it appear that the words "*totius parochiæ,*" in the first deed quoted by Partridge, have any meaning distinct from that of the parish in which that building was situated, viz. Acton. Mr. Partridge further adds: "*'Tis not probable that a church almost as large as a cathedral, that had a dean and six priests belonging to it, that had a right of sepulture and the Sacraments, should be a chapel of ease to another, in whose jurisdiction or deanery that other lay.*" It is unnecessary to say that the size of the building, and the number of endowed altars for chantry priests, are irrelevant to the question, and that the right of burial was granted to many chapels of the county. With respect to the jurisdiction of the deanery of Wich Malbank extending over Acton Church, Mr. Partridge has fallen into an error of almost ludicrous grossness. The Deanery of Wich Malbank (the extent of which will be ascertained by referring to vol. I. p. 83.) was one of the rural deaneries of the diocese, not the deanery of a collegiate foundation, as Mr. Partridge absurdly supposed; and he might with equal justice have contended that the chapel of Macelesfield was an independent parish church, and not included in Prestbury, from the circumstance of that township giving name to a rural deanery, to which Prestbury and other parishes were subject.



F. De Witt delin.

Land. Pub. Marsh's Rev. by Longman, A. C.

NANTWICH CHURCH.

W. Woodford, Calc.

MINISTERS OF THE CHAPEL (OR CHURCH) OF ST. MARY OF WICH MALBANK,
CALLED IN LATER INSTITUTIONS RECTORS OF NANTWICH.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1550, March 6.	Richard Egerton. John Blythe. Richard Jackson ^b .	The King.	Res. of Richard Egerton.
1677-8, March 19.	Gabriel Stringer ^c .	John Crewe, esq.	Death of Rich. Jackson.
1690, Aug. 28.	Peter Lancaster, A. M. ^d	Anne Crewe Offley.	Death of Gabriel Stringer.
1695, Nov. 29.	John Bradshaw ^e .		
1711, Feb. 8.	George Gibbons ^f , A. M.	John Crewe, esq.	Death of John Bradshaw.
1720, June 30.	Thomas Brooke ^g , A. M.	John Crewe, esq.	Death of Edw. Gibbons.
1759, Feb. 19.	Jones Read, D. D.	Sir Hen. Mainwaring, bart.	Death of T. Brooke, LL.D.
1769, May 26.	John Smith ^h , A. B.	John Crewe, esq.	Cess. of Jones Read.
1793, Jan. 2.	Anthony Clarkson, A. M.	John Crewe, esq.	Death of John Smith.

The CHURCH of NANTWICH is a very fine specimen of the rich architecture of the fourteenth century, though its highly ornamented exterior has suffered much from the friability of the red sand stone, of which it is composed. It consists of a nave with side aisles, two transepts, and a chancel. In the centre of the cross is an octagonal tower, containing six bells, embattled, and resting on four pointed arches, sprung from piers to which are attached numerous shafts, with capitals enriched with foliage.

Externally the church is finished as richly as possible in all the details of buttresses, shrine-work, and large windows with ramified tracery, which still retain numerous fragments of antient stained glass. Flying buttresses are carried from the clerestory of the nave to the buttresses of the side aisles, and are concealed in the roof; from the middle of each of these a curved rib descends to the pillars of the nave, forming with the other half of the buttress a series of pointed arches over the side aisles, which have a singular and pleasing effect.

The north transept is stated in Harl. MSS. 2074. 166. a. to have been a distinct Chapel, endowed and dedicated to St. Mary; the other Chapel was dedicated to St. George. The former of these is most probably the Chantry noticed in the Val. 26 Hen. VIII. from which an extract has been already given.

An antient stone pulpit, executed in a style corresponding with the architecture of the church, is attached to the piers under the north-east angle of the arches supporting the central tower¹.

The choir is vaulted with stone, and some of the sculptured keystones of the ribs are ornamented with scriptural subjects; beneath are twenty stalls with carved subsellia, and tabernacle work, equally elegant in its design and laboured in its execution. Pennant mentions a tradition of their having been brought from the dissolved abbey of Vale Royal.

Such is the plan and detail of the original church¹. Its present appearance is much disfigured by an organ-loft, and by galleries, and other comparatively modern arrangements, in which the necessary accommodation of the inhabitants of a populous town at divine service

has been exclusively considered, with too little attention to the architecture or style of the building.

MONUMENTS.

In the NAVE, among other memorials, are two mural monuments, defaced, and almost wholly concealed by the erection of the gallery. The first is inscribed:

To the memory of Richard Minshall, son and heire of Mr. Thomas Minshall, of this towne of Nantwiche. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Wilbraham, of Lincolnes-inn, esq. son and heyre of Mr. Richard Wilbraham of this towne.

He lived wonderfully beloved, being of a most sweet, affable, pleasant, and generous nature; upright in his dealings, charitable to the poore, and a great lover and (maker of peace).

^k[He dyed very piously upon the 17th day of February 1637, being the 56th year of his age, leaving behind him no child, but his good name, which his most dear and sorrowful wife here registers in his deserving character.]

I wish so longe a peace unto thine urne
As till it harbour such another guest:
If so untill the world to ashes turn,
Thy ashes will unrekd be like to rest.

Arms: Minshull impaling Wilbraham.

The other monument, which is that erected by Geoffry Minshull (of which a copy has been given in the account of Stoke from Dugdale's MS.) is almost entirely concealed, excepting the four following lines, which Dugdale omits:

Within this glas a pattern you may see
Of humane change and time's mortality,
In vaine it were t'expresse: this place hath tride
Their birth, their breeding, how they liv'd and died.

There is also a brass plate in memory of William Walley, died Jan. 31, 1630, and an elegant monument of alabaster, in memory of William, infant child of William and Mary Sprout.

Another fragment of an inscription commemorates Elizabeth wife of Thomas Malbon of Bradley, gent. daughter of Richard Clutton.

Near the south door, is a coffin-shaped slab, with a cross thereon, ornamented with oak leaves springing

^b Bur. 15 Oct. 1677. The interval in the institution books before Jackson may be nearly filled with the names of JOHN BRADWALL, a resident minister at Nantwich, from 1605 to 1623 (see note, p. 238), and JOHN SARING, M. A. ejected. See Walker's Sufferings, &c. p. 351.

^c Bur. 1 July 1690.

^e Bur. 5 Jan. 1711-12.

^g Dean of Chester, and rector of Winslow, co. Bucks, and Dodleston, bur. 20 Dec. 1757.

^h Bur. 20 Oct. 1792, aged 57.

¹ The stone pulpit is represented in the initial letter at p. 149; and a general north-east view of the church in the annexed engraving.

In Lysons's Magna Britannia, and the plates illustrative of that work, are given four accurate views which combine all the interesting points of this church, the east and west fronts, the north transept and chancel, the stone pulpit, and the detail of the stalls. The dimensions of the church, as given by Partridge, are as follows: length from the west door to the end of the chancel 155 feet 2 inches, of which 51 feet are occupied by the chancel; breadth of the nave 57 feet, and chancel 24; breadth at the transepts 98 feet 2 inches; height of the tower 100 feet and something more.

^k The words in brackets restored from Dugdale's copy, Coll. Arm.

from the shaft. The head is formed by four oak leaves conjoined within a circle. It most probably relates to some members of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, who had lands here.

In the south transept are the following monuments :

Against the south-east pier of the tower a mural monument inscribed as follows :

Marmoru huic vicini	
una obdormiscunt senex proavus, puerq' pronepos, uterque Richardus Wilbraham.	
Ille	Iste
ex patre fuit Radulpho, filio Ranulphi, filii secundi Thomæ Wilbr'ham de Woodhey, ar. prognat ^o . Vir, præter pietatem, qua claruit, Sapientiæ mensura, iudicii pondere, et annorum numero olim insignis ; Qui ex uxore sua Elizabetha filia Thomæ Maisteron generosi quatuor habuit liberos, videlicet Richardum Wilbraham armigerum, Rogerum Wilbraham equitem aurat ^u , Thomam Wilbraham generosum et Radulphum Wilbraham de Derfold, ar'. Obiit 2 ^o die Feb. a ^o sui Jesu 1612. ætatis sui 88 ^o .	primogenitus fuit filius Thomæ Wilbraham ar' (filii et hæredis Richardi Wilbraham ar', filii Richardi senioris prius memorati) ex Rachæle conjugæ ejusdem Thomæ, filia et hærede Josuæ Clive de Huxley ar', susceptus ; Puer optimæ spei, candidissimæ indolis, ingeniiq' præcociissimi, Qui dum procul prægressi vestigia, virtutem anhelans, sequestratur, animam in cursu hoc efflans, idem cælum, idem et sepulchrum invenit. Obiit 23 ^o die Julii a ^o salutis 1633. ætatis 12 ^o .

Under the inscription, *Argent*, three bends wavy *Azure*, for difference a crescent *Sable*. Over, a label of three points *Gules*. Over the inscription, 1. and 4. *Wilbraham* ancient, as before ; 2. *Wilbraham*, *Argent*, two bars *Gules*, on a canton *Sable*, a wolf's head erased *Argent*, [improperly coloured] ; 3. *Golborne*, *Azure*, a cross patonce *Or*, between three martlets of the second. In chief a label of three points *Gules*.

Crest: on a wreath a wolf's head erased *Argent*, for difference a crescent.

Near this against the east wall another mural monument :

H. S. E.

Rogerus Wilbraham de Wico Malbano arm',
vir ex indole minime famæ appetens ;
morum vero gravitate, scientiæ copia,
vitæ integritate,
non incelebris,
qui religionis et literarum studiis
penes totus incubuit,
Nec amicis interim, nec patriæ defuit.
Uxorem habuit

Aliciam Darfoldensem,
cognatam sibi, et cognominem,
amore et virtute multo intimius conjunctam :
undecim liberorum pater, quatuor tandem reliquit
superstites,
duos filios, totidemque filias.
Ranulphus natu maximus
hoc posuit monumentum
optimo parenti filius pientissimus.

Obiit anno { æræ Christianæ MDCCVII.
ætatis suæ LXXXV.

Arms: 1. and 4. three bends wavy ; *Wilbraham*. 2. on a fesse between three wolves heads erased, three mullets ; *Clive*. 3. *Ermine* on a bend coticed, three crescents ; *Huxley*. Crest: on a wreath a wolf's head erased, no colours expressed.

At the side of this monument is a small kneeling figure, habited in a furred gown, ruff, and square cap, intended, most probably, for the person commemorated in the last inscription.

Under this figure on a large brass plate is the inscription subjoined¹, which appears (though no date is given) to relate to Ralph Wilbraham, a younger brother of the *Townsend* branch, who died in 1637. There are certainly few persons who disinherited their kinsmen totally in favour of the poor, that have been honoured with so long a sepulchral eulogy.

Near these is an altar-tomb of red stone, the sides of which are ornamented with shields included in quatrefoils ; the slab is of alabaster, on which is a mutilated recumbent figure of an armed knight, with conical helmet, and gorget of mail ; a lion at the feet. The head reposing on the crest, which is the head of a lamb. This tomb is delineated in a more perfect state in *Harl. MSS.* 2151. and described as that of sir John Cradock. The arms there given are, three garbs on a chevron.

On the opposite side is a mural tablet with this inscription :

M. S.
Thomæ Wetenhall
de Wico Malbano in com. Cest. arm.
et Catharinæ uxoris ejus,
ex qua
unicum filium Thomam

¹ Ne lateat posteros quantum funus sit cui affectus noster justa solvere conatur, quale nomen quod devoto pietatis officio æternitati consecramus, sic famæ posthumæ tradere placet.

RADULPHUS WILBRAHAM, tam moribus quam natalibus vere Palatinus, patriam habuit eximiam nobilitatis altricem Cestriam ; magnaq. utrinque inclaruit inde parentela, quam minor ipse natu majorem meritis reddidit, illustrem a propriâ virtute splendorem acquirens, ac si nullam a prosapia vendicasset. Inter avitas imagines, honoris non imago, sed angustius prototypon præluxit, antiquos retro patres nobilitans sero nepos, fœnusque sanguini rependit generis sui instaurator, a quo multum decoris si recepit, plus retulit.

Apud Wici Malbani candidissimas salinas educatus, qua fuit in agendo prudentia, qua in dicendo perurbana festivitate, patrio quasi sapore mœres et loquelam faciliter dividit, cujus salibus nil candidius, nil innocentius. Quoties gustui et palato eruditæ quiritum coronæ adblandiri libuit, Deus bone ! quam facundus comes, quam gratus conviva ! quibus tenuit quasi sirenibus attentas inhiantium aures, quibus amenitatum oblectamentis delinivit deliciae selectiorum ingeniorum, Gratias crederes Musis sociatas unius ore locutas, nescio quo procaute illapsu ultra philtrum aut Mercurialem caduceum captans et incantans auditores. Diceres alterum Ulissem Homericum, a peregrinatione reversum, æque homines ac libros edoctum, nisi quod Penelope destitueretur, rigidus enim cultor cœlibatus maluit progeniem adoptare quam gignere, en itaque viduas, orphanos, detorsos, famæ perituros, tanquam tot Lazaros in sinu Wilbrahami recumbentes. Quid memorem multiformem linguarum varietatem, mutuo quidem sed emulo quasi fœdere sic conjunctam, ut qui loquentem audiret, peregrinum a vernacula discernere non posset. Quid verba narrare, cum facta videam, quid artes recenseam, quibus adeo excelluit sui similis, liberales quas tamen pietate vestigales fecit, non loquitur magna sed facit, quid hominum et angelorum linguæ sine caritate, illa primas habeat, illa præluceat tanquam inter stellas luna minores Eleemosyna, viaticum in terris, thesaurus in cœlis. Radulphus eleemosynarius sua munificentia inauravit sæculum hoc ferreum, exteras invisit regiones ut exultantem reduceret charitatem, absoluta peregrinatione jam reversurus in superum patriam, integras facultates omnes opes divitiarum pauperibus, quasi mercatoribus (ut fit) tradidit, cum fœnore recipiendas in cœlo, gnarus quod patrimonium Deo creditum nec Resp' eripit, nec fiscus invadit, nec calumnia forensis evertit. Egenos adeo ex asse hæredes ut nec legaverit sibi vel tumulum vel epitaphium, utrumque tamen cognato Geneva defuncto cum extruxit, sibi ibidem erexit, aliud dedignatus quam ille perenne pietatis et ingenii monumentum antea plus quam semiseptulatus cum charissimo consodale repetitus exequias, alterumq' funus noluit, frustra marmore legitur qui cunctorum pectoribus tumulatur: ex quo Christo se dicavit, non fratrum aut affinium memor, neminem in carne novit, imo carnem suam non agnovit, eutem qui nunquam curavit, de corpore prorsus incuriosus, totus de anima sollicitus, integrum se cum suis holocaustum Deo in flamma charitatis obtulit, consummatæ charitatis apicem quis dubitet illum attigisse, qui omnia profudit pauperibus, qui sic secutus est Christum, proculdubio assecutus est. Alii aurum inaurantes, divites propinquos locupletant, instar fluminum aquas suas in mare mittunt. Ille terras sitientes rigavit, nec oleum suum in plena sed in vacua vasa infudit.

Quas tulit acceptas Christi Wilbrahamus amore,
In Christi moriens membra refudit opes :
Scilicet hæredem cum se sentiret Olympi,
Hæredem contra scripsit E ipse Deum.

et quatuor filias,
Catharinam, Amiciam, Margaretam,
et Susannam, superstites
suscepit.

Qui quidem Thomas obiit
xviii^o Octob. a^o MDCLXXVII.

Catharina vero
xiv^o Maii anno MDCLXXXIII.

On the flags are several memorials of the Wicksteds; and three achievements are suspended against the east wall, under one of which is inscribed:

Anna uxor Johannis Brock,
generosi, filia atq. hæres
Gulielmi Mainwaring de Wico Malbano
generosi, hic jacet sepulta: obiit quarto die
Decembris a^o Domini 1666.

IN THE NORTH TRANSEPT, amongst other memorials, is a singular painting of an aged male and female figure holding up their hands in prayer; both have large ruffs, and the man has a venerable beard, and red cap edged with lace, the female a close cap, and high-crowned hat. Underneath,

Here under lyes the body
of Thomas Church, gent.
aged 71, who married Anne,
daughter of Thomas Mainwaring,
gent. and dye' the 6 of July,
anno 1634.

Arms: Argent, a fesse engrailed Sable, between three greyhounds heads erased, Sable, collared Or; Church; impaling Mainwaring, a mascle for difference.

Also a memorial of Thomas Wicksted, esq. (died Jan. 11, 1769, aged 60), and of Grissel his wife, only daughter of Charles Fletcher of Wigland, esq. (died Aug. 18, 1784, aged 82.)

On the north side of the chancel are two painted tablets, commemorative of the Maisteron family. The first is inscribed as follows:

Here beneath lyeth y^e body of Thomas Masterson of Wich Malbank, esq. who first married Frances, coheyre to sir John Done of Utkinton, k^t, by whom he had yssue 2 sonnes & 2 daughters, which all dyed yonge; after he married Mary, daughter to Tho. Mainwaring of Martyn, esq. and had issue Mary, Rich. & Katherine y^t all dyed yonge, Thomas, Rob^t,

John, Elizabeth, Mary, Kathrine, Frances, Bridget, Margrett, & Hellena, all now livinge, y said Tho. dyed on the 16th day of February an^o D'ni 1651.

Arms: two shields, Maisteron impaling Done, and Maisteron impaling Mainwaring.

Maisteron has six quarterings in each. 1. Maisteron; 2. Mainwaring (a crescent Sable for difference); 3. Blundeville earl of Chester; 4. Lupus; 5. Praers; 6. Azure, three bugles Argent, strung Gules.

The impalement of Done has six quarterings; 1. Done; 2. Kingsley; 3. the forester of Delamere's badge; 4. Legh of East Hall; 5. Alpraham; 6. Weever.

The impalement of Mainwaring has 10 quarterings; 1. Mainwaring; 2. Blundeville; 3. Lupus; 4. Praers; 5. Glegge; 6. Sutton; 7. Azure, a lion rampant Argent; 8. Merton; 9.; 10. as 1.

The other painted board is in the form of an achievement, and inscribed:

Here beneath lyeth y^e body
of Thomas Maisteron of
Wich Malbanke, esq. who married Mary,
daughter to Thomas Palmer of Marston, in
y^e county of Stafford, gent. by whom
hee had issue two sonnes and one dau-
ghter, Tho. Rich. and Mary, all
now liveing: the said Tho. di-
ed on the 7th day of April,
a^o D'ni 1669.

Arms: Maisteron impaling Palmer, Argent, on two barrs Sable, three trefoils slipped Argent, 2 and 1; in chief a greyhound courant Sable; for difference a mullet Sable.

Crest: on a wreath a greyhound sciant Sable, on the shoulder a trefoil as in the arms.

In the chancel also is a large alabaster altar tomb, on which are carved two recumbent figures with clasped hands, the male figure in a furred gown, the female in a ruff. The inscription, which is now defaced, is given among those supplied from Harl. MSS. 2151. in the note in the page following.

Over this is suspended a metrical inscription commemorative of John Maisteron, which has been given in p. 222.

Antient monuments not now existing are supplied by the note annexed ^m.

^m In Harl. MSS. 2151, are the following notes of "Nantwich, alias Wich Malbanke Church," anno 1572, 10 Feb.

Pages 79, 80, a. A very numerous collection of armorial bearings, painted in the windows or carved; among them a coat apparently intended for the Nantwich Guild, being the arms of the barons of Nantwich, surcharged with a crozier in bend sinister Argent, headed Or ("ov' the quire door"), and an inscription, "Orate p' fratribus et sororibus S'c'e Crucis q'i fecerunt istam fenestram."

In the same pages are noticed the monument of sir George Cradock, and the following inscriptions, under armorial shields:

ELIZABETH, dau' and coheire to Thomas Maisteron, esq. late wife to capt. Robert Wright, of Wich Malbank, died on the 26th day of March 1653.

In one of the windows were the arms of Kingsley: Vert, a cross engrailed Ermine, impaling Bromley, Argent on a chevron Gules, five besants; underneath, — Kingsley et Margaret Bromley, ux' ejus, and two kneeling figures, the male figure in complete plate armour, with a wreath of roses round his head, his surcoat and his wife's mantle charged with the arms of Kingsley.

P. 81. At the north end of the church, a brass representing a recumbent warrior, his feet resting on a greyhound, and his head placed between shields charged with a griffin segreant. The inscription, Hic jacet — Job'is Griffin, militis, qui obiit die lune p'x. post ftu' S'c'i Mich'is Arch'i anno D'ni M.CCCLXXX. Cujus a'i'e p'pitietur Deus. Amen.

Near this a tablet commemorative of Martha, daughter of John Griffin, of Bartherton, esq. ob. Feb. 25, 1655, aged 55 years.

In "the ladies chancell," the memorial of Thomas Church, given in the account of the North transept, is noticed, and another monument, inscribed, Ricardus Church, filius et hæres Ranulphi Church, gen. qui duxit Elizabetham filiam Thomæ Wilbram, gen. Vixit annos 43. Obit 21 Oct. 1637, obiit autem illa 19 Jan. 1638, et reliquerunt sex filios viventes, et quatuor filias defunctas.

P. 81, b. On a tablet. Here lyeth interred the body of Anne, late wife to Jo. Delves, gen. by whom she had issue three sons and three daughters, which Anne was the daughter of Hugh Mainwaring, the son of John, who immediately descended from Hugh, the seventh son of Randle Mainwaring of Carincham, esq. She finished her mortall course Feb. 23^o, anno redemptionis nostræ 1636, ætat. suæ 41^o.

In the same page are given memorials of

Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Masterson, esq. and wife of Robert Wright, died March 26, buried March 28, 1653.

Richard, son of Robert Wright, buried March 31, 1652.

John Leche of Nantwich, gent. ob. March 31, 1592.

Lieut. Richard Radmore, slain at Ravensmore, May 9, 1645.

Thomas Church, 1652.

John Bromhall, of Soond, buried April 7, 1645.

Margaret, wife of Ralph Wodenoth, buried June 8, 1649.

In the preceding documents relating to the Barony of Nantwich, the advowson of the CHAPEL of ST. NICHOLAS is noticed among the appurtenances of the barony, which passed by the attainder of lord Lovell to the crown. It occurs in the Lichfield Registers, under the several designations of the chantry, the free chapel, and

the hospital of St. Nicholas, and is supposed to have stood in or near the Hospital-street, which derives its name from it.

The following admissions of masters or wardens are taken from Vernon's Abstracts of the Lichfield Episcopal Registers, Harl. MSS. 2077.

MAGISTRI HOSPITALIS, SIVE CAPELLÆ, SIVE CANTARIÆ BEATI NICHOLAI WICI MALBANI.

ADMISSI.	MAGISTRI HOSP.	PATRONI.	VACAT.
1330, 4 non. Dec.	Alexander Blount, cl'us. Thomas Corbet.	Jo. de Hanlowe, miles.	
1350, 5 id. Maii.	Roger de Alerton, cl'us.	Edw. fil. p'mog. co. Cest. ra- c'o'e custod. fil. et h. D'ni Jo. Lovell mil. def.	P. m. Tho. Corbet.
1364.	Nicholaus Revall, pr'b'r.	Episcopus per lapsum.	
1374.	Johannes de Ormesheved, pr'b'r.	{ D'nus Jo. Lovell. { D'nus de Tichmarsh.	
1376.	Johannes de Woodhouse, cl'us.	D'nus Jo. Lovell, miles.	P. m. Jo. de Ormesheved.
1395.	Thomas Hyne, pr'b'r.	Jo. d'nus Lovell et Holland.	
1396, 27 Junii.	Alanus de Newark. Thomas Heywood.	Jo. d'nus Lovell et Holland.	P. res. Tho. Hyne.
1460, 15 Nov.			P. m. Tho. Heywood.
1468, 22 Oct.	Ranulphus Egerton, cl'us.	Ric'us co. Warw. rac'o'e min. æt. D'ni Lovell.	
1477.	Ricardus Egerton, cl'us.	Edwardus princeps.	P. res. Ran. Egerton.

P. 82. The tomb of John Maisteron, yet remaining in the chancel, with the following inscription, now defaced :
Here lyeth the body of John Maisteron, gent. together with Margaret his wife ; which John and Margaret had issue Margaret, who married to Rondulph Stanley of Alderley, which John died 10 Dec. 1686.

Within this fading tombe sepulted lies
John Maisteron and Margaret his wyfe,
Whose soules do rest above the vaulted skies,
In paradise with God, the lord of lyfe.
Which John wrought meanes to build this Namptwich towne,
When fire had fretted her face, and burnt her doune.

In the same page are noticed the monuments of Thomas and Frances Maisteron, and Thomas and Mary Maisteron, already described.

P. 82, b, memorials of

John Bradwall, minister 32 years, 18 of which were spent at Nantwich, obiit 5 March, 1623.

Thomas Mainwaring, 1638.

Captain George Beckett, born 18 Nov. 1644.

Richard Walthall, gent. 13 Jan. 1623.

Catherine, wife of Richard Golborne of Chester, ob. Sept. 18, 1645.

Frances, daughter to Peter Leigh of High Leigh, esq. wife of William Edwards of Chester, buried Ap. 28, 1645.

John Cliffe, citizen of London, buried March 29, 1645.

Edward Dod, baron of the Exchequer of Chester, his wife, and the lady Margt Norton, which lady was buried March 29, 1644.

P. 83. The monument of the two Richard Wilbrahams (given in the account of the south aisle); and the arms cut in the roofs of the several divisions of the church.

P. 83, b. Similar notes, and rude sketches of the three following monuments, with these inscriptions :

A figure in a robe kneeling under an arch, over which are the arms of Crewe, and under which those of Crewe impaling Mainwaring, stated to be "at the higher end of the church, on the south side of the wall,"

Johannes Crewe,
ex antiqua familiâ de Crewe
oriundus, vir pius,
susceptam ex Aliciâ
Maynwaring uxore reliquit
sobolem Ranulphuni,
Thomam, Lucretiam, Prudentiam.
Vixit annos 74, obiit
anno Domini 1598.

Over against the pulpit :

"Neere to this place lyeth Robert Parker, gen. He married Margaret, daughter of Edward Massey of Namptwich, gent. He had issue three sons and five daughters, which Robert died 21 Nov. 1664."

"Hic jacet Galfridus Minshull de Stoke, in comitatu Cestriæ armiger, qui duxit in uxorem Mariam, filiam Edwardi Fitton de Gawsorth, in dicto comitatu, baronetti, ex qua numerosam suscepit prolem, viz. Edwardum Minshull militem, Ricardum, Thomam, Annam, Janam, Margaretam, Mariam, et Elenam. Obit 27 Nov. 1663, ætat. 76."

P. 84. Notices of armorial bearings, and the following inscription on a mural monument, with two shields of Davenport and Woodnoth impaling Wright : In memory of Hugh Davenport, second son of sir John Davenport of Davenport, kn. and Elizabeth his wife, one of the two coheirs of Richard Wright of Nantwich, gent. and of Ralph Woodnoth, second son of John Woodnoth of Sheveington, esq. and Margaret his wife, the other coheir of the said Richard ; and also of Ralph Woodnoth, the only child of the said Ralph and Margaret : all which three persons lye interred underneath and neere this monument, 8 Nov. 1654.

P. 84, b. Further notices of armorial shields, and the following inscriptions on monuments :

A breviat upon the life and death of Randulph Mainwaring, gent. who departed this life the 18th day of February, anno 1616, and was buried the 19th day of the same month, ætat. sue 77.

Here lyeth interred the bodies of William Mainwaring of Wich Malbank, gent. who died on the 22d day of April, anno 1637, and also of Martha his wife, daughter unto Thomas M—— of the same place, gent. She died on the 7th day of September, 1658, leaving issue only one daughter, Anne, wife to John Brock, gent. both now living.

Heere lyeth the bodies of Mathew Mainwaring of Wich Malbank, gent. who married Margrett, daughter to Thomas Mynshull of the same place, gent. and had issue 14 children. He died on the 19th day of Jan. 1651, and she died on the 21st of Oct. 1652.

The next name is that of — Gwynne, who occurs as follows, in that part of the general Ecclesiastical Survey, 26 Hen. VIII. which relates to the chapel of St. Nicholas:

Libera capella sancti Nicho'i.

— Gwynne magister ibidem.

Valet in terris et tenementis eidem capelle pertinen. in pecunijs numeratis clare per ann' vjl. xis. iiijd.

x^{ma} inde, xiijs. jd. ob. q.ⁿ

William Hill, late "incumben' lib'e capelle s'ci Nicholai" in *Acton*, was probably Gwynne's successor, and survived to 1556, when he was living on a pension of c. s. per annum^o. This hospital or chantry is stated in Harl. MSS. 2074. 166. a. to have been endowed by one of the lords Lovell with the "tyth p'ceeding out all his owne lands."

ST. LAURENCE'S CHAPEL ("an Hospitall for Leazours") and ST. ANNE'S CHAPEL ("near the Bridge") are also mentioned in the MS. last quoted. Of St. Anne's chapel nothing has occurred in any authentic document^p; but St. Lawrence's is noticed in several. It appears from the preceding documents connected with the barony, that the Lovells had one-third of the advowson; and there is also evidence of a chantry dedicated to St. JAMES, being attached. Richard Wrighte, surviving in 1556, is noticed in the pension roll of that date as "incumben' lib'e capell' nup' s'c'i Jacobi annexat' capell' s'c'i Lawrencii in *Acton*," and as then receiving per ann. lxvijs. ivd. The chapel itself is de-

scribed as follows, in the Ecclesiastical Survey, 26 Hen. VIII.

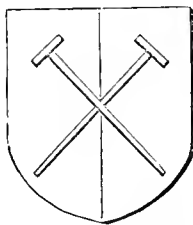
Libera capella Sancti Laurentij.

Doctor Incent' mag'r ib'm.

Valet in redditibus terris et tenementis eidem capelle spectan' et p'tinen' per annum iiijl.

Inde sol' baron' Wici Malb'i pro tolneto salis iijs. Et reman' clare lxxvjs.

x^{ma} inde, vijs. vijd q.^a



The annexed arms, party per pale, Gules and Azure, two crutches in saltier Or, are assigned in William Smith's Alphabet of Arms (given in the Vale Royal) to "Nantwich Priory." It is most probable that they refer to one of the hospitals or chapels above-mentioned, but to

which of them is uncertain: there is, however, a local tradition, that a distinct religious foundation, apparently a cell to Combermere, formerly existed at the end of the Welsh Row, to which (according to Partridge) the name of "the Priory" was given in old records, and which he states to have been erected at the expence of the abbey before-mentioned. One of the parochial charities of Nantwich is still distinguished by the name of the *Priors* Obit, which has been supposed universally to relate to this foundation; but there can be little doubt that it is a corruption of *Praers* obit, and was connected with the chantry established by Roger Praers, already mentioned in the account of Nantwich church.

ALVANDESTON.

THIS township is not noticed in Domesday, but is described as part of the fee of Nantwich barony in the Inq. 16 Edw. I. and as having passed in the final partition to the share of Philippa Basset. It gave name to a family at this time; and in subsequent inquisitions an estate of the Mainwarings is described as being held here from the heirs of the lords Lovell; and others of the Prestlands and Wilbrahams, from the heirs of Adam de Barton.

The inquisitions of the Bromleys of Badington, at a later period notice, the manor of Alvaston as being held by them, inter alia, from the lords Audley (temp. Hen. V. VI. VII.); but these manerial rights have been long disused; the present principal land proprietors are Messrs. Foster of Nantwich.

In this township is BEAM-HEATH, now used as an annual race-course, and frequently mentioned in the preceding journal of the siege of Nantwich. It was anciently called the Creche or Croach, and common of pas-

ture was granted here, and in all the other woods and wastes of the fee of Malbank, to the monks of Combermere, and the townsmen of Nantwich, in the foundation charter of that abbey.

These rights of common were confirmed (with the exception of a tract of land specified, and limitation as to time) to these townsmen a^o 14 Edw. I. by an agreement made between the said townsmen, and Richard and William de Alvandeston and others. This agreement was witnessed by Reginald de Grey, just. Cest. and inrolled in the Cheshire Domesday; and though it has been confounded by Partridge and others with an original grant, was certainly nothing more than a partial confirmation of rights granted long before by Hugh Malbank, which the Alvandestons had probably infringed^r.

By this agreement it was stipulated that the Heath should for ever remain uninclosed, and in common. But by an Act of Parliament passed 43 Geo. III. cap. 123,

ⁿ Communicated by John Caley, esq. F. S. A.

^p Partridge says, that it stood in the Welsh Row, which was from it sometimes called St. Anne's, or St. Anne's Parish; and mentions a public clock having been recently taken down, which was also called St. Anne's, and fixed on a dwelling-house in the middle of the street. He supposes this chapel to have been intended for the use of the inhabitants living across the Weever, before the establishment of a regular communication by the bridge.

^q An Inq. taken at Minshall before Thomas Yonge, escheator, 28 Edw. III. relates to this Hospital. "Item dicunt juratores prædicti quod habetur apud Wicum Malbanum unum hospitium Sancti Laurentii, in quo deberet esse unus capellanus quolibet die cantare divina servicia, et in quo deberent esse III lecti pro pauperibus infirmis receptandis quousque recuperaverint sanitatem, quod quidem servitium retractum est IV annis elapsis, et valet per annum xx solidos; in cuius rei, &c."—Erdeswick's Collections, Harl. MSS. 506.

^r A translation of the charter is given by Partridge, Poole's Hist. Chesh. p. 626. The witnesses, whose names are incorrectly printed, were Reginald de Grey, just. Cest. Richard de Masci, Ralph de Vernon, Richard de Sandbach, Thomas de Crewe, Thomas de Praers, William Woodnoth, Thomas de Alstanton, and William le Clerc.

^o Pension Roll in the possession of Mr. William Sharpe of Coventry.

this heath, stated to contain by admeasurement four hundred statute acres, or thereabouts, and to have been immemorially enjoyed by the inhabitant householders of Nantwich, was vested in trustees for inclosure, the largest portions being directed to be used as pasture, or held in tillage (the latter not to exceed 200 acres), and other portions being permitted to be set apart for the culture of potatoes, and for brick earth and gravel pits. Twenty-four free cowgates are reserved among the

other provisions to those who originally enjoyed this liberty on the uninclosed heath; but the other profits of the pasture and land held in tillage, are directed to be divided yearly (in January), among such inhabitant householders as shall under this act be entitled to the same. The right of the rector of Nantwich to tithes is reserved, and the heath exempted from payment of all poor or other parish rates assessed on the township of Alvaston.

LEIGHTON.

LEIGHTON is stated, in the inquisition 16 Edw. I. to have been included in that portion of the barony of Nantwich which descended from Philippa Basset to the countess of Warwick. It subsequently passed, as a part of her fee, to the family of Praers of Barthomley, is noticed in the inquisitions of their successors the Fulleshursts, and still is included in the jurisdiction of the court leet held by lord Crewe for his manors of Crewe and Barthomley.

This township gave name to its mesne lords in or before the time of king John, when Adam lord of Lekton confirms to Hugh, son of his brother Thomas, the lands which he held therein by gift of the said Thomas^a.

William de Lecton (son of the said Adam, according to Booth) granted to Randle de Aldington the whole lordship of the village of Lecton, including the capital messuage, &c. "unum gurgitem super Weever," and all homages, wardships, reliefs, and escheats, to the same belonging, without any retenement to himself or his heirs, saving the foreign service due to the capital lord^b.

This Randle passed over the said manor to Laurence Mainwaring, who, 13 Edw. I. gave to Randle de Oldeton one moiety of the lordship and lands of this place, granting the other moiety to Thomas de Erdswick, in whose family the entire lordship became vested, 5 Edward II. when John, son of Richard de Oldinton, gave to Thomas, son of Thomas de Erdswick, his moiety of this place, in exchange for lands in Minshull Vernon and Erdswick^c.

The ERDESWICKS have been noticed, previous to this exchange, in the account of Erdswick in Minshull Vernon, and are subsequently mentioned as follows in the Cheshire inquisitions:

33 Edw. III. Hugh Erdswick purchased ten acres in Woolstanwood, val. per ann. 111s.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. IV. Thomas de Erdeswicke held the manor of Leighton from Thomas de Foulhurst, as of his manor of Crue, by military service^d.

Inq. p. m. 14 Edw. IV. Hugh Erdeswicke held in demesne as of fee, one messuage and lands, cum pert. in Church Minshull, from Hugh Done, esq. and the lady

Anne of Dutton, his wife, by military service, val. per ann. cs. Hugh Erdeswicke son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VII. Hugh Erdeswicke held in demesne as of fee, lands, &c. in Leighton, from Hugh Starkye of Olton, Thomas Fitton of Pownall, and Thomas Starkye of Wrenbury (the coheirs of the Oldintons); also lands in Church Copnall, Over, Middlewich, Church Minshull, and Aston in Mondrem. Hugh Erdeswick son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VII. Cecilia, widow of Hugh Erdeswick, held for life lands in Leighton, as before, and lands in Church Copnall. Heir as before.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VIII. Hugh Erdeswick held the manor of Leighton from Robert Fulleshurst, esq. by military service, val. per ann. xiiii. s.; also lands in Church Copnal, Middlewich, Over, and Aston: val. tot. xvi. viiis. xid. Obiit Ap. 20, anno p'd'to, Sampson Erdeswick, son and heir, aged 20 years.

Sampson Erdeswicke, the Staffordshire antiquary, occurs in an inquisition 43 Eliz. after the death of sir Hugh Cholmondeley, as rendering 111 arrows for that part of his Cheshire estate which extended into the manor of Church Minshull.

1 Car. I. Richard Erdswick, esq. and Anne his wife, passed over their manor of Leighton to Lawrence Eyton^e.

In 1666 the said manor is stated to belong to the family of Styche, in Shropshire (Harl. MSS. 2010). By a subsequent sale it passed to the Werdens of Chester and Burton, and has descended according to the pedigree given in the last-mentioned township, to the present proprietor, George Harley Drummond, esq.^f

The Leighton family, who afterwards assumed the name of Brooke, continued resident in this township until the reign of Elizabeth, when their estate was sold to Mary lady Cholmondeley, and passed from her to the Cholmondeleys of Vale Royal, with the adjacent township of Church Minshull. The annexed pedigree brings down this family to the termination of their connection with Minshull; and the descent of the Brookes of Norton, in the male line, from the same family, will be found in an earlier part of the Work^g.

^a Williamson, Vill. Cest.

^b Ibid.

^c Ibid.

^d Ibid.

^e Ibid.

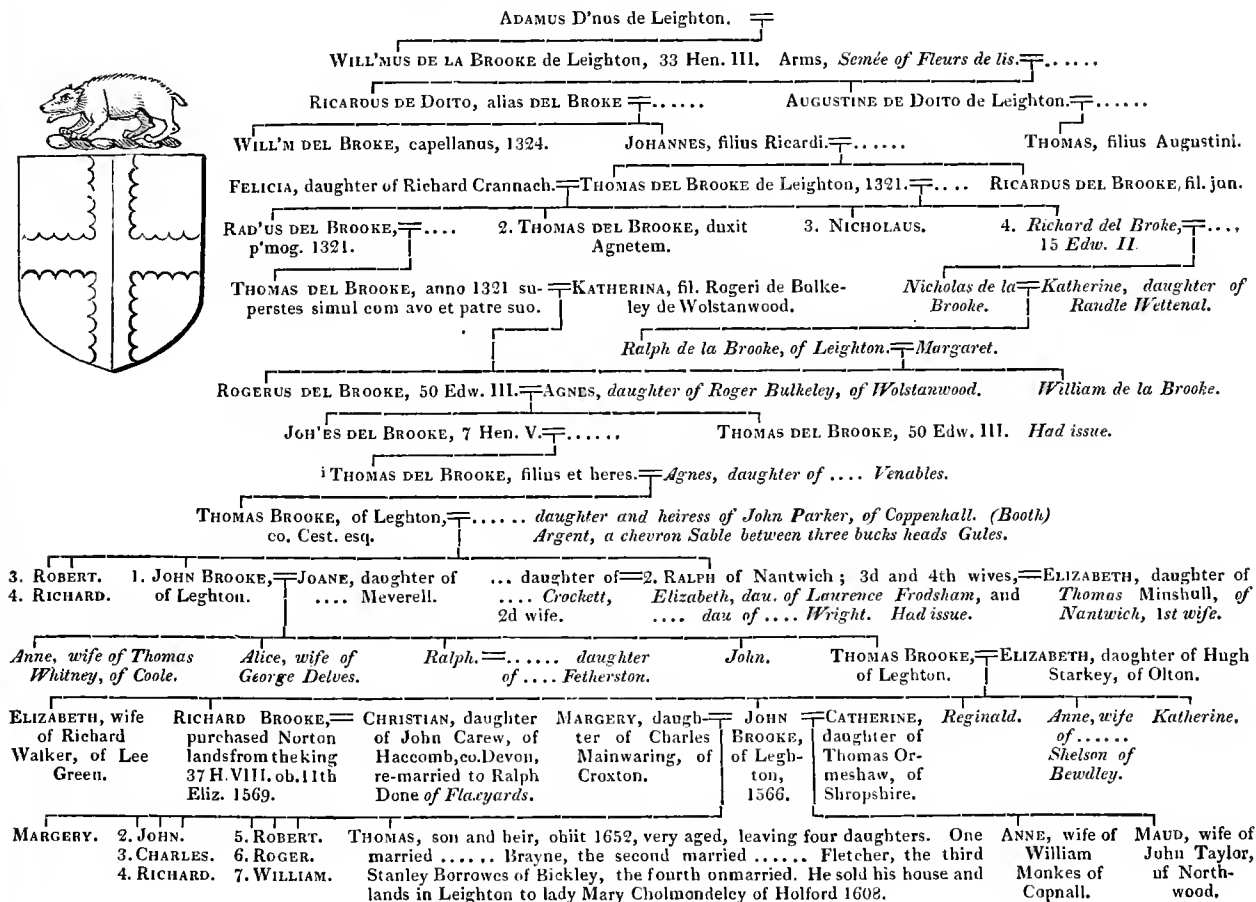
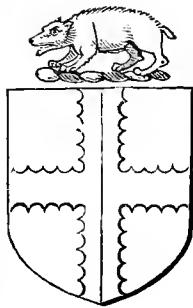
^f Edish. Hnndred, vol. II. p. 179.

^g Vol. I. p. 501.

BROOKE OF LEIGHTON.

From Booth's and Sir F. Leicester's MS pedigrees, collated with Harl. MSS. 1535, the variations in which are printed in *Italics*.

ARMS and CREST as BROOKE OF NORTON, vol. I. p. 504.



WOOLSTANWOOD.

By the Inq. taken 16 Edw. I. this township, which is omitted in Domesday, is ascertained to be of the fee of Wich Malbank barony, two-thirds of the homage and service being allotted to the eldest daughter, Philippa Basset, and the residue to her sister Eleanor Malbank.

After this several tenements occur in the inquisitions, which appear to be fragments of the dismembered barony.

In an Inq. taken 33 Edw. III. Roger Bulkleigh is stated to have bought from Edward Burnell (who held from the lord earl in cap. per baroniam), c acres of land in Woolstanwood; val. LXs.

Another Inq. taken ten years preceding states John de Bulkelegh to have held, inter alia, a messuage and 80 acres in Woolstanwood from the heirs of John Lovell. Thomas son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 16 Ric. II. Thomas Bulkeley held 150 acres in the same, from the king as earl of Chester, in cap.; val. xxviss. viiijd.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VI. Thomas de Bulkeley of Wolstanwood, held, inter alia, one messuage and c acres here, as before, val. xijss. Margery, wife of William de

Brindeley, and Jaue and Maud her sisters, next of kin and heirs.

Another Inq. was taken 7 Hen. VI. varying in trifling particulars, and naming no heir.

In the subsequent inquisitions (31 Hen. VIII. 1 and 2 Ph. & Mary), the capital messuage and the mill are stated to belong to the Griffins of Barterton; and in other inquisitions, estates here are described as being severally the property of sir Richard Egerton, the Sparkes of Nantwich, and the Brookes of Leighton. All these were held from the earldom in capite, but none are described as possessed of manerial privileges.

The manerial rights now exercised were vested in the Cholmondeleys, as far back as they can be traced, and probably passed to them as an appendage of their share of the barony of Wich Malbank. By Inq. 35 Eliz. William Bromley, esq. is found to hold certain rents here (1111. vis. viiijd.) from sir Hugh Cholmondeley, by fealty, in socage.

The said manor was purchased from the marquis of Cholmondeley by the late Mrs. Anne Elcocke of Poole, and is now, by devise, the property of her nephew William Massey, esq.^k

ⁱ Leicester MSS.

^k Information of W. Massey, esq.

Parish of Baddiley.

THE Domesday notice of Baddiley is as follows :

“ Isdem Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Bedelei, Aluric liber homo tenuit. Ibi dimidia virgata geldabilis : terra est una caruca, quæ ibi est in dominio. Silva dimidia leuá longa et tantundem lata : ibi haia. Valebat x solidos, modo v solidos.”

The paramount rights in this vill passed with Auda Malbank to the Vernons, as appears by the Inq. 16 Edw. I. so often cited, and the mesne lords were the family of Praers of Barthomley, a collateral line of which settled in this township^a.

Adam Praers, by Inq. temp. Hen. III. is found to hold this manor of Warin de Vernon, by homage, fealty, and military service; and by another inquisition, 6 Edw. II. Robert de Praers is found to die seized of the same^b.

William de Praers is recognized as manerial lord of Baddiley, in an Inq. sup. extent. 18 Ric. II. relative to his tenant Robert de Bucalhurst, who had been attainted of felony.

The issue of William were Joan, wife of William Mainwaring, and Margery, wife of Hugh Holt, and John Honford, *previous* to which marriages she had a bastard son by her *second husband*, called John Honford, from whom the Honfords and Breretons of Honford^c.

William Mainwaring, sole issue of the marriage of his father with Joan Praers, died s. p. and was buried at Acton; and by his will bequeathed his mother's lands in Baddiley to his half brother John Manwaring and his bastard cousin John Honford^d.

By Inq. after the death of Randle Mainwaring of Peover, 5 and 6 Ph. & Mary, the manor of Badeley is valued at xtl. per ann. with lands in Badeley, Fadeley, Burland, Bryndeley, and Swanlegh; and stated to be held by him with the said lands in capite, from the queen as of her earldom of Chester, by military service, as the fourth part of a knight's fee.

By Inq. after the death of William Brereton of Honford, esq. 8 Jac. I. the manor, or the moiety of the manor of Baddeley, with lands, &c. in Baddeley, Faddeley, Burland, and Brindley, is valued at vtl. and stated to have been held by him from the heirs of sir William Bagot, knt. by services unknown.

The Honford moiety of the manor subsequently either fell into disuse, or was united to that of the Mainwarings by purchase.

After the demise of the late sir Henry Mainwaring of Peover, bart. the manor of Baddiley was sold by his executors to William Rigby of Oldfield, esq. in this county, and having been re-sold by Mr. Rigby, is now (1817) vested in the guardians of Charles Wicksted, esq. a minor^e.

A court baron is incident to the manor, which is subject to the jurisdiction of the earl of Dysart's court leet for Faddiley.

The antient Hall of Baddiley, a large and irregular building of timber and plaister, has been taken down: near its site is

THE CHURCH of Baddiley, standing on a small green, within the same inclosure with the barns and other farming buildings. It consists of a small nave and chancel, originally composed of timber, but the nave has been recently underbuilt with brick. There are remains of some carved seats in the chancel.

In this part of the church also is a mural monument of marble, ornamented with pillars, over which are the arms of Mainwaring, with an escocheon of pretence, Ermine, a lion rampant Or, for Lloyd. Inscription :

Underneath lyes interred
S^r Thomas Mainwaring, bart.
son and heir of sir John Mainwaring, bart.
the twenty-ninth heir male of the
Mainwarings of Peover,
since king William the Conqueror's time.
He married Martha,
eldest daughter of William Lloyd,
of Halghton, in the county of Flint, esq.
He departed this life y^e 20th,
and was interred the 24th of September,
in the year of our Lord 1726.
The said Dame Martha Mainwaring,
his widow, whom he lovingly made
his heir, survives :
and in her dear memory of him
erected this monument.

Round the marble edges of a small altar-tomb adjacent :

Here lieth Jane
Mainwaring, the daughter of Philip
Mainwaring, esq.
She was bur. — of July 1631.^f

^a See pedigree of Praers in Barthomley.

^c See sir T. M.'s corrections of sir Peter Leycester, p. 369, vol. II. Williamson incorrectly gives a third coheiress, Agnes, wife of Richard Bromley of Badington. She was sole heiress of another branch of Praers also settled at Baddiley. ^d Ibid. and p. 370. ^e See pedigree in Nantwich.

^f In Church Notes taken at Baddiley 1662 (Harl. MSS. 2151. 116.) are mentioned various memorials of the families of Davenport of Blackhurst, Behington of Chorley and Milton.

An altar-tomb, with arms of Mainwaring and Minshull, circumscribed Here lieth Jane Mainwaring, the daughter of Phillip Mainwaring, esq.; she was buried 26th of July 1631.

In the windows, various antient shields of Mainwaring and Cholmondeley, with armed figures, and ladies kneeling before desks, on which their beads are laid, and their children kneeling behind them.

The following inscriptions appear severally under different sets of figures :

Orate pro bono statu ——— et Rich'i Cholmondley.

Over the kneeling figure “ Sancte Thoma ora pro nobis.”

Ora pro bono statu Willielmi ———. Arms; Danyel, and two children kneeling behind their father.

Orate pro bono ———. Kneeling figures of five children.

^b Williamson Vill. Cest.

The Church of Baddiley is dedicated to St. Michael, and is a discharged living. Certif. Val. £24. 3s. 6d.

The advowson of the rectory was originally appendant to the manor. A° 28 Edw. III. Jan. 28, William Praers had a licence yet remaining in the exchequer of Chester, to alienate the advowson to the monks of Combermere, who had permission to appropriate from Richard Scroop bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, which probably was not acted upon. After the dissolution the advowson of the rectory was again united to the manor,

and has been retained by the Mainwarings of Peover, since the latter was alienated. It is omitted in the Ecclesiastical Taxation of Pope Nicholas, from which it is probable that the church, if then existing, was a chapel in one of the adjacent parishes of Wybunbury or Acton^s.

In the bishop of Chester's returns to the Governors of queen Anne's Bounty, the rectory is stated to be discharged and unaugmented; value, from tithes and surplice fees, £139. 8s. 6d. The Registers begin in 1579.

RECTORS OF BADDILEY.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
	D'nus Rogerus le Praers.		
1322.	Ricardus le Scriven de Stone, pr'b'r.	Willielmus le Praers d'nus de Badilegh.	P. m. d'ni Rog. le Praers.
1341, 6 kal. Maii.	Thomas de Whythynthone, cap.	Willielmus le Praers d'nus de Badilegh.	P. m. d'ni Ric. de Stone.
	Thomas Brunton.		
1351, 15 kal. Sep.	Willielmus de Merle, pr'b'r.	Willielmus le Praers.	
1356, 12 kal. Feb.	Willielmus de Hinckley.	Abbas de Combernere.	Causa permut.
1361, 9 kal. Oct.	Henricus Meire, cap.	Abbas de Combernere.	
	Thomas de Hopwas.		
1373.	Thomas de Schefford.	Abbas de Combernere.	P. res. Tho. de Hopwas.
1605, 13 Ap.	George Salmon.	Edmund Mainwaring.	
	John Swan.		
1681, 14 Dec.	Thomas Burroughs.	Sir T. Mainwaring, bart.	Death of John Swan.
1691, 6 May.	Daniel Barnet.	Sir John Mainwaring, bart.	Res. of Thomas Burroughs.
1737, 31 Aug.	Robert Frodsham, LL.B.	Sir Tho. Mainwaring, bart.	Death of Dan. Barnet.
1758, 26 Sept.	Thomas Wetenhall, A. B.	Sir Hen. Mainwaring, bart.	Death of Rob. Frodsham.
1759, 1 March.	George Reade, A. M.	Sir Hen. Mainwaring, bart.	Cess. of Tho. Wetenhall.
1796, 15 Feb.	Peter Wright, A. M.	Sir Hen. Mainwaring, bart.	Death of George Reade.

Whitchurch Parish.

THREE townships of this parish extend into the county of Chester, Wirswall, Marbury, and Norbury, the two last of which form a *Parochial Chapelry*; which, like the ancient dependencies of the adjacent parish of Acton, is sometimes reputed a distinct parish of itself. All these townships are joined in one notice in Domesday, and are specified to have been berewicks of Weston, and the property of king Harold, designated under "Comes Heraldus."

"Isdem Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet MERBERIE de una hida et dimidia, et NORBERIE de una hida et dimidia, et WIRESWELLE de una hida. Hæ terræ geldabiles. Berewiche fuerunt, in Westone jacuerunt. Heraldus comes tenuit. Terra est v carucarum. In dominio est una, et ii bovarii, et ii villani, et iiii bordarii cum una carucâ. Silva ii leuis longa, et una leuva lata, et xl perticatis. Totum tempore R. Edwardi valebat xxi solidos, modo x solidos. WIRESWELLE est wasta.

WIRSWALL.

The earliest important document relative to this township, after the entry in Domesday, is the inquisition 16 Edw. I. which ascertains it to have been then held from that portion of Wich Malbank barony that was allotted to Philippa Basset.

The inquisition taken after the death of James lord

Audley, 15 Rich. II. states him to have held, inter alia, two parts of this manor; and the Cholmondeleys and others occur as the sub-tenants of his representatives the Touchets. Other lands are stated to be held from the earls of Shrewsbury, in the inquisitions from the time of Henry VI. to that of Philip and Mary.

Orate pro bono statu Roberti Breynæ et Agnetis. Five children.

Orate pro bono statu Johannis Mainwaringæ et Katherinæ uxoris ejus, et dominæ Margaretæ matris ejus et pro omnibus ejus... Twelve children.

The two next relate to ecclesiastics:

Orate pro anima Johannis Rynste, et animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum.

Orate pro anima Willyelmi Holyn pr's— et animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum.

§ Gastrell Not. Cest.

During this period the Hulses and Bromleys appear to have been principal land-owners.

The manor is now vested in lord Combermere and the earl of Shrewsbury in equal moieties. The interest of the former is apparently derived from the Touchets and Audleys in the same manner with Newhall, to which court the inhabitants of Wirswall are subject^z. That of the Shrewsbury family is probably a portion of the neighbouring estates which they derived from the lords Strange of Blackmere.

The township is situated on the edge of the county, and rises into a succession of elevated but verdant slopes, commanding a very extensive prospect over

Shropshire and North Wales. On the summit of one of these elevations is Wicksted Hall, or Hall of Wicksted, which was the residence of the Wicksteds from an early period. The pedigree of a collateral line, which branched from this family in the reign of Henry VIII. has been given in the account of Nantwich. The direct male descendants continued at Wicksted until the last century, when Mary, daughter and heiress of Richard Wicksted, esq. brought this estate in marriage to Simon Ethelston, of Hadley, in Marbury, whose grandson, the rev. C. Wicksted Ethelston, M.A. fellow of the collegiate church of Manchester, is the present proprietor^a.

Parochial Chapelry of Marbury.

THE descent of the paramount royalty of Marbury corresponded in all respects with that of Wirswall down to 16 Edw. I. when the mesne manor was held from the representatives of Philippa Basset. A large portion of her share of the barony vested in the Praers family, and Marbury was held from the Baddiley branch of that house.

Inq. p. m. 24 Edw. III. John le Strange held the manor of Merburye juxta Norburye, from William de Praers, by the service of one knight's fee; val. per ann. xxi marks. John le Strange son and heir.

This heir was John lord Strange of Blackmere, whose father and whose elder brother Fulk died in the year preceding this inquisition. The next inquisition goes back to his great uncle.

Inq. p. m. 49 Edw. III. John "Extraneus" held the manor of Marbury from the king as earl of Chester, by the service of one knight's fee; val. per ann. xl. Fulk brother and heir, which Fulk had issue John, who had John, who had a third John, who had Elizabeth daughter and heiress^b.

Inq. p. m. 7 Ric. II. Elizabeth, wife of Thomas de Mowbray earl of Nottingham, held in demesne, as of fee, two parts of the manor of Marbury, cum pert. from the lord of Badyley, by military service; val. per ann. xl. Ankaret, daughter of John le Strange, junr. ch'vr, next of kin and heir.

This Ankaret (who was aunt to the countess of Nottingham) married Richard Talbot, summoned to Parliament 7 Ric. II. as lord Talbot of Blackmere, and had issue John the great earl of Shrewsbury, who died 31 Hen. VI.

An *Inq. p. m.* 1 Edw. IV. taken with reference to this earl, makes mention of a fine which he levied of the manor of Marbury, which is valued at xx marks per ann. but from whom held the jurors knew not.

Inq. p. m. 13 Edw. IV. John, late earl of Shrewsbury, held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Marburye, cum pert. from the prince as earl of Chester, by military service; val. per ann. xxi marks. Geo. Talbot son and heir.

"40 Eliz. Edward Talbot, esq. and Jane his wife past over to sir Jo.^c Egerton, keeper of the Great Seal, the manor of Marburye, and view of frank pledge there for £2000."^d

The manor of Marbury has descended to the present earl of Bridgewater, from this distinguished purchaser; and notwithstanding the numerous and extensive acquisitions made by lord Brackley in his native county, it is the only Cheshire manor that remains vested in his lineal representative.

Some lands in Marbury and in *Quoisley*, a hamlet of the township, are stated in the inquisitions to be held from the order of St. John of Jerusalem, to the court of which Quoisley is still presumed to be subject^e. An estate in this hamlet appears to have passed much in the same manner with the manor of Chowley in Broxton hundred, and having been purchased by the late John Knight of Whitchurch, esq. (who died Nov. 11, 1789) is now (1817) vested in his son of the same name and place.

HADLEY HALL, in Marbury, is noticed in Webb's Itinerary, as having been the seat of the Hulses, and afterwards of a branch of the Brereton family. It subsequently passed to the Ethelstons, and becoming united to the Wicksted Hall estate (mentioned under Wirswall) has passed by the same title to the present proprietor, the rev. C. W. Ethelston.

MARLEY HALL is also noticed by Webb, as the seat of the Poole family. The connection of this branch of the Pooles with Marley terminated for a time early in the last century in Charles Poole, whose daughter and heiress Mary, married Thomas Tatton of Stockport, a younger brother of the Withenshaw family^f. Marley subsequently passed to the rev. Cudworth Poole (nephew of Charles Poole abovementioned^g) under the will of Robert Heath of Hanley, in Norbury, who had purchased it from the Tattons^h; and was bequeathed by Mr. Poole to his godson Domville Halsted of Dane Bank, esq. whose son Domville Halsted Cudworth Poole, esq.ⁱ is the present possessor of this estate, and the most considerable land proprietor in the township. The present residence of the family is a newly erected mansion on the bank of Marbury Mere.

Marbury is situated in an extremely sequestered part of the country. The surface of the ground undulates in a manner very unusual in Cheshire, and the narrow

^z Information of Philip Humberston, esq. agent of lord Combermere.

^a Information of the rev. C. W. Ethelston, M.A.—The antient documents of the Wicksteds were destroyed by a fire at Wicksted, about 40 years ago, which has done away with the possibility of giving a more particular account of the family.

^b The *Inq.* was taken shortly after the death of the last John, who died 49 Edw. III.

^d Williamson's Fines, p. 86. This was Edward, younger brother of Gilbert seventh earl of Shrewsbury, who afterwards succeeded to the title, and in whom the first line of the Talbots earls of Shrewsbury became extinct.

^f See pedigree in Withenshaw.

^g MS. Collections of Ralph Biglaud, esq. Norroy.

ⁱ See pedigree of Domville in Lymme.

^e A clerical error for *Thomas*,

who afterwards succeeded to the title, and

^c See Gastrell Not. Cest.

^h Lysons's Magna Brit. vol. II. part 2.

sandy roads wind amongst the defiles, in a most picturesque manner, being constantly overhung with luxuriant timber. The village itself is a cluster of farm-houses, occupying a rising ground between two small meres or lakes, from which the township derives its name. On the verge of a knoll, immediately overhanging one of the lakes, is the

CHURCH,

A picturesque building of red stone, grey with age, handsomely finished with buttresses, battlements, and pinnacles. It consists of a tower, nave with side aisles, and chancel. The nave is divided from the side aisles by a range of pointed arches on each side, resting on

short pillars with capitals. The chancel has been added to the rest of the fabric with meaner materials, and in a humbler style.

The curate of this chapelry is provided by the rector of Whitchurch^k. The Registers begin in 1538^l.

A School was built here on a part of the church-yard in 1688, chiefly at the expence of the parish, and had a small endowment for the education of four children, from Mrs. Bickerton of Townley^m. Other charities are specified in the Parliamentary Return.

It does not appear when this church was annexed to Whitchurch parish. In the Eccl. Tax. of P. Nicholas, it is returned in eccl'ia de Merbur', and valued at vi.

NORBURY.

THE early account of the two preceding townships, including the evidence of the inquisition 16 Edw. I. applies also to Norbury. In the 16th century this manor was vested in the crown, probably as parcel of one of those portions of Wich Malbank which had escheated by attainder of the Lovells or the Audleys, and was granted by Henry VIII. to sir Thomas Gresham; and, after a resumption, granted again to sir Hugh Cholmondeley.

Inq. p. m. 39 Eliz. Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, knt. held in demesne, as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Norburie cum Althurst, with view of frank-pledge, the water-mill, lands, messuages, and quit-rents, from the queen, as of her earldom of Chester, by military service, val. per ann. xl.

Inq. p. m. 43 Eliz. sir Hugh Cholmondeley, knt. held, inter alia, as before, from the queen, in capite, as of her crown of England, val. per ann. iiii. vis. vii. d.

This manor has descended, with the other property of the family, to the present marquis of Cholmondeley. The surface of the township is more flat than that of the rest of the parish, but is enlivened by views of the Broxton hills, and the grounds of Cholmondeley.

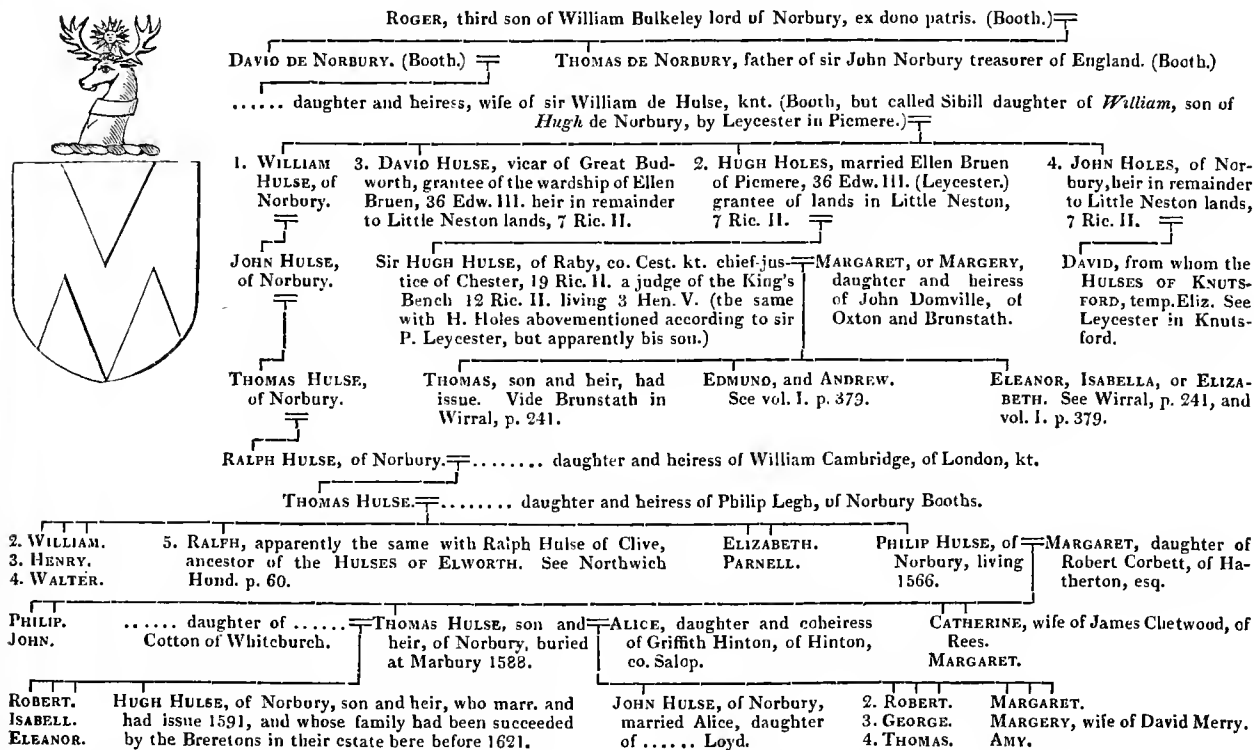
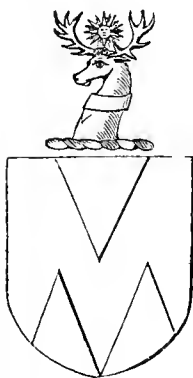
Shortly after the acquisition of this place, the Cholmondeleys resided at Althurst (or Altridge, as it is commonly called): a branch of the Bromleys were also seated here; and Swanwick, another portion of the township, was the residence of a family that bore the local nameⁿ. Last, but not least important, were the Hulses of Norbury, the parent branch of many respectable families, under whom the Cholmondeleys held lands here before their acquisition of the manor, and whose predecessors, the Bulkeleys and Norburys, were termed lords of Norbury, and apparently held a mesne royalty, and the greater part of the lands of the township.

HULSE OF NORBURY.

From Booth's Pedigrees, with additions from the authorities referred to.

ARMS. Argent, three piles Sable, one in chief, the others reversed in base.

CREST. On a wreath a buck's head couped, proper, collared Or, between the horns a sun of the last.



^k Gastrell Not. Cest.

^l Returns to the Episcopal Court.

^m Gastrell as before. Church Notes taken at Marbury in 1572. Harl. MSS. 2151. p. 69. mention the windows being ornamented with the arms of Talbot, Harrington, Warren, Mainwaring, Ashton, and Cholmondeley, with requests of intercession for Will'm Chomley and Eliz. his wife, 1528, and George Vernon, "rector eccl'ie de Whitechurch, et isti' eccl'ie."

ⁿ In Harl. MSS. 2040, 198 b. is a pedigree of the Swanwicks of Swanwick, of seven descents, ending in 1613, with two coats with Swanwick, the first, Or, a boar stantant Sable between 3 cross crosslets Sable, the second (being the one then borne), Az. a chevron Arg. between 3 swans volant Arg.

This family derived their name from Hulse, in Northwih Hundred, where some of the name have been noticed at an early period, as benefactors to Chester Abbey, who were probably the immediate progenitors of the Norbury family, and from this last branch came the Hulses of Raby, Knutsford, Clive, and Elworth. The Hulses of Bremer, co. Hants, baronets, are also

said to be descended from the Cheshire stock.

The preceding pedigree, from Booth, brings down the Norbury line to the termination of their interest in this township, and contains some additions and corrections as to the connection of the collateral branches, and the descent of their estate in Norbury from the Bulkeley of Bulkeley.

Audlem Parish

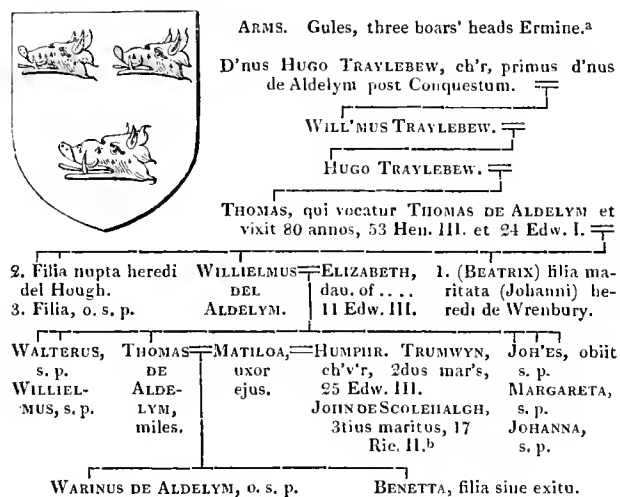
CONTAINS the townships of Audlem, Buerton, Hankelow, and Tittenley, and parts of those of Dodecote cum Wilkesley, and Sound, which have been described under Wrenbury chapelry.

AUDLEM.

THE vill of Audlem was parcel of the Norman barony of Shipbrook.

“Isdem Ricardus (de Vernon) tenet Aldelime: Osmer tenuit. Ibi 11 hidæ geldabiles: terra est v caruearum. In dominio est una, et unus servus, et unus villanus, et unus radman, et unus bordarius cum unâ caruca. Ibi 11 acræ prati. Silva 11 leuvis longa, et una leuvâ lata, et 111 haiaæ, et aira accipitris. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos, modo v111 solidos. Wasta invenitur.”

The mesne lords were the Traylebews, who settled shortly after the Conquest, subsequently assumed the local name, and continued in possession until the time of Edward III. when the manor was parted between the aunts and coheirs of sir Thomas de Aldelym, wives of Hoghe and Wrenbury. The following pedigree from Booth brings down the descent to this period:



The following descent is unavoidably intricate from portions of the manor belonging successively to three distinct lines of Masseys, severally of Hough, Denfield, and Lymme, who have been heretofore confounded, but are now identified from original evidences.

HOUGH MOIETY. The Houghs, representatives of

one coheir of Aldelym, are noticed under Hough in Wybunbury, and ended in Richard del Hough, who by Inq. 7 Ric. II. left two daughters and coheireses. By Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. IV. Richard del Massye del Hoghe (a supposed younger brother of Sale) is found (inter alia) tenant by courtesy, in right of Ellen, eldest of these coheireses, of certain lands here (le Goseroft), by render of 11s. at Chester, called chamber rent, and of a moiety of the manor of Aldelym, and a saltwork in Wich Malbank, held from Richard, son of Richard de Vernon, ch'v'r, by military service, and the render of 11s. per ann.; val. viii. xs.

Without entering on unnecessary repetitions, this moiety will be traced by referring to Hough, through the successive inquisitions of the Masseys of that place, 8 Hen. V. 9 and 19 Hen. VI. and 19 Edw. IV. after which it was alienated to the Smyths, with Hough, 8 Hen. VIII. and appears in the inquisitions of sir Thomas and sir Lawrence Smyth 30 Hen. VIII. and 25 Eliz.

This share was purchased from the representatives of the Smyths, by *William Mascie, esq. hereafter mentioned*, about the beginning of the eighteenth century.

WRENBURY MOIETY. The descent of the Wrenburies from Beatrix de Aldelym, wife of John de Wrenbury, is given in the township of that name. John de Wrenbury, last heir male, had three daughters, by his wife Johanna, Agnes wife of Randle de Oldinton, Anabilia wife of Hugh Massey of Tatton, and Alicia wife of John de Wettenhall. The *third coheir* brought a third of the Wrenbury moiety (a sixth of the whole) in marriage to her husband.^c

This *Wettenhall subdivision* of the Wrenbury share passed with the Wettenhall estate in Hankelow to the Tomkinsons, agreeably to the descent given in that township, and was purchased from the last-named family by Mascie Taylor, esq. hereafter mentioned.

The *Massey subdivision*, consisting apparently of the shares of the first and second coheireses of John de Wrenbury, descended as follows:

^d HUGH MASSEY of Tatton, according to the Audlem

^a The Stapeleys appear to have been of the stock of the Traylebews from these arms.

^b This marriage took place in 1364, and Scolehalgh, who was a priest, voided his living by it. See Haslington, p. 173.

^c From Vernon's Abstract of Audlem evidences, Somerford MSS.

^d Aldelim deeds, Somerford MSS. 3. and Harl. MSS. 1967. from which the following account is arranged.

deeds (carefully abstracted by Vernon) married Anabilia second daughter and coheirss of John de Wrenbury, and was father, among other sons, of sir John Massey of Tatton. Sir P. L. mentions Alice —, as the wife of this Hugh Massey; but as his pedigree of this family was only partially illustrated by original evidences, it is probable either that Alice was not the mother of her husband's children, or that her name was mistaken altogether.

Sir John Massey of Tatton, son of Hugh, who appears to have had one-sixth (or a third of a moiety) from his mother (at least his father's wife) Anabilia de Wrenbury, obtained by fine, from her mother Joan, another sixth, which appears to have been held in dower by the said Joan, and by the widow of sir Thomas de Aldelim, and which was doubtless the share settled in reversion on the first coheirss. The deed by which this coheirss conveyed her reversionary right has not occurred, but her descendants inherited no interest in Audlem. The said sir John pays 33s. as a relief for his manor of Aldelim, to

Ralph Vernon of Shipbrook, the capital lord, 13 Ric. II.

Sir Geoffry Massey of Tatton (second son) succeeded his father, and 8 Hen. V. has a release of the lands in Aldelim from Margaret, widow of his elder brother Thomas; which Thomas by an inquisition the year following is found to have died seized of two parts of the manor of Audlem, in joint feoffment with the said Margaret. This sir Geoffry was succeeded at Tatton by his nephew William Massey, and left, as sir Peter Leycester states, a bastard son John: from him the Masseys of Audlem and Denfield descended, and not, as supposed by sir Peter Leycester and others, from Oliver, legitimate younger brother of Hugh Massey abovementioned, who appears to have died s. p. as his estate certainly reverted to the Masseys of Tatton, and passed by settlement, as hereafter shewn, to John Massey of Denfield and Audlem, bastard son of sir Geoffry Massey.

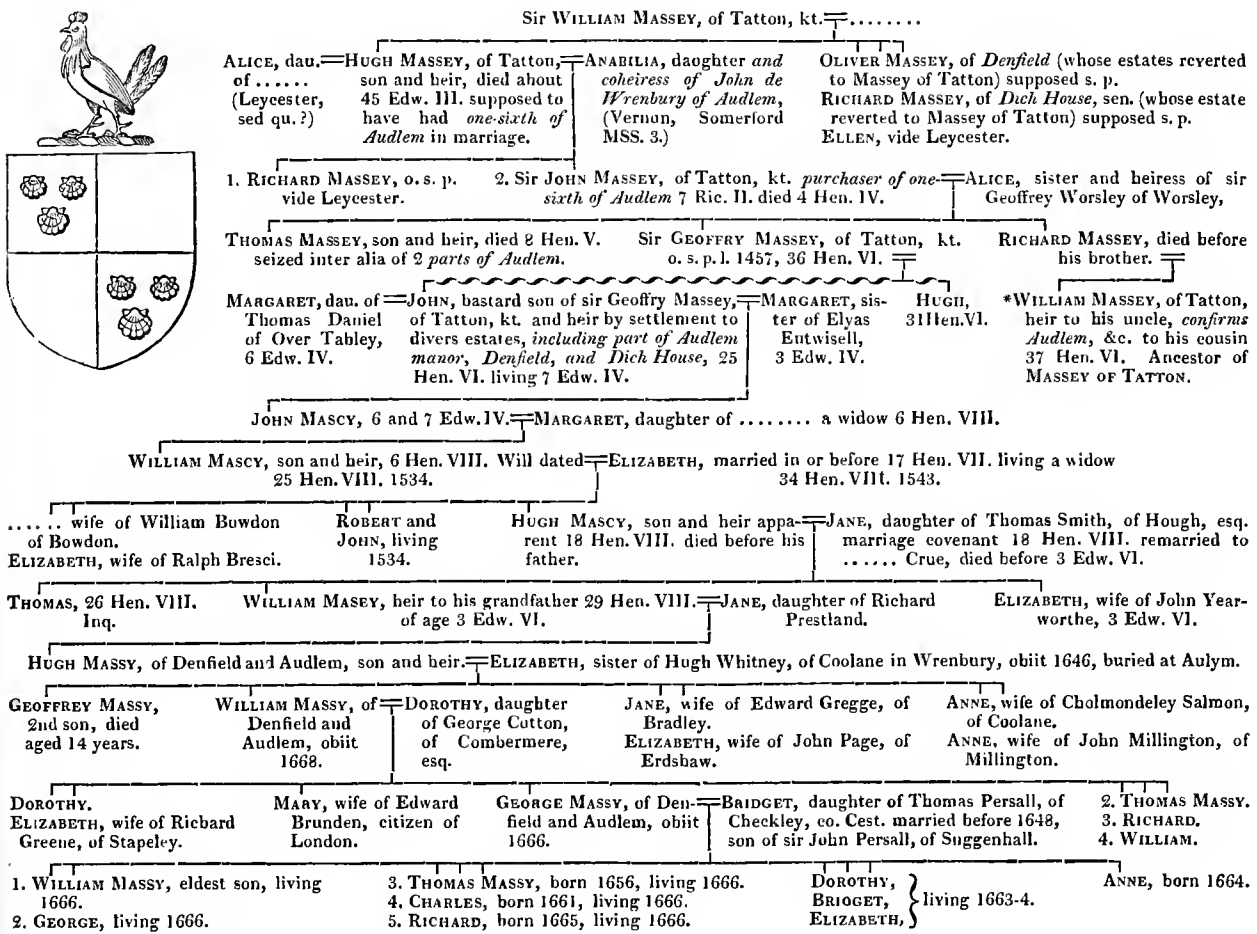
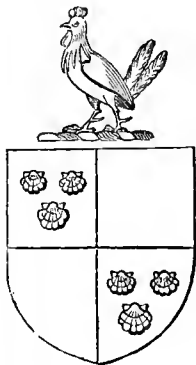
The following account of this illegitimate branch of Massey of Tatton will be made clearer by collation with the annexed pedigree.

MASSEY OF AUDLEM AND DENFIELD.

From deeds formerly in the possession of the family abstracted by Vernon, Somerford MSS. lib. 3, and Harl. MSS. 1967, continued from the Tabley MSS. and Dugdale's Visitation 1663-4.

ARMS. Quarterly Gules and Or, in the 1st and 4th quarters three escallops Argent.

CREST. On a wreath a heathcock statant Sable, legs, comb, and wattles Gules.



* In Dugdale's Visitation is a pedigree by Vernon, which is one of many instances that the faithful transcribers of deeds in the seventeenth century were unable to arrange their own valuable collections; among other errors he confounds this William, who confirms to the bastard, with William, grandson of the bastard.

I. John Gartside, chaplain, gives to *John, son of sir Geoffry Massey, knight*, &c. the lands called Denfield and Dyke Houses, late *the property of Oliver Massey*, and Richard Massey, senr. 4 June 25 Hen. VI. Ult. Feb. 35 Hen. VI. Sir Geoffry Massey, knight, gives to John his son all the deeds, instruments, &c. belonging to lands late given to John Gartside, priest, feoffee; and, March 18, 37 Hen. VI. (about two years after sir Geoffry's death), William Mascy, consang. et heres (nephew) of sir Geoffry, confirms to John, son of sir Geoffry Massey, all the lands of which John Gartside was trustee, in Aldelim, Wrenbury, Worleston, Nantwich, Kermincham, and Rosthorne.

The said John Massey (fil. nup. Galf. Massey mil.) 3 Edw. IV. appoints Elyas, Oliver, James, Alexander, Edward, and John Entwysell, trustees of lands settled on his wife Margaret, sister of the said Elyas; covenants 6 Edw. IV. that he will marry Margaret daughter of Tho. Danyel of Tabley; and occurs last in 7 Edw. IV. as a joint trustee with his cousin Geoffry Massey of Tatton.

II. John Massey has been already identified as son of John Massey preceding.

III. William, son and heir of John Mascy, occurs 7 Nov. 6 Hen. VIII. in an indenture with his mother Margaret, then holding Denfield in dower. The same William previously (17 Hen. VII.) had settled lands in Aldelim on his wife Elizabeth for life; remainder to the heirs of their bodies: in 18 Hen. VIII. settles lands in the same on Jane, daughter of Thomas Smith of Hough, daughter of his son and heir apparent, Hugh Mascy: and died before 34 Hen. VIII. when Elizabeth his widow pays 40s. to her son-in-law William Bowdon, of Bowdon, part of £6. 13s. 4d. due by award. His will, dated 1534, 25 Hen. VIII. mentions the children specified in the pedigrees, and ascertains his son Hugh to have died, leaving William son and heir.

IV. William Mascy (son of Hugh) was made ward of Richard Cholmondeley, by grant from his grandfather William Mascy, 26 Hen. VIII.; 31 Hen. VIII. was ward of William Prestland, probably by assignment from Richard Cholmondeley; married the daughter of his guardian; and 20 May, 3 Edw. VI. confirms lands given in marriage with his sister Elizabeth, by his late mother Jane *Crue*.

From this period, contemporary entries in the Visitations, with a few additions from monuments and the Tabley MSS. bring down the Masseys of Audlem and Denfield to the time of Car. II. when they appear to have terminated. Their interest in this manor passed (either by conveyance, or possibly by devise, as there was relationship by intermarriages,) to the Masseys of Sale, and vested in a younger brother of that house, William Massey of Lymme, who bought the share of the manor which (as before mentioned) passed from the

Masseys of Hough to the Smiths. Mascie Taylor of Audlem and Chester, esq. great-grandson of the said William, and the possessor of his Audlem property^c, has purchased the small residue which descended from the Wrenburys with the Hankelow estate (also before-mentioned), and in him the whole is thus re-united.

AUDLEM HALL, called the MOSS HALL (the seat of the Masseys of Denfield, and the property of M. Taylor, esq.) in a low situation north-west of the town, is a large building of timber and plaster. The front consists of four large gables, with a smaller and lower one in the centre over the entrance porch, which like the two ends of the buildings projects from the general line of front. The rooms are lighted by large bay windows.

A weekly market and fair on the eve, day, and morrow of St. James the Apostle, was granted to sir Thomas de Aldelym 24 Edw. I. (Harl. MSS. 2074. 203. b.) and after having long fallen into disuse has been recently revived by Mr. Taylor.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. James.

Certified value, £68. 11s. 7d.

Tax. P. N. £10. Val. Eccl. £5. 16s. 8d.

From the silence of Domesday, it is most probable that the church of Audlem was not in existence at the time of that survey, and that the townships, whose inhabitants now resort to it, were comprized in Wybunbury, or some of the adjoining parishes.

The church was given by Thomas de Aldelim to the priory of St. Thomas at Stafford, in the reign of Edw. I. by the friars of which the rectory was appropriated^d. After the dissolution, the appropriated rectory and the advowson of the vicarage were granted, by royal letters patent, Oct. 13, 31 Hen. VIII. to Rowland Lee, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield^e.

The inappropriation and patronage have subsequently passed through various hands, specified in the list of incumbents, and by the last sale were transferred to the family of Cotton of Combermere, in which they are now vested. The registers begin 1642.

A grammar-school (free only to the parish) was founded, and chiefly endowed, anno 1655, by sir William Bolton and Mr. Gamull, citizens of London. The endowment was £40 per ann.; £30 to the head master, and £10 to the usher: (£20 of which was paid out of the estate of — Brown in Coole-lane, the other £20 by the company of Merchant Taylors in London), and £8 per annum was appropriated to a dinner^f.

There was also a charity school, founded 1719, by Mrs. Bolton, to which she gave £4. 9s. per annum, out of a modus for tithe-hay in the township of Audlem^g.

Other charities are specified in the parliamentary return.

VICARS OF AUDLEM.

PRESENTED.	VICARS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1503, May 24.	Hugh Haskyc. Thomas Messingham.	The Prior and Convent of St. Thomas, at Stafford.	Death of Hugh Haskyc.
1505-6, March 16.	William Toft. Richard Whittell.	The same.	Death of Tho. Messingham.
1557, Feb. 26.	Ralph Sondford.	Brian Fowler.	Death of Richard Whittell.
1582, May 10.	Thomas Hardware.	Sir Lawrence Smith.	Death of Ralph Sondford.

^c See pedigree in Sale and Lymme, vol. I. p. 424, and p. 437.

^d Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^e Harl. MSS. 1967. 17.

^f Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^g Ibid.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1641, Aug. 28.	Richard Eaton. Thomas Cole.	William Sandford.	Death of Thomas Hardware.
1696, July 7.	John Oliver, A.M.	Richard Lister.	Death of Thomas Cole.
1714, March 19.	Goodman Brocklesby.	Richard Brocklesby.	Death of John Oliver.
1716, Sept. 8.	William Wickstede.	Richard Brocklesby.	
1731, May 21.	Samuel Jenks, A.M.	William Wickstead.	Death of Wm. Wickstead.
1743, Sept. 26.	William Wickstead, A. B.	Thomas Read, gent.	Res. of Samuel Jenks.
1752, Oct. 2.	Samuel Lea, jun. A.M.	William Wickstead.	Res. of Wm. Wickstead.
1797, Oct. 5.	Walthall Gretton, A. M.	Sir Rob. Salusbury Cotton, bart.	Death of Samuel Lea.
1799, June 24.	Griffith Lloyd, A. B.	Sir R. Salusbury Cotton, bart.	Death of Walthall Gretton.
1802, Oct. 18.	William Cotton, LL.B.	Sir R. Salusbury Cotton, bart.	Res. of Griffith Lloyd.

The Church stands in the middle of the village on high ground, which falls away rapidly from it on the south and east sides, and gives the building an unusual and picturesque appearance: the windows being placed in consequence higher than common in the wall, and the stone-work, which is continued much lower than the floor of the church, being supported by numerous and massy buttresses.

The interior consists of a nave, with side-aisles, a chancel, and a tower. The nave is divided from the side-aisles by six pointed arches on the south, and by four corresponding ones, and a fifth arch, narrow and very acutely pointed, on the north side, the rest of the space on this side being occupied by the tower. The arches rest on hexagonal pillars with capitals: over them is a row of clerestory windows.

At the end of the north aisle is a chancel belonging to the manor of Hankelow.

In various parts of the church are several monumental tablets, and small paintings with the arms of Hassal, Bressy, Cardyffe, Bolton, and others. The two following monuments are however the only ones which appear to deserve particular notice.

A mural tablet, fixed against the south wall of the chancel, inscribed:

Sacred
to the memory of

Nathaniel Wetenhall, esq.
son of Gabriel Wetenhall, esq. and Katherine Cope.

He married Arabella, daughter of
Brigadier-general Edward Montagu,
only brother of
George earl of Halifax.

He died in the 77th year of his age,
1778, Feb. 6th.

His remains,
and those of his father and mother,
are deposited in this chancel.

This monument is erected by his affectionate widow,
Arabella Wetenhall.

THE SECOND MONUMENT is inscribed as follows:

Near this place
are deposited the remains of Arabella,
daughter of brigadier-general Montagu,
and widow of Nathaniel Wetenhall, esq.
who died July 20th, 1798,
aged 85 years.

In memory of her many virtues,
and as a tribute of grateful affection,
this tablet was erected by
the honourable Martha Venables Vernon.

Under the monument are the arms of Wetenhall, in
a lozenge, impaling Montagu^z.

BUERTON.

“ Isdem Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Burtune. Seuuardus tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est III carucarum. In dominio sunt II, et unus bovarius. Ibi silva dimidia leuva longa, et tantundem lata, et III haia et aira accipitris; valet x solidos.

“ Isdem Willielmus tenet Haretone, &c. (Hatherton.)

“ Hæc II maneria tempore R. Edwardi valebant XL solidos, modo x solidos.”

The *Inq.* 16 Edw. I. states the paramount rights in this vill to have passed in the division of the barony to Philippa Basset. The mesne royalty was vested in a family which assumed the local name.

15 Edw. III.^a Peter de Buyrton obtained by fine this manor for life, remainder to John his son and Agnes his wife, and their heirs.

47 Edw. III.^b Elizabeth, widow of Adam de Buyrton, gave to Richard del Hogh and Joan his wife, all the

lands and tenements, &c. cum pert. which she had in the vill of Buerton, and formerly belonged to Nicolas, son of Philip de Wevere, with liberty of common, to hold to them and their heirs from the capital lord by the usual services.

The manor was subsequently vested in the Pooles of Poole, probably by marriage, as they occasionally quartered the arms of Buerton^c.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. Thomas Poole, esq. held, inter alia, the manor and vill of Buerton, from Robert Corbet, of Adderton, esq. (Hatherton, with which Buerton is joined in Domesday) in socage, by the render of one red rose per ann. Val. xl.

Inq. p. m. 30 Hen. VIII. Randle Poole held, as before, lands in Buerton. Val. as before, render 1d. per ann.

Inq. p. m. 1 Edw. VI. Thomas Poole, esq. held, inter alia, lands and tenements in Buerton from Robert Cor-

^z Church Notes, Harl. MSS. 2151, taken at Audlem 1520, with later ones, Oct. 26, 1668, contain many notices of achievements and mutilated paintings on glass, and the following memorandum:

Thomas Gamul of Buerton, gent. at his decease, anno .. left money to buy an antiphon for this church of Aldelyme, and likewise a competent summe of money to glasse a whole window in the saide church, over against St. Laurance chancell, containeing four lights. In the first to have the image of St. Mary; 2d, the image of St. Laurance; 3d, the image of St. John the Baptist; and 4th, to have the image of St. John the Evangelist.

^a Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^b Ibid.

^c See Wirral Hund. p. 227, col. 2. No marriage appears in the pedigree by which they could acquire this township; but the wife of sir John Poole, temp. Ric. II. is not identified.

bett, esq. by the render of a red rose. Val. £33. 9s. 9d. Inq. p. m. 12 Jac. I. John Poole, esq. held the manor of Buerton from the heirs of Robert Corbett, esq. ten. and val. as in last Inq.

The Pooles were in possession in the commencement of the last century, shortly after which the manor was alienated, and the same is now vested in sir John Delves Broughton, bart. having been purchased by his father the late sir Thomas Broughton, bart.

The GAMULS, who were originally of Knighton in Staffordshire, became connected with this township in or before the reign of Edw. IV. and terminated in the direct male line in a gallant loyalist, distinguished by his zealous services to king Charles the First. SIR FRANCIS GAMUL was knighted by that sovereign in Cornwall, and had the honour of entertaining him at his house in the Bridge-street of Chester during his visit to the besieged city. At this time he occurs in the annals of the siege as a constant attendant on the royal person; was at his side on the Phœnix tower, a joint spectator

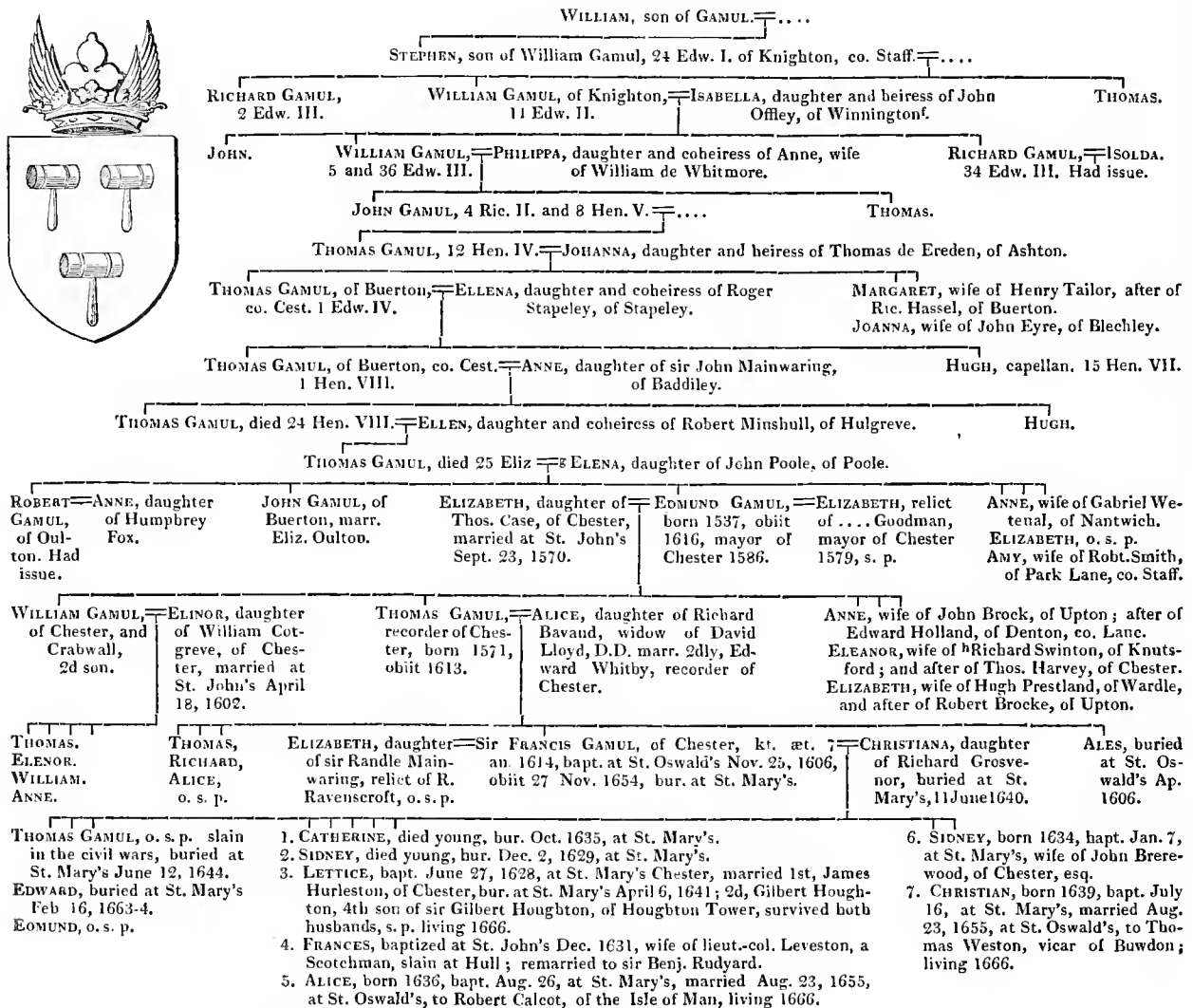
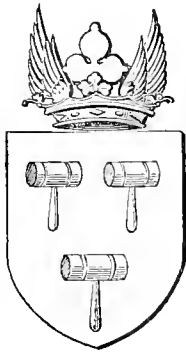
of the disastrous fight at Rowton-heath; afterwards aided his perilous retreat from Chester to Denbigh-castle; and in the last extremities of the siege stands at the head of the list of commissioners who entered their protest against the articles of surrender. There is a family tradition that a baronetcy was granted to sir Francis as the reward of his exertions; and some minutes of expences attending the grant are in existence^d. The patent, however, if made, was never registered, and Le Neve was probably right in supposing that the warrant was issued for making out the patent, but that no further steps were taken^e. The return from the other party was of course a sequestration, but, in consequence of an entail, this extended no farther than the life-interest of sir Francis: one of his sons died young, and the other was slain in the civil wars, and the estate being divided among his daughters after his death in 1654, the family seat at Buerton was shortly afterwards alienated. Its site is now occupied by a farm-house, the property of sir J. D. Broughton, bart.

GAMUL OF BUERTON.

From Harl. MSS. 1535, with additions from a MS. pedigree by sir Peter and sir F. Leicester, and Parish Registers.

ARMS. Or, three mallets Sable.

CREST. A trefoil slipped Or, between two wings Sable, issuing from a ducal coronet Or.



^d Information of the rev. Thomas Edwards of Aldford.

^e Le Neve's MS. pedigrees of baronets in the possession of R. Bigland, esq. Norroy.

Sir Francis Gamul is represented by the boy kneeling at the feet of his parents on their monument in St. Mary's Chester, see vol. I. p. 265, and by the officer standing at the door of the royal tent in the painted glass at Farndon, Broxton Hund. p. 408, in which, with reference to the tradition above-mentioned, the arms have the badge of *baronetcy*. Original paintings of him and of his wife Christiana Grosvenor, are in possession of the rev. Thomas Edwards of Aldford, a descendant from the Gamuls of Crabwall (a collateral branch of the Buerton family), who have a pedigree in Wirral Hund. p. 318. Monuments of both families will be found in the account of St. Mary's Chester, Vol. I. pp. 168. 266.

^f Hasselwall. Sir F. Leicester.

^g Eliz. Ibid.

^h Matthew Anderton. Ibid.

ⁱ This line by sir P. Leicester, p. 96.

TITLEY.

“ ISDEM Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Titesle. Edric tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi 111 virgatae gel-dabiles. Terra est una caruca: ibi est cum 11 villanis, et 11 bordariis. Silva ibi dimidia leuva longa, et tantun-dem lata. Valebat 1v solidos, modo v solidos.”

The Inq. 16 Edw. I. states the paramount rights of the barony of Nantwich in this vill to have passed to the Vernons, and they are uniformly noticed in the inquisitions of their successors the Savages.

Thomas de Titesle, mesne lord of this manor, occurs in a list of suitors to the earldom, 14 Edw. I. His

descendants, or at least his successors of the local name, continued in possession until 17 Hen. VIII. when Robert Needham obtained of Humphrey Tittley, and Randle his son and heir, the manor of Tittley, one mes-suage and mill, and 302 acres of land and heath, for £500.^a

The Needhams had a park here in 1666, as appears by an entry in a villare of that date (Harl. MSS. 2010); and the manor has subsequently descended, with the other Cheshire estates of the Needhams, to the present peer, 1817.

HANKELow

Was part of the original barony of Wich Malbank, although unnoticed in Domesday. The paramount royalty passed in the partition of that barony (as by the inquisition 16 Edw. I.) to the Vernons of Shipbrook, and was subsequently held from their successors, the Savages.

Under the Vernons, the mesne manor was held by the Hassals of Hassal, at least as early as 16th Hen. VI. and descended with Hassal to 1622, when, in the partition between the sons of Ralph Hassal, Hankelow passed to William his younger son. It was subsequently in moieties between Mary and Jane, daughters of the said William, and severally wives of John and Rowland Wibbenbury, the latter of whom finally bought out his brother and sisters-in-laws' interest in Hankelow^b, about the middle of the seventeenth century.

The manor is now vested in James Bayley, esq. whose ancestor^c purchased from the representatives of the Wibbenburys.

Hankelow Hall, a large and handsome mansion of brick, situated in a part of the township which possesses more extensive prospects and greater undulation of sur-face than the rest of the country immediately adja-cent, has passed by a recent sale (1817) to Thomas Cooper, esq. from Mr. John Richardson, whose father

purchased the same from Edward Wetenhall, esq. (pre-viously Tomkinson) of Bostock, afterwards of Han-kelow.

This estate was successively the property and resi-dence of two distinct branches of the Wetenhalls of Wetenhall.

This connection of the *first line* with the parent-stock is given in the following pedigree. It does not appear when they first settled in Hankelow, but they probably terminated in Nathaniel Wetenal (aged 23 years, 1663), who gave his estates to Gabriel Wetenhall, esq. barrister-at-law, remotely descended from the same family, as stated in the following pedigree of the second line. Gabriel left one son (Nathaniel), who died in 1778; after the decease of whose widow, in 1798, Edward Tomkinson of Bostock, esq. before mentioned, heir under his will, and a collateral relative in the female line, assumed the name of Wetenhall.

The annexed pedigrees give the descent of both lines of Wetenhall of Hankelow, with the collateral branch, which has succeeded to the estates of the Mainwarings of Peover, and their descendants in the female line, viz. the Tomkinsons of Bostock, of Dorfold, and of Hankelow, whose several manerial estates have been often noticed in the preceding pages.

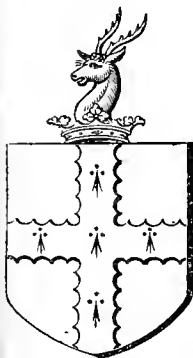
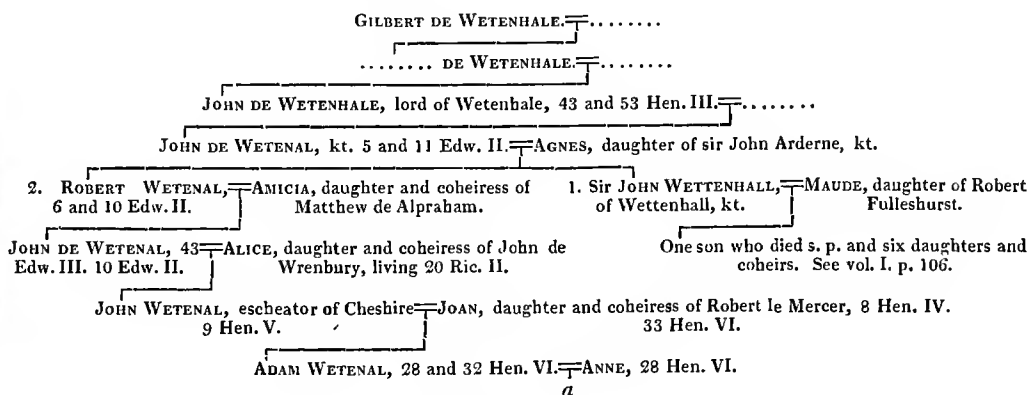
WETTENHALL OF HANKELow.

From Dugdale's Visitation 1663-4, collated with Somerford MSS. 9. 105.

ARMS. Vert, a cross engrailed Ermine.

CREST. An antelope's head Argent, attired Gules, issuing from a ducal coronet of the second.

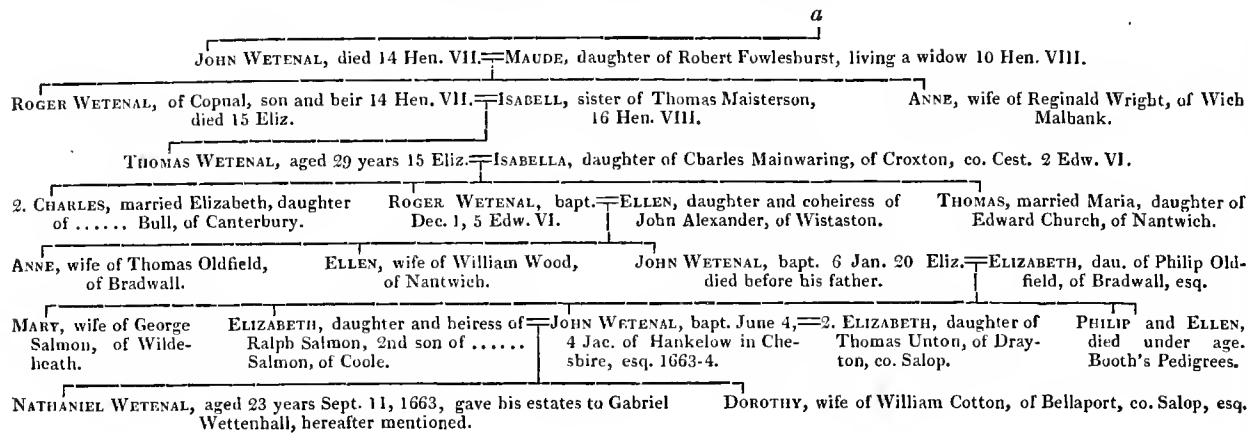
FIRST LINE.



^a Williamson's Fines.

^b See Hassal pedigree, 159.

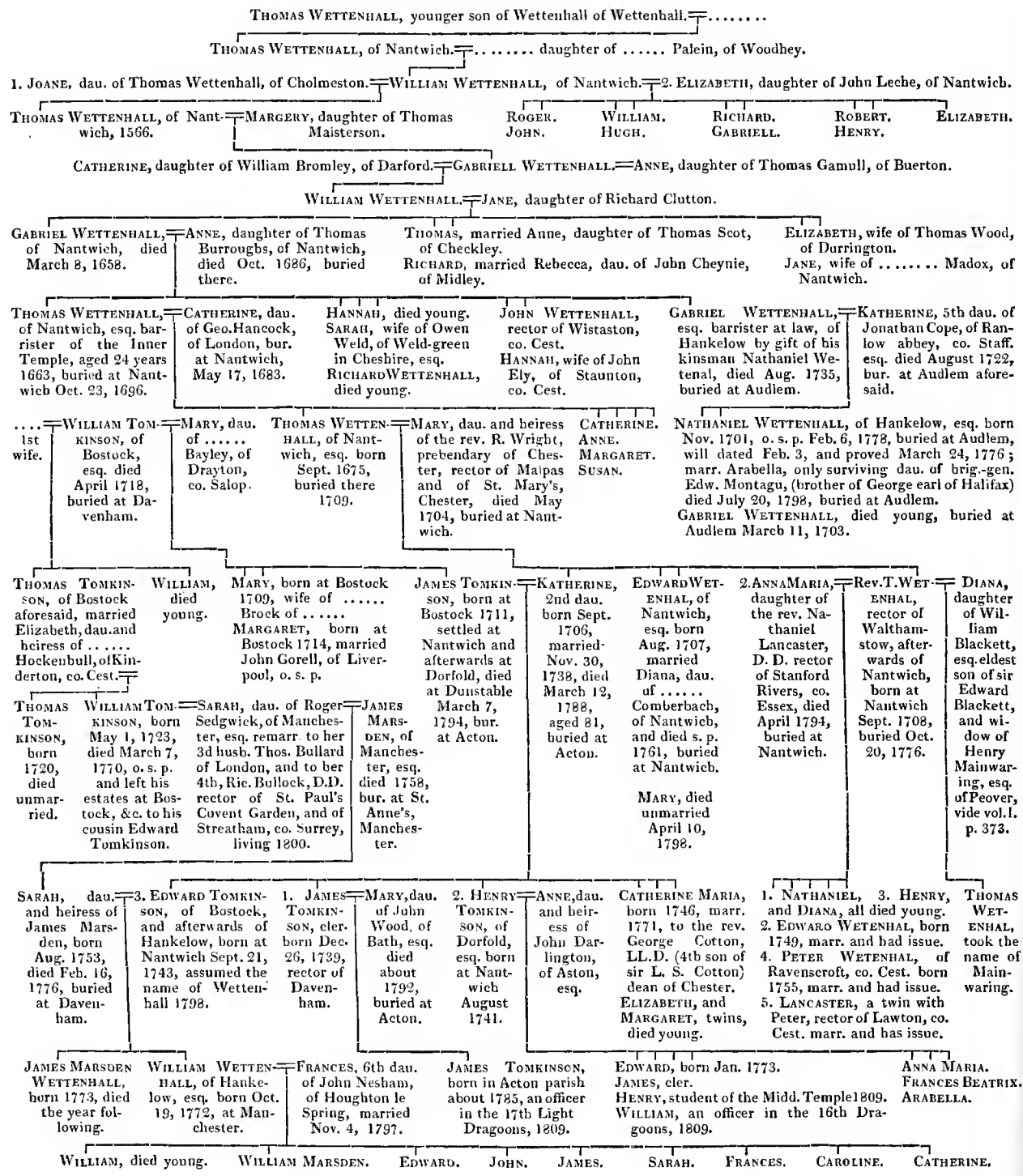
^c His great grandfather, James Bayley, esq. Lysons's Magna Britannia.



SECOND LINE.

From the records of the College of Arms, continued to 1809.

ARMS and CREST as before. The ducal coronet Gules.



Wybunbury Parish.

THE parish of Wybunbury is seated in the south-western part of the hundred of Nantwich, on the edge of Staffordshire, into which Checkley, one of its townships, extends. It is bounded on the side of Cheshire by the parishes of Audlem, Acton, Nantwich, Wistaston, and Barthomley, and contains eighteen townships, which have been enumerated in the preceding population return for this hundred.

WYBUNBURY.

FROM the following extract from Domesday it appears that Wybunbury had been vested in the bishop of the diocese of Lichfield, in the time of Edward the Confessor, and that it continued part of the patrimony of the same see (then removed to Chester), at the time of the survey.

“ Ipse episcopus tenet Wimeberie, et tenuit tempore R. Edwardi, modo tenet Willielmus de eo. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est 11 carucarum: ibi unus presbyter et 11 villani, et 11 bordarii cum una caruca. Ibi silva dimidii leuæ longitudine et tantundem latitudine, ibi 11 haiæ. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat LXIV denarios, modo IV solidos. Wastatum fuit.”

Willielmus, the sub-tenant, was most probably William Malbedeng, baron of Nantwich, and the paramount interest of the bishop appears to have been subsequently disputed; for the general Inq. 16 Edw. I. enumerating the shares of this barony, mentions “*Wydinbury*,” among towns whose lords owed homage and service to the share of Auda Vernon, and subjoins a notice of the barony (including apparently the whole) being held in capite from the earl, without any mention of the baronial interest in Wybunbury being a subinfeudation under the church.

The Praers family were mesne lords under the Vernons. “ From antient deeds we find that *Robert de Praers* gave to *Richard* y^e Clerk his son, y^e whole village of *Wibunbury*, wth all its appurtenances, to have and to hold from *Rob^t* and his heirs freely, rendering yearly two barbed arrows on St. Peter and St. Paul’s day for all service^a.”

This was about the time of king John, and all the abstracts of this charter agree in the matter, but there is considerable variation in the names. The general evidence is, however, in favour of the grantor being *Roger Praers*, and the grantee *Robert^b*. The said grantee had a gift of the church of Wybunbury from his brother *Adam Praers* of Barthomley.

About this time a family assumed the local name of Wybunbury, who were probably under-tenants of the Praers

family, and are supposed to have been allied to them.

Whatever the right in the church was which the Praers family possessed, it terminated in 5 Edw. I. when *Robert de Praers* remitted all his right in the vill and church of Wybunbury to the bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, in whose successors the patronage of the vicarage is vested, and from whom the manor and impropriated rectory are held by lease. The rev. *Robert Hill*, of Hough, is lessee of the manor. The rectory is leased in severalties^c.

CHURCH.^d

Dedicated to St. Chadd.

Tax. P. N. £5. 0s. 0d.^e Val. Eccl. £13. 12s. 1d.

The church consists of a tower, nave, chancel, and side aisles. The tower, which contains six bells, is tall and handsome, finished with buttresses, battlements, and pinnacles. On each side of its western door, which forms the principal entrance into the church, are figures of bishops within rich niches; at the sides of the first window, two other figures within similar niches, and over this window a statue of the Virgin with the infant Jesus on her knee. The four lowest figures have been truncated during the civil wars.

The nave is divided from the side aisles by six pointed arches on each side, resting on octagonal pillars with capitals. Over these is a row of clerestory windows. The roof is very fine, being composed entirely of oak, ornamented with armorial shields, knots, foliage, and various devices.

The chancel was rebuilt in 1793.

The tower leans considerably to the north-east, and continues gradually subsiding in that direction, drawing the walls and pillars of the church along with it.

In the nave is a monument of *John Woodnoth* of *Shavinton*, nearly illegible from the height at which it is placed, and the obscurity of the letters. It appears to have been put up in his life-time, all the places for the dates being blank. Arms and crest of *Woodnoth*, nine quarterings^f.

^a Williamson’s Vill. Cest.

^b See pedigree of Praers, p. 142, and note p. 141. He is called *Robert* in the pedigree on the authority of Harl. MSS. 2119; but two MSS. make the grantee *Roger*, confounding him possibly with “*Roger Praers*, chaplain,” founder of an obit at Nantwich, or as possibly, in this confusion of names, correctly identifying him with the said chaplain. Pennant follows Williamson (Chester to London) in making him *Richard*; and having overlooked his clerkship, conjectures him to be the same with *Richard de Wibunbury*, sheriff 1233.

^c There is a school at Wybunbury, free, according to bishop Gastrell, to four townships, and built “long agoe,” as he terms it, writing about 1720. The salary of the master arises from a portion of the income of lands in which the parish monies have been vested, and the rent arising from several pews. The benefactors mentioned by Gastrell are . . . Large, £50; Thomas Heath, £140; John Hayward, £100; R. Illidge, £10. The nomination of the children is stated to belong to subscribers to the school, and the appointment of the master to the vicar and churchwardens. Other charities are specified in the parliamentary return.

^d In p. 255, the word *Rectors* is introduced instead of *Vicars*, by an oversight of the compositor, in the head line of incumbents, and the error was not perceived until that side of this sheet was printed off.

^e There is a distinct valuation of the rectory, which had been appropriated at the time of this Taxation, viz. 1291, “*Wibunbur. cum Capell. £26. 13s. 4d.*” The *Capell* certainly included *Coppenhall*, and probably *Buddiley* and *Wistaston*, both of which are omitted in the Taxation, and the latter owes a pension to Wybunbury, according to bishop Gastrell.

^f The annexed copy of it (certainly incorrect in several places) is transcribed from Harl. MSS. 2151, 111. From the circumstances before mentioned this eulogy must be supposed to be penned by the antiquary himself.

Virtuti et dignitati Joannis Woodnet armigeri, Shaventonie Woodnetensis domini, viri prosapie et antiquo stemmate, legum Angliæ piissimi et

At the end of the south aisle is a sumptuous monument of white marble, consisting of a large arch, resting on four pillars, and loaded with the cumbrous ornaments used at the period of its erection. On an altar tomb beneath are two recumbent figures, a knight and his lady, with hands clasped, and heads resting on cushions. The knight is in plate armour, with bushy hair, and enormous mustachios. The lady in large ruff, the hair braided up, and large projections from each side of her head-dress.

Over the figures under the arch :

Here lieth s^r Thomas Smith of
Hough, kt. and
Dame Anne his wife,
daught^r to s^r William Breerton
of Breerton, kt. who had issue one
sonn and one daught^r, w^{ch} s^r Thomas
died the 21st of December 1614,
whose ladie in remembrance
gave him this monument.

At the top of the monument the arms of Smith :
(Azure, two bars wavy Ermine, on a chief Or a demi
lion rampant Sable; Smith); and 8 other quarterings.

Crest: on a wreath an ostrich Sable (defaced.) Motto
DURIORA VIRTUS.

Over the inscription within the arch the same arms,
impaling Breerton, with seven quarterings.

On a large blue slab at the east end of the north aisle
two brass figures of a warrior in armour and his lady, re-
cumbent, with clasped hands, the man's head resting
on the heron, the crest of Delves. Underneath,

Here lyth Rafe Delves, esquier, of Dodenton, and
Katerine hys wyf, the whiche Rafe died the seconde
day of Marche in the yere of ower Lord God A
MCCCC and XIII. on whose sowlyls Allmyghty Jhu
have mercy.

Arms: Delves, and the same coat impaling Touchet.

Against the east end of this aisle are two uniform
tablets; the first inscribed :

P. M.

Henrici Delves de Dodington baronetti,
(Thomæ filii)
qui Catherinam,
Rogeri Wilbraham, equ. aur.
uniusq. magistrorum libellorum supplicum,
filiam et cohæredem,
primo in uxorem duxit;
e qua filios
Henricum et Thomam in cunis defunctos,
ac Thomam Delves, bar:
filias vero,
Mariam Tho. Mainwaring de Pever, bar:

Katherinam Edw^o Glegg de Gayton, ar:
et Graciam Josuæ Edisbury,
(filio et hæredi Johannis Edisbury)
de Pentry yr Claud in agro Denbigh ar.
enuptas genuit;
deinde Mariam,

Ranulphi Leicester, civis Lond. filiam,
copulavit.

Qui quidem Henricus obiit xxiiii^o Maii
a^o ab incarnat. Dⁿⁱ MDCLXIII^o.
ætatis. LXIII^o.

Arms: Over the monument Delves impaling Wilbra-
ham, and under it the same impaling Leycester.

The second is inscribed as follows :

P. M.

Thomæ Delves de Dodington,
eq. aur. et baronetti,
(Henrici filii),
qui Mariam

Thomæ Wilbraham de Wodhey natam
primo in uxorem duxit,
e qua

Henricum Delves, baronettum,
Laurentium vero, Ricardum
ac Thomam sine prole defunct.

filios suscitavit.

Deinde Mariam,

Edwardi Baber de Chew,
in com. Somersetensi,
servientis ad legem, unam filiarum,
(Roger. Wilbraham, mil.

unius magistrorum libell: supplicum relictam,)
copulavit

Qui quidem Thomas patriæ charus,
præcipua cujus munera
maximo cum honore subivit,
obiit xxiiii^o Apr. a^o ab incarn. Dⁿⁱ
MDCXLVIII, ætatis LXXIII^o.
Posito hoc marmore a^o Dⁿⁱ
MDCLXIX.

Arms: Over the monument Delves impaling Ley-
cester; and under it the same impaling Baber, on a fesse
three lions' heads erased.

Under the tablets is inscribed :

Prædict. Tho. Delves, bar: qui hæc monum. posuit,
duxit in uxore. Eliz. filiam unicam Halli
Ravenscroft de Horsham in Sussexia, ar:
sub tumulo marm. in ecclesi.

Horsham prædict. conditam^g, e qua
suscepit Mariam in cunis defu
nctam, et Thom' ac Henricu'
superstites.

consulti professoris, Cestresciensis nobilitatis antiquatæ assertoris egregii, rerum heroicarum, jurisq. honorarii, scientissimi, qui adversis aliquamdiu
jactatus, tandem (Christo vindice) hic in sepulchris majorum pacificum quietis portum appulit, et resurrectionem beatificam expectat.

Quid gloriaris carnem? Heu, Vermem!

Quid antiqua prædia? imo trædia.

Quid generis splendorem? Ah rorem!

Quid longa serie clavos repetivos atavos

Et affines? ecce finis?

Solum Jesum Christum tibi crucifixum

Et te mundo gloriare.

Obdormivit placentissime in Christo—die—anno salutis—ætatisq.—

g On the south side of the chancel of Horsham church, co. Sussex, is a table monument of marble bearing the effigies of the deceased, her right
hand on her breast, her left hand holding a book, a lion couchant at her feet:—thus inscribed,

Here lyeth (expecting a joyfull resurrection) the body of Elizabeth, late the wife of Thomas Delves, esquire, son and heire apparent to s^r Henry
Delves, of Dodington in the county of Chester, barronett, who deceased the 2d day of December, 1654, being somewhat more than 25 yeares old,
then in childbed of Henry their 2d son, who with Thomas their eldest son, did both survive her. She was enriched wth many ornaments both of
mind and body, and memorable for virtue in the severall relations of her life whereunto she was any way engaged, being religious as she was a Chris-
tian, dutifull as a daughter, affectionate as a wife, tender as a mother, discrete in her family as a mistress, charitable in the relation of a neighbour,
also of a sweet and affable disposition, and of a sober and winning conversation. She was y^e onely child of Hall Ravenscroft, esq. of this parish, by
the mother descended of y^e family of the Stapleys of this county. Her sorrowfull husband (sadley weighing such a considerable losse) erected this
monument, that an impartial memoriall of her might see the better communicated to posterity.

Arms, for Delves, a chevron checky between three delves. Also for Ravenscroft, a chevron between three birds' heads erased.

These two coats are also impaled at the foot of the monument with the motto of En Dieu ma Foy. Another shield at the head is concealed by a pew.

The author is indebted to W. Hamper, esq. for transcribing this memorial, of which a copy, verbally correct, but very far from being literally so, is
given in Collins's Baronetage, edit. 1720, vol. II.

The body of the church (or the greater part of it) was taken down and rebuilt in 1591; and many monuments were then destroyed, of which copies and rude delineations are extant in Harl. MSS. 2151. 111. A. Among a number of drawings of armorial shields and inscriptions of less moment, not now existing, the two following may be mentioned:

On a gravestone in the middle aisle:

Joanni Woodnote, Shaventioniæ Woodenotensis domino, viro præstant. vita defuncto.

On an altar tomb, the sides of which were surrounded with armorial shields, this inscription:

Hic jacet Johannes Delves miles et Elena uxor ejus, necnon Johannes Delves armiger, filius et hæres prædicti Johannis; qui quidem Johannes miles obiit quarto

die Maij anno Domini mill'imo cccc lxxi, quorum animabus [propitiatur Deus. Amen^f.]

The following description of the recumbent figures is annexed in Harl. MSS. 2151.

"Under the knight's head lieth his helmet, the crest upon it was a stork's head and neck coupéd, on a wreath. At his feet lay a talbot, at his son's feet a greyhound couchant; at the lady's feet stood a hound, with a collar of bells about his neck (which is taken to be Hawkeston's badge^g), and somewhat beneath the knight's feet is graven a dolphin."

This monument relates to sir John Delves, slain in the fight at Tewksbury, and his son John beheaded after the battle, who are mentioned in the account of Dodington.

RECTORS OF WYBUNBURY.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1304, 16 kal. Ap.	Ricardus de Chaddesdene.	Episcopus Lich. et Cov.	
1320, kal. Aug.	Johannes de Ruston.	Episcopus Lich. et Cov.	
1348.	Willielmus de Newton.	Johannes de Tittenlegh rector eccl. de Hatton, et Rob. de Brereton miles, patr' ibid.	
1348.	Johannes de Tittenlegh.		
1376, 19 Sep.	Thomas de Copenhale.		Causa permutat.
1396, 29 Maii.	Robertus de Tervin, pr'b'r.	Episcopus Lich. et Cov.	P. res. Tho. de Copenhale.
1422, 28 June.	Ricardus Bulkley, pr'b'r.		P. m. Rob. de Tervin.
1457, 9 Jan.	Willielmus Orrel. Ricardus Walker.	Episcopus Lich. et Cov.	P. m. Ric. Bulkley.
1472, 14 Dec.	Johannes Bredon, S.T.P.	Episcopus Lich. et Cov.	P. m. Ric. Walker.
1475, 22 Nov.	Robertus Archidiaconus. Johannes Hareway.	Episcopus Lich. et Cov.	P. m. Jo. Bredon.
1494, 18 Aug.	Johannes Frost, S. T. P. Nicholas Daryngton.		P. m. Jo. Hareway.
1542.	Richard Walker.	Robert Gould.	Death of Nic. Daryngton.
1549, 21 Aug.	Matthew Ward ^h , or Wall.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Res. of Rich. Walker.
1570, 22 June.	Matthew Wood.	Edw. Holland and R. Kenion.	Death of Matt. Wall.
1618, 22 May.	Mauritius Gwyn.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of Matt. Wood.
1629 ante.	Stephen Tervin.		
1700, 2 Oct.	James Bromfield.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of last incumbent.
1726, 7 July.	Richard Milward.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of James Bromfield.
1744, 26 May.	Robert Whiston, A. B.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of Rich. Milward.
1754, 18 April.	Walter Earle, A. M.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of Rob. Whiston.
1757, 5 Feb.	Henry Baldwin, A. M.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Cess. of Walter Earle.
1773, 15 May.	John Moore, A. M.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of Henry Baldwin.
1778, 4 June.	Benjamin Bond, A. B. John Swinnerton.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of John Moore.
1802, 5 Feb.	John Fletcher Muccleston, A. M.	Bishop of Lichf. and Cov.	Death of John Swinnerton.

^f Deficient in Harl. MSS. 2151. and added from Dugdale's copy. Vis. 1663-4.

^g The dogs with collars of bells were usually placed at the feet of ladies in brasses, and other sepulchral memorials of this age.

^h The pension roll of 1556 preserves the name of a chantry priest here about this period, and the pension on which he retired.

GEORGE SUDLEY nup' cantarist' cantar' de Wydenburie p' ann' lxviii. viijd.

WILLASTON.

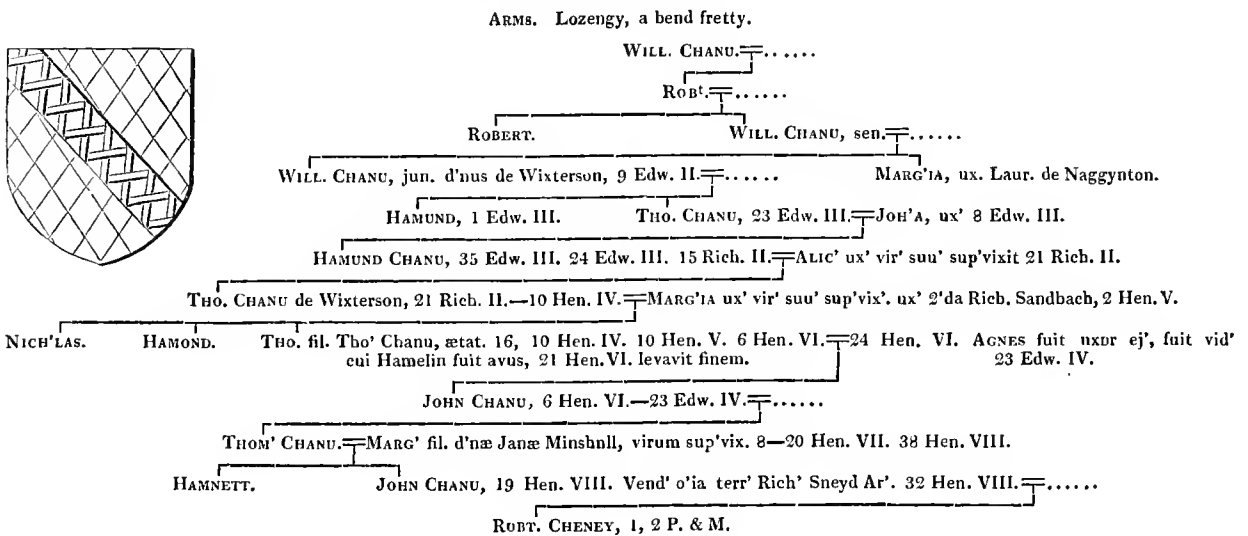
THIS township, which is variously written, Willaston, Wightreston, Wisterson, Wigstanton, and Wistaston, is situated partly in Wybunbury parish, and partly in Nantwich, which divisions are sometimes erroneously considered distinct townships^a.

The following description certainly applies to this place; but there are no means of ascertaining whether that subjoined in the note below^b refers to a portion of the same, or to a part of the adjacent parish of Wistanston.

“Isdem Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Wilavestune.

Ulviet liber homo tenuit. Ibi una virgata geldabilis: terra est dimidia caruca: ibi est unus bordarius. Valebat v solidos, modo 11 solidos.”

In the division of the barony of Wich Malbank, the paramount royalty passed to the share of Philippa Basset, under whose successors this manor was held, for three centuries, by the family of Chanu or Cheney, of whom the following pedigree is given in Harl. MSS. 2153. 151, referring to Vernon's lib. P. 279, in which it was undoubtedly drawn from deeds by that zealous antiquary.



To this pedigree must be added, sir John Cheney of Willaston, knt. who married Maude, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas de Capenhurst, had two daughters and co-heiresses; Maud wife of William de Cholmondeley, and Margaret wife of John Warren of Ightfield. The arms which are quartered in right of him (Lozengy Arg. and Az. a fesse Or, fretty Gules) are evidently founded on those of the knightly coat of Cheney of Chesham Boys, co. Bucks; viz. Chequy, Or and Az. a fesse Gules, fretty Argent. In the pedigree referred to, there is an attempt to connect all these parties, but

it is obviously a clumsy interpolation by one of the Randle Holmes. Sir John Cheney, who thus died without male issue, was probably an elder brother of Thomas Chanu, who died between 24 Hen. VI. and 23 Edw. IV.

Richard Sneyd, the purchaser of this manor from John Cheney, as mentioned in the pedigree, was recorder of Chester in 1518, and was four times chosen member of parliament for that city in the reigns of Edward VI. and his successor. From him descended the Sneyds of Bradwell and Kcele, in the county of Stafford, in whose representative the manor of Wistaston is now vested.

STAPELEY.

“Isdem Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Steple. Eluric et Dot pro 11 maneriis tenerunt, et liberi homines fuerunt. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis; terra est 11 carucarum: ibi est una cum 11 bovariis et uno villano, et uno bordario: ibi una acra et dimidia prati. Silva dimidia leuva longa, et tantundem lata. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x solidos, modo sex solidos. Wasta invenitur.”

The vill was held from the Vernons after the partition of the barony of Nantwich, according to the inquisition 16 Edw. I. but afterwards passed to the Audleys. Richard de Audley, by deed without date, granted the

whole vill, with its appurtenances, to Peter de Stapeleigh, to hold from him and his heirs, by the services of the tenth part of a knight's fee. This Peter is called by Booth son of Reginald, son of Archibald, who is evidently the same with Reginald Fitz Herchenbald, seneschal of Nantwich in the twelfth century^c. The said Peter's descendants continued in possession until 24 Edw. III. when Richard de Rope bought the marriage and wardship of Elizabeth, sister and heiress^d of Philip de Stapeley, from sir Robert de Benhall (who had married the widow of Thomas lord Audley), and married

^a The Mize Book is decisive evidence on this subject, and returns it as one township.

^b Isdem Willielmus tenet Wistetestune. Leuvinus et Osmer pro 11 maneriis tenerunt, et liberi fuerunt; ibi 11 virgatae geldabiles: terra est 11 carucarum: in dominio est una, et dimidia, et 11 bovarii, et unus villanus cum dimidia caruca, et unus bordarius: ibi una pertica prati: silva dimidia leuva longa et tantundem lata; valebat viii solidos, modo x solidos.

^c See witnesses to a deed in Crewe, p. 165. He was probably a younger brother of the house of Aldelym, whose arms the Stapeleys bore with a difference. See p. 246.

^d Coheiress, according to Booth's pedigree.

her to his grandson, Laurence de Rope^c.

Inq. p. m. 4 Eliz. Lawrence de Rope died seized, inter alia, of a moiety of this manor, holding it in socage from the lord of Audley, by the render of xiiid. Val. xiiii. xiiis. vid.

His grandson, of the same name, died issueless, and his grand-daughter and heiress Cicely, according to Dr. Williamson^f, brought this manor to her husband Richard Greene, of Congleton, "whose grandson Thomas was 1^d of this place in K^e Ch. I.sts time."

In 1666 (Harl. MSS. 2010.) the manor is stated to be held by "the earl of Ardglass in Ireland, and R. Greene, esq.:" to which is added, "R. Greene sold it to Milton." It does not appear how the earl of Ardglass obtained his moiety, unless it was from the representatives of a sister and coheiress of Law-

rence Rope, mentioned by Booth, but unnoticed by Williamson.

The said manor was subsequently vested in a family of the name of Stubbs, from whom it was purchased by the late Mr. William Salmon of Nantwich, in whose son, Charles Salmon, esq. and the trustee for William Salmon, a minor (nephew of Charles Salmon before-mentioned, and son of Prussia Salmon), this manor is now vested, 1819^g.

Stapeley Hall is the property of James Bayley, esq. Another mansion belongs to William Harwood Folliott, of Chester, esq. in right of his wife Catherine, daughter and heiress of John Burscoe, esq.

The pedigree of the Stapeleys, and the Ropes of Stapeley, their successors, is given under the township of Rope.

R O P E.

THIS township is omitted in Domesday; but is ascertained, by the inquisition 16 Edw. I. to have been of the fee of Nantwich, and to have been held from that part of the barony which was allotted to Philippa Basset. It is probable that several subinfeudations took place, as an inquisition after the death of Laurence Rope, 4 Eliz. states him to have held this manor from the heirs of Hamon de Wistanston^a.

The mesne lords assumed this local name, and ended in Laurence Rope, esq. who entered his pedigree in the visitation of 1580, and died without issue, having sold this manor to Henry Delves, esq.

The manor has subsequently descended with Dodington, and is now vested in sir J. D. Broughton, bart.

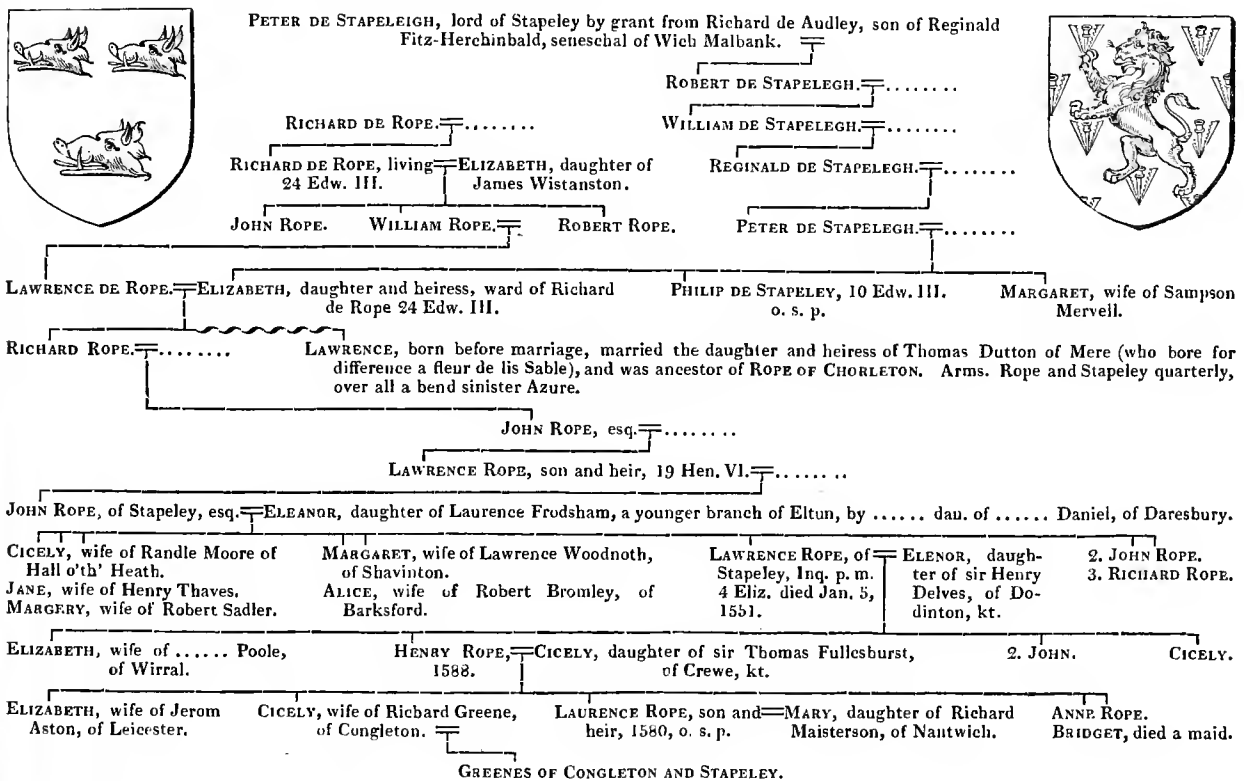
The annexed pedigree of the Rope family is transcribed from Booth's pedigrees.

STAPELEY OF STAPELEY, AND ROPE OF ROPE AND STAPELEY.

From Booth's pedigrees, with additions.

ARMS OF STAPELEY. Gules, three boars' heads Argent.

ARMS OF ROPE. Gules, a lion rampant Argent, within an orle of pbeons of the second.



^c Vill. Cest.

^f Vill. Cest.

^g Information of Messrs. Edleston and Elwood.

^a The value was £xiiii. vis. viiij. and the tenure an unusual one: "In socagio, per redditum unius radicis gingiberis."

BARTERTON.

"*ISDEM* Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Berdeltune; Halden et Derth tenerunt pro 11 maneriis, et liberi homines fuerunt; ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est 11 carucarum, in dominio est una, et 11 bovarii, et unus villanus, et 11 bordarii. Ibi XL perticatæ silvæ. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat VI solidos, modo 111 solidos. Wasta invenitur."

After the partition of the barony, Barterton was held from that portion of the fee which passed to the Audleys.

In the time of king John, or about the beginning of his successor's reign, one William Ruffus^a, mesne lord of Barterton, sold this vill, with the homage and service of two parts of Cherleton (dependant thereon), to Bertram de Griffin, for 100 marks, to be held by the render of 13s. 4d. his homage and service, and a pair of gilt spurs yearly^b.

James de Audley (the paramount lord) granted to Bertram de Griffin, temp. Hen. III. an acquittance from putre for his serjeants^c for his homage and service, and a pair of white gloves or a silver penny, to be rendered yearly at Newhall at Michaelmas; and Adam de Bertherton, by deed s. d. quitclaimed to Geoffry, son of Geoffry Griffin, his right in this vill^d.

This Geoffry, son of Geoffry, by Inq. 11 Edw. I. was found to hold two carucates of land here in demesne, from Nicholas de Audley, by finding three foot-soldiers in time of war to guard the castle of Newhall; and by another Inq. 1 Edw. II. after the death of Thomas, son of Nicholas de Audley^e, is found to have held this village and Weston, and two parts of Cherleton, as the fourth part of a knight's fee, from the same, by the render of two pair of gloves yearly.

John Griffin, brother and heir of Geoffry, was followed by six successive descendants of his own name, of whom, sir John Griffin, knight, died 1390, and has been noticed in the account of the antient sepulchral memorials of Nantwich.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. IV. Sir John Griffyn, knight, held in joint feoffment with Anne his wife, the manor of Barterton from the lord Audley, by military service; val. xx marks: also the manors of Weston juxta Barthomley, and Gresty in Shavington, a third part of Acton in the forest of Mara, and Saltersich in Willaston and Wisterson. John Griffyn son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. V. John, son of John Griffyn, held as before (excepting Weston). John, son of the aforesaid John, son of sir John Griffyn, next of kin and heir.

The descent of the family to this period is given in the annexed pedigree from Booth, who states John, son

of sir John Griffyn, to have died s. p. l. intending probably his grandson. The continuation of the illegitimate line is omitted, as the leaving out of several descendants in the pedigree renders it irreconcilable with the following inquisitions.

Inq. p. m. 31 Hen. VIII. Edward Griffyn held, in fee simple, lands in Barterton, Woolstanwood, and Wich Malbank; val. xxiiii l.: obiit 8 Aug. a° p'd'to. John Griffyn son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 1 & 2 Ph. and Mary. John Griffyn, gent. held the manor of Barterton cum pert. from the king and queen, as of their manor of Newhall, and lands, &c. as before: obiit Nov. 4, a° p'd'to. Edmund Griffyn son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 32 Eliz. John Griffyn, esq. held the manor of Barterton, as before, and lands in Wolstanwood, Wich Malbank, Hatherton, Wistaston, Willaston, and Bridgemeir: died July 4, 31 Eliz. John Griffyn next of kin and heir.

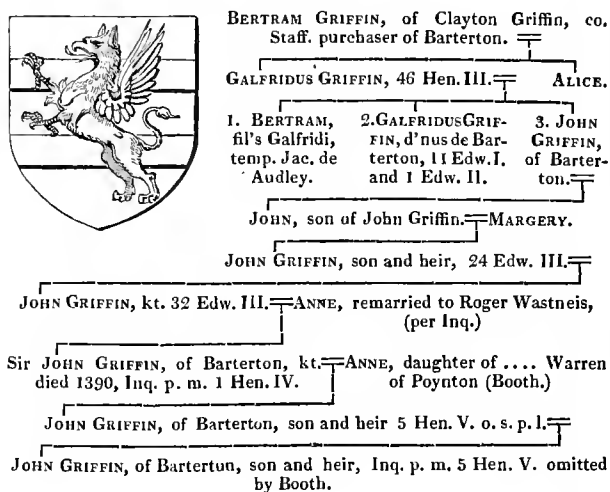
In 1666 (Villare, Harl. MSS. 2010.) Richard Griffin is described as lord of Barterton. The manor shortly afterwards was sold to the family of Delves, and has descended with Doddington to sir J. D. Broughton, bart.

The township of Barterton is situated on the bank of the Weever, about 2½ miles south of Nantwich.

GRIFFIN OF BARTERTON.

ARMS. Argent, two barrs Gules, over all a griffin segreant Sable.

From Booth's pedigrees with corrections.



^a This singular name has led some of the Cheshire collectors into a very obvious error.

^c The perambulating Serjeants of the Peace, which would of course be maintained by the Audleys, in right of their portion of a Cheshire barony.

^d Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^b Williamson Vill. Cest.

^e Ibid.

HOUGH.

THE Inq. 16 Edw. I. mentions the homages and services of the lord of Hough having been allotted in the partition of the barony of Wich Malbank to the Vernons. The place itself before this time had passed to the family of Praers, probably as an appendage of their adjacent manor of Wybunbury, and was held under them by mesne lords of the local name. They probably inherited from Anabell, daughter of Robert Lancelyn, to whom Adam, son of Roger^a de Praers, gave the vill of Hocht in dower about the time of king John^b.

The Houghs afterwards added to their estate by a marriage with one of the coheirs of Aldelym, and ended in Richard Hough, who by Inq. 7 Ric. II. was found to hold in fee simple the manor of Hoghe, from William Praers of Baddiley, by the render of *id. per ann.* Ellen and Margaret daughters and heiresses.

The first of these married Richard del Massye, apparently a younger brother of the Sale family; and the following inquisitions bring down an uninterrupted descent of this branch of the Masseys, which has hitherto nearly escaped notice.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. IV. Richard del Massye del Hoghe held by courtesy, in right of Ellen his wife, the manor of Hoghe, held as before, except *cs.* which William Hoghe held for life from the lords of Baddiley; *val. per ann.* *x* marks: also half the manor of Aldelym, and lands in Aldelym, Macclesfield, and Hatherton. Richard son of the same, and of Ellen his wife, next heir.

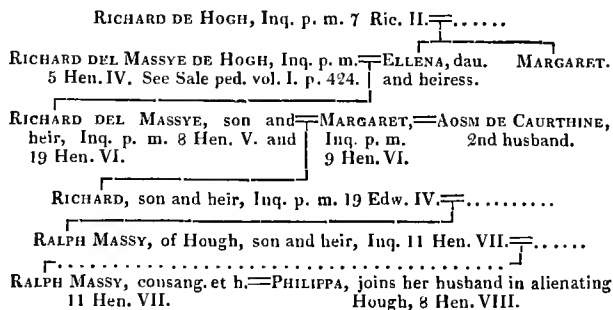
Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. V. Richard de Massye de Hoghe dies seized of half the manor of Aldelym, and lands in Aldelym, Aston juxta Newhall, Hatherton, Walgherton, and Shavington. An Inq. *ad mel. inq.* taken 19 Hen. VI. specifies his manor of Hoghe held as before; *val. vl.*: and another Inq. taken 9 Hen. VI. relates to lands held in dower by his widow. Richard de Massye son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 19 Edw. IV. Richard Massye del Hoghe held the manor of Hoghe as before, and half of Aldelym, and lands therein. Ralph Massye son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VII. Ralph Massy held the manor of Hoghe (*val. of demesne lands* *ivl. xvij. s.*), half of Aldelym, and lands therein, and in Shavinton. Ralph Massye next of kin and heir.

8 Hen. VIII. Thomas Smith, alderman of Chester, obtained of Ralph Masey, gent. and Philippa his wife, the manor of Hough, half the manor of Aldelym, 60 messuages and tofts, 1 mill and 1700 acres of land, and 20s. rents, cum pert. in Hough, Aldelym, Swanbach, Sheynton, Shavington, Nantwich, and Wibbenbury, to him and his heirs for ever.^c

From these Inq. the pedigree will be as follows:



Thomas Smith, the purchaser above mentioned, is one of the very few instances which Cheshire affords of a person raised by trade seating himself in manerial property, and instantly forming connections with the leading families of the county. He (or his son of the same name) was subsequently knighted, and was several times mayor of Chester.

Sir Thomas Smith had issue sir Laurence, who by *Inq. p. m.* 25 Eliz. was found to die seized of the manor of Hough (held by the former tenure), and estates in Aldelym, Swanbach, Shavington, Wybunbury, Weston, *Chorlton, Snape, Gresty, Willaston, Saltersich, Blakenhall, Godwensley, Heywood, Teverton, Duddon, Ashton, Kelsal, Wich Malbank, Middlewich, Aston, Walgherton, Barnhill, Monks Copenhall, Newton, Smallwood, Henhull, Hatherton, Flookersbrook, and Cholmondeston.* An inquisition, taken after the death of his father, sir Thomas Smith, 30 Hen. VIII. agrees with this inquisition in all particulars, excepting the omission of the names in Italics.

The annexed pedigree contains the descent of the Smiths of Hough and Hatherton to the termination of the male line, about the end of the seventeenth century. The manor of Hough shortly after was purchased by the Walthalls of Wistaston, and was conveyed by Peter Walthall, esq. (in exchange for a moiety of the manor of Wistaston^d), to the late sir Thomas Broughton, bart. whose son, sir J. D. Broughton, bart. is the present proprietor^e.

A seat and estate in this township was formerly the property of the Bromhalls, and having been transferred by marriage to the Wilbrahams of Dorfold, passed to Mary, surviving daughter and heiress of the rev. John Wilbraham, wife of the rev. Robert Hill, now (1817) of the Hough. The steps of this descent are traced in the pedigree of Wilbraham of Dorfold^e.

^a Or Robert.

^b Williamson Vill. Cest.

^c Williamson's Fines.

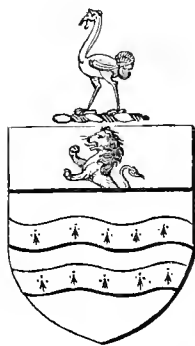
^d Information of Messrs. Edlaston and Elwood, agents of sir J. D. Broughton, bart.

^e P. 184, in this volume.

SMITH OF HOUGH.

ARMS. Azure, two bars wavy Ermine, on a chief Or, a demi lion rampant Sable.

CREST. On a wreath, an ostrich, in the mouth a horse-shoe, all proper.



Sir THOMAS SMITH, of Hough, in Wibonbury, ob. July 1, 1538, 30 Hen. VIII. Inq. p. m. same year. — KATHERINE, daughter of sir Andrew Brereton of Brereton.

URSULA, wife of sir Rowland Stanley, of Hooton. — BRIDGET, wife of Robert, son and heir of Thomas Fullshurst, of Crue. — JANE, 2d wife, da. of sir Piers Warburton of Arley, widow of sir William Brereton of Brereton, married at Brereton Jan. 20, 1560-1. — Sir LAWRENCE SMITH, of Hough, ob. 23 Aug. 24 Eliz. 1582, aged 66 years, sheriff of Cheshire 1553, knighted at Lenth 1544, mayor of Chester 1558, 1563, 1570. Inq. p. m. 25 Eliz. — ANNE, 1st wife, dau. of Tho. Fullshurst, of Crue, esq. — 2 ANDREW, s. p. — 3. THOMAS, s. p. — 4. GEORGE, s. p. — 5. EDWARD. — 6. URIAN.

ELEANOR, wife of Thomas Cowper, of Chester. — MARY, wife of John Hurleston, son and heir of Hurleston, of Picton, married at Brereton Jan. 16, 1582. — LAWRENCE SMITH, eldest son, sheriff of Cheshire 1567. o. s. p. — Sir THOMAS SMITH, of Hatherton, 2nd son, mayor of Chester 1596. Sheriff of Cheshire 1600. — ANNE, daughter of sir William Brereton of Brereton. — EDWARD, 3d son.

JANE, wife of sir Randle Mainwaring the younger, of Over Peover. — LAWRENCE SMITH, son and heir of sir Thomas. — ANNE, daughter of sir Randle Mainwaring, of Over Peover.

Sir THOMAS SMITH, of Chester, Mayor 1622, sheriff of Cheshire 1623, living 1666, had 22 children. — MARY, daughter of sir Hugh Smith, of Somersetshire, near Bristol. — STEPHEN SMITH, gentleman-usher to the marquis of Ormond, in Ireland, obiit 1665; married Walsgrave, sister to the lord-treasurer Weston's lady. Had issue.

1. MARY, wife of George, son of Thomas Cotton of Combermere, re married to sir Robert Holt, of Aston, near Birmingham. — 2. ANNE, living 1666. — 3. CATHERINE, wife of Wallop Brabason, of the county of Hertford. — 1. Sir THOMAS SMITH, created a baronet Aug. 16, 1660, died 1675. — ABIGAIL, daughter & coheirress of sir John Pate, of Sisombry, in the county of Leicester. — 2. LAURENCE SMITH, died before his brother. — — 3. HUGH SMITH, o. s. p. 1651. — 4. EDMUND, died unmarried. — 5. FRANCIS, died s. p. 1663. — Fourteen other Children.

1. MARY, died young. Sir P. L. — 2. FRANCIS-PATE SMITH, living 1666, died before his father. — 3. wife of Richard Lister, esq. — Sir THOMAS SMITH, bart. heir to his uncle, died s. p. m.

HATHERTON.

“*ISDEM* Willielmus tenet Hareton. Ulchetel tenuit, et liber homo fuit: ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est v carucarum: in dominio est una, et ii bovarii, et ii villani, et unus bordarius cum una carucâ. Silva ibi dimidia leuva longa, et tantundem lata; ibi una haia.”

This survey is joined to that of Buerton, with a note, that both manors were valued at xls. in the time of the Confessor, but were worth only xs. at the Survey, which, having been stated to be the value of Buerton only, Hatherton must be supposed to have been totally wasted.

This township appears to have been severed from the barony of Nantwich, as William son of William de Lancelyn of Poulton grants, temp. Edw. I. to the abbot of St. Werburgh's, the homage and service of sir John de Orreby for this village, which he held of him by the yearly render of one penny.

The later inquisitions state it to be held in capite from the earldom.

Hatherton passed, from this time, in the same manner with Church Coppenhall^a, through the families of Orreby, Roos, and Corbet, to 12 Eliz. when Robert

Corbet died seized, inter alia, of this manor, holding it from the queen by military service, value £13. 6s. 8d. his cousin Thomas Hulse being next of kin and heir^b.

The Hulses of Norbury^c shortly after alienated their estates in this county, and Hatherton subsequently passed to the Smiths of Chester, afterwards of this place and of Hough, in which latter township their descent is given. One moiety of it is noticed in the inquisition after the death of sir Laurence Smith, 25 Eliz.

“The manor of Hatherton was sold by the representatives of sir Thomas Smith, the first baronet, about the year 1700, to Mr. Salmon, of whose grandson, the rev. Matthew Salmon, it was purchased in 1784, by Charles Bate, esq. of Nantwich.”^d This purchaser died in 1814, and left by his will the manor of Hatherton, and one half of the manor of Shavington, to his wife, Jone Bate, for her life, and after her death to her nephew, Matthew Mare, of Basford, in the county of Stafford, earthen-ware manufacturer, and to his issue in tail male; with remainder to Charles Mare, esq. the brother of the said Matthew Mare, and to his issue in tail male, with divers remainders over^e.

^a Pages 174, 175.

^b Vill. Cest.

^c See pedigree in Norbury.

^d Lysons's Magna Britannia, vol. II. part 2, p. 830.

^e Information of Messrs. Edleston and Elwood.

BASFORD.

“*ISDEM* Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Berchesford. Owin, Erlechin, et Lewin tenuerunt pro 111 maneriis, et liberi homines fuerunt. Ibi una hida geldabilis; terra est 11 carucarum: ibi 111 radmans, et 11 villani, et 111 bordarii habent unam carucam: ibi una virgata prati: silva 1111 quarentenis longa, et unâ lata. Valebat v solidos, modo similiter; wasta fuerat.”

After the apportionment of the barony of Wich Malbank among the coheiresses, Basford was held from that part of the fee which passed to the Audleys.

The mesne manor, according to Dr. Williamson^a, was divided between the Harcourts and Woodnoths. Robert, son of Robert de Harcourt, temp. Edw. II. gave a quarter of the waste here to Robert, son of William de Praers; a grant had then been made by the said Robert or his father to William de Praers, of common of pasture and turbary to himself and his tenants; and a similar grant was made in 1298, to Robert vicar of Wibunbury, by Robert Woodnoth of Barksford. Dr. Williamson professes himself unable to trace further the descent of the Woodnoth's moiety, which probably soon became united to the other.

The manerial interest of the Harcourts passed in marriage with a coheiress of that family to Hugh Chol-

mondeley, whose daughter and heiress, Lettice, married Roger Bromley, as mentioned in the account of Badington^b.

A collateral line of the Bromleys settled subsequently in Basford, which ended, temp. Hen. VIII. in Robert Bromley, whose natural son, John Bromley, (6 Eliz.) sold the reversion of his estate to Thomas Clutton, and died without legitimate issue^c.

39 Eliz. Sir Hugh Cholmondeley (who purchased Clutton's interest) died seized, inter alia, of the reversion of this manor cum pert. after the death of Isabel Bromley, widow, then tenant of the same, held from the crown, as of the earldom of Chester, as the hundredth part of a knight's fee.

The said manor subsequently passed by settlement to the illegitimate line of Cholmondeley of Holford, who are described as manerial lords in 1666. Harl. MSS. 2010.

The devisees of Seymour Cholmondeley, who married the widow of the last Cholmondeley of Holford, sold the manor to Joseph Crewe, D. D. rector of Barthomley, whose son, John Crewe, esq. resold the same to the late sir T. Broughton, father of the present proprietor sir John Delves Broughton, bart.^d

SHAVINTON CUM GRESTY, OR SHAVINTON WOODNOTH^e.

Two manors have existed in this township from an early period. SHAVINTON, in the Inq. 16 Edw. I. is stated to have been of the fee of Wich Malbank, and to have been obtained by the Vernons in marriage with Auda de Malbank.

The mesne lords were the Woodnoths, who became extinct early in the seventeenth century. In 1666 their rights were vested in the Smyths of Hough and Hatherton (Harl. MSS. 2010), and appear to have subsequently descended in the same manner with the manor of Hatherton to the Mares.

GRESTY has occurred for the first time in the Inquisition after the death of sir John Griffyn of Barterton,

1 Hen. IV. who is found to have held the manor of Gresty in Shavinton from the lord of Orreby in socage. Val. per ann. x marks.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. V. John, son of John Griffyn, held, inter alia, the manor of Grayston. Val. per ann. 11111.

These mesne manerial rights are not afterwards noticed^f.

Inq. p. m. 15 Hen. VI. Robert Davenport held among other appendages of his share of the barony of Wich Malbank, a moiety of two barbed arrows in Grayston and other townships.

Inq. p. m. 18 Edw. IV. John Davenport of Bromhall held reserved rents and services in the same.

^a Vill. Cest. ^b P. 195. ^c Williamson's Vill. Cest. and Booth's pedigrees.

^d Information of Messrs. Edleston and Elwood.

^e Sir Peter Leycester, in the marginal notes to the copy of Domesday given in his Cheshire Antiquities, states the following description of Calvintone to apply to this township:

“*Isdem Ricardus (Pincerna) tenet Calvintone. Dot tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi 11 hidæ geldabiles, terra est 11 carucarum: Wasta foit et wasta invenitur, modo est ad firmam pro LX solidis.*”

There are, however, difficulties attending this conjecture, which sir Peter Leycester was probably not aware of; and there is certainly an error in *Domesday*, whether *Shavinton* is intended or not. The order of places here noticed is as follows:

WARMUNDESTROU HUND. *Isdem Ricardus (de Vernon) tenet Aldelime. — Crev. — Ricardus Pincerna tenet Pontone. — Calvintone. — HAMESTAN HUND. Isdem Ricardus de Vernon tenet Bretherie, &c.*

1st. From *Pincerna* having been interlined, and the words *Isdem Ricardus de Vernon* being suffered inadvertently to follow him, it is obvious that Pontone and Calvintone were first ascribed to Richard Vernon, and the correction of *Pincerna* inserted afterwards.

2ndly. It is clear from the survey of Nantwich, which says the barons of Kinderton and Shipbrook, and the bishop, were the only landholders in Warmundestrou hundred besides William Malbedeng, that Richard *Pincerna* could have no lands here; and therefore there is an error of the *Domesday* compiler, in not placing the proper hundred (Atiscros?) before Pontone.

3dly. If Calvintone, according to sir Peter Leycester's hypothesis, is Shavinton, there is a second error in the compiler's omitting to mark his return to Warmundestrou hundred after going out of it for Pontone; and a third, either in his general statement of landholders in the hundred, or in appropriating this township wrong, viz. in omitting to place the name of *Ricardus de Vernon* (who had land in the hundred) before Calvintone instead of the following township, Bretherie.

Any way there is an error in *Domesday*; and if sir Peter Leycester is right, there are three. It must however be observed in that case that Richard Vernon must have subsequently ceded this township to the baron of Nantwich, as the Inquisition 16 Edw. I. determines it to have been of that fee, and to have passed to the Vernons at a later time by marriage with Auda Malbank.

^f The manor of Grestye, held from the queen, is noticed in the Inq. after the death of sir Lawrence Smyth, 25 Eliz. but was probably intended for Shavinton cum Gresty, as the names are often confounded.

Inq. p. m. 33 Hen. VIII. William Davenport held as before.

Inq. p. m. 19 Eliz. Sir William Davenport, kt. held as before.

Inq. p. m. 28 Eliz. Wm. Davenport, esq. held as before.

The Davenports subsequently sold their rights in the barony of Nantwich to sir Hugh Cholmondeley, which would of course include this paramount interest in Gresty. Manerial rights here were subsequently vested in the Cholmondeleys of Holford, to whom they probably passed from the legitimate line in the same manner with Basford, with which they afterwards descended; the manor of Gresty, or that moiety of Sha-

vinton which appears to correspond with it, being now vested in sir J. D. Broughton, bart.

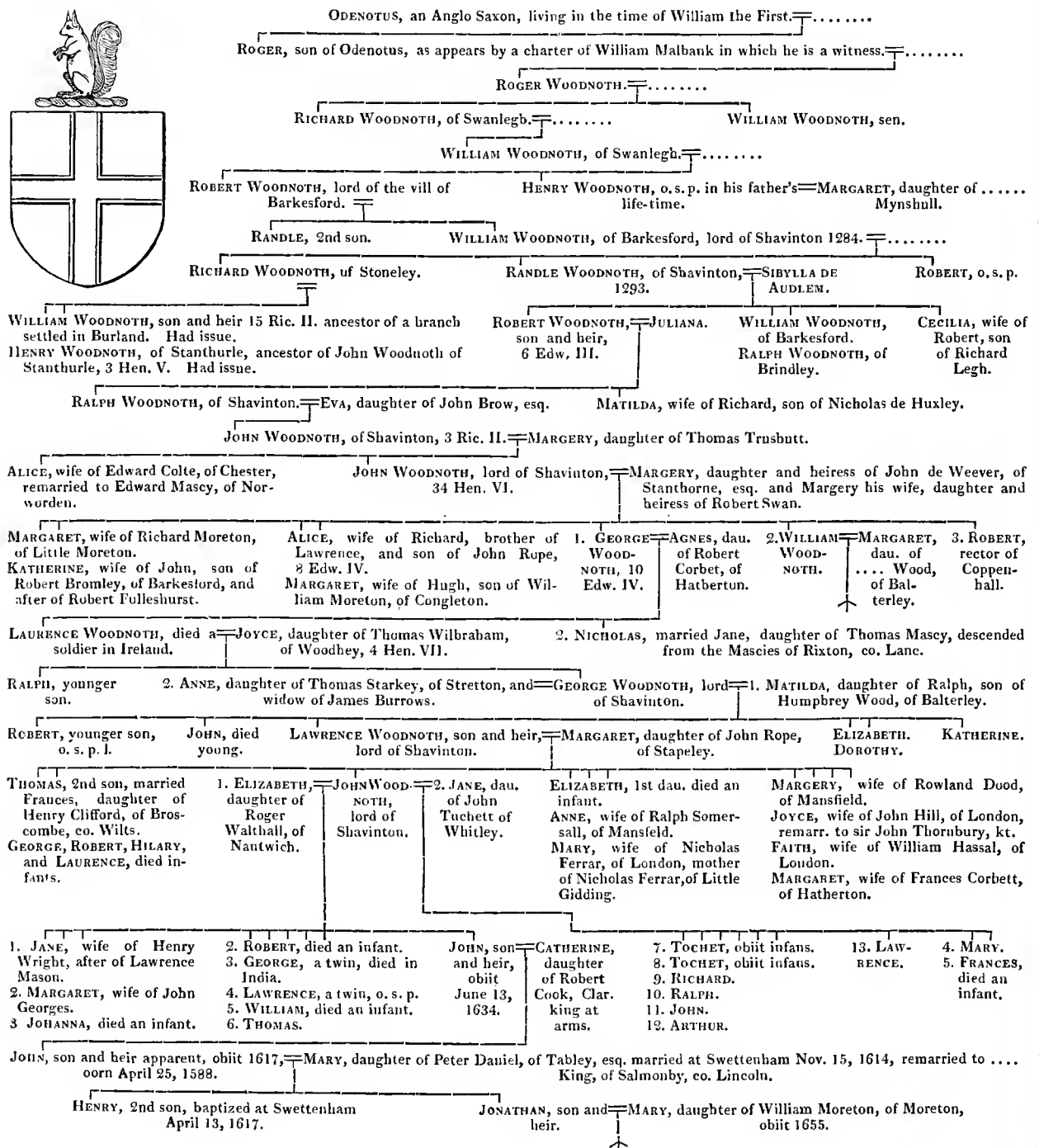
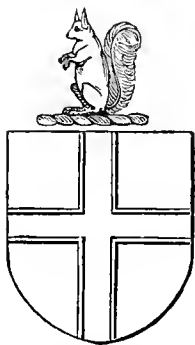
The annexed pedigree, containing all that is known on the subject of the Woodnoths of Shavington, is transcribed from Booth's pedigrees, to whom it was probably communicated by their representative John Woodnoth, an intelligent Cheshire antiquary of the seventeenth century, some of whose collections are preserved in the British Museum, and whose epitaph has been given in the account of Wybunbury. It connects the family with two names of considerable note, Robert Cook, Clarencieux king at arms, and Nicholas Ferrar of Little Gidding.

WOODNOTH OF SHAVINTON.

From Booth's pedigrees, and Harl. MSS. 1535, p. 513.

ARMS. Argent, a cross voided Sable. CREST. On a wreath a squirrel seiant Or.

Note. These arms occur on a seal, temp. Edw. III. In Harl. MSS. 1535, the squirrel is collared with a ribband Argent, and a second crest is also given, on a wreath a vivern regardant, wings elevated Or.



WESTON.

THERE is no description of Weston itself in Domesday by name; but Marbury, Norbury, and Wirswall are stated to have been berewicks of it in the Saxon period, and Stanleu (a name now unknown) is stated to have been contained in it. It is not improbable that Stanleu might be all that remained of Weston, after the preceding townships were severed from it, and that it subsequently assumed the name of the original vill. At all events we may gather from the appropriation of these portions of the Saxon vill, that the whole belonged to king Harold (the comes Heraldus of Domesday); and we have the evidence of the *Inq.* 16 Edw. I. of the Norman Weston having been allotted to William Malbedeng, and passing in the division of his barony (as far as the paramount rights were concerned) to the Vernons.

Manerial rights here were vested at an early period in the Griffyns of Barterton^a, Geoffry, son of Geoffry de Griffyn of Barterton, having held the same, inter alia, from the Audley family^b, 1 Edw. II.

1 Hen. IV. Sir John Griffin, kt. is found to die seized

(inter alia) in joint feoffment with Anne his wife, of the manor of Weston juxta Barthomley, held from the lord Audley.

These rights subsequently passed to the Smyths of Hough. Sir Thomas Smyth, kt. by *Inq. p. m.* 30 Hen. VIII. is found to have held the manor of Weston, and lands therein and in Chorleton, from Edw. Griffyn, by fealty and the render of a pair of white gloves. Val. x l.

Inq. p. m. 25 Eliz. Sir Laurence Smyth, kt. held the manor of Weston, with lands in Weston, Chorlton, and Snape, from the lord Audley (intending probably thereby, from the fee forfeited by the lord Audley), by fealty, a penny rent, and gloves as before. Val. v l.

The manor subsequently appears to have been exclusively vested in the family of Delves of Doddington, who had long had a joint interest in the manor^c, and in *Inqs.* 3 and 14 Eliz. were also subtenants to the Smyths for lands here. It has descended from them with Doddington to the present proprietor, sir J. D. Broughton, bart.

CHORLTON.

“*ISDEM* Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Cerletune. Fran tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est dimidia caruca; ibi est unus villanus cum 11 bobus. Valuit et valet 11 solidos: Wasta invenitur.”

The vill was subsequently dependant on the Audley share of Nantwich barony.

Bertram de Griffyn obtained two parts of this vill in the time of king John in the manner noticed under Blakenhall; and his grandson, Geoffry Griffyn, held the same 1 Edw. II. from Thomas, son of Nicholas de Audley, by rendering yearly two pair of white gloves, price 11d.^e

The other third was vested in a family which bore the local name, of whom Thomas, son of Roger de Chorle-

ton, held three bovates here from sir William de Audley, 10 Edw. I.^f

17 Edw. II. John Griffin had passed over his estate to Robert Praers, with the homage, &c. of Thomas, son of Thomas, son of Thomas de Chorleton, who was found the year following to hold his lands of the said Robert, in whom the whole manor was then consequently vested^g.

26 E. III. John Delves obtained a sixth of this manor from John Brescy, who had married an heiress of Praers.

The entire manor, 19 Ric. II. was found to have been held by Isabel, widow of sir John Delves, from sir John Griffyn, kt.^h; and the same is now vested in the representative of the Delves family, sir J. D. Broughton, bart.

WALGHERTON.

“*ISDEM* Willielmus (Malbedeng) tenet Walcretune. Gunuic et Aldin tenuerunt, et liberi homines fuerunt, pro 11 maneriis: ibi una hida et una virgata geldabilis: terra est 11 carucarum: ibi est una cum uno bovario, et uno radman, et 11 bordariis. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat 1x solidos, modo v solidos; wasta invenitur.”

In the partition of the barony of Wich Malbank (*Inq.* 16 Edw. I.) the homage and service of the lord of Walgherton was allotted to Auda Vernon.

“This manor was held, 25 Hen. III. by William Waschet and Alice his mother, by the service of a knight's fee, and 8 marks and a half yearly rent, from Nicholas de Audlegh. And towards the latter end of Hen. III. or beginning of Edw. I. Henry de Waschet gave to Foulk de Orreby his whole manor of Walgherton cum pert. (excepting a bovate of land cum pert. which he had given to Adam his brother, and the

homages and services of Shavington and Coppenhall) for a barbed arrow, and doing to the capital lord the service Henry used to do.”ⁱ

From this period Walgherton descended in the same manner as Church Coppenhall and Hatherton, through the families of Orreby, Roos, and Corbet, to the Hulses of Norbury, who alienated their Cheshire estates about the beginning of the seventeenth century^k.

In 1666 (*Harl. MSS.* 2010) Walgherton was the joint property of sir George Vernon and sir Thomas Smith, who were severally the purchasers of the other portions of the Corbet estates in Coppenhall and Hatherton.

In 1668 the said manor was conveyed by sir George Vernon and others to Hall Ravenscroft, esq.^l whose dau. and heiress married Thomas Delves, of Doddington^m; from which period Walgherton has passed with that manor, and is now vested in sir J. D. Broughton, bart.

^a See Barterton.

^b There had probably been some exchange with the *Vernons*, from whom sir John Griffin would otherwise have held it.

^c In 1666 (*Harl. MSS.* 2010.) sir Thomas Smyth is described “lord of the wastis,” and sir Thomas Delves as “lord of the manor.” The Delves interest may be traced to 26 Edw. III. when John Delves is found to have obtained from John, son of William Brescy, the manor of Weston, with lands and appurtenances in Blakenball, Bridesmere, Namptwich, Backesford, Wightreston, Willaston, and Checklegh. *Williamson's Fines.* The said manor is subsequently noticed among the abstracts of fines given in the account of Doddington.

^e *Vill. Cest.*

^f *Ibid.*

^g *Ibid.*

^h *Ibid.*

ⁱ *Vill. Cest.*

^k See inquisitions in Coppenhale.

^l Information of Messrs. Edleston and Elwood.

^m See monuments in Wybunbury church.

BLAKENHALL.

BLAKENHALL is the only estate of the baron of Kinderton which the Domesday survey notices in this hundred; from which circumstance those portions of the fee within these limits, which the Domesday survey omits, (Checkley, Bridgemere, Hunsterton, Lea, and Doddington) may be supposed to have been included in the original Saxon vill.

“Isdem Gislebertus (Venator) tenet Blachenhale: Godvinus tenuit et liber homo fuit: ibi 1v hidæ una virgata minus geldabiles. Terra est v carucarum. Ibi 1v radmans et 11 bordarii habent 11 carucas. Silva ibi 11 leuis longa et una leuvâ lata. Ibi haia et aira accipitris. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x solidos, modo x11 solidos.”

“This place gave name (says Dr. Williamson) to a family of good repute. Sir Onyct de Blachenhale lived in Henry the First's time—and, 9 Edw. II. Hugh de Blachenhale and Joan his wife obtained by fine from Hamon de Blachenhale (who held this village 1 Edw. II.) 4s. rent, 1 pair of spurs, and 4 barbed arrows, cum pert. in Blakenhale, Chackly, and Dodington, together with the homages and services of Richard and William

de Gresty, Vincent de Blakenhale, Adam de Chackley, &c. to them and their heirs. In the year last-mentioned Hamon de Blachenhale obtained from Richard Friend two parts of this manor for life, remainder to Hugh son of Hamon, &c. Joan, wife of William de Wistanston, then holding the third part in dower. In which name it continued until Thomas, son of Hugh de Blachenhale sold this manor to John Delves about 10 Ric. II.”^e

In the Inquisition after the death of Randle Delves of Doddington, 4 Hen. VIII. his estate in Blakenhall is found to be held of the lord Audley, but in that of sir Henry Delves, 3 Eliz. is enumerated among the dependencies of Doddington held from the fee of Kinderton. “By Inq. 5 Jac. I. Henry Delves is found to die seized of the manor of Blakenhall, held with lands therein from Peter Venables as of his manor of Kinderton, by fealty, and the render of a rose on St. John the Baptist's day.

The manor has subsequently descended with Doddington to the present proprietor, sir John Delves Broughton, bart.

CHECKLEY,

FROM circumstances similar to those noticed in the preceding township, appears to have been included in the original vill of Blakenhall.

At the earliest period to which it can be traced, this manor, like Wistanston^g, appears to have been triply divided, between the families of Penreth, Brescy of Wistanston, and Praers.

“Temp. E. III. the Delves family bought a third of this manor from John, son of William Brescy and Margery his wife; and another third from William Penreth and Margery his wife.”^h

The remaining third is stated by Dr. Williamson to have passed with ———, daughter and heiress of Robert Praers, to Hugh de Blakenhall, and subsequently with Ellen, daughter and heiress of Richard de Blakenhall, to Hugh de Malpas, “whose daughters and coheirresses, Margery and Ellen, brought it to the Peshalls of Chetwynd and Horseley, brothers.”

Inq. p. m. 7 Jac. I. John Peshall, esq. held, inter alia, the capital messuage called Checkley Hall, with other messuages and 360 acres of land, held from sir Thomas Delves, kt. and bart. as of his manor of Blakenhall.

Before 1666 (Harl. MSS. 2010.), this third of the manor had also passed to the Delves family by pur-

chase; and the manor of *Checkley* has descended to their representative, sir J. D. Broughton, bart. The manor of *Heywood Barnes*, in the Cheshire part of the township, under the will of sir Thomas Broughton, is the property of his younger son, the rev. Henry Broughton, of Broughton, co. Staff.

WRINEHILL, a hamlet of Checkley, is situated in the county of Stafford, and can therefore only be cursorily noticed. It was the seat of the Hawkstones, and was brought by Ellen, daughter and heiress of sir John Hawkstone, with Newbold Astbury, Smallwood, and other estates, to William Egerton of Caldecote, in the county of Chester, who died 8 Hen. V. These Egertons branched from the parent-stock in the person of Urian Egerton, temp. Edw. III.ⁱ and terminated in Edward Egerton, who devised his estates to John Egerton of Egerton, esq. who was knighted in 1599, and died in 1614. The eldest branch of this family had subsequently a seat at Wrinehill, and the manor is now vested in the representatives of their late heir male, the earl of Wilton.

The general surface in Checkley undulates agreeably, and partakes closely of the character of the lands in the neighbouring townships in Staffordshire, which at the distance of a few miles rise into considerable elevations.

BRIDGEMERE.

THIS township is omitted in Domesday, but, being parcel of the barony of Kinderton, is probably included in the description of Blakenhall^k.

Bridgemere gave its name to a family, of whom James, son of Henry de Bridesmere, occurs as being jointly seized of this place with Richard de Wibbenbury,

8 Rich. II.; and Richard de Bridesmere dies seized of the same, 18 Hen. IV. leaving Thomas Maylor and Richard de Madeley his heirs. Richard de Madeley having killed John de Birches 13 Rich. II. Dr. Williamson supposes the entire mesne manor to have vested in Maylor, from whose heirs the manor passed in mar-

^e On referring to the original evidences on which the Villare was founded, the extract from the Fines is however entered thus: 11 Ric. II. John de Delves obtained from Henry de Delves, and Thomas, son of Hugh de Blakenhall, the manor of Blakenhall, and 12d. rent, one pair of gloves, and four barbed arrows, in Chakilegh and Doddington, to him and his heirs.

^g Vide presentations to Wistanston, 1388, and note 1, p. 177.

^h Vill. Cest.

ⁱ Vol. II. p. 350.

^k See supra.

riage, or by conveyance, to the Hulses. David de Holes was found to die seized of this manor 14 Hen. VI.; and Hugh, son of Thomas Hulse, was sued by Thomas Venables for the wastes and timber growing thereon, 23 Eliz.

After this period, these mesne rights appear to have been disused; and by *Inq. p. m.* 4 Jac. I. Thomas Venables of Kinderton (the paramount lord) is found to have died seized, inter alia, of the manor of Bridgemere, holding the same of the king in capite, as of his earldom of Chester.

The said manor is now vested in sir John Delves

Broughton, bart. having been purchased by his uncle sir Brian Broughton Delves, bart. from lord Vernon, to whom the same had descended as parcel of the barony of Kinderton.

Sir Roger Wilbraham, knt. a master of the Court of Requests, and solicitor-general for Ireland, younger son of Richard Wilbraham of Nantwich, esq. settled in this township about the close of the sixteenth century, but died without male issue, leaving three daughters only, severally wives of sir Thomas Pelham, sir Thomas Wilbraham of Woodhey, and sir Henry Delves of Doddington.

HUNSTERTON

Is omitted in Domesday, and appears to have been comprized in the Saxon vill of Blakenhall, from the circumstances mentioned under that township. The paramount royalty was parcel of the barony of Kinderton from the Conquest to the year 1762, when it was sold by lord Vernon to sir Brian Broughton Delves, bart. uncle of sir J. D. Broughton, bart. the present proprietor.

An estate in this township has been possessed by the Delves family from an early period: another belonged to the Mores of Haslington, in right of which sir Thomas Venables grants the wardship and marriage of Randle More to Henry Rope, esq. 8 Eliz.¹

There was also antiently a mesne manor possessed by a family which bore the local name. 36 Edw. III. Hugh Venables grants to sir John Delves the wardship of John, son of Philip de Hunsterton. 43 Edw. III. Ellen, daughter of Richard de Hunsterton, grants to Maud, widow of Nicholas de Colfox, lands in Hunsterton, Hatherton, Stanthorn, Basford, and Bridesmere; and 8 Rich. II. Richard de Hunsterton and his co-parceners are found to have held this manor from the baron of Kinderton^m.

The mesne manerial rights have been long disused.

LEA.

FROM circumstances similar to those mentioned in the preceding townships, Lea appears to have been included in the Saxon vill of Blakenhall. It is situated immediately adjacent to Doddington, about five miles south-east of Nantwich, on the bank of a small rivulet, and in one of the most picturesque parts of the hundred.

The mesne lords assumed the local name in or before the reign of Henry III. and were the parent stock of the Lees, earls of Lichfield, and other collateral branches. Their descent having been given in an earlier portion

of the Work, from an original pedigree roll in possession of their descendantsⁿ, it may suffice to add, that the inquisitions state Lea to have been held by military service from the barony of Kinderton, and that having been sold by Henry Lee, esq. to sir Henry Delves, about the middle of the seventeenth century, it has since descended, with Doddington and its dependencies, to sir J. D. Broughton, bart. the present proprietor.

Lea Hall, the antient seat of the Lee family, is destroyed.

DODDINGTON.

LAST in the list of townships which have been from time immemorial dependant on the fee of Kinderton, and must therefore be presumed to be included in the Domesday description of Blakenhall, is Doddington, the antient seat of the knightly family of DELVES.

The township, at an early period, gave name to a family, as William son of Hugh de Gresty obtained from John de Dodington *ivs. rent, cum pert. and Strete ward here*, 4 Edw. II.^a

A mesne manor was subsequently vested in a branch of the Praers family, and was settled by William Praers on himself and Ellen his wife and their heirs^b. The said manor was, with 10 acres of land in Blakenhall and the sixth of Chorleton, passed by fine 25 Edw. III. to John Delves, by John, son of William Brescy, and Margery his wife, who is supposed by Dr. Williamson

to be daughter and heiress of William Praers before-mentioned, and who conveyed, about the same time, her right in Weston, Checkley, and other manors, to the said John Delves. The manerial rights thus passed were apparently a subinfeudation under Blakenhall, the lords of which held that vill, and the vills which had been taken out of it, from the barony of Kinderton; but that manor, and the renders due to it from Doddington and Checkley, (*viz.* xiiid. 1 pair of gloves, and four barbed arrows) were ceded 11 Rich. II. to John Delves, by Thomas de Blakenhall, and the Delves family would be subsequently tenants in capite from the barony of Kinderton^c.

A genealogical account of the Delves family was compiled by sir William Dugdale from their muniments, and an excellent abstract of the manuscript, communi-

¹ Vill. Cest.

^a Williamson's Fines.

^m Ibid.

^b Vill. Cest. No date given.

ⁿ Vol. I. p. 466.

^c See Blakenhall.

cated by sir Thomas Delves, is printed in a scarce Baronetage published by Collins in 1720^d. From this Work the principal facts relating to the *representatives* are given, with additions in the form of notes, the younger branches being reserved for the following pedigree, in which sir Peter Leycester's corrections are incorporated with Dugdale's collections.

The *antient seat* of the family was DELVES HALL, near Ultoxeter, in the county of Stafford, the possession of John de Delves in 31 Edw. I. whose son and heir, (II.) Richard de Delves, is mentioned in deeds bearing date 5, 10, and 16 Edw. II. He was constable of Heleigh Castle in 8 Edw. III. and had issue, by Amicia his wife, one daughter and three sons, John, Henry, and Thomas.

III. John de Delves, eldest son and heir, *the purchaser of Doddington* and the manors above mentioned, and shortly afterwards of the estates of the Blakenhall family, "in 20 Edw. III. was of the retinue, and one of the esquires to the famous James de Audley, baron of Heleigh, whom he attended in the wars against France. To the courage and conduct of the said James and his four esquires was owing^e the famous victory of Poitiers, for which memorable action the Black Prince retained the said lord in his service for life, (and) granted him 500 marks out of his revenue in England, which he bestowed on his four esquires: whereupon the prince thanked him for so doing, gave him 600 marks per ann. more; and in remuneration of these signal services all the four esquires added part of the lord Audley's arms to their own^f."

"He was likewise one of the esquires of the body to king Edward III. in the 33d year of his reign, received the honour of knighthood in 36 Edw. III. and the year following, together with his wife Isabel, had the wardship of the duchess of Bretagne granted them."

"In 38 Edw. III. going into Gascoigne with Edward prince of Aquitaine and Wales, eldest son of the king, he had the royal letters of safe conduct; he was also the same year constituted one of the justices of the King's Bench^g, and had licence to embattle his mansion house of Doddington."

"He first brought tidings to the king of the birth of Edward, son of the Prince of Wales; and having founded a chantry at Hondebruge, near the city of Chester, which, by his last will and testament, dated 16 Aug. 43 Edw. III. (1369), he largely endowed, departed this life the same year; and having thereby bequeathed his

body to be buried in the parish church of St. James of Audeleigh, in com. Staff. was interred there according to his desire; as appears by a noble monument erected to his memory, with the effigies of a knight in armour, lying on his back, and on his breast the arms of the family, tho' the inscription (is) worn out."

"The dutchess of Bretagne was under his guardianship at the time of his decease: for on 12 Nov. 44 Edw. III. (1470) Isabel, late wife and executrix of sir John Delves, is commanded to deliver the said dutchess and her retinue, with her vestments, jewels, gold, and chattels, to Godfrey Poljambre, who was ordered to pay the expences that the dutchess and her family had put the said Isabel to."

Henry, brother and heir of sir John Delves, was father of (IV.) John Delves.

"The said John Delves is mentioned in a deed, anno 50 Edw. III. and was retained by the king to serve in the wars beyond sea 5 and 11 Ric. II. and the next year was chosen one of the knights of the shire for the county of Stafford at the parliament held at Cambridge, and £20. 16s. for fifty-two days expences was levy'd for him and Nicholas Stafford the other representative. In 14 Ric. II. he was again chosen with Nicholas Stafford, and the sheriff levy'd £12. for 30 days expences. In that year he was sheriff of the county, and the year following escheator of the counties of Salop, Stafford, and the Marches of Wales: in 16 Ric. II. he was elected knight of the shire with Thomas Aston, and the same year had a grant from the king of the manor of Walton upon Trent, with the advowson of the church formerly belonging to the Carthusian priory near Coventry. He died 18 Ric. II. his father yet living.

V. "John de Delves, eldest son of John, succeeded his grandfather in the whole inheritance, at whose death (19 Ric. II.) he was 21 years old: in 5 Hen. IV. he was in foreign parts, and detained about the safe keeping of the castle of Hames in Picardy. In 10 Hen. IV. he was continued in the wars against the French: in 11 H. IV. he underwent the office of sheriff for the co. of Stafford, as likewise in 3 Hen. V.; and died, full of honour and esteem on Wednesday next after the feast of St. George a^o 7 Hen. VI. possessed of the following lands in Staffordshire; viz. the manors of Apedale, Knotton, and Hildurston, vi messuages in Audley, iii bovates in Dimnudsdale, Delves lands in Bettiley; also the manors of Whitmore and Crakemarsh, the village of Clayton, and lands in Honford^h."

^d Vol. II. p. 294.

^e Lord Audley (as stated by Froissart) had vowed, that if he was engaged in any battle where the king or his sons were, "that he would be in the foremost of the attack and the best combatant on his side, or die in the attempt;" and accordingly, with the prince's permission, he posted himself in front of the army, which had been drawn up by his advice, with only four esquires to guard his person. In the hottest part of the fight, the efforts of the battalion of the Marshalls to penetrate that of the Prince are stated to have been foiled by the lord James Audley "and his four esquires," who fought in front of this battalion, "sword in hand, much before the rest, performing wonders." Towards the close of the battle he was carried to a hedge, dangerously wounded and covered with blood, and disarmed by his esquires.

The Prince's earliest inquiries after the battle were respecting the lord Audley, who was brought before him in a litter, over which the prince bent down and embraced him, styled him the bravest knight in his service, and settled 500 marks of yearly revenue, to retain him thenceforward. Lord Audley was then carried from his presence, immediately before the French king was introduced as a prisoner.

On the return to his tent he made the celebrated donation to his esquires of the pension which had been settled upon him, stating, that they had always served him most loyally, and especially in that day's engagement; that his own bodily service was trifling, but that the glory he had gained was through their means and by their valour. Among the five kinsmen of the lord Audley, sent for to witness the grant, was the lord Bartholomew Barghersh, chief justice of Chester.

The Reader will find an admirable account of the whole in Johnes's Froissart, 4to edit. I. 428, 429, 435, 441, 443.

^f Froissart does not mention the additional pension, or the names of the esquires, who are said traditionally to be, sir John Delves of Doddington, sir Robert Fulleshurst of Barthomley, sir Thomas Dutton of Dutton (sheriff of Cheshire), and sir John Hawkstone of Wrinehill and Astbury. It is certain that all these bore frets, the Audley hadge, as part of their arms: Dutton in the 2d and 3d quarters, Delves on the chevron, Hawkstone on the fesse, and Fulleshurst in the field. The last bearing was however used by the Fulleshursts of Edlaston, who were *not* descended from Robert Fulleshurst.

^g And (it may be added) was deputy to Bartholomew Barghersh, justice of Chester, mentioned in the preceding note.

^h This John Delves occurs in a fine of his manors of Doddington and Weston 6 Hen. IV.; and his younger son, John Delves, is mentioned in a fine which he levies 10 Hen. IV. of various lands, and the services of his tenants in Blakenhall, Chorlton, Bridesmere, and Godwin's legh. John Delves the elder levies another fine of his manors of Blakenhall, Doddington, and Weston, 5 Hen. VI.

VI. "Richard Delves, esq. aged 13 years at the death of his father —, died on Sunday next after the feast of the Purification of the Virgin 24 Hen. VI. without issue male; John his brother and heir, of the age of 23 years, succeeding to the estate.

VII. "Which John Delves was sheriff of the county of Stafford in 34 Hen. VI. was constituted comptroller of the petit customs at the port of the city of London in 49 Hen. VI.; and the same year, that prince, out of his special grace and favour, granted to him and to John Langstrother, prior of St. John's of Jerusalem in England, as well the office of warden of his mint, within the Tower of London, as of all other his mints in England, and town of Calais, to occupy by themselves, or sufficient deputies, with the usual salary paid the last of Edw. III. and 1 Ric. II. He was firm in his adherence to the house of Lancaster; and raising forces against king Edw. IV. was, by proclamation, dated at Westminster, 11 Edw. IV. declared a traitor, rebel, and enemy. On the 4th of May following, being then a knight, he was at the battle of Tewksbury, where he lost his life; and in the parliament held at Westminster the year following was attainted."

VIII. "John the eldest son, being with his father at Tewksbury Field, was there taken prisoner, and soon after beheaded, 11 Edw. IV."ⁱ

This John Delves left issue two daughters only, whereupon the estate, according to the account inserted in Collins, on the authority of Dugdale's MSS. passed successively to his younger brothers (IX.) Ralph^j and (X.) Henry, who, as well as another brother Richard, canon of Lichfield and rector of Warrington, are omitted in sir Peter Leycester's corrected copy of Dugdale's pedigree subjoined. According to Collins also, Henry last mentioned was father of sir Henry Delves of Doddington, by Ellen Swinarton; whereas Leycester makes the said Ellen Swinarton, second wife of Henry Delves, *uncle* of the said John, and makes *that uncle* the father of sir Henry, and his brother and sister George and Alice, by a first wife, Margaret Brereton.

XI. This sir Henry Delves (cousin of John Delves beheaded at Tewksbury according to Leycester, and nephew to him according to Collins quoting Dugdale's MSS.) "was found cousin and heir apparent of Richard Delves, canon residentiary of Lichfield^k, at which time he was under age, but soon after was written of Dodyngton, esq. He was steward to John Bouchier, lord Fitz-

warren in 1518, as also serjeant of the household, and steward to Thomas earl of Rutland, for his demesnes of Adderley and Spoonly, in the co. of Salop, 20 Hen. VIII. and held officium feodarii of the said county for that earl. He was sheriff of the county of Chester 29 and 37 Hen. VIII. and received the honour of knighthood before the first of queen Mary, in which year he was elected one of the knights for Cheshire in parliament; and dying 6 Aug. 2 Eliz. 1559, was buried at Wibbenbury."

Inq. p. m. 3 Eliz. Sir Henry Delves, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Doddington, with lands in Doddington, Bridesmeire, Blacknall, Cheickley, and Hunster-ton, from sir Thomas Venables, knight, as the 30th part of a knight's fee; val. £52.; also lands in Walgherton, Hatherton, Weston, Chorleton, Wich Malbanc, and Willaston: obiit 6 Aug. 2 Eliz. John Delves son and heir.

XII. *Inq. p. m.* 13 Eliz. John Delves, esq. (heir by the preceding inquisition) held the manor of Doddington from the heirs of Henry Blacknall, in socage, by the render of one pound of cummin, for all services^l: val. xl.: also lands in Blacknall, Bridesmeire, Hunster-son, Walgherton, Hatherton, Weston, and Chorlton: died June 13 last past. Henry Delves son and heir, aged upwards of 17 years.

XIII. Henry Delves found heir by this inquisition^m, was father of (XIV.) sir Thomas Delves, knighted at Whitehall, July 10, 1609, and elevated to a baronetcy May 8, 1621. In the subsequent struggles his estates were sequestered by the parliament, and were compounded for at the sum of £1484. 10s. The castle of Doddington was occupied by the same party, and after being surrendered to lord Byron in Jan. 1643-4, was again attacked by the Parliamentarians after the raising of the siege of Nantwich, and capitulated after being "assaulted with great ordnance," Feb. 7, following.ⁿ

The direct male line terminated in (XVII.) sir Thomas Delves, great grandson of the first baronet, who died in 1752, having outlived his only son Henry Delves, and leaving one sole daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, wife of sir Brian Broughton, bart. of Broughton, in the co. of Stafford, in whose descendant and representative sir John Delves Broughton, bart. Doddington is now vested, with its numerous appendant manors, making a total little inferior to the Norman baronies of the Palatinate.^o

ⁱ The younger Delves was one of those who fled after the battle to Tewksbury abbey, where they were pursued by king Edward, who entered the church sword in hand, but being opposed by a priest, who lifted up the Host between the king and the fugitives, granted a promise of pardon, which he afterwards falsified, and two days after, on Monday May 6th, caused them to be brought out and beheaded. Sir John Delves and his son were first buried at Tewksbury, as appears by an entry in the registers of the abbey, quoted by Leland (VI. fol. 93.) "Joannes Delves, senior, occisus campo, et Joannes Delves ejus filius decapitatus ibidem una sepulti, alio postea translati. The *alio* is explained by the account of monuments at Wihunbury.

^j This ought to be *Randle*. The said Randle Delves, by *Inq. p. m.* 4 Hen. VIII. is found to have died seized of the manor of Doddington, held from John Tochet lord Audley, in socage, by fealty, and the render of a red rose; val. vi l.; also the manor of Weston, and lands in Hunster-ton, Chackylegh, Bridesmeire, Blakenhall, Godwinsley, Chorleton, Wistanton, and Wich Malbank: val. tot. 34 l. 10s.; died Mar. 1. a^o p'd'to. No heir is mentioned in this inquisition; the jurors on which found Doddington to be part of Audley fee, but erroneously as appears by all other documents.

^k Who was incapable of succeeding to his elder brother as an ecclesiastic. He survived to 19 Hen. VIII. and was buried under a marble in the choir of Warrington church, with this inscription,—“Of your charity pray for the soule of Mayster Richard Delves, channon of the cathedral church of Lichfield, and person of this church of Werryngton, who dy'd the xxiiij day of November, in the yere of our Lord God M.vc.xxvii.”

^l This inquisition adverts to the circumstance of Doddington being originally held under Blakenhall, which held from Kinderton, but the jurors appeared to have been ignorant that the lord of Blakenhall had ceded his mesne rights to the Delves family as late as 11 Ric. II. and that the latter (according to stat. 18 Edw. I.) would consequently hold from the barons of Kinderton, the capital lords of the fee, as correctly stated in the preceding inquisition.

^m In Harl. MSS. 2003, p. 634, is a minute valuation of Doddington and its dependencies in the time of this proprietor.

ⁿ Burghall's Diary, p. 227. 8. of this volume.

^o Bridgemere, Barterton, Basford, Blakenhall, Chorlton, Checkley, Church Coppenhall, Hough, Hunster-ton, Buerton, Haslington, Weston, Walgherton, Rope, Lea, and Shavington. For all these are held courts-leet and courts-baron, but the courts-leet do not extend over any townships of which sir J. D. Broughton is not manerial lord. Information of Messrs. Edleston and Elwood, agents of sir J. D. Broughton.

DELVES AND BROUGHTON OF DODDINGTON.

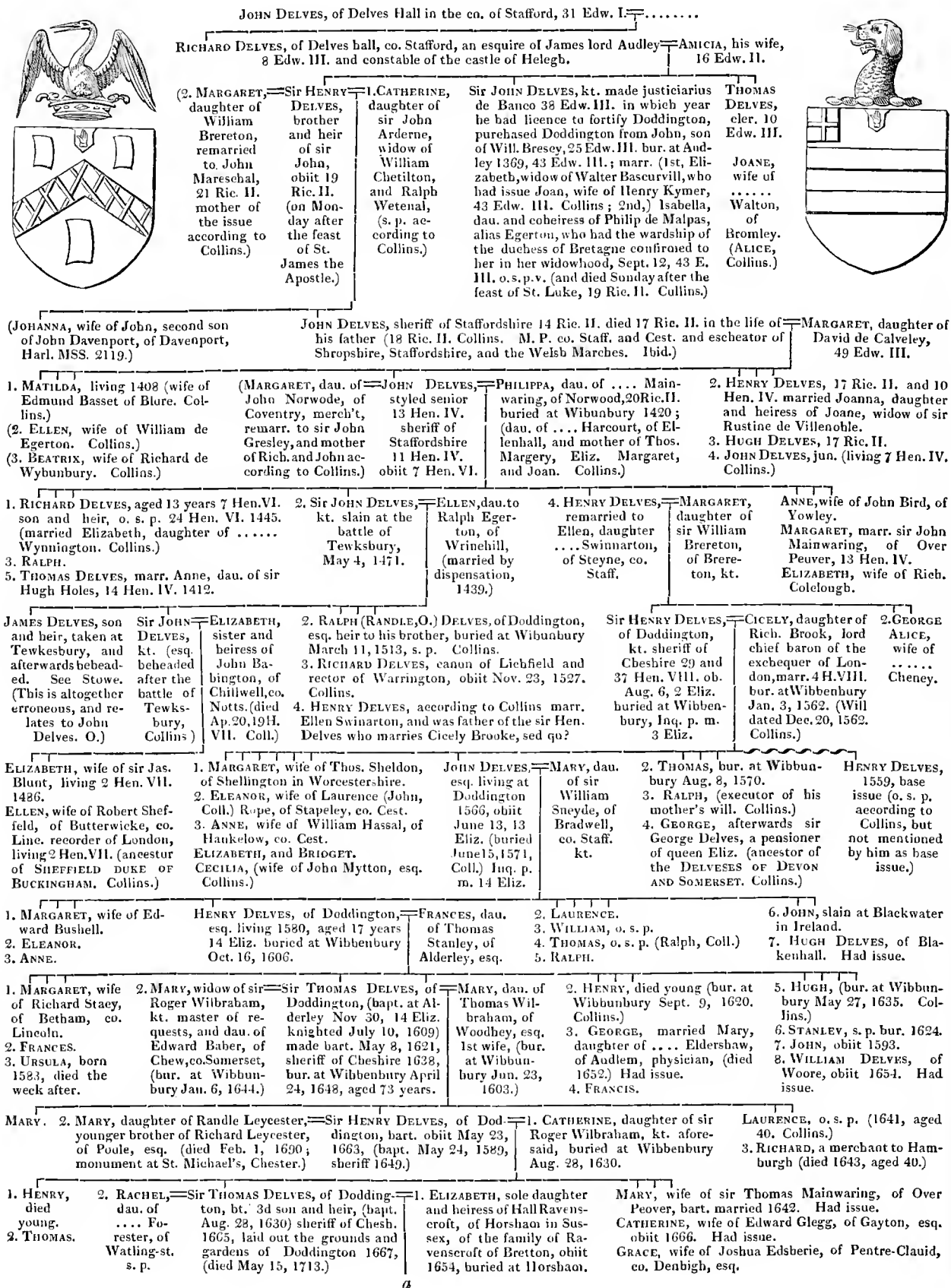
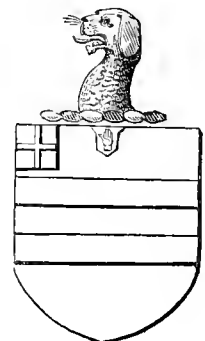
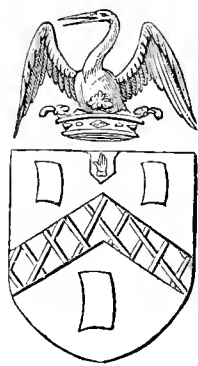
From Dugdale's pedigree of the family, as corrected from deeds by sir Peter Leycester, continued to the present time from a pedigree communicated by direction of sir J. D. Broughton, bart. The variations of Dugdale's pedigree as printed by Collins are included in brackets.

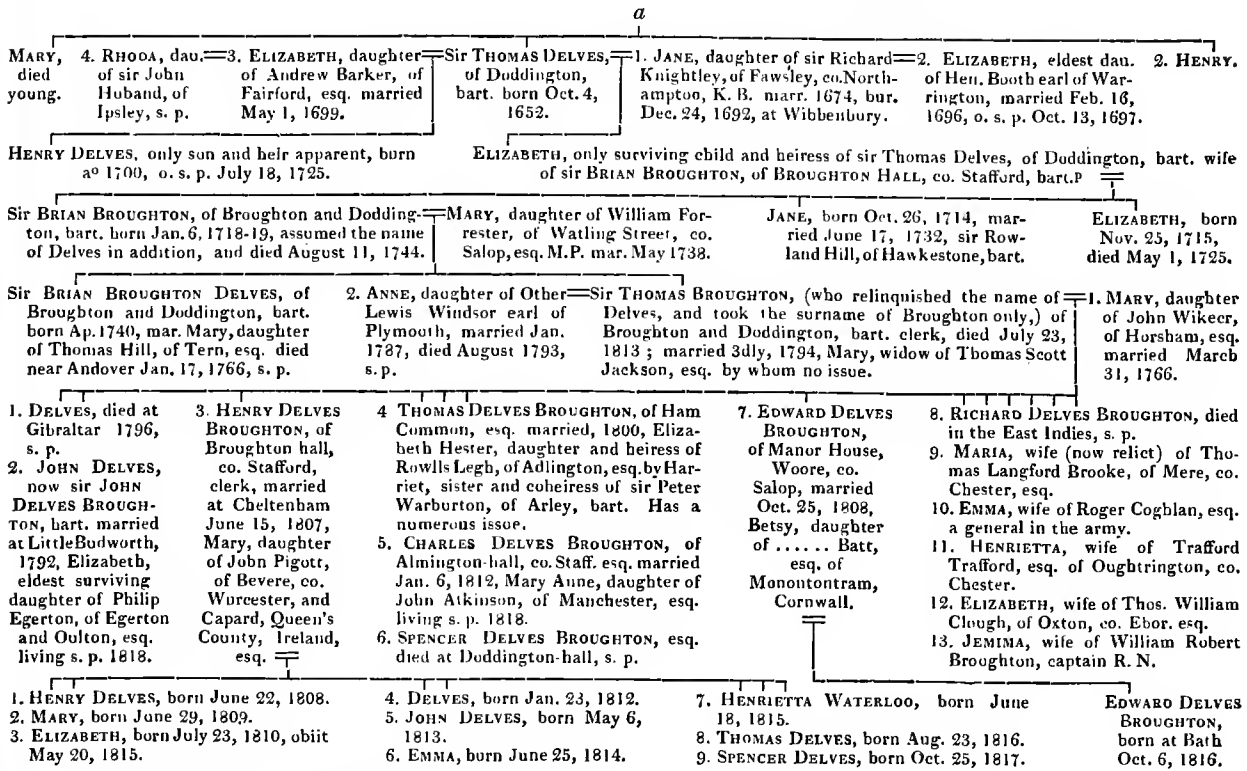
ARMS OF DELVES. Argent, a chevron Gules, chequy Or, between three delves or turves Sable.

CREST. A demi-heron with wings displayed, issuing from a ducal coronet.

ARMS OF BROUGHTON. Argent, two bars Gules, on a canton of the second a cross of the first.

CREST. On a wreath a sea-dog's head Gules.





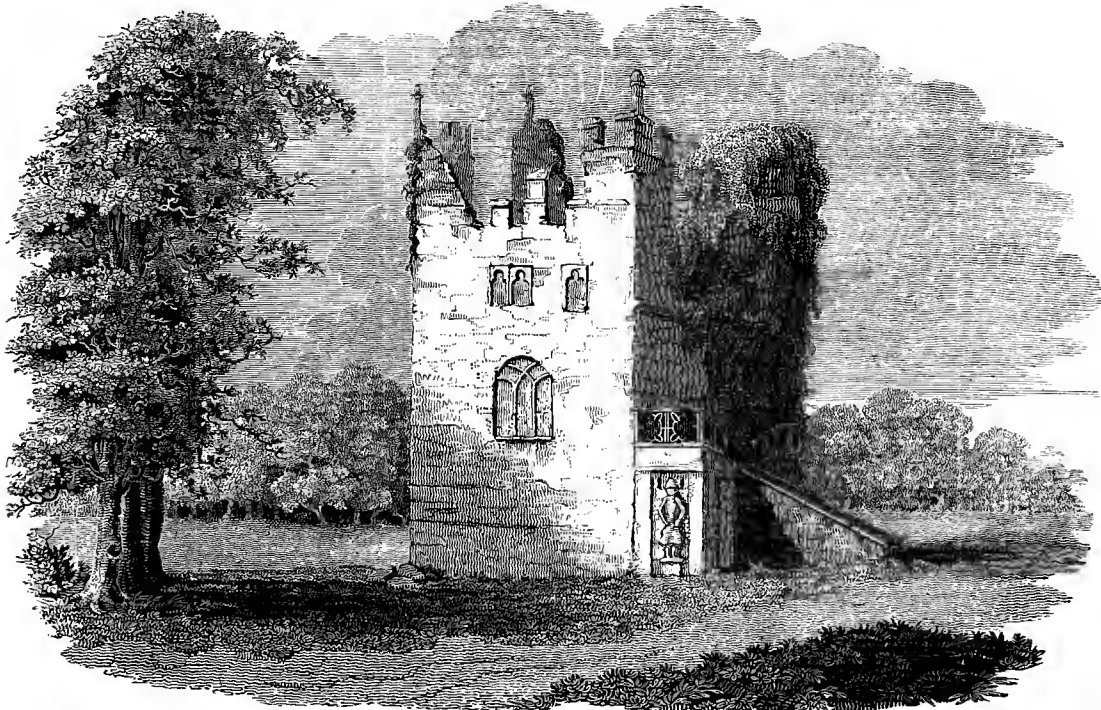
Doddington Hall is situated within an extensive park, near the road from Nantwich to London, upwards of five miles S.E. of the former place. The general appearance of the country immediately adjacent, partakes much of the character of the best part of the neighbouring counties of Salop and Stafford, in undulation of surface, and luxuriance of vegetation, and the oak trees of the Park, including one noble antient avenue, give the place a dignified and impressive appearance.

The seat itself is a large and sumptuous fabric of stone, erected about forty years ago from the designs of

Mr. Samuel Wyatt. The south front looks to a large piece of water; and a short distance from the north front are the venerable remains of the fortified mansion erected by sir John Delves in 1364, as before-mentioned. A mansion of middle date, built in the reign of Elizabeth, near this castellet, and which was twice occupied by the Parliament during the civil wars⁹, has been wholly taken down; but five statues of lord Audley and his esquires, which decorated the portico, and some other ornamental stonework of the mansion, are preserved in an outer staircase, attached to the remains of the castellet.

P The Broughtons descend in the male line from one of the most antient families of the county of Chester, the Vernons of Shipbrook. Richard de Vernon, a younger brother of this house, was father of Adam de Napton, co. Warwick, whose issue assumed their local name from Broughton in Staffordshire. The pedigrees vary as to the exact point of connection; and confused and contradictory as the Shipbrook pedigree is at this period, there can be little hope of its being positively identified; but the general fact of descent is allowed by all authorities. The account which agrees best with dates is that of Booth, which makes Richard de Vernon above-mentioned (24 Hen. I.) son of Hugh Vernon, and brother of the first Warin Vernon of Shipbrook.

⁹ See the diary of the siege of Nantwich, notes, p. 227-8.



Abstract of Returns of Charitable Donations, &c. 1787—1788.

SO FAR AS RELATES TO THE HUNDRED OF NANTWICH.

Ordered by the HOUSE OF COMMONS to be printed 1816.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of that given in Land, after deducting the Rents issuing thereout.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
ACTON.						
Sir Tho. Wilbraham, bart.	-	To the poor—Rent-charge	Hon. Webb Tollemache	-	-	6 13 4
Rog. Wilbraham	-	{ For apprenticing poor children, or to be given to the poor—Rent-charge	James Tomkinson	-	-	4 10 0
George Huxley.	{ About the year 1717—Will	{ To four widows or elderly women in the townships of Brindley, Burland, or Faddiley, and from that part of the parish of Acton, called Harleston quarter and Cholmondestun quarter—Land	Rev. Sam. Aldersey	-	-	20 0 0 ^a
Wilbrahams of Woodhey	-	{ For the maintenance of two almshouses in Acton, and others of Nantwich; 8 <i>l.</i> per annum is now paid to the two of Acton, and 12 <i>l.</i> per ann. to those of Nantwich—Land	Hon. Wm. Tollemache	-	-	20 0 0
Ralph Wilbraham	-	For apprenticing poor children—Rent-charge	Churchwardens	-	-	3 13 4 ^b
Edward Windsor	-	{ For bread to the poor of Worleston in winter-time, in the parish-church of Acton—Rent-charge	Unknown	20 0 0	1 0 0	(^c)
R. Moulton and Ellen Moulton	-	{ To the poor of Poole, Acton, and Harleston—Rent-charge	The Walleys of Poole	10 13 4	0 11 0	-
ALVASTON	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-
ASTON JUXTA MONDREM	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-
AUDLEM.						
Benjamin Dutton	Unknown	To the poor—Rent-charge	Tho. Taylor, of Lymme	10 0 0	-	(^d)
Thos. Tankard	{ Supposed 1657	Do Do	Unknown	20 0 0	-	-
Ralph Wilbraham	{ D ^o 1667—Will	Do Land	The Executors in the will	63 6 8	-	(^e)
Rev. Mr. Adams	{ Supposed by Will	To poor housekeepers—Money	Do	20 0 0	-	-
Rog. Cumberbach	{ D ^o	To the poor—Money	Do	10 0 0	-	-
Thos. Gamul	{ Supposed in 1614—Will	Do Do	Do	5 0 0	-	-
Ann Bickerton	1617—Will	Do Do	Do	5 0 0	-	(^f)
Humph. Puller	1623—Will	Do Do	Do	40 0 0	-	-
Edmund Gamul	1628—Will	Do Do	Do	10 0 0	-	-
Hugh Hirrop	1630—Will	Do Do	Do	5 0 0	-	-
Thos. Liversage	1632—Will	Do Do	Do	5 0 0	-	-
Wm. Gamul	1635—Will	Do Do	Do	10 0 0	-	-
Thos. Hirrop	1646—Will	Do Do	Do	20 0 0	-	-
Wm. Ridgway	1652—Will	Do Do	{ It is believed in Counsellor Bennion	20 0 0	-	(^g)
Randle Boulton	1615—Will	Do Do	Unknown	5 0 0	-	-
Ralph Bolton	Unknown	For the endowment of a free-school—Money	{ Mr. Knight, of Whitechurch	-	-	20 0 0 ^h
— Gamul	Unknown	Do - - Do	{ The Trustees for Audlem School	-	-	20 0 0 ⁱ
John Irish	1774—Will	{ To poor housekeepers of Audlem and Cool Lane, not receiving parish-relief—Money	The Executors in the Will	Unknown	10 0 0	(^k)
Eliz. Wettenhall	Will	{ For apprenticing a poor boy yearly, 5 <i>l.</i> ; and to 40 poor labourers and widows yearly 40 <i>s.</i>	The Heirs of Gabriel Wettenhall	-	7 0 0	-
Eliz. Wettenhall	Will	{ For apprenticing a poor boy yearly, 5 <i>l.</i> ; and for bread to the poor yearly, 5 <i>l.</i> —Land	Mrs. Wettenhall	-	-	10 0 0
Tryphena Bolton	Will	For teaching poor children—Rent-charge	{ Mr. Knight, of Whitechurch, and Mr. Hinton, of Drayton	-	-	7 0 0
Mrs. Wooldridge	Will	For books to poor children—Money	Mr. Harding	6 0 0	0 6 0	-
Wm. Evans	Will	{ To purchase a pew in the gallery, for the use of the free-school; and the interest of 10 <i>l.</i> for books for the poor—Money	Nathan. Wettenhall deceased, and the late Mr. Wilson, of Sandbach	3 0 0	-	-

^a On application to the rev. Mr. Aldersey, respecting the lands he has in trust, we find from his answer to the questions put to him (by the rev. Mr. Morgan) there was, about the year 1764 or 1765, timber sold off the said estate to the amount of £100 and upwards.—*Qy.* Is the principal, and to what purpose has it or the interest arising therefrom been applied? Vide back of the Return.

^b Not paid since 1764.

^c Not paid for 14 years past.

^d The other trustees believed to be dead.

^e *Qy.* No other information can be given.

^f Several of these charities were added together, and land purchased with the money.

^g Payment has been refused by him. No further information can be given.

^h Now rent-charge.

ⁱ Now rent-charge.

^k In the Funds.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
<i>Audlem continued</i>						
Mrs. Evans	Will	For bread to the poor—Money	Mrs. Wettenhall	40 0 0	2 0 0	—
Mrs. Evans	Will	To the free-school—Money	-	40 0 0	—	(l)
Persons unknown	By different Wills	To the poor—Money	Mr. Harding	86 1 0	4 6 10	—
Mr. Holbrooke		Deed	{ For bread to the poor inhabitants of Buerton—Money	- Do -	300 0 0	12 0 0
Ralph Bolton	Will	{ For bread to the poor of Hankelow and Audlem—Rent-charge	— Knight, Whitechurch	-	-	5 4 0
Persons unknown	By different Wills	To the poor—Land	Mr. Cappur	-	-	5 0 0
Wm. Salmon		Will	Do - Money	Unknown	5 0 0	-
John Taylor	-	Do - Do	Unknown	-	10 0 0	—
Mary Whittingham	-	Do - Do	Robert Massie	-	20 0 0	—
Thos. Reynolds	Will	To the poor of Dodcot cum Wilkesley—Land	—	—	—	(n)
AUSTERSON	-	- - None.	—	—	—	—
BADDELEY.						
Martha Mainwaring	1740—Will	{ To such poor housekeepers as bring up their children to read and write—Money	The Churchwardens	300 0 0	—	—
Thos. Bromhall		-	To the poor—Money	- Do -	5 0 0	—
Cath. Mainwaring	1672	Do Do	- Do -	10 0 0	—	—
Roger Moulton	-	Do Do	- Do -	20 0 0	—	—
Rich. Davenport	1653—Will	Do Do	- Do -	5 0 0	—	25 0 0 ^o
Ralph Wilbraham		Will	Do Do	- Do -	10 0 0	—
Rob. Acton	-	Do Do	- Do -	10 0 0	—	—
Sam. Hough	Will	Do Do	- Do -	5 0 0	—	—
Ann Allport	-	Do Do	- Do -	5 0 0	—	—
Thos. Bromhall	1770—Will	For bread to the poor—Money	- Do -	-	0 9 0	(p)
BADDINGTON	-	- - None.	—	—	—	—
BARTHERTON	-	- - None.	—	—	—	—
BARTHOMLEY.						
Eliz. Turner	1690—Will	To the poor of Barthomley and Crewe—Money	Mr. Twiss	80 0 0	—	—
John Crewe	1690—Will	To the poor—Money	- Do -	300 0 0	—	—
John Crewe	1698—Deed	For teaching two children in Crewe—Money	- Do -	12 0 0	—	—
Rich. Steel	1698—Will	To the school—Money	- Do -	50 0 0	—	—
John Crewe	1717—Deed	Do Do	- Do -	100 0 0	—	—
— Alsager	1717—Will	Do Do	- Do -	20 0 0	—	—
Thos. Hassall	1717—Will	For the use of the school—Money	- Do -	20 0 0	—	—
Wm. Darwell	1717—Will	Do - Do	- Do -	5 0 0	—	—
Rev. Mr. Bailey	1717—Deed	Do Do	- Do -	14 0 0	—	30 0 0 ^o
John Lawton	1707—Will	To the poor—Money	- Do -	10 0 0	—	—
Mary Liversage	1707—Will	Do Do	- Do -	5 0 0	—	—
Abr. Lea	1707—Will	Do Do	- Do -	4 0 0	—	—
Sir John Crewe	1707—Will	Do Do	- Do -	13 0 0	—	—
George Alsaker	1707—Will	Do Do	- Do -	12 0 0	—	—
Mathew Meakin	1707—Will	Do Do	- Do -	1 1 0	—	—
Persons unknown	Deed	Do Do	- Do -	28 16 8	—	—
Anthony Ward		1707—Will	For bread to the poor—Money	T. Crewe	50 0 0	5 10 0
Joseph Blumire	1719—Will	Do Do	- Do -	60 0 0	—	
BASFORD	-	- - None.	—	—	—	—
BECHTON	-	- - None.	—	—	—	—
BLAKENHALL	-	- - None.	—	—	—	—
BRIDGEMERE	-	- - None.	—	—	—	—
BRINDLEY.						
George Huxley	1717—Will	{ To four poor widows or elderly women in the township of Brindley, Burland, or Faddiley, and from that part of the parish of Acton called Hurleston quarter and Cholmondeston quarter—Land	Rev. Sam. Aldersey	-	-	20 0 0
BROMHALL, IN THE PARISH OF WRENBURY	-	The legacies belonging to this Township are given an account of in the schedule delivered in by the Minister of the parish.				
BUERTON.						
Mr. Holbrooke	-	To the poor	{ Mr. Baker, Hickfield, and Minister and Churchwardens.	300 0 0	12 0 0	(r)
Mr. Dickon	-	Do Cottage	Overseers	-	-	2 2 0

^l Expended.

^m Vide the account given in for Buerton.

ⁿ Which cost £100. Vide Dodcot-cum-Wilkesley

^o Laid out in lands; with £60 added by the parishioners.

^p No further information can be given.

^q Laid out in land.

^r 4 per Cents.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.			Annual Produce of the Money.			Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.		
				£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
BURLAND -	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CHECKLEY CUM WRINEHILL		- - None.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CHOLMONDESTON.												
Thomas Fillcock	Will	For teaching four poor children—Money	{ Peter Statham Thomas Major }	20	0	0	0	16	0	-	-	
CHORLEY - { The Charitable Donations belonging to this township are given an account of in the schedule delivered in by the Minister of the parish of Wrenbury.												
CHORLTON { There are no Donations left to this township, except what are specified in the schedule delivered by the Minister and Churchwardens of Wybunbury.												
COPPENHALL.												
Wm. Malbon	Will	To the poor—Money	{ Randle Kent }	65	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	
Matt. Cartwright	Will	Do Do		50	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	
Sarah Turner	Will	Do Do		10	0	0	-	-	-	6	6	0 ^s
John Turner	Will	Do Do		6	0	0	-	-	-	0	5	0 ^t
James Pickerin	Will	Do Do		5	0	0	0	5	0	(^u)	-	-
MONKS COPPENHALL - - There are no Donations except what are returned by the Minister of Church Coppenhall.												
MINSHULL.												
Margaret Frog	1618	To poor housekeepers—Money	{ Minister and Churchwardens }	10	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	
Ann Wade	1619	Do Do	Do	6	13	4	-	-	-	-	-	
Randle Kennerley	1659	Do Do	Do	3	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	
Thos. Kennerley	1697	Do Do	Do	10	0	0	-	-	-	7	7	0 ^x
Unknown persons	-	Do Do	Do	12	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	
Edw. Wade	1720	Do Do	Do	10	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	
Arth. Warburton	1723	Do Do	Do	30	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	
John Oakes	1750	For rye bread to the poor—Money	Sam. Oakes	5	0	0	0	5	0	-	-	
Lady Meredith	-	To poor widows—Money	Thos. Cholmondeley	20	0	0	1	0	0	-	-	
Rich. Vernon	-	To poor housekeepers—Money	{ Minister and Churchwardens }	50	0	0	2	10	0	-	-	
Edw. Kennerley	1786	Do Do	-	10	0	0	-	-	-	(^y)	-	
COOL PILATE - - None.												
CREWE, vide BARTHOMLEY.												
DODCOTE CUM WILKESLEY.												
Thos. Reynolds	1725—Will	To the poor—Rent-charge	{ Churchwardens and Overseers of Addeley in the county of Salop, and the Overseers of Dodcot cum Wilkesley }	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
DODINGTON - None;—a return having been made from the parish of Wybunbury.												
EDESTON - The charitable donations are given by the minister of Acton, to which this township belongs.												
FADDILEY - - None.												
HANKELOW.												
Eliz. Wettenhall	Will	{ For apprenticing a poor boy annually from one of the townships in Audlem parish, and 40s. to the poorest widows within the same parish, annually—Rent-charge }	Arabella Wettenhall, widow	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	0	0
Eliz. Wettenhall	Do	{ For apprenticing a poor boy annually of Audlem and Hankelow, and 5l. for bread to the poor—Rent-charge }	Arabella Wettenhall, widow	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	0	0
Ralph Bolton	Do	{ For bread to decayed labourers, every Sunday, 2s. in the township of Audlem and Hankelow—Rent-charge }	Supposed in John Knight	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	0
Unknown	Do	To the poor—Rent-charge	-	0	10	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
HASLINGTON, vide BARTHOMLEY.												
Richard Steele	Will	{ To the poor not receiving parish relief, every Christmas, in Money }	Inhabitants of Haslington who pay poors-rates.	10	0	0	0	10	0	-	-	
Mary Leversage	-	Do Do	Do	5	0	0	0	5	0	-	-	
Mar. Smithwick	-	Do Do	Do	5	0	0	0	5	0	-	-	
Sundry Persons	{ Various times }	To the poor—Money	Mr. Twiss	-	-	-	3	10	0	-	-	

^s Laid out in land.^t Also rent-charge, paid out of an estate occupied by Edward Morrey^u It appears from the catalogues, that there have been several sums given to the poor of this parish; which perhaps have been put out upon insufficient securities, and by that means are lost.^x Laid out in land.^y Not yet in possession, and uncertain whether it will be paid.^z No further information can be given.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	Whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, and for what Purposes given.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
HASSALL	-	The charitable donations belonging to this township are given an account of in the schedule delivered in by the minister of the parish.				
HATHERTON	-	None.	—	—	—	—
HENHULL	-	None.	—	—	—	—
HOUGH	-	None.	—	—	—	—
HUNSTERTON	-	There are no charitable donations except what is specified in the schedule delivered by the minister and churchwardens of Wybunbury.				
HURLESTON	-	What charitable donations respect the poor of Hurleston, are contained in the schedule delivered in by the rev. Mr. Morgan of Acton.				
LEA	-	None.	—	—	—	—
LEIGHTON	-	None.	—	—	—	—
MARBURY						
Ralph Buckley	1601—Will	{ For bread and money to 13 poor people } of the parish—Land	Mrs. Nevett	-	-	5 12 8
Thos. Bennion	-	To the poor—Money	Thos. Murhall	10 0 0	0 9 0	—
Thos. Wicksteed	-	Do Land	D. Poole and D. Edgeley	-	-	0 14 0
John Cartwright	-	Do Money	Thos. Murhall	5 0 0	0 4 6	—
Roger Heath	-	Do Do	Thos. Murhall	17 0 0	0 15 3	—
Edward Bromley	-	Do Land	Ashton Curzon	-	-	2 0 0
Thomas Heath	-	For bread to the poor—Land	Domville Poole	-	-	1 10 0
Rob. Nevett	-	To the poor—Money	Thos. Murhall	20 0 0	0 18 0	—
Tristram Daxon	-	Do Do	Thos. Murhall	10 0 0	0 9 0	—
John Caudland	-	Do Do	-	10 0 0	-	(^a)
Robt. Sadler	-	Do Do	-	5 0 0	-	(^a)
NANTWICH.						
Eliz. Davis	Unknown	To the poor in the Mill-street—Money	Churchwardens	15 0 0	-	—
Mar. Tompson		{ To the poor of the Hospital, and Barker- } street—Money	Do	40 0 0	—	—
R. Comberbach	Do	For bread to the poor—Money	Do	40 0 0	—	—
W. Whalley, M.D.	Do	To the poor Do	Do	63 0 0	—	—
Mr. Ald. Walthall	Do	Do Do	Do	2 0 0	—	—
Oliver Wilkes	Do	To 10 poor widows in the Hospital-street—Do	Do	10 0 0	—	—
Eliz. Knightley	Do	To the poor—Money	Do	40 0 0	—	—
Rev. J. Minshull	Do	For bread to the poor—Money	Do	44 0 0	—	—
Randlc Lightfoot	Do	{ For the benefit of the school of Nantwich, for } the bringing up of one child or children at the } said school; the poor of Beam-street having } the preference—Money	Do	20 0 0	-	36 17 0
Wm. Fithian	1683—Will					
Mar. Maisteron	Unknown	To the grammar school—Money	Do	20 0 0	—	—
Marg. Delwes	Do	To the poor Do	Do	5 0 0	—	—
Marg. Heycock	Do	Do Do	Do	20 0 0	—	—
Rich. Wickstead	Do	Do Do	Do	20 0 0	—	—
Thos. Burscoe	Do	To the grammar school Do	Do	5 0 0	—	—
Anne Smith	1681	To the poor Do	Do	70 0 0	—	—
Sir T. Wilbraham	Unknown	{ These 5 donations are not specified in } any of the memorials fixed up in the } church; nor can any explanation be got } concerning them, but as they appear in } an old parish book—Money	-	25 0 0	—	—
Rog. Wilbraham	Do		-	45 0 0	—	—
Anne Minshull	Do		-	5 0 0	—	—
Thos. Suckley	Do		-	4 0 0	—	—
Mrs. Seagrave	Do		-	10 0 0	—	—
Sir Ed. Wright	1688—Deed	{ For an almshouse in the Hospital-street for 6 } poor men, governed by trustees, perpetually } to be renewed—Rent-charge	Geo. Wilbraham, Sam. Barrow, Jas. Tomkinson, Geo. Garnett, Thos. Yoxall, jun. Rich. Wicksted, Wm. Wrench, Wm. Kent, Wm. Phillips, Jos. Skenett, Rich. Leversage, Geo. Dutton, Benj. Hewitt, Being the daughter of the } above mentioned sir } Edm. Wright, she directed } this charity to be } under the management } of the trustees of his } hospital	-	-	32 0 0 ^b
Martha Chorlton	1707	To 4 poor widows—Money		230 0 0	-	16 0 0 ^c

^a Lost.

^b Laid out in land.

^c Now a rent-charge.

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				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.		
Bridget Wood	1725—Will	{ To the poor of Beam-street and Wall-lane—Rent-charge - - }	Sir E. Wright's Trustees	370	0	0	16	0	0
John Bromhall	1733—Will	{ United charities—to the master of the Blue-cap school—Rent-charge - }	- Do - - -	70	0	0	3	3	0
Z. Turpenny	1735—Will								
Matt. Meakin	1738—Will	{ To a poor man and his wife. [Two men and their wives enjoy this charity, and have also houses allotted them gratis]—Money - }	The before named Trustees of sir E. Wright's hospital	200	0	0	-	7	10 0 ^d
Ermine Delves	1722—Deed	{ Conveyed several houses in Barker's-street and Love-lane to trustees, to build an hospital, to consist of 4 little houses, to be used as an almshouse for 4 poor men and their wives; the trustees to dispose of the rents and profits of said premises in Barker's-street to such almsmen and almswomen by quarterly payments—Land - }	- Do - - -	-	-	-	-	2	16 0
Ermine Delves	1728—Will	{ Directed trustees either to raise 68 <i>l.</i> and interest from her said premises, or settle out of the same a clear yearly rent-charge of 3 <i>l.</i> payable quarterly; the interest of said 68 <i>l.</i> or the said annuity, to be disposed of for the maintenance of one poor single woman—Money - }	- Do - - -	-	-	-	1	15	0
Han. Hickson	Will	To the poor of Barker-street—Rent-charge	Churchwardens	10	0	0	0	9	0
Sir R. Wilbraham	1613	{ Founded an hospital for 6 poor men, and endowed the same out of certain leads-walling, above the repairs, with 20 <i>l.</i> per annum }	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lady Wilbraham	Unknown	{ Augmented the said hospital with a field in Henbull, of about 12 <i>l.</i> per annum—Land - }	The hon. Wilbraham Tollemache	-	-	-	-	12	0 0 ^e
Sir R. Wilbraham	Do	{ Gave a dole to this parish out of said leads-walling, of 4 <i>l.</i> per annum - }	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
The House of Woodhay	Do	{ To the poor—commonly called <i>Prior's Obit</i> —Money - }	- - -	-	-	-	1	6	8
Ralph Wilbraham	1661—Will	{ To the poor in general, all his estate; to be distributed at the discretion of his executors, who appointed 400 <i>l.</i> to the poor, and 50 <i>l.</i> to the grammar school—Money - }	Roger and Thos. Wilbraham	450	0	0	-	-	- ^g
Rog. Wilbraham	1676—Deed	{ Founded an hospital for 6 widows and endowed it—Land and Money - }	- - -	-	-	-	-	24	0 0
Do	1705—Deed	{ Founded an almshouse for 2 maids, and endowed it—Land and Money - }	- Do - - -	-	-	-	-	6	0 0
Ran. Wilbraham	1721—Deed	{ Augmented said almshouses, the widows with 3 <i>l.</i> and the maids with 13 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> per annum—Money - }	- Do - - -	-	-	-	3	13	4
Do	Will	To the charity school—Money - - -	- Do - - -	163	0	0	}	-	-
C. Mainwaring	Will	Do - - - Do - - -	- Do - - -	27	0	0		-	-
Jane Edgeley	Will	Do - - - Do - - -	- Do - - -	10	0	0		-	- ^h
Step. Wilbraham	Will	Do - - - Do - - - £500 and to the grammar school - 50 }	- Do - - -	550	0	0		-	-
Mrs. Crewe	Will	To the charity school—Land - - -	- - -	-	-	-	-	5	0 0
Sir Thos. Crewe	Will	{ To the poor of Hospital-street, chief-rents in Buglawton and Tattenhall, about - }	John Crewe	-	-	-	-	34	0 0
Sir John Crewe	Will	To the said street—Land - - -	- - -	-	-	-	-	12	0 0
Wm. Hodgkins	1689—Will	For apprenticing poor children—Land - -	Thos. Yoxall	-	-	-	-	25	0 0
Margaret Slade	1625—Deed	To the poor - - - Do - - -	Churchwardens	-	-	-	-	11	0 0
Rich. Minshull	Unknown	For bread to the poor - - - - -	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	(^d)
Rich. Harewar	Do	To the poor - - - Do - - -	- Do - - -	-	-	-	-	5	5 0
Sam. Gouldsmith	Do	For bread to the poor—Money - - -	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	(^k)
Rich. Venner	Do	Do - - - Do - - -	J. Dewes, Temple, Lond.	-	-	-	1	10	0
Thos. Wetenhall	Will	{ For teaching 4 poor boys at the grammar school—Money - - - }	Unknown	-	-	-	-	2	0 0 ^l
Mary Maisteron	Will	For bread to the poor of Pillory-street--Money	Thos. Maisteron	20	0	0	0	16	0
Thos. Proudman	Will	For bread to the poor of Welsh Row—Land	Rich. Wrench	-	-	-	-	1	0 0 ^m
— Gough	Will	{ These premises cannot be otherwise specified, for which Mr. Kennerley has a lease for his and his wife's life, but now mislaid by him—Land - - - }	Churchwardens	-	-	-	-	4	0 0
Ann Rathbone	1768—Will	To the poor widows of Beam-street—Money	Chas. Bate	-	-	-	-	1	0 0
John Eaton	1775—Will	For bread to the poor - - - Do - - -	Peter Hilditch	20	0	0	1	0	0
Sir Th. Crewe, } Sir J. Crewe, }	Will	{ To erect and maintain an hospital for the poor—Land - - - }	John Crewe	-	-	-	-	42	13 2
NEWHALL	{ There are no donations for this township, except what may be returned by the ministers of the parishes of Wrenbury and Audlem, wherein the said township lies.								

^d Laid out in land.

^e Lead-walling has been long since dropped and disused.

^f Dropped and disused.

^g No further information can be given.

^h No further information can be given.

ⁱ Dropped and disused.

^k Lost.

^l Now a rent-charge.

^m Now a rent-charge.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
NORBURY	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-
POOLE	-	None; except what may be returned from the parish of Acton, wherein this township lies.				
ROPE						
John Wright	1709—Will	To the poor—Land	John Hayes Betley	-	-	0 8 0
SHAVINGTON-CUM-GRESTY	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-
SOUND	-	The township of Sound lies within the parish of Wrenbury, and the officiating minister will make a return as to the donations.				
STAPELEY	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-
STOKE	-	{ No person or persons left by deed or will any separate donations to the poor of the township of Stoke, but it is believed the poor inhabitants of the said township of Stoke for the time being have received annually charitable donations from the churchwardens or ministers of the parish of Acton, or other persons, directed by the will of sir Thos. Wilbraham, late of Woodhey, to be given to the poor inhabitants of the said parish at large.				
TITTENLEY	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-
WALGERTON						
Ralph Latham	1726—Will	To the poor—Land	John Hayes	20 0 0	-	0 16 0
Rob. Latham	1733—Will	Do Do	Do	10 0 0	-	0 8 0 ⁿ
WESTON	-	{ The township of Weston lies within the parish of Wyburnury, and what donations, if any, have been given to Weston, the officiating minister for Wyburnury will account for.				
WILLASTON	-	{ This township lies within the parish of Wyburnury, and the churchwardens or officiating minister of Wyburnury will, in their return, answer the questions above-mentioned.				
WIRSWALL						
Mr. Wicksteed	-	To the poor—Rent-charge	Rev. Mr. C. Ethelston	-	-	0 10 0
WISTASTON						
Rev. R. Weever	-	Do Do	Peter Walthall	-	-	0 10 0
Rebecca Walthall	1740—Will	Do Do	Do	-	-	2 0 0
WOODCOTE	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-
WOLSTANWOOD	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-
WORLESTON	-	{ The township of Worleston lies within the parish of Acton, and nothing was left, except that Edw. Windsor the elder gave 20l. to remain in Stock, the interest to be applied yearly for bread to the poor of Worleston, in the parish church of Acton.				
WRENBURY.						
Mr. Rutter	Will	For apprenticing poor children—Money	{ T. Starkey, S. Barrow, and J. Wilson }	60 0 0	2 8 0	-
Margaret Delves	1699—Will	Do - - Do - -	Do - -	120 0 0	6 0 0	-
G. and A. Beckett	1704—Deed	To the poor—Money	Churchwardens	20 0 0	0 16 0	-
A. Cartwright	1699—Deed	Do Do - - - -	Thos. Starkey	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
Mrs. Ursgate	1699—Deed	Do Do - - - -	Do - -	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
Mr. Rutter	Will	Do Do - - - -	Churchwardens	10 0 0	0 8 0	-
Rob. Cudworth	1665—Deed	{ To the poor of the township of Newhall } -Money - - - -	Do - -	20 0 0	1 0 0	-
Geo. Cudworth	1631—Deed	Do Do - - - -	Do - -	10 0 0	0 8 0	-
Roger Podmore	1693	Do Do - - - -	Do - -	10 0 0	0 8 0	-
Rich. Podmore	1693—Will	Do Rent-charge	Do - -	-	-	1 0 0
Mary Adget	1704—Will	Do Money	Sir R. S. Cotton	10 0 0	0 8 0	-
Marg. Delves	1699—Will	Do Do - - - -	Churchwardens	40 0 0	2 0 0	-
Ellen Massie	1705—Deed	{ To the poor of the township of Wren- } bury—Money - - - -	Do - -	10 0 0	0 8 0	-
Mary Woolrich	1702—Deed	Do Do - - - -	Do - -	10 0 0	0 8 0	-
Thos. Wilson	1699—Deed	Do Do - - - -	Do - -	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
Mrs. Wickstead	1689—Deed	Do Do - - - -	Do - -	10 0 0	0 8 0	-
Mary Ankers	1602—Deed	To the poor of Broomhall—Money	Do - -	10 0 0	0 8 0	-
M. Whittingham	1691—Deed	To the poor of Broomhall and Sound—Money	Do - -	20 0 0	0 15 8	-
Hannah Jones	-	Do - - - - Do	Do - -	20 0 0	0 16 0	-
Mary Ikins	1700—Deed	Do - - - - Do	Do - -	10 0 0	0 8 0	-
Hugh Lloyd	Will	To the poor of Sound—Do	Do - -	5 0 0	0 4 0	-
Mary Emans	1699—Deed	To the poor of Wrenbury and Chorley—Money	Do - -	20 0 0	1 0 0	-
Robt. Larden	Deed	Do Do - - - -	J. Larden	7 10 0	0 7 6	-
James Hamnett	1702—Deed	To the poor—Money	Churchwardens	10 0 0	0 8 0	-
Rich. Booth				100 0 0		
R. Wilbraham	} 1602	Do Do - - - -	Do - - - -	{	50 0 0	} - 13 0 0 ^o
R. Comberbach						

ⁿ Laid out in land.

^o Laid out in land.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Jane Edgely	-	To the poor—Money	Churchwardens	5 0 0		
Mrs. Norcop	-	{ To the poor of the township of Wren- bury—Money	Do	5 0 0		
Thos. Hamnett	-	To the poor—Money	Do	12 0 0		
Roger Heath	-	Do	Do	6 0 0		
James Durley	-	Do	Do	6 6 8		
Eliz. Barnett	-	Do	Do	5 0 0		
George Hall	-	Do	Do	5 0 0		(p)
Ann French	-	Do	Do	5 0 0		
Wm. Hare	-	Do	Do	5 0 0		
G. Whittingham	1661	Do	Do	20 0 0		
John Massie	1600	Do	Do	50 0 0		
Mrs. Bickerton	1617	Do	Do	5 0 0		
John Cartwright	1630	Do	Do	5 0 0		
Wm. Bebbington	1630	Do	Do	5 0 0		
WYBUNBURY.						
Rph. Wilbraham	1681--Deed	To the poor—Money	Do	50 0 0	2 0 0	—
John Slade	1681--Deed	Do	Do	11 0 0	0 8 10	—
R. Comberbach	1681--Deed	Do	Do	10 0 0	0 8 0	—
Edmund Griffin	1684--Deed	Do	Do	15 0 0	0 12 0	—
John Perrin	1681--Deed	Do	Do	20 0 0	0 16 0	—
Randle Lightfoot	1681--Deed	To 12 poor people in the parish—Money	Do	20 0 0	1 0 0	—
James Hamnett	-	To 6 Do	Do	10 0 0	0 10 0	—
Robt. Green	1684--Deed	{ To the poor of the township of Wybun- bury—Money	Do	30 0 0	1 0 0	—
Thos. Jones	1695--Deed	{ To 10 of the poorest of the township of } Wybunbury—Land	In the Vicar and Churchwardens	-	-	2 10 0
Ralph Latham	1726--Will	{ To the poor of the township of Walgher- ton—Land	Do	-	-	0 16 0
Robt. Latham	1733--Will	Do	Do	-	-	0 8 0
Thos. Vernon	1709--Will	Do	Do	-	-	0 8 0
John Wright	1709--Will	To the poor of the townships of Rope—Land	Do	-	-	0 8 0
John Steele	1718--Will	{ To the widows of the townships of Wes- ton and Willaston—Money	Churchwardens	5 0 0	0 4 0	—
Mrs. Hicksons	-	To the poor—Money	Do	10 0 0	0 8 0	—
John Haywood	1722--Will	To 6 poor people—Land	{ Rev. sir T. Brough- ton, bart. }	-	-	1 4 0
John Slade	1625--Will	For bread to the poor—Land	Do	-	-	14 16 0
Robt. Wettenhall	1629--Will	{ To the poor of the townships of Wybun- bury, Shavington, and Rope—Land	Do	-	-	2 12 0
Thos. Ellison	1682--Will	{ To the poor of the township of Weston— Rent-charge	John Ellison Poole	-	-	3 8 0
Do	1682--Will	Do	Do	-	-	1 0 0
M. Whittingham	1675--Will	{ To the poor of the township of Shaving- ton—Rent-charge	Do	-	-	0 10 0
Do	1675--Will	{ To the poor of the township of Weston— Rent-charge	Do	-	-	1 0 0
S. Wettenhall	1741--Will	To buy bibles for poor children—Land	{ Rev. Robt. Hill, clk. and 5 other trustees appointed by the rev. sir T. Brooughton, bt. }	-	-	0 16 0
Sir T. Delves, bt.	-	{ For clothing and teaching twenty boys and ten girls—Land	-	-	-	94 4 0
John Slade	{ 1775 Timber sold on Slade's Estate.	For increase of bread	John Cooper	35 0 0	-	(q)
John Large	1712--Will	{ To the poor of the township of Walgher- ton—Money	Jas. Tomkinson	20 0 0	-	(r)
Do	1712--Will	{ To the poor of the township of Wybun- bury—Money	-	10 0 0	-	(s)
George Cappur	1741	Do	-	5 0 0	-	(s)

p Lost.

q Insolvent.

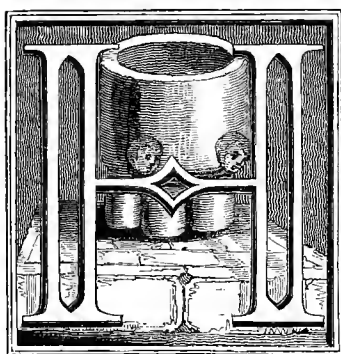
r For many years past hath paid nothing.

s Nothing having been paid for upwards of 38 years.

History of Cheshire.

Hundred of Macclesfield.

INTRODUCTION.



AMESTAN, or the "dwelling of the rock," was the appropriate Saxon designation of the districts which abutted on the lines of hills diverging from the High Peak, as well in the county of Chester, as in the contiguous one of Derby. The Cheshire hundred of this name

appears to have been as nearly co-extensive as possible with the present hundred and forest of Macclesfield, and comprehended all the villis noticed in Domesday which they contain, excepting Northenden, Snelson, and part of Alderley. The district composed of Hamestan Hundred, and these small additions, stretches in an irregular form, about twenty miles in length from north to south, and averages about half as many miles in breadth, excepting the narrow part, which lies north and north-east of Stockport.

On the north the hundred of Macclesfield (using the word Hundred in its general sense) is separated from Lancashire by the Mersey and Tame, with their tributary streamlets, and from Yorkshire by a mountainous

line of rocky moors, called Feather-bed Moss. On the east the Etherow, the Goyt, and a line of moorish hills near Buxton, divide it from Derbyshire; and on the south the Dane separates it first from Derbyshire, and then entering the Palatinate near Bosley continues to divide Macclesfield from Northwich Hundred, as far as the two Somerfords. From this last point an irregular imaginary line is drawn northwards to Sale, on the bank of the Mersey, which divides Macclesfield from the rest of Northwich Hundred and the Hundred of Bucklow.

There appears no reason to doubt that the Romans established at Stockport, on the northern side of this Hundred, a sister fort to their great station at Manchester, from which roads diverged, first, to Manchester; secondly, to Buxton, with a branch or branches towards Kinderton; thirdly, to Melandra castle, on the edge of Derbyshire; and lastly, to Castle Shaw, in Yorkshire.

The account of the station itself, by Mr. Whitaker, is given in the note below, with remarks on the road from Manchester to Stockport, and from Stockport to Buxton^a, by a learned and local antiquary, Mr. Watson.

To the right of the road from Stockport to Buxton, and about twelve miles distant from it, lay the station of Condate, or Kinderton, in Northwich Hundred, from which a road is universally allowed to have tended to a junction with this; and tumuli and other indications of

☞ The initial represents the Font of Prestbury Church, from a sketch communicated by J. H. Markland, esq. F. R. S. and F. S. A.

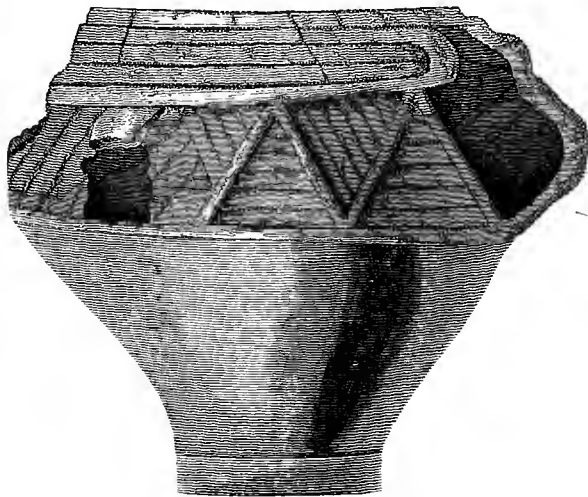
^a "Another station* was seated equally upon the course of a Roman road, and upon the margin of the Mersey. It was settled at Stockport. This town appears evidently the one common centre to three or four very variously directed roads of the Romans. The *High-street* advances to it from Manchester, and the *Pepper-street* hastens to it from Hanford†; and in the parish of Ashtoo, and near the foot of Staley bridge, is a *third road*, commonly denominated *Staley-street*, for a mile together. A branch of this must have been the above-mentioned road to Stretford, and the main line lies pointing clearly from Castleshaw to Stockport. These are sure signatures of a Roman station at Stockport. And the general sameness in the position of this and the former fort, this being placed like that upon the limits of the two provinces and the banks of the limitary stream, and this being planted like that in the road between two considerable stations, demonstrates a sameness in the design, and requires a similarity in the nature of both. This must have been fixed upon the site of the Castle and the area of the Castle Hill at Stockport. That is exactly such a site as the Romans must have instantly selected for such a station. That is a small area detached from the level ground of the market-place, and connected with it only by an isthmus. And that is a small square knoll which projects from the southern side of the river, looks down upon the long steep slope of the rocky bank, and has the young Mersey frequently rolling its rumbling torrents at the foot of it. The area must have been the actual site of a castle in the earliest period of the Saxon residence among us, as the castle must have originally communicated its name to the town, and as both were denominated Stockport because the former was a port or castle in a wood‡. The area is about half a statute acre in extent, the site is still incomparably strong in itself, and the position is happily fitted for the ford. The station must have had a steep of an hundred or an hundred and twenty yards in descent

* Referring to a preceding description of Fines Maximæ et Flaviæ, supposed Stretford. O.

† Mr. Watson remarks on this, "I must beg leave to say there never was any Roman station at Hanford. I personally attended Mr. Whitaker in making strict search for one there, without the least shadow of success. What he expected to find there I afterwards discovered in the parish of Bowden and township of Hale in Cheshire, on a lingula between the river Bullin and a small stream called Cotterel's brook at a place named Castle Hill, the highway from Ashley to Wilmslow intersecting it." House of Warren, vol. II. p. 191.

‡ Alluding obviously to the etymology of $\gamma\alpha\sigma\tau\alpha\sigma\tau\alpha$; but there is also a district lying close to the river and at the foot of the castle still called Portwood.

antient roads have been already noticed as identifying the line which it probably pursued in its way to Rainow^b, where according to the note below from Mr. Watson, it must have joined the Roman road from Stockport to Buxton. A Roman urn found in the grounds at Birtles (of which a sketch is subjoined^c) proves that people to have at least adopted this line of communication, if they were not the original formers of it.



Roman urns have also been discovered in Rainow^d; and the name of Cold Harbour, which is generally found to have been connected with Roman stations or minor camps, occurs in Titherington, between Butley and Rainow, in the line which this road would be likely to have followed to sweep round the northern extremity of Kerridge Hill.

It is probable that a branch would be formed from this, bearing on Stockport, and the stations beyond it, and leaving the circuitous route by Rainow to the right. Such a line would be likely to fall in with the road from Stockport to Buxton at Handford, if Mr. Whitaker's opinion relative to that place, as mentioned in the preceding note, is correct; or if we agree with Mr. Watson, in his correction of Whitaker, it would probably bear by Lostock upon the works which he places in Hale, and thence proceed to Stockport, joining the road from Buxton to that place in the neighbourhood of Bramall.

The two remaining antient roads from Stockport appear to be continuations of this last road, and pointed north-east to Derbyshire and Yorkshire, up the two

great vales that form the sides of the long Cheshire promontory which shoots out between those counties.

The southernmost certainly bore for Melandra Castle, a fort, like Stockport, dependant on Manchester, and garrisoned by a part of the Frisian cohort, as proved by an inscription found there. Immediately in its neighbourhood, a road of gravel pointing to Stockport has been ploughed up. Other roads bore thence towards Brough in Derbyshire, and towards the great Roman way from Manchester to York, and Mr. Watson supposed that a raised bank of gravel near the fort was part of a Roman road, bearing also for Yorkshire, which would either enter that county by the way of Woodhead, beyond which he had heard of an old disused road pointing over the mosses towards York, or might take its direction under Bucton Castle towards Castleshaw in Saddleworth^e.

Castleshaw in Saddleworth, which Mr. Whitaker supposes to have been one of the line of British fortresses which protected the Sistantian frontier, is beyond the limits of this work; but an account is given in the History of Manchester of the British fortification, as well as of the later Roman works which may be traced below it. To this point a road probably tended, as before-mentioned, from Melandra, as well as a direct one from Stockport (being the *Staley-street* described in the preceding note), which would form a communication between that place and the British fortresses and later Roman stations in Yorkshire, leaving Cheshire by the wild defile which ascends towards Saddleworth by Staley from Stockport. This defile, on the very verge of the county, was defended by the camp, popularly termed Bucton Castle.

The camp is situated to the right of the present road from Staley towards Yorkshire, on the summit of a steep hill, with the great defile on one side, and a deep dingle in front; the side towards the latter being a slope too precipitous for ascent, and in consequence unguarded by a rampart. The works, therefore, which commence at the slope, are seen in section, from the Cheshire side, having an imposing appearance for many miles, rather belonging to castellated ruins than masses of earthen walls.

The form (which is irregular, between a circle and an oval) and its situation on the edge of a precipice prove the British origin of the fortress. Measurements by the late Mr. Percival of Royton are given in the note below^f, but the plan which is engraved from his drawing in Aikin's

upon three sides of it, and must have been guarded by a fosse across the isthmus. And the Roman road into East Cheshire must have been effectually commanded by it, that road being obliged by the circling current of the Mersey to approach very near to the castle, and being evinced by the remaining steepness in the other parts of the neighbouring banks to have actually advanced up to it, and to have actually ascended the brow in an hollow immediately beneath the eastern side of it." Whitaker's Manchester, 4to edit. vol. I. 174.

On this passage Mr. Watson judiciously observes, "The principle which this writer has laid down, that where a number of Roman ways did center, a station might be found, is certain. What I know of those he has mentioned is this,—the ancient road between Manchester and Stockport still preserves for a long way together the name of High-street, answering to the expression *Alta Via*, because, as I suppose, it was thrown up a considerable height above the level of the ground: but nothing of this sort appears at present, owing to the cultivation which has taken place here: and the case is the same on the southern side of Stockport, where the traces of the road to Buxton are obliterated for several miles, and it is only found by the name of Pepper-street in the township of Bramall, and by that of Street-lane in Adlington; then passing through the township of Rainow, it goes by the Great Lows to Saltersford-hall, where it is called the Old Gate, from thence by Pym Chair to the head of the river Goit, between which places for about two miles together it has the name of the Street, and near the summit of the hill it is distinguished by the appellation of Embridge Causeway, which the country people used to think was made by the devil. From Goit's Head it stretches along to Cracking Stones, where it has the denomination of the Old Road, and from thence (as is evident from the visible traces of it here and there) it went to Buxton, where, on the top of the hill above the Hall, in a piece of ground called the Hain Cliffs, are the remains of a military station, which I doubt not was Roman." House of Warren, ii. 192.

This road appears to have diverged so much to the west from the present and more direct line of road to accommodate the branches which it threw off towards Stretford and Kinderton. O.

^b Vide p. 3. col. 1. to which the author can add (from the information of D. Browne, esq.) that the *Pepper-street* noticed in this line, has long been traditionally reputed part of the Roman road, though its bearings had not been previously conjectured.

^c Communicated by J. H. Markland, esq. Height of the urn, 6 inches; circumference, 1 foot 6 inches. ^d Information of sir J. T. Stanley, bart.

^e From Mr. Watson's account of Melandra castle, which he had the honour of discovering in 1771, and which he has ably described, Archæol. III. 236. On the edge of a hill at the junction of two valleys immediately east of Woodhead, the author discovered, in 1817, one of those tumuli which are not unfrequent on elevated situations near British and Roman roads for the uses of beacons.

^f Inner slope of rampart 27 feet, its perpendicular 6 feet, outer slope from top of rampart to bottom of ditch 35 feet, inner slope of ditch 16 feet, depth of ditch 8 feet, width at bottom 6 feet, height of rampart above level of ground 2 feet, breadth of gateway 16 feet.

Manchester being incomplete, another is substituted, sketched on the spot by the author in 1817. The entrance is on the north-west, and a rampart and ditch sweep round from thence on the side nearly level with the rest of the top of the hill to the south-east, where the precipice recommences, and on account of the inequality of the ground, another rampart is here placed outside of the ditch in the latter part of its course; a short length of rampart intervenes between the gateway and the precipice on the south-west, and is carried out into the face of that precipice, to prevent the open part being approached from the summit of the hill^f. The prospect is magnificent on both sides, extending over Cheshire to the south-west, and to the north-east over the wild summits of the Yorkshire hills^g.



It appears probable that in the Saxon period Hamestan Hundred was divided into two great parishes, Stockport and Prestbury, to which churches the greatest part of Macclesfield hundred is yet subject. Northenden was comprehended in Bochelau; Mottram and Taxall lay among the wild wastes on the edge of Derbyshire, and Wilmslow and Alderley, if existing, were probably dependant churches to Prestbury, Stockport, or Northenden, as Gawsworth certainly was to the first of these at a somewhat later period. The silence, therefore, of the Domesday survey, as to the existence of the churches of Stockport and Prestbury, or the places themselves, is singular.

The opinion of Mr. Whitaker relative to the Saxons having continued the fort which the Romans established at Stockport, has been already given, and there are stronger reasons for supposing Prestbury to have been a place of some importance under the Saxon government. It must necessarily have been comprized within

the earl of Mercia's own demesne of Macclesfield and Adlington, and lay on the road from Deva and Condate to the line of communication between Mancunium and Buxton, which may be presumed to have been used at a much later period. The court of earl Edwin for Hamestan (to whose court-houses a church was generally attached) is stated in Domesday to have been held in "Maclesfeld," in which vill Prestbury was included; and an ancient cemetery discovered near it^h, and the name of *Ppreorþurp*, give considerable grounds for supposing a Saxon religious establishment to have existed here, which must have been the foundation of the church, passed over indeed by Domesday, between 1080 and 1086, but given in a few generations after by a specific charter to Chester abbey by Hugh Kevelioc.

It is probable that both these churches had perished in the devastation which the connection of earl Edwin with this hundred appears to have brought down upon it. When the earl of Chester's lands were valued for Domesday, his demesne of Macclesfield and Adlington, previously held by the Mercian earl, continued reduced from xvi pounds to xl shillings, and all the other lands which he held here in demesne were waste and valueless. These were the vills (or parts of the vills) of Gawsworth, Marton, Hungreweniton, Chelford, Henbury, Capesthorne, Henshall, Tintwisle, Hollinworth, Wernith, and Romiley.

The other apportionment to the earl's attendants was as follows:

Robert Fitz Hugh, baron of Malpas, had Butley and "Crænecheⁱ."

Richard de Vernon of Shipbrook, Bredbury.

William Fitz Nigel of Halton, Alderley.

Hugo de Mara (predecessor of the barons of Montalt), Bosley and Marton.

Hamo de Masci of Dunham, Bramall.

Bigot (predecessor of the Aldfords and Ardernes), Norbury, Alderley, Siddington, and North Rode. In those parts of Bochelau also, which are comprehended in the present Macclesfield Hundred, the earl possessed Alderley, Ranulfus (ancestor of the Mainwarings) Snelson, and half of Northenden, and Bigot the other moiety of the last mentioned place.

Two Saxons were suffered to hold the lands of their family, the reward probably of early submission, or of treachery: Ulurie was retained as tenant of the earldom in his estates of Butley and "Alretune^k," and Gamel,

^f A similar arrangement is observable in the British camp at Kelsborow, vol. II. p. 2.

^g The general statements of these lines of road would probably be confused by entering into more minute detail, but the antiquary who wishes to follow the subject may consult Whitaker's Manchester, 4to edit. for *Stockport*, vol. I. 145, 174; *Handford*, 170; *Castleshaw*, 91, 92, 170; *Buxton*, 143-7. Aikin's Manchester for *Buxton castle*, 471. The bishop of Cloyne's Essay on *Roman Roads*, in Lysons's *Cheshire and Derbyshire*. Watson's House of Warren, II. 190, for *Stockport and Hale*, and *Archæologia*, III. 236, for *Melandra castle*.

^h An account of the discovery of this cemetery in the Manchester Volunteer newspaper for 1808, states that in that year some men searching for gravel in Butley in a field adjoining the high road between Stockport and Macclesfield, discovered, a yard below the surface, what appeared at first to be a regular stratum of paving stones, but which on a further examination proved to be an assemblage of tumuli, mounds, barrows, or cairns. The general position of the cairns appears to have been nearly circular, and the particular form of each that of an obtuse cone. Around the circumference of the area occupied by these tumuli were placed at intervals large boundary stones, apparently of a hundred weight or upwards. The most elevated of the cairns was about ten paces in diameter and about four feet from the base to the summit. Exactly in the centre was an excavation filled with stones.

The whole of the uppermost stones of which this, but no other tumulus, was composed, exhibited every mark of having undergone the most intense fire, some being shining black, others as if sooted over. The stones underneath were most of them enated with a sort of film or pellicle, which resembled by its gloss and substance a thin coat of bright iron-coloured paint, approaching to a mahogany colour, and which, from fragments of bones among them, appeared to be caused by a plentiful effusion of blood. Near the circumference of this tumulus was found, covered with a flat stone and surrounded by three large boulders, an urn containing exclusively ashes, and by the side thereof a collection of human bones. The urn, which was broken by the workmen, had the appearance of metal, bearing every mark of an iron crust, but was made of clay and coarse sand, and was capable of containing about two quarts English. Near it were some small bits of copper.

The writer further mentions, that in a corner of the adjacent field, there seems, by the gradual ascent of the ground, to be another collection of tumuli. Other tumuli in this neighbourhood are noticed in the account of Macclesfield.

ⁱ Possibly Cranage in Northwich hundred, which place, added to Goosetrey and Twemlowe, which were also the property of the Croxtons, and undescribed in Domesday, might form one large Saxon vill abutting upon Hamestan hundred, but the present Cranage, taken by itself, would be severed from it.

^k Possibly a part of Alretune in Bochelau, but not probably. That vill has already been proved to be triply divided, without admitting Ulurie, and there is no other instance of any part of Hamestan having been transferred to Bucklow hundred, though there are three proofs of its boundary being extended into that hundred.

in his father's lands of "Cedde"¹ and Mottram. Ulric also was allowed to be subtenant in Bredbury, of which Richard de Vernon had possessed himself.

The following pages will exhibit numerous instances of antient descent, in tracing the successive manerial properties from Domesday, but no manor in the Hundred has passed from the period of that survey by any thing like descent in blood, unless we allow the descent of the Stanleys and Ardernes of Alderley, through the Aldfords from Bigot, and that of the Bramalls from the Mascies of Dunham. The nearest approach to it after this is the descent of Marton, which was in the female ancestors of the Davenports before the Conquest, and passed to the present collateral branch by settlement, on the termination of the direct line.

The KING is lord of the HUNDRED of Macclesfield; but about one-third of this district (in which the township of Macclesfield and sixteen other townships are included) is distinguished from the rest of the Hundred by the name of the MANOR and FOREST of Macclesfield^m, great part whereof was antiently a forest, which from its mention under Aldredelei and elsewhere, was in existence before the Domesday survey. It continued attached to the earldom of Chester to its termination, and then passed to the Crown, but being granted away in parcels at different times, has been inclosed and cultivated.

Many of these grants took place at an early period, but a large quantity of ground, called by the name of the *several forest*, was not alienated from the Crown till after the restoration, and before that time was constantly replenished with a great stock of deer, about two hundred head being kept there for the king's use immediately before the civil wars.

Until the whole forest was granted away, a swainmote court was kept at Macclesfield for the forest, at which were yearly elected all officers and ministers belonging to such courts; presentments of offenders against the

forest laws were constantly made; and offenders for misdemeanors were committed to the gaol at Macclesfield, as well from this court as from the leet for the forest and hundred. It appears by the records of these courts, which have been regularly kept since the time of Edward II. that the same were held for some centuries before the Justice of Chester, who sat as Justice in eyre at Macclesfield, and frequently before the Justice's deputy after his iter was over; sometimes also before commissioners of oyer and terminer by special commission, and at other times before the king's steward, or his deputy, or before the king's bailiff.

But in process of time the Justice discontinuing such method of proceeding, it appears that the subsequent courts were constantly held before the king's steward or his deputy.

These jurisdictions were always either in the hands of the Crown, or of the earl of Chester, and great powers were antiently exercised therein, the properties and revenues of the Crown or the Earldom being very great before the alienations above-mentioned. The principal officers, therefore, were persons of great account, correspondent with the importance of their jurisdiction.

The office of *Hereditary Master Forester*, held in fee by the Davenports of Davenport, has been noticed in an earlier portion of the workⁿ. After the demise of the local earldom, it appears to have become rather an honorary office, and to have been gradually superseded, as far as its active powers were concerned, by that of the *Stewards*, who were appointed and removed at pleasure, until the reign of Edward IV. when the office of master forester of the forest of Macclesfield, and also the stewardship of Macclesfield (including the hundred and forest, were granted to Thomas lord Stanley, and the heirs male of his body, in which family the said rights have continued uninterruptedly, excepting the intrusion of sir William Brereton during the usurpation^o.

¹ Chad near Marple?

^m See the list of townships in a following note. From its position on the boundary of the Palatinate, it was antiently denominated the forest of LYME. ⁿ Northwich hundred, p. 34—39.

^o The following patents relative to the seneschalship (or stewardship) and master forestership, are in Chester exchequer.

Feb. 14, 6 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 former, the office of seneschal of Macclesfield, and that of master forester of Macclesfield, Mara, and Mundrem.

This patent was renewed for their joint lives, Feb. 1, 17 Hen. VI.

Jan. 2, 20 Hen. VI. Reversion of master forestership, &c. after death of Cromwell and Stanley, granted to sir Thomas Stanley and the heirs male of his body, in fee.

Jan. 4, 1 Edw. IV. The seneschalship of Macclesfield, and master forestership of Macclesfield, Mara, and Mondrem, to Thomas lord Stanley.

Thomas, earl of Derby, claims the offices of master forester of Macclesfield, master forester, surveyor, and ranger of the forests of Mara and Mondrem, and seneschall of Macclesfield, under the grant of Edw. IV. then earl of Chester, dated at Chester Jan. 11, a^o reg. 1^o, in plea to a writ of quo warranto 15 Hen. VII. Harl. MSS. 2115.

The FIRST of the following documents, which gives the names of the *subordinate foresters* who had duties to perform by the tenure of their lands, and enjoyed certain privileges in consideration of those troublesome duties, may be dated in or about 16 Edw. I. when inquisitions of similar nature were taken generally through the palatinate. Thomas de Orreby of Gawsorth, mentioned therein, died 18 Edw. I.

Macclesfield.—Hæc sunt lib'tates quas forestarii in feodo foreste ib'm b'ent et om'i tempore comitu' et baronu' h'uerunt: ut capiant lepores, vulpes, skyrellos, murilegos, taxos, lodos, piscare per forestam, musketas, et aquilas; de bestiis captis in foresta unam spandam hab'ant, de bestiâ inventa mortua mittenda sunt quatuor membra ad manerium de Macclesfeld, et residuu' hab'ant forestarii. Item hab'ant husseiam ad av'ia sua p'pria infra divisas suas, et quando d'nus terre vendit husseiam in p'priis boscis extra divisas, hab'ant husseiam ad av'ia p'pria pascenda. Item quando d'nus t're vendit fogag'm p' forestam, hab'ant forestarii fogag'm ad av'ia sua p'pria. Item hab'ant infra divisas suas de boscis, ad claudend' et ad edificand' et arrend' sine aliena delib'ac'o'e. It'm hab'ant molas si qui invent' fu'nt in foresta, et hab'ant corticem cuju' querecuu' p'stratar' datar' et venditar' p' forestam. Item quieti erunt de paunagio d'ni p' totam forestam de om'ibus porcis eorum, et similiter d'nici ho'ies eor'. Item hab'ant in eor' meliorem porcoru' de toto paunagio d'ni, et quilibet forestarius hab'at unu' denariu' p' diem du'modo paunagiu' durat.

I. Ric'us de Vernon tenet Merphull e' Wybberlegh no'ie forestarii p' cartam Ran' comit' Cestr' in feodo et hereditate inveniend' unu' forestariu'.

II. Robertus de Dounes tenet Dounes et Taksale in feodo et heredit' de antiqua tenura sili't inveniend' unu' forestariu'.

III. Thomas de Orreby tenet forestarium suam de antiqua tenura p' bomagiu' et servicio suo sine aliquo tenemento.

IV. Johannes de Sutton tenet t'ram suam de Sutton et Dysteleghe de antiqua tenura in feodo et hereditate no'ie forestarii.

V. Grym de Stanlegh tenet Stanlegh de antiqua tenura no'ie forestarii.

VI. Henricus de Worth tenet t'ram quæ fuit Orme Rata'ii p' cart' Ran' com. Cest. no'ie forestarii.

VII. Ricardus de Hoghleghe t'le Hoghleghe p' cart' Ran' com' no'ie forestarii.

VIII. Adam filius Atani de Sutton t' t'r' s' de Sutton p' cart' Hugon' no'ie ffor'.

IX. Jordanus de Dysteleghe tenet t'ram suam de Dysteleghe p' cart' Ran' com' no'ie forestarii.

Cotton MSS. Cleop. D. VI. p. 4.

In 1342, 16 Edw. III. another inquisition was taken relative to the tenures of lands in Macclesfield hundred and forest, which illustrates the descent of the lands held by these subordinate foresterships, and gives *d'nus de Merpull* (I), *Edward de Dounes* (II), *John de Sutton* (IV and VIII), *Thomas Fitton* (III), *John Creswall* (VII), and *John Sherd* (IX), as successors of those mentioned in the preceding inquisition. The four first are easily connected with their predecessors (to which the figures refer them), Creswall is stated to have a life interest in his lands by grant from the

There were also eight subordinate hereditary Foresters^p in fee, who were bound to perform forest duties by tenure of their several estates, and enjoyed various privileges thereby. These held their offices by grant from

the local earls, and discharged the local duties of them (as appears by the following note) at least as late as the close of the sixteenth century.

At an earlier period, in addition to these local ser-

king, to whom, when prince, Hoglegh's forestership had escheated by felony of Robert Foxwiste, the heir of the Hogleghs; and John Sherde had married the heir general of the successors to the Dysteleys. Two other new names also occur in this inquisition, *Robert Downes of Shrigley*, in right of the lands called the Ratonfeld, being apparently the "t'ra qaz fuit Orme Rata'ii," held by Henry Worth (VI), whose lands the Downes family had acquired; and *Roger, son of John Dicon*, who must have represented the only remaining forester, Grym de Stanlegh, of Stanley in Disley.

The same inquisition notices John de Davenport as serjeant of the peace, Richard de Warren and Thomas de Chedle as bailiffs of the hundred in right of their wives, and Elen, daughter of John le Jaylor, as holding (the gaol) in Macclesfield in capite from the crown.

The following document gives the names of the foresters and other officers towards the close of its existence as a royal chase stocked with deer. Eight under-foresters are again noticed, the five last of whom were heirs male of those with corresponding names in the Inq. 16 Edw. III. The new names are Stanley of Tonge and Marple, representatives of the Vernons, and Legh of Lyme, and Savage of Clifton, who must have held the foresterships which, in 36 Edw. III., had devolved to the crown, and to the Dicons, from the Hogleghs and Stanleghs.

SWAINNOT foreste de Macclesfeld tent' apud Macclesfeld coram Petro Legh milit. deputat. Henrici comitis Derby sen'li d'ne n're regine ib'm die M'tis vi'et duodecimo die Septembris anno regni d'ne Elizabeth Dei gr'a Anglie, ffrancie, et Hib'nie regi'e, fidei defensor. &c. vicesimo t'cio a tempore ejus contrarii memor. bom. non exist. usitat. et lactenus app'bat'.

FORESTARI DE FEODO INFRA FORESTA. PR'D.

Will'm's Mather et d'na Margareta Stanley, uxo. Thome Stanley
..... obtuler. et posuer. loc. suis p. hoc anno Petru. Legh milite'.

Joh'nes Savage miles qui obtulit et posuit loco suo Nich'us Asshencarre al. Cutler.

Petrus Legh miles in p'pria p'sona sua.

Edwardus fytton miles qui obtulit et posuit loco suo Edwardu. Germyn.

Ric'us Sutton ar. qui obtulit et posuit loco suo Georgiu. Britton.

Rogerus Downes ar. qui obtulit et pos. loco suo franciscu. Pott.

Reginaldus Downes gen'osus in p'pr. p'a sua.

Will'm's Sherde gen'osus qui obtulit et pos. loc. s. Brianu. Clayton.

EQUITATOR.—Henricus comes Derby, qui obtulit et posuit loco suo in officio p'd. Petru. Legh milite'.

REWARDATOR.—Henricus comes Derby, qui obtulit, &c. (D^o.)

VRIDAR'.—Henricus comes Derby, qui obtulit, &c. (D^o.)

At this Court many persons entered into recognizance with sureties for the performance of the following condition :

The condyc'ion of this recognysance ys suche, that yf thabove bounden Edward Sheplebothom doe well and trulie use and behave hym self annends the quenes game or deere of ber grac' forest of Macclesfeld in the countie of Chester, and kepe the quenes p'rax agaynst all and ev'ye the kep' and kep's of the same forest untill the next swanymote, to be holden at Macclesfeld in the said countie of Chester; and also he and p'sonally do appeare before s'r Peres Legh, knight depute stuarde of o' said sov'aigne lady the quene of the said forest, or afore the stuarde or his depute for the tyme there beyng at the said courte, and dep'te not from thense w'thout lycense of the said s'r Peres or of his said stuarde or his depute for the tyme there beyng, and in the meane tyme neither kepe nor cause kept any greyhonde or grey bitche at his owne howse or elsewhere; and furth'r, yf the said Edward Sheplebothu' do neyther move ne p'cure any of his s'vants or och'r p'son or p'sons to kyll or by any means destroye any of the said game or deere of the said forest; and moreov', yf the said Edward, at no such tyme hereaft' as he shall chaunce to heare of any unlawfull hunteynge at any of the said game or deere of the said forest do not kepe the same secrett, but make relac'on and reporte therof to one of the kep's of the same forrest, w'thin the tyme of thirtie howres next aft' the tyme he shal have any suche knolledge therof; that then this said recognyzance be voyd and of non' effecte, or els the same to remayne and be in full strengthe and vertue.—Communicated from the Court Rolls of Macclesfield Forest, by David Browne, esq.

This long note would be incomplete without the following perambulations of the antient boundaries of the forest :

Harl. MSS. 2038. 2.—Ex veteri pergamaena penes Ed. Fitton, baronettum.—De metis et bundis circa forestam. Dicunt forestarii quod circuitu totius forestæ incipit ad Rughondisbrugge, ascendendo aquam de Mersee usque ad aquam de Guyt, et ascendendo Guyt usque ad aquam de Davene, et descendendo Davene usque Crombwell, et de Crumbell usque ad villam de Rode quæ tota est in foresta, excepto domo qui fuit quondam Wyonis, et sic de Rode le Churchgate usque ad villam de Goseworth quæ tota est in foresta, excepta Aula et ecclesia, et de Goseworth per stratam viam usque villam de Prestbury, per stratam viam usque Northbyclowe, et de Northbyclowe per stratam viam usque rivulum de Bosseden, et sic descendendo rivulum usque Saltersbrugge, et de Saltersbrugge per stratam viam usque Rughondisbrugge.—This is followed in the MS. by a minuter description of the boundaries between the forest and the demesnes of Wyberslegh, Poynton, Adlington, Bolynton, Goseworth, and Bosslegh.

This antient perambulation will be more intelligible by comparison with the boundary of the forest of Macclesfield (communicated by D. Browne, esq.) as described in the Court Rolls 17^o Jac. I. which is yet taken as evidence of the boundary between the jurisdictions of the hundred and forest courts. Swainmote Court.

Perambulatio facta de foresta de Macclesfeld die Julii anno regni domini Jacobi Dei gratia regis Angliæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ, decimo septimo, et Scotiæ quinquagesimo secundo, in presentia Uriani Leigh militis, deputati prenobilis Willielmi comitis Derbiæ senescalli dicti domini principis, et aliorum forestariorum forestæ prædictæ, ac magistris forestarii forestæ prædictæ—per sacrum Francisci Pott generosi, &c.

Qui dicunt, quod circuitus forestæ de Macclesfeld prædictæ incipit ad quendam pontem modo vocatum Otterspoole Bridge, et antiquitus vocatum Rohehoundsbrigg: et sic ascendendo aquam de Mersey usque ad aquam de Guyte: et ascendendo aquam de Guyte usque ad quosdam Mosses jacentes inter aquam de Guyte et aquam de Dane Mosse. Et sic trans eosdem Mosses usque ad Danehead, et abinde descendendo aquam de Dane usque ad Crumwells, et de Crumwell usque ad Bramall-hill, et de Bramall-hill usque ad Rode Greene, et abinde le Church-gate usque ad villam de Gawsorth, que tota est in foresta extra aulam et ecclesiam. Et sic de Gawsorth prostrata via usque ad villam de Presbury, et de Presbury prostrata via usque ad quendam collem antiquitus vocatum Norbury Low jacentem ultra domum vocatam Bullock-Smythy et ex occidentali parte viæ prædictæ: et de Norbury Low prostrata via prope domum Roberti Hanford dimittendo domum illam infra forestam prædictam usque ad rivolum de Bosdon: et descendendo rivulum de Bosdon ad cornerium ejusdam prati vocati Barlie Meadow, et abinde ad quendam ponticulum vocatum a Platt antiquitus vocatum Saltersbrigg, et jacentem inter prædictum pratum vocatum Barlie Meadow, et quoddam pratum vocatum Reddish Meadow, et de ponticulo prædicto prostrata via usque ad prædictum pontem vocatum Otterspoole.

From the TENURES specified in the inquisitions given under Wilmslow, Chedle, &c. it will be found that the lords of those districts (which appear to have been formed out of the wastes attached to the earl's demesne of Macclesfield and Adlington) were bound yearly to repair the fences of the "Combes" in Macclesfield forest, and the former of them to send a guard for the protection of the earl when hunting in the forest. The Combes were probably earthworks, or a kind of forest-pale, constructed for a retiring-place in case of danger, and were probably situated near the Chamber of the forest. In sir William Brereton's contract with the Parliament for the purchase of the forfeited estates of James late earl of Derby in Macclesfield forest, Oct. 29, 1652, among the appendages of the messuage or lodge called the Chamber, mention is made of "those parcells of ground called the White Combes and the Blacke Combes."

^p At one time nine; but two foresterships held by the Suttons 16 Edw. I. which were probably a subdivision of their original one, were consolidated before 16 Edw. III.

^q Crumwell is in the township of North Rode, and so are Brammall-hill and Rode Green.

vices, they were bound to follow the earl's standard in war, with the arms which they used in peace in their several bailiwicks, viz. with bows and arrows.

The office of *Bailiff of the Manor and Forest* (who was receiver of the king's rents, and curator of his rights therein,) was hereditary at an early period in a family which bore the official name of *le Gaolar'*. Their duties had precisely the same analogy to the earl's court of Macclesfield, which those of the barons' serjeants had to their respective jurisdictions, viz. to carry the rod or mace, and execute processes, &c. and are described in a plea to a *quo warranto* by Ellena, wife of Adam de Mottram, and Sigerada her sister, daughters and co-heiresses of John le Gaolar', plac. ap. Cest. 23 Edw. III. and the office was then claimed by prescription. In that reign the said Adam de Mottram (or his son of the same

name) did homage to the prince of Wales for the office of bailiff, and the custody of the gaol of Macclesfield; and it appears from the court rolls, that John de Mottram was seized in fee of the said office and custody 10 Ric. II. In the time of Henry the Fifth this custody and office came to the Savages, probably by grant from the Crown (subsequent to some forfeiture from the Mottrams), and passed in the last century with the other estates of the Savages, from their heir general to the Cholmondeleys of Cholmondeley, in whom it is now vested^q, though many of its duties have ceased.

The note subjoined distinguishes the townships which are within the *liberty of the Hundred*, within the *manor and forest*, and within *both jurisdictions*, with further distinctions of those which attend at the court leet, and of those which chiefly consist of copyholds^r.

There was also probably a similar pale at the Castid, or Cast ditch, noticed in Taxal, within lands held from the earldom by grand serjeancy. Other singular forest tenures and privileges are mentioned in the account of that township.

On the hills in this part of the forest are also two DOUBLE CROSSES, the use of which is unknown, but which were probably meres or boundaries of the districts of the forest, similar ones occurring on the opposite Derbyshire hills, within the verge of the antient forest of the Peak.

The first of these, situated at a gate of Lyme Park, to which it gives name, nearly two miles S. W. of Disley, is called the Bow Stone, and consists of the remains of two circular pillars, fixed into sockets, hewn in rude stone. The pillars measure about four feet in circumference near the base. The taller one is about the same height, the other ten or twelve inches lower. An indication of a small fillet, which has been cut near the top of each, round the pillar, is the only ornament which can be traced. A view of this cross is given in the account of Lyme.

The hill on which this cross stands commands an almost boundless view over Cheshire to the east, and to the west looks over a deep valley to a hill in Whaley township called Longside, on the edge of which, at about a mile's distance†, are the remains of another Cross, the base of which is a rude stone about four feet long, and one foot and a half wide in the narrowest end, but two and a half at the other extremity. In this stone are cut two sockets, and a pillar about two feet four inches in height and one foot square lies by it, which has evidently formed part of one of the pillars formerly fixed therein. The point where this second cross is placed looks across a wide valley into Derbyshire; and a third Cross is said‡ to be placed on the opposite hill in that county, at a point which would fall in the continuation of the line drawn from the Bow Stone to the Longside Cross. Another is at Ludworth, in the same neighbourhood.

On the bleak sides of the hills near these crosses are several Gravestones, under which people are said to be interred who died of plague, and were not received into the neighbouring churchyards. Some stones are in the neighbourhood of the Bow Stone gate, and others higher on the hill, which were moss-grown and partly covered with soil, after removing which, the two following inscriptions were copied from stones on the side of the hill below the Bow Stone.

I. John Hampson and his wife
and three children left this life
1646.

II. Think it not strange our bones ly here,
Thine may ly thou knowest not where.
Elizabeth Hampson.

The first of these is selected on account of the date; the latter has a turn in the thought which is somewhat more striking than the ordinary conceptions of a rustic composer of epitaphs.

In other parts of the forest, or near its precincts, are other *antient boundary crosses*, among which may be mentioned the following (communicated by D. Browne, esq.) I. In Sutton, close to its boundary with Wildboareclough, an upright broad flat stone near the side of the road, having a cross within a circle near the top, called the "Cross o' th' Moor." II. Another near this called Clulow cross, situated in Wincle near Wincle Grange. III. A cross, about a mile distant from Macclesfield, near the boundary between Upton and Fallibroome, and standing at the road; the form cylindrical, excepting the top, which is squared, and near the top is a cross and fillet moulding. The first and second crosses, which were probably Mere Stones placed by the monks of Combermere, are traditionally said to have been places where provisions were left during the plague.

^q By *Inq. p. m.* 41 Eliz. sir John Savage is found to have held, inter alia, the office of bailiff of the manor and forest of Macclesfield, and the office of constable or keeper of the queen's gaol in the vill of Macclesfield, with heriots within the forest, and other fees belonging to the said office, by the service of being bailiff of the forest and collecting the queen's rents within the manor and forest, by being constable or gaol-keeper, and taking care of the said gaol. Val. nil ultra repris.

The lands of the Mottrams probably passed with this office to the Savages, as lands in Mottram Andrew precede their Macclesfield estate immediately, both in this and in an earlier *Inq.* 11 Hen. VII.

After the total alienation of the crown lands, of which the forest bailiff had the care, there remained many chief or quit rents, to a considerable amount in the whole, reserved on grants in fee from the Crown, and rents issuing from the copyhold estates within the forest, belonging to the Crown or its grantees; and these rents were constantly collected and accounted for at the king's audit by the bailiff of the manor and forest, until such rents were leased out by the Crown.

The Cherrys of Macclesfield were for many generations bailiffs or agents, and collectors of the rents of the Savages here, and from time to time leased the gaol with its profits.

This tenement devolved to the Cholmondeleys with the office of bailiff, the tenant being charged with the custody of the prisoners, and the repairs of the gaol, of which he had the fees and profits. This gaol was sold by the present marquis of Cholmondeley in or about 1791, subject to a then existing lease for lives, and has since become the property of the corporation of Macclesfield by purchase; the last surviving life died in 1815. It appears that this gaol has for many centuries been subservient to the uses of the *hundred*, and the *manor and borough*, as well as the *manor and forest*. One of the earliest commitments noticed in the Court Rolls of Macclesfield is that of Robert le Smale, for the murder of Henry de Colshaw, 46 Edw. III. who was taken by the serjeants of the peace for the *hundred*, and his body rendered to the gaol of Macclesfield. In 24 Edw. III. a *quo warranto* was brought against the *mayor and burgesses* of the *vill of Macclesfield*, to shew by what authority they claimed inter alia to have a gaol in the vill of Macclesfield ("Ita q'd si aliquis burg' ejusdem ville capt' fu'it p' feloniam sive transgressionem in eadem gaolâ imprisonet' contra gladiu' et dignitate' d'ni comitis Cestr', &c."); to which they pleaded the charter of Edw. I. when earl of Chester, and subsequent usage. On the part of John de la Pole, the prosecutor for the earl, it was urged that the right of having a gaol was not contained in the charter, and that a usage from the time of the earl's grandfather did not constitute prescriptive right; on which the jury found for all the liberties save the gaol, and judgment was given that the gaol should be taken again into the earl's hands, and that the mayor and burgesses should fine in x marks to have the gaol again, to use the same again "illis modis quibus decet," &c. and as to that liberty, and all the other liberties, "ad presens eant sine die, salvo jure domini comitis." Abstracted from the Pleading, beforementioned.

^r List of townships within the *liberty of the Hundred of Macclesfield*, those which attend at the court-leet being distinguished by asterisks.

*Bredbury. *Brinnington. *Bramball. Fulshaw. *Cheadle. *Handford. *Duckenfield. Etbells. *Hyde. Northenden. *Romiley. Stockport. *Werneth. Mottram Longdendale. Nether Alderley. *Over Alderley. *Birtles. *Bollin fee. *Newton by Butley. Capesthorpe.

† Near the second mile-stone from Disley, on the old road to Whaley Bridge, to the right of the road.

‡ By the guide who accompanied the Author to the spot.

A Court of Record has been held, immemorially, monthly on Mondays, for the liberty of the Hundred, and a similar court for the manor and forest. The courts for both have been always kept in the king's court house at Macclesfield, on the same day, before the same steward, and immediately after one another^s. In the court for the forest, which is called the Halmote Court (the name given in Cheshire and Lancashire to the courts baron of honours, baronies, or paramount royalties,) copyhold tenants are admitted, surrenders passed, and recoveries of the customary or copyhold lands suffered, and this court is adjourned for convenience from Monday to Monday.

The duke of Leeds is lessee of fines on surrenders in this court, heriots, reliefs, and perquisites of court.

For these respective jurisdictions, courts leet have likewise been held immemorially once in every year, within a month of Michaelmas; viz. one court leet for the manor and forest, to which all residents owe suit and service, and in which the constables for the several townships therein comprized, are appointed; and another court leet is held on the same day, and at the same place, and before the same steward, for the residue of the Hundred, to which all tenants owe suit and service, and in which all constables are sworn as before, saving the residents of some inferior manors in the same Hundred, for which distinct courts leet are held, in which their own constables are sworn, of which manors there are several in the liberty of the Hundred, but none in the manor and forest. The residents in these manors nevertheless owe appearance to the before-mentioned courts of pleas, and have equal benefit thereof, with other residents in any part of the said jurisdictions.

There is also a court for trial of civil causes for the liberty of the Hundred, held in the court house at Macclesfield half-yearly, before the deputy-steward, who is a barrister: and on the same day and place another court is held for the like purpose for the manor and forest, before the same deputy.

The present deputy stewards are John Gamaliel Lloyd, esq. barrister at law, who resides near Stratford on Avon; and Mr. John Clulow, attorney in Macclesfield, is the resident deputy, before whom the monthly courts are held, and who also presides as deputy at the court leet. They are appointed by the earl of Derby as hereditary steward, and have no power of appointing deputies. Mr. David Browne is the clerk of these courts: his office is in the nature of prothonotary. He is also appointed by the earl of Derby. He has power to appoint his own deputies, and also grants commissions to the attornies for taking affidavits in these courts.

He is, in right of his office, the keeper of the records court books, &c. of these courts, which are in good preservation, and nearly complete from the time of king Edward the Third. He is also keeper of the copyhold court rolls, which are in equally good preservation.

The office of hereditary Serjeant, vested in the Davenportes, has no connection with the present courts.

The general scenery of the Hundred is strikingly distinguished from the rest of Cheshire. On its western side the fertility of soil, the hedge-row enclosures, and profusion of oak-trees, continue for some distance, but the surface undulates more at each successive mile in approaching the Derbyshire boundary, and in the neighbourhood of Macclesfield rises into bleak hills, parted by stone walls, and soon after has little to distinguish it from the moors of the contiguous counties. The finest scenery of a middle kind, between cultivation and deserted wildness, is, however, in the neighbourhood of Marple, along the banks of the Etherow; and the mountainous district of Tintwistle behind it, is much more picturesque in its rugged scenery than the hills of Macclesfield forest, and approaches to the character of the defiles among the lakes of Cumberland.

In another part of the work, the course of the rivers of the Hundred, the Goit, the Etherow, and the Tame, (the three parent streams of the Mersey,) the Bollin, and the Dane, have been minutely described. These imbibe necessarily the character of the hills which they spring from, and roll rapid currents sparkling over shallows of gravel or natural rock, through some of the finest scenery of the Hundred, the luxuriant vegetation and shade of the valleys being finely contrasted with the general bareness of the more mountainous district. It must, however, be confessed, that of late years the general appearance of the Hundred has much deteriorated, and that it still is rapidly deteriorating. The manufactures of Lancashire have extended themselves along the entire line of the Mersey, and crossed the Hundred in the direction of Macclesfield to the confines of Staffordshire.

Stockport has in every direction extended itself, and for many miles beyond the absolute termination of its streets scattered over the country overgrown villages, replete with all the nuisances of a manufacturing population. The neighbourhood of Macclesfield has hitherto suffered to a less extent, but the necessity for falls of water to aid the powers of machinery is most prejudicial in its operation, and is gradually introducing the most unsightly edifices into valleys where the hand of nature has been lavish in the display of picturesque beauty.

Chelford. *Old Withington. *Chorley. *Eaton. *Fallibroome. Henbury. *Marton. *Muttram Andrew. Worth. Woodford. *Pownall fee. *Snelson. Siddington. *Somersford Booths. Lower Withington. *Great Warford.

The following townships are within the manor and forest:

†Disley Stanley. Marple. Offerton. Taxall. Lyme Hanley. *Yeardsley Whaley. *Bollington. †Hurdfield. *Kettleshulme. *Pott Shrigley. *Rainow. †Sutton. Tytherington. Upton. Macclesfield Forest. Wilboarclough. *Winle. Bosley.

All these are within the jurisdiction of the court-leet; those marked * are exclusive copyhold, and those marked † partly freehold and partly copyhold. The townships to which no mark is affixed are freehold.

The following townships are in both jurisdictions, the boundary between the hundred and forest passing through them. The asterisks refer to the court-leet as in the first list:

Macclesfield. Adlington. *Butley. Gawsworth. *Pointon. Presbury. *North Rode. *Norbury. *Torkington.

^s "These courts have time out of mind held plea in actions of debt and on the case for any sums, and also in trespass, replevyn, and all other personal actions whatsoever, and real actions appear to have been formerly tried therein, and process of capias against the body, as well to answer as also to satisfy debts and damages, and distringas against the goods, replevyns, and executions, by fieri facias, and other processes incident to such like courts, have constantly issued and been obeyed within their respective jurisdictions aforesaid: and the residents indiscriminately throughout such respective jurisdictions have been from time to time summoned and served on juries upon trials, and for executing writs of inquiry of damages in actions depending in these respective courts.—Persons arrested upon the process of capias or attachments issuing out of the said respective courts, have from time to time been committed" to the gaol of Macclesfield, and therein "detained."—Pleadings, as before, communicated by D. Browne, esq. from whose information, and the matter of the pleadings, the above account of the courts is taken.

POPULATION TABLE

Of the Hundred of NANTWICH, extracted from the Returns to Parliament 51 Geo. III.

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.	Total.
ALOERLEY. P.										
Alderley Superior	70	75	1	—	66	8	1	204	200	224
Alderley Inferior.....	93	95	2	3	57	23	15	277	264	541
Warford, Great.....	59	63	—	1	36	20	7	154	174	328
ASTBURY. P.^a										
Somerford Booths	48	49	—	—	49	—	—	134	133	267
CHEADLE. P.										
Cheadle Bulkeley.....	258	481	6	35	36	393	52	1225	1284	2509
Cheadle Moseley.....	255	260	1	6	62	179	19	578	718	1296
Handforth with Boxden....	248	259	7	17	49	207	3	628	687	1315
GAWSWORTH. P.....										
118	121	—	—	115	5	1	377	380	757	
MOTTRAM IN LONGDENDALE.										
Godley.....	72	80	—	5	9	71	—	216	235	451
Hattersley.....	88	91	—	3	11	80	—	229	244	473
Hollingworth.....	198	198	1	10	8	186	4	569	520	1089
Motley.....	50	51	—	3	5	46	—	152	159	311
Mottram in Longdendale....	255	272	9	8	2	267	3	710	736	1446
Newton Moor.....	245	270	1	12	13	235	4	732	713	1445
Stayley.....	221	229	5	3	11	216	2	592	512	1104
Tintwisle.....	212	214	—	4	25	189	—	662	684	1346
PRESTBURY. P.										
Adlington.....	171	176	—	3	46	129	1	472	468	940
Birtles.....	8	8	—	—	6	1	1	15	17	32
Bosington.....	285	285	11	5	74	140	71	727	791	1518
Bcsley.....	95	95	—	—	74	21	—	246	236	482
Butley cum Newton	123	123	—	2	67	53	3	308	327	635
Capesthorpe.....	10	11	—	—	5	—	6	39	32	70
Chelford.....	27	27	—	1	17	4	6	97	91	118
Eaton.....	37	37	—	3	31	6	—	117	111	228
Fallbrook.....	6	6	—	1	6	—	—	13	12	25
Henbury with Pexall.....	55	66	—	1	55	10	1	189	196	385
Hurdsfield.....	117	119	—	1	16	100	3	351	383	734
Kettleshulme.....	78	80	—	3	73	7	—	188	216	404
Lime Handley.....	43	44	—	3	38	6	—	115	132	247
Macclesfield Forest.....	52	52	—	4	35	17	—	150	135	285
Macclesfield ^b										
Marton.....	51	53	—	1	44	9	—	162	158	320
Mottram Andrew.....	67	70	1	2	29	4	37	168	181	349
Newton.....	21	21	—	—	11	10	—	57	51	108
Poynton.....	86	86	2	1	16	60	10	244	253	497
Pott Shrigley.....	67	67	—	2	8	20	39	168	162	330
Prestbury.....	78	81	—	6	29	35	17	203	212	415
Rainow.....	281	295	2	8	107	164	24	753	842	1595
Rode, North.....	41	43	—	—	37	6	—	122	118	240
Siddington.....	79	79	—	—	58	15	6	237	211	448
Sutton Downs and Wincell..	407	428	—	3	125	302	1	930	1166	2096
Tytherington.....	59	59	2	1	19	39	1	172	183	355
Upton.....	9	9	—	—	7	2	1	28	39	67
Wildboar Clough.....	79	79	—	6	48	31	—	197	195	392
Wincell.....	74	75	—	9	40	35	—	198	230	428
Withington, Lower.....	108	108	—	—	81	14	13	297	287	584
Withington, Old.....	21	27	—	—	24	3	—	81	97	178
Woodford.....	65	66	—	1	30	36	—	179	197	376
Worth.....	46	46	—	—	11	26	9	122	132	254

^a The greatest part of Astbury parish is in Northwich Hundred.^b The town of Macclesfield is entered at the end of the hundred.

POPULATION TABLE, continued.

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.	Total.
PART OF ROSTHERNE. P. Snelson	22	22	—	1	17	3	2	57	61	118
STOCKPORT. P.										
Bramhall	192	192	—	3	34	152	6	555	579	1134
Bredbury	299	316	1	5	33	293	—	821	885	1706
Brennington	234	347	2	3	14	330	3	771	934	1705
Distley	273	283	3	8	34	240	9	707	708	1415
Duckenfield	497	502	1	25	16	405	81	1476	1577	3053
Etchells	228	228	—	4	59	125	44	651	625	1276
Hyde	290	317	6	3	11	302	4	884	922	1806
Marple	394	435	7	23	33	396	6	1062	1192	2254
Norbury	115	123	—	2	40	62	21	233	218	451
Northenden	123	133	1	4	64	60	9	277	333	608
Offerton	77	86	—	5	20	65	1	235	258	493
Romely	181	186	3	8	17	168	1	521	494	1015
Stockport	3162	3563	2	162	153	3304	106	7977	9568	17545
Torkington	44	44	—	1	15	22	7	113	141	254
Wernith	232	241	2	12	19	214	8	649	655	1304
TAXAL. P.										
Taxal	34	39	—	3	34	5	—	86	96	182
Whaley with Yeadsley	43	50	1	5	19	8	23	136	151	287
WILMSLOW. P.										
Bollinfee	327	335	1	17	64	265	6	851	904	1755
Chorley	75	80	—	3	37	43	—	206	220	426
Fulshaw	44	47	—	2	15	31	—	100	132	232
Pownall Fee	198	217	3	3	84	126	7	626	671	1297
	12520	13415	84	479	2653	10057	705	33775	36848	70623
Macclesfield Town	2518	2728	23	49	244	2458	26	5629	6670	12299

NOTE.—In this Return the *Township of Eaton* is erroneously inserted in *Prestbury parish* instead of *Astbury*. The *parish of Northenden* is omitted, and the *township of that name* is erroneously inserted in the *parish of Stockport*.

ITINERARY OF MACCLESFIELD HUNDRED.

BY WILLIAM WEBB, M. A.

Reprinted from KING'S VALE ROYAL.

THE situation of Macclesfield Hundred, bordering the county upon the east and north-east, calls us now to enter into it; and that we may quickly do, being near unto one corner of it. The whole shape of which Hundred, saving that the lines of it on each side shoot in many bights and bendings, which makes it like an irregular polygon; I would else say, came nearest unto a just square, adding to the angle that looks north-west that one point, which, in the old resemblance of the whole county by writers to an eagle's right wing, is the point of the wing's first feather reaching forth beyond all the rest of her feathers, from the place where the Mersey and Goit waters meet together beyond Stockport, and shooting in between a part of Lancashire on the north, and a part of Derbyshire on the east, toucheth with the uttermost point upon Yorkshire in the north-east.

We step, therefore, over that water that runs through Allostock, into the large precincts of the Withingtons, whereof one part is called Old Withington, in which there is a fair seat anciently derived from his ancestors to Thomas Baskerville, esquire.

Here we hold it best to keep the right-hand border of the Hundred, which taking Marton in our way, a great lordship of sir John Davenport's, and wherein there is a goodly mere, from whence that water runs, which goes by the Lostocks to Northwich; and then going by Eaton and North Rhode, we enter upon the huge precinct of Bosleigh, where Dane begins to be very surly, and takes a pride to be as it were keeper, or circler, on one side of the spacious forest of Macclesfield, which here greatly enlargeth itself into hills and valleys, whereof the highest is that lofty top of Shutlinghaw Hill; concerning which, I leave some fables to be told by them that are neighbours to it. And the other more northerly, towards Macclesfield, where stands the Chamber in the forest, and there pointing you to a hill, where are set the three shire-stones, the points of three shires there meeting, we turn our course back again, because in a walk or two to and fro, in the middle of the great square, we shall see the bulk of this whole Hundred. Westward from the shire stones, over the forest, lies Rainow, and next therunto Sutton, which gave name, and hath continued in that seat of a family of great worth and worship of the Suttons: which now lately, by the marriage of one of the sisters to the last owner thereof, Richard Sutton, esquire, untimely deceased, is invested in a greater, and now enjoyed by the right worthy and worshipful, great, learned lawyer, Humphrey Davenport, esquire, now serjeant at law, of most reverend estimation, a brother to sir William Davenport, of the house of Broomhall. Of this house of Sutton, was that ever famous knight, and great patron of learning, sir Richard Sutton, one of the founders of

the famous college of Braze-nose, in Oxford, where, by his bounty, many of our Cheshire youth receive most worthy education, in all good learning and true religion.

Hereabouts do meet several little brooks that have their original among the hills in the forest, and now make a fair stream called Bollin, which, when it hath conducted us to Macclesfield, we will leave it bending its course northward, till we meet with it again anon, and shall draw help from it in our walk back again. Macclesfield, or Maxfield town, may well give name to the whole Hundred; for your eye will tell you, that it must needs be of great antiquity, if no other argument did prove it; as, namely, giving name to that famous forest. The manner of buildings in it, and the great privileges and jurisdictions, both in the government of the town, having been a mayor-town of an ancient foundation, and their foreign court, which, from the liberties of the forest, do maintain still a great power and command far off in that Hundred. In this town are yet seen some ruins of the ancient manor-house of the renowned duke of Buckingham, who (as yet report goeth) kept there his princely residence about the time of king Edward IV. of whose great hospitality there, much by tradition is reported. The church there is a very fair and large church, but is within the parish of Prestbury, and is indeed but a chapel of the same parish.

The same chapel, upon the south-side of the chancel, may seem to be there founded of special purpose for the intombing of their noble race by him of their own name, Thomas Savage, a great, learned bishop of London, and archbishop of York; who also built there a college, which since hath had his period among others.

The now honourable, both in degree, and in the endowment of his mind, sir Thomas Savage, the heir and advancer of that great race to greater nobility, hath finished a stately and costly tomb for his grandfather, sir John Savage, the last knight but one of that name, who lies here interred with his ancestors.

And here again I would crave a little patience of my reader, because I was myself a witness of the great grief and universal moan which the country in general, and the allies of that house in particular, were surprised with at the decease of that worthy ancient knight, to recapitulate some remembrances out of that encomium, which was at his death offered from the duty of a well-willer to him, and his worthy successors, the sum whereof I will but abbreviate; which was, That he was the eleventh knight of that noble race and name, sir John Savage; that many of them had matched with earls, barons, and great dignities. He was the eldest knight then living in England. His descent, from the honourable house of Derby and Worcester; and his match

with the lady Manners, daughter to the earl of Rutland. His worthy issue, sir John Savage the eldest, and Edward his second son. His five daughters, all bestowed in great marriages in his life-time. His valiant and honourable exploits in his youth by his chivalry; and his singular estimation afterwards, by government in the county, six times high sheriff, thrice mayor of the city of Chester, long time deputy lieutenant for martial matters, unmatched in the fame of hospitality, charity, and alms; and for retinue and good house-keeping, ever right nobleman like. And why should not I add also, that which even then the writer's muse was prophetically inspired withall, concerning the great hope and worth of his issue, in the person of his grand-child, then a young plant, and newly set to the inns of court, to be trained up answerable to his birth and dignity, which she sang thus :

That hopeful plant, that is th' apparent heir
Of all his glory, and this great descent :
Oh! be the rest as his beginnings are,
That Savages may still be excellent.

Sweet youth, who now within those sacred bowers,
Where England's purest bloods do make abode,
In fruitful study spends his happy hours,
While nature him with blessings rare doth load.

There he a mirror shines amongst his peers,
In all his carriage right heroical ;
Pleasant in shew, discreet beyond his years,
Well spoken, courteous, and judicial.

There is also a fair free-school founded long since, which about the beginning of queen Elizabeth's happy reign, had a school-master of great fame for learning, and singular method of teaching, who, living many years, brought up most of the gentry of this shire; his name was John Brounswerd, stiled by most men that knew him, *Grammaticus*; who lying buried there, had this epitaph worthily inscribed, by one Newton, one of his own scholars :

Alpha poetarum, coryphæus grammaticorum ;
ΠΑΙΔΟΝΟΜΩΝ phœnix, hæc sepelitur humo.

On the south of Macclesfield we see first Ridge, so called of the situation no doubt, and is a lordship, with a fair house and demesne of the Leighs of that house, now the possession of John Leigh, of Ridge, esquire: from whence we westerly go to Gousworth, where stands the church of Gousworth.

And close by it the stately seat of the great name of Phittons, knights, of a long continued race, and of great worth, the last of the name, sir Edward Phitton, advanced to be a baronet, which dignity he hath now left to his son sir Edward Phitton, a young baronet of excellent parts.

The next goodly lordship, house and demesne, offering itself to our view is Henbury, an ancient continued seat of one race of that name, which have been here knights and esquires of great account; about these two last rehearsed lordships begin pretty brooks, which unite themselves at Capesthorn, a great lordship and demesne, giving name to the ancient seat of the Wards, gentlemen of good worth, and so runs down by Pephall to Chelford, a chapelry and fine lordship, near which stands a brick house built by one of the ancient descent of Fallowes: and not far off the like erected by one of the said house of the Wards, of Capesthorn, and is called Wards of Monksheath.

And here we turn northward by Birtles, where one or two gentlemen of that name have their ancient seats situate upon a fine brook, which begins in the hills beside Macclesfield, and at Chelford joins with the other that came from Henbury and Gousworth; and so they both make up the river Peover-Eye.

But now we keep us by the confines of this hundred, and passing along by Snelston, we come to Alderley, where we behold afar off both the parish church, and near to it a very gallant house and seat of that worthy stem of the Stanleys, derived from the honourable descent of the earls of Derby, late the possession of sir Thomas Stanley, knight, of much esteem, and now of Thomas Stanley, esquire, his heir; a man like to uphold the worthy account of his ancestors. More conspicuous is this place by the beacon mounted upon an eminent hill over the town. A device, which in that and other high places in all counties in England used in times past, and may be again, if God be not more merciful than we deserve, to great purpose, in time of invasions or insurrections.

The parson of that church is to be presented by the said Mr. Stanley. The descent of this hill brings us presently to Chorley, where one other esquire's seat, late of the Davenports of Chorley, shews itself. And a little further a fair old house belonging to the Traffords, great knights, of Trafford, in Lancashire. And so we come to Wimboldsley, or Wilmslow, a parish of large extent, the church there a very fair one.

Within this parish, more eastward, is a fair house and a park, called Bollin park, of sir George Booth's, knight and baronet; and on the other side a fine new house, built by John Latham, a gentleman of Lancashire, deceased, now possessed by John Mainwaring, gentleman, a young son of the house of Peover. And below that a very ancient seat and demesne in the township of Pownhall, the possession of the best race of the Newtons, and none of them I take it yet in minority.

From whence taking with us a little chapelry, called Romley, where our next view must be of Handford, a very goodly lordship, fair house and demesne of the Bretons, of Handford, so called for their chief abode in that seat, whereof have been many famous knights and esquires, and now a young towardly gentleman, not yet of age, but of great hope, and like to prove nothing inferior to his worthy ancestors.

Next to this let us fetch the view of Cheadle, a goodly lordship, or rather two great lordships, which, by intermarriages with the ancient owners, came at last to be fit portions to go to two great names, the one of the Savages formerly mentioned, and the other of Buckleys, who have been of so great commands and account in Anglesey, and have here a fair house of the old timber building, near to which stands the parish church.

We have only in the farthest nook northerly of this hundred, a handsome town and parish-church covered, called Northenden or Norden, situate upon the brink of the Mersey, the most of whose great parishioners we shall hit upon in another hundred, and so we bend our course to Stockport.

Upon one round hill hath this town of Stockport been built, the summit, or top whereof, affords the market-place, and convenient room for the church, and for the parsonage, which are very fair ones; the right of presentation belonging to the worshipful house of Poynton; the skirt of the hill beautified with many fair buildings, and half about the skirt of it runs the Mersey, with great force or rather fury, under a great stone

bridge, which divides them from Lancashire; it is a great market, and much frequented by dwellers far remote, their government by a mayor and aldermen, but the signory there chiefly belonging to the owners of the ancient barony, here having been one of the barons of the earls of Chester, called the baron of Stockport, which hath descended to the Warrens of Poynton, whose heir is now in minority.

From Stockport, near another water called Brame, which takes beginning easterly amongst the hills in and near unto Lyme park, we come by Bramhall, a very fair lordship, demesne, and fair house, of the great name of Davenport, of Bramhall, the owner whereof, now sir William Davenport, knight, Mr. serjeant Davenport's eldest brother, to which house lies a park, and all things fit for a worshipful seat. But we will leave Brame on our left hand, to take with us a sight of Woodford, where is another house and demesne of Davenports, a branch of that of Bramhall, now William Davenport's, of Woodford, esq.

And passing along by Newhall, we come to that spacious and fertile demesne of Adlington, the chief seat of that race of Leighs, of Adlington, which is one of the great names of gentry in this county, whereof these have had a very ancient continuance here from many knights and esquires, down to the present owner, sir Urian Leigh, knight, who hath made it a stately and commodious house of late, and hath a park and chapel thereunto, being within the great parish of Prestbury, of which worthy and well deserving knight I might say much for his sufficiency in the government of his country, both in the civil and military affairs thereof, in which he had no small experience, being in his youth much addicted to the wars, and fetched his knighthood from that worthy and famous surprizing of Cadiz by the renowned Robert earl of Essex, the remembrance whereof is yet fresh in Spain, and other places, which was in anno 1595. In the precinct of which lordship he hath also built another fine seat, called the Mill-house, there standing by it a mill upon a brook, called Fallibrome, coming from a lordship of that name. And so by Newton chapel within Prestbury parish, we come to the spacious lordship of Butleigh, the lands also of the said sir Urian; and so to Bollington, situate upon the Bollin, on the other side whereof lie the fair house, demesne, and lands of the heirs of sir George Calveley, knight, before-mentioned, called Mottram Andrew; and next unto that the great parish of Prestbury, which is inappropriate, the ancient rent belonging to the dean and chapter of Chester, but hath a vicarage, and the tithes belonging to the said sir Urian Leigh. Taking notice only of a fair brick-house, then short of Macclesfield, built of late years by Mr. Stapleton, called Upton-hall; we turn us almost northward again, and stepping over the Bollin, by Tidderton, an ancient seat and fair demesne of the Worthes, an ancient race, now Jasper Worthes, esquire, we may wander awhile in the hills and downs of the forest, till we come to Overton, and then taking with us Potchapel and Shrigley, a great lordship of the Downs, we come first to Upton, and presently to Taxal. And when we have cast our eye upon Whaley-bridge, the utmost confines and passage into a part of Derbyshire, and Disley, we turn us almost full west again to come to Lime; the stately seat and situation whereof, with the large and spacious park richly stored with red and fallow deer, with all other fitness for lordly delights, may well shew the worthy de-

scend of that great family and name of the Leighs, of Lime, of whom, though there have been many famous knights, and renowned owners, yet none more compleat and accomplished in generous and heroical virtues than sir Peter Leigh, now the possessor thereof, a noble gentleman, and of great respect.

From thence we follow the brook afore-mentioned, till we come to Poinington, or Poynton, a very ancient and fair old seat of the Warrens of Poynton, whom we mentioned even now, the inheritors of the barony of Stockport, with a fair park lying to it; and next to it a gallant lordship and chapelry of Norbury, and therein the fair seat and demesne of the Hides, another ancient and famous descent; the now enjoyer thereof, Hamnet Hide, esquire, for his wisdom and moderation, a man of much esteem.

Between this and the Goit-water lies Torkinton, giving name to gentlemen that there have their seat, and have had their breeding; beyond which we come next to Merpool, and there the Goit meets with the Mersey.

We will therefore but take a little view of a fair house at Mile-end, the mansion of William Davenport, esq. and heir to sir William Davenport; and next to that of Offerton, where was an ancient race of Winningtons, gentlemen of good worth; but now by marriage come unto Laurence Wright, gentleman, and another part of the same lordship, to Henry Bradshaw, a gentleman deservedly well esteemed. And here passing over the Goit to Goit-hall, a mansion of the Davenports of Henbury, formerly mentioned, we take view next of Bredbury, the lands now of the Arderns, esquires.

And now upon that water, which not far off meets with the Mersey, and is called Tame, coming out originally from Yorkshire, but here dividing Cheshire from Lancashire, we see first Portwood-hall on the other side of the river; but entering into that long inlet which we spake of, which makes the stretched-out first feather of our eagle's wing, we go over at the new bridge beyond Stockport; and not far from thence we see Harden, a fair house, and great demesne of the Arderns, men of good place, and long continuance, now Henry Ardern's, esquire; from which, leaving on our right hand that great mountain, called Werneth Low, where the Davenports have goodly possessions; and at the foot of which, towards the Mersey, lies an old Dearn and Deavly chapel, so people call desert places out of company and resort, called Chad-chapel, where seems to have been some monkish cell, we come by Dockenfield, a very ancient seat of esquires of that name, and now the seat of Mr. Dockenfield, a young gentleman, for his sobriety and wisdom growing into much reputation.

Near unto which is also Newton, the seat of a race so called, gentlemen of good account; and beyond it Matley, a township belonging to the lordship of Stealy, wherein sir George Booth, knight and baronet, hath a fine old manor-house, called Stealey-hall; and hereabouts, both on this side the water Tame, and beyond, are goodly lands, and great possessions. But we will bend our course eastward, coming next to Godley, a township where Mr. Massie of Sale hath lands, and beyond it Hattersley, another township of sir George Booth's, reaching down to the Mersey; by the side whereof stands another hall of his, called Botham's Hall, which hath anciently had a park in it.

Along by the Mersey water lies the stately lordship of Mottram in Longendale, and on the top of the hill the

town, and the goodly fair parish-church, to which all these aforesaid towns, and the rest yet behind in this tract, do belong; and near the church an ancient parsonage, being an impropriation to the lord bishop of Chester.

The chief signory and lordship paramount of the whole parish belonging to the crown; and by grant, to sir Richard Wilbraham, knight and baronet, and his heirs-male in fee-farm for ever. Within the precincts of that lies an inferior lordship, and therein an ancient seat and descent of the same name, with the place called Hollingworth of Hollingworth; and within it also a branch or two of gentlemen of the same name.

Beyond which lies Tinchtil, or Tingetwissel, which I have heard many report hath in old time carried the

name of a borough, and hath also held a leet within itself; but it contents itself now to be a principal member of the lordship of Mottram, in Longdendale.

And all this tract yet goeth under the name of Longden, fetching in within the bounds of it a great circuit of the moorish mountains; at the furthest end whereof, westerly, stands Micklehurst, a member of Tinchtil; and further northerly, a chapel for the ease of those remote parishioners from Mottram church. And then the Woodhead, a place well known to the weary travellers, that come over those mountains and craggy ways in Yorkshire. And here also we take up our rest for this journey through Macclesfield Hundred.

PAROCHIAL TOPOGRAPHY.

Gawsworth Parish

CONSISTS of one township only, which, as hereafter mentioned, appears to have been originally comprized in Prestbury parish. At the period of the Domesday survey, this township was retained in demesne by the earl.

“Ipse comes tenet Govesurde. Benulf liber homo tenuit: ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est vi carucarum. Wasta est. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos. Ibi silva 11 leuis longitudine, et 11 leuis latitudine, et 11 haia.”

By deed s. d. (Harl. MSS. 2074. 184.) Randle earl of Chester grants to Hugh son of Bigod, in fee, for himself and his heirs, Gousworth, with its appurtenances, to have his own mill, sac, tol, theme, and court, freely and honourably, without pleading or answering to any one before the prefects of Macclesfield, the said Hugh giving to the said earl one caparisoned horse in “meo talamo Cestr.” Test. Walthuo fil. Wlfrici, et Hug. fil. Osberti, et Serlon’ Oinatore, et Ric. Bacone, et Ran’o Venatore, et Galfr. Hostiario, et Rob’t fil. Golelatin.

Richard de Aldford (whose family succeeded to Bigod’s Cheshire estates) by deed s. d. *ibid.* grants to Herbert de Orreby, and to the lady Lucia his wife, and their heirs, Gawsworth in fee^a, with acquittance from

suit to the halmote court of Aldredelegh, “unde eos aliquando implacitavi,” and from all service except providing “tempore werre unum hominem cum humblogio, in wardo in castro nostro de Aldford ad custum meum quantum pertinet ad duas partes unius militis. Test. Ph’o de Orreby, tunc justic. Cest. &c.”

About the beginning of the reign of Hen. III. and 4 Edw. I. juries found that the custody, &c. of the lands of Richard de Orreby deceased belonged to sir Peter de Arderne, lord of Aldford, from whom Richard held the said manor (val. xvi.) as before-mentioned, which custody was granted by the said Peter to Thomas de Macclesfield, until Thomas, heir of the said Richard, should come of age^b.

The said Thomas de Orreby (aged thirteen 4 Edw. I.) and one of the *subordinate foresters* of Macclesfield^c, noticed in the claim of liberties 16 Edw. I. died seized of Gawsworth 18 Edw. I. leaving Isabella, daughter and heiress, who married Thomas Fitton.

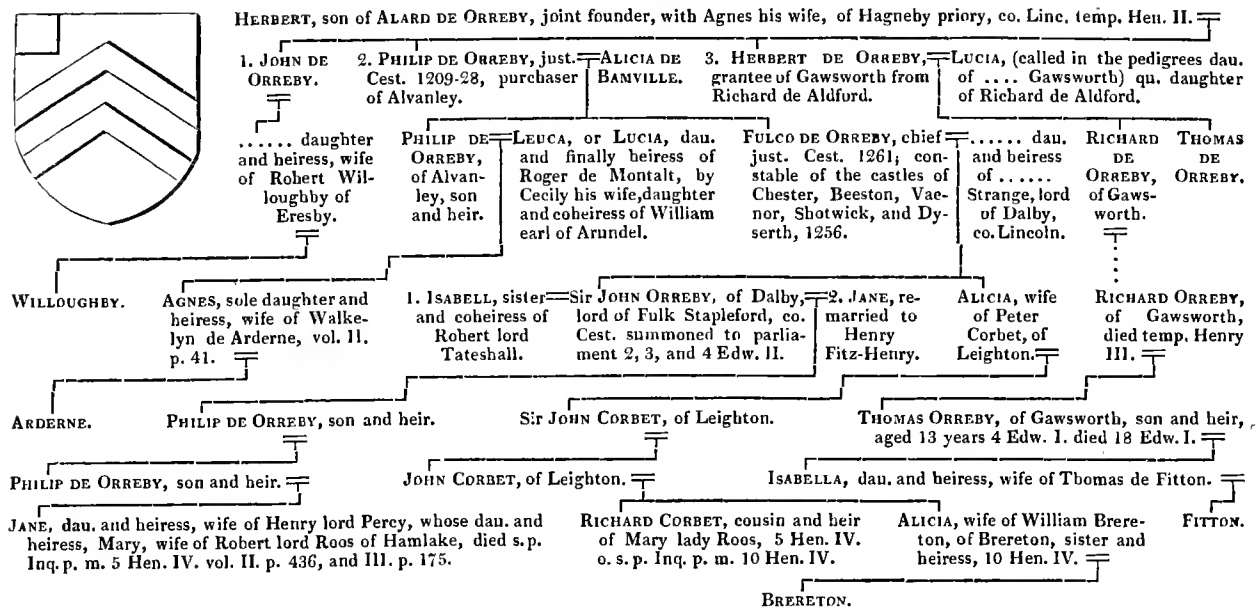
The annexed pedigree brings down this line of Orreby to its termination, and gives also the other collateral lines which are connected with the descent of manerial property in other parts of the county.

^a Dr. Williamson (Vill. Cest.) who says that Gawsworth “was given by Randle Meschines earl of Chester, about king Stephen’s time, to Hugh, son of Bygod, and his heirs,” as has been proved above, proceeds, “whose daughter and heir, Lucy, brought this place in marriage to Herbert de Orreby, I suppose; for Richard de Aldford gave to Herbert de Orreby and dame Lucy his wife, Gawsworth, &c.” This may be a reason for supposing Lucy daughter of Richard de Aldford the grantor, but certainly none for supposing her daughter of Hugh Fitz-Bigod.

^b See the deed, Harl. MSS. 2074, 184.

^c See p. 280.

ORREBY OF GAWSWORTH, WITH OTHER BRANCHES.

For arms see the note below ^b.

Thomas Fitton, of Gawsworth in right of his wife Isabel, was a younger brother of the house of Fitton of Bollin, of whom an ample account is given under the heads of Wilmslow and Dunham-Massey.

The following series of inquisitions commences with the son of this Thomas by his wife Isabel de Orreby.

Inq. p. m. 20 Ric. II. Thomas Fitton, of Gowsworth, held in demesne as of fee, the manor and advowson of Gowsworth cum pert. from John de Ardren of Aldford, in socage, without any service, val. per ann. xxl. also a forestership in Macclesfield, and lands in Pownall, Norcliffe, Chorlegh, and Lythe juxta Honbridge; and by courtesy, in right of his wife Margaret Leigh, half the manor of Betchton, and lands in Lostock Gramam. Laurence son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VI. Sir Laurence Fitton leaves Thomas Fitton grandson and heir.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. VII. Sir Thomas Fitton, kt. held the manor and advowson of Gawsworth from John de Stanley of Aldford, in socage by fealty only, val. per ann. xx marks, with lands in Betchton, Chorley, Lostock Gramam, Lythe, Capesthorne, and Sutton. Edward Fitton brother and heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VIII. Edward Fitton, esq. held in demesne as of fee the manor and advowson aforesaid, from the king as of his manor of Macclesfield^c, the lands aforesaid, two parts of the manor of Siddington, and burgages in Macclesfield and Congleton. Died Feb. 15, a^o

p'd'to. John Fitton, esq. son and heir, aged upwards of 40 years. Val. tot. £73. 17s. 8d.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VIII. John Fitton, esq. held the manor and advowson aforesaid, from the king as of his manor of Aldford in socage, the lands, &c. as before, a forestership in Macclesfield forest, and lands in Distley Dene and Over Peover, val. tot. £78. 6s. 8d. Died Sunday after St. Valentine's day. Edward Fitton son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 Edw. VI. Sir Edward Fitton, kt. held the manor and lands aforesaid, and died Feb. 17, a^o p'd'to. Edward Fitton son and heir, aged upwards of 21 years.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Sir Edward Fitton, kt. held the manor, advowson, and lands aforesaid, lands in Capesthorne, Snelson, and Horton, and the manors and advowsons of Aldford and Alderley^d. Died July 3, 21 Eliz. Sir Edward Fitton, kt. son and heir.

The subjoined sepulchral memorial^e relates to this Sir Edward Fitton, who died in his high official situation in Ireland, where his son, Sir Edward Fitton, also filled the place of lord-president of Munster. His son, the fourth Sir Edward Fitton in unbroken series, was created a baronet Oct. 2, 1617, and had issue a son of his own name, who was a distinguished officer in the royal service, and died shortly after the taking of Bristol in 1643 without surviving issue.

The collateral branches of this antient and distin-

^b The original arms of Orreby were, Ermine, five chevronels Gules, on a canton of the second a lion passant Or.

The Dalby branch after the alliance with Strange bore, Gules, two lions passant in pale Argent, in chief a label of the second.

The Gawsworth branch bore, Argent, two chevrons and a canton Gules, which arms were adopted by the Gawsworth branch of Fitton, who nevertheless occasionally gave their old arms, the bend and garbs, retaining the Orreby canton under it, in distinction from the other branches of Fitton. This has been overlooked by several heralds, who have called the chevron coat that of Fitton, and following the old pedigrees in supposing Gawsworth to come by marriage and not by grant, have made the bend and garbs the coat of an heiress of Gawsworth, which family does not appear to have ever existed.

^c Previous to Gawsworth being severed from the demesne of the earldom, it was a dependency of the earl's manor of Macclesfield, and the jurors therefore considered it as restored to the original dependency now that Aldford, to which it had intermediately been subject, had been forfeited to the crown by attainder.

^d These had been purchased by Sir Edward Fitton, 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary. See vol. I. p. 412. Francis Fitton afterwards bought them from his nephew Sir Edward (heir by this Inq.) to whom they reverted with other estates after the death of the said Francis s. p. as by Inq. p. m. 6 Jac. I.

^e From an impression of a brass plate fixed in the wall on the south side of the communion table in St. Patrick's cathedral, Dublin, communicated by a male descendant from the family.

Sir Edward fitton, of Gausworth in the counte of Chester in England, knight, was sent into Ireland by quene Elizabeth to serve as the first president of her highnes counsell wthin the province of Connaght and Thomond, who landing in Ireland on the Ascension day 1569, a^o R. R. Elizabeth x, lyved there in the rome aforesaid till Mighellmas 1572, a^o Elizabeth xiiii^o, and then that counsell being dissolved, and he repaying into

guished family are given in the ample pedigree annexed, which is illustrated by the most complete series of sepulchral memorials that the county possesses.

The note subjoined gives an account of the disputes which followed after the death of sir Edward Fitton, and the mode in which Gawsworth passed to his nephew, Charles Gerard first earl of Macclesfield^f. From the second earl of the same name, Gawsworth passed to lady Mohun, daughter and heiress of his sister and coheir-

ess Charlotte Mainwaring. Having subsequently vested under lord Mohun's will in his second wife, Elizabeth Laurence, it passed to Anne Griffiths, issue of the said Elizabeth by a first marriage^g, and was sold by the trustees of her marriage settlement to her husband, the right hon. William Stanhope, from whom it has descended to the present earl of Harrington, who holds a court-leet and court-baron for this township and Bosley.

England, was sent over againe in March next followinge as threasawer at warres, vice-threasawer, and generall receyvor wthin the realme of Ireland, and bath here buried the wyf of his youth, Anne, the second daughter of sr Peter Warburton, of Areley in the county of Chester, knight, who were borne both in one yere, viz. he in y^e last of Marche 1527, and she the first of Maye in the same yeare, and were married on Sunday next after Hillaries daye 1539, being y^e 19 day of Januarie, in the 12 yere of their age, and lyved together in true and lawfull matrimonie just 34 yeres, for y^e same Sunday of y^e yeare wherein they were married, y^e same Sondaie 34 yeres folowing was she buried, though she faithfully dep'ted this lyef 9 daies before, viz. on Saturdaie y^e 9 daie of Januarie, 1573, in w^{ch} time God gave them 15 children, viz. 9 sonnes and 6 daughters, and now her body slepeth under this stone, and her soole is retourned to God y^t gave it, and there remayneth in kepinge of Christe Jesus her onely Saviour. And the said sir Edward dep'ted this lyef, the thirde daie of July, a^o Dⁿⁱ 1579, and was buried the 21 daie of Septe'ber next folowing, whose fleshe also resteth under the same stone, in assured hope of full and p'fecte resurrection to eternall lyef in joye through Christ his onely Saviour. *And the said sir Edward was revoked home into England, left this land the daye of anno Domini beinge the yere of his age.

Above the inscription, kneeling figures of sir Edward and lady Fitton and their 15 children. Arms of Fitton (chevron coat) 8 quarterings, and Warburton 6.

^f The rarity of the tract referred to as the basis of this account, the singularity of the story, the attention due to the termination of the connection of this ancient family with Gawsworth, and the interest excited by the development of the early history of the Chancellor Fitton, render it impossible to avoid giving a fuller abstract, than under other circumstances would have been devoted to the subject.

The title of the tract in question is "A true Narrative of the Proceedings in the several Suits in Law that have been between the right honourable Charles Lord Gerard of Brandon, and Alexander Fitton, esq. Published for general satisfaction by a Lover of Truth. Hague, printed MDCCLXIII."—Small 4to. 49 pp.—which states that sir Edward Fitton resolved in 1641, after paying his debts, and bequeathing some legacies to his sister's children, to restore the antient entail of the Gawsworth estate, and settled the same by indenture, dated 9 Nov. 17 Car. on William Fitton his next male kinsman; remainder successively to his sons Edward and William †, with divers other remainders over; in which settlement there was a power of revocation. The said settlement is said to be confirmed by deed poll, dated April 3, 18 Car. by sir Edward Fitton.

It is further stated, that when importuned by divers people, and also immediately before his decease, he said he would rather settle his estate on Ned Fitton the bonny beggar ‡ (a man who kept beggars from his gates), than any one of his sister's children; and died at Bristol Aug. 1643. His sisters entered into Aldford and Gawsworth. Lady Fitton had Gawsworth for jointure, and Bosley and Siddington were mortgaged to Mrs. King for 1500*l.* and after for more. Mr. W. Fitton commenced suits, and recovered under three verdicts, and had possession of Gawsworth after the death of Lady Fitton. Afterwards Mr. Alexander Fitton marrying the daughter of Mr. Thomas Jelly §, of Cafton, co. Worcester, the mortgage money was paid off, and Mr. Fitton had possession of the whole.

It is further stated that after several bickerings and personal quarrels between lord Gerard and A. Fitton, a will was brought forward by lord Gerard nineteen years after sir Edward Fitton's death. It was allowed, a settlement was made, 10 Car. to the same effect with that in 17 Car. but lord Gerard contended that the later settlement was only for shew to the ruling powers, and Fitton argued that the ultimate confirmation had put the will out of sir Edward Fitton's power, even if true. The signatures of witnesses to the deed-poll were proved at Congleton, a commission being taken out by plaintiff and defendant for that purpose, after which Dobson, lord Gerard's solicitor, returned to London, and is said to have prevailed on Abraham Granger (then confined in the Gatehouse) to swear that he had forged sir Edward Fitton's hand to the deed. This being deposed, the high court of chancery directed a trial at law to be had the ensuing Michaelmas at Westminster, upon this special issue, whether the deed-poll were the act of sir Edward Fitton or no. The deed was substantiated by the evidence of Mr. Richard Daveuport, Mr. Edmund Barwick, and Mr. Thomas Smallwood's deposition, made on his death-bed before Mr. Thomas Edge, a clergyman. And the forgery, on the other side, was acknowledged by Granger, corroborated by the evidence of Gifford and Wheeler, and it was also deposed by col. Ralph Ashton, Webb, esq. Thomas Adams, Thomas Cotton, capt. Holland Simpson, Gifford, esq. John Wheeler, and John Aveny, that they had heard Mr. Fitton confess that Granger had forged a deed for him, for which he had 40*l.* Depositions to Mr. Fitton's character were taken, and three witnesses, not named, are said to have sworn they had seen the deed-poll before the time alleged for the forgery; but verdict was given that the deed was forged. It was also objected to Fitton that he could not prove where he had his deed, or who engrossed it, that it had not been mentioned at the former trials, or at Mr. Fitton's marriage, and that the witnesses could not remember where it was executed.

The Gerard party are stated to have conducted themselves in a riotous manner on their victory; and a process was served out of the crown office on Mr. W. Jolly, Mr. Philip Richard, Mr. Richard Davenport, and Mr. Edmund Barwick, commanding them to appear in the court of king's bench, to answer an information of perjury; and Barwick was lodged in Macclesfield prison.

Granger is now said to have been conscience-struck, and to have begged earnestly for an opportunity of acknowledging his guilt to Fitton; and further to have done so before a citizen of London (not named) and a kinsman of Mr. Fitton's (not named), and to have written a narrative with his own hand, and read the same before twelve or thirteen gentlemen, when he signed and sealed the same. Their names, such as John Pugh, John Jones, &c. are given, but they all were most probably in low situations, and are in no way identified.

This narrative, extremely wild, vulgar, and incoherent, is given in the tract (pp. 27—46), and relates the most improbable circumstances. That in March, 1661, he (Granger) was pulled from his horse, taken before sir Allen Apsley, who committed him to the Gate-house without examination, where he was in danger of being murdered in his bed by one Rowe, and was threatened to be hanged, and have his hands cut off, if he would not forge the will, &c.

The document in other respects appears correct as to facts, but the inference from the facts is in favour of Gerard even as here stated, notwithstanding the abuse thrown upon him. The evidence of Granger could only be good when corroborated by collateral evidence like that of col. Ashton, and it falls to the ground when unsupported, as it is in this recantation, even supposing the genuineness of the recantation to be as well attested as it is diametrically the contrary.

This account (which it must be remembered was published for Fitton's justification) was abstracted from a copy of this rare tract in the possession of Mr. William Ford, of Manchester; another copy is in the British Museum, and in the same collection is "a reply to a paper intituled a new account of the unreasonableness of Mr. Fitton's pretences against the earl of Macclesfield." pp. 4. Brit. Mus. Parl. Law Cases, vol. V. p. 117.

From a postscript in the Museum copy of the first mentioned tract (which, with the page containing the names of witnesses, was defective in the other) it appears that after the attestation of this document had come to the ears of lord Gerard, the house of lords censured Mr. Fitton and three of the witnesses in the manner following, "viz. that Alexander Fitton should be fined to his majestie in the summe of 500*l.* and should be committed close prisoner to the king's bench prison until he should produce Granger, and should find sureties for the good behaviour during life; and that Edward Lloyd, John Cade, and John Wright (three of the witnesses) should be committed to the Fleet during the king's pleasure, and should, before their enlargement, find sureties for the good behaviour during life." "Their lordships further ordered that two copies of the said narrative should be

§ See Gerard pedigree, vol. I. p. 483.

* This sentence was obviously left with blanks, to be filled up afterwards, as well as the preceding space in which sir Edward intended his death to be mentioned, as is done; but this taking place before his recall, makes the inscription obscure, unless this circumstance is adverted to.

† Apparently an error for Alexander.

‡ Mentioned in errata as an error for bang-beggar, a provincial term for a parish beadle.

§ In errata Jolly of Cafton.

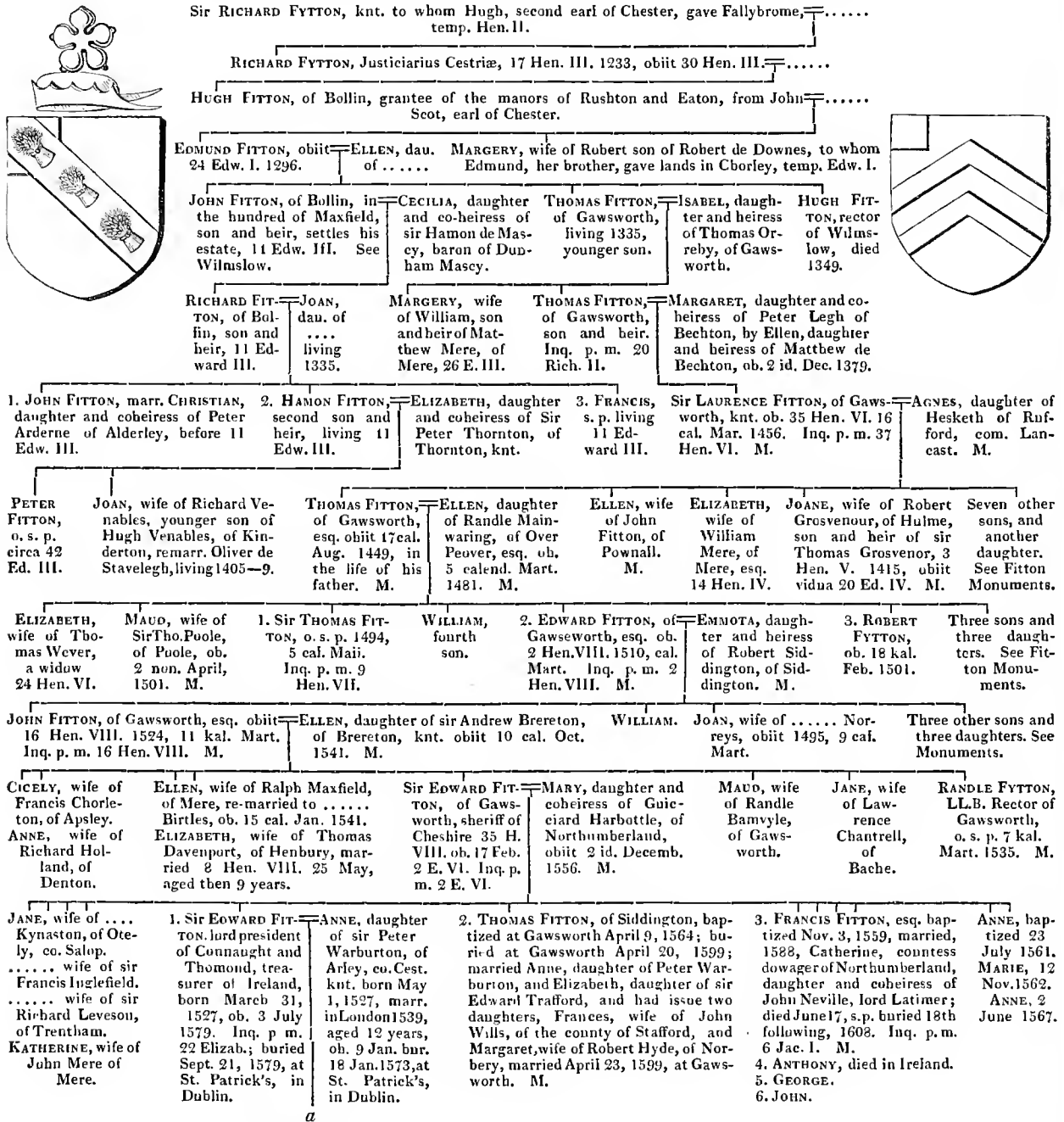
FITTON OF BOLLIN, AND FITTON OF GAWSWORTH.

From a MS. pedigree by Sir Peter Leycester, collated throughout, with monuments, inquisitions, and parochial registers. The Latin references to the Calendar are from a copy of an old mass-book, from Gawsworth. Grosvenor MSS, xxi. 5. p. 137. And the letter M refers to monumental inscriptions given in the account of Gawsworth Church.

ARMS OF FITTON OF BOLLIN. Argent, on a bend Azure, three garbs Or.

ARMS OF FITTON OF GAWSWORTH. Sometimes a coat adopted from Orreby (see p. 290), Argent, two chevrons Gules, and a canton of the second; and sometimes Argent, a canton Gules, over all a bend Azure, charged as in the original coat.

CREST. On a chapeau Azure, turned up Ermine, a cinquefoil erect Argent, according to modern usage; but a *garb* on the seal of John Fitton, of Bollin, temp. Edw. III. Harl. MSS. 2149, and according to other authorities a rose, a pansy, or a lily.



burned, the one in the Palace Yard at Westminster, and the other at the city of Chester, at such time as the lord Gerard should appoint;” but Mr. Fitton’s counsellor at the bar averred “that although their lordships might justly censure the narrative to be a libel, it wanting the due formalities required by the statute, yet, notwithstanding, the matter of the said narrative might be good evidence in law, and ought not to be refused at the tryall whenever it should be.”

It is not improbable that Alexander Fitton, who, in the first instance, gained rightful possession under an acknowledged settlement, was driven headlong into unpremeditated guilt by the production of a revocation by will which lord Gerard had so long concealed. Having lost his own fortune in the prosecution of his claims, he remained in gaol till taken out by James II. to be made chancellor of Ireland (under which character Hume first notices him), was knighted, and subsequently created lord Gawsworth after the abdication of James, sat in his parliament at Dublin in 1689, and then is supposed to have accompanied his fallen master to France. His male descendants are yet existing at Cork, and the mode in which he fulfilled duties far beyond the limits of this History are narrated by Hume and Burnet.

Whether the conduct of Fitton was met, as he alleges, by similar guilt on the part of lord Gerard, God only can judge; but his hand fell heavily on the representatives of that noble house. In less than half a century the husbands of its two coheirresses, James duke Hamilton, and Charles lord Mohun, were slain by each other’s hands in a murderous duel, arising out of a dispute relative to the partition of the Fitton estates, and Gawsworth itself passed to an unfeeling hand, by a series of alienations complicated beyond example in the annals of this county.

a													
ALEXANDER FITTON, of Ireland.	ELIZABETH, wife of Thomas Holcroft, married Sept. 1, 1562. SUSAN, wife of John Poole of Poole, esq. ANNE, wife of Sir Ralph Egerton, of Wrinnehill.	Sir EDWARD FITTON, of Gawsworth, kn. president of Monaster, died at Gawsworth 1606. M.	ALICE, daugh. and sole heiress of sir John Holcroft, of Holcroft, co. Lancast. buried at Gawsworth Feb. 5, 1626. M.	JOHN FITTON, o. s. p.	RICHARD FITTON, o. s. p.	MARGARET, wife of sir Randle Mainwaring, of Peover, kt. married Sept. 1, 1562.	MARY, wife of William Tatton, of Withenshaw, esq.	EDWARD, born cal. Oct. 1546, son and heir apparent, died at the age of five weeks.					
WILLIAM FITTON, son and heir of Alexander, (on whom the last sir Edward Fitton settled the estate as heir male. Leicester) of Awnnee, in Ireland, married Eva, daughter of sir Edward Trevor, of Brinkynallt. Harl. MSS. 2153. 36.		Captain LOUGHER, first husband.	MARY FITTON, maid of honour to queen Elizabeth.	Captain POLWHELE, second husband.	Sir EDWARD FITTON, of Gawsworth, born 3 cal. Dec. 1572. created a bart. 1617, ob. May 10, 1619, bur. at Gawsworth. M.	ANNE, daughter and coheir of James Barret, of South Wales, aged 32 years, married 1609. M.	RICHARD, o. s. p.	ALICE, wife of sir John Newdigate, of Arbury, co. Warwick.					
ALEXANDER FITTON, son and heir of William, was seized of the Gawsworth estate, which Charles lord Brandon recovered from him, annis 1663 and 1664; married the daughter of Thomas Jolly, of Cofton, co. Worcester, esq. (Leicester), afterwards chancellor of Ireland, and created baron Fitton, lord Gawsworth, by Jac. II. after abdication. Had issue. EDWARD, supposed s. p.	2. MARY, born July 13, baptized at Gawsworth July 12, 1602, wife of Geffry Minshull, of Stoke, near Nantwich, married at Gawsworth May 25, 1623.	3. FRANCES, wife of Henry Mainwaring, of Carinham, esq.	4. ALICE, born Oct. 7, bapt. Oct. 20, 1605, at Gawsworth, wife of Maj. Merrick, of Wales.	5. ANNE, bapt. March 3, 1611, at Gawsworth, wife of sir John Brereton, of Brereton, kn. remarried to sir Gilbert Gerard, kn.	6. LETTICE, bap. at Gawsworth April 11, 1613, wife of John Cole, co. Salop.	7. JANE, bap. at Gawsworth Oct. 3, 1615, wife of Thomas Minshull, of Erdeswick, co. Cest.	1. PENELOPE, wife of sir Chas. Gerard, of Hassal, co. Lanc. kn. eldest son of Ratcliffe Gerard, younger brother of Thomas lord Gerard, of Gerards Bromley.	FELICIA, sister of Ralph Sneyd, of Keel, co. Staff. esq. re-marr. to sir Charles Adderley, 2nd wife, s. p. M.	Sir EDWARD FITTON, of Gawsworth, bart. bap. at Gawsworth, Aug. 1603, re-marr. to sir Charles Denb. Aug. 1643, aged 43, at the taking of Bristol, s. p. v.	JANE, daugh. of Sir John Trevor, of Plas-Teg, in co. Denb. kt. mar. Oct. 13, 1622, bur. June 9, 1632. M.	ELIZABETH, July 31, bur. buried Aug. 1, 1622, at Gawsworth, s. p.	RICHARD, died Aug. 1, 1622, at Gawsworth, s. p.	THOMAS, baptized April 22, 1608, at Gawsworth; buried August 7, 1630, at Gawsworth, s. p.
ELIZABETH, born Nov. 17, baptized at Gawsworth Dec. 6, 1616, o. s. p.	ELIZABETH, baptized March 29, 1618.	CHARLOTTE, wife of Roger Whitley, of Ashton, co. Cest. and of Hawarden Castle, co. Flint, esq.	* CHARLES GERARD, lord Brandon, who recovered the Gawsworth estate, 1664, against Alexander, son of William Fitton, master of the horse to king Charles II. created lord Brandon 1645, and afterwards earl of Macclesfield 1679.			MARGARET, only daughter, baptized at Gawsworth Feb. 26, 1623, died an infant, buried at Gawsworth Oct. 2, 1631.							
CHARLES GERARD, earl of Macclesfield, son and heir, married Mason, from whom he was divorced by Act of Parliament, o. s. p.	FITTON GERARD, earl of Macclesfield, died unmarried.	ELIZABETH, wife of Digby lord Gerard of Bromley. Had issue. See vol. I. p. 423.	CHARLOTTE, wife of Mainwaring, and 2ndly, of sir Thomas Orby. Had issue. See vol. I. p. 423.			ANNE, wife of capt. Ebrington.							

The village of Gawsworth is situate about three miles south-west of Macclesfield, on the road to Congleton, at the sides of which are scattered a few of its straggling cottages; the rest of the village, consisting of the church, the parsonage, the ruins of the old hall, and another hall of later erection, occupies a gentle rise to the east of the highway, where these buildings are ranged at the side of a broad grass-grown road, which assumes much of the appearance of deserted pleasure-ground, from large old-fashioned fish-ponds which are placed at its side, and the venerable and luxuriant timber which overshades it.

The church and the rectory-house will be noticed hereafter; the old Hall stands immediately west of the church, and consists of portions of three sides of the original quadrangle, built with timber and plaister, extremely low on two sides, but higher on the south, where there appears to have been a gallery at the top, resembling that described in the account of Little Moreton. On the side of the grounds nearest the church is a long and lofty terrace, commanding an extensive prospect, in which the broken end of the Cloud is a most conspicuous object, and terminating in a large platform, in which is hollowed an irregular crescent, traditionally said to have been used for the exhibitions of wrestling and other rural sports by the Fittons.

The modern hall of Gawsworth (occasionally used as a place of residence by lord Harrington) is a large plain building of brick, erected by lord Mohun. In one of the rooms is a large painting of Francis Fitton, esq. in

a black gown; in the corners are the arms of Fitton, and Neville in a lozenge under an earl's coronet, with the following curious inscription round the edge of the frame :

“ Francis Fyton married w^t Katherine countess of Northu'br. dowger, a^o 1588, eldest of the daughters and coheires of Joh' Neville, kt. lord Latymer, being thyrd sone of Edw. Fyton, of Gawsworth, kt. (who married Mary y^e younger daughter and coheir of sir Vigitt Harbutell, in Northu'br. kn. and Elenor, her elder sister, married w^t s^r Tho. Percy, kn. afterward ataynted, being father by her to Tho. and Henry Percy, kns. and both in their tymes earles of Northu'br. and restored by Q. Mary) brother to Edward Fyton, kn. lord-president of Conaghte and thresorer of Ireland, and sone and heyre to th' aforsayd Edward, which thresorer and his wife decessed in Irlande, and lye boathe buried in St. Patric's church in Dublin^f.

Over the door of the old hall is a carved representation of the coat of Fitton with sixteen quarterings, with a motto in a garter introducing the words FITTONVS LEVE in allusion to the name. Under the arms is inscribed :

Hæc sculptura facta fuit apud villam Calviæ in Hibernia per Richardum Rany, Edwardo Fyton, milite primo d'no presidente totius provincie Conatiæ et Thomoniæ, anno D'ni 1570^g.

^e An interesting account of this branch of the Gerards, who were highly distinguished for their loyal exertions in behalf of Charles the First, will be found in Banks's Baronage, vol. III. 305.

^f Another portrait connected with the family is mentioned in the account of Brereton.

^g The following inscription in the grounds at Gawsworth relates to a singular character, by profession a dancing-master, who was admitted to the tables of the principal families in the neighbourhood, and licensed to utter any fooleries or sarcasms that occurred to him. He was the author of a singular play, “ Hurlothrumbo, or the Supernatural,” which had a run of above thirty nights at the Haymarket Theatre in 1722, and for which Mr. Byrom wrote an epilogue. See Chalmers's Poets, XVI. p. 217.

Under this stone rest the remains of Mr. Samuel Johnson, afterwards ennobled with the grander title of

RECTORS OF GAWSWORTH.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1265—89 inter.	Johannes de Birchill. D'nus Edwardus Fitton.		
1332, 5 kal. Oct.	Johannes Fitton, cl'us. Johannes Eton.	Thomas Fitton.	P. m. D'ni Edw. Fitton.
1382, 2 Dec.	Robertus Birkhood.	Jo. Eaton et Jo. Gose cap. ex dimiss. Jo. Fitton.	P. res. Jo. Eton.
1382.	Thos. de Botiley de Northenden. Johannes Eton.	Idem.	Causa permutat.
1391, ult. Aug.	Griffin David, cl'us. Galfridus Davenport.	Thomas Fitton.	P. m. Jo. Eton.
1394.	Henricus Lightcliffe, pr'b'r. Willielmus Pridden.	Thomas Fitton.	P. res. Galf. Davenport.
1424.	Johannes Kingsley, cap.	Laur. Fitton, miles.	P. res. Will. Pridden.
1432, 8 Oct.	Johannes de Bosden, pr'b'r.	Laur. Fitton, miles.	
1433, 19 Oct.	Robertus Hunster, cl'us.	Laur. Fitton, miles.	
1470, 25 Dec.	Georgius Baguley.	Laur. Fitton, miles.	P. m. Robert Hunster.
1497, 6 Majj.	Ranulphus Fitton, LL.B. William Leigh ^f . Robert Rogers ^g .	Edwardus Fitton.	P. m. Geo. Baguley.
1595, 23 March.	Thomas Keyll.	William Stubbs.	Death of Robt. Rogers.
1597, 28 Sept.	William Brownall ^h . William Hutchins. Thomas Edge.	William Knolles.	Death of Thomas Keyll.
1660 circa.	—— Hollinshead. Arthur Jeynson.	Intruded during the usurpation.	Ejectment of Hutchins. Dispossession of Edge.
1683, 1 Feb.	John Hammond, A. M.	Earl of Macclesfield.	Death of Arthur Jeynson.
1724, 6 June.	William Hall, A. M.	Charles Mordaunt.	Death of John Hammond.
1769, 27 July.	Miles Lonsdall, A. M.	Elizabeth Parrot, widow.	Death of Wm. Hall.
1786, Jan.	John Tickell, A. M.	Earl of Harrington.	Death of Miles Lonsdall.
1803.	Henry Foster Mills.	The archbishop of York, lapse.	Death of John Tickell.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. James.

Val. Eccl. £7. 4s. 4½.

This parish is supposed to have been originally included in that of Prestburyⁱ, which completely surrounds it, and the church is unnoticed in the ecclesiastical taxation of pope Nicholas about 1291. It occurs, however, as a *chapel* before this time in a composition respecting tithes, made between Simon abbot of Chester (1265-89), as patron and impropiator of Prestbury, and John de Birchill, presb'r capellæ de Gawsworth^k.

The advowson has, since that period, uniformly been attached to the manor, and the rector has the tithes of the entire parish.

The church itself is a picturesque building, of fine architecture, grey with lichens, shaded with venerable trees, and standing on an elevation which commands a most extensive prospect to the south and west. It consists of a handsome tower containing five bells, a nave without side aisles, entered by a porch on the south side, and a chancel, formerly divided from the nave by a screen, but now laid open to it. The exterior is handsomely finished with battlements, buttresses ending in finials, grotesque carvings, and shields charged with the arms of the neighbouring families. There are five windows on each side of the church, more or less pointed, but all in a uniform style, and exhibiting fragments of rich stained glass.

The rectory-house is situated opposite to the church,

Lord Flame,
who after having been in his life distinct from other men
by the eccentricities of his genius,
chose to retain the same character after his death,
and was at his own desire buried here May 5th,
A. D. MDCCLXXIII. aged 82.

Stay thou whom chance directs or ease persuades
To seek the quiet of these sylvan shades,
Here undisturbed, and hid from vulgar eyes,
A wit, musician, poet, player, lies,
A dancing-master, too, in grace he shone,
And all the arts of Op'ra were his own ;
In comedy well skilled he drew lord Flame,

Acted the part, and gained himself the name.
Averse to strife, how oft he'd gravely say
These peaceful groves should shade his breathless clay,
That when he rose again, laid here alone,
No friend and he should quarrel for a bone ;
Thinking that were some old lame gossip nigh,
She possibly might take his leg or thigh.

^f Died 1564, parish registers.

^g Archdeacon of Chester, vol. I. p. 89. See his Account of Chester Customs, *ibid.* p. 296.

^h Buried Sept. 11, 1630. His successors, Hutchins, Edge, and Hollinshead, are inserted on the authority of the parish registers, and the two first occur in the annals of successive persecutions, Walker and Calamy. Hutchins was of a family settled at Pulford, and his descent is given in Randle Holmes' voluminous collections, drawn probably with a view to a Brasenose fellowship, which he obtained in 1608. His temporal estate was declared forfeited for treason by the act of 1652, in addition to the sequestration of his living. See Walker, 262. His successor, of whom a most excellent character is given by Calamy, I. 263, edit. 1772, resided at Chelford after his dispossession, preaching secretly at or before day-break to his congregations in Cheshire and Staffordsbire, but attending himself on the regular minister of Chelford.

ⁱ See Leicester, vol. I. p. 311.

^k Gastrell, Not. Cest. quoting Reg. D. Ch. p. 73.

and was in a great measure restored by Mr. Hall when rector. On the left of the entrance porch is a remarkable hall, open to the top of the building; the arched timbers of the roof are decorated with carving, and the beams and plaister of the sides painted black and white, as in the old mansions of the county. In the window are the bearings of several Cheshire families, in stained glass¹.

I. On the north side of the communion rails, is a half obliterated inscription on the east wall:

Here lyeth Edward Fitton, knight,
sonne & are of sir Edward Fitton, lord
president of Connaugh, & treasurer
of Ireland, who married Alis, the
daughter & only are of John
Houlcroft, of Houlcroft, knight.

The seven following lines are illegible, and appear to have been violently defaced at a distant period.

In the north-east angle is a very large and sumptuous monument, consisting of a lofty arch of marble, raised on pillars, over which are the arms of Fitton, Argent, on a bend Azure, debruising a canton Gules, three garbs Or, impaling Barret, Gules, on a chief indented three escallops Sable. Crest gone (a cinquefoil on a cap of state). The badge of baronetcy on an escocheon of pretence.

Under the nich are the figures of sir Edward Fitton and his lady, with hands clasped and heads reposing on pillows. Both have large ruffs; the knight is habited in plate armour.

On a ledge below, are ten small kneeling figures. The first, representing the last sir Edward Fitton, is in armour; and two of the remaining nine are males, representing Richard and Thomas Fitton, his brothers.

Under the arch over the recumbent figures, are a profusion of armorial shields, and two tablets; the upper one is inscribed:

A monum^{nt} erected by the lady Ann
Fytton to the memory of her
deare husband sir Edward Fytton,
baronet, who departed this life
May 10, anno Dom. 1619,
et etatis 47.

On the lower tablet:

Least tongues to future ages should be dumb,
The very stones thus speake about our tombe,
Loe two made one, whence sprang these many more,
Of whom a king once prophecy'd before:
Here's the blest man, his wife the fruitfull vine,
The children th' olive plants, a gracefull line,
Whose soules and body's beauties sentence them
FITTONS, to weare a heavenly diadem.

II. West of these, but immediately adjoining, and inclosed within the same rails, is a plain altar tomb, at the side of which are five figures. The two first are in armour and kneeling; the third is a sitting female figure, in a ruff and hood, resting her hand on the right arm, and holding a closed book in the other; behind her are two kneeling female figures, also with ruffs and pendants to their head-dresses.

III. In the south-east angle of the church is another very large monument, consisting of an arch supported by pillars, under which is an altar-tomb, with two recumbent figures.

The lady has a loose cap and handkerchief, the knight is habited in plate armour, and under his head is a full-

facéd helmet, with a plume of white feathers. Near their feet is the figure of their infant daughter. Over the monument is the coat of Fitton, as before (crest gone,) impaling party per bend sinister Ermine and Erminois, a lion rampant Or, Trevor. Under the arch over the figures are armorial shields, and a tablet inscribed:

M. S.

Inter nobilissimos majores ipse maximus
D. Eduardus Fytton de Gawsworth, baronettus,
heic situs est,
qui antiquiss. Fyttonor' gentem
clausit simul atq; implevit,
ultimus primusq', sic fata voluere;
nempe ut vetusto stirpis splendori coronidem su'mam
imponeret,
in se uno omnium virtutes atq; præconia conguessit,
decus, robur, fulgorem corporis,
candorem, fidem, probitatem animi;
hoc sibi proprium habuit, quod pacis gremio lactatus,
belli furiis implicitus nemo grandius intonuit,
nec rem Martis prius inexpertam præclarius gessit;
a Carolo (beatiss. martyre) trib. mil. insignitus
illius angustiis periculisq; fidus comes adhæsit,
nec spernendis copiis auxilium gratum tulit,
primum ad Edghill, ubi die cruento tormentis regiis
præfectus
omnibus magis tormentis rebelles turmas concussit,
dein ad Banburiam, Brainford, Redding, atq. alibi sæpius,
nunquam sine laude et lauro cum Cestriensibus suis
fortissime meruit,
demum Bristollia, sed urbe capta, atq; triumphans,
Heu occidit!

The tenor of this inscription is continued as follows, on a tablet below the figures:

Uxores duxit duas, lectissimas utraq.
primam Janam, fil. D. Joh. Trevor,
in comit. Denbigh militis,
e qua filiulam unicam sed immature ereptam suscepit;
alteram, sed nulli secundam, Feliciam,
filiam D. Rad. Sneyd in agro Stafford. armig.
quam tristiolem, quia improlem, reliquit.
Denatus Bristollia mense Aug. quo et natus,
An^o. D. MDCXLI, ætat. XLIII.
ibi fidum cor, cerebrum, et mollia viscera,
in B. Petri templo fragili urna conduntur;
reliquus cinis Oxon. primo ob bellicas turbas depositus,
inde demum post xx annos intercapedinem
infractus, illæsus, heic
in Gawsworthæ suæ dilectiss. sinu, prout voluit, requiescit,
pia cura honoratiss. D. Caroli Gerard,
Baronis de Brandon,
sororis filii,
quem hæredem instituit.
Celebrate posteri.

IV. Near this is an altar-tomb, on which is the recumbent figure of a knight, in plate armour, under his head a full-faced helmet, with a plume of white feathers. Round the edges of the tomb:

Here lyeth Fraunces Fitton, Esquier, who married Katherine, contes doager of Northumberlond, and third brother of sir Edward Fitton, deceased, of Gawsworth, kt. lord president of Conough.

On the arches supporting the tomb the arms of Fitton and Neville, and under them a headless skeleton laid within an open robe^m.

V. Before the altar-rails is a memorial of Felicia Sneyd, second wife of sir Edward Fitton; and in the aisle,

¹ The following church notes were taken in 1817, and the proofsheet collated with the actual monuments in 1819, by David Browne, esq.

The CHARITABLE BENEFACTIONS will be found at the end of the hundred, since which return a legacy of 200*l*. has been left by the widow of John Tickell, M. A. rector. ^m With reference probably to sir Thomas Percy, mentioned in p. 293.

partly concealed by a pew, this mutilated inscription on the brass edgings of a grave-stone, referring to Thomas Fitton of Siddington :

— Ed'r'i fitto' milit' et d'ne Marie ux' eju' 2^{da} filia et coheres Guichardi Harbottell milit' et duxit ad uxorem Ana' filia' Petri Wa'barto' ar. 2 fili' Petri Wa'barto' de Arley, milit', et p'creavit Fra'cisca' nupta' Joh'i Welles de Horecrose in com. Staff. ar.—

Before the altar are memorials of Anne, wife of Edward Thornycroft, esq. only daughter of sir Raphe Assheton, of Middleton, bart. born Aug. 7, 1655, died Dec. 30, 1712.

Edward Thornycroft, esq. her husband, died May 11, 1726, aged 71.

Mary, daughter of the above, wife of Peter Davenport, esq. born July 21, 1688, died Oct. 8, 1721.

Henshaw Thornycroft, of Thornycroft, esq. died May 10, 1780.

Mary his wife, died Feb. 26, 1774.

Frances, wife of Edward Thornycroft, of Thornycroft, esq. died Dec. 29, 1809.

Ann, viscountess Barrington, 2d wife of the same, died April 13, 1816.

Also the s^d Edw^d Thornycroft died 20 January: he was the last male of the ancient family of the Thornycrofts of Thornycroft, a truly pious and benevolent Christian.

Over the south door of the chancel is a marble monument :

In memory of
the rev. John Hammond, A. M.
41 years rector of this parish ;
also of Alice his wife,
who was the second daughter of
sir Foulk Lucy, of Henbury,
in the county of Cheshire, knight.
She was interred the 14th of Oct. 1697, aged 37,
and he on the 15th of April 1724,

in the 73d year of his age,

leaving three sons and three daughters.

The rest of the inscription commemorates this lady's benefactions to the parish, and states the monument to have been erected by the rev. John Lucy of Charlecote, co. Warwick, "in memory of his ancestors."

On a slab in the aisle :

Hic jacet
Gulielmus
Brownell, vi-
tæ integerrimus
theologus,
et rector hujus ecclesiæ,
qui sepultus
fuit Sept. . . .
anno D'ni 1630.

Before the altar is a memorial of the rev. Miles Lonsdall, who died Dec. 5, 1785, aged 50; and on a brass south of the altar :

Canet enim Tuba, et excitabuntur mortui incorrupti,
1 Cor. xv. 52.

Beatæ spe resurrectionis mortales exuvias
Estheræ

Jo. Latham, A. M. eccl. Lawtonensis nuper rect^r.
filia pientissimæ,
uxoris vero suæ charissimæ,
cum multis heic deposuit lachrymis
Gul. Hall, A. M. hujusce eccl. rector.
Obiit Sept. vi. A. D. MDCCLXVI.
æt. 54.

Hic etiam ipse vir cum uxore conquiescat,
hinc ad vitam æternam ambo resurgant,
Amen.

Hic vero prout voluit conquiescit
mortale prædict. Gul. Hall,
obiit Jul. xx, A. D. MDCCLXIX,
æt. suæ 76,
rect. mun. 46.^m

^m In Harl. MSS. 2151, are the following antient notes of "Gawesworth church." The *inscriptions* are in some instances faulty, but as it is uncertain whether the errors are those of the copyist or the painter, they are transcribed literatim; the parts within brackets are represented by rude drawings in the MS.

P. 97. I. "In the head of a window on the north side, these two coates," (Fitton, garb coat, and Betchton.)

II. "On the north side, in three panes, just under the fores'd coates, are these figures following, with the writing under them.

(Two figures kneeling on each side a desk. Arms and emblazoned mantles, Mainwaring and Venables, four sons and fourteen daughters kneeling.)

"Orate pro bono statu Ranulphi Mainwaringe armig. et Margerie uxoris ejus, eum pueris suoru'."

III. "In another pane of the same north window is a man and woman kneeling, with 8 sones behinde him, and 4 daughters behind her, and the writtinge under them.

(The figures kneel before desks, and the man is in complete armour except the head. Arms, on the man's surcoat, Argent, two chevrons and a canton Gules, Fitton; on the woman's mantle, Argent, on a bend Sable three garbs Or, the antient coat of Hesketh and derived by them from Fitton.)

"Orate p' bono statu Laurentii Fitton, milit. et Agnet' uxor' ejus, eum pueris suis."

IV. "In another pane of the window on ye s'd north side, is this figure of a man and woman, with 7 sones after him, and 5 daughters behinde her, and this writtinge under them.

(A kneeling armed figure, surcoat emblazoned Fitton, chevron coat; and a female in a mantle emblazoned, Mainwaring. Their arms impaled above the space between them.)

"Thomas Fitton armiger, et Elene uxor ejus, cu' pueris suis."

V. "In another window upon the same north side kneeleth v in these coates of armes, in iii sev'all panes, with this writtinge undert hem.

(First pane, subdivided, a Mainwaring armed, and his lady, a Venables, kneeling before desks. Second pane, a Fitton, and seven sons, kneeling, surcoat of the eldest emblazoned, chevron coat, the others in gowns. Third pane, his wife, a Mainwaring, daughter of the two first, to whom also inscription No. II. refers, kneeling with six daughters.)

"Orate pro a'abus Thome Fitton, filii Laurentii Fitton, et Elene ux' ejus, et o'i'u' pu'r' suar', qui istam fenestram fecerunt."

VI. "In the heade of a window on the north side are these coates of arms," (as No. III.)

97 h. VII. "In another window on the north side these two coates (Poole of Nether Poole, and Fitton, chevron coat) with a man and 3 sones kneelinge, and a woman and 7 daughters.

"..... Thome Poule et uxoris ejus."

VIII. "In the head of the chancel is two figures in coate armour, with this inscript'on under them.

"Orate p' bono statu Ric' Sutton, et uxoris ejus."

(The figure of *Richard Sutton* is habited in complete plate armour save the head, two sons in gowns kneel behind him, and two daughters behind his lady. Her mantle is emblazoned, Argent, on a chief Gules an annulet Or (Worsley.) His surcoat is quarterly, 1 and 4, Argent, a chevron between three bugles strung Sable; 2 and 3, the same, ordinary, between three cross crosslets, colours counterechanged. In Dugdale's Vis. Cest. 1663-4, this figure is erroneously called that of sir R. Sutton, founder of Brasenose college.)

IX. "In a windowe on ye south side these coates, with the writtinge under it, with 5 sones and 4 daughters.

(Fitton, quarterly, 1. Fitton, chevron coat; 2. Siddington; 3. Fitton, garb coat; 4. Betchton; the other coat, Siddington.)

"Orate p' a'abus Edwardi Fitton et Emmote ux'is suæ, et pro a'abus (Johannis Fitton) et Elene ux' sue . . . et Roberti Sedyngton, et Elene uxoris sue."

X. "In a windowe in the south aisle this coate, and these three inscriptions.—(Poole quartering Buerton and Capenburst).—"Orate p' bono statu Thome Poule ar' et Matilde uxoris sui.—"Orate pro bono statu Ranulph Fitton, legum bacularii, rectoris istius ecclesie (qui?) feicit cancellam.—"Johannes Bro'ley et uxor ejus."

Part of Astbury Parish

Extends into this Hundred, comprising the townships of Somerford Booths and Eaton.

SOMERFORD BOOTHES.

This township is probably included in the Domesday description of "Sumreford," already given under the head of Somerford Radnor. In old deeds it is distinguished from the latter township by the appellation of Somerford juxta Marton.

In Williamson's Collections are abstracts of two fines, from which it appears probable that the Baggileghs of Baggilegh had an early interest in this manor, and that the Wetenhalls succeeded to it by marriage in the reign of Henry VI.

9 Edw. III. William de Baggilegh, sen. and Rose his wife, obtained from Jo. Marshall 15 messuages, one mill, one carucate, and 120 acres of land, &c. cum pert. in Northworthyn, Kenworthy, Sidenton, and Somerford, and the sixth part of the manor of Newton in Longendale, cum pert. to them and their heirs, with the homages and services of Robert, son of Ralph de Moreton, John de Astbury, Margery widow of William de Astbury, Roger son of John de Davenport and Margery his wife, Arthur son of John Davenport and Joan his wife, Tho. del —, William Smethwick, and

Kendrick de Calvelegh, for their whole lands which they held of —, in the aforesaid manors.

This is ascertained to be "Somerford juxta Marton," by another abstract of a fine (ibid.) levied by the same William and Rose, 9 Edw. III.

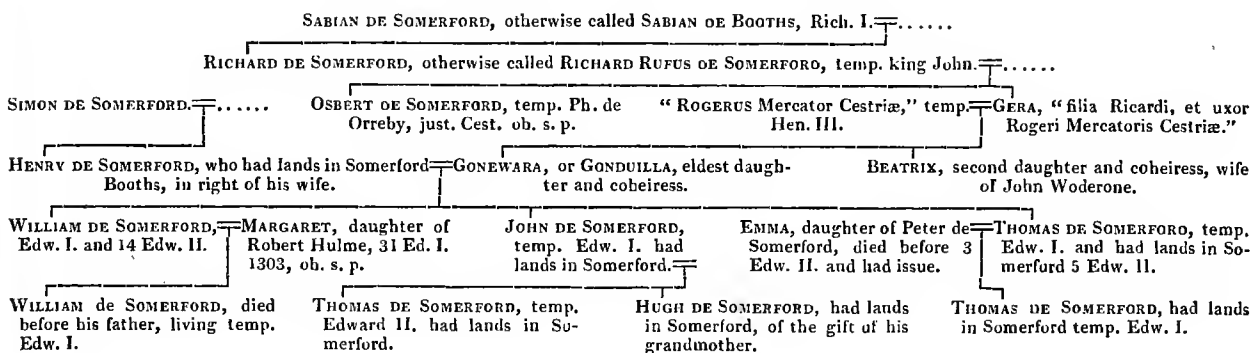
24 Hen. VI. Thomas, son of William Swetenham, obtained of John, son of Randle de Wetenhall and Alice his wife, five messuages, 100 acres of land, &c. cum pert. in Somerford, Sidinton, Kenworthy, and Nordene (the places mentioned in the preceding fine), to the use of Jo. and Alice and her issue, then to Thomas Snelleston and Isabel his wife, and the heirs of Isabel, then to the right heirs of Alice.

No further notice of this interest in Somerford has occurred.

As early as the reign of Richard I. Somerford Booths gave name to a family, of whom all that can be recovered is contained in the following pedigree. It does not appear that they were in any way related to the family of the same name settled in Somerford Radnor.

SOMERFORD OF SOMERFORD.

Transcribed from a pedigree at Somerford Booths, by Holland Watson, esq.



In the reign of Edward I. the SWETENHAMS had a grant of lands here from the Somerfords, with whom they were connected by affinity. It does not appear

whether this was their first settlement in the township; but it is certain that they continued seated here in the male line, as stated in the pedigree annexed, until the

XI. "In another window in the said south ile are two men and one woman in these coates armour (1. Weever; 2. Argent, a saltier engrailed between four mallets Sable; 3. Fitton, chevron coat) after the men is three sones, and after the woman is 3 daughters, but no inscription."

XII. "In another windowe these two coates (Mainwaring and Butler) with the writting under, Willielmus Mainwaring"

XIII. "In the window of the steeple these two figures, and the writtinge under them, with three sones and seven daughters.

(Two figures kneeling on cushions before desks. The man in armour, surcoat emblazoned *Pulford*, the lady's mantle *Fitton*, chevron coat.)

"Orate p' a'i'a d'ne Johanne Grosvenor qui istam fenestram fieri fecit."

XIV. "In another place of the same window, this figure and inscription: Rob'tus Fitton armiger," (armed, and in surcoat, chevron coat, kneeling before a desk.)

XV. "In a windowe upon the north side of the said church, is the figure of a man, and his son after him, and a woman, with a daughter behind her kneeling, with these two coates of arms, and the inscription under.

(1. Fitton, garb coat without canton, and a crescent for difference, quartering Argent, three raven's heads Sable; 2. Fitton, chevron coat.)

"... Job' Fitton de Pownall et ... uxor. ejus."

XVI. "This inscription (both defective and corrupted) in another place: "D'na Maria Fitton, nuper uxoris Edwardi Fitton militis hic adjacentis soror et heres cum d'na ... Percy ... Georgii Harebotell in com. Northumber."

XVII. "Upon a monument: Pray for the soule of Edward Fitton, kt. w'ch dyed the 17 day of September, a'no D'ni 1547."

XVIII. Lastly, eighteen armorial shields emblazoned with the alliances of the Mainwarings.

death of Edmund Swetenham, esq. in 1768. After the death of Mr. Swetenham's widow (on whom they were settled for life), his Somerford Booths estates passed to his great nephew Roger Comberbach, esq. who assumed the name of Swetenham, and whose son is the present proprietor.

Dane. The ancient residence of the Swetenhams, which occupies a delightful elevation near the river, is finished with bay windows and gables, in the style of the seventeenth century, and is now (1817) undergoing considerable alterations and improvements in the Gothic style, from the designs of Webb.

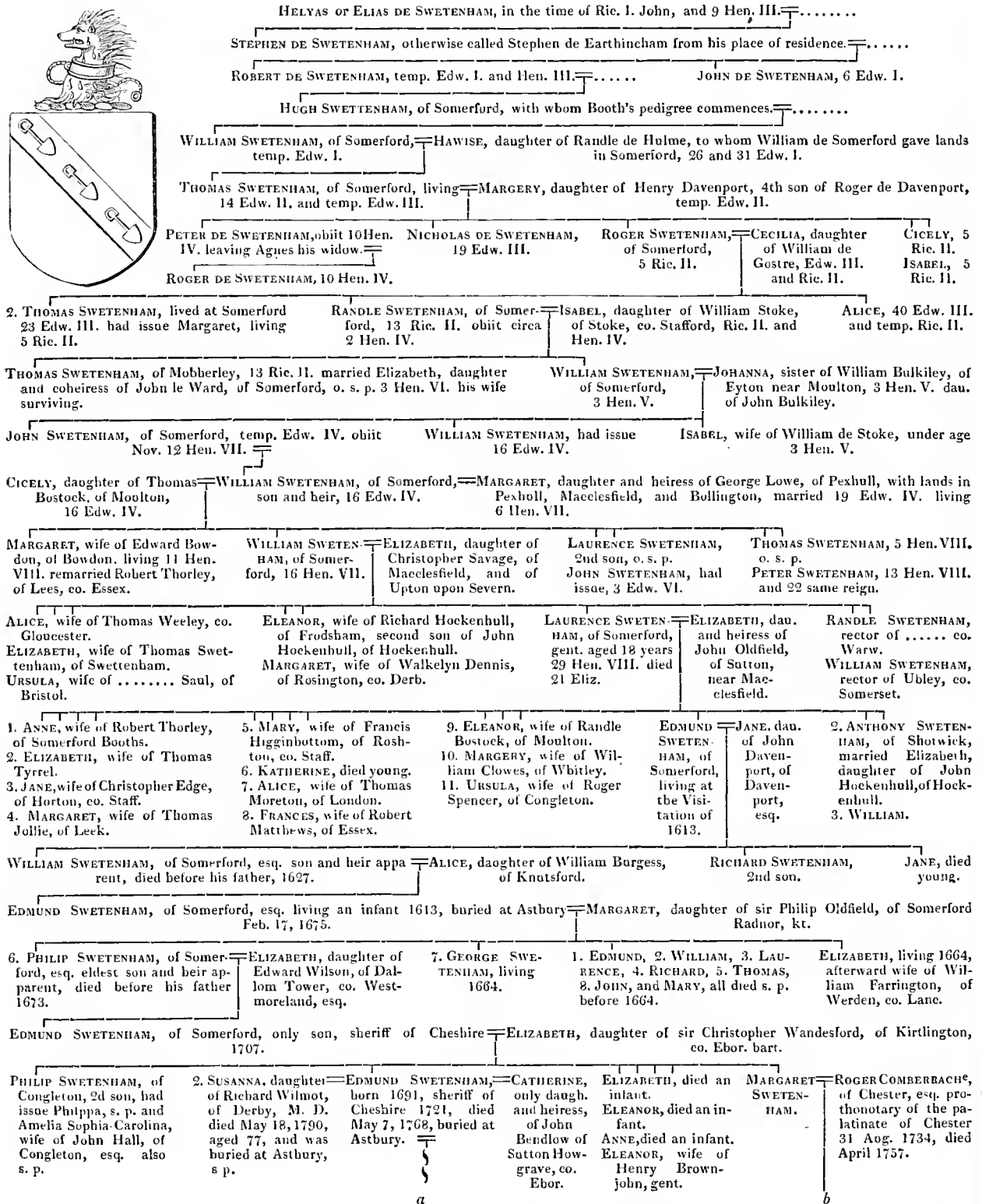
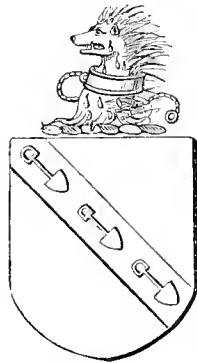
Somerford Booths is situated on the right bank of the

SWETENHAM OF SOMERFORD BOOTHS.

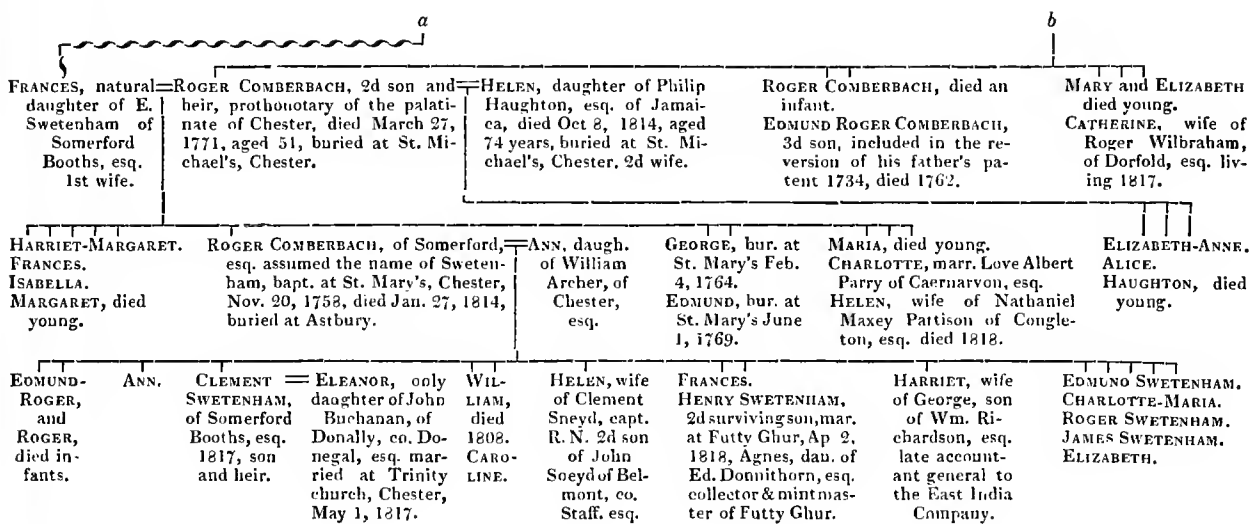
From the Visitations and Parochial Registers, Booth's Pedigrees, and an emblazoned vellum pedigree roll in the possession of the family.

ARMS. Argent, on a bend Vert three spades of the first.

CREST. On a wreath a hedgehog's head erased Azure, guttèe Argent, chained and collared Or. Granted by Gilbert Dethick 1568, allowed by Dugdale 1664.



e Son of Roger Comberbach, Recorder of Chester and a Welsh Judge, author of several legal works. His family were for some generations settled at Nantwich, and appear to have assumed their name from Comberbach, near Great Budworth. A MS pedigree of the family is referred to in p. 232, and the Recorder is noticed in vol. I. p. 188.



EATON, OR YEATON.

EATON is unnoticed by name in the Domesday Survey; but there are strong reasons for supposing this township and Hulme Walfield to have been included in the description of Congleton (from which they are only severed by the stream of the Dane), and to have been those two carucates which are mentioned as a *subdivision* of the four which composed the Saxon "Cogel-ton"^a. It is at all events certain, that they became distinct villis subsequent to the Norman Conquest, and that their tenures, as specified in the inquisitions, have reference to Aldford, in which Congleton was originally included. An estate in the latter of these villis (Hulme Walfield) descended, from the earliest period, by the same steps with the manor of Eaton; and sir Thomas Brereton, in 1606, claimed the manor of Hulme Walfield, as well as that of Eaton, as shewn hereafter. From the division of estates, or some other cause, the manerial rights of Hulme Walfield are nevertheless overlooked in the inquisitions, whilst those of Eaton are regularly enumerated in the series of those invaluable documents.

The manor of Eaton (or Yeaton, as it was formerly written) first occurs, as being held by the family of Praers of Baddiley under the paramount fee of Aldford in Broxton Hundred.

Inq. p. m. 17 Rich. II. John, son of Henry de Honford, held, inter alia, by courtesy, in right of *Margery de Praers*, his late wife, the site of the manor of Eyton, with half the vill of Yeyton, cum pert. from John Arderne, as of his manor of Aldford, by military service, value, per ann. xl. John, son and heir.

This inquisition being traversed, and it being proved that Margery had married successively Hugh Holt and John de Honford, and that John Honford was a bastard, born *before the first* marriage, another inquisition was taken in the same year, by which Margaret de Praers, widow of Hugh de Holt, is found to have held in fee a moiety of the manor of Eayton, and lands in Dittlemore and Stoke, holding the former as in the pre-

ceding inquisition; William Mainwaring next of kin and heir.

William Mainwaring, legitimate nephew of Margaret Praers, afterwards bequeathed a portion of her estates to his illegitimate cousin, John Honford, in which Eaton appears to have been included, as it descended with Honford afterwards^b.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VIII. William Handford, esq. held, inter alia, lands in Hulme Walfield, Buglawton, and Eyton, from the heirs of Sir William Trussel, knt. in socage, value 1v1.

Inq. sup. br. 5 Edw. VI. John Stanley, of Handford, held in right of his wife, inter alia, the manor or capital messuage of Yayton, value 1v1. 1xs. 1vd.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Sir Urian Brereton, of Honford, knt. held lands, as in the last inquisition, from sir Edward Fitton, knt. as the hundredth part of a knight's fee; value, per ann. 111l.

Inq. p. m. 9 Jac. I. William Brereton, of Honford, esq. held, inter alia, the manor or moiety of the manor of Yeaton or Yaeton, with messuages, lands, and heath, within the same, from Edward Fitton, esq. as the hundredth part of a knight's fee, value xxxs.

From these inquisitions, Eaton appears to have been latterly considered a subinfeudation under Gawsorth, which, like it, was a dependency of Aldford.

The manor of Eaton descended in this family to the last of their male line, sir Thomas Brereton, bart. who conveyed the manor of Eaton, alias Yaton, to trustees, with the manors of Handford, Hulme Walfield, and Bosden, and other estates, &c. by deed dated 8th and 9th May, 1666^c.

^dSubsequently, by deed dated July 19, 1667, the said sir Thomas Brereton conveyed to William Rode, of Rushton James, in Staffordshire, gent. "the capital messuage, mans'on, or mannor-house of Eaton, commonly called by the name of Eaton Hall," with the demesne lands and their appurtenances, and other closes, and all rents, duties, services, boones, averages e,

^a See Congleton, vol. III. p. 20, col. 1.

^b See Honford, in Cheadle parish, and see also sir T. Mainwaring's corrections of sir Peter Leycester (l. 369, note), for further information respecting these inquisitions and subsequent bequest.

^c Deeds in the possession of Mr. W. Pass, of Altrincham, 1819.

^d The following particulars of the manerial descent are from the title-deeds in possession of sir Edmund Antrobus, bart.

^e Services done by tenants to the lord with their carts or beasts, from "averium."

heriots, &c. &c. to the same belonging, largely described.

In 1752, Thomas Rode (who probably inherited this property from the above-named William Rode) sold it to George Lee, esq. who died April 4, 1773, and devised it to George Ayton, esq. who had married his niece, and who, upon the death of Mr. Lee, assumed the name of Lee in addition.

Mr. George Ayton Lee, jointly with his son, Mr. George Lee, on whom the same was entailed, sold the property subsequently to Mr. Philip Antrobus, from whom it passed by devise to his brother, sir Edmund Antrobus, bart. in whom it is now vested.

Eaton Hall, which has been enlarged and much improved by its present proprietor, stands on high ground, to the left of the road from Wilmslow to Congleton, about one mile north of the latter place, and commands an interesting view over the vale of the Dane, towards the Staffordshire hills. A game deputation is given by sir Edmund Antrobus for the manor, to which is also annexed the office of being one of the prepositi, or posts of the parish of Astbury^e.

The paramount jurisdiction of the leets of Aldford and Gawsorth has been long disused, as far as relates to Eaton, and the constables are sworn in the hundred court^e.

Part of Rostherne Parish.

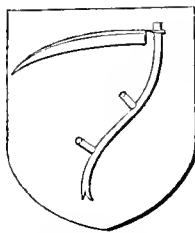
SNELSON,

THE only portion of Rostherne parish which extends into this Hundred, was allotted to Ranulfus (the founder of the Mainwaring family) at the Conquest.

“Isdem Ranulfus tenet Senelestune; Levenot tenuit: ibi una virgata terræ geldabilis: terra est dimidia caruca; wasta fuit et est.”

The township still continues subject to the court baron, as well as the court leet of Over Peover, no mesne manor being now recognized^f.

Snelson constituted a part of the estates given by Ralph Mainwaring with his daughter Bertrea, in marriage, to Henry de Aldithley^g. A large portion of the lands of Snelson subsequently belonged to a family which



bore the local name, and used for their arms, Argent, a scythe Sable^h; and in 21 Hen. VIII. William Snelleston and Blanch his wife levied a fine of the manor of Snelleston, and of lands in Snelleston, Rosthorn, Peover, Chelford, and Marthallⁱ.

The heiress of this family, about the middle of the seventeenth century, married the ancestor of Thomas Parker, of Astle, in Chelford, esq. who possesses by inheritance the most considerable estate in this township.

Nether Alderley Parish

CONTAINS three townships, Nether Alderley, Over Alderley, and Great Warford. It appears to have been originally taken out of the parish of Prestbury, by which it is nearly surrounded.

NETHER ALDERLEY.

THERE are three notices in Domesday of Aldredelei. The first part held by the earl, and surveyed under Bochelau^a, is conjectured by sir Peter Leycester^b to relate to Nether Alderley, and the other parts surveyed under Hamestan, and severally possessed by Bigot and William Fitz Nigel, are supposed by the same distinguished antiquary to relate to moieties of Over Alderley. With all deference, however, due to such high authority, there can be little or no doubt that the share of Bigot was

Nether Alderley, which with the church was always vested in, or held from his successors, the lords of Aldford, Over Alderley being held in like manner from the barons of Halton, successors of Fitz Nigel. The earl's part, which in the Saxon period lay within the verge of Bochelau, must have been part of *Nether Alderley*, as sir Peter Leycester surmises, that township lying nearest to Bucklow Hundred, and was probably granted to Bigot, or his son Hugh, when the earl's interest in Sandbach

^e This township is *improperly* described in the Population Return published by Parliament as *part of the parish of Prestbury*.

^f See vol. I. p. 374. ^g See Charter in Smallwood, p. 31. ^h Smith's Ordinary of Arms, in the Vale Royal. ⁱ Williamson's Fines, p. 59.

^a Or rather, *intended to be surveyed* under Bochelau. The errors of Domesday on this subject are noticed under Alretune.

^b Marginal references to Domesday. Leyc. Antiq. 401. 416. 419.

and other places was ceded to the predecessors of the lords of Aldford.

Nether Alderley is described as follows :

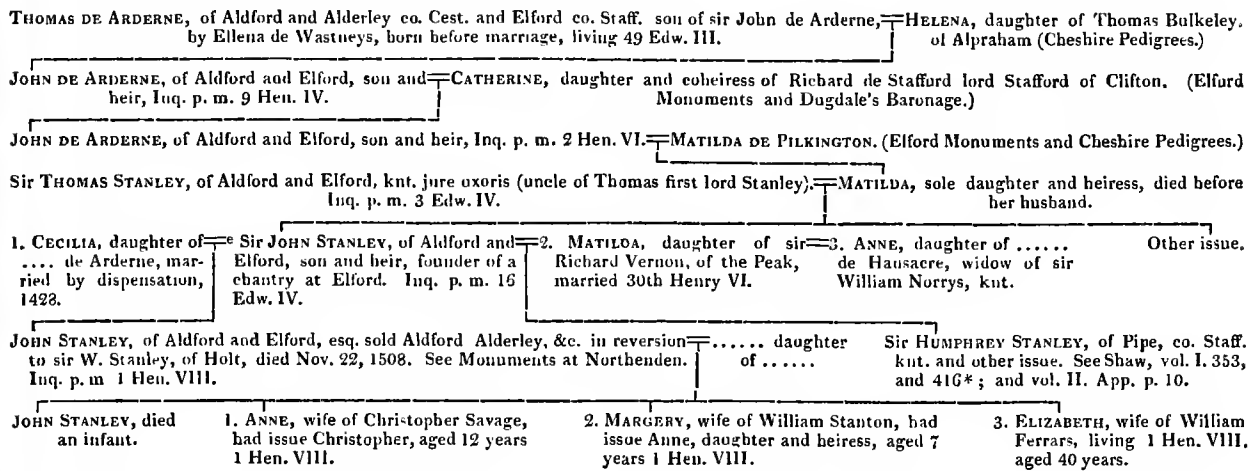
“ Ipse comes tenet Aldredelei: Carle tenuit. Ibi 111 hidæ geldabiles. Terra est vi earucarum: wasta fuit, et est modo in foresta comitis. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xxx solidos.”

“ Isdem Bigot tenet Aldredelei: Godvinus tenuit ut liber homo. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est viii carucarum. In dominio est una cum 11 bovariis, et 111 villanis, et unus radman cum una caruca: ibi una aera prati. Silva una leuva et dimidia longa, et una leuva lata, et ibi 11 haiæ. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos, modo x solidos, wasta invenitur.”

From the time of the Domesday survey to 20 Edw.

III. this manor descended as a component part of Aldford fee, through the families of Bigot, Aldford, and Arderne, as more fully mentioned in the accounts of Aldford and Alvanley, the seats of the chief line of Arderne. At the time above stated it was settled by sir John Arderne and Ellen his wife on Thomas de Arderne, born before marriage, and passing with the heir-general of these Ardernes (who were of Aldford co. Cest. and Elford co. Staff. and held Alderley in cap. from the earldom), to a branch of the Stanley family, continued their property till the direct line of these Stanleys (of Aldford and Elford) terminated in three coheireses, Anne wife of Christopher Savage, Margery wife of William Staunton, and Elizabeth wife of William Ferrers^c, daughters of sir John Stanley, knight^d.

ARDERNE AND STANLEY OF ALDFORD AND ELDFORD, LORDS OF NETHER ALDERLEY.



After the death of John Stanley, esq. *Nether Alderley* passed with Aldford to sir Urian Brereton, by grant from the Crown, in which it had vested by the attainder of sir William Stanley of Holt, to whom the contingent reversion^e of Aldford, Etchells, and Alderley, had been sold by John Stanley beforementioned. By the attainder of sir Urian Brereton, these manors again escheated to the Crown, and after an intermediate grant for a term of years to Edward Peekham and Margery Moreton^g, they were sold 3 and 4 Ph. & Mary to Robert Tatton and sir Edward Fitton.

The Inquisition after the death of sir Thomas Stanley, 4 Jac. recites, among other things, that sir Edward Fitton, knight, was seized in demesne, as of fee, of the manor of Alderley, otherwise *Nether Alderley*, with court leet, view of frank pledge, deodands, &c. in the same, with its members (recited in the inquisition), and of the advowson of the church; and that the same sir Edw. Fitton, by deed, dated June 20, 44 Eliz. enrolled in the queen's chancery, had sold the same to sir Thomas Stanley and Eliz. his wife, and their heirs, in consideration of £2000. of which £1300. had been raised by the sale of the Derbyshire estates of the said Thomas and Elizabeth.

This *third* branch of the Stanley family, which thus became possessed of the manor of *Nether Alderley*, inherited from the Aldfords, through the families of Arderne and Weever, the adjacent manor of *Over Alderley*, of which the Ardernes (*immediate* lords of *Nether Alderley*) had been *mesne* lords under *Halton*, in the time of Hen. III. The two manors thus re-united have descended with the advowson of *Nether Alderley* church, from sir Thomas Stanley to his lineal descendant sir John Thomas Stanley, bart. the present proprietor, 1818.

The descent of this branch of the noble house of Stanley is given in the account of their manor of *Over Alderley*; but the site of the antient residence is within this township, near the church and village. It was considerably altered, and a new front was added by sir Edward Stanley, in 1754; but, in 1779, the entire building was destroyed by fire, with the exception of the offices, which are yet remaining; and since this period the family have resided at the Park house, situated on the southern edge of the park of Alderley.

The adjacent scenery is diversified by a fine natural piece of water called Radnor Mere, and the vicinity of Alderley Edge, an abrupt and elevated ridge, formerly the site of a beacon, which bears the appearance of

^c In vol. II. p. 312, he is called William Farr, as he is described in the abstract of the Inq. p. m. Joh. Stanley 1 Hen. VIII. being an obvious corruption of Ferr', or Ferraris. The pedigrees of Stanley, which have been singularly confused on this subject, have hitherto called this coheir *Matilda*, and made her marry sir Jno. Ferrars, elder brother of William, who is omitted by Dugdale (Hist. Warw.) among sir J.F.'s younger brothers, though he is noticed in the will, remaining 1817 at the Prerogative office, from which Dugdale extracted the names of these brothers. Information of Pipe Wolferstan, esq. who examined the will in search of this William.

^d See the particulars of this descent under Alvanley, vol. II. p. 38, and Aldford, *ibid.* p. 411.

^e The first wife of this sir John is called Elizabeth and Isabella in Shaw's Staff II. 354, but Matilda in Stafford MSS. and in Elford church notes, Shaw, II. 383, 384, and in a pedigree, Coll. Arm. Matilda, relict of sir John Vampage. Sir Peter Leycester says, that Dorothy, daughter of Edmund Legh, of Baggiley, was the third, but the arrangement above is very satisfactorily proved by the figures of the three wives in emblazoned mantles (engraved in Shaw's Staff. vol. I. p. 384), as illustrated by a very able note by S. P. Wolferstan, esq. vol. II. App. p. 10.

^f In the event of the said John Stanley dying without male issue. Inq. taken at Chester 10 Hen. VII.

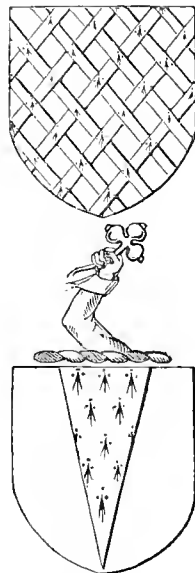
^g Harl. MSS. 2074.

having been detached by some great convulsion of nature from the range of the Macclesfield hills, as Hellesby and Beeston seem to have been from those of Delanere and Peckforton. Near the summit, cobalt ore, lead, and copper, have been got in small quantities. The sides are varied with cultivated land, wood, and rock, and the entire mass presents a striking object to all the surrounding district, over which it commands a most extensive prospect.

Heywood Hall, in Nether Alderley, was the property and residence of the Heywoods, whose heir-general, about the time of Elizabeth, married Ralph Holinshed, younger brother of Ottiwell Holinshed, of Ashby de la Zouch, the representative of the Bosley branch of the Holinsheds, of Cophurst, in Sutton^h. Early in the last century the heiress of the Heywood family married into the family of Fallows, of Fallows, in this township, whose representative, William Fallows, of Derby, esq. sold this estate, in 1801, to the present sir J. T. Stanley, bart. in whom it is now vested.



The *Fallows Hall* estate, antiently called Le Falwitz, was granted by Robert de Aldford about the time of king John, to his younger brother, Henry de Falwitz, who by deed without date, re-granted the same to his son Thomasⁱ.



Monks Heath Hall, also in this township, is the property of Davies Davenport, esq. M. P. by descent from the Wards of Monksheath, a younger branch of the Wards of Capesthorpe, whose estate they purchased early in the seventeenth century. The pedigree of both lines of this family is given in the account of Capesthorpe.

William Fallows, representative of this antient house, sold the estate about the close of the seventeenth century, to the ancestor of Thomas Parker, esq. in whom it is now vested, and removed to Heywood Hall, above-mentioned. The family subsequently removed into Derbyshire, and are now represented by William Fallows, esq. of London^j.

Soss Moss Hall, the property of sir J. T. Stanley, bart. was purchased by sir Edward Stanley, bart. in 1753, from the family of Wyche, formerly of Davenham, some of whose descendants are still remaining in this neighbourhood^k.

RECTORS OF ALDERLEY^l.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1328, 4 id. Mart.	Robertus de Elmswall, pr'b'r.	D'nus Jo. de Arderne, miles.	
1332, 11 kal. Jun.	Robertus de Eton, cl'us.	D'nus Jo. de Arderne, miles.	P. res. Rob. de Elmswall.
1338.	Robertus f. Roberti de Hampton.	D'nus Jo. de Arderne, miles.	Et quod Rob'tus de Eton duxit in uxorem Isabellam fil. Jo. de Davenport.
1345, 18 kal. Feb.	Johannes de Beston ^m , cl'us.	D'nus Jo. de Ardena, miles.	
1369.	Thomas de Tynmore.	Hen. de Tunnore rector ecc. de Elleford, et Hen. Stanley, proc's d'ni Tho. de Ardena.	
1382, 16 Julii.	Johannes de Abinhale.	D'nus Tho. de Arderne, mil.	P. res. Tho. de Tynmore.
1407.	Hugo de Toft.	Johannes de Arderne, miles.	
1416, 27 Ap.	Ricardus Stanley.	Robertus Bapthorpe, miles.	
1421, 3 Jun.	Thomas Chernock.	Robertus Bapthorpe, miles.	
1422, 10 Nov.	Ricardus Bapthorpe, cl'ns.	Thomas Venables et Robertus Bapthorpe miles.	P. m. Tho. Chernock.
1438, 1 Nov.	Ricardus Gatcliffe, pr'b'r.	Thomas Stanley de Elford, mil.	
	Oliverus Barlow.		
1501, 1 Aug.	Willielmus Tooke.	Henricus VII. hac vice.	P. m. Oliv. Barlow.
1511, 16 Jan.	Robertus Mainwaring.		Res. of Will. Tooke.
1542, 21 June.	Walter Mossocke.	Edward Fytton.	Res. of Rob. Mainwaring.
1580, 24 Ap.	Edward Bollingthell.	Bishop of Chester.	Death of Walter Mossocke.
1625, 25 Ap.	Edward Shipton, M. A.	Sir Richard Grosvenor, bart.	
1625, 26 Sept.	James Pigott.	Bishop of Chester.	Non-residence of E. Shipton.
	Edward Shipton, M. A.		
1630.	Samuel Shipton ⁿ , B. D.		Death of Edward Shipton.
1670, 7 Oct.	James Stanley ^o .	Sir Thomas Stanley, bart.	Death of Samuel Shipton.
1674, 16 June.	Samuel Corker ^p .	Sir Peter Stanley, bart.	Death of James Stanley.
1712, 16 Feb.	Thomas Croft, A. B.	Sir Bibby Lake, bart.	Death of Samuel Corker.

^h Booth's pedigrees, see Sutton.

ⁱ Ibid.

^j The arms are, Vert, a camel statant Or, usually borne quarterly with Gules, fretty Ermine, for Aldford. This coat of Aldford appears to be formed on that of the Audleys, from whom the Aldfords were probably descended. The Ardernes inherited lands in *Aldithel* from the Aldfords, temp. Hen. III. see vol. II. p. 466.

^k Sir Peter Wyche, ambassador to Constantinople for Charles I. was of this family. Magna Britannia, Cheshire, 482. A pedigree of them is given in Harl. MSS. 2040. 267. The arms allowed them in 1663-4, were, Azure, a pile Ermine; crest, an arm embowed Azure, cuffed Ermine, holding a trefoil Vert.

^l Mikael cap. de Aldeidelei is mentioned in the Moberly charters, xxv. vol. I. p. 333.

^m Living 27 Edw. III. Tabley deeds.

ⁿ See note (t) p. 303.

^o Monument at Moberly, vol. I. p. 334.

^p Buried Jan. 16, 1712.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1714, 16 May.	Charles Henchman ^p , A. M.	Hamlet Woods.	^q Ejectment of Thos. Croft.
1741, 9 Ap.	Thomas Croft.	Thomas Croft, gent.	Death of Charles Henchman.
1753, 19 Nov.	John Shrigley.	Sir Edward Stanley, bart.	Death of Thomas Croft.
1762, 8 Sept.	Ralph Carr, LL. B.	George Hartley, esq.	Res. of John Shrigley.
1805, 15 Nov.	Edward Stanley, A. M.	Sir John Thos. Stanley, bart.	Res. of Ralph Carr.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Mary.
Val. Eccl. £14. 10s. 10d.

Alderley Church is a picturesque building of grey stone, broken with numerous projections, and consists of various parts, erected at different periods, varying in height and style of architecture. It has a handsome tower, containing six bells, a nave, chancel, and side-aisles, separated from the body by four pointed arches, resting on octagonal columns, with capitals. At the east end of the south aisle is a gallery, appropriated to the Stanley family, ornamented with their armorial bearings and quarterings; and at the west end of the nave is an organ gallery, in the front of which are painted the armorial bearings of the principal families of the parish.

In the chancel is a memorial of Thomas Hollinshead, of Heawood, esq. (buried Aug. 16, 1703, ætat. 63), and a brass plate, with the following inscription:

ΕΛΠΙΖΕ ΤΙΜΩΝ ΤΟΥΣ ΓΟΝΕΙΣ
ΠΡΑΞΕΙΝ ΚΑΛΩΣ.

The memory of Edward Shipton, master of arts, and rector of this church, who dyed the eighth day of September in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand six hundred and thertye.

Here lyes below an aged sheepheard clad in heavy clay,
Those stubborn weedes which come not of unto the judgement day,

Whilom hee led and fed with welcome paine his careful sheepe,

He did not feare the mountaines highest tops, nor vallies deepe,

That he might save from hurte his fearful flocke, which was his care,

To make them strong he lost his strength, and fasted for their fare,

How they might feed, and grow, and prosper, he did daily tel,

Then having shew'd them how to feed, hee bade them all farewell.

On a slab before the altar rails:

Hic jacet
Philippus Ward
de Capesthorne armiger,
Joannis et Margaretæ
filius junior,
supervivens autem et hæres.
Uxorem habuit Penelopen,

Caroli Edmonds ar. filiam
hæredemq. ex ea suscitabat
et
reliquit Joannem.

Natus 12 }
obiit 26 } Apr. { 1635,
 } } 1687.

At the side of this is an obliterated memorial of John Ward, esq. obiit 1682.

On a flag-stone at the end of the south aisle^r, under the gallery before-mentioned:

^sHere lieth the body of
Thomas Stanley, esq.

eldest son of Thomas Stanley, esq.
and Joan, daughter of Thomas Davenport, of Henbury, esq. He married Ursula, daughter of Richard, and sister of sir Hugh Cholmondeley, kt. and had issue Thomas who died young, and Randle his h'r and successor; also Dorothy, who died unmarried; Elizabeth, married to Roger Downes, esq. of Shrigly; and Frances, married to Henry Delves, of Doddington, esq. He rebuilt the houses of Alderley and Wever: and died August the 1st, 1591.

Also the body of sir James Stanley, bart. who died without issue A. D. 1746, and was succeeded by his brother sir Edward Stanley, bart. who died at Alderley 1755.

Also the body of his sister Mary Stanley, who died unmarried at ye Park House in Alderley, 1766.^t

Bishop Gastrell in his Notitia mentions the "good school-house built of freestone, partly standing in the church-yard, with a room below to teach in, and another above for the master to lodge in." This school-house has been recently rebuilt near the church. The nomination of the master is stated by Gastrell to belong to feoffees, of whom the rector is one; and the following benefactions are mentioned by the bishop as the foundation of the establishment. £100. given by Mr. Dean for teaching the children of those who succeeded to his estate, or of any other parishioner not worth £100.; £100. left by Mr. Parker; £50. by Mr. Baguley for teaching six poor children; and £50. by Robert Norbury. Other charities are specified in the Parliamentary Return.

^p Brother to the chancellor of London and Rochester.

^q Sir Thomas Stanley sold the next presentation of the church of Alderley, in Mr. Corker's life-time, to Mr. Woods, Mr. Henchman's father-in-law, whilst the manor and its appurtenances were in mortgage to sir Bibby Lake. The mortgagee presented Mr. Croft, and Mr. Woods prosecuted Mr. Henchman, and on a process in chancery the living was decreed to Mr. Henchman. Mr. Croft outliving Mr. Henchman, succeeded him.

^r This end of the south aisle is the site of a private oratory, which was confirmed to Rowland Stanley in 1591. Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^s The first part of this inscription is a copy from an old marble stone laid below the present one.

^t In Harl. MSS. 2151. p. 94, is noticed the following inscription on a tombstone in the church-yard: "SAMUELIS SHIPTON, clerici, S. Theologiae baccalarii, et nuper rectoris de Alderley, quicquid caducum erat, hic infra reconditur, qui vita functus 7^o die, sepultus est 9^o die Augusti anno æræ Christianæ 1670, ætatis suæ 64." This incumbent was sir Peter Leycester's tutor at Brasenose (see vol. I. p. 461), and son of Edward Shipton, commemorated in the quaint epitaph above, which appears to be from his pen. Other singular inscriptions relating to his daughter are given *ibid.* 335.

In the same MS. are represented two kneeling figures bareheaded, the man and woman both being in mantles emblazoned, Gules, a chief Or, over all a bend engrailed of the second. At the right side of the man was a purse suspended from his girdle. These figures, in 1581, occupied the centre of a window of three lights at the head of the south aisle, and underneath them was written, in Longobardic characters, "Orate p'r Piers Ardenne de Ecchells et Christine sa femme." Behind the man were the ordinary coats of Arderne and Legh of Booths, and behind the woman also two coats. The first, quarterly, indented per fesse Argent and Gules; the second, Vert, three plates.

OVER ALDERLEY.

FOR the reasons given in the preceding township, the following description may be referred to Over Alderley :

"Willielmus (filius Nigelli) tenet de comite Aldrelelei; Brun tenuit et liber homo fuit. Ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est iv carucarum. Wasta fuit et est. Silva ii leuis longa et ii lata. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos."

The mesne manor of this township was held under the barons of Halton by Robert de Montalt, last baron of Mold, in the time of Edward II. His aunt Leuca, wife of Philip de Orreby, finally sole representative in blood of this family, and heiress of such lands as were not settled on the Crown, had issue one daughter, Agnes, wife of Walkelin de Arderne, and there can be little doubt that Over Alderley passed to the Ardernes by this marriage^a.

Sir John de Arderne of Aldford, third in descent from Walkelin de Arderne, gave this manor to his younger brother Peter Arderne of Etchells, whose figure, with that of his wife Christiana, was remaining in the windows of Nether Alderley church in 1581^b.

Peter Arderne of Over Alderley, son and heir of Peter and Christiana (as more fully mentioned in the accounts of Weever and Alvanley^c) purchased from his kinsman sir John Arderne of Aldford (the paramount lord of Weever), the marriage and wardship of Richard son and heir of Thomas de Wever, and married him to his daughter Margaret, which Richard de Wever, in right of his wife Margaret, succeeded to the estates of the Ardernes of Over Alderley, after the death of the other children of Peter Arderne without issue, viz. Peter, his son and heir, and Christiana, wife of John Fitton of Bollin^d.

Inq. p. m. 23 Ric. II. Thomas de Wever (issue of the above marriage) held inter alia viii messuages, and 370 acres of land and wood in Over Alderlegh, from the lord of Halton in socage by the render of viiid. per ann. val. xl. Edward de Wever son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 13 Hen. VI. Edward de Weever, ch'v'r, left issue Thomas, son and heir. The part of the *Inq.* relating to Over Alderley is defaced.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VII. Elizabeth, widow of Hugh Ewlowe, left issue Elizabeth, wife of John Done, daughter and heiress.

This Elizabeth was issue of her mother by a first husband, Thomas de Weever (found heir by the *Inq.* 13 Hen. VI. above-mentioned), and married successively sir John Stanley and sir John Done. Her wardship and marriage were given by king Henry VI. in the 24th year of his reign, "in consideration of y^e good services done him, to s'r Thom. Stanley, controuler of his house, who married her to his son John Stanley, who in her right was lord of Weever and (Over) Alderley^e," and who is commonly called *sir* John Stanley, *kt.* in the Cheshire pedigrees, but on what authority may be doubted. 1 Edw. IV. Nicholas Latham of Congleton enfeoffs lands in Knutsford to Tho-

mas lord Stanley, sir William Stanley, kt. and John Stanley, his brothers^f. 16 Edw. IV. he is noticed in an *Inq.* respecting lands in Halton, along with his son John, as "Johannes Stanley, *arm.* frater Thomæ domini Stanley^g;" and 13 Hen. VII. he is described by his widow as simply "John Stanley, her late husband, brother to the earl of Darbie."^h His usual style is however preserved in the pedigree subjoined, which gives the connection of this founder of the line of STANLEY OF ALDERLEY, with the other branches of his noble house.

Elizabeth Weever married to her second husband sir John Done of Utkinton, and by *Inq. p. m.* 4 Hen. VIII. is found to have died (seized of lands as mentioned in the account of Weeverⁱ) on Thursday in the first week in Lent. The next heir is described as not being known, but she is stated to have suffered a joint recovery with her husband sir John Done of the following premises: the manor of Weever, and lands and rents therein, and in Woodley, Romiley, Middlewich, Newton, Upton, Cliffe, Occleston, Stanthorne, Barretspoole, Rushton, Manley, Waverton, and Wymbaldesley, the manor of Over Alderley, and lands in both Alderleys and Bradbury. These she then settled on trustees to the uses of her will, and left the chief part of the same to her son Thomas Stanley and Douce his wife, and their heirs male, remainder to George Stanley his brother, similar remainders to her son Richard Done, and to William his brother, and remainders to the daughters mentioned in the pedigree. As she only survived the second marriage fourteen years, these daughters, whose husbands are mentioned, must have been issue of the first marriage; and John Stanley her son, who was of age before 16 Edw. IV. (as by *Inq.* before-mentioned) was apparently dead without issue.

II. Thomas Stanley, eldest surviving son by the first marriage of Elizabeth Weever, married to his first wife Douce, daughter of Thomas Leversage of Wheelock, before noticed, and by an *Inq.* taken after his death 1527, 18 Hen. VIII. it appears that he had married a second wife, Elizabeth then living. This *Inq.* notices his manors of Over Alderley and Weever, and his lands in other townships, chiefly as enumerated in his mother's will, and includes the particulars of a complicated settlement on trustees, which gives the names of the younger sons noticed in the pedigree.

III. Thomas Stanley, eldest son and heir, aged 21 years 18 Hen. VIII. married Johanna, daughter of Thomas Davenport of Henbury (marriage settlement dated 1521) and had livery of his father's lands 19 Hen. VIII. He died on the Monday before Christmas 1556, leaving Thomas Stanley (aged upwards of 26 years) and other issue. By *Inq. p. m.* Oct. 16, 4 and 5 Phil. and Mar. he is found to have held lands in Over Alderley from the king and queen as of their manor of Halton in socage, by the render of viiis. value xl.; also the manor of Wever, and lands in Rushton, Newton, Clive, Middlewich, Manley, Barret's Poole, Nether Alderley, Wood-

^a See pedigrees of Arderne and Montalt, and feodary of Halton.

^c Vol. II. pp. 38, 42, 113.

^e Williamson's Vill. Cest. He has written Nether instead of Over by mistake, being confused by the seat of the family being within the former township.

^f Deeds of the Lathams of Congleton. Harl. MSS. 1535, et alibi.

^g Sir John Stanley's MSS. quoting Aston deeds, 32, 6, and he is similarly described in an abstract of this *Inq.* I. D. 14 Coll. Arm.

^h Harl. MSS. 2077, 43, b.

^b See church notes in the preceding page.

^d Vide as before, and Dunham, vol. I. p. 400.

Edisbury Hundred, p. 114.

ley, Bradbury, and Upton. These lands before his death he had made over to his son by deed^k.

IV. Thomas Stanley, who thus succeeded to the family estates in his father's life-time, died in 1591, aged 61. He was buried under the private chapel of the Stanleys at Alderley, and a marble tomb-stone was placed over his grave, the inscription of which has been recently restored. A whole-length figure of him in armour was engraved on the marble, with those of five children below his feet, and his armorial shield near his head. He either rebuilt or much improved the manor-houses both of Weever and Alderley, and as he was buried at the latter place, and is uniformly styled "de Alderley," probably made that seat his chief residence.

Inq. p. m. 34 Eliz. Thomas Stanley, of Wever, esq. held the manor of Over Alderley from the queen as of her barony of Halton, as the fourth part of a knight's fee, also the manor of Wever, and lands in Cliffe, Newton, Wimbaldsley, Stanthorne, Middlewich, Barrett's Poole, Nether Alderley, Upton, Woodley, and Rushton; also the manor of Poulton Lancelyn, and lands in Spittle and Little Meoles. He died Aug. 1, 33 Eliz. Randle Stanley, son and heir, aged upwards of 3 years^l.

V. Randle, or Randolph Stanley, survived his father four years only, and died at Wever. The *Inq.* after his death was taken at Middlewich, Dec. 18, 38 Eliz. 1596, and states him to have held the lands mentioned in the *Inq.* after his father's death, and to have died June 17, 37 Eliz. leaving Thomas Stanley, his son and heir, aged 18 years, 5 months, and 3 weeks.

VI. Thomas Stanley, found heir by this *Inq.* was knighted a few years before his death, which took place in 1606. He married Elizabeth, sole daughter and heiress of sir Peter Warburton, of Grafton, kt. of whom a brief memoir has been given in the account of that township. By this marriage he obtained the townships of Anderton and Grafton, the sites of two dissolved convents (the Grey and Black Friars), and lands in various townships, the fruits of sir Peter's professional talents and exertions, to which were added the maternal hereditary estates of his lady in Derbyshire, Barlowe, Dronsfeld, and Brighton. The last-mentioned property was sold by sir Thomas Stanley and his lady for £1300, towards raising the purchase-money of the manor and advowson of Nether Alderley, which were bought by them from sir Edward Fitton of Gawsorth as before-mentioned.

Inq. p. m. 4 Jac. I. Sir Thomas Stanley, kt. held the manors of Wever, Over Alderley, Little Meoles, and Clive; and lands in Nether Alderley, Rushton, Barrett's Poole, Wymbaldsley, Stanthorne, Pulton Lancelyn, Middlewich, and Over Alderley; and the manor of Nether Alderley, with appurtenances in Over Alderley, Chorley, Hough, Warford, Chelford, Ashley, Birtles, Moburley, Offerton, Ollerton, Torkinton, Norbury, Occleston, and Sutton. He died Nov. 1, 1606. Thomas Stanley, son and heir, aged 8 years May preceding.

VII. Thomas Stanley (son and heir of sir Thomas) who succeeded to these ample estates on the death of

his father, inherited from his mother also the manors of Anderton and Grafton; estates in Chester, Barnton, Tilston, Church Shocklach, Shocklach Oviatt, Golborne Belleau, Stretton, and Guilden Sutton, with the tithes of Caldecote, Farndon, Worthenbury, and Northwich^m. To these in 1640 he added Chorley Hall by purchase, with other lands in that township. In 1631 he was sheriff of Cheshire, and after acting as a magistrate under Car. I. Cromwell, and Car. II. had the honour of being the first Cheshire gentleman who was created a baronet after the restoration. He died in 1672 at his seat of Alderley, which he had much improved, having built a handsome stone arched gateway in front of the mansion, and spacious stables. By him also was planted the beech wood bordering on the Mere, for which purpose beech mast was procured from his father-in-law's seat in Worcestershire, the tree being then of rare occurrence in Cheshireⁿ.

From this period to the present time the descent of the Stanleys is brought down on the authority of parochial registers by the pedigree annexed. Many additions have also been made to the portion of the descent which intervenes between their possession of Alderley and the commencement of registers, from a variety of settlements on widows and younger children, which are noticed in the original inquisitions, but could not be given in the abstract without perplexing the narrative.

THE ANTIEN T SEAT of the Stanleys of Alderley was situated as before-mentioned, on lands in Nether Alderley, which passed to them by the same title with this manor.

CERTAIN LANDS in this township were confirmed (by deed without date) by Robert de Montalt, seneschal of Chester, to Walter, son of Roger, son of Walraven, under the description of Over Alderley and Ulm, which appear to have been subdivided among the coheirs of the grantee. One portion was held by the family of Throstel or Throssel (qu. Trussel?) and passed with Margery, daughter and heiress of Roger Throstel, to Edmund Downes of Overton, temp. Edw. II. and was shortly afterwards in the Actons, who continued in possession until the close of the seventeenth century. It was subsequently in the families of Dukinfield and Derbyshire, and was sold by the latter in moieties, to the late Messrs. John Stonebrower of Sutton, and Joseph Cooke of Macclesfield, which moieties are vested in their respective heirs, Mr. Cooke's being now (1819) under contract to Sir John Stanley^o. The "Ulm" part of this estate is doubtless the same with the "Hulme House," hereafter noticed. The residue may perhaps be identified with the third part of a manor claimed by the Grosvenors of Allostock, described as such in a fine between Robert le Grosvenor and Richard de Mottershed, 11 Edw. III.^p, in the family of which Robert these reputed manerial rights descended; and having passed with the coheir of the Grosvenors to the Leycesters of Tabley, and from them to the present line of Leicester, were sold by sir J. F. Leicester, bart. to the present sir J. T. Stanley, bart.^q

^k "Sealed and delivered in the marled field next to the orchard of Wever." The validity of this deed was disputed by the crown, but the jurors found that it had been executed not to deprive the crown of any of its rights, but to exonerate Thomas Stanley in sickness from the care of his lands, and to enable him to provide for the younger branches of his family.

^l Poulton Lancelyn, and the lands in its hamlet of Spittle, had probably been purchased from the Greens, to whom they must have returned shortly afterwards. The manor of Little Meoles still continues vested in the Stanleys of Alderley.

^m She died in 1629; but his licence to enter on them is dated May 30, 1632.

^o Information of Sir J. T. Stanley.

^p Tabley MSS. lib. C. 128. b.

ⁿ Stanley MSS.

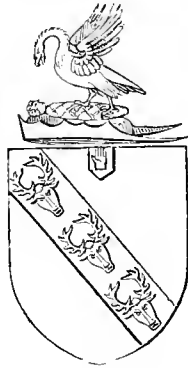
^q Abstract of title communicated by David Browne, esq.

STANLEY OF ALDERLEY.

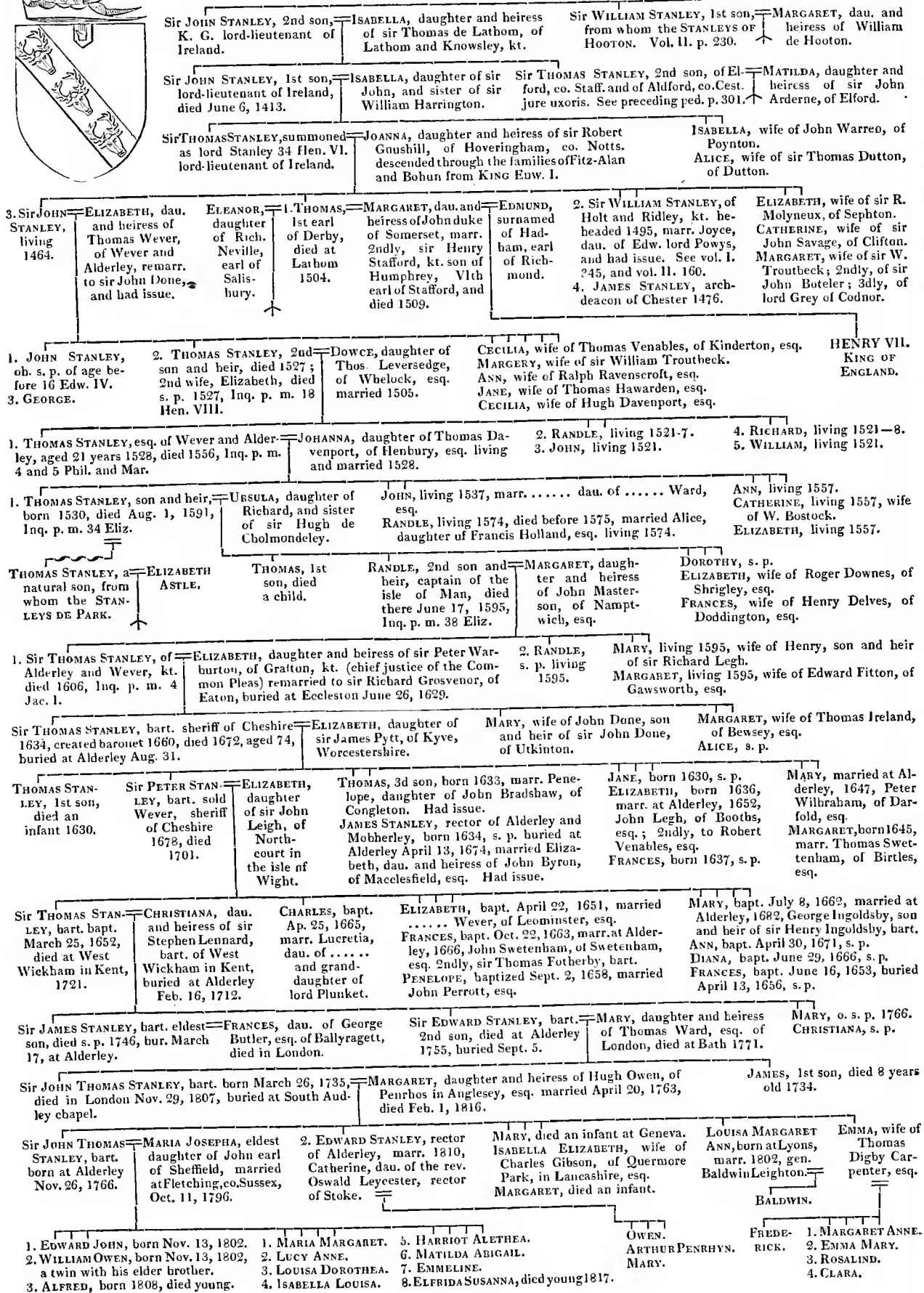
From the Visitations and other records of the College of Arms, with additions from Inquisitions and parochial registers, and the information of the family in the later descents.

ARMS. Argent, on a bend Azure, three bucks' heads cabossed Or.

CREST. On a chapeau Gules, an eagle with wings elevated Or, preying on an infant swaddled Azure, fretted Or.



Sir WILLIAM DE STANLEY, of Storeton and Stanley, kt. 26 Edw. III.



The "HULME HOUSE" or "PASTURE" estate in Over Alderley was composed of lands granted to Robert le Grosvenor about the time of Edward III. by the families of Heartgreave, Bradford, and Hulme; and passing by marriage to the Leycesters, was sold to Francis Hobson by John Leycester of Tabley, esq. 18 Hen. VII.^p This estate subsequently passed to the Downes family of Shrigley, and was sold by Peter Downes, esq. in 1784 to Joseph Fowden, esq. from whom it was purchased in 1796 by its present proprietor, Robert Hibbert, esq. of Birtles. Mr. Hibbert has since removed his residence from Birtles to the Pasture, and the whole now generally goes by the name of Birtles. On this estate are several tumuli and artificial mounds, and bones and urns

have been discovered^q.

The HAREHILLS estate in this township, the property and residence of William Hibbert, esq. is situated in the higher part of Over Alderley, adjoining to Prestbury, and was purchased from sir J. F. Leicester, bart. in 1797^r.

From this part of the township, the surface subsides to the north-east, towards the course of the Bollin, the immediate foreground is rich and well timbered, and the view opens to the Macclesfield and Derbyshire hills rising over each other with a great degree of majesty, the apparent height being much increased by the intervention of a deep valley, in which the town and church of Prestbury are situated.

GREAT WARFORD.

THIS manor (as stated by sir Peter Leycester, in the account of Bucklow hundred, vol. I. p. 376.) was originally one township with Little Warford, was held by Ranulfus after the Conquest, and was vested in his descendants the Mainwarings, temp. Hen. III.

Before the reign of Henry VI. this manor had passed to the Masseys of Puddington in Wirral hundred, as tenants in capite from the earldom.

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VI. Hamo Massy held, inter alia, in fee simple, the manor of Werford, from the king as earl of Chester, by military service.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VII. Thomas Massy of Podington, esq. held, inter alia, in fee simple, the said manor, from

the prince, as before: val. cxiiii. lvd.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VIII. Thomas Massie, esq. held as before: val. xl.

Inq. p. m. 5 Edw. VI. Sir John Massie, knight, held as before: val. xl.

Inq. p. m. 23 Eliz. William Massy, esq. as before.

Inq. p. m. 10 Jac. I. John Massey, esq. held, as before, as the xxth part of a knight's fee.

From this family the manor passed by the same title as Puddington, to the Stanleys of Hooton^s, and is now vested in their representative sir Thomas Stanley Massey Stanley, bart. who holds a court baron for the same^t.

Parish of Wilmslow,

ANTIENLY "LE BOLYN."

THERE is an obscurity with respect to the origin of this parish, and the arrangement of its present component members, which occurs in no other instance in the palatinate. WILMSLOW, in strictness, consists exclusively of the parish church and the adjacent church-yard, the town which bears the name lying chiefly in the hamlets of Hough and Dean Row, with the exception of buildings of modern date, which extend into Morley; but the parish to which the church relates contains four townships, BOLLIN FEE, the manor of which comprehends the hamlets of *Bollin cum Norcliffe*, *Dean Row*, and *Styall*; POWNALL FEE, which manor comprehends the hamlets of *Hough* and *Morley*; CHORLEY, also comprehended in the manor of Pownall Fee; and FULSHAW.

The entire parish was originally held by the Fittons, under the earl of Chester; but the grant by which it passed to them has escaped the Cheshire collectors, unless we suppose it to have passed under the general designation of "Falingbrome" (which was afterwards a part of the lordship of Bolyn), in the grant of that place from Hugh Kevelioc to sir Richard Fytun. There can at all events be no doubt that this parish and the parish of Chedle (which was held by a similar tenure to this, and like this is unnoticed in Domesday), were included at the Norman conquest, in the appendages to the earl's demesne of Macclesfield and Edulvintune.

This lordship subsequently occurs in the charter subjoined^a, under the general name of FULSHAW, taken from one of the principal members of the fee; but soon

^p Tabley MSS. c. 128. b. Sir Peter Leycester calls their estate "the landes of Hulme House, now called the Pasture." It is doubtless the same with the "Ulm" granted by Roger de Montalt, mentioned in p. 305.

^q Information of R. Hibbert, esq. One of the urns has been engraved in the Introduction to this hundred.

^r Information of J. H. Markland, esq. F. R. S. and S. A.

^s See Puddington and Hooton in Wirral Hundred.

^t Information of Mr. Ashburst, agent of sir T. S. M. Stanley, bart.

^a "Sciunt presentes et futuri, q'd ego Robertus, filius Matthei de Fulshaw, dedi d'no Ric'o Fytton militi totum jus meum et dominium de Fulshaw, viz. Fulshaw, Chorley, Pownall, Morley, et totam terram meam, et boscum de Ullerswood, viz. usque ad le stream de Siche, quod venit del Blacke Lake

afterwards (as appears by an abstract of a charter in Fulshaw), was called the lordship of Bolyn, from the contiguous river of that name.

At this period the whole parish formed one manor and vill. *Fulshaw* being granted to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, was withdrawn from this at an early period; and the residue of the lordship of Bolyn, parted between the two coheireses of Richard Venables, forms the existing manors of Bollin fee and Pownal fee.

I. Sir Richard de Phiton, grantee of Fallybrome from Hugh Kevelioc, and not improbably (from the correspondence of the armorial bearings of the Fittons to those of this earl) a kinsman of his local sovereign, had issue—

II. Richard Fyton, who was justiciary of Chester 17—21 Hen. III. and granted Fulshaw to the order of St. John of Jerusalem.

By deed s. d. (Harl. MSS. 2074. 184.) John “de Scocia, com. Cest. et Huntingd.” grants to this Richard Fyton of *Bolyn*, acquittance for himself and his tenants from serjeants puture and toll through all Cheshire, and acquittance from finding a juror (judicator) in the hundred court of Macclesfield, and warrants observance of this grant from his tenants and heirs under the penalty of x*l*. Test’ Will’ de Cantelupe, ju’, Rob’to de Campa’, Rog’ *Hell*^b senescall. Cestr’, War’ de Vernon, Ham’ de Mascy, Will’ de Venables, Will’ de Malopassu, &c. Ric’ de Wibbenbury tunc vic’ Cestr’.

By Inq. 30 Hen. III. the same Richard Fitton is found to have held two bovates of land in his manor of Bolyn (which are valued at *1s.* and are stated to have produced 18 colts yearly for his manor), by the service of attending at Chester in the king’s army, at the king’s charge, with all his family, armed with and bows. Hugh Fyton son and heir.

III. Hugh Phiton or Fyton had a grant of Rushton and Eaton, with various privileges, from John Scot earl of Chester^c; but this grant being voided by felony, (by which we are probably to understand the uncompromised result of one of the affrays common in that turbulent period,) the said manors were re-granted to John de Gray, whose son Reginald had a confirmation from

IV. Edmund Phiton, son of Hugh before-mentioned. This Edmund (called Edward by a clerical error in *Leycester’s Antiquities*) had issue John Fitton of Bollin, Thomas Fitton, possessed of Gawsorth by marriage (of whose descendants an ample account has been already given^d), and Hugh, rector of Wilmslow.

V. John Fitton of Bollin had issue by Cecilia, daughter and heiress of Hamon de Mascy, Richard Fitton son and heir; and 11 Edw. III. obtains by two fines from Hugh de Fytone, parson of Wilmslow, the manor of Bolyne, with the advowson of Wilmslow church, and lands, cum pert. in Pownall, Chorley, and “ffalingbromb,” for life; remainder to Richard, son of John Fytone; remainder to John, son of Richard, and Christian his wife; remainder

to Hamon, brother of John, son of Richard; remainder to Francis, brother of Hamon; remainder to the right heirs of John^e.

VI. By deed s. d. (Harl. MSS. 2074. 185.) this Richard son of John grants to Richard son of Robert de Boline all his land of Pownall, which Ellen, wife of his grandfather Edmund, had held in dower, and which is described in the charter to be held (saving the rights of the religious orders), with housebold and haybold, acquittance from pannage from himself and tenants, acquittance from puture to his foresters and serjeants, from toll and stallage, suit to his court, and work at his mill, reserving, however, x*iiii*d. rent, foreign service, and a modified toll at his mill. Witnesses, sir Geoffry de Chedle, and sir Adam de Dutton, Thomas Clerk bailiff of Macclesfield, and others.

The exemptions granted by this charter are observable, as it ascertains the antient lords of Bolyn to have had their own perambulating serjeants of the peace and foresters for their fee, a privilege in other cases confined exclusively to the barons of the palatinate.

(VII.) John Fitton, eldest son of Richard last named, died without issue, and the direct male line terminated about 42 Edw. III. in Peter Fitton, son of Hamon (also before mentioned), whose sister and heiress Johanna married Richard Venables, younger son of Hugh Venables of Kinderton, and afterwards Oliver de Staveley or Stayley, in conjunction with whom she presented to the church of Thornton-le-Moors 1405—9.

In 12 Ric. II. and probably in consequence of this second marriage, an inquisition was taken, by which it was found that Johanna, daughter of Hamon Fitton of Bolyn, held in demesne, as of fee, a 7th part of all sir Peter Thornton’s lands in Kingsley, Norley, Onston, Stoke, and Arrowe, from the earldom in capite; val. *11*l*. xviii*s*. vi*d*.*: and also the manor of *Bolyn* in Macclesfield hundred, from the lady Johanna de Mohun, as of her manor, or hundred and manor of Macclesfield, by military service, and vs. rent; val. *1*l*.*: and that William, son of the said Johanna by her first husband Richard Venables, was next heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. IV. William de Venables of Bolyn, chivaler, held, in demesne, as of fee (inter alia), the manor of Bolyn, cum pert. in the forest of Macclesfield, and the advowson of Wilmslow church, from the earl, as of his demesne of the hundred and lordship of Macclesfield, by military service, and vs. rent (viz. *11*s*.* for Fulshall, and *11*s*.* for Fallibrome) and by finding xxx*iiii* men for a guard in the Combes in Macclesfield forest in hunting time, and repairing lxx*ii* roods and a half of the fence of the Combes when necessary, at his own expence: val. *l*xl*.* Richard Venables, son of the said Johanna by her first husband, Richard Venables, next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. V. Richard, son of William Venables of Bolyn, held, inter alia, two parts of the said

de Shaders Mosse, et sic descendendo le Siche donec cadat in Bollin, cum hamletis de Styall, et Curbichley et Northcliffé, Rylands, Stoneylands, et Hawthorne, et totum aliud dominium dicto feodo pertinens. Testibus Radulfo le Mainwaringe tum J. Cest. Roberto de Monbauld, Senesc. Cest. Rob’to Patricio, Hamone de Mascy, Warino de Vernon, Liulpho de Twemlow, tum Vic. Cest. Simone Tuschet, et mult. aliis.—*Leycester’s Tabley MSS.* and Harl. MSS. 2074.—The terra mea et boscus meus de *Ullerswood*, situated on a streamlet descending from *Shaders Moss*, and called in another deed *Ulfesford*, was unquestionably placed between *Oversleyford* and *Shadow Moss*, to the North of Styall and Bollin, and gave name to a neighbouring fortress called *Ullerswda* by one ancient chronicle, and *Ullerswelle* by another, (see vol. I. 405, note,) which was held by Hamon de Masci, with his baronial castle of Dunham, against Henry II. and has never been previously identified. About one mile west of this point, on the bank of the Bollin, (within the barony of Dunham and hundred of Bucklow) is *Castle Mill*, where are the vestiges of earthworks, which Mr. Watson boldly pronounced to be the remains of the Roman station which Mr. Whitaker expected to find at Handford. (See note, p. 277.) The Norman castellet might certainly be grafted on the remains of Roman works; but, whatever may be thought of the previous fort, there can be no doubt that the later one occupied the spot in question.

^b Qu. whether this well-known epithet of the Constable is not an interpolation, instead of “de Laci,” or “Constah. Cest.” in the original charter.

^c Vol. II. p. 130.

^d Vide p. 290.

^e Williamson’s Fines, p. 20.

manor and advowson, by tenure as in the preceding inquisition. Alice and Douce sisters and coheireses.

Between these coheireses, severally wives of sir Edmund Trafford of Trafford, near Manchester, and sir Robert Booth, a younger son of Booth of Barton, the Venables estates were divided, as more fully mentioned in the account of Dunham Massey.

POWNALL FEE,

Or the Trafford moiety of the original vill of Bolyn, including the advowson of Wilmslow, is noticed as follows in the inquisitions :

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VIII. Sir Edmund Trafford, knight (grandson of sir Edmund above-mentioned), held, inter alia, a moiety of the manor of Bolyn, and a moiety of the manor of Northcliffe, the advowson of the church of Winslowe, and lands in Northernden, from the king as earl of Chester, by military service : val. XLIII. Edmund Trafford son and heir, aged 28 years.

Inq. p. m. 25 Hen. VIII. Sir Edmund Trafford, knight, held, inter alia, a moiety of the manor of Bolyn, and lands in Wymslowe, Chorley, Northcliffe, and Morley, from the king as earl of Chester, by military service : val. LI. III. s. IVD. Edmund Trafford son and heir, aged 26 years.

Sir Edmund Trafford, found heir by this inquisition, had issue another sir Edmund, who entered the family pedigree in the visitation of 1567. From him Trafford, with its dependencies (including the Pownall Fee in Wilmslow), descended to Humphrey Trafford, esq. who died without issue in 1779^f, whereupon the same passed to the Traffords of Croston, representatives of John Trafford, esq. great uncle of the said Humphrey, in which family, now of Trafford, Pownall Fee is vested.

A court baron is held for the manor, which extends over Chorley, Hough, and Morley. The constables are sworn into their office at the court leet held for Macclesfield hundred.

BOLLIN FEE,

Or the moiety which vested in the Booths, occurs in the inquisitions as follows :

Inq. p. m. 17 Edw. IV. Sir William Booth, knight, held, inter alia, for life, the manor house of Bolyn, and lands in the demesnes of Bolyn, Denerowe, Styall, and Pownall, from the earl of Chester as of his demesne of the hundred and manor of Macclesfield, by joint performance with sir John Trafford, knight, of the forest service before specified : val. XLI.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VIII. Sir William Booth, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Bolyn, and lands as before, by the joint service before-mentioned : val. LI. I. s. IVD.

Inq. p. m. 35 Hen. VIII. George Booth held, inter

alia, lands in Bolyn and Wymslow, as in the last inquisition : val. XLV l.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Sir William Booth, knight, held, inter alia, lands and tenements in Wilmslowe, Bollyne, Deaneroe, Styall, Pownall, and Falligreve, as before, by the joint service in the forest of Macclesfield before-mentioned.

From the heiress of the Booths, Bollin fee passed with Dunham Massey to her son, the present earl of Stamford, who holds a court baron for the same, the jurisdiction of which comprizes Bollin cum Norcliffe, Dean Row, and Styall^g. The constables are sworn into their office at the court leet held for Macclesfield hundred.

BOLLIN HALL is an ancient brick-built farm-house, situated east of the church and town of Wilmslow, near the bank of the Bollin, and probably occupies the site of the original seat of the Fittons.

A branch of the Davenport family, probably from Chorley or Woodford, was settled in *Hough* at the time of the civil wars of the seventeenth century, the representative of which, John Davenport, gent. had lands in Hough and Foxwiste, in right of his wife, both of which were sequestered^h. This appears to be the John Davenport mentioned in the Mere pedigree (vol. I. p. 363.) as leaving four daughters and coheiresesⁱ, of whom Parnel married William Mere, esq. and had Peter Mere, who settled in Hough after the sale of his paternal estate.

In *Styall*, a family of the name of *Ryle* was settled in the sixteenth century, and occurs in the following monuments, (p. 313.) being probably a branch of the Ryles of Ryle or Ryll, in Stockport parish, noticed in deeds of a very early period.

HAWTHORNE HALL is an antient respectable mansion of brick, situated south-west of the town, within the hamlet of Morley. It was vested at an early period in the Lathoms of Irlam, in the county of Lancaster, and passed through the Leighs, and possibly other families, to the Pages of Eardshaw^k. Thomas Leigh Page, esq. representative of the Pages of Hawthorne, alienated this seat to Mr. Ralph Bower of Wilmslow, and it was the property of his children in 1817.

POWNALL HALL, also in Morley, has been recently taken down and new built. This place and its demesne gave name at an early period to a family yet numerous in Cheshire ; one branch of which continued settled in this parish when the manor of Bollin was divided between the Traffords and the Booths^l. The direct line terminated about 1328 in Robert de Pownall, from whom Pownall Hall descended, through a branch of the Fittons, to the Newtons of Newton near Butley, whose descent is given in the pedigree annexed.

The Hall of Pownall passed with Catherine Newton to Peter Mainwaring of Smallwood, in Northwich hundred, from whose representatives or their successors it was purchased by Mr. John Worrall, proprietor in 1817.

^f Trafford Pedigree, Coll. Arm. No. 90, I. C. B.

^h Harl. MSS. 2130.

ⁱ MSS. in the hand-writing of Mr. Nathaniel Mere, in the possession of Dr. Latham.

^k It is said to have been settled by sir Thomas de Lathom on his reputed son sir Oskatel, with Irlam and Urmeston. Hist. of Stanley, 4to edit. p. 26. The Leighs of this place used the East Hall coat, yet remaining in the windows of the Hawthorne chancel at Wilmslow. The Pages, next proprietors, are said to have inherited by devise. Leigh Page, esq. first of Hawthorne, was sheriff of Cheshire in 1733.

^l Leicester, Hist. Chesh. vol. I. p. 400.

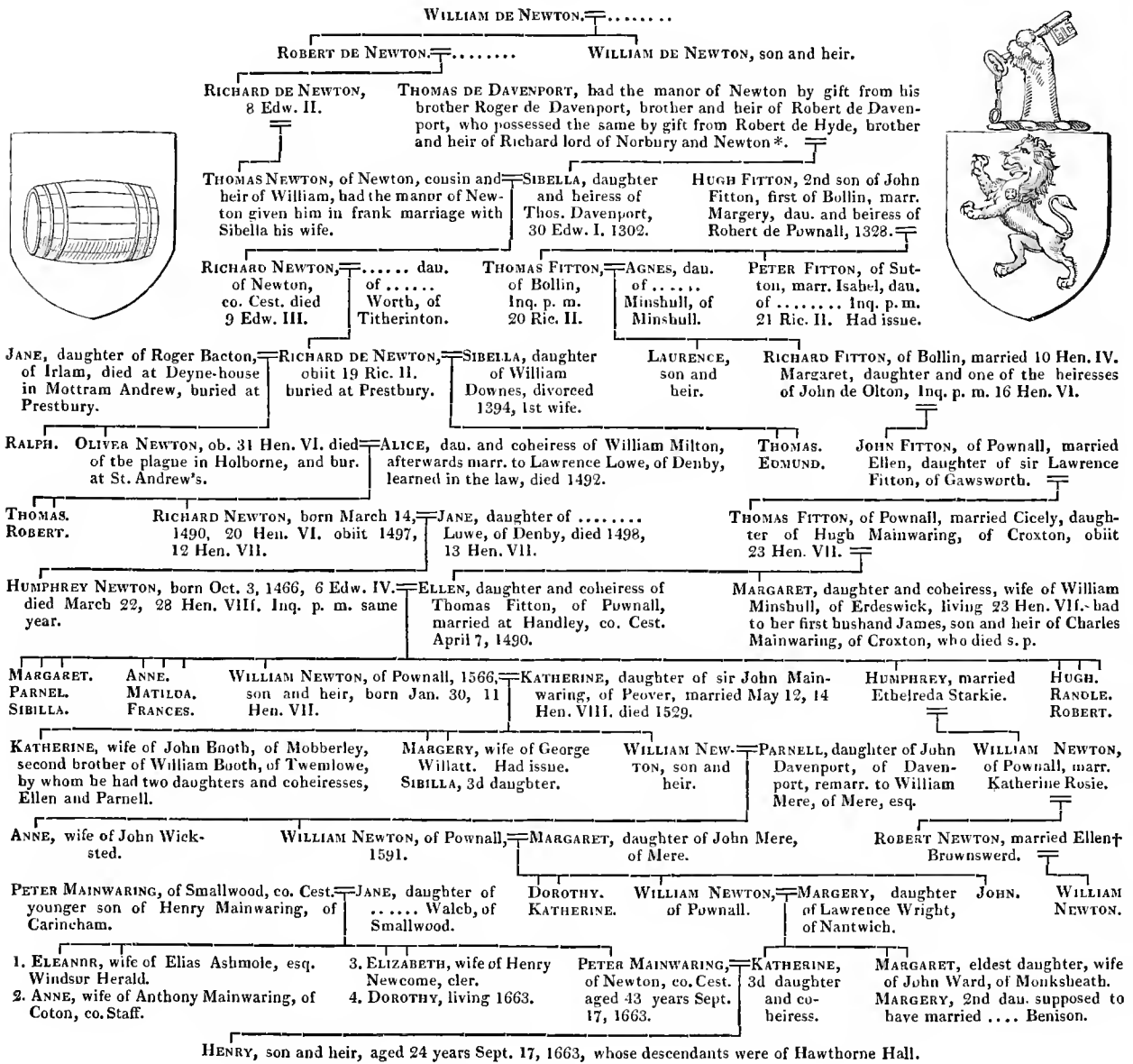
^g Information communicated by the earl of Stamford.

FITTON OF POWNALL AND NEWTON OF NEWTON AND POWNALL.

From Booth, with additions from an antient MS. pedigree, and the Inquisitions.

For ARMS OF FITTON, See p. 292.

ARMS OF NEWTON. Vert, a ton Or; and sometimes Argent, a lion rampant Sable, on the shoulder a cross patée Or. CREST. A lion's paw Sable holding a key Or, to which is a chain dependant, fastened to a ring Or.



HENRY, son and heir, aged 24 years Sept. 17, 1663, whose descendants were of Hawthorne Hall.

RECTORS OF WILMSLOW.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
	Hugo Fitton.		
1349, 2 id. Sept.	Thomas de Chatterton. Thomas Fforst.	Ricardus Fitton, d'us de Bollyn.	P. m. Hug. Fitton.
1412, 28 Ap.	Galfridus Boseley, cap. Willielmus de Bothe.	Oliverus Staveley, arm.	P. — Tho. Fforst.
1418, 26 Julii	Georgius Radcliffe.	Robertus Radcliffe et Johanna ux. cjus.	P. res. W. de Bothe.
1419, 11 Sep.	Galfridus Boseley. Georgius Radcliffe.	Rob. del Boothe qui recup. adv.	Galf. Boseley ult. rect. per default.
1425, 20 Oct. 1456.	Ricardus Radcliffe. Radulphus Davenport.	Rob. Boothe, arm.	P. res. Geo. Radcliffe.
1500, 13 Feb.	Robertus Broke, cap.	Jo. ep'us Cov. et Lichf.	P. m. Ran'i Davenport.

* This Richard does not appear in the Hyde pedigree; and according to the family MSS. the alienator was sir John Hyde, son of Robert, who lived temp. Edw. III. sed quare?

† She was probably daughter of John Brownswerd, schoolmaster of Macclesfield. See the account of Thomas Newton in Butley.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1522 ante.	Henry Trafford, D. D. ^p		P. m. Henry Trafford.
1537 circa.	Henry Ryle.		Res. of Henry Ryle.
1542.	Henry Trafford. ^q	Edmund Trafford.	Death of H. Trafford.
1591, 30 Sept.	William Massie, B. D. ^r		Death of Will. Massie.
1610, 27 Aug.	Thomas Wright.	Laurence Wright.	
1654, 12 Dec. ante.	John Brereton. ^s		
1660.	Thomas Wright. ^t		Restored.
1661, 28 Nov.	Peter Ledsham.	Sir Cecil Trafford.	Death of Thos. Wright.
1673, 16 Feb.	Francis Mosley. ^u	John Newton.	Res. of Peter Ledsham.
1699, 24 Aug.	John Usherwood, A. M.	Roger Rogers.	Death of Fran. Mosley.
1705, 9 Dec.	Joshua Wakefield.	John Harrison.	Death of J. Usherwood.
1713, 21 Nov.	Henry Moore, D. D.	John Harrison.	Res. of J. Wakefield.
1770, 4 March.	Edward Berresford, A. M.	Gilbert Berresford.	Death of Henry Moore.
1787, 16 Ap.	Croxton Johnson, LL.B.	Geo. Johnson, esq.	Death of Edw. Berresford.
1814, 28 March.	Joseph Bradshaw, A. M.	John Clowes, clerk, M.A.	Death of Crox. Johnson.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Bartholomew.

Tax P. N. £8. Val. Eccl. £32. 15s.

The church is situated in the lowest part of the town, near the bank of the river, and consists of a handsome tower, containing six bells, a nave, chancel, and side aisles, which terminate in other chancels appropriated to the lordships of Bollin Fee and Pownall Fee. The nave is divided from the side aisles by five pointed arches on each side, resting on octagonal pillars, and the chancel is divided from the subordinate oratories by two wider pointed arches.

In the chancel windows are the arms of Thornton and Fitton, in ancient painted glass^x.

Before the altar rails is a slab of coarse marble, on which are brasses representing the recumbent figures of sir Robert Booth of Dunham, and Douce Venables his wife. The knight is in plate armour, clasping the hand of his lady, and a greyhound at his feet. A smaller dog of the same kind at his lady's feet. At the corners of the tomb are the arms of Massey, Thornton, Fitton, and a fourth coat (Booth, Harl. MSS. 2151. 61.) now defaced. The inscription is as follows; the letters in Italics are on loose pieces of brass, which have been broken from the slab^y, and those in hooks are restored from the Somerford MSS. 3. 139.

Hic jacet corpus Roberti del Bothe militis quond[am]
d'ni de Bolyn, Thorneton, et Dunh'm, qui obiit in festo
s'ce Teclæ virginis anno Domini mill'mo c [ccc°] lx°

^p Henry Trafford, D.D. built the chancel 1522, made the tombe north of the communion rails. He was a younger brother of the Traffords of Trafford. Par. Reg.

^q Sept. 1591. The 3 day dyed Heneric Trafford, parson of Wilmesloe, at three of the clocke in the morninge, and was buried in the tombe the 4 day in w^c tombe his uncle was buried before. Par. Reg.

^r William Massie, B. D. buried July 29, 1610, in the same tomb with the two Traffords. He was a younger brother of the Sale family. Par. Reg.

^s Most probably the puritan who ejected Wright. He occurs in this baptismal entry: 1654, Dec. 12, Susanna, daughter of Mr. John Brereton, rector, bapt. He was turned out at the restoration. See Calamy.

^t This incumbent was a younger brother of the Nantwich family, see pedigree in Mottram Andrew. His living and estate were sequestered, and he was regularly besieged in his parsonage-house by colonel Dukensfield. Tradition, which asserts him to have survived the restoration, and to have been reinstated in his living at a great age, is confirmed by the Par. Reg. as follows:

October 1661. The 20 day aboute nyne of the clocke in the night, Mr. Thomas Wright, gentleman and parsonn of Wilmeslow, ended his lyfe, and was buried in the tombe on the northe syde of the chancell, the 23d day of the same month of October, 1661.

^u Fellow of Manchester college, and a younger brother of the family of Moseley of Ancoats.

^x In 1572, there were also the arms of Trafford and Hellesby, and in the centre the kneeling figure of an ecclesiastic, under which, "Orate pro anima Henrici Trafforde, quondam rector istius ecclesiæ, qui istud sacellum fecit, et obiit 1537." Wilmslow church notes, anno 1572. Harl. MSS. 2151, 61.

^y The fragments were laid in the vestry in 1817, and might be easily restored. The inscription possesses considerable interest, as being the memorial of the first Cheshire male ancestor of the Booths, and of the heiress of Dunham Massey and the Bollin; and it is the only inscription now remaining in the county relating to any of the warriors who fell at Blore Heath. Sir Peter Leycester erroneously supposes this sir Robert Booth to have died 29 Hen. VI.

^z This chancel was antiently called Jesus' aisle, and more than one chantry priest was maintained in it. In 1572 a stone here was inscribed, "hic jacet corpus d'ni Henrici Knight, primi cantariste de Jesu." Harl. MSS. 2151.

In the same MS. are drawings of the two figures under arches in a perfect state, which refer to Humphrey Newton and his wife, the heiress of Pownall. He had three tons under his head, and on his scroll, and along the edge of the tomb, was inscribed: "Orate pro Humphrido Newton de Pownall armigero, et Elena uxore ejus fil. et hered. Tho. Fitton et Cecilie ux. ejus, qui obiit A. D. m.cccccc."

et corpus Dulcie ux'is d'ci Rob'ti del Bothe que obiit in
crastino s'cte be'e Virginis anno Domini mill'mo cccc°
quinquagesimo tercio, quorum animabus p'p'tietur
Deus. Amen.

On the north side of the altar rails, is the figure of an ecclesiastic, recumbent on an altar tomb; and round the edges of the tomb the following inscription:

Hic jacet corp. M^r. Henr'ci Treffort, sacre theologie
doctor. lice'ciat. quo'd' ca'celarii metropolit' eccl'ie Ebor'
et rector. de Holton, et rector. etia' eccl'ie de Siglisthorn,
et i'ti' eccl'ie, qui obiit primo die me's' Augusti ann'
D'ni mccccxxvii. cuj' ai'e o'ipote's De' sit p'p'ti'.

Under his head is a clasped book, on the leaves of which is also a mutilated inscription.

On slabs before the altar are memorials of the following rectors:

- Croxton Johnson, died 30 Jan. 1814, aged 53.
- Peter Ledsham, died 22 July 1678.
- John Usherwood, died 3 Oct. 1705, aged 39.
- On other slabs are also memorials of Samuel Finney, grandson of Samuel Finney of Fulshaw, esq. nephew of Samuel Finney of Fulshaw, and of Oversly Ford, esq. died 22 Feb. 1795, aged 32 years; and of Peter Davenport Finney, of Fulshaw Hall, esq. who died 22 Sept. 1800, aged 66.

In the Pownall Fee chancel are two wide arches with canopies, sunk in the wall, under which are two altar tombs. On the first is the figure of an ecclesiastic, holding a scroll, on which the word Newton only remains; on the other, the recumbent figure of a female, with a garb under her head^z.

In the windows are the remains of a coat in painted glass, with damasked grounds, being that of Newton, with six quarterings. 1. Vert, a ton Or, Newton; 2. Fitton, Argent, on a bend Azure, three garbs Or, a crescent for difference; 3. Argent, three ravens' heads erased Sable; 4. Argent, on a cross engrailed Azure, five garbs Or, Milneton; 5. and 6. defaced. Impalement, Mainwaring, Argent, two bars, colours gone^z.

Underneath are the fragments of several mutilated in-

scriptions, containing the names of Humphrey Newton, Elena his wife, daughter of Thomas Fitton, William Newton of Pownall, their son, and his wife Katherine "filia Joh'is Maynwaring de Pevour, milit."

There is a chancel of later date, built by the Leighs of Hawthorn Hall, which projects into the church-yard on the south side. In the windows are the arms and crest of Legh of East Hall in High Legh, with a filial distinction.

CHORLEY.

THE manerial rights in Chorley have been already stated to be appendant to the royalty of Pownall Fee, in this parish.

Chorley Hall is an antient mansion, now occupied by farmers, situated within a moat, in a retired part of the township, lying west of Alderley Edge. It is approached by a small narrow bridge, and consists partly of stone, finished with bay-windows and pointed door-ways, and partly of timber and plaister. In the centre of the house has been one of the large halls usual in the houses of the more considerable Cheshire gentry, with a passage crossing the lower end, from the interior of the quadrangle to the outside of the building, and communicating with the buttery and other offices.

This seat, with its demesne, was the property of the Hanfords of Chorley, and passed with their daughter and heiress to Thomas Davenport, a younger brother of Sir Ralph Davenport, of Davenport, in whose de-

scendants (according to the annexed pedigree by Booth) it remained vested for four generations. After two intermediate sales to the families of Downes and Hobson, the same was conveyed by the latter family, about the middle of the seventeenth century, to Sir Thomas Stanley, of Alderley, whose representative, Sir J. T. Stanley, bart. is the present proprietor (1817).

DAVENPORT OF CHORLEY.

THOMAS DAVENPORT, younger son of — ELIZABETH, daughter and heiress of Robert Hanford, of Chorley.

ROBERT DAVENPORT, of Chorley. — ELIZABETH, daughter of Bellot.

WILLIAM DAVENPORT, of Chorley. — GRACE, daughter of Fulke Dutton.

HENRY DAVENPORT, of Chorley. — JANE, daughter of William Leycester, of Chester.

WILLIAM DAVENPORT, of Chorley, who — daughter of Bromley, co. Salop.

HENRY.



^z The 5th and 6th quarters were Oulton and Wrenbury, Harl. MSS. 2151, and the inscription underneath: "Orate pro Willielmo Newton, filio et herede Humphridi, et Katherina uxore ejus, filia Jobannis Manwaringe de Pevour militis."

In a window of the same aisle were the same coats (Harl. MSS. 2151) unimpaled, and underneath, "Orate pro Humphrido Newton de Pownall, armigero, et Elena uxore ejus filia et herede Thome Fitton armigeri, filii Johannis, filii Ricardi, filii Thome, filii Hugonis Fitton, fratris Ricardi Fitton, quondam domini de Bulyn 1523."

In another window of the same aisle were two sets of kneeling figures, each containing a knight in mail armour and a lady with emblazoned mantle; over the first pair, Honford impaling Argent, three lozenges in pale Sable; over the second, Trafford impaling the same coat as the last, and quartering Fitton, Thornton, and Hellesby. Under the last pair, "Orate pro a'abus d'ni Edmundi Trafford mil', et d'ne Margarete uxoris sue, necnon p' a'abus filior' et filiar' qui istam fenestram fieri fec'nt, an'o D'ni M.cccc—"

The lady was daughter of sir John Savage of Clifton, and as the same person is said to be included in both sets of figures, she must have been widow of William Honford of Honford. See Honford pedigree in Cheadle parish.

FULSHAW.

FROM a charter which has been given in the preceding account of Wilmslow, it appears that Fulshaw originally gave name to the entire fee of the Fittons in this parish, of which the vill now known by the designation of Fulshaw was a dependent member.

By deed without date (Harl. MSS. 2074. 183, b.) Richard Fytun, lord of Bolyn, grants to God and St. Mary, and the holy hospital of Jerusalem, and the brethren serving God there, for the souls of himself and his ancestors, and their good offices and prayers, all his demesne land of Fulshawe, the boundaries of which are specified in the Charter. Witnesses, Warin de Vernon, Hugh (Hamon?) de Masey, Hugh de Venables, knights, Henry de Honford, Stephen de Bredbury, Richard de Hyde, and others.

A court leet and court baron are now held by the duke of Leeds at Fulshaw, for this manor, as an appendage to the former Preceptory of that dissolved order at Iveley, in Derbyshire, of which the Duke is lessee under the Crown^a.

The lands of the township were granted out by the Order at an early period.

Harl. MSS. 2074, 183, b. Joseph Chauncie, prior of the Order in England, with assent of Chapter, grants to Richard del Short and Robert Crosse de Fulshagh, and the heirs of their bodies, "totum manerium nostrum de Fulshagh," belonging to the Order, by gift of Richard Fyton, reserving to the said Order the royalty, three shillings rent previously paid, and the tithes of newly cultivated lands, or those to be hereafter cultivated, stipulating also that the same shall be held by

the yearly payment of ls. rent. to the manor of Iveley, by giving the second best hog for pannage, and by finding lodging yearly for the warden of the preceptory of Iveley, or paying half a mark of silver in lieu thereof, and covenanting that one third of all the goods of the tenants there shall remain to the use of the Order. Dated at Malcheburne, Michaelmas, 1277.

"5 Eliz. Humphrey Newton obtained by fine, of Thomas, son and heir of Edmund de Verdon, the manor of Fulshaw; and 39 Eliz. William Newton passed over this manor, &c. six messuages, eight cottages, and 300 acres of land, &c. to Thomas Leigh, esq. for £.200^b."

In 1666 (Harl. MSS. 2010.) the vill was in moieties between the Newtons and the Lathoms of Hawthorne Hall, and of Irlam, in Lancashire.

Soon afterwards Newton's moiety was sold to Roger Wilbraham, and was purchased from him in 1682, by Samuel Finney. This moiety has passed, by regular descent, to the present proprietor, Peter Davenport Finney, esq. now of Worcester College, Oxford^a.

The Lathom moiety of Fulshaw passed, with other estates, to John Leigh; from whom, through great variety of successive possessors, it had passed, in the year 1787, to Mr. Page, of Hawthorne. About the year 1800 it was sold in small parcels, and each several tenement has now (1819) its own proprietor^a.

Fulshaw Hall, situated about one mile south of Wilmslow, near the road to Congleton, is a respectable brick mansion, with stone ornaments, bay-windows, and gables^c.

In the same aisle, in the east window, an ecclesiastic kneeling between the arms of Fitton and Trafford; the latter, Argent, *three griffins segreant Gules*, two and one. Inscription: "Orate p' a'i'a Henrici Trafford."

In the south aisle were these sets of figures, represented in Harl. MSS. 2151, 62.

In the first window, a knight kneeling, surcoat Fitton, behind him these arms: 1. Fitton, chevron coat. 2. Swettenham. 3. Betchton. 4. Fitton of Gawsworth. Under this coat nine sons, the first in armour, spurs, and surcoat. On the other side, his wife kneeling under the arms of Brereton, her mantle corresponding, and six daughters behind her.

In the second window, a Trafford and his wife kneeling, with five sons and six daughters behind them. Trafford quartering Fitton, Thornton, and Hellesby. The lady's arms, 1 and 4, paly of six Or and Azure, over all a bend Argent, Langford. 2 and 3, quarterly, Argent and Gules. "Orate pro animabus Edmundi Trafford armig. et Elizabeth' uxoris sue qui istam fenestram fieri fec'unt, a° D'ni m° ccccc° xx° iii°."

The third window contained a similar group of the Booth family, five sons and five daughters. Shield of arms, Booth and the surcoat emblazoned, 1 and 4, Masey of Dunham (for Booth), 2. Fitton, and 3. Thornton, and the lady's shield and mantle, Argent, an eagle displayed Sable. "Orate p' a'i'abus Will'i Boothe mil', et Elene ux' sue, et a'i'abus filior' suor', qui hanc fenestram fieri fec'unt, an. D'ni m° ccccc° xx° vi°."

In the fourth and fifth windows, a man in a "murrey gowne kneeling before a desk. Orate p' a'i'a Thome Ryle qui istam fenestram fieri fecit, anno D'ni m° ccccc° xxv°." This Tho. died before his father, and built Ryles chappell in the said church."

In this chapel, (called "Ryle's chappell upon the south side of the church," p. 62, b, and *ibid.* "the lord Booth's chancell, late called Ryle's chancell," by which the east end of the south aisle appears to be intended) the following inscription is said to have been in the east window:

"Orate p' bono statu Henrici Ryle de Styall, Margarete et Isabelle uxorum suorum, et puerorum suorum, qui quidem Henricus hanc capellam una cum hac fenestra fieri fecit, a° m. ccccc° xx° iii°."

Here also an altar tomb was inscribed; "Here lyeth the body of Richard Booth, first son of sir William Booth, of Dunham Massy, who departed this life the 28th day of March, an'o 1620."

In the same aisle were also other inscriptions, commemorative of sir William Booth and Ellen his wife. William Trafford, esq. and Margery his wife. Sir Edmund Trafford and Elizabeth his wife. George Booth, esq. and his wife. Jasper Worth, esq. (ob. Feb. 18, 1572), and Alice his wife, daughter of Philip Draycot, ob. March 11, 1596.

The *Charities* are specified in the Parliamentary Return at the end of the hundred. There is a small endowed school, which originated in benefactions amounting to 100l.; of which 60l. was given by Mr. Hough, rector of Thornton le Moors, 20l. by Mr. Latham of Irlam, and 10l. each by Mr. Pownall and Mr. Bostock. The appointment of the master is in the parish. Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^a Information of Peter Davenport Finney, esq.

^b Vill. Cest.

^c The Finneys (of whom some memorials will be found in the account of Wilmslow Church) represent the Lathoms of Irlam and Hawthorne, in the female line, by the marriage of John Finney with Jane, daughter and heiress of Thomas Lathom of Irlam, in 1693. There is a scarce oval print of Samuel Finney, of Fulshaw, esq. enamel-painter to the Queen (obit 1798) by Mr. William Ford, of Manchester, which was destroyed in an unfinished state, only *twelve* impressions having been taken.

Northenden Parish

CONTAINS Northenden, and part of Etchells, and is bounded by the Mersey (which separates it from Lancashire), the hundred of Bucklow, and the parishes of Wilmslow, Stockport, and Cheadle.

NORTHENDEN.

FROM the following extract from Domesday, it appears that Northenden was divided between Ranulfus and Bigot.

“Ranulfus et Bigot tenent de comite Norwordine. Ulviet tenuit pro uno manerio et liber homo fuit; ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est 11 carucarum: wasta est. Ibi ecclesia et 11 quarentenæ silvæ: valet 111 solidos. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x solidos.”

It is most probable that the moiety of Bigot was co-extensive with that part of Etchells which was of the fee of his successors the lords of Aldford; and that Ranulfus gave the other moiety to the barons of Dunham Mascy, by whom it was conferred, with the advowson of the church, on Chester abbey^a, who claimed view of frank pledge here 33 Edw. III.^b

The barons of Dunham had also one moiety of Etchells, and a paramount interest in the Aldford share of that manor, of which hereafter.

The rights of the dissolved abbey in this manor were in the first instance granted to the new dean and chapter of Chester, but after the extortions of sir R. Cotton, and the queen's resumption, the manor was confirmed to the fee farmers generally, by patent 22 Eliz. and the advowson of the rectory to the dean and chapter by another patent of the same year. The new bishop had also lands here granted to him, which were afterwards surrendered to the crown.

By an inquisition taken after the death of Robert Tatton, 22 Eliz. it appears that the manor of Northenden was then vested in the Tattons of Withenshaw, in this township, and it has descended with the same to the present proprietor T. W. Tatton, esq. A court leet and court baron are held half yearly for the manor.

WITHENSHAW, in the reign of Edw. III. was vested in a branch of the Massey family, which, according to Booth, bore the local name. Alice, daughter and heiress of William de Massey, brought this estate (which, in the Inq. 22 Eliz. before referred to, is termed a distinct manor) to Robert Tatton of Kennedy, or Kenworthy in Northenden. It is most probable that this last-mentioned family were a branch of the antient house of the Tattons of Tatton, several of whose early deeds have been given in the account of Mobberley, and who are ascertained by those deeds to be related to the barons of Dunham Massey. The coat of Tatton appears to refer either to this early connection, or to the subsequent marriage with the heiress of Massey of Withenshaw, being the arms of Massey differenced with a crescent in each quarter.

From this period Withenshaw descended, according to the annexed pedigree, to the late William Tatton of Withenshaw and Tatton, esq. who assumed the name of Egerton, and under whose will Withenshaw, with other manors and estates, passed to his second surviving son, Thomas William Egerton, esq. who thereupon resumed the paternal name of Tatton.

Northenden is situated near the bank of the Mersey, about six miles south of Manchester. The hall of Withenshaw has been much altered at various periods, and has received many additions and improvements from the present proprietor, but some parts of the antient fabric are preserved. Its situation is about one mile west of Northenden, amongst park-like grounds and plantations, in a flat part of the country, adjacent to the edge of Bucklow Hundred, in which Northenden was included at the time of the Domesday survey^c.

^a Chartulary, Harl. MSS. 1965. 16 b.

^b Vol. I. p. 238.

^c The house sustained a siege in the civil wars, thus noticed in Burghall's Diary, printed at Chester, 1778, p. 933. “Feb. 25, 1643-4. Mr. Tatton's house of Whittenshaw was taken by the parliament, who had laid a long siege to it. There were in it only Mr. Tattun, some few gentlemen, and but a few soldiers, who had quarter for life. The ammunition was but little.” The siege was conducted by col. Duckenfield, who finally reduced the place by bringing two pieces of ordnance from Manchester. In the last century six skeletons were found in the garden lying close together, who were supposed to be soldiers buried during the siege in the house, which was then much larger than it is at present.

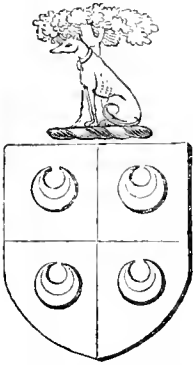
There is a tradition that one of the parliament officers exposed himself by sitting on a wall, and that a female domestic begged for a musket to try if she could fetch him down, and succeeded. Mr. Watson (from a part of whose MSS. communicated by Holland Watson, esq. these additional particulars are taken) supposes the officer to be “Captayne Adams slayne at Withenshawe on Sunday the 25th,” who was buried at Stockport Feb. 25, 1643-4.

Mr. Tatton compounded for his estate at 707 l. 13s. 4d. and (from a letter given under Marple) appears to have been oppressed by other vexatious charges, in consequence of which he appealed against his proportion of subsequent parliament levies. These disastrous consequences of loyalty must have been severely felt, as Webb (under Bucklow Hundred, vol. I. p. 320) writing in 1622, speaks of the Tattons as being “much eclipsed,” and, “by troubles and encumbrances whereunto greatest estates are oft subject, obscured;” and “places the chiefest hope of raising the house” on that “grandchild” upon whom these calamities subsequently fell.

TATTON OF WITHENSHAW.

From Booth's Pedigrees, continued by a modern entry in the College of Arms.

ARMS. Quarterly, 1 and 4 Gules, 2 and 3 Argent, four crescents, Sable in the 2nd and 3d, and Argent in the 1st and 4th.
 CREST. A greyhound seiant Argent, collared Or, tied Gules to a tree Vert, fruited Or.



ROBERT TATTON, of Kenworthy. — ALICE, daughter of William de Withenshaw, alias Massy.

WILLIAM TATTON. —

ROBERT TATTON. —

THOMAS. ROBERT TATTON. — .. daughter of Robert Hyde, of Norbury. 2. JOHN.

WILLIAM TATTON. —

NICHOLAS TATTON. —

ROBERT TATTON. — ALICE, daughter of William Massy, of Codington.

WILLIAM, first son, married daughter of William Davenport, of Bramall, o. s. p.
 ROBERT, second son, a priest.

JOHN TATTON, third son. — MARGARET, daughter of Ralph Davenport, of Chester, younger brother of Ralph Davenport, of Henbury.

BARTHOLOMEW TATTON, fourth son.

ELIZABETH, married to Bradborne, re-married to Thomas Ashley, of Shepley.

ROBERT TATTON, of Withenshaw, co. Cest. esq. — DOROTHY, fourth daughter of George Booth, of Dunham, esq. buried June 3, 1602.

2. JOHN.
 3. ROBERT TATTON, of the parsonage at Northenden, buried March 6, 1610.

4. EDWARD TATTON, of Etchells, co. Cest. married Margaret Corke April 8, 1602, buried May 23, 1632.
 5. NICHOLAS TATTON, marr. Dorothy Linney, Feb. 28, 1596.

WILLIAM TATTON, of Withenshaw, esq. eldest son and heir, died May 19, 1611, buried at Northenden.

MARY, daughter of sir Edward Fitton, of Gaws-worth, kt. died July 1614, bur. at Northenden.

ELIZABETH, married at Northenden Dec. 31, 1570, to John Ward, of Capesthorpe.
 DOROTHY, married Nov. 1, 1582, to James Bradsbawe, of the Haugh, co. Cest.

ROBERT TATTON, of Withenshaw, esq. died at Southwark near London, Jan. 10, 1623. — ELEANOR, third daughter of John Warren, of Poynton, esq.

1. ELIZABETH, bapt. at Northenden April 19, 1587, married 1st, to John Latham, of Wilmslow; and 2ndly, to George, 2nd son of sir Randal Mainwaring, of Peover.
 2. MARGARET, bapt. at Northenden Sept. 30, 1588, bur. at Stockport Jan. 10, 1609, s. p.
 3. MARY.

WILLIAM TATTON, of Withenshaw, esq. eldest son, bapt. at Northenden Sep. 15, 1581, marr. at Northenden Feb. 19, 1602, died Jan. 8, 1616, bur. at Northenden.

KATHERINE, eldest dau. of sir Geu. Leicester, of Toft, kt. remarr. to the rev. W. Nicholls, D. D. buried at Northenden Jan. 1665.

2. ROBERT, living Jan. 14, 9 Jac.
 3. GEORGE, bapt. Dec. 17, 1589, and buried Feb. 15, 1590.
 4. PHILIP, living Jan. 14, 9 Jac.
 5. GEORGE, born July 1, 1612, bapt. at Northenden.

ROBERT TATTON, of Withenshaw, esq. born May 14, bapt. May 16, 1606, sheriff 1645, obiit Aug. 19, 1669, buried at Northenden.

— ANNE, third daughter and coheirress of William Brereton, of Ashley, married at Bowden Jan. 8, 1628, bur. Ap. 8, 1670, at Northenden.

ANNE, born June 29, 1607, buried July 7, at Northenden.
 MARGARET, born April 17, 1610, baptized at Northenden, wife of Richard Twyford, of Diddesbury.
 ELEANOR, bapt. at Northenden May 6, 1612.

2. ROBERT TATTON, of Stockport, gent. born Ap. 25, 1639, baptized May 13, 1639, at Northenden, buried at Stockport Feb. 16, 1685.

— ANNE, dau. of William Davenport, of Bromhall, esq. obiit Feb. 1, 1727-8, buried at Stockport.

3. RICHARD.
 4. THOMAS TATTON, of Peel, co. Cest. esq. born April 1642, marr. Mary, dau. of Edward Pegge, of Beauchief, co. Derb. esq. born 1650, by whom he had issue Anne and Eleanor Tatton.

WILLIAM TATTON, of Withenshaw, eldest son and heir, born July 9, 1636, obiit Feb. 1, 1673.

— ANNE, only surviving child of Rowland Eyre, of Bradway, co. Derby.

— ROBERT RADCLIFFE, of Withenshaw, esq. youngest son of sir Alexander Radcliffe, of Ordeshall, married Feb. 27, 1677, bur. at Northenden.

MARY, born at Ashley Dec. 24, 1629.
 ANN, born August 4, 1632, wife of sir Amos Meredith, bart. married at Bowden Feb. 6, 1664.

WILLIAM TATTON, of Withenshaw, esq. born at Bramhall Aug. 5, 1614, obiit Nov. 1732, buried at Northenden.

— HANNAH, daughter and heiress of Peter Wright, of Macclesfield, co. Cest. gent. marr. settlement dated Aug. 23, 1698, mar. at Gaws-worth, obiit Sept. 1733.

2. THOMAS TATTON, of Stockport, gent. living Feb. 16, 1629, when he was made heir in remainder to the Withenshaw estate by will of his cousin Robert Tatton.

— MARY, only daughter and heiress of Charles Poole, of Marley, co. Cest. gent.

ANNE, buried at Stockport, Aug. 1, 1629.

ROBERT TATTON, of Withenshaw, esq. bapt. June 30, 1668, married Frances, dau. of Richard, and sister of Peter Legh, of Lyme, esq. who married 2ndly, sir Gilbert Clarke, of Chilcote, co. Derby, kt. and 3dly, Dr. Shippen.
 ANNE, only dau. bapt. at Peel July 11, 1669, wife of John Greenhalgh, of Braudlesome, esq.
 WILLIAM, 2nd son, born Aug. 2, 1672, died an infant.

HESTER, eldest daughter of John Egerton, of Tatton, esq. & finally only sister and heiress of Sam. Egerton, of Tatton, esq. resumed the name of Egerton by sign manual, dated May 8, 1781, married May 1747, obiit July 9, 1780, aged 72.

WILLIAM TATTON, of Withenshaw, esq. born June 13, 1703, bapt. at Northenden, died April 28, 1776, aged 72, buried at Northenden, married first, CATHERINE, eldest dau. of Edw. Warren, of Poynton, esq. who died s. p. Aug. 21, 1742.

1. ROBERT TATTON, son and h. app't, bapt. at Stockport Oct. 1, 1700, bur. at Northenden Sept. 5, 1701.
 THOMAS TATTON, of Heaton Norris, esq. born June 9, 1775, at Northenden, aged 60 years; married 1st, PENELOPE, youngest daughter of Matthew lord Ducie, o. s. p. Jan. 31, 1747, buried at Northenden; 2dly, CATHERINE, daughter of Hugh Foulkes of Potesbey, co. Denbigh, esq. buried March 31, 1775, at Northenden, aged 63 years; she had issue Thomas and Catherine, who died infants.

1. ANNE, born Feb. 1, 1702, wife of Samuel Kirke, of Whitehough, co. Derby, by whom she had William, who died young, and Catherine, sole heiress, wife of the rev. William Plumbe, of Liverpool, co. Lanc. by whom Sarah, wife of John Plumbe, esq. of Tong Hall, and Anne, wife of ... Tomlinson, of Carlisle.
 2. FRANCES, of Heaton Norris, died unmarried, aged 70, buried at Northenden Feb. 4, 1776.
 3. BARBARA, of Macclesfield, died unmarried, aged 70, buried June 25, 1776, at Northenden.
 4. MARY, bapt. June 10, 1710, at Stockport, died unmar.
 5. LUCY, wife of John Stafford of Macclesfield, attorney at law, by whom she had issue Sarah, wife of Harry Langford, of Macclesfield, gent. Lucy, wife of Samuel Wilkinson, esq. Penelope, wife of the rev. Richard Popplewell Johnson, and William, who died unmar.
 6. MARGARET, buried 3d July 1742, at Northenden, s. p.
 7. CATHERINE, buried April 1, 1717, at Northenden, s. p.

ROBERT TATTON, of Stockport, gent. bapt. Dec. 30, 1709, o. s. p. 1743; marr. FRANCES, dau. of ... Shepley, sister and coheirress of William Shepley.
 EDWARD TATTON, of Stockport, gent. bapt. Feb. 5, 1710-11, died unmarried 1783.
 MARY TATTON, bapt. at Stockport July 3, 1712, buried there May 16, 1714.

2. MARY, 2d daugh. of Richard Wilbraham Buote, esq.

— WILLIAM EGERTON, of Tatton and Withenshaw, esq. born 1749, died 1806. See Egerton pedigree, vol. I. 348, for his other issue.

— FRANCES MARIA FOUNTAYNE, first wife.
 — ANNA MARIA ARMYTAGE, third wife.
 — CHARLOTTE CLARA PAYLER, fourth wife.

ELIZABETH, wife of sir Christopher Sykes, bart.

WILBRAHAM EGERTON, esq. of Tatton Park, M. P. born 1781, married Elizabeth, second daughter of sir Christopher Sykes, bart. See Egerton pedigree for issue.

THOMAS WILLIAM TATTON, of Withenshaw, esq. born Oct. 29, 1783, assumed the name of Tatton by sign manual Jan. 9, 1806, sheriff 1809, living 1818.

— EMMA, daughter of the hon. John Grey, 3d son of Harry IVth earl of Stamford, born April 25, 1782, marr. Oct. 20, 1807, living 1818.

MARY ELIZABETH, wife of sir Mark Masterman Sykes, bart. See Egerton pedigree.

EMMA, born May 15, bapt. at Northenden July 30, 1809.

MARY ELIZABETH, born May 30, bapt. at Northenden July 16, 1810.

HENRIETTA, bapt. at Northenden Jan. 24, 1812.

FRANCES, bapt. at Northenden Sept. 13, 1813.

LOUISA, born Dec. 26, 1814, bapt. Jan. 26, 1815.

THOMAS WILLIAM, bapt. Sept. 3, 1816.

RECTORS OF NORTHENDEN.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1304, 3 id. Feb.	Henricus de Blechlegh.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	
1334, 8 id. Jan.	Rog. fil. Rog. de Motlow. Willielmus de Hinckley.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	
1349, 6 kal. Dec. 1368.	Robertus de Craven, cl'us. Johannes de Mancester, pr'b'r. Thomas de Botiley.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ. Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	P. m. Will. de Hinckley.
1383.	Robertus Birkhood, rector de Gawsworth.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	Causa permutat.
1402, 4 Jun.	Ricardus Paldene, cl'us.	Abbas S'e'æ Werburgæ.	
1418, 7 Oct.	Rogerus Sparke, cap. Ricardus Cordon, LL.D.	Abbas S'e'æ Werburgæ.	
1422, 7 Feb.	Radulphus Prestbury, cl'us.	Abbas S'e'æ Werburgæ.	P. res. Ric. Cordon.
1432, 10 July.	Thomas Heyward, pr'b'r. Johannes Booth.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	P. res. Rad. Prestbury.
1453.	Petrus Booth.	Abbas S'c'æ Werburgæ.	P. res. Jo. Booth.
1457, 30 Dec.	Ricardus Arderne, pr'b'r.	Henricus Trafford, ar. h. v. rac'o'e donat. abb. S'e'æ Werburgæ.	
1511, 12 Ap.	John Breybill.	Abbot of St. Werburgh.	Death of Richard Arderne.
1545, 7 May.	John Legh ^d . John Barrett ^e .	Abbot of St. Werburgh.	Death of last Incumbent.
1625, 14 June. 1634-5.	William Forster ^f . Thomas Mallory ^g .	The king, by lapse. Richard Mallory and William Forster.	Death of William Forster.
1643. Rootes ^h .		
1675, 7 March.	Joshua Jackson. Francis Wood.	Bishop of Chester.	
1690, 5 July.	John Thane, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Francis Wood.
1727, 19 Dec.	Samuel Peploe, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of John Thane.
1782, 13 Ap.	Thomas Mostyn, A. M.	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Samuel Peploe.
1809, 25 May.	Thomas Maddock, A. M. ⁱ	Dean and Chapter of Chester.	Death of Thomas Mostyn.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Wilfrid.

Tax. P. N. £7. 6s. 8d. Val. Eccl. £10. 7s. 6d.

The mode in which the advowson of this benefice passed to Chester abbey, has been stated in the account of the manor. It escaped impropriation by the monks, and subsequently the spoliations of the fee farmers, and was confirmed by patent 22 Eliz. to the dean and chapter of Chester, to whom it had been granted in their original charter, and in whom it remains vested. One of the prebendaries of that cathedral is usually presented to the rectory.

With the exception of a portion of the estates of Mr. Tatton, which is tithe free, the rector has, generally speaking, the tithes of the parish. A modus is paid for hay.

The church of Northenden consists of a tower, with nave, chancel, and side aisles, with carved oak roofs. The nave is divided from the side aisles by five pointed arches on each side, resting on octagonal columns, with clerestory windows over. At the end of each side aisle is a private chancel, appropriated to the Tattons of Withenshaw, and separated from the church by carved oak screens.

In the south chancel are the following mural monuments :

I. On a small tablet of white marble.

H. S. E.

Robertus Tatton arm.
moribus et ingenio iustre-
tissimus, pietate Deo, fidelitate
regi se comprobavit constanti :
reverentia matrem, amore con-
jugem, germanam benignitate
sororem et vitrici orbos eura
paterna prosequatur : sic
egit et sic obiit Feb. 21,
a^o 1689,
et ætat. suæ 21.

II. Near this another tablet, by J. Bacon, junr. over which is a cenotaph with the recumbent figure of a female, reading in a book inscribed "to die is gain," under which is placed a cross. The inscription is as follows :

This monument is erected
to the memory of William Egerton, esquire, of Tatton
Park and Withenshaw, in this county,
only son of William Tatton, esq. of Withenshaw,
by Hester his wife, daughter of John Egerton, esquire,
of Tatton Park.

He was born on the 9th of May 1749,
and died on the 21st of April 1806, very generally and
deeply lamented,
for his many domestic virtues.

^d Buried *ibid.* March 27, 1561. ^e 1564. ^f William Forster, lord bishop of Man, died 23 Feb. 1634 5. ^g Took possession 28 Feb. 1634-5.

^h This name is inserted on the authority of an entry in the account of parliamentary disbursements, Harl. MSS. 2130, 143. "Mr. Rootes, minister of Northenden, in part of his stipend, 20^l. March 18, 1643."

ⁱ To these ministers may be added the name of CHARLES ALEXANDER, who served a chantry here as the "Ladie Prieste" at the dissolution, and retired on a pension of 1s. He was living in 1566.

At the time of his death he was one of the representatives of this county in parliament, having before represented the boroughs of Hindon and Newcastle-under-Lyme. In the vault underneath are also deposited the remains of his fourth and last wife, Charlotte-Clara, daughter of Thomas Watkinson Payler, esquire, of Ileden, in the county of Kent; she was married on the 1st of November, 1803, and died on the 11th of August, 1804, in the 30th year of her age.

III. At the east end of the chancel is another mural monument inscribed:

Near this place
are deposited the remains
of William Tatton, esq. of Withenshaw,
a gentleman of that strict honour and integrity in all
his dealings, which made him truly
respected when living, and lamented when dead.
He married Catherine, eldest daughter of Edward Warren,
esq. of Pointon, in this county,
who died in the year 1742,
leaving no issue, and was buried in this chapel.
In May 1747, he married Hester eldest daughter
of John Egerton, esq. of Tatton Park in this county,
who survived him, and by whom he had issue,
Elizabeth, born April 14, 1748,
married Oct. 23, 1770, to Christopher Sykes, esq.
of Sledmere in the county of York;
and William, born May 9, 1749,
married February 27, 1773, to Frances-Maria Fountayne,
eldest daughter of
John Fountayne, D. D. and dean of York.
With that Christian fortitude and resignation
which characterized his whole life,
he supported a long and painful illness,
from which he was released April 28, 1776,
aged 72 years.

Also the remains of
Hester Egerton, relict of the late William Tatton, esq.
She retook the name of Egerton in pursuance of the will
of her only brother Samuel Egerton, esq. of Tatton Park,
to whom she was sole heiress.

She supported a long and painful illness with true
Christian fortitude,
having always lived an example of true piety and
devotion to her Maker,
of duty to her husband, and affection to her children.
She died the 9th day of July 1780, aged 72.

Arms: Tatton impaling Egerton.

IV. On another mural monument, at the same end of
the chancel, is the following inscription by Mason:

To the memory of Frances Maria, wife of
William Tatton of Withenshaw, esquire,
and daughter of John Fountayne, D. D. dean of York,
by Frances Maria, eldest daughter of Thos. Whichcot,
of Harpswell in the county of Lincoln, esquire.

If e'er on earth true happiness were found,
'Twas thine, blest shade, that happiness to prove;
A father's fondest wish thy duty crown'd,
Thy softer virtues fix'd a husband's love.
Ah! when he led thee to the nuptial fane,
How smil'd the morning with auspicious rays!
How triumph'd Youth and Beauty in thy train,
And flatt'ring Health that promis'd length of days!
Heav'n join'd your hearts; three pledges of your joy
Were given in thrice the year's revolving round;
Here, reader! pause; and own with pitying eye,
That not on earth true happiness is found.

She died January IX, MDCCCLXXVII, aged XXVI.

V. Between these last is another tablet inscribed:

Near this place are deposited the remains of
Mary, second wife of William Egerton, esq. of Withenshaw
in this parish, and of Tatton Park, in the parish of
Rosthern, both in this county, and second daughter of
Richard Wilbraham Bootle, esq. of Rode, by Mary,
daughter and sole heiress of Edward Bootle, esq. of Lathom,
in the county of Lancaster. She died the 13th of
November 1784, in the 25th year of her age, leaving
three sons and one daughter, viz. Wilbraham, born Sep-
tember the 1st, 1781; Mary, born Oct. the 18th, 1782;
Thomas, born October the 29th, 1783; and John, No-
vember the 6th, 1784, who died July the 4th, 1786, and
lies buried in this chapel. The excellence of her under-
standing, the engaging sweetness of her disposition, and
the natural cheerfulness and elegance of her manners,
endeared her to all who knew her; nor can her character
be more truly described than by adding that she is justly
lamented by her husband as the best of wives, and as
the tenderest mother to her infant children; by her pa-
rents as the most dutiful and affectionate daughter; and
by all her relations and acquaintance
as the most amiable of friends.

Arms: Egerton impaling Wilbraham.

VI. On another mural marble monument placed below
the last:

Near this place are deposited the mortal remains of
Anna Maria Egerton, third wife of William Egerton of
Tatton Park, in the county of Chester, and eldest daugh-
ter of sir George Armytage, bart. of Kirklees in the
county of York; by whom he had issue one son, bap-
tized George, who died within the month of his birth.
She was born May the 1xth, MDCCCLII, and departed
this life at Tatton Park, on the 1vth of September
MDCCXCIX, in the xxxviiith year of her age. Neither
the strength of her mind, nor the warmth of her affec-
tion for her husband's family, were impaired by the
weakness of a frame worn down by sickness; nor did
the sufferings, which she bore with true Christian resig-
nation for upwards of a year before her death, abate the
kind attention which she bestowed on those entrusted to
her care, in whose grateful recollection, and in the pious
regret of her affectionate husband, her memory will
never cease to be revered! She was beloved in life, and
in death most sincerely lamented.

VII. Near this place are deposited the mortal remains
of William Tatton, eldest son of William Egerton of Tat-
ton Park, in the county of Chester, by Frances Maria
Fountayne, eldest daughter of the very rev. John Foun-
tayne, dean of York: he was born January vith,
MDCCCLXXIV, and was at the general election in
MDCCXCVI returned member of parliament for Beverley,
in the county of York. He departed this life at Withenshaw,
Feb. 1xth MDCCXCIX in the xxvith year of his
age.

“ Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him.”

VIII. On a red flag-stone in this chapel is the following
inscription:

Hic paululum deponitur
corpus Roberti Radcliff, ar.
filii (unici qui propagavit
progenie') clar'mi viri domini Alexand-
ri Radcliff de Ordsal m'l'tis. Anna' vidua'
relicta' Gulielmi Tatton de Wit-
henshaw, ar'gi, nupsit. Fuit ortu
præclar', formæ decor', in Deu'
pi', ejusq' cultu' angelic', in regem
fidelis, in amicos stabilis, in omnes

generos', helli perit', in prælio
strenuus ———

The latter part of the inscription is rendered illegible, by the decay of the soft red stone in which it is cut; as is also another in memory of Thomas Tatton, of Peel, gent. born 1642.

IX. In the other chancel are two tablets, the first of which is inscribed :

Near this place
are deposited the mortal remains
of the honourable Penelope Ducie Tatton,
late wife of Thomas Tatton, younger son
of William Tatton, esq. deceased,
and youngest daughter
of the right honourable Mathew lord
Ducie.

She dyed without issue
the 31st of January 1747.

A fair example of unblemish'd worth,
Of modest wisdom and pacifick truth,
Compos'd in suff'rings, and in joy sedate,
Good without noise, without pretension great !

X. On the other tablet :

In this chapel are interred the remains

of Thomas Tatton, esq. of Heaton-Norris,
in the county of Lancaster,
buried June 9th, 1775, aged 60.
Catherine, his second wife, buried May 31, 1775, aged 63.

Frances Tatton, his sister,
buried February 4th, 1776, aged 71,
Barbara Tatton, his sister,
buried June 25th 1776, aged 70.

This small tribute of remembrance,
due to their truly amiable characters,
and as a testimony of his regard and affection,
is paid by their nephew, William Tatton,
of Withenshaw, in this parish.

There are many memorials of the 'Tattons on the flagstones of these chancels, which are not inserted, as the dates are entered in the pedigree.

Over the end of the south aisle, adjoining to the Withenshaw chancel, a wooden roof has been introduced, under the general roof of the aisle, at the end of which is inscribed, in old English characters:

Ista capella constructa fuit p. Rob' Hondford, anno—

The arms of Hondford also occur in the carvings. This part of the aisle does not appear to have been at any time enclosed by a screen ^a.

ETCHELLS.

It appears that there were originally two manors in this township, co-extensive probably with the portions which lie severally in Stockport and Northenden parishes. One of these was vested in the barons of Dunham Massey, apparently by the same title with Northenden, and the other in the successors of Bigot, who at the Domesday survey had one moiety of Northenden, in which Etchells, being omitted by name, appears to have been included.

It is however observable, that the Ardernes did not hold this manorial interest like Bigot's other estates from the earl in capite, but as a subinfeudation, under the heirs of the Masseys, which tenure must have originated in some early arrangements between the two families.

The following inquisitions relate to the manorial in-

terest of the *Ardernes* and *Stanleys*, successors of the *Aldfords* and *Bigot*.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. IV. John de Ardren, arm. held, inter alia, the manor of Eccles from the lord le Strange, by mil. serv. as of his manor of Dunham Massey: val. l. per ann.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VI. John de Arderne, chivaler, held, inter alia, the manor of Ecchells, from Richard lord le Strange, of Knokyn, by services unknown: val. per ann. xll.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. IV. Thomas Stanley of Aldford, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Ecchells, from sir Thomas Stanley lord Stanley, sir William del Booth, and John Chantrell, as of their manor of Dunham Massey, by mil. serv. val. per ann. xll.

^a The following monuments and paintings on glass remaining in Northenden church a^o 1580, are drawn or described in Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 10.

In one of the windows :

"Orate pro a'ia Joh'is de Stanley q'nd'm d'ni de Pype, Clifton-Campville, et Eleford, com. Staford; de Sibbertofte in com. Northamp: de Camden super Woolde in com. Glocestr: etiam de Ecchells, Aldford et Alderleg' in com. Cestr. qui obiit 22^o die Novembr. a^o D'ni 1508."

Over the inscription, the kneeling figure of sir John Stanley, partly in armour and partly in a robe, and over his head the following arms : Quarterly of 4, 1. Stanley. 2. Arderne and Stafford, conjoined paleways. 3. Camville. 4. Pipe.

An eagle sinister, regardant, rising, standing on a child swaddled, placed on a nest, inscribed "OSKELL LATHVM."

In a tree in the same window the usual figure of the eagle and child, underwritten "OSTELL LATHOM"

In the same window a male figure kneeling, underwritten "Humphridus de Stanley, canonicus eccl'ie cathedral. de Oxon. an'o D'ni 1557."

In the clerestory, arms relating to the Legh and Bagulegh families.

In a window on the north side of the church, Tatton impaling Booth of Dunham (Masey coat), and five kneeling figures—the first, a priest in canonicals, the next a knight in armour, the three last in red gowns.

"Orate pr' a'ibus Nicolai et Rob'ti fratris ejus filii Will'i Tatton: Rob'ti Tatton cl'ici, et Jo'his Tatton filior' d'c'i Rob'ti filii p'd'c'i Nicolai et p'u'or' suor' et o'iu' fidelium defunctor'."

On the north side of the church, a brass with the arms last-mentioned, the crests of Tatton and Booth, and two recumbent figures, with seven sons and four daughters kneeling at their feet.

Inscription : "Orate pro animabus Roberti Tatton arm. et Dorothee uxoris ejus filie Georgii Bothe, filii Willielmi Bothe militis, qui quidem Robertus obiit decimo octavo die Junii, anno Domini 1579. Quorum animabus propitiatur Deus."

On another monument :

"Hic subtus humatur corpus viri venerabilis Gulielmi Nicholls, sacræ theologiæ doctoris, Cestriæ decani et rectoris de Chedle, qui Catherinam filiam Georgii Leicester, equitis aurati, viduam, et relictam Gulielmi Tatton de Withenshaw armigeri, nupsit. Vixit annos 66, in Deum religiosus, in omnes justus, quibus potuit præfuit, nemini nocuit, tandem viam universæ carnis ingressus est 16^o die Dec. 1657. Stilo Angliæ."

On another : "M. S. Henrici Dunster in artibus magistri, verbi sacri preconis pii, fidelis, et docti, hujus ecclesie pastoris nuper vigilantissimi, qui obiit Mart. 17, et sepult. 20, anno D'ni 1661."

"Alice, wife to Henry Dunster, M.A. pastor of Northorden, and daughter to Lenox Beverley, esq. died June 19, etat. suæ 28, 1654."

Inq. p. m. 16 Edw. IV. Sir John Stanley of Elford, knt. held, inter alia, the manor of Etchells, as in the last inquisition: val. xli.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. John Stanley, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Eccles. After the death of this John Stanley, who had sold Aldford, with its dependencies in reversion, to sir William Stanley of Holt, the said fee passed twice to the crown in consequence of the attainders of sir William Stanley, and of a subsequent grantee, sir Urian Brereton, as mentioned more fully under Aldford and Over Alderley. The said fee, including Etchells, was sold by the crown 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary, to sir Edward Fitton of Gawsorth, and Robert Tatton of Withenshaw, who divided their purchase.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Robert Tatton, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Etchells, from the queen in capite, by mil. serv. val. per ann. xvi.

From this period Etchells has descended with the Withenshaw estate.

The other portion of this manor, which appears to have passed to the barons of Dunham Massey in the same manner with their interest in Northenden, by some arrangement with Ranulphus the Norman grantee, was held by Waltheof, under the barons of Dunham, and confirmed to his son Robert, by the third baron, to be held by a singular tenure, given at length in a copy of the charter under Stockport. Robert, surnamed de Stokeport, baron of that place, afterwards died seized of

a manor in Etchells, holding the same from the baron of Dunham, by the tenure specified in the charter before-mentioned.

By deed enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday, Roesia, wife of Alexander de Bamville, and widow of Robert de Stokeport, released her claims of dower on Etchells, inter alia, to her son Richard de Stokeport^a.

"From which family Joane, daughter and coheirss to sir Richard de Stockport, brought this place to sir Nicholas de Eton: this Joane had to her 2^d husb^d J'n de Ardern, who I suppose had this place wth her; for 22 Ric. II. I find y^t he and his w. obtained by fine from Rob^t Prestwich chaplain, this manor, &c. to them and th'r heirs." Vill. Cest.

Dr. Williamson was perhaps not aware that Joane de Eton was not ancestress of the Ardernes of Aldford (see ped. vol. II. p. 42.) though he is correct as to the marriage; but it is probable that this portion of the manor merged about this time in the other possessed by the Ardernes, and that it subsequently descended with it.

Etchells, as before mentioned, lies partly in Stockport parish, and partly in Northenden; but is only reputed one township and manor, for which a court leet and court baron are held half-yearly, in which two constables are chosen who have jurisdiction over the whole.

The courts held severally for Northenden and Etchells have jurisdiction co-extensive with the respective townships^b.

Cheadle Parish

CONTAINS three townships only, Cheadle Bulkeley, Cheadle Moseley, and Handford cum Bosden; and is situated on the bank of the Mersey, six miles south of Manchester, by which river it is bounded towards Lancashire, and on the Cheshire side by the parishes of Northenden, Wilmslow, and Stockport.

CHEADLE BULKELEY.

THE vill of Cheadle, which seems to have originally comprized the entire parish, is unnoticed in Domesday, but appears to have been retained by the Earl, forming probably, like the preceding parish, part of the extensive wastes attached to his demesne of Macclesfield and Adlington.

It is clear, from a deed quoted by Dr. Williamson, in the Vill. Cestr. that Chedle was held directly from the earls of Chester in the time of Hugh Kevelioc (1153-1180), as that earl quitclaimed to Robert de Chedle "four porkers, which he was used to pay the earl, by an agreement made in love before his barons." Dr. Williamson supposed Hellen, daughter and coheirss of Robert, to have brought the same in marriage to Geoffrey de Dutton.

Geoffry, son of Hugh de Dutton (vol. I. 476), was

certainly ancestor of a family which assumed the name of Chedle, and were settled here and at Clifton; but from a deed given under that place (I. 526), he appears to have married a daughter of John de Lacy, baron of Halton.

Geoffry, son of Geoffry de Dutton, seneschal of the said John (1232-40), occurs in a release of Swanus, a villain of Clifton, to Geoffry, son of Adam de Dutton, and witnesses the grant of an oratory at Sutton juxta Frodsham^c. In the inquisition after his death he is called "de Chedle," and is found to have held this manor of the king, as earl, by the service of a knight's fee, paying a mark of silver called reynegelt, finding a judge (juror) once a fortnight in the court of Macclesfield, and making a portion of the hey or fence of the Combes, in Macclesfield Forest, val. xxi.^d

^a Grosvenor MSS. XXI. 5. p. 103.

^c Warburton Deeds.

^b Information communicated by T. W. Tatton, esq.

^d Vill. Cest.

This last tenure was attached also to the neighbouring manor of the Bollin, which, like Cheadle, appears to have been formed out of the wastes of the earl's demesne in this hundred.



This branch of the Duttons bore for arms, Argent, a fesse dancette Gules, and terminated in two coheirs, who married into the families of Baggiley and Bulkeley, as mentioned by sir Peter Leycester, under the heads of Dutton and Clifton.

Clemence, the elder daughter and coheir of Roger de Chedle, brought to her husband, Ralph Baggiley, Clifton, and that moiety of Cheadle now considered a distinct vill, and called **CHEADLE HULME**, or **CHEADLE MOSELEY** (of which hereafter); and Agnes, the younger daughter, brought to her husband, Richard Bulkeley, the hall and advowson of Chedle, and that moiety of the manor now called **CHEADLE BULKELEY**.



This Richard Bulkeley was second son of Robert Bulkeley, of Eaton, in Davenham, a younger brother of the family of Bulkeley of Bulkeley, in Broxton Hundred^f. He bore, Sable, a chevron Argent, between three bulls heads cabossed of the second, and had issue, by his wife Agnes, Richard son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 23 Edw. III. Richard de Bulkegh held in demesne, as of fee, a moiety of the manor of Chedle from the earl of Chester, in capite,

together with the advowson of the church, by the services of a fourth part of a knight's fee, value *xxl.*; also lands therein, and in Ashley and Hale, and half the manor of Tymplegh. William son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 Rich. II. William de Bulkeley, of Chedle, held half the manor and the advowson of Chedle, as before, val. *xxvii.*; also half of the manor of Tymplegh and Hulme, and lands in Middlewich, Newton, Petihall, and Stanthorne. Richard son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Rich. II. Richard de Bulkegh held a moiety of the manor and the advowson of Chedle, as before, and lands in Hale, and Barwe in Ashley.

Alice, Margery, and Clemence, daughters and coheirresses.

Inq. ad mel. inq. 15 Rich. II. Richard, son of William de Bulkegh, held the moiety of the manor and the advowson, as before; and Roger de Chedle long ago died seized of the said vill of Chedle, holding it from the earl of Chester, by military service; val. *xl.* Richard de Bulkegh son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 32 Hen. VI. Richard de Bulkegh held in demesne, as of fee, two parts of the manor of Chedle, and the advowson, as before, val. *xl.* and lands in Middlewich, Newton, and Occleston. William de Bulkegh son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VII. William Bulkeley of Chedle, held in fee tail a moiety of the manor and the advowson of Chedle, as before, as the eighth part of a knight's fee, value *xxvii. xiiii. i. d.*; also the manor of Whatcroft, half the manor of Tymplegh, and lands in Middlewich, Newton, and Occleston. William Bulkeley son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 8 Hen. VIII. William Buckley, esq. held in Chedle as in the last inquisition, value as before; died in December, same year. Richard Buckley, clerk, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VIII. Richard Buckley held as in the last inquisition, and died May 29th in the same year, leaving Rowland Buckley, brother and heir, aged sixty years.

Inq. p. m. 1 Edw. VI. Sir Richard Bulkeley, knight, held in Chedle as in the last inquisition, value *xxxviii.* the manor of Whatcroft, and half the manor of Timperley, and lands in Middlewich, Newton, Petihall, Porcher, Lee, Occleston, Sutton, Church Hulme, Wheelock, and Stanthorne, val. tot. *xcixl. xs.*; died Jan. 17, 1 Edw. VI. Richard Bulkeley son and heir.

Previous to the date of this last inquisition the Bulkeleys had removed their residence to Beaumaris, in Anglesea^g, the seat of their present representative, Thomas James, viscount Bulkeley; but the manor of Cheadle Bulkeley continued vested in their descendants until the middle of the last century. The annexed abridgment of an abstract of title, commences about a century before this alienation, and brings down the descent of the manor to the trustees of the late John Worthington, of Ringway, in whom it is now vested (1819^h).

^e Sometimes called Richard, but incorrectly.

^f See vol. III. 138; and vol. II. 363. His descendants adopted for their CREST a bull's head Argent, armed Or, issuing from a ducal coronet; and on being elevated to the Peerage, assumed for SUPPORTERS two bulls Argent, armed Or, gorged with a collar dancette Gules, in allusion to the coat of Chedle. The present Viscount had licence to quarter the arms of WARREN, as mentioned under POYNTON.

^g An account of the later generations will be found in Lodge's Irish Peerage; but this account is grossly incorrect in the earlier part in *all* the branches of Bulkeley, and in this branch omits all the representatives of this family, from Richard de Bulkeley, son and heir of William, 2 Rich. II. to Richard, elder brother of Rowland, 17 Hen. VIII. inclusive, making William, who died 2 Rich. II. father of that Rowland. The same error and defect exist in Watson's pedigree of the Bulkeleys, in his History of the Warren family.

^h 27th August, 1669. Dorothy, widow of Richard Bulkeley, then late of Chedle, by deed of this date, conveyed to trustees therein named, their heirs and assigns, and to the then Churchwardens of the parish church of Chedle, and their successors, for the time being, for ever: The moiety of a certain messuage and tenement situate in Cheadle Holme, alias Cheadle Hulme, within the said parish of Chedle, as the same was then divided and known from the other moiety of the said messuage and tenement, containing 12 acres of statute measure, subject to the yearly rent of sixpence, payable to said Dorothy, her heirs and assigns, upon trust, to apply the clear yearly rents thereof, annually, for the putting apprentice such poor child and children as for the time being should be tenants child and children, unto the said Dorothy Bulkeley, and after her decease, to the heirs of her said late husband, and did and should inhabit or dwell within her manor, there distinct and several from the rest of the said parish of Chedle, as by the judgment and discretion of such trustees, or the majority of them, should be deemed to stand in most need of such preferment.

26th and 27th Feb. 1702. By deeds of these dates, being a settlement on the marriage then intended and afterwards solemnized, between the honourable Richard Bulkeley, afterwards Richard lord Bulkeley, and the

honourable the lady Bridget Bertie, eldest daughter of James, then late earl of Abingdon: The manors of Chedle, Timperley, and Whatcroft, in the county of Chester, and all other the manors, messuages, &c. in Cheadle, Timperley, Whatcroft, and Edgeley, in the county of Chester, whereof Frances Bulkeley, then late of Chedle, spinster, died seized, were limited in strict settlement, after the death of Richard, then lord Bulkeley, upon said Richard Bulkeley and his issue male, subject to portions for younger children.

4th Sept. 1721. The said Richard Bulkeley, then Richard lord Bulkeley, made his will, which was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury by his widow, Bridget, lady Bulkeley.

4th and 5th January, 1731. Richard lord Bulkeley, eldest son of Richard lord Bulkeley the testator, by Bridget lady Bulkeley, his wife, by deeds of these dates, and several common recoveries, limited his estates in Wales and in Cheshire to trustees, upon trust, to sell and pay debts, &c. and subject thereto, in trust for said Richard lord Bulkeley.

23d January 1738. The last-named Richard lord Bulkeley made his will, and appointed his brother, James Bulkeley, afterwards lord Bulkeley, sole executor, who proved the same in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.

RECTORS OF CHEADLE.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
Temp. Hen. III.	William de Baggiley. Ricardus de Trafford.		
1320, 11 kal. Oct.	Robertus de Chedle, cl'us.	D'na Matilda de Suloe, d'na de Chedle.	P. m. Ric. de Trafford.
1349, kal. Oct.	Johannes de Newnham, cap. Edwardus de Southworth.	Edw. fil. primog. R. Ang. hac vice.	P. m. d'ni Rob. de Chedle.
1371, 3 kal. Oct.	Petrus de Bulkeley. Johannes de Dutton.	Willielmus de Bulkeley.	P. . . . Edw. Southworth.
1394, 8 Julii.	Robertus de Geysburgh.	Rex rac'o'e custod. terr. Ric. de Bulkeley defuncti.	P. m. Jo. de Dutton.
1411.	Robertus Melburne. Hugo Rossindale, cap's.	Dux Aquitan. Lancast. et Cor- nubiæ, comes Cest.	P. res. Rob. Melburne.
1418, 12 Aug.	Johannes Blouer, cap's. Henricus Bancroft.	Nob. vir Ran'us Mainwaring.	
1486, 6 Nov. 1569 ante.	Ricardus Bulkeley, LL. B. John Blomeley ^g . Humphrey Berron ^h .	Willielmus Bulkeley, arm'r.	P. m. Hen. Bancroft.
1606, 9 July. 1621, 12 Oct.	Edward Berron. John Lloyd.	Richard Buckley. James Rex.	Death of Humphrey Berron.
1623, 12 Feb.	William Nicols ⁱ .	Charles Prince of Wales, by reason of minority of Rich. Buckley.	Death of John Lloyd.
1655 ante.	Peter Harrison.		
1674, 20 Aug.	George Newton.	Humphrey Buckley.	Death of Peter Harrison.
1690, 12 Aug.	William Nichols ^k .	Dorothy Buckley.	Privation of Geo. Newton.
1694, 13 Sept.	Roger Royston, A. B.	Dorothy Buckley.	Cess. of Will. Nichols.
1723, 24 Ap.	Thomas Egerton, A. M.	Lord Bulkeley.	Death of Roger Royston.
1763, 11 Feb.	Edward Poole, A. M.	Rev. Arthur Borron.	Death of Thos. Egerton.
1773, 8 Feb.	John Boardman, A. M.	Rev. Donville Halsted, and George Gibbons, gents.	Death of Edward Poole.
1775, 5 Sept.	Thomas Cripps.	Samuel Back, esq.	Death of John Boardman.
1794, 3 Dec.	Sir Thomas Broughton, bart.	Said sir Thomas Broughton.	Death of Thomas Cripps.
1807, 1 Aug.	Henry Delves Broughton, A. M.	Sir Thomas Broughton, bart.	Cess. of sir Tho. Broughton.

The last Richard lord Bulkeley died in the year 1738, without issue.

1st March, 1745. In a cause in Chancery, wherein John Jones and others, on behalf of themselves and all other the unsatisfied creditors of the last-named Richard lord Bulkeley, were plaintiffs, and the said James lord Bulkeley, John Griffith, Randle Jones, Edward Williams, esq. and Jane his wife, commonly called lady Bulkeley, and Jane Williams, an infant, by her guardian, defendants; the Court decreed a further sale of the property comprized in the deeds of 4th and 5th January, 1731, then remaining unsold. And in pursuance of such Decree, and of the Master's Report, the said James lord Bulkeley was reported and allowed the best purchaser.

13th April, 1747. The said James lord Bulkeley, by writing of this date, after taking notice of the above Decree and Report, constituted three gentlemen therein named trustees, to sell and convey his estates in Cheshire.

In pursuance of such power, contracts for the sale of estates in Cheadle, Timperley, and Ashley, were entered into; but before any conveyances were executed, said James lord Bulkeley died intestate, leaving his widow Emma, enient of a son, afterwards born (Thomas James, lord Bulkeley).

29th Geo. II. 1756. By an Act of Parliament then passed, the said manors, &c. in Cheadle, Timperley, Edgeley, and Ashley, were vested in trustees, Sir William Meredith, baronet, and Robert Williams, esq. in fee, in trust, to convey the same to the several purchasers thereof, pursuant to their several contracts.

1st and 2d Sept. 1756. Said Meredith and Williams convey the manor of Cheadle, and certain messuages, &c. chief rents, &c. to the rev. Thomas Egerton, clerk, rector of Cheadle.

15th Nuv. 1760. Thomas Egerton, by will of this date, devised his manor of Cheadle Bulkeley, &c. to his wife Frances Egerton, in fee, and died December 1762.

18th Sept. 1766. Frances Egerton, by will of this date, constituted

^g See inscriptions subsequent.

^h Buried 22 Jan. 1606. The pension roll of 1566 mentions John Lambe, late one of the incumbents of the chantry of Chedle, having retired on a pension of £iv. xvjs. viiid.

ⁱ Died Dec. 16, 1657, being also dean of Chester. See vol. I. 221. Northenden Monuments.

^k Rector also of Stockport, see monuments vol. I. 243.

her two nephews, Edward Beresford and William Beresford, residuary devisees and legatees of her real and personal estate, and appointed them, and her brother Gilbert Beresford, executors, and died in the year 1767.

20th and 21st June 1769. By deeds of these dates, William Beresford conveys his moiety to said Edward Beresford.

9th and 10th May 1774. Edward Beresford, on his intended marriage with Mary Parker, of Arnold, com. Notts, spinster, one of the daughters of William Parker, of Salford, com. Warwick, esq. by Milesent his wife, theretofore Milesent Newdigate, limited to trustees the manor of Cheadle, &c. after the solemnization of the marriage, in strict settlement, with remainder to himself in fee.

21st June, 1783. Said Edward Beresford devised his reversion, expectant on the death of himself and wife, and failure of issue, of and in the manor of Cheadle, &c. to trustees, Richard Fitzherbert and Roger Jason, in trust, to sell.

April, 1787. Said Edward Beresford died, leaving two sons, Edward Charles and Parker. Edward Charles died under age and unmarried. And Parker died 1st July, 1805, unmarried. Said Edward had other children, but they died very young.

Roger Jason, the surviving trustee for sale under Mr. Edward Beresford's will, sold the manor of Cheadle and chief rents to John Worthington, of Ringway within Hale, gent. to whom the same were conveyed by deeds dated the 25th and 26th November, 1806.

50th Geo. III. 1810. An Act of Parliament was then passed for inclosing the waste lands in the manors of Cheadle Hulme otherwise Cheadle Moseley, and Cheadle Bulkeley, in the parish of Cheadle; and of Bolshaw Outwood, lying within these manors; and the manor of Handford; under which Act such waste lands have been inclosed.

17th June, 1813. Said John Worthington, by will of this date, devised the manor of Cheadle Bulkeley, &c. to trustees, in trust, to sell; and in those trustees the said manor is now vested.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Mary.

Tax P. N. £.8. 2s. Val. Eccl. £.13. Os. 7½d.

The church of Cheadle consists of a tower, containing six bells, a nave, chancel, and side aisles. The nave is divided from the side aisles by four pointed arches at each side, resting on octagonal pillars, and a smaller one at the eastern end of the range. At the end of the South side aisle is the Hondford chancel, and at the end of the north aisle the Cheadle Moseley Chancel.

In the HONDFORD CHANCEL is a large altar-tomb, on which are recumbent figures of two knights in rich plate armour, one bare-headed, the other in a helmet ornamented with a wreath, and a fillet. Another altar-tomb has been placed at the north side of this, on which is a third figure of a knight in plate armour, his head resting on a helmet with a plume of feathers. At the end of the monument are the arms of Brereton impaling Ward; at the sides, a shield charged with the arms of Brereton with a crescent, and the badge of baronetcy; and another with those of Ward (chequy Or and Azure, a bend Ermine), in the centre a tablet, with the following inscription:

Here lyeth the body of sir Thomas
Brereton of Handforthe, baronett,
who married Theodosia, daughter
to the right honourable Humble
lord Ward, and the lady Frances,
barronesse Dudly. Hee departed
this life the 7th of January,
anno Dom. 1673,
ætatis suæ 43.

In the window, the arms of Stanley impaling Hondford. Arms, on a chief engrailed Azure, three bucks Or, impaling Hondford, 1 and 4, Sable, a star of six rays Argent; 2 and 3, Gules, a scythe Argent, Praers. Crest, partly defaced, an eagle's head erased Or, holding in the mouth a claw, Gules.

In the NAVE are some memorials of the Fowdens of Manchester, and a brass plate, inscribed as follows. Arms: Ermine, a bend engrailed Sable. Crest: on a wreath, a wolf's head.

Near this place,
in the burying-ground belonging
to the Kelsalls of Bradshaw,
Edmund Kelsall was interred
February 9, 1675,
Humphrey Kelsall, December 21st, 1686.
Edmund Kelsall, January 8th, 1687.
John Kelsall, May 29th, 1710.

Barbara Kelsall, she died

April 24th, 1718.

Penelope Kelsall, Dec. 13th, 1720.

Henry Kelsall, February 16, 1723.

James Kelsall, May 21, 1745.

In the MOSELEY CHAPEL is a tablet, emblazoned with the following arms in a lozenge for Bland: Argent, on a bend Sable, three pheons Or, impaling Moseley, on an escocheon of pretence.

In the east window of the principal CHANCEL are some mutilated armed figures in stained glass, and the arms of Bulkeley, with numerous quarterings.

On a brass in this chancel:

Hic jacet Humphridus Bulkeley armiger, filius
et hæres Richardi Bulkeley armigeri, et Katherinæ
uxoris filiaæ Georgii Nedham de Thornset in comitatu
Derbiæ armigeri. Richardus filius fuit primogenitus
Richardi Bulkeley militis (de Beawmaris et Cheadle) per
uxorem priorem. Humphridus Bulkeley prædict.
obiit octavo die Septembris, anno Domini 1678.

Arms: three bulls' heads coupéd.

The following monumental inscription has been added to those already enumerated since these church notes were taken in 1817:

Within this chancel rest the remains of
Bertie Markland, esquire,
many years in the commission of the peace,
and a deputy-lieutenant of the county of Lancaster;
who died at the rectory-house in this parish, on the 20th
day of May 1817, aged 66 years.
In the discharge of his duty as a magistrate, he was up-
right and impartial,
as a friend and neighbour conciliating and sincere,
a loyal subject to his king,
and a Christian in faith and practice.

In the same grave is interred the body of
Anne Markland,
his affectionate wife, by whose death, on the 29th of
October 1816,
in her 65th year, a happy union of 40 years was dissolved.
This tablet is consecrated to their memory
by their surviving relatives.

On an open book at the top of the monument, the following text:

“ Watch and pray, for ye know not when the time is.”
Mark xiii. v. 33.

There is an endowed free-school in the township of Cheadle Hulme: other charities are specified in the Parliamentary Returns^m.

^m The church notes of Chedle (Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 138) notice (among other things) in the chancel, two kneeling figures on each side of the arms of Bulkeley yet remaining there, and a mutilated inscription: “ — Bulkele quond — Coditon que hoc sacellum 1556, et — ”

In the Hondford chancel, “ on a plaine tombe two men in armour, that on the south side bareheaded, the other armed and collared, their hands conjoyned and their feet on two lions gardant; under their heads each a helmet, with wreath, mantle, and hind's head.” This describes the figures above mentioned in their perfect state.

In the east window of this chancel, under Stanley of Hondford as above, an inscription which may be restored thus, “ (Orate pro anima) Joh'is Stanley (et Margarete uxoris) ej's et pro a'abus Jacobi Stanley (episcopi Elie)n(sis) et Will'mi Hondford (de Hondford armigeri, patrum) eoru' et o'ium fidelium (defunctorum, quorum animabus) propicietur Deus. Non nobis, non nobis D'ne sed (tuo nomini sit gloria. Amen.)

“ In the marquis of Winchester's chappell on the north side the church, now Mr. Mosley's, under the arms of Savage, Joh'is Savage — uxoris sue, qui has fenestras fieri fecerunt M.CCCC.XXVII.”

In the church porch “ S^r John Blomeley, clerk, 1569.”

CHEADLE HULME, OR CHEADLE MOSELEY.

THE manor of Cheadle Hulme is termed a moiety of the manor of Chedle in the inquisitions, being that portion of the original vill of Chedle which passed with Clemence, daughter and coheir of Roger de Chedle to William de Bagulegh^a.

The descent of Chedle Hulme through Isabel, daughter of Roger, and wife of sir Thomas Daniers, to his daughter Margaret, wife successively of John Savage and Piers Legh, is the same as that of Clifton in Bucklow hundred, vol. I. p. 526.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VI. Margaret, late wife of Piers de Leighe, held, inter alia, in demesne as of fee, a moiety of the manor of Chedle, from Catherine queen of England, in capite, by military service: val. xx marks. Sir John Savage, knight, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VII. Sir John Savage, knight, held, inter alia, in demesne as of fee, the manor of Chedle from the earl in capite: val. xxi.; and lands in Chedle Hulme, val. xxi.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VIII. Sir John Savage, jun. knt. held, inter alia, a moiety of the manor of Chedle, and lands in Chedle Hulme, as before, as the 20th part of a knight's fee, val. xlii. xviii. viii.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VIII. Sir John Savage, knight, held as before.

Inq. p. m. 41 Eliz. Sir John Savage, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Chedle, or Chedle Hulme, with lands, &c. therein, and the render of two pair of gloves, in Chedle, Chedle Hulme, Adswood, Etchells, Hale, Tympley,

Poynton, Ashley, Ollerbarrowe, and Mottram Andrew, held from the queen as of her earldom of Chester, as the 20th part of a knight's fee: val. xlii. xviii. viii.

Shortly after the date of this last inquisition, Cheadle Hulme (after being intermediately possessed by the marquis of Winchester^b) passed to sir Nicholas Moseley, knight^c, lord mayor of London in 1599, and younger son of Edward Moseley, of Houghsend, co. Lancast.^d His collateral representative, sir Edward Moseley of Hulme, in the same county^d, knight, left issue Anne, sole daughter and heiress, wife of sir John Bland of Kippax, co. Ebor. knight. After an alienation by the Blands, about the middle of the last century^e, and intermediate possession by a branch of the Davenport family, this manor passed to the Bamfords^e of Bamford, in the co. of Lancaster, in whose representatives in the female line it is now vested. A court baron is held for the manor by Lloyd Bamford Hesketh, esq.^e, the present proprietor.

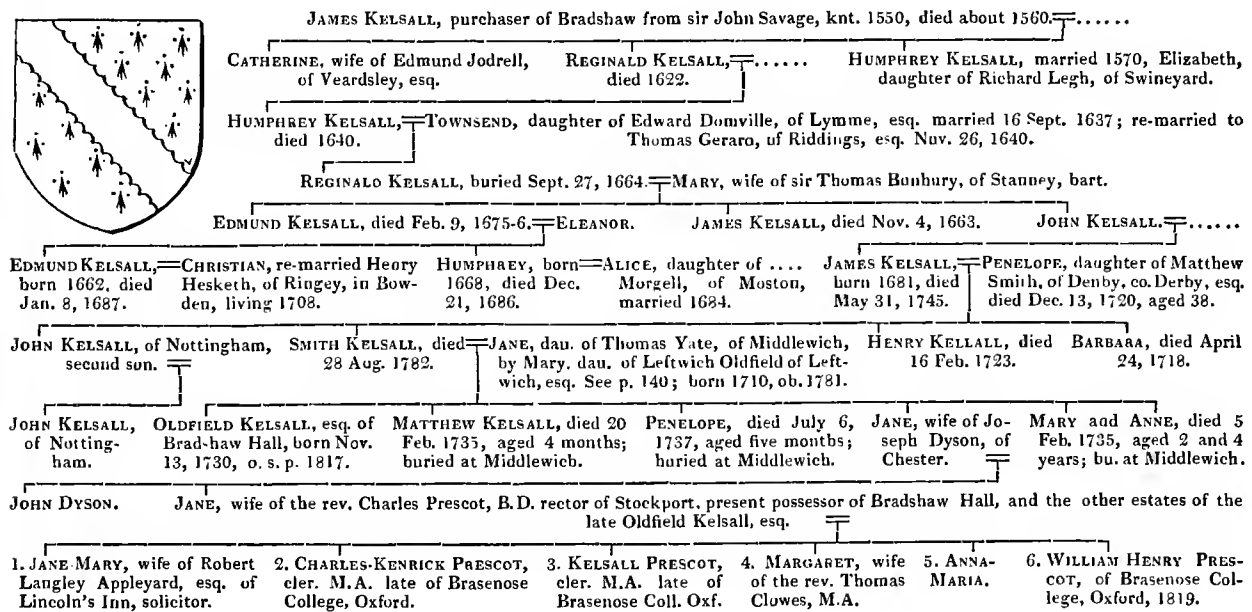
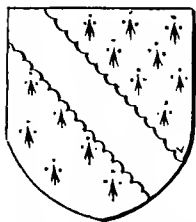
BRADSHAW HALL, an antient mansion in this township, was purchased in 1550 from sir John Savage, by James Kelsall.

The annexed pedigree of this family brings down the descent to their late representative, Oldfield Kelsall, esq. on whose decease in 1817, Bradshaw Hall, with his other estates, devolved to his niece, the wife of the rev. Charles Prescott, B. D. rector of Stockport, in whom they are now vested.

KELSALL OF BRADSHAW.

Communicated by the rev. Joseph Eaton, M. A. F. S. A. with a continuation by the rev. C. K. Prescott, M. A.

ARMS. Ermine, a bend engrailed Sable.



^a The lord of the manor of Cheadle Moseley is still lord paramount of Cheadle Bulkeley and Handford, the two other component townships of this parish, each holding of Cheadle Moseley by suit and service at the court of Cheadle Moseley, and 1s. rent for Cheadle Bulkeley, and 4s. 6d. for Handford. Information of William Pass, esq.

^b Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^c Lysons's Magna Britannia.

^d Wotton's Baronetage, vol. I. p. 193-4.

^e Information of J. A. Newton, esq. agent of Mr. Bamford.

HONFORD CUM BOSDEN.

FROM the tenures specified in the subsequent inquisitions, it appears that this township was originally a component part of the vill of Cheadle, and that the manor was a subinfeudation under the lordship of that place.

Bosden, which is a hamlet of this township, was granted to "Henry de Honefort," probably grandfather of the Henry hereafter named, by deed of sir Robert de Stokeport (printed at length in Watson's History of the House of Warren, vol. ii. 211), 1233—37. Test. Ric. de Phitton, just. Cest., Walter abbot of Chester, &c.

The first of the mesne lords that occurs in the pedigree, is the said Henry de Honford, father of John, who married Margery, daughter and coheirress of William de Praers of Baddiley, 33—46 Edw. III.^a being then widow of Hugh Holt, previous to which first marriage Margery had issue by John Honford, a bastard son of his own name^b.

Inq. p. m. 17 Ric. II. John, son of Henry de Honford, held, in demesne as of fee, the manors of Honford and Bosden, cum. pert. and xxixs. rent in Chedle, from Piers de Leigh and Margaret his wife, as in right of the said Margaret, in socage, and by the render of xs. per ann.; val. xxi.: also lands in Torkynton and Offerton; and by courtesy in right of his late wife Margery de Praers, the manor house and half the vill of Yeyton, and lands in Hulme Walfield, and Dittlemore. John Honford son and heir.

By a subsequent inquisition, taken (with reference to the Praers estates) at Chester 28 Feb. 21 Ric. II. it was found that this John was illegitimate, and that William Mainwaring, son of Johanna Praers, sister of Margery, was next heir, and Robert bishop of Coventry, certifying to the contrary, it was found that his certificate was false, and that he was "senex et cæcus^c."

This William Mainwaring subsequently gave a large portion of his estates to his cousin John Honford^d.

This John Honford had issue William, father of sir John Honford, according to the Cheshire pedigrees.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. IV. John de Honford, chivaler, held in demense, as of fee, the manor of Honford, from Margaret, widow of Piers Leigh, as of her manor of

Chedle, as the 16th part of a knight's fee: val. per ann. xvii. John Honford son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VIII. William Handford, esq. (son of John, heir in the last inquisition), held the manor of Handford from the heirs of sir Geoffry Chedle, knt. by the render of xs. per annum; val. xxi.: and lands in Bosden, Torkington, Hulme-Walfield, Lawton, Eyton, Badeley, Fadiley, Burland, Brindley, Stoke, and Haukesley, and the manor of Ashton sup. Mersey, and lands in Sale, Altrincham, and Stockport; died Sept. 9, 5 Hen. VIII. Margery, wife of sir John Stanley, knight, (aged xii years,) daughter and heiress: val. tot. xxixl. xvii. viiid.

Inq. sup. breve de mandamus 5 Edw. VI. John Stanley of Handford, held, in right of his wife, lands and messuages in Ashton, Handford, Yayton, Altrincham, Hulme Walfield, Bosden, and other townships, and the manor houses of Yayton and Handford.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Sir Urian Brereton, knight (second husband of Margery Handford), held the manor of Handford, from sir John Savage, knight, by the services of the 18th part of a knight's fee, and the render of xs.; val. xxi. The manor of Ashton sup. Mersey, the capital messuage in Chester, called the Nunnes, with lands in Lache and Marleston, and lands in Bosden, Hulme Walfield, Buglawton, Eaton, Badeley, Fadeley, Burland, Brindley, Stoke, Hawksley, Altrincham, and Stockport; val. tot. £64. 16s. 8d.: died March 19, 19 Eliz. Randle Brereton, esq. son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 26 Eliz. Randle Brereton, esq. held the manor of Handford as before, as the 10th part of a knight's fee, and lands in most of the places before-mentioned: died Dec. 30, 26 Eliz. William Brereton brother and heir.

Inq. p. m. Ap. 4, 8 Jac. I. William Brereton, esq. held the manor of Handford, and lands and manors as in *Inq.* 22 Eliz.: val. tot. lxl. xs. viiid. William Brereton, esq. son and heir, aged five years six months and twenty-one days, at the taking of this inquisition.

The subjoined abstract of title brings down the descent of the MANOR OF HANDFORD to its present proprietor, William Pass, esq. of Altrincham^e. The *Hall*

^a They had a dispensation for having married within the forbidden degrees, 49 Edw. III. Vill. Cest.

^b Mainwaring's Corrections of Leycester, vol. I. 369.

^d See Eaton, p. 138, and see also vol. I. 369 as before. The date of the *Inq.* 21 Ric. II. is retained as given in sir Peter Leycester's MSS.; but there was a previous *Inq.* 17 Ric. II. finding William Mainwaring heir, for which see Eaton.

^e By deeds dated the 8th and 9th May, 1666, sir Thomas Brereton, of Handford, bart. conveyed to trustees,

The manors of Handford alias Handforth, Ashton upon Mersey Bank, Eaton alias Yaton, Holme Walfield, Bosdon alias Boson, within the county of Chester.

Also the liberties, franchises, seignories, and jurisdictions, with the lands, hereditaments, &c. of said sir Thomas Brereton, lying in or near or about the city of Chester, theretofore belonging unto the fryories or nunneries of Chester, and called the Fryorie lands and Nunnery lands there.

Also all those lands, tenements, and hereditaments, lying within the lordship, territories, or liberties, of Marlstone and Lache, near unto the city of Chester.

Likewise all his messuages, tenements, lands, pastures, commons, privileges, and hereditaments, situate within the manor or forest of Macclesfield, in the county of Chester.

Together with all that his park, called Swainscoe Park, in the said county of Chester.

And all those his lands called Hauksleigh and Woodhouse Green, in the county of Stafford.

All which were situate within the manor or forest of Macclesfield.

To the use of said sir Thomas, for life, sans waste.

Remainder, as to the manors of Handford, Bosden, and of Ashton upon Mersey Bank; the Fryorie and Nunnery lands, and the messuages, &c. in the lordship, &c. of Marlston or Lache, to the use of his lady, dame Theodosia Brereton, for her life in lieu of her dower.

Remainder, as to the said premises, to the issue of said sir Thomas in strict settlement.

Remainder, as to the manor of Handford, and the Fryorie and Nunnery lands; and as to said lands in Marlston or Lache, to Nathaniel Booth, of Mottram Andrew, com. Chester, in tail male.

Remainder, to the heirs of the body of said Nathaniel Booth in tail general.

Remainder to the right heirs of said sir Thomas for ever.

N. B. The above settlement appears to have been cancelled, but there is an endorsement thereon, whereby it appears to have been duly executed in the presence of five witnesses, and there are several other endorsements, whereby it appears that it had several times been exhibited to witnesses to be proved, viz. 26th Sept. 1678, it was shewn at a commission at Nantwich in a cause in chancery, Ward against Booth, and 9th Oct. 1678, at another commission in the same cause, and 6th Oct. 1684, in another commission in a cause Leigh against Booth, and 18th July,

and its demesne are the property of Lawrence Wright, of Mottram Andrew, esq. and were purchased by his family from the Leghs of Chorley in Lancashire (ancestors of the present Leghs of Adlington), to whom they devolved from the Breretons of Honford^f, probably by bequest, towards the latter end of the seventeenth century. A court baron is incident to the manor. The constables are sworn in the court leet held for Macclesfield hundred.

1681, before the baron of the court of exchequer at Chester.

Some short time after executing the settlement, sir Thomas Brereton died issueless, his wife dame Theodosia surviving. Upon her death said Nathaniel Booth entered upon said premises, but the deed appearing to be cancelled, gave occasion for William Ward, eldest son of Frances lady Ward, the eldest sister of said sir Thomas, and Mary the wife of John Levett, who was daughter of Susannah Lenthall, the other sister of said sir Thomas, to set up their claim, as heirs at law; and accordingly they brought their bill against said Nathaniel Booth, wherein the whole question seemed to be whether the settlement was cancelled animo revocandi.

18th Feb. 31 Chas. II. 1678, a decree was made in the above cause in the high court of chancery, in which William Ward an infant, by Edward lord Ward his guardian, John Levett and Mary his wife, were complainants, and said Nathaniel Booth defendant; which states, in reference to the settlement being cancelled, that sir Thomas being displeased with his lady, in his passion rent the seal and the label from the deed (but without any displeasure to the defendant), but afterwards repenting of that rash act, delivered the deed with his own hand to one of the trustees to be kept for the uses therein declared, and often enquired whether, notwithstanding such his rash act, the said deed continued still in force, and being advised it did, he declared great satisfaction therein. The court therefore ordered that the matter of the plaintiff's bill should be thenceforth dismissed.

The plaintiffs appealed from the above decree to the House of Lords, and on the 24th March, 1679, by an order upon hearing counsel that day at the bar of the House of Lords upon the petition of said William Ward, John Levett, and Mary his wife, the house dismissed the same appeal upon hearing.

3d April, 1682, said Nathaniel Booth levied a fine of premises in Handford, Lache, and Marlestone; but there is no deed declaring the uses of such fine.

Nov. 1692, said Nathaniel Booth died, and left Nathaniel Booth his eldest son and heir at law, John Booth his second son, and five daughters, Elizabeth, Ann, Theodosia, Katherine, and Mary, and the lands descended to his eldest son as the heir at law, or else he took under the settlement of sir Thomas Brereton as heir male, there being money to be raised for his sisters out of the said settlement.

20th May, 1699. Nathaniel Booth the son, by articles of this date, entered into with trustees previous to his marriage with Jane Dixon, of the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn, com. Middlesex, spinster, (eldest daughter and one of the coheiresses of Henry Dixon, then late of Hildon in the parish of Tonbridge, com. Kent, esq. deceased, by Ann, his then late wife, deceased) said Nathaniel Booth agreed to settle all his manors, messuages, &c. in the county of Chester or elsewhere (except all mines in the waste grounds of Mottram Andrew, with liberty of working the same) to the uses therein agreed upon in favour of himself for life, for providing a jointure for his intended wife, and portions for younger children, and limiting the estate upon his issue male in strict settlement.

9th Sept. 17th Will. III. 1700. A common recovery was suffered by said last mentioned Nathaniel Booth of the manor of Handforth alias Handford; but no deed to make the tenant to the precipe, nor to declare the uses of the said recovery, can be found.

22d January, 1744, said Nathaniel Booth, by will of this date, devises all his messuages, &c. in Handford in the county of Chester, and all other his estates in England and Wales, to Nathanael Booth, of Hampstead, co. Middlesex, esq. (surviving son of the dean of Bristol) his heirs and assigns, for ever. And appointed said last named Booth residuary legatee and sole executor, who proved the same will, with two codicils subsequently added, in the prerogative court of Canterbury the 9th Oct. 1745.

Two proprietors of this manor, SIR JOHN STANLEY, and SIR WILLIAM BRERETON, require a further notice.

SIR JOHN STANLEY of Hondford, who by Inq. 7 H. VIII. was found to hold this manor in right of his wife Margaret, then a minor, was natural son of James Stanley bishop of Ely. His mother was probably the lady to whom Fuller quaintly alludes, in saying that he blamed not the prelate for passing the summer with his brother the earl, in Lancashire, but for "living all the winter at

It appears that Nathaniel Booth the testator resided at Gray's Inn at the time of making his will, and probably was interred at the church of St. George the Martyr, as by his will he leaves to the rector and churchwardens of St. George the Martyr, £5. to be distributed to the poor. It also appears that he died without issue, but it does not appear when he died; the last codicil is dated 4th June, 1745.

28th Oct. 1745, George Booth, of Hayes, co. Middlesex, gent. (nephew and heir at law of Nathaniel Booth the testator, and son and heir of John Booth, gent. deceased, who was only brother to said Nathaniel the testator, as such heir at law released to said Nathanael Booth the devisee all his estate, &c. in and to the real estate then late of said Nathaniel Booth the testator, and so devised as aforesaid.

14th June, 1764, said Nathanael Booth the devisee, by his then title of Nathanael baron Delamer, agreed with Edward Wrench, of the city of Chester, gent. for the sale to him of the manor of Handford, and of several premises in the several parishes of St. Mary, St. Martin, and the Holy Trinity in the city of Chester. And by deeds dated the 29th and 30th of August, 1766, the said manor, &c. were conveyed to Mr. Wrench in fee.

11th and 12th June, 1776, said Edward Wrench by deeds of this date limited to trustees, John Glegg, esq. and Hugh Whishaw, gent. among other property, the manor of Handford, to the use of such person as he should by will direct; and subject thereto, to his issue in strict settlement. Remainder to his brother the rev. Thomas Wrench, clerk, for life. Remainder to Edward Ommaney Wrench (son of Thomas) for life. Remainder to the first son of his body in tail male, &c. Subject to revocation. And by his will, dated 14th June, 1776, after noticing said settlement, which he did confirm except what should be altered by his will, devised his manor of Handford, &c. to said Glegg and Whishaw, in trust to sell, &c. and appointed his wife Sarah Wrench, and said Glegg and Whishaw, executrix and executors.

At the Rolls, the Master of the Rolls, 7th Dec. 1780, Wrench v. Wrench. The court declare the will of the testator, Edward Wrench, well proved, and that the same ought to be established, and the trusts thereof, and of the deed of 12th June, 1776, carried into execution, and decreed the same accordingly.

1st and 2d Oct. 1790, by deeds of this date, said John Glegg, esq. who had survived Hugh Whishaw, after reciting said settlement and will of Wrench, and that the trusts thereof had been satisfied, partly out of testator's personal estate, and remainder by said E. O. Wrench out of his own proper monies, conveys the manor of Handford, &c. to said E. O. Wrench, and Edward Ommaney, esq. his trustee.

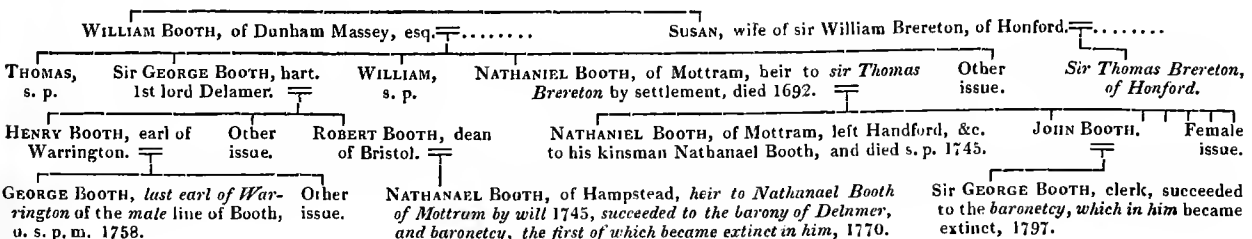
24th and 25th April, 1804, Edward Ommaney Wrench, of the city of Chester, esq. and Edward Ommaney, esq. his trustee, by deeds of this date convey to Joseph Cooper, of Handford, yeoman, certain chief rents payable out of estates within the manor of Handford.

24th and 25th June, 1805, said Edw. O. Wrench and Edw. Ommaney, by deeds of this date convey the manor of Handford to said Jos. Cooper in fee.

9th Nov. 1805, Joseph Cooper, by will of this date, devised his real estate to trustees to be sold.

9th and 10th Feb. 1808, by deeds of this date the devisees in trust of Cooper convey the manor of Handford, &c. to William Pass, of Altrincham, the present proprietor, 1819.

An excellent pedigree of the Mottram and Handford branch of the Booths will be found in Kimber's Baronetage, but the following skeleton of it will explain their connection with the Breretons, the mode in which Handford passed, and the successive extinctions of the earldom, barony, and baronetcy.

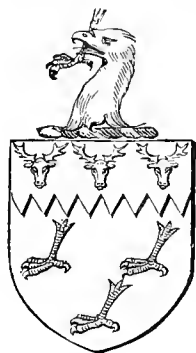


^f Information of L. Wright, esq.

Somersham in Huntingdonshire, with one who was not his sister, and who wanted nothing to make her his wife save marriage."

By a first marriage with Elizabeth daughter and co-heiress of sir John Harrington of Hornby Castle, sir John Stanley had three daughters^f; by his second marriage with Margaret Hondford he had one son, John Stanley, who survived him, but died without issue before his mother.

The bishop of Ely is said to have been more of the warrior than the priest, but the predilections of his knightly son appear to have inclined wholly to the cloister. He founded a chantry in Manchester collegiate church, where the bones of his father yet lie under an altar tomb graced with his effigy^g: the south chancel of Chedle bears in its windows the arms of this sir John in the place usually assigned to the insignia of a founder; and for some other benefaction now unknown, John, abbot of Westminster, grants to this sir John Stanley and Dame Margaret his wife, and to John Stanley their heir, and Anne Stanley their sister, that they shall be prayed for in that monastery "in vitâ pariter et in morte," and in all other places in their order through England, and that their names shall be enrolled in their martyrology post obitum. The grant is dated Jan. 5, 1527, under the common seal of the abbey^h.



The sequel of sir John Stanley's life must be gathered from lord Herbert's History of Henry VIII. Among the articles preferred against Cardinal Wolsey, the xxxviii article states "That the s^d cardinal did call before him sir Jno. Stanley, k^t, which had taken a farm by covent seal of the abbot and covent of Chester, and afterwards by his power and might, contrary to right, committed the said sir Jno. Stanley to the prison of Fleet, by the space of one year, until such time as he compelled the s^d sir Jno. to release his covent seal to one Legbe of Adlingt'n which marr^d one Lark's dau'r, which woman the s^d lord cardinal kept, and had with her two children, whereupon the s^d sir Jno. Stanley upon displeasure taken in his heart made himself monk in Westm^r, and there died."—P. 300, ed. 1672.

The other possessor of Handford, SIR WILLIAM BRERETON, incontestably one of the greatest military characters which his county has produced, was in his sixth year in 8 Jac. I. as appears by the Inq. after his father's death. His "notorious aversion for the government of the church," which Clarendon notices, was probably heightened in its effect on his political conduct by several casual circumstances: he was the friend and neighbour of Henry Bradshaw and colonel Dukenfield, and the son-in-law of sir George Booth, who was considered

the corner-stone of the presbyterian interest in Cheshire. The best and greatest of his kinsmen, sir William Brereton, of the Shocklach branch, had been sacrificed on the block but a few generations before, to the fury of Henry VIII. which would yet rankle in the breasts of his relatives; and many annoying circumstances attendant on the imposition of the ship-money, which had brought him into active collision with the citizens of Chester, and a vexatious opposition by the municipal authorities of that place to his exemptions from tolls and murage, in right of the lands of St. Mary's nunnery, are supposed to have contributed towards making the severity with which he followed up the siege of that place, an act of premeditated vengeanceⁱ.

On March 10, 1626-7 (shortly after the termination of his long minority), Mr. Brereton was elevated to a baronetcy, and represented the county in the parliaments convened 3, 15, and 16 Car. I. In 1641 he occurs in the parish register of Wansted in Surrey, with about 50 of the principal inhabitants, as signing a protestation expressive of their attachment to the church of England, and their abhorrence of popish innovations^k; and the year after became conspicuous by causing a drum to be beat for the parliament in Chester, on which occasion he nearly fell a victim to the indignation of the populace. In the same year the arming of the county, and the seizure of the goods and weapons of delinquents was confided to him by the parliament, and he was subsequently appointed commander in chief of the Cheshire forces. The scene of his action was by no means however limited to the palatinate, but extended over all the adjoining counties, of which ample proof will be found in Burghall's Diary of the Siege of Nantwich, and the accounts of the other military movements interspersed in this work. It was never his destiny to exhibit his misapplied skill and valour in any of the scenes of contention most distinguished in the annals of his time; but their influence was not the less injurious to the cause of their opponents. His early defence, and final relief of Nantwich (in co-operation with Fairfax), saved the only garrison which was left to the rebel interest in Cheshire or the parts adjacent, and his reduction of Chester deprived the royalists of this district of their main point of shelter, and the great centre for their exertions. By that fatal coincidence which arranged friends and kinsmen under the opposite banners in this contest, sir William Brereton, both at Nantwich and Chester, the greatest scenes of his exertions, was opposed to lord Byron whose family was nearly allied to that of the parliamentary general, his brother and finally heir sir Richard Byron, equally distinguished as a loyalist, having married Elizabeth, daughter of sir George Booth, and consequently sister of lady Brereton.

After the termination of the war, among other honorary offices conferred on him by the parliament, sir William Brereton had the chief forestership of Macclesfield,

^f In an elaborate pedigree of the Beaumont family (Loidis and Elmete, p. 338) this Elizabeth is described as "2nd w. of Richard Beaumont, by whom she had no issue," and said to have "married to her first husband sir John Stanley, of Hondford, in co. pal. Chest. kt." and to have "died 7 Hen. VIII. Inq. p. m. 10 Mar. 7 Hen VIII." The Lancashire pedigrees make her generally wife of John Stanley, of Mellington, esq. base son of the bishop of Ely, and if the bishop had not two natural sons of this name, and John Stanley, of Mellington, esq. and sir John Stanley, of Hondford, kt. were the same, the second marriage must have been preceded by a divorce from her first husband.

^g Over the door of this chancel (which is improperly called lord Derby's chapel, popular tradition looking to the most noble of the name) are the arms of Stanley (base line) impaling Hondford, and in 1632 was this inscription, preserved in Harl. MSS. 2129, p. 66, with a few trifling literal corrections: "Vanitas vanitatum, et omnia vanitas—obsecramus ut adjuvetis nos Jacobum Elyensem episcopum, Joannem Stanley militem, et Margaretam uxorem ejus, et parentes eorum, in orationibus vestris apud Jesum Christum, qui hanc capellam in ejus nomine et in honorem Joannis Baptistæ fabricaverunt anno incarnationis 1513."

^h The original grant is preserved in the largest volume of MS pedigrees at Tabley, and is beautifully illuminated and ornamented with flowers, knots, and armorial bearings, including the above coat of sir John Stanley, composed of the arms of Stanley and Latbam, Or, three eagles' legs and claws erased Gules; on a chief indented Azure three bucks' Leads cabossed Or. Crest: On a wreath an eagle's head couped Or, holding in the beak an eagle's leg and claws, erased Gules, unguled Azure.

ⁱ See Harl. MSS. 2093. 2101.

^k Lysons's Environs, IV. 243.

and the seneschalship of that hundred; he had also large allowances out of the personal estates of papists and delinquents, by an ordinance of the parliament; and after the death of archbishop Laud, received a grant of

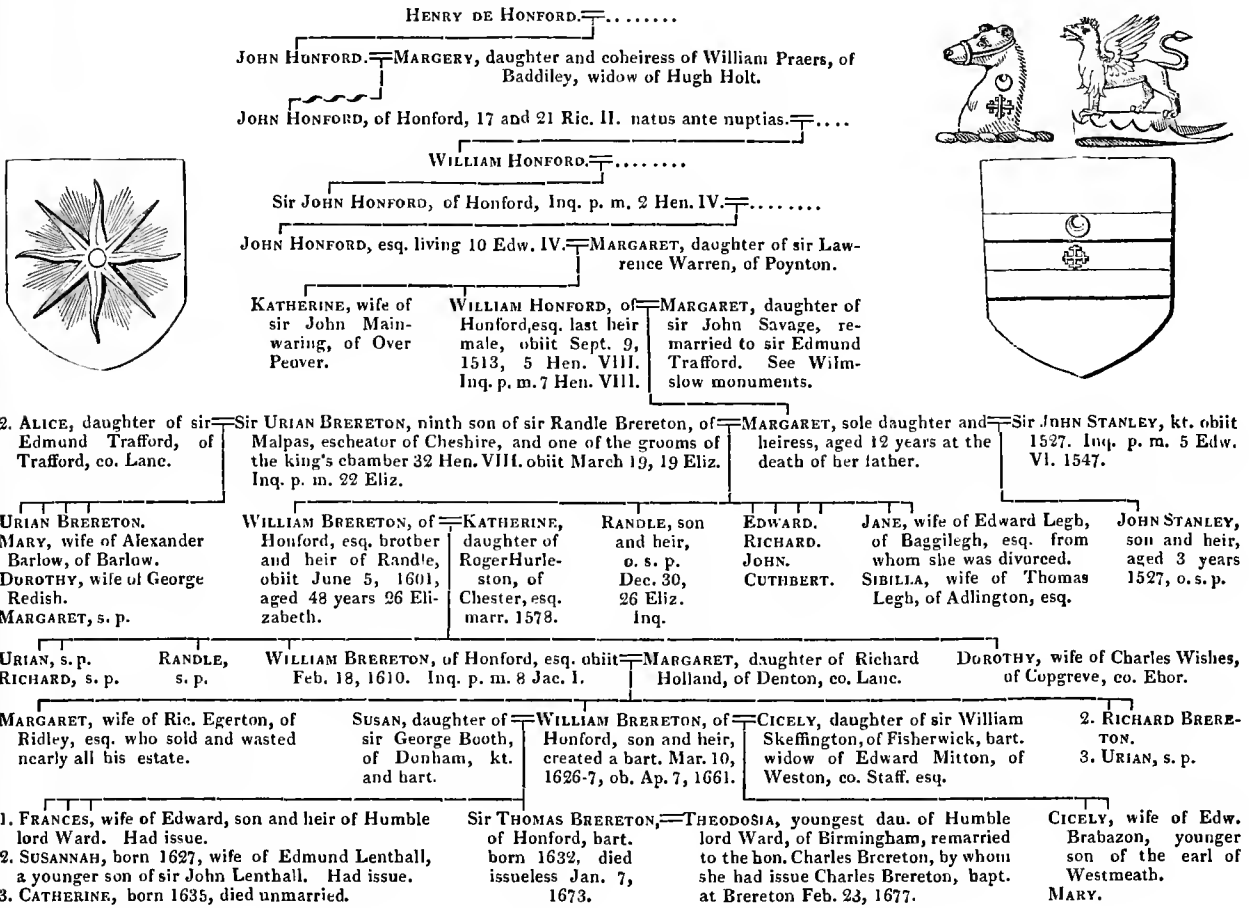
the archiepiscopal palace of Croydon, in which he fixed his residence during the protectorate; and surviving the restoration a few months only, died April 7, 1661¹.

HONFORD AND BRERETON OF HONFORD.

From Leicester's MS pedigrees, with additions from the Inquisitions and Le Neve's MS Baronetage.

ARMS OF HONFORD. Sable, a star Argent, pierced of the field.

ARMS AND CREST OF BRERETON, as Brereton of Brereton with filial distinction, and as an additional crest, a griphon, with wings elevated Gules, standing on a chapeau Gules, turned up Or.



Handford Hall is situated about ten miles south of Manchester, near the road to Wilmslow, on the left, in a low situation, on the bank of a small brook.

Only one side of the quadrangle is standing, built of timber and plaister. The porch has sides of carved oak, and the following inscription is cut in black letter over the entrance: "This haulte was buylded in the yeare of

our Lord God mccccclxii by Uryan Brereton, knyght, whom maryed Margaret, daughter and heyre of Wyllyam Handforth of Handforthe, esquyer, and had yssue iii sonnes and ii daughters." At one end of the inscription is the coat of Brereton, quartering Ipstones, and impaling Handford. Brereton has for difference a cross crosslet between the barrs and a crescent, on the first barr.

¹ An ample statement of his operations against Chester is given in vol. i. p. 204—9, from Cowper's MSS. and another of those connected with the siege of Nantwich from Burghall's Diary, in vol. III. p. 223. This latter account gives particulars of his siege of Eccleshall castle, during which the bishop died, and of numerous other excursions of his troops in Staffordshire, Shropshire, Yorkshire, and other adjacent counties. Notices of him will also be found in Ducarel's account of Croydon, Pegge's tracts in the Bib. Top. Britann. and Clarendon, 8vo. edit. 1717, vol. II. pp. 145—6—50—52, 439—57, chiefly relating to the battle of Hopton Heath, and the sieges of Nantwich and Chester; and a vast variety of minute details of his successive operations may be found by consulting the index to Hollis's Memoirs. A scarce print of him, from Riecraft's Survey, was re-engraved a few years ago by Richardson.

In the Mysteries of the good Old Cause, 12mo. 1663, p. 3, (Lysons's Environs, f. 175) he is described as "a notable man at a thanksgiving dinner, having terrible long teeth and a prodigious stomach, to turn the archbishop's chapel at Croydon into a kitchen, also to swallow up that palace and lands at a morsel."

Clarendon notices the devotion of the lower orders to "sir William Brereton and his companions, and their readiness to supply them with intelligence;" and though he allows their education bad but ill fitted them for the conduct of a war, praises their execution of "their commands with notable sobriety and indefatigable industry (virtues not so well practised in the king's quarters), insomuch as the best soldiers who encountered with them had no cause to despise them." Vol. II. p. 147.

Dr. Gower in the account of his Cheshire Collections, p. 43, mentions the journals of sir W. Brereton in FIVE FOLIO VOLUMES, written in a small hand, describing every circumstance that occurred during the four years he was general. The author in 1819 had an opportunity of examining Dr. Wilkinson's Cheshire papers, among which sir W. Brereton's letters were preserved, being (with some very trifling exceptions) the only documents mentioned in Dr. Gower's prospectus which remained among the relics of his collections, and these had either been erroneously described, or a part of them had been otherwise disposed of. What remained were two folio volumes containing copies of letters from Oct. 1645 to Jan. 1645-6.

The Crest is at the other end. Within the house is a massy oak staircase; but all the rooms have been dismantled.

Handford is mentioned by Mr. Whitaker as the site of one of the subsidiary forts dependant on the Roman station at Manchester, near which he supposes a road to have been established from Condate to the station at Stockport. Mr. Watson, judging from the appearance

of some works near Hale, is disposed to remove the fort to that place, where a Norman fortress was certainly established, which might probably occupy the site of a previous one, erected by the Romans. The statements of both antiquaries are given in the introduction to this Hundred, and an account of the later works in Hale at p. 308. of this volume.

Prestbury Parish.^a



THIS extensive and important parish, which occupies the greater part of the southern half of Macclesfield Hundred, contains thirty-two townships, of which nine are situated in the parochial chapelry of Macclesfield. Within this district, exclusive of the parish-church and the site of the dilapidated chapel of Newton, are fifteen chapels of the establishment, two of which are considered domestic.

PRESTBURY.

PRESTBURY is situated about three miles N. N. W. of Macclesfield, on a cross-road, which forms the communication between those severally leading from Middlewich and Manchester to that place, and not far from the supposed line of the antient British and Roman road from Condate to Rainow Low. It appears, from circumstances noticed in the Introduction to this Hundred, to have been a place of consideration at a very early period, (a large antient cemetery having been discovered in Butley adjacent), and its etymology marks it as the site of an ecclesiastical establishment during the

Saxon government. At the Norman Conquest it must have been included in the Mercian earl's demesne of "Macclesfeld and Edulvintune;" and it is probable that the church, which was in other cases attached to the earl's demesne, and which is referred to by the name of the place, was destroyed by the ravages of the invaders, as it is unnoticed in the Domesday Survey.

After the Conquest the manor and church of Prestbury, which had passed to the Norman earls with the demesnes of their Saxon predecessors before mentioned, were given by Hugh Kevelioc to the abbey of St. Wer-

^a For an account of the annexed Vignette, see the note in p. 330.



J. D. Will. delin.

View from Marsh, South-Eastward on C.C.

P. REES & T. B. DRYDEN,

W. Fisher. Sculp.

burgh^a, which enjoyed it to the dissolution. In plea to a writ of quo warranto, 31 Edw. III. the abbot claimed view of frankpledge here by prescription, and free warren by charter of Edward I.^b

After the dissolution, the manor and advowson of Prestbury, which had been granted to the Dean and Chapter of Chester, fell with other manors, &c. into the hands of sir Richard Cotton; and by patent 22 Eliz. was confirmed generally to the fee-farmers, to whom George Cotton transferred his father's acquisitions. In the division of this property the same passed (Aug. 6, 22 Eliz.) to the Leghs of Adlington, who were possessed of a lease of the impropriated rectory before the dissolution^c.

Inq. p. m. 7 Oct. 44 Eliz. Thomas Leigh of Adling-

ton, esq. held, inter alia, the rectory and manor of Prestbury, and lands therein, and in Buttleigh, from the queen, as of her manor of East Greenwich, in socage, by fealty, value vi. From this period the manor, impropriated rectory, and advowson of Prestbury, have passed with Adlington to Richard Legh, esq. who holds a court leet and court baron for the same twice in the year.

Prestbury consists chiefly of one broad street, at the north-east end of which is a bridge of two arches over the Bollin, and at the other end the hall. Near the bridge is the church. The annexed view is taken east of the town, from the bank of the Bollin, which descends down a rich and beautiful valley from Macclesfield to Prestbury.

VICARS OF PRESTBURY.

PRESENTED.	VICARS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
	Hugo ^d .		
1300.	Walterus de Norton.	Abbas S'c'e Werburgæ.	
	Johannes Seculer.		
1350, 19 kal. Jun.	Ricardus Pigott, cap.	Abbas S'c'e Werburgæ.	P. res. Jo. Seculer.
1369.	Ricardus le Venables, pr'b'r.	Abbas S'c'e Werburgæ.	
1377.	Johannes del Schagh.	Abbas S'c'e Werburgæ.	
1394.	Willielmus Clopton, pr'b'r.	Abbas S'c'e Werburgæ.	
	Johannes del Schagh.		
1416, 2 Mart.	Johannes Duncalfe, cap.	Abbas S'c'e Werburgæ.	P. res. Jo. del Schagh.
	Nicholas Bryd.		
1461, 1 Ap.	Ricardus Brodhurst, A. M.		P. res. Nich. Bryd.
1475, ult. Maii.	Ricardus Smyth, pr'b'r.	Abbas S'c'e Werburgæ.	P. m. Ric. Brodhurst.
1525, Sept. 12, ante.	John Parsons.		
	Ralph Yane.		
1559, 6 May.	Edmund Newsom.	Richard Gravenor and John Gravenor.	Death of Ralph Yane.
1583, 20 June.	John Booth.	Richard Egerton.	
1627, 6 Ap.	Thomas Johnson.	Urian Legh.	Death of John Booth.
	George Leigh.		
1675, 27 Aug.	George Newton.	The King.	Cess. of George Leigh.
1691, 1 May.	Benjamin Shaw.	John Leigh.	Privation of Geo. Newton.
	William Foxley.		
1722, 2 Aug.	Joseph Lowe, A. M.	John Leigh.	Death of William Foxley.
1733, 24 Ap.	Edward Darill.	John Legh, esq.	Death of Joseph Lowe.
1738, 5 Oct.	Joseph Ward, A. M.	John Legh, esq.	Res. of Edw. Darill, LL.B.
1772, 4 March.	Peter Mayer ^e , A. B.	Charles Legh, esq.	Death of Joseph Ward.
1786, 25 June.	John Watson ^f , A. B.	Bishop of Chester, by lapse.	Death of Peter Mayer.
1800, 10 July.	John Rowlls Brown.	Elizabeth Legh, widow.	Res. of John Watson.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Peter.

Tax. P. N. £.26. 13s. 4d. Val. Eccl. £.10.

The descent of the impropriated rectory and advowson has been already given in that of the manor, and the licence for the appropriation and the ordination of

the vicarage are given from the chartulary of Chester abbey, in the note below^g.

Four townships, Titherington, Upton, Fallybroome, and Siddington, are however considered excepted from the effects of the impropriation, and pay corn-tithes to the vicar; and the tithes of another township, Capes-

^a And along with it he gave his body for interment in Chester Abbey. See vol. I. p. 18, and various confirmations in Harl. MSS. 1965.

^b See plea at large, vol. I. p. 238-9.

^c Their first lease was granted in 1448, which was renewed in 1461, and 1492 3, the last of which expired in 1523-4. In 16 Hen. VIII. 1525, another lease of 40 years was granted, and in the interval between these the contest with sir John Stanley appears to have taken place which is noticed in a curious statement in the articles of impeachment against cardinal Wolsey. See Honford, in this volume p. 326.

^d See Moberley charters, xxv. vol. I. p. 333.

^e See pedigree of Mere of Mere, vol. III. p. 66.

^f See pedigree of Wright of Mottram.

§ DE APP'AC'O'E ECC'E DE P'STEBURE.

Harl. MSS. 1965. vii. col. 2. Will's Cove'tr' Ep's dedit Ecc'e S'c'e Werb' Cestr' i' p'pos us's Eccl'iam de P'stebur' cu' o'ib's suis p'tin' salvis Vicar' x marc' arg'ti e' salvo jur' ep'ali. (This licence was in the time of Abbot Hugh Grylle, 1208—26.)

Ibid. Ordi'e'o porc'o'is Vicar' de P'steb'. (A copy of the ordination in possession of D. Browne, esq. bears date 1274.)

Symo de Balyden offic' Rog' E'pi o'dinavit q'd Vicar' de P'stebur' p'cipiet i' p'petuum o'es obl'o'es p'ann' salvis obl'onib's, et decimis q'adrage'b's e' obl'o'ib's diei pasche e' diei S'c'i Petr' Ap'li, Abb'i et Cnventui Cestr'. Item, p'cipiet t'tam ceram, e' porc'o'm t're jux'a mansu' suu' Vicar' assign'ie, e' aucas, e' linu', decima' ovorum, capreolorum, una cu' porc'o'e Vicar' p'us assignate e' tu'e possesse. Sustinebit it' d'e's Vicar' o'ia no'ra ordi'aria, e' ta' Eccl'e m'rici q' cap'llis honeste faciet deserviri, e' i' eis'd' libros e' ornam'ta in'e'riet, cet' v'o ex'ordi'aria una cu' reparac'o'e cancelli Mo'chi sustinebu't. Item Vicar' competente' mansu' h'ebit cu' curtillagio.

Ibid. p. 26, col 1. Se'te'tia diffiniti'a in Abb'm et p'ochianos de P'stebur' de nave Eccl'ie et ornam't' ejus.

Se'te'tia diffiniti'a p't magna' alt'cac'om consecuta f't ab offic' Archd' Cestr' q'd p'ochiani Ecc'e de P'stebur' nave' d'ce Ecc'e rep'abu' e' vesti'ta e' libros, e' a'a ornam'ta ecc'astica ei in'enient. Except' honesta Pixide p' eucharista e' corp'l'a de quib's Vicar' q' p' te'p'e fu'it videbit.

thorne, belong to the chapel of that place, to which they were given by John Ward, of Capesthorpe, esq.

The parish church of Prestbury consists of a tower containing six bells, a nave and chancel, and side aisles, both of which originally terminated in private chancels. That at the end of the north aisle is the property of the Leghs of Adlington; the other, which formerly belonged to the Worths of Tilherington, retains its piscina, and a portion of the carved oak screen. The nave is separated from the side aisles by five pointed arches on each side, resting on columns with capitals. The church is of stone, in the styles of various ages; the north aisle has been rebuilt entirely^h.

In the south aisle is a large alabaster slab fixed in the wall, with recumbent figures of a knight and his lady. This memorial is described in its original state in the list of antient monuments, N^o V.

Over this is a modern mural monument in memory of Mary, the wife of John Marsden, D. D. daughter and coheiress of John Acton, esq. of Beach, in this county. Obiit Jan. 4, 1771, æt. 41.

On a brass in the same aisle :

Here lyeth the body of
Bithia, wife of William Swettenham,
of Swettenham, esq.
who departed this life April the 30th, 1742.
Here also lyeth the body
of Thomas Swettenham, of Swettenham, esq.
son of William and Bithia Swettenham,
who departed this life March the 20th, 1748, aged 54.

In the east window of the Adlington chancel are some remains of an armorial shield of stained glass, under which is inscribed :

Orate pro bono statu Thomæ Legh de Adlington
armigeri et Sibillæ uxoris suæ unⁱ filiarum

Uriani Brereton de Handford militis defuncti
qui hanc fenestram fieri fecerunt in anno Domini 1601.

To the right of this window is a handsome pyramidal mural marble monument. Arms: Azure, two barrs Argent, for Legh (the bend of difference being omitted); on an escocheon of pretence Argent, a chevron Sable, between three leopards heads of the second, Lee.

To the memory
of Charles Legh, esq.
of Adlington, in the county of Chester,
who died the xxvi of July MDCCLXXXI,
aged LXXXIV years.
He married Hester Lee, eldest daughter and coheiress
of Robert Lee, esq.
of Wincham in the said county,
by whom he had an only child
Thomas Legh, esq.
who died at Wincham the xv day of June MDCCLXXV,
aged XL years.

In the chancel is a brass fixed to the north wall, with the arms and crest of Booth, inscribed,

Hic sepult.
jacet cadaver
Theodosiæ filiæ septimæ
Nathanielis Boothe armigeri,
nuper de Mottram Andrew, quæ mortem
obiit die 4 Martii 170³/₄.
Hic sepultum jacet cadaver
Mariæ octavæ et natu
minimæ filiæ Nathanielis
Boothe armigeri, nuper
de Mottram Andrew,
quæ mortem obiit
die 16^o Octobris
1696.

^h On the south side of the church is an antient low building of stone, the history of which is best given in the words of an inscription fixed on its front. It is most probably the remains of a church erected for the use of the parish shortly after the Norman Conquest, in lieu of the Saxon one which appears to have perished.

SACELLUM HOC ANTIQUISSIMUM PERIIBETUR HUIUS PAROCHIE ORATORIUM. VETUSTATE RUINOSUM, UNA JAM PRIDEM PARTE COLLAPSA, OMNI FERE ALTERA COLLABASCENTE, NE PRISCÆ PIETATIS VENERABILE MONUMENTUM FUNDITUS CORRUERET SUMPTIBUS SUIS RESTITUIT, G(ULIELMUS) M(EREDITH), B(ARONETTUS), A. D. MDCCXLVII.

The present building is about seven yards in width by fifteen in length, and is divided into nave and chancel. On each side of the former are two small round arches, and a third in each side of the latter. In the west front, which contains the only remains of the original building, is a doorway with a semicircular head formed by three concentric arches with early Norman ornaments. The first has a series of heads placed upon a kind of knot: the second is composed of chevrons; and the third has also a series of small beads, and a dove in the centre; within this arch, and over the entrance, was formerly a stone, in the centre of which was an oval, placed between cherubs, and within the oval a figure of the Deity sitting, and on the sides of it heads apparently intended to represent the two other persons of the Trinity, included within irregular circles. This stone is now placed in the west wall (inside of the building) with this inscription over it :

CÆLATUS INFRA LAPIS, PRIMO TESTA RADIATA TESSELATUS, SUB ARCU FORAS SITUS VETEREM PORTAM PRÆSENTI HUMILIOREM DUOS FERE PEDES REDDIDIT ANGSTIORI PROPORCIONALITER ISTA TUNC ETIAM EXISTENTE.

Over the semicircular arch is a row of seven figures, which appear to have been introduced as architectural ornaments to support a projecting ledge of stone crossing the front of the building over them.

The first figure (beginning at the north end) is much defaced, but appears to have represented an ecclesiastic.

The second is a regal figure crowned, holding a branch in his right hand and a ball in his left.

The third has some animal (a Lamb?) resting before its knees, and a glory issuing from the head, but is very obscure.

The central figure has a triple glory issuing from the head, a large book in the one hand, and a staff, surmounted with a cross patée, in the other.

The fifth figure is an animal somewhat resembling a rampant wolf, leaning against a column, but very obscure.

The sixth holds in the left hand an inverted mace, the head of which is armed with spikes.

The seventh figure holds a staff with both hands.

May not the central figure be supposed to represent an early preacher of Christianity, with his divine master, and the king and the priest (symbols of well ordered government) beyond him, on his right? To the left the rabid animal may refer to the wolf Fenrir, the Scandinavian evil genius which is to break its chains at the end of the world, and the armed noble and vassal refer to the desolation brought into England by the hordes of northern pagans, in contradistinction to the peaceful symbols on the right.

Over these figures is a tablet, with the inscription before mentioned, describing the former purposes of the fabric; and at the east end, within the building, are three other inscriptions, describing the parts which have been destroyed.

1. Anteriori parte hujus ædis, duæ solæ fenestræ præsentibus minutiores, oppositæ et prope medium quoad longitudinem totius edificii sitæ primitus existebant.

2. An'æ ullæ aut quot erant hac olim parte fenestræ ob statum ejus ruinosum nequaquam sciri potest, constat vero quod ejus orientalis paries circularis fuit.

Between these .

3. Quale aut quibus materiis structum præsci edificii tectum, totali ejus ruinâ omnino celatur.

The place was converted to the purposes of a family cemetery by the Merediths of Henbury. Over the entrance to the vault is the following inscription :

An'o Dom. MDCCXLV. infra cryptum fecit Gul. Meredith, bar. pro sepultura dilecti filii Amos Meredith, armig. qui Bathoniæ moriens vi Maii, hic sepeliebatur XIX sequente, an'o prædicto, ætatis suæ LVII. C. A. P. D.

At the north side of the communion table, are two slabs fixed in the wall; on the first is the recumbent figure of a knight in plate armour; under his head is a helmet, with the crest, a griffin's claw issuing from a ducal coronet. Round the side,

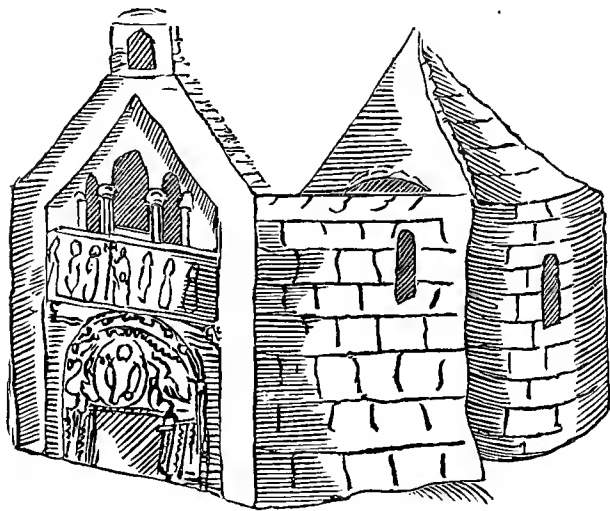
Here lyeth the bodye of
 Edwarde Warren of Poynton Kuyghte wyche dep'ted
 from thys transitory lyffe the xii
 day of October in the yere
 of our Lord God m^occcc^olviii^o whose soule God par-
 don. Amen.

Close to this is a similar stone, with a large cross fancifully ornamented, round which is this mutilated inscription:

Hic jacet Reginaldus Legh ar-
 mig. filius Roberti Legh (mil.) quondam d'ni d'Adlyng-
 ton (qui Regi)nald's fuit p'
 cipuus adjutor (in edificac'o'e campanilis, et porticon)
 eccl'ie edificavit (de p'priis) obiit xvi die Julii an. d. m
 cccc^olxxxii^o.

Opposite to these is a wide arch, formerly ornamented with crockets, and a plain slab underneath; and lower down, on an alabaster slab now fixed in the wall, the recumbent figures of a man in plate armour, and his lady, with the arms of Downes. The male figure is placed on the left sideⁱ.

The annexed *fac-simile of a very rude pen-drawing*, in Harl. MSS. 2151. represents this antient building as it existed in 1592; and the present appearance of such parts of the front as have escaped alteration is given from a drawing by Dewint, in p. 328. The lancet windows now destroyed must either have been an addition to the work below, or a very early specimen of that style of architecture. The whole is unquestionably the most curious specimen of Norman church architecture remaining in Cheshire.



Here lyeth the body of Jasper Worth, esquire, w'ch s'd Jasper deceased y^e 18 day of Feb. an'o D'ni 1572, and Ales his wife one of y^e daught' of sir Phillip Dreycot, kt. of Paynesley, in y^e county of Stafford, w'ch Ales deceased y^e 11 day of March in y^e year of our Lord 1596.)

"On two ends of posts in y^e said chappell belonging to Mr. Worth, are fixed these two coates with the writtings under them."

VI. Worth (Argent, a cross raguleè Sable), impaling Draycot, with seven other coats.

"Jasper Worthe of Tiderington, and Alis his wife, daughter of sir Phillip Draycot of Payne, knight, w'ch Alis died a'oo D'ni 1596.

VII. Worth, as before, impaling Sutton. 1. Sutton, quarterly (1 and 4, Or, a lion rampant Vert, Sutton (Dudley branch); 2 and 3, Quarterly, 1 and 4, a chevron between three bugles; 2 and 3, a chevron between three cross crosslets, no colours expressed; 4, Argent, a chief Gules, charged with an annulet Or, Worsley.

"Sewall Worth of Tidderington, gent. and Isabell his wife, dau. of John Sutton of Sutton, esq."

ⁱ See No. 1. in list of ancient monuments above.

*** In the account of Gawsworth an agreement has been noticed, made between Chester abbey and John de Birchel, rector of the chapel of Gawsworth, which has subsequently occurred at length with the date 1279, and two other original documents have been communicated by Mr. Browne which leave no doubt that Gawsworth and Taxall also were formerly dependencies of Prestbury. The first is an award made, May 5, 1377, between the monks of Chester abbey and John Shalcross, rector of Taxall, that in future the right of burying his parishioners, and of receiving mortuaries and other oblations (claimed as the *immemorial right of the church of Prestbury* by the convent) shall be allowed to him and his successors, paying to the monks a pension of 7s. yearly at Michaelmas. A similar claim was set up by the monks with respect to Gawsworth, and they agreed with John Eaton, rector of Gawsworth, April 17, 1382, that in future he might bury his parishioners, paying a moiety of the dues within ten days after each burial, but that any parishioner of Gawsworth might be interred according to his own wish at Prestbury without any claim on the part of Gawsworth. *Henry fraunceys* occurs as senior monk in both these awards,—a name of importance, being that of the monk who obtained the licence for acting the Chester plays from pope Clement (see vol. I. p. 299.) who must therefore be certainly Clement VI. and the date of the licence must be fixed between 1342 and 1352. This is a strong corroborative document in favour of the alleged high antiquity of the Chester mysteries.

On a brass in the chancel is a memorial of the rev. Joseph Ward, A. M. formerly of Wadham College, Oxford, and vicar 33 years, who died Feb. 7, 1772, in the 61st year of his age.

On an altar tomb near the north-west angle of the church-yard, is a memorial of the rev. Peter Mayer, B.A. formerly of Brazen Nose College, Oxford, vicar of Prestbury 13 years, who died July 6, 1785, aged 57.

On another altar-tomb, contiguous to the last, is a memorial of the rev. John Latham, A. B. formerly of Oriel College, Oxford, and late minister of Siddington in this parish, who died June 22, 1783, aged 58.

A monument with the following inscription has been added since these church notes were taken in 1817:

To the memory

of

Lætitia Catherine Hibbert,

wife of

Robert Hibbert, junr. esq. of Birtles,

and daughter of

Henry Augustus Leicester, esq.

of Tabley, in this county,

who died 11th July 1817,

in the xixth year of her age.

"Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart." Psalm cxix. v. 2.

The same church notes, taken anno 1592, Harl. MSS. 2151. p. 28. contain an account of the following antient monuments here:

I. In the chancel, on the south side, an alabaster tomb. (On the slab the recumbent figures of a man in armour and his wife. Between their heads Downes impaling Booth; and lower down, Downes impaling Argent, three spades Sable, 2 and 1. Over their heads,

Hic jacent Rob'tus Downes armig', et Matild' ux' ej', et Rob'tus Downes (fil') dieti Rob'ti et Emmota uxor ej' filia Rug'i Boutbe armig', et diet' Rob'tus Downes obiit in vigilia s'e'i Laurenc' martyris an'o D'ni 1495)

II. and III. The monuments of Warren and Legh described above.

IV. On a broken stone, "Orate p' a'i'a Ric'i Neuton de Neuton, filii Oliveri Neuton, qui quidam Ric'us obiit die d'nica die April' a'oo D'ni m.c.c.c...."

V. In Mr. Worth's chapel, on the south side of the church, this monument, engraven on an alabaster stone, with the writing about it:

(A man in complete armour recumbent, his head resting on a helmet, and his feet on a (dog?) at his left hand, a female in a hat and ruff, plain gown, and under garments, fretted, and each fret filled with quatrefoils; at her feet three daughters; between their heads, Worth impaling Draycot, and between their feet Worth impaling Downes.

Here lyeth the body of Jasper Worth, esquire, w'ch s'd Jasper deceased y^e 18 day of Feb. an'o D'ni 1572, and Ales his wife one of y^e daught' of sir Phillip Dreycot, kt. of Paynesley, in y^e county of Stafford, w'ch Ales deceased y^e 11 day of March in y^e year of our Lord 1596.)

"On two ends of posts in y^e said chappell belonging to Mr. Worth, are fixed these two coates with the writtings under them."

VI. Worth (Argent, a cross raguleè Sable), impaling Draycot, with seven other coats.

"Jasper Worthe of Tiderington, and Alis his wife, daughter of sir Phillip Draycot of Payne, knight, w'ch Alis died a'oo D'ni 1596.

VII. Worth, as before, impaling Sutton. 1. Sutton, quarterly (1 and 4, Or, a lion rampant Vert, Sutton (Dudley branch); 2 and 3, Quarterly, 1 and 4, a chevron between three bugles; 2 and 3, a chevron between three cross crosslets, no colours expressed; 4, Argent, a chief Gules, charged with an annulet Or, Worsley.

"Sewall Worth of Tidderington, gent. and Isabell his wife, dau. of John Sutton of Sutton, esq."

ⁱ See No. 1. in list of ancient monuments above.

*** In the account of Gawsworth an agreement has been noticed, made between Chester abbey and John de Birchel, rector of the chapel of Gawsworth, which has subsequently occurred at length with the date 1279, and two other original documents have been communicated by Mr. Browne which leave no doubt that Gawsworth and Taxall also were formerly dependencies of Prestbury. The first is an award made, May 5, 1377, between the monks of Chester abbey and John Shalcross, rector of Taxall, that in future the right of burying his parishioners, and of receiving mortuaries and other oblations (claimed as the *immemorial right of the church of Prestbury* by the convent) shall be allowed to him and his successors, paying to the monks a pension of 7s. yearly at Michaelmas. A similar claim was set up by the monks with respect to Gawsworth, and they agreed with John Eaton, rector of Gawsworth, April 17, 1382, that in future he might bury his parishioners, paying a moiety of the dues within ten days after each burial, but that any parishioner of Gawsworth might be interred according to his own wish at Prestbury without any claim on the part of Gawsworth. *Henry fraunceys* occurs as senior monk in both these awards,—a name of importance, being that of the monk who obtained the licence for acting the Chester plays from pope Clement (see vol. I. p. 299.) who must therefore be certainly Clement VI. and the date of the licence must be fixed between 1342 and 1352. This is a strong corroborative document in favour of the alleged high antiquity of the Chester mysteries.

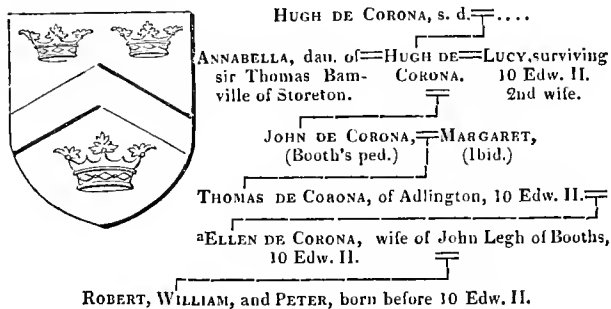
ADLINGTON.

ADLINGTON and Macclesfield appear from Domesday to have formed two great manors, held in demesne by the Saxon earls before the Conquest, and the Norman earls after it, and in one or other of these nearly all the unnamed districts of Prestbury, Cheadle, and Wilmslow parishes, seem to have been comprehended.

"Isdem comes tenet Edulvintune, Edwinus comes tenuit. Ibi iv hidæ et dimidium geldabiles: terra est x carucarum. Ibi ii radmans, et vi villani, et iii bordarii, cum iii carucis. Ibi xxi acræ prati: silvæ ii leuvis longitudine, et ii latitudine, et ibi vii haiæ, et iv airæ accipitrum."

After this the progress of subinfeudation appears to have commenced, and the new vills, whether severed from Macclesfield or Adlington, are described in the inquisitions as being held from the earl as of the former, as Adlington itself was, which either by grant from the earl, or by transfer from a grantee, passed to the family of Corona.

The annexed short pedigree is all that can be recovered of this family. The arms were Azure, a chevron Or, between three ducal coronets of the second.



I. Sir Robert de Legh, knight, eldest of the sons of Ellen de Corona here named, succeeded to the Adlington estate, under the settlement of his grandfather, made 10 Edw. II. the circumstances of which have been noticed in the account of Booths, viz. that his elder brother John Legh, who is omitted in the settlement, was probably issue by a former wife, and that the said John was erroneously found heir of Adlington, by an Inq. 26 Edw. III. though he does not appear ever to have possessed it, or to have been in any way connected with the settlement. This inquisition, taken 26 E. III. relates to Ellen de Corona, who is found thereby to have held the manor of Adlington cum pert. for life, from the earl's manor of Macclesfield in cap. as the 4th part of a knight's fee. Ellen must, however, have previously given possession to her son, as by a general inquisition respecting the

tenures of Macclesfield Hundred, 16 Edw. III. the manor of Adlington, cum pert. "quod Robertus de Leghe, chivaler, tenet," is found to be held from the king as earl of Chester: val. per ann. xli.

II. Robert de Legh, son and heir of sir Robert, according to Dugdale's and Leycester's pedigrees, and the best copies of the Arderne pedigree, married Maud, daughter of sir John Arderne of Aldford, by Ellena his wife, which Maud, as well as another sister, was born after marriage, and was therefore coheir to her father, in consequence of the circumstances relating to her brothers, which have been detailed under Alvanley^b, her uncle Peter Arderne of Harden and Alvanley succeeding to the estates settled on the male line^c.

Inq. p. m. 6 Ric. II. Robert de Leigh of Adlington, held, in demesne as of fee, the manor of Adlington cum pert. from the king in cap. by mil. serv.; val. xxi.: also lands in Leghe juxta Lymme (from Richard de Leigh), Northwich, Stokeport, and Hyde. Robert son and heir.

III. Robert de Legh, found heir by this inquisition, married Isabel, daughter and heiress of Thomas Belgrave of Pulford, and has been noticed in the account of Allostock, as a principal agent in a singular and impressive ceremony, by which in 1412, he ceded the Pulford estates to his wife's half-brother, sir Thomas Grosvenor. He was sheriff of Cheshire 17 and 22 Ric. II. being then a knight, and left issue a son of his own name.

From this period the following series of inquisitions proceeds uninterruptedly^d:

IV. Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. V. Robert de Leigh of Adlington held, in demesne as of fee, two parts of the manor of Adlington cum pert. as before; val. xl marks: also lands in Bollington, Macclesfield, and Stockport. Robert son and heir.

V. Inq. p. m. 18 Edw. IV. Robert Legh of Adlington held the manor of Adlington as before; val. xli.; also lands in Bollington, Macclesfield, Hyde, Northwich, Lomelode, Chester, Belgrave, and Fulshawe. Robert Legh son and heir.

VI. Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VII. Robert Legh of Adlington, esq. held, in demesne as of fee, the manor of Adlington, excepting xix mess. and lands of the val. of xx marks, as before; val. xxvii marks: also lands in Bolinton and Hyde, and saltworks in Northwich. Thomas Legh son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 20 Hen. VII. Ellen, widow of Robert Legh, held in dower for life, lands in Adlington, Northwich, Stockport, High Leigh, Budworth, Tiresford, and

^a Some of the Cheshire pedigrees erroneously make Ellen daughter of William de Baguley, by a daughter of Thomas de Corona, in consequence of which the old heralds gave the quarterings of Baguley and Corona to the Leghs of Booth and Adlington indiscriminately, whereas the former only should quarter Baguley, and the latter Corona. The heiress of Baguley was the 2d wife of the son of John Legh, living 10 Edw. II. see pedigree, vol. I. 323.

From copies of deeds of the Corona family, communicated by D. Browne, esq. after this sheet was set up, it appears that Hugh de Corona had a daughter, *Sarra*, to whom he gave "lands in Penisby about 1270. Margaret, widow of John, occurs as living, in a fine 9 Edw. II. John de Legh is mentioned as deceased in a pardon granted by queen Isabell, 17 Edw. II.; and his widow Ellen, and her father Thomas de Corona, occur as living 24 Edw. III.

^c Maud the other daughter of sir John de Arderne, who was contracted in 1303 to John Legh of Booths, uncle of Robert Legh of Adlington here mentioned, with a proviso to marry his younger brother William, if the first marriage did not take effect, was doubtless aunt of this Maud, but she is omitted in the Arderne pedigrees, possibly from the two Mauds having been confounded. See Legh ped. vol. I. 322, 3, and her marriage contract in Moberley, ih. 325.

^d This Robert de Legh is called chivaler in the king's letters patent 10 Ric. II. respecting the protection of the lands of him, sir Robert Grosvenor, and Reginald Downes, &c. then engaged in his service abroad. Belgrave, and his wife's *paternal* estates remained in the Adlington family, until the purchase of Prestbury in the reign of Elizabeth, when they were sold in parcels, Belgrave being conveyed to the Grosvenors. Adlington pedigree, and Corona deeds as before.

Kelsal. Thomas Legh of Adlington, esq. son and heir.

VII. *Inq. p. m.* 11 Hen. VIII. Thomas Legh of Adlington, esq. held the manor, &c. of Adlington, as before; val. *l.*xl.: and lands in Bollington, Macclesfield, Belgrave, Hyde, Stockport, Swyndels, Rainow, Lomelode, Kettleshulme, Romeley, Northwich, Hale, Fulshawe, and Chester; val. tot. £77. 12s. 4d.: died Monday before the feast of St. Lawrence a° p'd'to. Geo. Legh son and heir.

VIII. *Inq. p. m.* 21 Hen. VIII. George Legh held the manor of Adlington, as before; val. £104. 15s. 8d.; and lands in the townships recited in the preceding inquisition; val. tot. £156. 16s. 11d.: died June 12 a° p'd'to. Thomas Legh son and heir, aged two years.

IX. *Inq. p. m.* 3 Edw. VI. Thomas Legh held the hall of Adlington, the demesne lands, and messuages therein, val. £21. 6s. 8d.; and lands in most of the before-mentioned townships: died Nov. 16, 2 Edw. VI. Thomas Legh son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 7 Eliz. relates only to the lands held by Thomas Legh, in Foxwist, Macclesfield, and Buttleigh.

X. *Inq. p. m.* 7 Oct. 44 Eliz. Thomas Legh, esq. held the hall and demesne, &c. of Adlington; val. £86. 11s. 9d.: the rectory of Prestbury, the manor of Buttleigh, and lands in Bollington, Hyde, Stockport, Sworton, High Leigh, Swindels, Romeley, Fulshawe, Northwich,

Hale, Chester, Dogland, Macclesfield, Belgreave, Mold, Moldsdale, and Bystric: died 25 June preceding the inquisition. Sir Urian Legh, knt. son and heir, aged upwards of 35 years: val. tot. £156. 9s. 2d.

Sir Urian Legh, found heir by this inquisition, had been knighted by the earl of Essex at the siege of Cadiz, and during that expedition is traditionally said to have been engaged in an adventure which gave rise to the well-known ballad of the Spanish Lady's Love, printed in Percy's Collection. A fine original portrait of him in a Spanish dress is preserved at Bramall, which has been copied for the family at Adlington. He was sheriff of Cheshire in the year of sir Richard St. George's visitation of the county 1613, and survived to 3 Car. I. in which year his inquisition was taken.

The direct male line of the family terminated in Charles Legh of Adlington, esq. who died without surviving male issue in 1781. Under a settlement made by him, Adlington with its dependencies descended to his niece Elizabeth, wife of John Rowlls of Kingston, who assumed the name of Legh, and after her death, without surviving male issue, the same passed to Richard Cross, of Shaw Hill, near Preston, in Lancashire, who changed his name to Legh by royal sign manual, on succeeding to the estate, and who is the present possessor.

LEGH OF ADLINGTON.

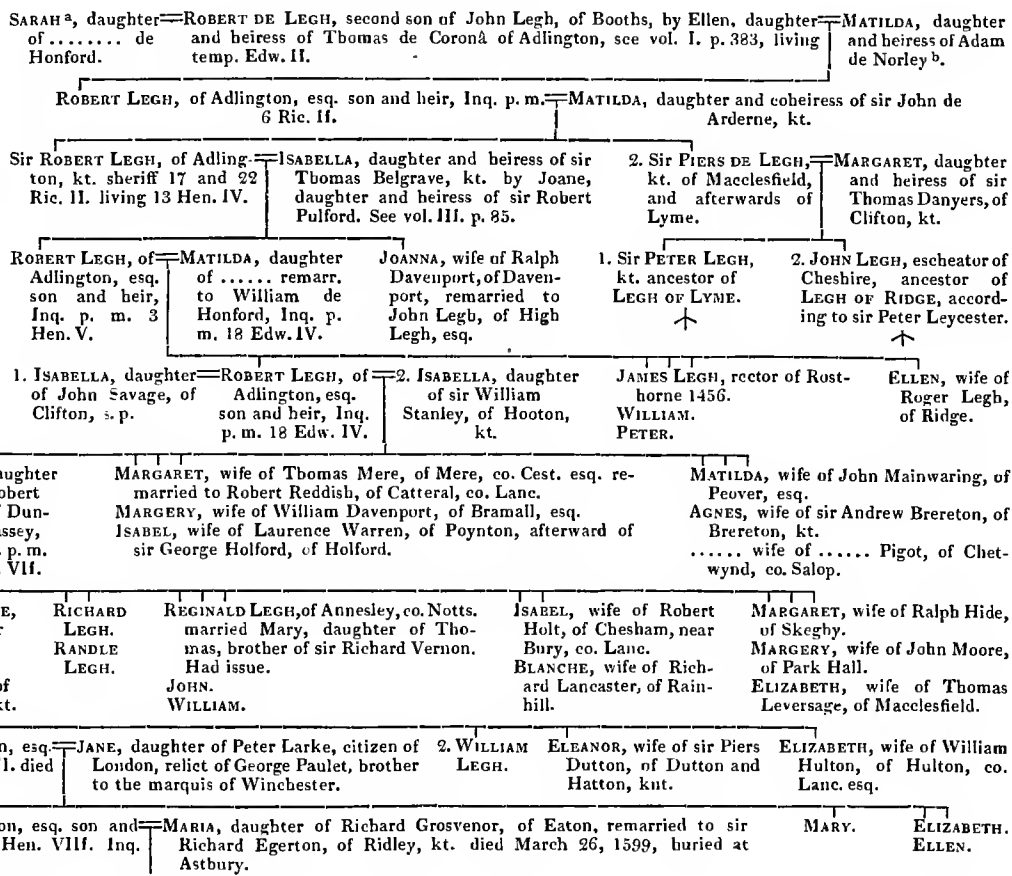
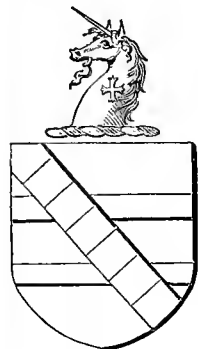
From Dugdale's Visitation and sir Peter Leycester's MSS. collated with the Inquisitions, and with the information of the family in the later descents, and continued in the present line, by a pedigree communicated by Thomas Robert Wilson France, esq. under the direction of T. C. Legh, esq.

ARMS, confirmed in the Visitation of 1663. Azure, two barrs Argent (Venables) debruised by a bend componè Or and Gules for difference.

CREST, granted to Richard Legh, esq. On a wreath a unicorn's head, coupèd Argent, armed and maned Or, on the neck a cross patonce Gules.

This Crest though made the subject of a grant, was unquestionably a very antient bearing of the family.

Note. The Leghs of Adlington bore antiently, within a border Argent, Azure, three ducal coronets Or, in the centre point a plate; being the coat of Corona of Adlington differenced.



^a According to a copy of the Adlington pedigree (communicated by D. Browne, esq.) Sibill, and mother of her husband's eldest son Robert.

^b According to most pedigrees, of Norley in Weverham, but in that last mentioned, of Norley in Pemberton, co. Lanc. and mother of the first Piers Legh of Lyme, and the Leghs who assumed the name of Macclesfield from their residence there.



Adlington lies about a quarter of a mile to the right of the road from Stockport to Macclesfield, about eight miles south of the former place, on the edge of an extensive park, in a low situation. The house is very spacious, and built in a quadrangular form, three sides of which are irregular, and still consist partly of timber and plaster buildings terminating in gables. The principal front on the south side is of brick, two stories high, with projecting wings, and portico in the centre,

supported by stone columns. In the south-east angle of this front is the domestic chapel of Adlington, fitted up in a handsome and appropriate manner^f; and in the opposite front, to the north, is the great hall of the mansion, which appears to be of the time of Elizabeth.

A court leet and court baron are held twice in the year for the manor; to the former of which all tenants and residents within the manor owe suit and service^g.

^e See Dodsley's Annual Register, 1796, for the trial of Mr. English, his opponent.

^f This chapel originated in a licence from William bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, 25 Hen. VI. to Robert Legh and Isabel his wife, to keep a chaplain to perform mass and other divine offices, in their presence, in any of their manor houses within his diocese; whereupon the said Robert and Isabel built a chapel at Adlington, which is considered domestic, and the chaplain appointed by Mr. Legh. Information of T. R. Wilson France, esq. on the part of Mr. Legh.

The following entry respecting it is inserted in bishop Gastrell's MS Notitia. "This is mentioned as chap: of ease in MS. Cat. and sir P. Lei" (see vol. I. pp. 84. and 311.) "but now 1717, pretended to be domestic by Mr. Leigh of Adlington; two wardens sworn an. 1675, an. 1674, an. 1673, an. 1672." It must be observed that bishop Gastrell generally uses the word pretended in the sense of claimed.

This house was garrisoned for king Charles in the civil wars, and besieged by the parliamentarians after the raising of the siege of Nantwich. It is noticed as follows in Burghall's Diary: "Friday 14th (Feb. 1645), Adlington house was delivered up, after being besieged a fortnight, a younger son of Mr. Leigh's, and a hundred and fifty soldiers, had all fair quarter and leave to depart, leaving seven hundred arms, and fifteen barrels of powder." Poole's Tracts, entitled 'Hist. of Cheshire,' vol. II. p. 932.

^g The court leet was granted, with freewarren in Adlington, by Edw. IV. as earl of Chester a^d 9 R. Information of T. R. W. France, esq. Qu. whether this was a partial confirmation of the following grant noticed in Vernon's MSS. in the Somerford Collection, or whether Vernon's abstract is incorrect in the date?

King Edw. IV. 9 Mart. A. Reg. 2. by letters patent dated at Westminster, gave leave to Robert Legh of Adlington and his heirs to inclose Whitlegh Hagh, Adlington Wood, and Whitley Green, lying in the forest of Macclesfield, to have free warren in his demesne lands, woods, &c. in the county of Chester, and to have view of frank pledge of all his tenants and residents in Adlington, and also of his tenants in the vills and hamlets of Stockport, Bolyngton, Huyde, and Rannowe.

BUTLEY CUM NEWTON.

ULURIC, a Saxon free man, who possessed lands in this township and Alretune before the Conquest, was suffered to retain them at the time of the Domesday survey. He occurs among the minor tenants of the earldom, together with Gamul, who was equally fortunate. This singular extension of mercy was probably purchased by no common services to the cause of the invaders, particularly in the case of Uluric, whose lands of Butley lay most inconveniently for the local sovereignty of the palatinate, between his demesne of Macclesfield and Adlington, and the forest hills on his Derbyshire border.

“Uluric tenet Botelege: ipsemet tenuit sicut liber homo. Ibi una hida geldabilis. Terra est v carucarum: wasta est præter vii acras seminatas. Silva ibi 111 leuvis longa, et una lata; et haia ibi; et 11 acrae prati et dimidia. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xxx solidos, modo 11 solidos.”

Butley was subsequently possessed by the Pigots, of the same family probably with those of the name who were considerable benefactors to Chester abbey, and are further noticed in the account of Chelford in this hundred, and Waverton and Hatton in Broxton^a. Gilbert Pigot, according to Dr. Williamson, died seized of Butley before 1267, and was great grandfather of the subject of the following inquisition:

Inq. p. m. 50 Edw. III. William Pigot held the manor of Butteley, cum pert. in demesne as of fee, from the prince in cap. by mil. serv.: val. per ann. xxiiii marks. John Pigot son and heir.

Another inquisition was taken in the same year, which finds the said William to have held also lands in Smethwicke, and to have been only mesne lord of Butteleghe under Hugh le Despenser.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VI. John Pigot, senr. held the manor of Butteleghe, cum pert. from Thomas Dispenser as the 20th part of a knight's fee, with all lands and tenements in the said vill in demesne, as of fee tail; val. xx marks: also rents issuing from Old Foxwist, and Newton in Butleigh, and lands in Duckenfield, Macclesfield, Smethwick, Alstanston, Bertherton, and Alvandeston. John Pigot son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VIII. John Pigot, esq. held the manor of Butteley from the king in capite as of his manor of Macclesfield, as the 20th part of a knight's fee; val. per ann. xxvii. xiiii. i. d.: dated Saturday before the feast of the Purification a^o p^d'to. Robert Pigot son and heir, aged upwards of fifty years.

Inq. p. m. 27 Hen. VIII. Robert Pigot held the manor of Butteley, and lands in Old Foxwist, and Nether Foxwist, Newton, and Tyehall, from the king as earl of Chester, as the 20th part of a knight's fee; val. £23. 4s. 4d.; also one capital messuage in Sale, and lands in Smethwick and Prestbury; val. tot. £26. 7s. 10d.:

died Dec. 15, a^o p^d'to. Margery, Mary, and Dorothy Tracy, severally aged 16, 14, and 12 years, Alicia Baghold aged 12 years, and Elianor wife of John Sharp, aged 20 years, next of kin and coheireses.

Notwithstanding this inquisition, a collateral male line succeeded.

Inq. p. m. 5 Edw. VI. Thomas Pigott is found to have held as in the last inquisition, and to have died Feb. 5, 3 Edw. VI. Robert Pigott son and heir.

Butley was divided between the daughters of this Robert.^b One portion (a moiety) was purchased in or about the time of queen Elizabeth, by the Leghs of Adlington, from Gilbert Gerard, who had bought the share of the eldest daughter Elizabeth. “Mary, another daughter and coheir, with her husband William Rede, esq. sold a quarter of this place to Jasper Worth and others; and the other daughter and coheir married to one Clinton, who with her husband sold it to Nicholas Moseley, who sold it to ——— Legh of Adlington^b; so Legh of Adlington was lord of three quarters of this village^c.” The remainder of the manerial interest probably fell into disuse, or was purchased by the Adlington family^d.

Inq. p. m. 7 Oct. 43 Eliz. Thomas Legh of Adlington, esq. held, inter alia, the manor, messuages, and lands in Butleigh (except two tenements called Hebadge and Yemonds, and 30 acres of other lands) from the queen as of her earldom of Chester, as the 20th part of a knight's fee: val. per ann. vii. xiiii. i. d.

Sir Urian Legh, found heir by this inquisition, is stated in *Inq.* 3 Car. I. to have died seized of the said manor, and various messuages and lands therein, held as before.

The said manor has subsequently continued an appendage of Adlington, and has descended with it to the present proprietor, R. C. Legh, esq. who holds a court baron for the same. The township is partly in the hundred and partly in the forest of Macclesfield; and the constables are sworn in the leet of the former.

In the part of the township which adjoins to Prestbury is Butley Hall, now the residence of the rev. John Rowlls Brown, vicar of Prestbury, and there were also antiently two other seats, Foxwist and Willet Hall. The first of these appears to have passed to the Leghs, about the close of the 16th century, and had been from a very early period the property of the Duncalfes^e, a family who occur frequently in deeds of the time of Edw. II. and III. Willet Hall was antiently vested in a family of the local name, and afterwards in the Mottersheds, whose heir-general married into the family of Brooke of Mere, from whom this estate passed by sale to the Wrights of Offerton and Mottram.

THOMAS NEWTON, distinguished in the sixteenth century as a schoolmaster and physician, as the purest Latin poet of his time, and as an historian and divine,

^a In the chartulary of St. Werburgh are two deeds relating to Butley, by the first of which, William, son of Robert Pigot, by deed s. d. gives to the abbey of St. Werburgh one acre of land lying near the water of Bolin, between the lands of St. Werburgh in “Ptebur’ and Birchelis,” with leave to make a mill dam there; and by the same deed he quit-claims to the abbey the church of Prestbury, with all rights which his ancestors ever had or were thought to have had in the same. Harl. MSS. 1965. 25 b. col. 2.

By another deed *ibid.* the same William, son of Robert, gives to the said abbey, lands in Butley, called the Heyeburches, situated near the bank of “Bolyñ” adjacent to “Tiderton;” and also totas illas i’sulas jux’a Bolyñ v’sus Mottru’ cu’ o’ib’s p’tin. The boundaries of the “Heye burches” are described in the charter (*ib.* 26. col. 2.) Thomas Davenport, serjeant of the peace for Macclesfield hundred, demanded pature within this estate 9 Edw. I. but a jury found that the abbot’s tenants therein had always been quit therefrom. Vill. Cest.

^b Williamson, Vill. Cest.

^c *Ibid.*

^d In Harl. MSS. 2010, in 1662, the manor is stated to be vested in “Tho. Legh of Adlington 1 p’t Mr. Pigott.” The sentence has the appearance of being unfinished, and no other authority has occurred for supposing the Pigotts to have retained any part of their former interest in the township at so late a period.

^e The representatives of this family are two maiden ladies now resident in Adlington. Information of D. Browne, esq.

was born at Butley, and educated at Macclesfield. He was most probably descended from a family which assumed its local name from their manor of Newton adjacent; and after receiving his early education at Macclesfield under Brownsword (whose epitaph, yet remaining at the church there, was composed by him, and whose family were related by marriage to the Newtons of Newton and Pownall^a), he studied successively at Cambridge and Oxford, and was subsequently re-admitted at

the latter. In later life he was patronized by Robert earl of Essex, and noticed by most of the learned men of his day, was elected master of Macclesfield school, and finally instituted to Little Ilford in Essex, in 1583, at which rectory he died in 1607. An ample account of his various works will be found in Warton's History of English Poetry, and the Biographical Dictionary of Chalmers, xxiii. 148.

NEWTON JUXTA BUTLEGH.

THIS township has been long considered a distinct vill, but was doubtless a component part of the original vill of Butley, in the description of which, as Butley cum Newton, it still occurs as a dependent hamlet. It gave name to the Newtons in the time of Hen. III. or John, when the manor was vested in the Hydes of Hyde and Norbury, as a dependency of the latter lordship, which family conveyed the said manor to the Davenports^b. Sibilla, daughter and heiress of Thomas de Davenport, brought the same in marriage to Thomas de Newton, temp. Edw. I. The Newtons themselves are stated in the Davenport pedigree to be a younger branch of that knightly family, which assumed the local name^c.

The descent of this family is given in the account of their seat at Pownall in Wilmslow.

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VIII. Humphrey Newton of Pownall, held, in demesne as of fee, the manor and vill of Newton, with the water mill, fulling mill, and chapel therein, from Robert Hyde, esq. of Norbury, as of that

manor in socage, by the render of one pair of gloves: val. per ann. vii. viiis. viiind. He held also viiis. rent issuing from Mylton Hall (in Hanley), lands in Mottram Andrew, exchanged by sir George Calveley for Clayley (in Hanley), and other lands in Newton, Golborne Belleau, and Huxley: died March 22 a^o p'd'to. William Newton son and heir, aged 40 years.

The direct male line of this family terminated in William Newton of Pownall early in the seventeenth century.

The chapel of Newton, from its mention among the appurtenances of the manor, was probably considered domestic at the time of the inquisition quoted above. It is mentioned as "a chapel of ease" to Prestbury, in sir Peter Leycester's list; and in 1672, according to Gastrell, "a warden was sworn to this chapel." In the time of the bishop it was "entirely ruined." No attempts appear to have been made for its restoration, but it still retains its place in the official list of the chapels of the diocese.

LYME HANLEY, ANTIENTLY HANLEY.

IN the preceding accounts of Over Tabley and Clifton, sir Peter Leycester has stated that sir Thomas Danyers, of Bradley in Appleton, (with whose daughter the account of Lyme must commence) died before his father without male issue, 26 Edw. III. whereupon the Danyers' estates passed to his brother; but his wife's estates, Clifton, a moiety of Chedle, and Gropenhall, &c. descended to his daughter Margaret. He further correctly mentions that the said Margaret married, first, John de Radclyffe, who died s. p.; secondly, John Savage, whose son succeeded to Clifton and the bulk of her estates; and thirdly, Piers Legh, of Macclesfield, whose son had the moiety of Gropenhall by gift of his mother.

To this account must be added^d, that when the flower of Cheshire chivalry were engaged under their earl, the

Black Prince, at the battle of Cressy, sir Thomas Danyers was pre-eminently distinguished above the rest of that chosen phalanx: and that in the most hazardous part of the battle, most probably when king Edward refused his succours, and bade "his boy win his spurs and the honour of the day for himself," THE SAID SIR THOMAS RELIEVED THE BANNER OF HIS EARL, AND TOOK PRISONER THE CHAMBERLAIN OF FRANCE, TANKERVILLE. For this service the Black Prince, as earl of Chester, settled on him an annuity of 40 marks per ann. issuing out of his manor of Frodsbam, until a convenient grant of land of the value of £20 per ann. could be made^e. In 21 Ric. II. it was finally settled that this estate should be "the lands of Hanley in Macclesfield forest," which that sovereign (who in this year assumed the title of PRINCE OF CHESTER) accordingly

^a See the Newton pedigree in Wilmslow, p. 310.

^c See pedigree, p. 39.

^d The omission of sir Peter Leycester is accounted for by his MS pedigree of the Leghs of Lyme (now at Tabley) which shows him to have fallen into the common error (as Flower and Dogdale did), of ascribing the atchievement to Piers Legh, instead of his father-in-law. The accuracy of the statement made above is abundantly proved by a petition from Piers Legh "cosen and heire to sir Thomas Danyers," Harl. MSS. 2074. 184. to Edward prince of Wales and earl of Chester, which states fully the circumstances of the grant, and the occasion of it, in consequence of a writ of scire facias having been directed to the sheriff of Cheshire, commanding him by the same to levy of the goods and chattels of the said suppliant to the value of 20 marks for the occupation of the said pasture," whereupon the party prayed the earl to grant a supersedeas to surcease levying, &c. There is no date to the petition, which is referred in the margin to the *great* grandson of the grantee; but as he never came into possession, it must have been clearly the *grandson*, and the earl petitioned must have been son of Hen. VI. or Edw. IV. There is a *very incorrect* copy of this petition also in Woodnoth's Chesh. MSS. (Donations Brit. Mus.) and the original grant to which it refers was enrolled in Chester exchequer.

^e With reference to this event an augmentation was allowed in Flower's Visitation of Cheshire, and confirmed in the later one by Dogdale, which is still borne on an escocheon of pretence over the family arms, viz. an honorary shield emblazoned Sable, semée of mullets Argent, an arm embowed, armed, and couped proper, bearing a pennon Argent.

^b See as before, and a note in the account of Hyde respecting this alienation.

granted to the daughter of sir Thomas Danyers, and her third husband Piers Legh. This grant, which proves Hanley to have continued afforested as late as 21 Ric. II. accounts for the omission of the vill-not only in Domesday but in the Cheshire mize-book: it subsequently assumed the additional name of *Lyme* from the antient designation of the forest of which it had formed part (placed on the *Limes*, or border of Cheshire), and is now ordinarily known by that name only.

Piers de Legh, to whom Lyme Hanley was thus granted, was younger son of Robert de Legh of Adlington. He appears to have been knighted about the time of the grant, but he only lived two years to enjoy it. In 1399, when the insurgent forces of the duke of Lancaster advanced into Cheshire, sir Piers Legh was seized upon by that nobleman, and in consequence of his well-known attachment to his unfortunate sovereign, was beheaded at Chester on the 1st of August^e.

His wife Margaret long survived him, and is the subject of the following Inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. VI. Margaret, widow of Piers de Leighe, held in demesne, as of fee, half the manor of Chedle, the manors of Clyfton and Bradley in Appleton, and lands in Thelwall, Hale, Lymme, Over Knutsford, Over Runcorn, Rainow, Stockport, and Macclesfield. Sir John Savage, kt. son of Margaret, next of kin and heir.

This Inquisition, which relates only to the estates which descended to the issue of Margaret Danyers's first marriage, omits the Lyme estate and the moiety of Gropenhall, the first of which had been settled on her son sir Peter Legh by the crown grant, and the second by her own deed in her widowhood.

II. Sir Peter Legh, son and heir of sir Piers, largely increased his estates by marriage with the heiress of sir Gilbert Haydock, a Lancashire knight of considerable family and possessions. Following his grandfather's example he engaged in his sovereign's continental warfare, and dying at Paris of honourable wounds received in the field of Agincourt, was brought over to England, and interred with his father at Macclesfield^f.

The attachment of the Lyme family to the house of

York was, however, in no degree diminished by participation in the wars and triumphs of their rival. The III^d sir Peter Legh, son of the preceding, joined himself to the cause of Richard duke of York in the commencement of the contest, and received knighthood from him at the battle of Wakefield^g. He survived eighteen years after this battle, and died in 1478, his Inq. being taken the year following. Peter Legh, his eldest son and heir, who had increased the family estate by marriage with the heiress of Croft of Dalton, died ten years before his father^h, leaving issue the

IVth sir Peter Legh, kt. banneret, who succeeded to his grandfather, and died at Lyme in 1527. The following Inq. relates to his Cheshire property only.

Inq. p. m. 19 Hen. VIII. Sir Peter Legh, kt. held lands in Lyme Hanley from the king in socage, by fealty and the render of viid. Val. xxxl. per ann. He held also half the manor of Gropenhall, and lands in Broome, Heteley, Trephurst, Sutton, and Macclesfield. Val. tot. LIIII. viiis. ob. and died Aug. 11, a^o p'd'to. Peter Legh, son and heir, aged viii years.

V. *Inq. p. m.* 33 Hen. VIII. Peter Legh, esq. held lands in Lyme Hanley as before, half the manor of Gropenhall, and lands in Offerton, and the townships noticed in the preceding inquisition. Died Dec. 4, a^o p'd'to. Peter Legh son and heir.

VI. Peter Legh, found heir by this Inq. was one of the Cheshire gentlemen knighted at Leith by the earl of Hertford in 1544, and surviving his son of the same name, was succeeded by (VII.) his grandson sir Peter Legh, who represented the county of Chester in parliament, and married Margaret, daughter of sir Gilbert Gerard, kt. master of the rolls, for whom there is a curious monument in the parish church of Fulhamⁱ.

In the next generation the family estate received another large addition, by an alliance with the heiress of the Calveleys; and the quarterings of the hero of Auray and Navarete, were appropriately united to the shield which had been borne in Agincourt, and graced by honorary trophies from Cressy.

The annexed pedigree brings down the descent of the Leghs of Lyme to its late representative, Thomas Peter

^e Leicester gives the date of August 1. Tabley MSS.; and Cowper (on what authority does not appear) says his head was fixed on the East gate, and his body buried in the Whitefriars before it was taken to Macclesfield. Holinshed simply says that the duke "caused one of king Richard's faithfull and trustie friends, sir Piers a Leigh, commonly called Perkin a Lee, to lose his head, and commanded the same to be set up upon one of the highest turrets about all the citie; and so that true and faithfull gentleman, for his stedfast faith and assured loialtie to his loving sovereign, thus lost his life." Vol. II. p. 257, edit. 1807.

^f Sir Peter Leycester's Tabley MSS. and Macclesfield monumental inscriptions.

^g Leycester's MSS.

^h Ibid.

ⁱ To the left of the north door of the chancel, "under an arch supported by Corinthian pillars, is the effigies of lady Legh, nearly as large as life, with an infant in her arms, and another lying by her, habited in the dress of the time. Over her head are the arms of the family; and beneath, on the tomb, the following inscription. To y^e memory or what else dearer remayneth of that vertuous lady, Ia. Margaret Legh, daughter of him y^t sometimes was s^r Gilbert Gerrard, knt, and m^r of y^e rolles in y^e highe court of chancery, wife to sir Peter Legh, of Lyme in the county of Chester, kt. and by him y^e mother of seven sons, Pierce, Frauncis, Radcliffe, Thomas, Peter, Gilbert, and John, with two daughters, Anne and Catherine, of w^h Radcliffe, Gilbert, John, deceased infants, the rest yet surviving to the happy increase of ther house: y^e years she enjoyed were 33, y^t her husband enjoyed her 17, at which period she yielded her soul to the blessedness of lung rest, and her body to the earth, July 3, 1603. This inscription, in y^e note of piety and love, by her said husband is here devotedly placed." Hist. of Fulham, p. 69.

Some other MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS relating to this family are given in the account of Macclesfield church; and others, including some antient brasses, exist in the Legh chancel at Winwick in Lancashire.

The following curious extract from the journal of Wilson the historian, relative to what happened to himself when attending the earl of Essex in a visit to this sir Peter Legh at Lyme, may be allowed to diversify the dull pages of county history, though it has previously appeared among the illustrations of the Lady of the Lake. It is however transcribed from its original authority, Peck's Desid. Cur. lib. XII. 10, edit. 1732.

4. Sir Peter Lee of Lime, in Cheshire, invited my Lord one summer to hunt the stagg. And having a great stagg in chase, and many gentlemen in the pursue, the stagg took soyle; and divers (whereof I was one) alighted and stood with swords drawne, to have a cut at him at his coming out of the water.

5. The staggs there being wonderfull fierce and dangerous, made us youthes more eager to be at him. But he escaped us all. And it was my misfortune to be hinderd of my coming nere him, the way being sliperie as by a fall; which gave occasion to some who did not know mee, to speake as if I had falne for feare. Which being told mee, I left the stagg, and followed the gentleman who first spake it. But I found him of that cold temper, that, it seems, his words made an escape from him, as by his denial and repentance it appeared.

6. But this made mee more violent in pursue of the staggs, to recover my reputation. And I happened to be the only horseman in when the dogs set him up at bay: and approaching nere him on horseback, he broke through the dogs and run at mee, and tore my horse's side with his hornes, close by my thigh. Then I quitted my horse and grew more cunning (for the dogs had set him up again), stealing behind bim with my sword, and cut his ham-strings, and then got upon his back and cut his throte: which as I was doing, the company came in and blamed my rasbness for running such a hazard.

Legh, esq. XIIIth in male descent from sir Piers Legh, (grantee from Richard II.) who left one sister and heir, Martha Anne, wife of Laurence Ormerod, of Ormerod, esq. in whom the representation of this family is vested, 1819.

After having suffered a recovery to bar all contingent interests in the greater part^k of his Cheshire property, the said T. P. Legh settled, by will, the estate of Lyme,

with its numerous dependencies in Cheshire and Lancashire, on his natural son Thomas Legh, esq.^l (now M. P. for Newton) for life, and the heirs male of his body, with similar remainder to his second natural son William, and further remainder to his niece Charlotte-Anne Ormerod and the heirs male of her body, and other remainders over^m.

LEGH OF LYME.

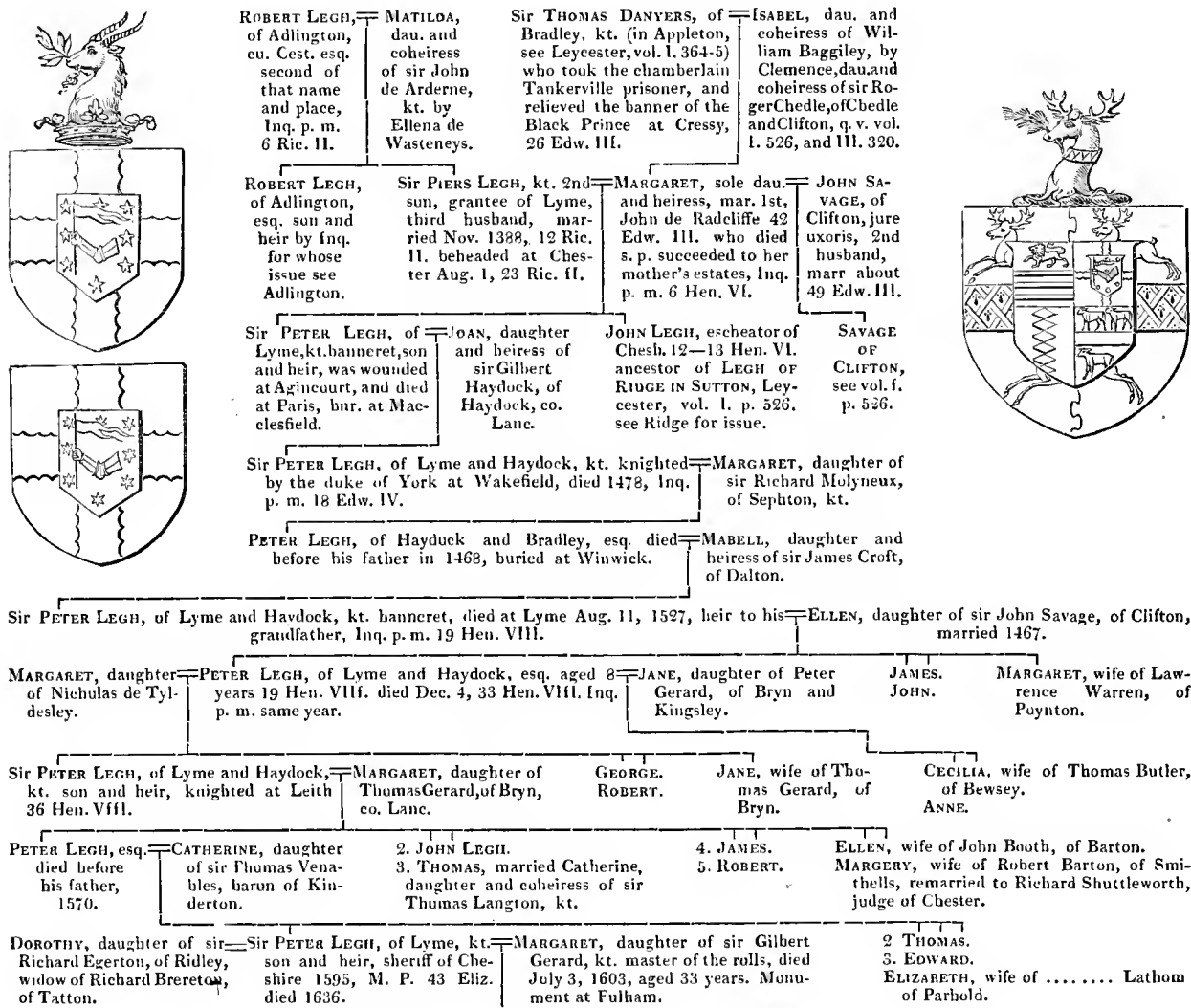
From Dugdale's and sir Peter Leycester's MS pedigrees, continued from the records of the college of arms and the information of the family.

ARMS OF LEGH OF LYME. (As given in Dugdale's *verbal blazon*, and on the antient monuments, &c. of the family,) Gules, a cross engrailed Argent; on an honorary escucheon Sable, within an orle of mullets Argent, an arm, couped, embowed, and armed, proper, holding a pennon Argent; but in a drawing in the same page with Dugdale's description, and in the subsequent entries, estoiles are substituted for the *mullets*; both the coats are given in the margin.

CREST. Issuing from a ducal coronet Or, a ram's head Argent, attired Or, holding in the mouth a laurel sprig proper.

ARMS OF HARGREAVES OF ORMEROD, in whose issue the future representation of the family in the female line, and the contingent reversion of the estate, are vested. Per pale nebuly Or and Azure, a fesse Ermine, fretty Gules, between three bucks current counterchanged. On an escucheon of pretence, quarterly of four, 1. Ormerod, as vol. II. p. 204; 2. Legh, as before; 3. Daniell, as vol. I. p. 526; and 4. Calveley, as vol. II. p. 419.

CREST. A buck's head erased Azure, attired Or, gorged with a collar Argent, fretty Gules, in the mouth a sprig of beath proper.



^k There was no recovery suffered of the copyhold estates, and they descended to Mrs. Pye Benet, and the representatives of Mrs. Atherton, viz. Lady Lilford, Mrs. George Keck, and Mrs. Hornby.

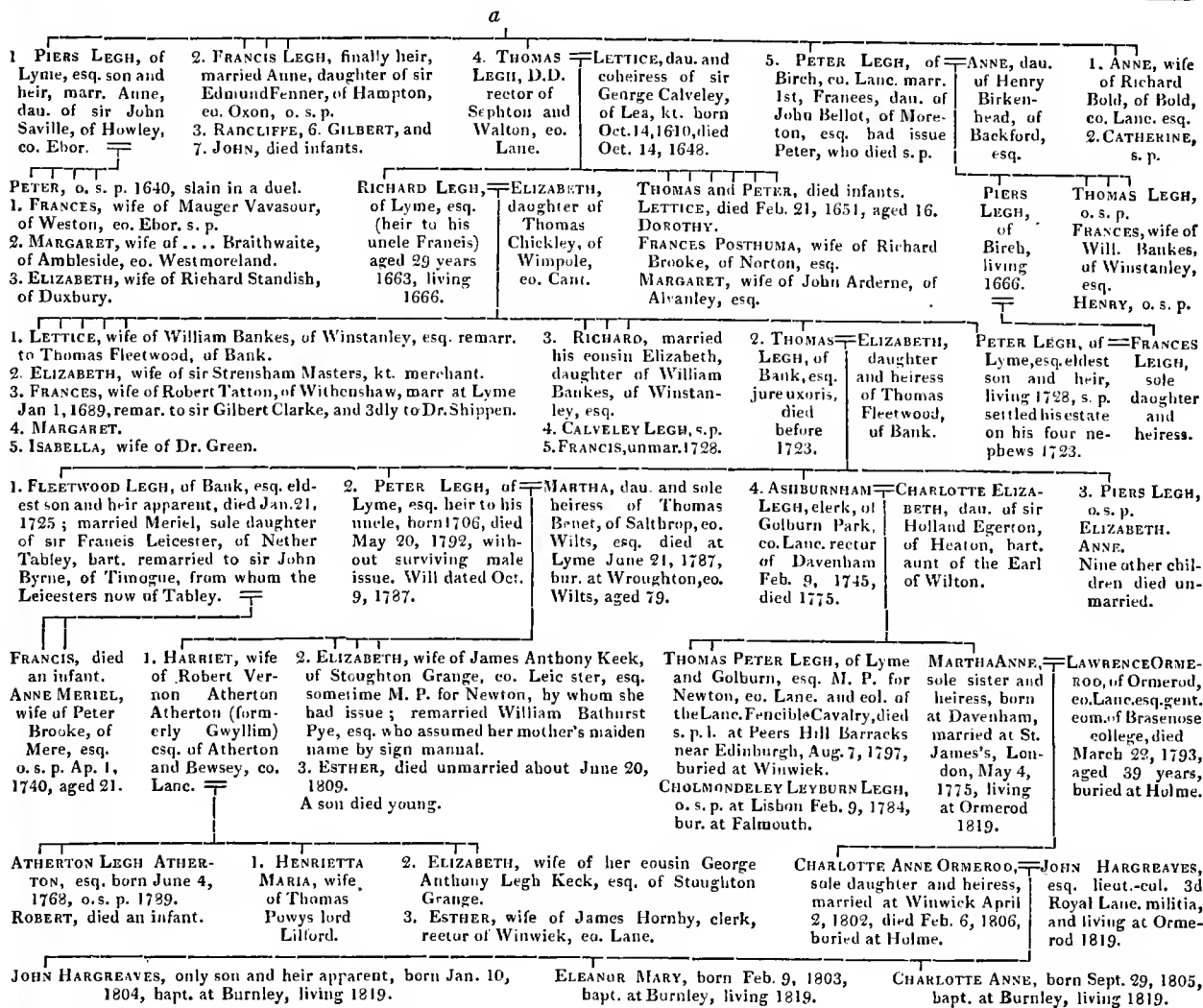
^l During whose minority the abovementioned Thomas and William, and other natural children of T. P. Legh, esq. had severally licence, by royal sign manual, to assume the name of Legh, and had grants of the arms of Legh of Lyme, each bearing a varied difference.

By the first of these grants, the following ARMS were granted to Thomas Legh, esq. Aug. 19, 1806: Gules, a cross engrailed Argent; in the chief point, on an inescucheon Sable, semee of estoiles Argent, an arm in armour embowed of the second, the hand proper, holding a pennon Silver. The whole within a bordure wavy of the second.

CREST. Issuant out of a ducal coronet Or, a ram's head Argent, armed Or, in the mouth a laurel slip Vert, over all a pallet wavy, Gules.

To William, second son, the same, with a border wavy Or, and a pallet wavy (in the Crest) Azure. To Peter, third son, the same, with the border Ermine, and the pallet Vert. To Maria, first daughter, the same, with the border Argent, charged with four roses Gules. To Margaret, second daughter, the same, charged with four trefoils Vert. To Emma, third daughter, the same, charged with four quatrefoils Gules. To Mary, fourth daughter, the same, charged with four cinquefoils Azure.

^m Information of col. Hargreaves of Ormerod, and Messrs. H. and R. Shaw of Burnley.



The Hall of Lyme is situated within an extensive park, which partakes much of the varied surface and lonely character of the neighbouring moors, and gives a fine effect of contrast to the magnificence and antique stateliness of the mansion itself, which comes rather unexpectedly upon the eye, bursting at once upon it with its long lofty fronts, built with dark stone, screened by woods on the north-west, and by the high grounds of the park in other directions. The northern front, which is first seen, is approached by a square court inclosed with iron rails, and its general plainness is relieved by an ornamented entrance in a mixed style of architecture, and by two wings slightly projecting, decorated with balustrades and pilasters. The fronts to the east and west are also built in a plain style, but the eastern front is broken by numerous projections, and opens to a terrace on which is a noble conservatory about 120 feet in length. The south front is more decorated than the others, and has a magnificent portico in the centre, supported by Ionic columns.

The principal entrance from the interior of the quadrangle opens to the hall on the eastern side of the court. In front of this is the great dining-room, placed between an ante-room and a singular apartment, with the arms of James the First over the chimney-piece, and a representation of a stag-hunt over them in stucco,

with other compartments relating to the killing of the deer, and the various incidents of the chase, ranged round the room, also executed in stucco and painted.

At the north-east angle is the great drawing-room, a wainscotted apartment, with an ornamented ceiling, and arms over the chimney piece.

Under this room is the domestic chapel of Lyme.

At the corresponding angle (the south-east) is the library, beyond which in the south front is the principal staircase, and a wainscotted apartment with some exquisite carvings in wood by Gibbons. In the upper part of the house is one of the long galleries usual in the mansions of the Elizabethan period.

The rest of the house is occupied by family apartments, and contains numerous portraits and other paintings, which were removed^m when these notes were taken in 1817, the house then undergoing extensive repairs under the direction of Mr. Lewis Wyatt. In some of the rooms are deposited antique marbles, and other curiosities, collected by the present proprietor in his eastern travels.

The park of Lyme, which is very extensive, is celebrated for the fine flavour of its venison, and contains a herd of wild cattle, the remains of a breed which has been kept here from time immemorial, and is supposed indigenousⁿ. In the last century a custom was observed

^m The principal ones are mentioned in Lysons's *Magna Britannia*, Chesh. p. 729. In Aikin's *Manchester* is a view of the south and west fronts, which are both built after the designs of Leoni, and a view of the south front is also given in *Watts's Views*.

ⁿ They appear to be of the same kind as those preserved in the park of Cadyow castle near Hamilton, at Chillingham in Northumberland, and Vale Royal in Cheshire, and are doubtless a remnant of the breed once common on the northern hills, and alluded to in a tradition preserved by Leland, when speaking of Blakeley near Manchester, *Itin. vol. VII. fo. 57*, part 49, edit. 1779. "Wilde bores, *bulles*, and falcens, bredde in times paste at Blakeley, now (temp. Hen. VIII.) for want of woodde the blow shoppes decay there." There is a breed something resembling these at Gisburne park in Yorkshire, said to be brought from Guisborough priory, but differing from them in being without horns, an account of which, illustrated by two engravings, is given in *Dr. Whitaker's Craven*, 2nd edit. p. 37.

here of driving the deer round the park about Midsummer, or rather earlier, collecting them in a body before the house, and then swimming them through a pool of water, with which the exhibition terminated. There is a large print of it by Vivares, after a painting by T. Smith, representing Lyme Park during the performance of the annual ceremony, with the great vale of Cheshire and Lancashire, as far as the Rivington hills in the distance, and in the foreground the great body of the deer passing through the pool, the last just entering it, and the old stags emerging on the opposite bank, two of which are contending with their fore-feet, the horns at that season being too tender to combat with. This "art of driving the deer" like a herd of ordinary cattle, is stated on a

monument at Disley to have been first perfected by Joseph Watson, who died in 1753, at the age of 104, "having been park-keeper at Lyme more than 64 years." The custom, however, appears not to have been peculiar to Lyme, as Dr. Whitaker describes, in his account of Townley (the seat of a collateral line of Legh), "near the summit of the park, and where it declines to the south, the remain of a large pool, through which tradition reports that the deer were driven by their keepers in the manner still practised in the park at Lyme^o."

Lyme park is situated near the road from Manchester to London through Buxton, adjacent to the picturesque village of Disley.

POYNTON.

POYNTON, antiently called Poynton, is omitted in Domesday. It was probably included, at the period of that survey, in some part of the Earl's extensive demesne in this Hundred; and after an intermediate grant to the family of Poutrell, had passed to the Stokeports^a, when the place from which they derived their name was erected into a barony, about the time of Randle Blundeville. Its descent is traced, in the account of Stockport, from the possession of the first baron to the reign of Edward III. when it passed, with that barony, to sir John de Warren, knight, in right of his mother Cicely daughter of sir Nicholas de Eton, of Stockport, knight.

This Cicely was wife of sir Edward Warren, son of sir Edward Warren, which last mentioned Edward appears to have been the husband of Maud, surnamed of Nerford, daughter and coheir of Richard de Skegton, and according to every authority was descended, either legitimately or otherwise, from the earls of Warren; but the authorities differ as to the precise mode of the descent.

On this subject, as Mr. Watson observes (House of Warren, II. 75-82.) there are *three opinions*, but the second of these may be again subdivided.

The *first opinion* (that of Vincent, and the one which has been generally believed) states this sir Edward to be son of John de Warren, bastard son of John the eighth earl, by his concubine Maud de Nerford. The only objection to this supposition is that the king, who was last in the earl's settlement, entered, instead of sir Edward, upon the lands settled on this John de Warren's *lawful male issue*^b.

The *second* is contained in a pedigree drawn up by Glover (Vincent's Chesh. Coll. Arm.), which makes the said John (father of sir Edward) legitimate son of John seventh earl Warren; and this account is varied by sir J. B. Warren's pedigree, which makes sir Edward legitimate son of the seventh earl himself^c.

The *third* and last opinion occurs in the Poynton pedigree, as drawn by Flower and Glover in 1580; viz. that sir Edward was son of John, son of sir John, son of William, which William was unquestionably^d son of

Reginald de Warren, a younger brother of William the third earl.

An establishment of this hypothesis was the object with which Mr. Watson's History of the Warrens was written, and the result was an admirable account of the great earls of that title, and of the family of the same name, which settled at Poynton, each branch being severally traced and identified by every means which antiquarian research could supply; but with respect to the *link* between the families, to the *two Johns de Warren* who *intervene* in Glover's pedigree, between *William*, nephew of the third earl, and *sir Edward*, the ancestor of the Poynton branch, without whose identification the whole falls to the ground, it must be owned that the reader will only find (in pp. 88-89, vol. II.) the unsupported assertions of Glover repeated, without confirmation, or even an attempt at confirmation.

From this sir Edward, however, the descent of the antient house of Warren of Poynton is brought down by Mr. Watson, in an uninterrupted chain of evidence, to its present representative, the entire matter of which is reduced into the following narrative and pedigree.

I. From Glover's abstract of the Poynton evidences (Coll. Arm. D. 14. 258) as quoted by Watson, it appears that sir Richard de Skegton had issue sir Ralph, Alice surnamed of Hauteyn, and Maud surnamed of Nerford; which Maud had a moiety of the lordships of Boton and Skegton, co. Norf. by inheritance from her brother, and the other by settlement from her sister, 20 Edw. II. with successive remainders to her sons Ralph and EDWARD, and their heirs male. It is proved also, by Mr. Watson, that a sir Edward Warren, by an inquisition (for which he gives no date) held two parts of a knight's fee in Skegton, "q. quondam fuit Johannis de Skegton." He further states, on the authority of Glover's pedigree, that sir Edward Warren was the husband of this Maud, and had issue by her "Ralph, sir William, sir Edward, and John;" which sir William (or another of the same name) was with king Edward III. at the siege of Calais in 1347, and is noticed in Glover's roll of the nobles and knights there, with the arms of

^o Hist. of Whalley, edit. 1818, p. 277.

^a See the account of the barony of Stokeport. The interest of the barons of that place is proved to have been only a subinfeudation under the Poutrells, as the inquisitions which state their successors, the Warrens, to have held latterly from the earldom, add, "at quondam de Galfrido de Poutrell."

^b Watson, vol. II. 76-77.

^c Ib. 77-80.

^d *Reginald, brother of the third earl of Warren*, grants to the monks of Lewes all his tenement of Scerneburne; and that charter is immediately followed by another, wherein *William de Warren* confirms to them all the tenements, &c. held of *Reginald*, his father, in Scerneburne. Ledger Book of Lewes Abbey, quoted by Watson, vol. II. p. 86.

Warren of Poynton; and for a further proof of the existence of this sir William and sir Edward, he cites a copy of a trust-deed, 41 Ed. III. ("the date" of which "has been mistaken by the copier") in which "*Willielmus et Edwardus, filii Domini Edwardi de Warren militis,*" convey to trustees all their part of the manor of Boton.^c Watson, vol. II. 90-97.

II. Edward, son of sir Edward Warren, knight, named in this deed, is doubtless the sir Edward Warren who married Cicely de Eton, sister of the baron of Stokeport. He occurs as son of sir Edward Warren, knight, in a deed dated at Boton 4 Edw. III. and his wife Cicely married him after a divorce from her former husband sir John Arderne in 1332, as more fully mentioned in the account of Stockport. Ib. 98-99.

III. John de Warren, issue of this marriage, and found by inquisition 44 Edw. III. given under Stockport, next heir to Isabel, daughter of sir Richard de Eton, was aged 26 years on succeeding to his estate; and his relationship was further attested by two certificates, signed in the same year by William de Ufforde, earl of Suffolk, and sir Robert, and sir John Erpingham, and sir John Colby, he being then not yet knighted. In the same year, by the name of John, son of sir Edward le Garreyn, he gave security to the earl's escheator to answer for the issues of his Cheshire estates; occurs as sir John Warren, in a fine 46 Edw. III.; and in a lease of Boton, 2 Ric. II. and 4 Ric. II. seals with the present arms of the family, chequy, in a canton, a lion rampant. 8th Rich. II. he grants an annuity of xxs. with a robe and hood of the suit given to his esquires (pro consilio suo impenso et impendendo) to Tho. de Purefey, to be paid out of his manor of Rotley, co. Warwick. His will was dated in the same year; and dying 10 Rich. II. he was buried at Boton. By his wife Margaret, daughter and heiress of sir John Stafford of Wickham, knight, who re-married John Mainwaring, of Over Peover, he had issue Margaret and Nicholas, who was found his heir, and aged upwards of 14 years, by inquisition 16 Rich. II. Margaret, his widow, held the manors of Skegton, Boton, Rotley, Plumpton, &c. for life. Ib. 100-105.

IV. Nicholas de Warren being under age at his father's death, sir John Schardelowe, of whom his manor of Skegton was held, entered on the same, and granted to sir John White, who, in 13 Rich. II. conveyed the same to John Mainwaring and Margaret his wife, late widow of sir John Warren. In 19 Rich. II. the same parties had a grant from Nicholas Warren of the manors of Stockport and Pointon, for the life of Margaret. The said Nicholas died in 1413, leaving a widow, Agnes, daughter of sir Richard de Wynnington, knight; Laurence de Warren, son and heir; and one daughter, Emma, wife of Hugh Venables of Golborne, living 9-10 Hen. V. who died without issue.

The seal of Nicholas de Warren had the paternal coat, as before, in the first quarter, Stafford in the second

and third, and in the fourth Stockport^f. Ibid. 105-107.

V. Laurence de Warren, son and heir, born about 1394, was one of thirty spearmen summoned for the defence of the kingdom, out of the county of Chester. 7 Hen. V. married Margery, daughter of Hugh Bulkeley of Woore, co. Salop, by whom he had issue John, son and heir, and the other children mentioned in the pedigree: occurs in deeds without a title temp. Hen. V. and as knight 7 Hen. VI. and died on Saturday next after Lady Day, 22 Hen. VI. 1444. He sealed with his father's quarterings as before, circumscribed "Sigillu' Laurance Waren^g." Ibid. 107-111.

VI. John Warren, esq. son and heir, was aged about 30 years at his father's death. He occurs 36 Hen. VI. 1458, as lord of the manors of Stockport, Poynton, Wode Plumpton, Forneby, Rotteley, Boton, and Skegton; in 1460 he grants land in trust to William Tabley, parson of Stokeport, and Randle Warren, his brother (who seals with a pile chequy); and, 13 Edw. IV. makes John Warren, clerk, his attorney, to deliver possession to Thomas lord Stanley, and seven other trustees of his manors of Poynton, Stockport, Wood-Plumpton, Skegton, Boton, and Rotle. "One authority says that he died the year following."^h

This John Warren married Isabel, daughter of sir John Stanley of Lathom, knight of the garter, by whom he had sir Lawrence Warren, knight, and the other children mentioned in the pedigree. The marriage covenant was dated at Stockport 10 Hen. V. John Warren being then only eight years of age, and his father in France. All the manors of sir Laurence Warren in Cheshire, Lancashire, Warwickshire, and Norfolk, were settled, and sir John Stanley covenanted to procure the Pope's dispensation, the parties being within prohibited degrees. Ibid. 111-116.

Sir Laurence de Warren, knight, son and heir apparent of John, married about 36 Hen. VI. Isabel, daughter of Robert Legh of Adlington, esq. He was knighted soon after the accession of Edw. IV. and died in his father's life-time, leaving two sons; sir John, heir to his grandfather, and William of Caunton, co. Notts, ancestor of sir John Borlace Warren, bart. Ibid. 116-117.

VII. Sir John Warren, knight, son of sir Laurence as before mentioned, was of age 22 Edw. IV. and knighted at Rippon by king Henry VII. 1487. In 1499 he grants to Adam de Grofton, master of the new college of Battlefield, near Salop, a third part of an acre of waste land in Wood Plumpton (whereon the said master had built a barn) to be held by the render of a rose, and by the performance of an anniversary mass and exeque of the dead on every Friday after Martin mass, for the souls of William Clough deceased, sir John Warren the donor, and all the faithful.

In the following year he pleaded prescription to a writ of quo warranto respecting the appurtenances of his barony of Stockport; and by *Inq. p. m.* 1518, was found to have died Jan. 11, seized of the manor of

^c The statements of Mr. Watson are more minutely detailed here, on account of Vincent making *this* sir Edward son of John Warren, who was natural son of John eighth earl of Warren by his concubine also *Maud de Nerford*; which Maud had been previously confounded with her namesake, and certainly improperly, as the earl's concubine, Matilda de Nerford, is termed daughter of *William Nyerford*, knight, according to Mr. Watson, in a divorce cause of that earl, plac. ap. Westm. 9 Edw. II. He gives also the seal of Alice de Hauteyne, sister of the Maud de Nerford whom he supposes wife of sir Edward, and whom Glover's pedigree states to be so, which contains three shields, all essentially varying from the arms of Maud de Nerford the concubine. The proving the two Mauds to be distinct, gives a wife to sir Edward, which Vincent had omitted, but it does not however otherwise affect his deduction.

^f Two brass matrices of the seal were in possession of the late sir George Warren, severally circumscribed: "Sigil. Nicol. Warren Dom. de Poynton," and "Sigil. Nicolai de Warren de Pointo." W.

^g Brass matrix, late in possession of the same. W.

^h And correctly so, for an *Inq. p. m.* was taken in that year, which refers to his manors of Stockport and Poynton, and his advowson of Stockport. John Warren, son of Laurence, son of the aforesaid John, next of kin and heir. O.

Woodplumpton and the fourth part of Formby; Laurence, son and heir, aged upwards of 23 years. By another inquisition he was found to have held the manor of Poynton from the king by the yearly render of two shillings, or a sparrow-hawk, and the manor and advowson of Stokport from the king as earl of Chester (through the forfeiture of Hugh Despencer) in capite, by the render of two shillings yearly. A third inquisition relates to his Warwickshire manor and Rotley. His wife and children are specified in the pedigree. *Ib.* 122-125.

VIII. Laurence de Warren, esq. son of sir John, dissipated a large portion of the fair inheritance which he derived from his ancestors, alienating the manors of Boton and Skegton 15 Hen. VIII. to Richard Gresham, mercer, afterwards sir Richard Gresham, and 21 Hen. VIII. selling also the lordship of Rotley, in Warwickshire. He died Sept. 18 preceding his inquisition, taken 22 Hen. VIII.¹ and his will was dated Nov. 18, 1529. In it are these words:—"Firste, I bequeith my soule to Almyghty God, our Lady Seynt Mary, and to all the blessed company of heyven, and my body to be buried in the parisshe church of Stopford, amonge myne ancestourz. Also I will that a trentall be seid for me incontinent after my departing, and also five massez of the woundez." *Ib.* 126-30.

IX. Sir Edward Warren, son and heir of Laurence, about 1548 built a new house in the park of Poynton, which was pulled down by the late sir George Warren. He was one of the Cheshire gentlemen knighted at Leith by the earl of Hertford May 11, 1544. Previous to this he resided at Prestbury, in the chancel of which church he was buried, where his monumental inscription is still remaining. *Ib.* 130-33.

Inq. p. m. 1 Eliz. Sir Edward Warren, knight, held the manor of Poynton from the heirs of Geoffrey de Poutrell (or Peuterell) as before, value xli. ; the manor of Stockport from the queen as of the earldom of Chester, as of the manor of Macclesfield, by military service, and as before, value xlii. ; and lands in Offerton and Werford. Died Oct 12, 6 Mary. Francis Warren, aged upwards of 24 years, son and heir.

X. John Warren, second son of sir Edward Warren, succeeded his father, his eldest brother Francis being disinherited, and having only an annuity for life. He was sheriff of Cheshire 19 Eliz. and by *Inq. p. m.* 30 Eliz. was found to have died Dec. 7, leaving Edward son and heir, aged upwards of 24^k. His wife, who survived him, lived at the manor-house of Lostock, which he had purchased in 1576, and died 1617. *Ib.* 133-38.

XI. Sir Edward Warren, knight, son and heir of John, was sheriff of Cheshire 40 Eliz. and towards the end of that queen's reign was engaged in her Irish wars, at which time he was knighted. In the Macclesfield court rolls he occurs 1 Jac. I. as deputy steward of Macclesfield to the earl of Derby, and dying at Poynton Nov. 13, 1609, was buried the day following at Stockport. At Bramall is a picture of this knight with a gold chain dependant from his neck, resembling that of his father mentioned in the note below. The crest in the father's picture has however a griffin's foot in a bush of ostrich feathers, and that in the son's a wyvern rising, the wings checky. This portrait is also engraved in Mr. Watson's work. *Ib.* 138-143.

From this period to the present time the descent is continued by the following pedigree; and the few circumstances of interest which are given by Mr. Watson, in addition to genealogical dates, are arranged as notes below it. The direct male line of the Poynton branch terminated in the late sir George Warren, K. B. in whose daughter the viscountess Bulkeley, and her husband, this manor is now vested. A court baron for the same is held twice in the year^l.

The antient hall of Poynton, built about the middle of the sixteenth century, was pulled down by sir George Warren, and a modern house and offices, on a large scale, were erected in its place, within grounds, park-like in appearance and extent, but now used as a ley for cattle. An accurate representation of the mansion will be found in the History of the Warrens, so often quoted. The hall is situated to the left of the road from Stockport to Macclesfield, about five miles S. of the former place. On the right of the said road is the Chapel of Poynton^m, also rebuilt by sir George Warren, and containing, in the painted glass of its windows, the arms of Warren and Bulkeley.

In the former chapel here (June 3, 1599, Harl. MSS. 2151. p. 73.) were the arms of Warren, Winnington, Holland, Honford, Davenport of Bramhall, and others; and under the arms of Stanley impaling those of the Isle of Man, a female figure standing with a book in the left hand, and the other stretched out over the head of a kneeling male figure in a surcoat, emblazoned with the arms of Bulkeley of Cheadle.

The patronage of the chapel is vested in the Warren family, and the curacy was returned by the bishop of Chester in 1809, as augmented, not charged, value of augmentation, seat-rents, and surplice fees, £64. 15s.ⁿ The registers begin in 1723^o.

¹ The Inquisition (which is omitted by Mr. Watson) notices his manors of Poynton and Stockport, and lands in Offerton and Moberley, val. tot. £.76. 13s. 4d. The first held of the King, "*at quond' de Galfr' Poutrell mil.*," the next from the King, "*per forisfacturam Hugonis Despenser*," from whom it was formerly held; the third from the king, as *lord of Aldford*; and the last from sir John Talbot. Edward Warren, son and heir, aged upwards of 24 years.

^k The Inquisition notices his manors of Stockport and Poynton, and land in Offerton, Warford, Woodplumpton, Liverpool, Didshury, and Hydegate, val. tot. £226. 16s. 8d. A portrait of this John Warren, in a ruff, with a gold chain dependent from his neck, is given in Mr. Watson's Work, engraved by Basire from a fine original painting at Bramall.

^l Information of J. A. Newton, esq. agent for the manor.

^m The original foundation of this chapel was probably in 1312, when "the abbot of Chester granted to Nicholas de Eton and Joan his wife that he would find a chaplain in the chapel of Poynton for ever, for the benefit of them and the rest of the inhabitants of Poynton. In 1500 John Veysey, LL.D. vicar-general of John bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, sequestered the tithes of Poynton, belonging to the abbot of Chester, because the abbot had not found a chaplain according to agreement.

ⁿ Returns to the Governors of queen Anne's Bounty.

^o Returns to the Episcopal Registry. About the year 1703 a School was built at Poynton, to which Mr. Warren gave timber, and J. Boulton 10,000 bricks. The rest of the charge was borne by the township. Gastrell, Not. Cest.

WARREN OF POYNTON.

From the evidences compiled by the rev. John Watson, M.A. F. S. A. constituting a part of his History of the Earls of Warren and Surrey.

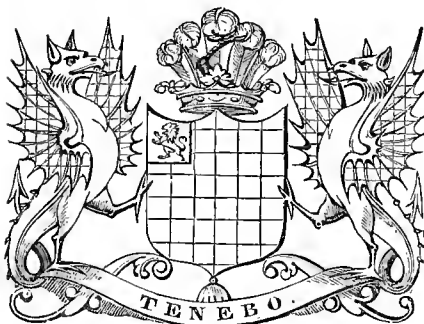
ARMS, as borne by the late sir George Warren, K. B. Checquy Or and Azure, on a canton Gules a lion rampant Argent.

CREST. Issuing from a ducal coronet a plume of five ostrich feathers Argent, in the middle of them a griffon's claw Or.

SUPPORTERS. Two wiverns Argent, armed Or, winged as the field of the arms.

MOTTO. "TENEBO."

Note. The present lord Bulkeley, by royal sign manual, had licence in 1802 to assume the name of Warren in addition, and to bear the arms of Warren quarterly; and was then allowed for the CREST OF WARREN, a wivern statant on a wreath, colours as the supporters, which crest also was used by the Warrens of Poynton, see preceding page, col. 2.



Sir EOWARD WARREN, kt. whose descent is deduced variously by Vincent and Glover from the earls of Warren. — MAUD, daughter of Richard de Skegton, called Maud de Nerford, living 20 Edw. II.

RALPH, o. s. p. Glover's ped. Sir WILLIAM, o. s. p. Glover's ped. Sir EOWARD WARREN, kt. 3d son, and finally heir. CICELY, daughter of sir Nicholas de Eton, kt. divorced from her first husband, sir John de Arderne, 1332. JOHN, s. p. Glover's ped.

Sir JOHN WARREN, kt. only son, aged 26 years 44 Edw. III. died 10 Ric. II. Inq. 16 Ric. II. — MARGARET, daughter and heiress of sir John Stafford of Wickham, remarr. to sir John Mainwaring of Over Peover, about 13 Ric. II.; died 6 Hen. V.

NICHOLAS WARREN, only son, died 1413. — AGNES, daughter of sir Richard de Wynnington, kt. living 1417. MARGARET, living 10 Ric. II.

Sir LAURENCE WARREN, kt. only son and heir, born about 1394, died 1444. — MARGERY, daughter of Hugh Bulkeley, esq. EMMA, wife of Hugh Venables, of Goulburn, 9—10 Hen. V. o. s. p.

JOHN WARREN, son and heir, aged about 30 years 1444, died 14 Edw. IV. Inq. p. m. same year. — ISABEL, daughter of sir John Stanley, kt. contracted 10 Hen. V. died 1431. RANLE WARREN, 2nd son. MARGERY, wife of John de Honford, betrothed 10 Hen. V. JOAN, wife of Nicholas de Longford, betrothed 7 Hen. VI. CICELY, wife of John Davenport, marr. cov. Jan. 4, 13 Hen. VI. portion 130 marks, jointure 10 marks. MARGARET, wife of John Stafford (Glov. Vis. Cest. 1580.) ELIZABETH.

1. Sir LAURENCE WARREN, kt. son and heir, died in his father's lifetime. — ISABEL, daughter of sir Robert Legh, of Adlington, kt. remarried to sir George Holford, of Holford, kt. 15 Edw. IV. 2. JOHN WARREN, marr. Anne, dau. of lord Stafford, and had issue Isabel, wife of John Warren. 3. JOHN WARREN, married Margaret, daughter of William Booth, ancestor of the WARRENS of ST. ALBANS. 4. RICHARD WARREN, living 1482. 5. HENRY WARREN, rector of Stockport 1473. 1. ELIZABETH, wife of Robert Rockley, of Rockley, co. Ebor. esq. 2. JOAN, wife of sir John Mainwaring, of Over Peover, kt. 3. MARGARET, wife of John Arderne, of Chester. 4. JANE, wife of John Atherton, of Atherton, esq. about 5 Edw. IV.

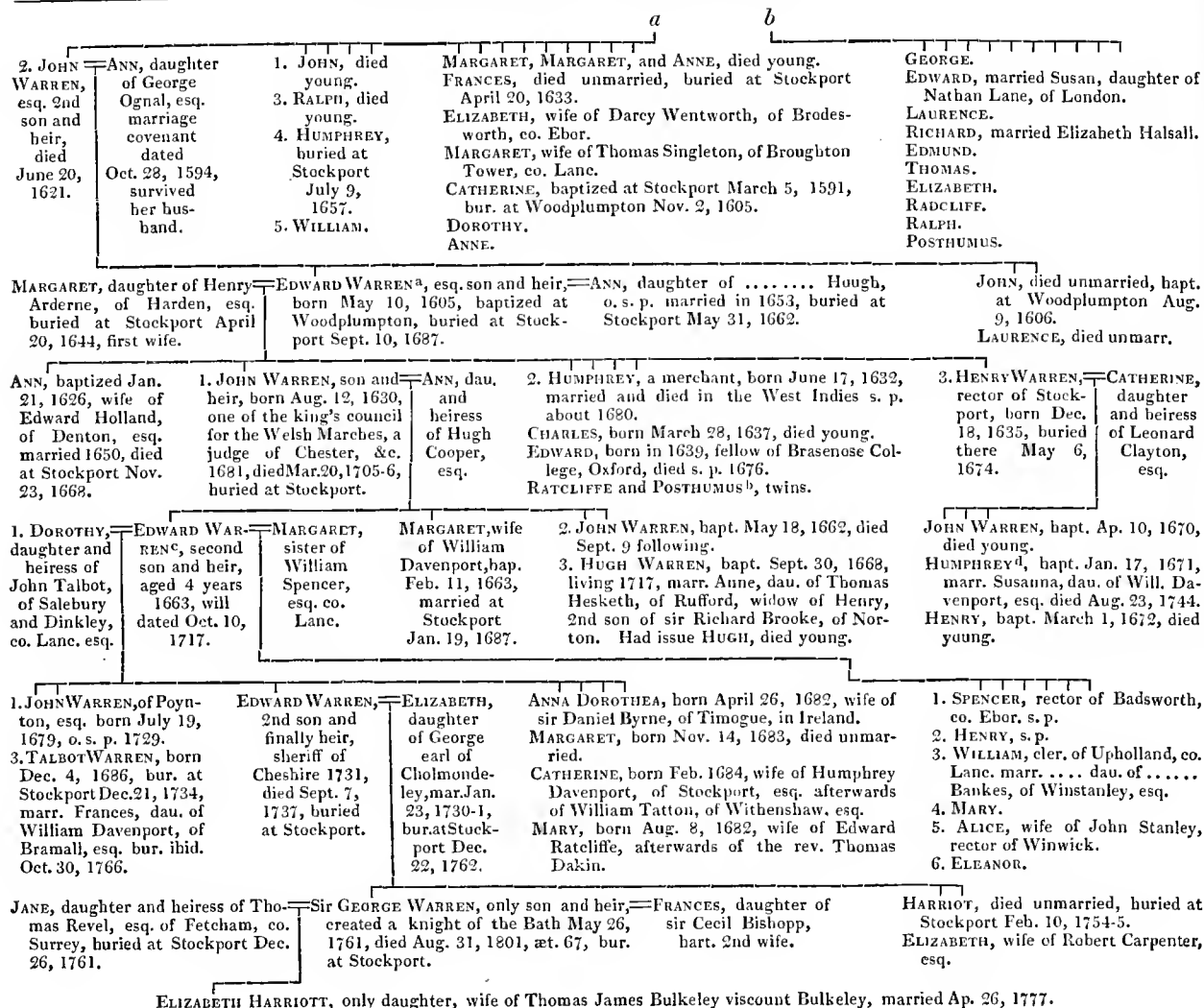
2. JANE, daughter of Ralph Arderne, esq. widow of Thurstan Holland, of Denton, esq. remarried to John Davenport, esq. — Sir JOHN WARREN, kt. heir to his grandfather, born about 1461, died Jan. 11, 1518, Inq. p. m. same year. 1. ELEANOR, daughter of sir Thomas Gerard, kt. married about 1480. WILLIAM WARREN, of Cauntou, co. Notts, 2nd son, ancestor of sir J. Borlace Warreo, bart. K.B.

GEORGE WARREN. — MARGARET, daughter of sir Piers Legh, of Lyme, kt. marr. cov. July 1494. — LAURENCE WARREN, esq. son and heir, died Sept. 18, 22 Hen. VIII. Inq. p. m. same year. — SIBIL, widow of William de Honford, esq. o. s. p. 2. RICHARD, married Catherine, daughter of John Moore, of Bank-house, co. Lanc. 3. NICHOLAS, married Catherine, daughter of Mainwaring. 4. JEROME. 5. RALPH. Two daughters s. p.

3. Sir EOWARD WARREN, son and heir, knighted at Leith 1544, died Oct. 12, 1558, monument at Prestbury. — DOROTHY, daughter of sir William Booth, kt. marriage covenant 7 Hen. VIII. buried at Prestbury March 19, 1584. 1. CICELY, wife of Coleshull. 2. MABELL, wife of Roger Beke, sergeant at arms. 4. HELEN, wife of Roger Downes, of Shrigley, co. Cest. esq. 1521. 5. MARGARET, wife of Robert Hyde, of Norbury, esq. 6. DOROTHY, wife of Newton, 2ndly of Hugh Davenport, 2nd son of Thomas Davenport, of Henbury, esq. 7. RANULPH WARREN, marr. Elizabeth, dau. of Henry Catheral, and 2ndly and had issue; buried at Prestbury Aug. 11, 1562. 8. ANN, wife of George Kighley, of Kighley, co. Ebor. and Inskip, co. Lanc. 9. CATHERINE, wife of Nicholas Bradbury, of Ollerset, co. Derby. 10. JANE, wife of George Chadderton. 11. ISABEL. 12. LAWRENCE. 13. GEORGE. 14. EOWARD.

FRANCIS WARREN, disinherited, o. s. p. married Margaret, 3d daughter of sir Edw. Fitton, of Gawsorth, knt. after being divorced from her elder sister, to whom he had been contracted. JOHN WARREN, 2nd son and heir, sheriff of Cheshire 19 Eliz. died Dec. 7, 30 Eliz. — MARGARET, dau. of sir Richard Molyneux, kt. died 1617, bur. at Stockport June 21. 3. LAURENCE WARREN, married Frances, daughter of Richard Broughton, co. Staff. Had issue. 4. EDWARD, died young. 5. EDWARD, died young. 6. PETER WARREN, married Elizabeth, daughter of sir William Norris, of Speke, co. Lanc. 7. HELEN, 8. JOAN, 9. MARGARET, 10. ETHELRED, 11. ANNE, all died young.

DOROTHY, wife of William Davenport, of Bramall, bapt. Jan. 25, 1561, marr. Oct. 16, 1581. MARY, wife of Hamnet Hyde, son and heir of Rob. Hyde, of Hyde, esq. ELEANOR, wife of Robert Tatton, of Withenshaw, esq. bapt. Oct. 22, 1565, marr. Oct. 23, 1581. FRANCES, wife of William Dedall, of Salwick, co. Lanc. esq. ANNE, wife of Roger Downes, of Shrigley, esq. LUCIA, wife of Osbaldiston, of Ireland. 1. Sir EOWARD WARREN, kt. son and heir, bapt. at Prestbury April 9, 1563, sheriff 40 Eliz. bur. at Stockport Nov. 14, 1609. 2. ANNE, dau. of sir William Davenport, of Bramall, kt. about 1581, buried at Stockport July 13, 1597. 3. SUSAN, dau. of sir William Booth, of Dunham, kt. marr. about Michaelmas 1597. 2. LAURENCE, steward of Stockport, marr. Jane, dau. of William Davenport, of Woodford, esq. had issue, living 1633. 3. RICHARD, steward of Stockport, marr. dau. of Rudyard. 4. JOHN, married 1606, Dorothy, dau. of Roger Downes, of Shrigley, esq. 5. RALPH. 6. WILLIAM. 7. GEORGE, o. s. p.



WORTH.

It appears from the inquisitions, that this township was originally part of the vill of Poynton, and that the manor was a subinfeudation under that lordship.

The Worths, who assumed their local name therefrom, were most probably the elder line of the Worths of Titherington. Henry de Worth occurs in 16 Edw. I. in a document which has been already quoted, p. 280, as a subordinate forester of Macclesfield forest, in right of an estate in Upton, "quæ fuit Orme Rata'ii", to whom it had been granted by one of the earls of the name of Randle.

The subsequent name of the tenement, which was

thus held by forest service, the "Ratonesfeld," seems derived from this epithet, which is obviously a corruption of Rotarius, or Wheelwright.

In the reign of Henry V. Worth, with the Ratonesfeld and its appendant service, passed to Roger Downes of Shrigley, in marriage with Agnes, daughter and heiress of William de Hulme, who was apparently representative of the Worths in the female line. Worth, and the tenement to which the forestership of the Worths was appendant, are subsequently thus noticed in the inquisitions.

^a Commonly called *Stag Warren* on account of his great size and strength. His wardship was granted in 1622 to sir John Radcliffe, of Ordshall, kt. and Humphrey Davenport, esq. In 1647 a special pardon was granted to him and his uncle Humphrey, granting back their estates which had been sequestered, for which they paid 650*l.* He founded, by will dated Jan. 26, 1633, the alms-houses at the east end of the old church-yard at Stockport.

^b "These two last were twins, of whom their mother died in childbirth. This is said to have been caused by the rude treatment she met with from a party of soldiers, who coming to search at Poynton for horses, arms, &c. she mounted a favourite nag, thinking by that method to save it, but was pulled from it, and so terrified that she was thrown into the pains of labour before her time, which proved fatal to her." Watson, *ibid.*

^c This Edward generally resided at Dinkley, and is the person to whom Stukeley alludes in the second volume of his *Itinerarium Curiosum*, p. 38: when speaking of the Roman antiquities, he says, the late Mr. Warren of Dinkley was very careful of these learned remnants. Watson, *vol. II. p. 158.* For some valuable and very interesting information respecting these remains, see Dr. Whitaker's *Wballe*, edit. 1818, pp. 22-24.

^d "This Humphrey was blinded by a shot from a gun undesignedly fired by his half brother, Ralph Hulden, esq. Dec. 2, 1700, after which he amused himself with working a great variety of patterns in silk, &c. in a very uncommon loom of his own contriving. At Bramall are many specimens of his work, and the remains of the loom itself, which contained so many movements that they are not easily described. On one of the above specimens the date 1712 is worked, on another 1723. The following lines were written on the products of his ingenuity:

"Aspice, Lector, opus viro sine lumine textum,

Sed tua laus soli sit manifesta Deo.

"He is said to have been intended for rector of Stockport but for this misfortune. There is an original portrait of him at Bramall." Watson, *vol. II. p. 148*, where his epitaph is also given.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Robert del Downes held, inter alia, in fee simple, one messuage and twenty acres of land in Upton, called the Ratonesfield, from the prince, by the service of free forestry in Macclesfield forest, value xxiiis. ijd.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VII. Robert del Downes, esq. held, inter alia, as in the last inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VII. Robert Downes, esq. held, inter alia, as in the last inquisition. Also the manor of Worth, within the vill of Poynton, from sir John Warren, knight, by the render of one pair of gloves, or one penny, value viii marks.

Inq. p. m. 1 and 2 Philip and Mary, Roger Downes, esq. held, inter alia, the Ratonsfield; viz. lands and one messuage in Upton, from the heirs of Nicholas Hulme, in socage, val. xxiiiiis.

Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz. Roger Downes, of Shrigley, esq. held, inter alia, lands and messuages, &c. cum pert. in Worth, from sir Edward Warren, knight, in free socage, by the render of one penny for all services, value xls.; also messuages, &c. in Upton, held from the heirs of Richard Hulme, value xs.

From this period the manor of Worth passed with Shrigley, until it was sold by Edward Downes, esq. now living, to the late sir George Warren of Poynton, K.B. becoming thus re-united to the manor from which it was anciently severed, and with which it has descended.

No court is held for the reputed mesne manor, but suit is due to the leet held for the forest of Macclesfield, in which Worth is included.

WOODFORD.

WOODFORD is unnoticed in the Domesday Survey; but, in the reign of king John, it occurs among the estates of sir John Arderne, of Aldford, to whom it had probably passed from the Aldfords, with other estates in this hundred, originally parcel of the demesne of the earldom. The said sir John settled this manor (then called Wathford) on his brother Eustace, as mentioned in the account of Alvanley.

The manor subsequently appears in several deeds and one inquisition of the Ardernes, as late as 23 Edw. III. but merely as a trust estate, held by them for the Warrens of Poynton, who inherited it through the Etons from the Stokeports, to whom it probably passed, by sale or exchange, shortly after the grant to Eustace de Arderne above mentioned, and through both which families it is traced in the account of the barons of Stockport.

In 29 Edw. III. the manor and appurtenances of Wydeford were granted, by John Stafford and Isabella his wife, to John, third son of Thomas Davenport de Wheltrough, in the county of Chester, for the life of Isabella, wife of said John Stafford. Certain annual deductions are also specified for the use of Isabella.

Subsequently to this, John, third son of Thomas Davenport of Wheltrough, grants this said manor of Wydeford to Richard le Duncalve, Richard le Crouther of Withington, and Richard de Adlington, for the life of Isabella, wife of Thomas de Stathum^a. 38 Edw. III. Richard le Duncalve, Richard le Crouther, and Richard de Adlington, and their assignees, grant to this same John, son of Thomas Davenport de Wheltro', said manor of Wydeford, for the life of said Isabella de Stathum.

This Isabella, who apparently held Woodford in dower, was widow of Robert de Eton, baron of Stockport, and was four times re-married, as mentioned in the Davenport pedigree, p. 39. Isabel de Eaton, her granddaughter, died, by inquisition 43 E. III. leaving John de Warren her heir, who is stated, in the Magna Britannia^b, to have conveyed the manor of Woodford to John Davenport above mentioned. In the next year, 44 Edw. III. among the Woodford deeds, there occurs a release from Isabella to this John, of all and every her claim to Wydeford manor, including the annual deductions of rent; and also a release from Robert de Leghes of 100 shillings rent, a claim which he had, through said Isabella, upon this estate.

This John Davenport, who was afterwards knighted and chief justice of Lancashire, and is styled indifferently of his father's estate of Wheltrough and his own manors of Henbury and Woodford, enfeoffed his brother Roger, chaplain, with this manor, for the use of his son Nicholas, by deed dated at Woodford, Wednesday after Easter, 44 Edw. III. who resettled the same on John and his wife Margaret for life, remainder to this Nicholas and his heirs male, whereupon a fine was levied in Whitsun week following.

From this period the annexed pedigree brings down the descent of the manor to its present proprietor, Davies Davenport, esq. M.P. the lineal representative of this branch of the knightly family of Davenport^c.

A court leet and court baron are held for the manor. The Hall is occupied by farmers, the seat of the Davenports of this place being now fixed at Capesthorpe in this hundred.

^a Abstract of Woodford Deeds, communicated by the rev. Walter Davenport.

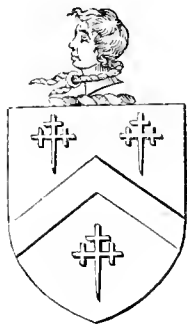
^b On the authority of records in the Exchequer of Chester.

^c For an account of the manner in which the grand serjeancy and chief forestership of Macclesfield hundred have descended to Mr. Davenport from the Davenports of Davenport, see the account of that township; and for his descent from another branch of the Davenports, which he represents in the female line, see Calveley, in Edisbury hundred.

DAVENPORT OF WOODFORD.

From the Visitations and Harl. MSS. 2119, with additions from the family pedigree.

ARMS and CREST as Davenport of Davenport, with filial distinction; but on antient seals the original crest is sometimes superseded by a tree erased on a wreath.



a

DIANA, born at Woodford, baptized at Prestbury Dec. 20, 1698, married to Piers Bolton, of Aston Grange, co. Cest.	DAVIES DAVENPORT, of Woodford and Marton, and of the Inner Temple, esq. heir to his father and his uncle John Davenport, esq. bapt. Mar. 14, 1696, at Prestbury, married Oct. 19, 1721, at Prestbury.	MARY, daughter and sole heiress of John Ward, of Capesthorne, esq. and of the Inner Temple, buried at Capesthorne Nov. 11, 1737.	2. MONK DAVENPORT, bapt. at Prestbury Dec. 30, 1697, died at Woodford, bur. at Prestbury Feb. 14, 1721, unmarried, intestate.
ISABELLA, bapt. at Prestbury Dec. 9, 1694, buried at Prestbury March 19, 1713.			3. JOHN DAVENPORT, born at Woodford, bapt. at Prestbury May 11, 1701, died unmarried June 6, 1730, bur. at Prestbury.
CHRISTOPHER DAVENPORT, born Nov. 4, 1730, bapt. at St. George's, buried at Liverpool.	DAVIES DAVENPORT, of Woodford, Marton, and Capesthorne, esq. and of the Inner Temple, born in Red Lion-square, London, Oct. 2, 1723, baptized at St. George's on the 19th, buried at Capesthorne 1758.	PHÈBE, daughter and coheiress of Richard Davenport, esq. of Calveley and Davenport, died at Capesthorne, buried there Sept. 27, 1757.	WILLIAM DAVENPORT, born Oct. 8, 1725, in Red Lion-sq. bapt. at St. George's, died unmarried, buried at Liverpool.
THOMAZINE, born in Red Lion-square March 28, 1732, bapt. at St. George's April 18, died at Capesthorne unmarried, buried there Jan. 17, 1766.			PHILIP DAVENPORT, born Mar. 23, 1726, in Red Lion-square, bapt. April 13, at St. George's, died Sept. 10, 1727, bur. at Hendon.
CHARLES DAVENPORT, born in Bloomsbury-square, London, April 7, 1735, bapt. at Bloomsbury May 1, rector of Breerton, co. Cest. died at Capesthorne, bur. there Mar. 16, 1767.			RICHARD DAVENPORT, of Marlow, born Aug. 20, 1729, bapt. at St. George's, London, Sept. 11, married dau. of Children, esq. co. Kent, died at Marlow, buried in the church there Jan. 1799.
Sir THOMAS DAVENPORT, of Hendon, kt. born Jan. 14, 1733, and bapt. at St. George's, London, Feb. 7, died on the York circuit, buried in the Minster; married Jane, daughter of John Seel, esq. remarried to sir John Riggs Miller.			
DAVIES DAVENPORT, of Woodford, Marton, Calveley, and Capesthorne, esq. only son and heir, M.P. co. Cest. born Aug. 20, 1757, bapt. Dec. 8, at Capesthorne, living 1819.	CHARLOTTE, daughter of Ralph Sneyd, esq. of Keel, co. Staff. born at Aston, co. Staff. Ap. 27, 1756, living 1819.	PHÈBE, born at Capesthorne, bapt. there July 5, 1756, died 1814.	EUSEBIUS HORTON, esq. of Catton, co. Derb.
1. EDWARD DAVIES DAVENPORT, born at Catton-hall, co. Derb. Ap. 27, 1778, living 1819.	3. WALTER DAVENPORT, born Feb. 5, 1787, in Upper Seymour-street, London, and bapt. in the parish of St. Mary-le-bone, vicar of Ellaston, co. Staff.; married in July 1818 Caroline-Barbara, daughter of John Gooch of Paxliugham, in the co. of Norfolk, clerk, archdeacon of Sudbury, brother of sir Thomas Gooch, bart. of Benacre Hall, co. Suffolk.	CHARLOTTE ALMERIA, died young, buried at Capesthorne Nov. 9, 1785.	ANNE, wife of Robert Wilmot, esq. M.P. eldest son of sir Robert Wilmot of Osmaston, bart. Has issue.
2. HENRY WILLIAM DAVENPORT, a major in the 87th regiment, born Sept. 1, 1779, baptized at Capesthorne, living 1819.		HARRIET KATHERINE, born in Harley-street, London, April 4, 1791, bapt. in the parish of St. Mary-le-bone, living 1817.	LOUISA, living unmarried 1819.

MOTTRAM ANDREW.

If the "Motre" of Domesday may be supposed to refer to this Mottram, as is most probably the case, it escaped forfeiture in the first instance, but it was subsequently united to the demesne of the earldom, and held from it in capite.

"Isdem Gamel^a tenet Motre; pater ejus tenuit; ibi una hida et dimidia geldabilis. Terra est iv carucarum. Wasta est; ibi silva iii leuis longa, et ii lata, et ii haia, et aira accipitris."

The earliest proprietors under the earldom were a family that bore the local name, and have been noticed in the introduction to this hundred as hereditary gaolers of Macclesfield. Agnes de Mottram, heiress of this family, married David de Calveley, temp. Edw. III. from whose inquisitions given generally under Lea in Broxton hundred, the following particulars relating to the descent of this manor are abstracted.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. IV. David, son of Hugh de Calvelegh, knight, held, in demesne as of fee, inter alia, two parts of Mottram Andrew, with the reversion of the third part, from the prince as earl of Chester, in capite: val. per ann. xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VI. Hugh de Calvelegh, held, in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Mottram Andrew (except two mess. called le Hall Howse, and lands to the same belonging), by mil. serv. from Katherine queen of England: val. per ann. viii marks.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. Margaret, wife of sir Hugh Calveley, knight, held the same from the king as earl of Chester, by mil. serv.: val. per ann. xviii l. xiiis.

Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VIII. Hugh Calveley, held, inter alia, the manor of Mottram Andrew, from the king as earl of Chester: val. per ann. xviii l. xiiis. ijd.

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VIII. Sir George Calveley, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Mottram Andrew, from the king as earl of Chester, by mil. serv.: val. per ann. xxv l. xiiis. ijd.

Inq. p. m. 5 and 6 Ph. and Mary. Sir Hugh Calveley, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Mottram Andrew: ten. as in last inquisition; val. xxiii l. xiiis. ijd.

Inq. p. m. 27 Eliz. Sir George Calveley, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Mottram Andrew: ten. and val. as in last inquisition; also lands there, val. iiii. xiiis.

Inq. p. m. 5 Jac. I. Hugh Calveley, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Mottram Andrew, as before: val. xiiii l. viis. viiij.

Shortly after this period Mottram Andrew passed to the Booths, most probably by sale. Nathaniel Booth, 4th son of William Booth of Dunham, esq. was "yet living at his house in Mottram Andrew 1667."^b

28th and 29th June 1716. Nathaniel Booth, last mentioned, by deeds of these dates, upon the nomination of Richard Croke, of Macclesfield, esq. conveys to Charles Duckenfield, esq. and Roger Royden, chapman, in fee, the manor of Mottram Andrew, &c. and also the manor of Handford, &c. in trust, for said Croke, his heirs and assigns, subject to such trusts and agreements as were declared by the following deed:

30th June 1716. A deed between said Croke, Duckenfield, and Royden, and said Nathaniel Booth, states, that Booth had sold to several persons lands in Handford, and had conveyed to the purchasers such title as he had therein: and states articles of agreement of the 29th August 1712, for the conveyance from Booth to Croke, before the 25th of December then next, of the manor of *Mottram Andrew, and other lands there.*

That said Booth could not then make out a title to said manor and lands in Mottram Andrew, to the satisfaction of said Croke or his counsel; and said Croke covenanted if said Booth should, before 29th June then next, make out a good title to said manor of Mottram Andrew, and other the lots comprized in the said articles, and in-

^a Referring to a previous mention of him as proprietor of Cedde.

^b *Leycester*, vol. I. p. 403.

tended to be purchased by said Croke, he would reconvey to said Booth such parts of the said lands comprized in certain securities, as were not by the said recited articles purchased by said Croke.

Said Croke, in consequence of the defect of title, appears to have paid off outstanding incumbrances on the estates of Mottram Andrew and Handford, and to have taken assignments of them to himself; and before a complete title was made to the premises purchased by him, to have died without issue. It further appears that after his death a bill was exhibited in Chancery, in the nature of a Cross Bill, by Thomas Yates of Whitchurch, com. Salop, gent. and Lydia his wife, Thomas Clayton of Little Harwood, com. Lancaster, gent. and Abigail his wife, only child and heiress of Ann Darbyshire deceased, John Andrews of Bolton le Moors, com. Lancaster, gent. and Abigail his wife, Thomas Summers of Liverpool, merchant, Richard Percivall of Liverpool, gent. eldest son and heir of Margaret Percivall, afterwards Summers, deceased, late wife of the said Thomas Summers, and Thomas Heyes, of Rainhill, com. Lancaster, clerk, and Isabella his wife (which said Lydia Abigail Clayton, Abigail Andrews, Margaret, and Isabella, were the co-heirs or heirs at law, of said Richard Croke deceased), against said Nathaniel Booth and others, to have said articles carried into execution, and to have proper conveyances of said purchased premises: and that said Booth and wife, and certain other persons therein mentioned, were decreed to convey the estate comprized in

said articles unto plaintiffs in said cross cause, and their heirs, or as they shall appoint.

25th and 26th July 1738. Said Nathaniel Booth and Jane his wife, and said Duckenfield, and Royden, and John Pemberton, upon the nomination of Yates and wife, Clayton and wife, Andrews and wife, Richard Percivall, Eccleston and wife, Bridget Summers, Heys and wife (which said Eccleston and wife, Bridget Summers, and John Pemberton, claimed under said Margaret Percivall, afterwards Summers, some interest in her 5th part of said manor and premises): and also said Yates and wife, Clayton and wife, Andrews and wife, Richard Percivall, Eccleston, and wife, Bridget Summers, and Heys and wife, convey to John Hardman, James Edge, and Alexander Walker in fee, the manor and premises purchased by Richard Croke, by the description therein mentioned, upon trust, with consent of said Yates, Clayton, and Andrews, to sell the same, and apply the money in manner therein mentioned.

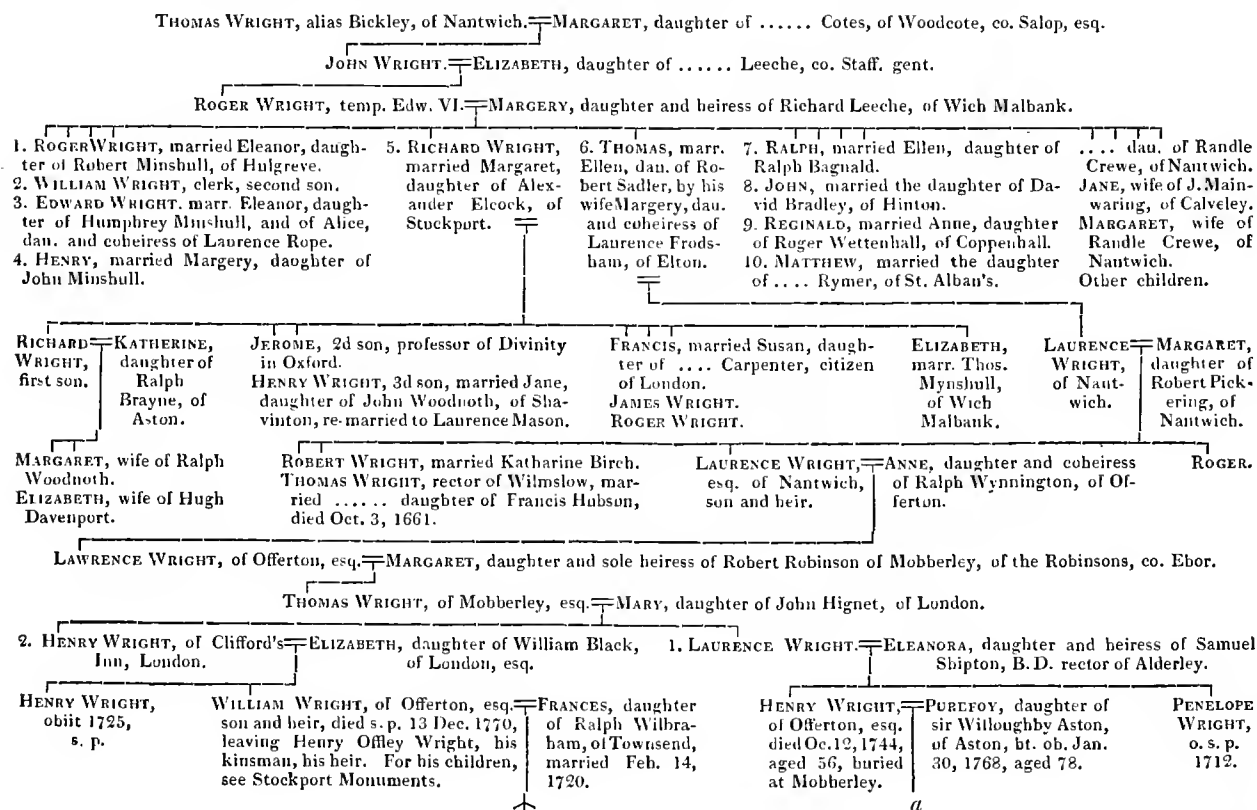
12 Geo. II. A fine was levied, wherein said Hardman, Edge, and Walker, were plaintiffs, and said Booth and wife, Yates and wife, &c. &c. were deforceants of the manor of Mottram Andrew, &c. with the appurtenances in Mottram Andrew, Newton, and Butley.

The said manor is now vested in Laurence Wright, esq. by inheritance from his father, the late rev. H. O. Wright, to whom the same devolved from William Wright of Offerton, esq. purchaser from the trustees under the settlement of 1738^b.

WRIGHT OF OFFERTON AND MOTTRAM, FORMERLY OF NANTWICH.

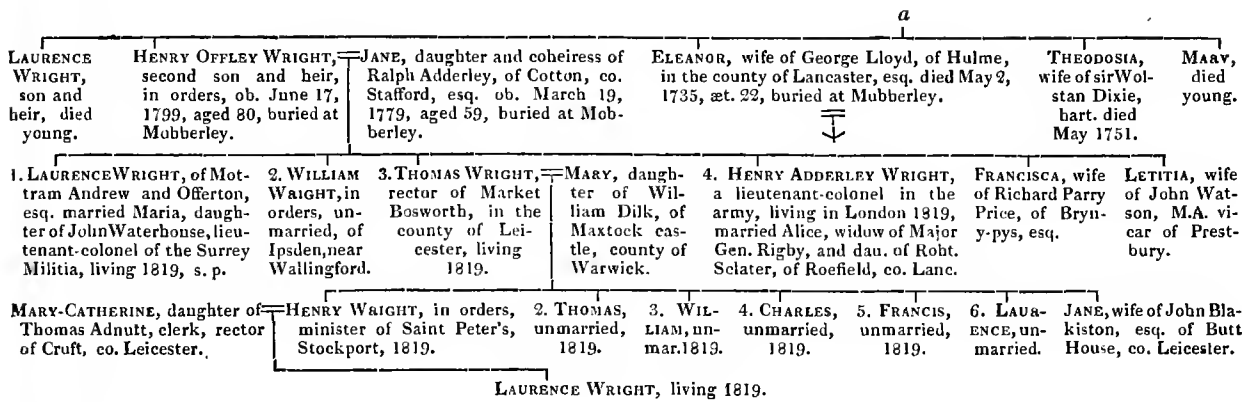
From the copy of Booth's MS pedigrees preserved at Wincham, with a continuation compiled and attested by Henry Wright, to 1723, and a further continuation from monuments, and the information of Lawrence Wright, esq.

No entry appears to have been made by this family in the College of Arms, but arms were disallowed in the Visitation of 1663-4, to a collateral line, from which sir Edmund Wright, the founder of alms-houses in Nantwich, was descended*.



^b For a skeleton pedigree of Booth of Mottram to the extinction of the barony of Delamere and baronetcy, and for further deeds of the family, see Handford, p. 325.

* This sir Edmund used the arms of *Bulkeley* (see p. 229); and the name of Thomas Wright, alias *Bickley*, with whom the pedigree begins, is sometimes written *Bulkeley* in the pedigrees, but corruptly so, as will appear by referring to note in p. 234, where he is particularly mentioned as Thomas de Bickley, alias Wright, and executor of the will of David Bickley. Another family of Wright settled at Bickley (see Vol. II. p. 389.) but there is no reason for presuming any relationship.



TITHERINGTON.

THIS township is unnoticed in Domesday, but there can be no doubt of its having been, at the period of that survey, a dependency of the earl's manor of Macclesfield, from which it is separated only by the stream of the Bollin, and from which the inquisitions prove it to have been held by its mesne lords, the Tideringtons.

42 Hen. III. Sewall de Tiderington (whose unusual name was retained by the Worths, his successors, as late as the reign of Hen. VIII.^a) gave to Jordan de Tiderington and his heirs this whole vill, cum pert. homages, wards, reliefs, &c.; and in the same year the deed was read, in pleno comitatu, and enrolled in the Cheshire Domesday^b.

21 Edw. I. Jordan de Tiderington died seized of the said vill, holding it of the king in capite, by the service of a knight's fee in the marches of Wales, leaving Hugh son and heir, aged 26 years^c.

The manor shortly afterwards passed, by an heir female, to the Worths, who were probably a collateral line of the mesne lords of Worth, in this parish. The following inquisitions relate to this family.

In a general inquisition, 16 Edw. III. Robert de Worth is returned as seized of the manor of Tiderington, holding from the king as earl by military service.

Inq. p. m. 9 Rich. II. Robert de Worth held in demesne as of fee, the manor of Tiderington from the king, as earl of Chester, as of his manor of Macclesfield, in capite, as the fifth part of a knight's fee, value xl.; also, burgages in Macclesfield, and lands therein and in Hurdfield. Thomas son and heir^d.

Inq. p. m. 6 Hen. V. Thomas, son of Thomas de Worth, held the said manor as before, value xvii. xiiii. ivd.

John, son of the said Thomas, son of Thomas, next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 18 Hen. VI. John de Worth held the said manor as before, value x marks, and burgages in Macclesfield. Thomas Worth son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VII. Thomas Worth held as in the last inquisition. John Worth son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 15 Hen. VIII. John Worth held the manor of Tyderington as before.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VIII. Sewall Worth held the manor of Tidrington, with lands in Worth as before, value xl.; also lands which had been granted for life to Leonard and Cicely Worth, val. tot. xxi. xiiii. 4d. Jasper Worth son and heir, aged four years.

Inq. p. m. 15 Eliz. Jasper Worth, esq. held the manor of Tidderington and lands therein and premises in the tenure of Alice Worth, as before, value xxl. xviii. vii. d. and lands in Macclesfield, Mottram Andrew, and Butteleighe. Died Feb. 18, same year. Philip Worth, son and heir, aged upwards of xxxii years.

The annexed pedigree brings down the descent of the family to the termination of the direct male line.

Feb. 1684. In an indenture of this date between the hon. William Worth, esq. second baron of his majesty's court of Exchequer in Ireland, and Samuel Heath, Worth claims to be heir in tail of Jasper Worth^e.

Nov. 1695. Samuel Heath of Dublin, gent. as heir-general of Jasper Worth, sold Tytherington to William Abnett, gent. for £1280^e.

Betwixt Dec. 1695 and Nov. 1712, Abnett sold and conveyed in parcels all his property in Tytherington to Humphrey Pery, esq. It afterwards became vested in Pery's nephew William Robins, esq.; then in John

^a He is however called *Seward* de Titherington in the Chartulary of St. Werburgh, Harl. MSS. 1965. 39. (see vol. I. 235,) in which he occurs as the grantee of lands in Wervin to Chester Abbey. The same document contains other grants by his successor Jordan, and also notices Annabella, daughter of Richard de Titherington. The Titheringtons and their successors, the Worths, were also paramount lords of Nether Poole, in Wirral Hundred.

^b Williamson's Vill. Cest. This Jordan was most probably his son, and certainly his heir, but Sewall was also father of "William, son of Sewall of Tydrington," who by that name acknowledges to have received £20. from Thomas de Tydrington, for land in the vill of Tydrington, on certain conditions. Extracts from Mr. Stafford's MSS. communicated by Mr. Browne.

^c Ibid. The following extracts from Mr. Stafford's MSS. relate to other sons of this Jordan: By deed without date, Jordan lord of Tyderington grants to Henry his son, certain lands in the vill of Tyderington, to be holden of him and his heirs by said Henry and the heirs of his body, &c. with liberty to grind at his mill of Tyderington toll free. Attested by sir Geoffrey de Oxdele, sir Eadmund Phitton, knights, Robt. de Denny, Thomas the Clerk, bailiff of Macclesfield, John de Mottram, Adam Byran, William Pygott, and others.

By deed without date, Robert, son of Jourdan de Tydirinton, grants a way to Henry his brother, and his heirs. Attested by Ma'r Jourdan bailiff of Macclesfield, Robert de Wort lord of Tidirinton, Hugh de Bosedoun, Roger de Aldredelegh, Wm. Wilot, and others.

^d 22 Ric. II. By indenture between Tbos. de Worth of Tyderynton, of one part, and Richard, son of Hugh de Tyderynton, of other part, said Thomas grants to Richard lands in the vill of Tyderynton in exchange, to be holden of the chief lords of the fee by the services due, and of right accustomed. Attested by Peter Legh steward of the lord of Macclesfield, John Pygot, Wm. Willot, Edmd. Fytton, Richd. de Henton, and others.

^e Communications of David Browne, esq.

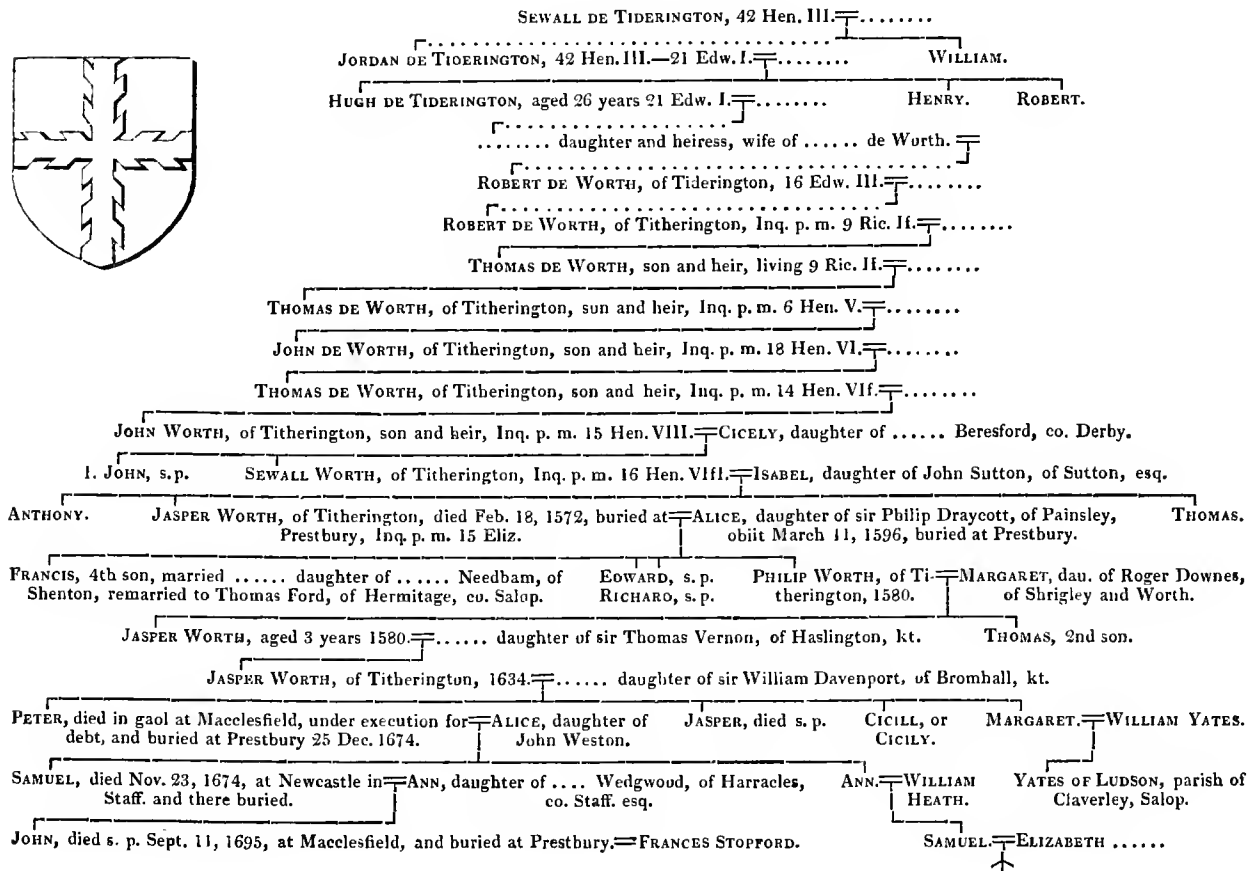
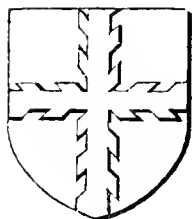
Robins of Stafford, esq. who devised same to John Hicken of Stafford, gent. whose devisees and trustees sold to John Acton, esq. in 1768 for £8600; and in 1769 Mr. Acton conveyed to William Brooksbank, esq.^c husband of Anne his daughter, and finally his sole heiress, who had issue John, William, and Anne. Both these sons

died without issue, the former being supposed to have been lost at sea on board the Foulis East Indiaman, and the manor is now vested in their sister Anne, wife of Edward Hardinge Stracey, esq. counsel to the chairman of committees at the House of Lords.

TITHERINGTON AND WORTH OF TITHERINGTON.

From the Inquisitions p. m. continued from Booth's pedigrees, and the Visitation of 1580, and monuments.

ARMS OF WORTH (being those previously borne by TITHERINGTON). Argent, a cross raguled Sable.



BOLLINGTON.

THE township of Bollington is situated two miles north of Macclesfield, on the banks of a small stream, called Bollington Brook. It is included in the manor

and forest of Macclesfield, and the land owners are exclusively copyholders, holding from the crown, as of that manor and forest.

FALLIBROOME.

THIS vill, antiently called Falingbrome, and Falygreve, is unnoticed in Domesday; but it was unquestionably part of the demesne of the carldom, probably as an appendage of the earl's great lordships of Macclesfield, or Adlington, and by charter of Hugh Kevelioc, it

was granted to sir Richard de Fytun^d, being the first settlement of that powerful family in Cheshire.

At this period the name of Fallybrome was given to the entire fee of Bolyn, of which Fallybroom was afterwards considered a dependency, when the vill became a

^c These successive alienations from the information of David Brown, esq.

^d Vill. Cest.

^e Ibid.

^f Ibid.

distinct manor. By inquisition after the death of Richard Fitton, 1 Edw. I. it was valued at 13s. 4d. of which 3s. were declared to be payable to the earl^a.

The manor subsequently descended with Bolyn fee, in the manner more fully mentioned under Wilmslow; and in the partition between the coheiresses of Venables of Bollyn, passed to the Booths.

Inq. p. m. 17 Edw. IV. Sir William Booth, knight,

held, inter alia, one mess. called "le Falinge Broome," and lands in Falinge Broome, from the prince as earl of Chester, as the 30th part of a knight's fee: val. per ann. 1v marks.

Fallybroome was subsequently sold in severalties by the Booths to divers freeholders, and the manor fell into disuse^f.

UPTON.

THIS township, which is unnoticed in Domesday, was probably included in the original vill of Macclesfield.

The manor is the property of John Ryle, esq. of Parkhouse, near Macclesfield, by purchase from Davies Davenport, esq. to whose family it devolved by inheritance in the female line from the Wards of Capesthorpe^a. The previous proprietors were the Stapletons and Booths, the former of whom were descended from Thomas Stapleton, brother of sir Robert Stapleton, co. Ebor. whose fourth descendant of the same name entered his pedigree in the visitation of 1613, having then a son, Thomas Stapleton. The Stapletons continued their pedigree in the visitation of 1663-4, and had then an allowance of the following



arms: Argent, a lion rampant Sable, a canton vairy Or and Gules. Edwyn Stapleton was succeeded in possession by — Darcy shortly afterwards, and he by captain George Booth. Harl. MSS. 2010, 193.

The representative of the Booths alienated Upton about 1740 to John

Ward, esq.^a whose eldest daughter (finally sole heiress) married the grandfather of Davies Davenport, esq. before-mentioned.

Upton lies about a mile and a half north-west of Macclesfield, on the road to Prestbury, in an elevated situation, near the banks of the Bollin.

HENBURY CUM PEXHALL.

THE following extract from Domesday, relating to a variety of townships in this Hundred, may be placed with propriety under Henbury, the first vill mentioned therein. From this it appears that Henbury was originally part of the demesne of the earldom.

"Ipse comes tenet *Hamiteberie* de dimidio hidae, *Copestor* de dimidio hidae; et *Hamiteberie* de una hida geldabilis; et *Hofinchel* de una hida, et *Tengestivise* de una virgata terræ, et *Holisurde* de una virgata, et *Warnet* de una virgata, et *Rumelie* de una virgata, et *Laitone* de una virgata terræ, omnes geldabant: has terras tenuerunt viii liberi homines pro maneriis: terra est xvi carucarum inter totos. Wasta fuit et est tota. In Hefinghel est silva ii leuvis longa, et ii lata. In Warnet est silva iii leuvis longa, et ii lata."

The Mainwarings of Waruincham, and their successors, the Trussels, were subsequently lords of this manor, holding it under Halton, to which barony it had probably been annexed by grant of the earl. In 2 Edw. III. Oliver de Burdeaux is found to hold the said vill and Pexhall as the fourth part of a knight's fee (in right of his wife Mand, daughter and heiress of sir Warin Mainwaring,) from the baron of Halton^b.

Sir JOHN DAVENPORT of Woodford, usually styled *Jenkin*, to distinguish him from his elder brother, John Davenport of Bramall, and styled also of Wheltrough from his father's estate in Lower Withington, purchased the greater part of this vill in the reign of Edward III.^c He was third son of Thomas Davenport of Wheltrough, and had issue Thomas, John, Nicholas,

and Griffin. On the two first he settled his Henbury estate successively 39 Edw. III.^d and on the two last (also successively) he settled his Woodford estate 44 Edw. III.^d giving Thomas, the eldest, an interest after his younger brothers therein, but omitting John, second in the first entail (39 Edw. III.), who appears thereby to have died issueless, as his brother Griffin is supposed to have died afterwards.

Thomas Davenport, who succeeded to Henbury under the first-mentioned settlement, had issue Hugh.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. V. Hugh Davenport held the manor of Henburie from William Trussel, chivaler, as of his manor of Tetton and Wermyncham, by military service, value 1111l.; also part of the manors of Betchton, Bredbury, Romeley, and Werneth, and lands, &c. in Macclesfield, Siddington, Northrode, and Lostoche. Thomas Davenport son and heir.

At a later period the mesne interest of the lords of Warmincham fell into disuse, and the manor was held by the Davenportes immediately from the capital lords, the barons of Halton.

Inq. p. m. 5 and 6 Phil. and Mar. John Davenport of Henburie, esq. held the manor of Henburie Pexall, and lands therein, from the king and queen, as of their manor of Halton, by military service, value 1xl. xi11s. and lands in Stockport, Wernith, Prestbury, Syddington, and Betchton. Died Thursday before the feast of St. Philip and St. James, a'o p'd'to. Randle Davenport, son and heir.

The annexed pedigree brings down the descent of this

^a Information of the rev. Walter Davenport.

^d Davenport Deeds, communicated by the rev. Walter Davenport.

^b Vill. Cest.

^c Booth's pedigrees.

family to their termination in Isabella, wife of sir Fulk Lucy, *kt.* who was elected one of the knights of the shire in the room of lord Brereton, 1664.

Henbury was shortly afterwards alienated by sir Fulk Lucy, or his representatives, to sir William Meredith, *bart.* His grandson and heir, of the same name, succeeded heir in 1752, and sold the said manor and estate in or about 1779, to John Bower Jodrell, *esq.* whose eldest son, Francis Jodrell, *esq.* is possessed of the same, 1818.

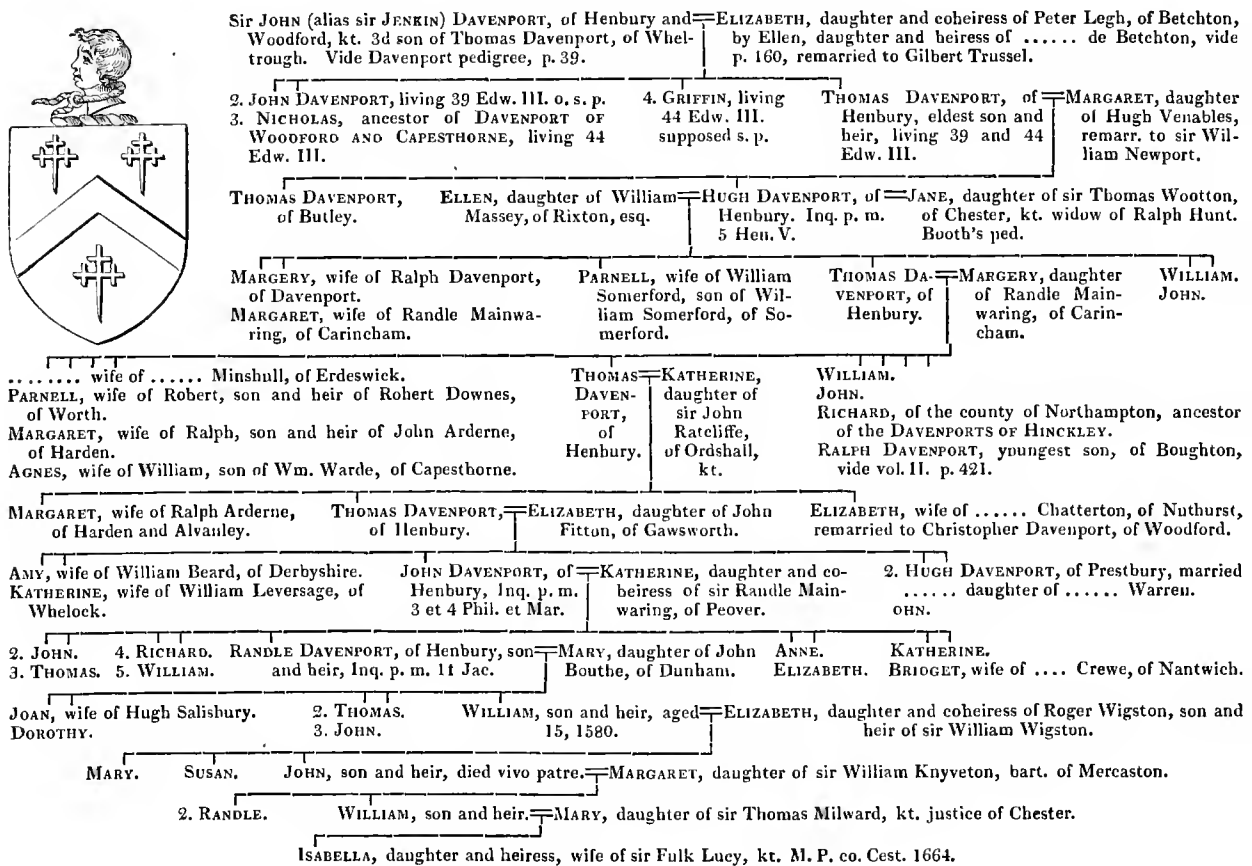
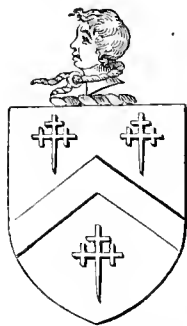
The pedigrees of the Davenports and Merediths of Henbury are subjoined, the latter being carried two descents beyond the purchase of Henbury, with reference to an earlier connection with Cheshire. That of the Jodrells will be found in the account of Yardsley.

Henbury is situated in a rich and well-wooded part of the Hundred, about three miles West of Macclesfield, to the left of the road to Knutsford. The mansion has undergone considerable alterations during the occupancy of the present proprietor.

DAVENPORT OF HENBURY.

From Booth's pedigrees, collated with the inquisitions.

ARMS and CREST as DAVENPORT OF DAVENPORT, with filial distinction.

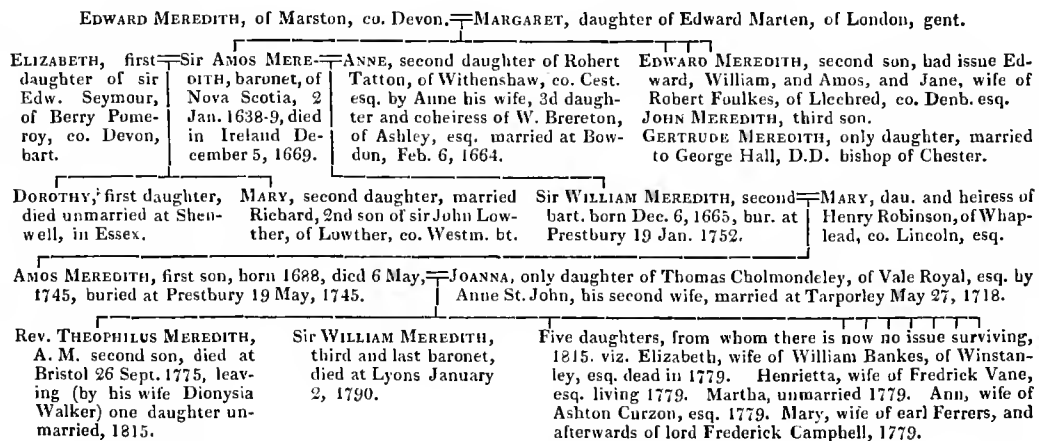


MEREDITH, OF HENBURY AND ASHLEY.

Compiled by Hugh Cholmondeley, B.D. F.S.A. dean of Chester, 1815, with additions from abstract of title to Henbury in 1779.

ARMS. Gules, a lion rampant regardant Or.

CREST. On a wreath, a demi lion rampant Sable, collar, and chain reflexing over his back Or.



^c Their descent will be found at length in Kimber's Baronetage, III. 372.

B I R T L E S.

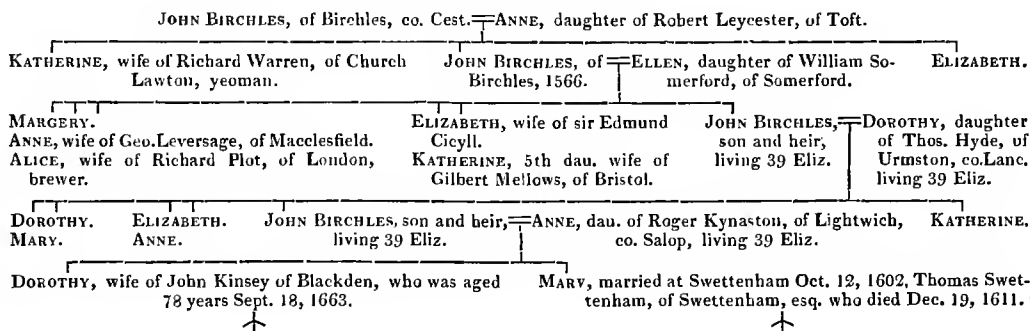
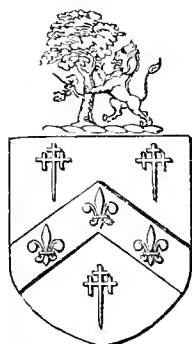
IN the MS Villare Cestriense of Dr. Williamson it is stated that John de Asthull is called lord of Birchells in an award of difference relating to boundaries, made between the freeholders of Henbury and Pexhull; and this John, from the annexed charter, appears to have assumed the local name, and to have been mesne lord under Randle de Rodeyerthe*. The same authority

adds, that in 17 Edw. I. Christian, widow of Henry son of Henry de Birchels, sued John, son of Henry de Birchels, for the third of her husband's lands in Birchels juxta Henbury.

After a long chasm, John Birchles occurs in the following pedigree, entered in the visitation of 1566, and continued by Booth to the termination of the male line.

ARMS. Argent, on a chevron Azure between three cross crosslets of the second three fleur-de-lis Argent.

CREST. On a wreath, a lion rampant Azure on the sinister side of a tree Vert.



The Swettenhams of Swettenham, representatives of the eldest coheirs of Birtles, were the next proprietors of this manor^b, and made the hall their residence. In 1783, Thomas Swettenham Willis, esq. sold the said hall and manor to the late Joseph Fowden, esq. by whom they were resold in 1791, to the present proprietor, Robert Hibbert, esq.^c who served the office of high sheriff in 1798.

Mr. Hibbert has subsequently removed his residence to 'a spacious mansion, which he has erected on the Pasture estate in Over Alderley adjacent, and the whole is now generally designated by the name of Birtles. In both these townships the ground rises into

numerous swells resembling tumuli, many of which are of proportions too gigantic to be other than natural; but some are as certainly artificial; and in several instances fragments of urns, bones, and ashes, have been discovered, which appear to refer to the antient line of road from Kinderton to Rainow, and to some early settlement upon it in the neighbourhood of Prestbury^d.

The general surface of the township consists of pleasing undulations, decorated with a profusion of timber, and the higher grounds command a rich and extensive view over a large district of Cheshire to the South West.

C H E L F O R D.

THIS township appears to have formerly comprehended the adjacent one of Old Withington, for reasons hereafter mentioned.

The Domesday description of the whole is as follows:

"Ipse comes tenet Celeford: Brun tenuit: ibi dimidia hida geldabilis: terra est ii carucarum: wasta fuit et est."

From the following extracts from the Chartulary of

* Om'ib's Xr'i fidelib's, &c. Ran'li's de Rodyerth, D'n's de Birtlis, releases to John de Birtlis, son of Adam de Astul, all his right in that place of land in Birelis, near the house of the said John, on which the said John has lately built a certain chamber. Dat. apud Macclesfeld die Martis p'x' post f'm o'm' S'e'or', anno D'ni m^occc^o. vicesimo quarto. Seal, a bird, apparently of the pluver kind, very obscure.

By another deed, the same grants to the same all his lands in Birtles, previously held by Alan de Astull and Adam de Sundul, with their appurtenances, to be held from the chief lord of the fee by the render of 1xs. yearly; test. William de Moberley, William Pigot, and others.

These charters were communicated by David Browne, esq. of Macclesfield, with a profusion of antient deeds apparently connected with the above, which refer to a collateral line of Birtles, also settled in this township, but how related to the other it is vain to conjecture, from the imperfections of the pedigree. The first person mentioned after John Birtlis son of Adam de Astull, is William, living 13 Edw. III. together with Margery his wife; and the last is Thomas Birtles, who married in 1736 Ellen, daughter of John Boulton of Macclesfield, and left issue one daughter, Betty, wife of Mr. Samuel Stone, a Surgeon, of Macclesfield, by whom she had a daughter who died young, and four sons, Samuel and William, now (1819) resident in Macclesfield, John living in London, and Thomas Stone, D.D. late fellow of Brasenose college, Oxford, and now rector of Wootton Rivers, co. Wilts.

An old house in Over Alderley, called Whirley Hall, was formerly inhabited by this family, and a pillar is yet standing near the entrance-gates with the lion and birch-tree, the Birtles crest, carved upon it. They appear to be the same with the family of Birtles of the Hill in Birtles, an estate adjoining to Mr. Hibbert's, and now belonging to Davies Davenport, esq. M. P. Another estate (also adjoining to Mr. Hibbert's) called Birtles of the Pale, is supposed to have been purchased from some of the Birtles family by the last sir William Meredith, and has passed with Henbury to Mr. Jodrell. Information of D. Browne, esq.

In Wanley's Wonders of the Little World (printed 1678) p. 36, is an account of "Mr. Thomas Birtles, a Cheshire man, living near unto Maxfield," remarkable for extraordinary stature.

The name of Rodyerth, or Rodierd, (the paramount lord) has previously occurred in the person of Richard de Rodierd, an active monk of Stanlaw, who was afterwards abbot of Combermere. See p. 210.

^b See their pedigree in Swettenham, in this volume, p. 43.

^c Information communicated by J. H. Markland, esq.

^d See the Introduction to the Hundred.

St. Werburgh^a, it appears that this manor was held by Robert Pigot under the heirs of the families of Despenser and Waverton, who were probably grantees from the earl; that it was granted by him to Robert de Worth, and regranted to Chester Abbey.

The connexion between the Pigots and Wavertons, here mentioned, seems to refer this Robert Pigot to the Pichots of Waverton and Broxton, who were in all probability descended from Gilbert Pichot, mesne lord of Broxton at the Conquest^b.

The abbot of St. Werburgh, in plea to a quo warranto, 31 Edw. III. claimed view of frank pledge from all residents^c; and the lands of his abbey in Chelford and Asthulle were valued, after the dissolution, at viii. vis. iiii.^d The said manor, as parcel of Barnshaw, passed subsequently to the Dean and Chapter in their first grant, but after the suits with sir Richard Cotton, was confirmed generally to the fee farmers by patent 22 Eliz.^e being then held by Henry Mainwaring of Carincham in fee farm from the Dean and Chapter, as part of Barnshaw, before mentioned^f.

The manor subsequently passed to the Mainwarings of Peover in the same manner with the paramount royalty of Barnshaw, of which it is still an appendage, and the constables are sworn in that court^g.

ASTLE, or Asthulle, in this township, has been noticed in the preceding extracts from the chartulary of St. Werburgh, and gave name, at an early period, to its mesne lords, one branch of which assumed the name of Birtles, and has been mentioned in that township. The lords of Chelford had demesne and quit-rents in this hamlet, which passed with Chelford to the Abbey of St. Werburgh; but Asthulle itself continued in possession of these local lords, as appears by a deed quoted

in the Villare Cestriense, by which Robert, son of John de Asthulle, gave to Adam, his son, all his land here, to be held of the order of St. John of Jerusalem, by the yearly render of xiiid. Astle is now vested in Thomas Parker, esq. to whom it has descended from the marriage of his ancestor with the heiress of the Snelsons of Snelson, about the middle of the seventeenth century^h. With this estate are also now united the lands formerly possessed by the Smallwoods of Chelfordⁱ.

Astle Hall, which has been much enlarged and improved by the present proprietor, is a handsome and spacious edifice, situated amongst extensive and well-timbered grounds. At a short distance from the house is a large artificial piece of water, which assumes from its extent and variety of outline the appearance of a natural lake.

Near the banks of this water, and adjacent to the high road, is the CHAPEL of Chelford, a neat modern building of brick^k.

The original establishment of this chapel by Robert de Worth has been already given below in extracts from Harl. MSS. 1965. At the dissolution it was served by Edward Acton, who had the salary of £4. 6s. 8d. from the Abbey as chantry priest, and the continuance of an equal stipend was imposed on the Dean and Chapter of Chester by patent 22 Eliz.^l

The curacy is augmented with queen Anne's bounty, but the Chapel is not included in the returns made to the governors of that bounty by the bishop of Chester, in 1809.

Its patronage is now vested in Thomas Parker of Astle, esq. The registers begin in 1679.

A school for the use of the children of this township was founded and endowed by the late rev. John Parker.

OLD WITHINGTON

Is unnoticed in Domesday, and from the tenor of the charters below, appears to have been originally included in the vill of Chelford, with which it was antiently mized^m. The Pigots, and their sub-tenants the Worths, had demesne and rents here appendant to

their royalty of Chelford, which passed therewith to Chester Abbey; but the manor was nevertheless vested, at an early period, in the Ardernes of Aldford (being most probably granted, with Gawsworth and other neighbouring estates, by the earls of Chester, who retained

^a Harl. MSS. 1965. 25. col. 1. Robert Pigot gives to Robert de Worth, for his homage and service, the vill of Chelleford, with the demesne of Asthull and Wy(th)inton † to be held by him and his heirs by the yearly render of viii s. and a pair of gloves on the feast of All Saints, for all services, saving the pture of the serjeants of the peace and the repairs of the Heys in Macclesfield Forest. (Test. Jo. le Gray, just. Cest. Bened'co de Coudrey, tunc ballivo de Macclesfield, &c. as appears by another copy of the deed in Harl. MSS. 2074. 125 b.)

^b Ibid. col. 2. The same grants to the same the mill of Chelford and Wythinton, with all appurtenances and suit to the same, &c.

^c Ibid. Robert de Worth grants to the monks of Chester the entire vill of Chelleford, with the mill of the same, cum pert. and the demesnes and rents of Asthull and Wythinton, and the land called Longefordcroft, to be held by doing to the lords of the fee the accustomed service, as contained in the charter of his feoffer, Robert Pigot, and by finding one fit chaplain to pray for ever in the chapel of Chelleford for the souls of himself, his ancestors, and successors, who shall celebrate mass there on Sundays and two week-days, at the pleasure of the abbot, and on the remaining four days shall do the same in the parish-church of Prestebury, before the altar of St. Nicholas.

^d Ibid. William, son of Robert Pigot, confirms and quitclaims the said vill, &c. to the monks, saving to himself and his heirs the lordship and homage of Wythinton, and render to himself and his heirs of a pair of white spurs and a barbed arrow yearly, and stipulates for their payment of three shillings yearly to the heirs of Hugh Despenser, and the payment of iiii shillings to the heirs of Hugh de Waverton.

^e In the Chartulary a note is added, of this William Pigot having subsequently quitclaimed the homage, &c. of Chelleford and Asthull to the Monks; and from a copy of the charter at large, in Harl. MSS. 2074. 186. it is ascertained to have been granted in the time of Reginald de Grey, just. Cest.

^f For further particulars of the Pichots and Wavertons, and their ancestors, who were connected several ways with Chester Abbey, see Clotton, in Edisbury Hundred (176); and Broxton (410), Waverton (429), and Hatton (431), in Broxton Hundred; and the abstract of the Chartulary of Saint Werburgh, vol. I.

^g Vol. I. p. 238.

^h Ibid. 227.

ⁱ Ibid. 241.

^j Ibid. 242.

^k See this volume, p. 75.

^l Information of Hugh Cholmondeley, B.D. late dean of Chester.

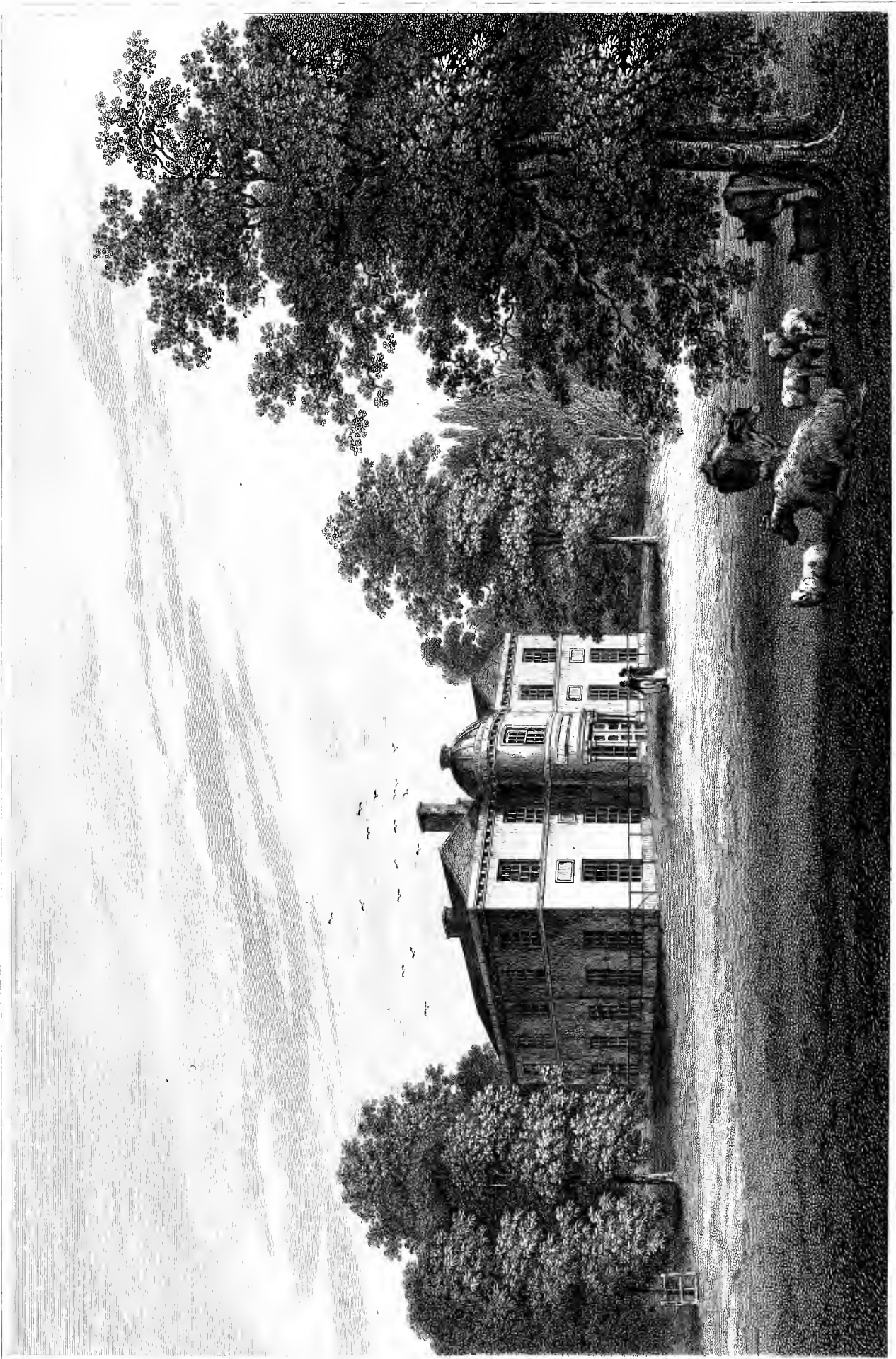
^m Thomas Smallwood, of Chelford, aged 40 years 17 Sept. 1663, then entered a pedigree of four descents in Dugdale's Visitation, and had an allowance of the following arms: Cheeky Argent and Sable, on a canton of the first, a chessrook of the second.

ⁿ In the church-yard is a memorial of Dorothy Joddrell, spinster, who died July 17, 1721; and over the vault of the Parkers an altar-tomb inscribed with the name of the late rev. John Parker of Astle, who died Nov. 1, 1795.

^o Vol. I. 228. 243.

^p The county rate is still assessed on both townships jointly, under the name of Chelford cum Old Withington.

† Wyzinton originally through all the entries; but a Saxon th has been substituted by a later hand, wherever the name occurs.



Engraved by W. Woodcock & Co.

OLD WOTTON HALL.

Presented to this work by John Glegg Esq.

W. Woodcock sculp.

Chelford in their demesne in the first instance); and under them it was held by the Camvilles, of Clifton Camville, in Staffordshire.

Walkelyn de Arderne, temp. Hen. III. granted to Robert de Camville, a release of homages and rents due to him in Old Withington, as a recompence for the great services he had rendered him in the wars in Gascony. One moiety of the said manor was granted by the same Robert to Oliver Fitton, and the other to John de Baskervyle, about 1266^a.

The whole subsequently vested in the Baskervyles, whose descent is brought down by the pedigree annexed to the father of the present proprietor of this manor, John Glegg, esq. who assumed that name on succeeding in right of his wife to the estates of the Gleggs of Gayton in Wirral, under which township has been given the continuation of the descent to the pre-

sent time. No court is held for the manor^b. The constable is sworn at the court leet of the hundred of Macclesfield.

Old Withington Hall, the subject of the annexed plate, presented by the proprietor, has been nearly rebuilt by Mr. Glegg, and is a spacious and handsome mansion, situated amongst park-like grounds, and at the end of a fine avenue to the right of the road from Middlewich to Macclesfield, about eight miles distant from the latter place. The township is on the edge of the hundred, and the general surface of the ground varies little from the flatness of the district towards Northwich, but the hills on the border of the Staffordshire frontier enliven the distant prospect, and the profusion of forest-trees in the surrounding hedge-rows breaks the monotony of the fore-ground.

BASKERVYLE OF OLD WITHINGTON.

From Booth's pedigrees and the Visitations, with additions from the parochial registers, and an original pedigree communicated by John Glegg, esq.

ARMS. Argent, a chevron Gules between three hurts.

CREST. On a wreath, a forester vested Vert, edged Or, holding over the right shoulder a cross-bow Or, and with the other hand, in a leash, a hound passant Argent.

Sir JOHN BASKERVILE, kt. grantee of a moiety of Old Withington from Robert de Camville, 1266. — MATILDA.

JOHN BASKERVILE, of Old Withington, 8 Edw. III. —

JOHN BASKERVILE, of Old Withington, 9 Edw. II. a^o 1315 et 1345. — NICHOLEA. 2. ROBERT. 3. RICHARD. 4. ADAM.

ROBERT. THOMAS BASKERVILE, — IDONEA, dau. of John de Blurton, of Newcastle, co. Staff. and
WILLIAM, marr. Elena, o. s. p. of Old Withington, cousin and heiress of Robert de Blurton, remarr. to William, younger son of ... Langton, of Lowe, co. Lanc. 8 Hen. V.
living 37 Edw. III. 10 Ric. II.

WILLIAM BASKERVILE, of Old Withington, son and heir, 8 Hen. V. 19 and 25 Hen. VI. — KATHERINE, a widow 22 Edw. IV.

RANOLE BASKERVILE, of Old Withington. — AGNES, daughter and coheirress of George Bostoke, of Modborlegh, 2nd son of sir Adam Bostoke, lord of Bostock, uxor ejus 23 Hen. VI. and 22 Edw. IV. Sable, a fesse humette Argent.

WILLIAM BASKERVILE, son and heir, 22 Edw. IV. —

WILLIAM BASKERVILE, 22 Edw. IV. and 19 Hen. VII. — AGNES MAINWARING, of Peover.

GEORGE BASKERVILE, son and heir, 8 Hen. VIII. — CECILIA, daughter of Elizabeth de Bradford, living a widow 1509. Sable, a cro's engrailed Argent. WILLIAM, son and heir of — JANE, dau. of James JOHN KINSEY, of Blackden, 30 Hen. VIII. Knotsford, of Twemlowe, 27 Hen. VIII.

PETER. PARNELL. 1. ENMA, daughter of John — WILLIAM BASKERVILE, — 2. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Hen- THOMAS, son — KATHERINE.
ELIZABETH. KATHERINE. Wyninton, of Ermitage. 8 Hen. VIII. shawe, of Lockwood, co. Staff. and heir.

WILLIAM, o. s. p. RANDLE. ELLEN. BRIDGET. THOMAS BASKER- MARGERY, daughter ALICE, daughter
WILLIAM. FRANCIS. DOROTHY. MARGARET. VILE, of Old and coheirress of and coheirress,
WILLIAM. JOHN. ANNE. MARY. Withington, son and wife of Hugh
HUMPHREY. JOHN. ALICE. ELIZABETH. Withington, son and Blackden. Holinsbed, of
ANTHONY. KATHERINE. KATHERINE. ELIZABETH. Elizabeth. uxoris. Heywood.

ELLEN. EDWARD, born 1582. RICHARD. 2. DOROTHEA, daughter of THOMAS BASKERVYLE, 1. DOROTHEA, daughter of
KATHERINE. RANDLE. HENRY. Hugh Calveport, of Old Withington and Blackden, living 1603. Ralph Adderley, of
BRIDGET. LAURENCE. JOHN. of Calveley, 1604. and Blackden, living 1603. the co. of Stafford, obiit
ELIZABETH. WILLIAM. WILLIAM. 1604.

SARAH. THOMAS, second JOHN BASKERVILE, — MAGDALEN, dau. of George Hope, MARGARET, wife of Thomas Cotton, married at
DOROTHY. son, born Aug. bapt. at Goosetrey Dec. 25, 1599, obiit Goosetrey Feb. 13, 1593.
ELIZABETH. 23, 1605, died an infant. Feb. 10, 1662. co. of Flint, and of Dodleston, co. Cest. obiit April 19, 1670. MARIA.
MARTHA.

1. GEORGE, o. s. p. 1648, buried 1. REBECCA, bapt. at Goose- 4. KATHERINE, wife of Thos. Hand, of Ches- 2. THOMAS BASKER- MARGARET, dau.
April 30 at Goosetrey. Dec. 15, 1635. ter and Boughton, esq. VYLE, of Old of William Has-
3. LAURENCE. 4. RANDLE. 5. MARY. Withington and sal, of the co.
5. JOHN. 3. MAGDALEN, bapt. at Goose- 6. ELIZABETH, wife of Thos. Cowper, of Ches- of Blackden, esq. of Salop, bur.
6. HENRY, bapt. at Goosetrey Nov. 10, 1646. trey May 22, 1641, buried there Nov. 12, 1662. ter, esq. died Dec. 10, 1716, aged 72, buried at Goosetrey Dec. 11, 1676. at Goosetrey 20 July 1671.

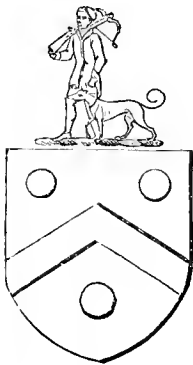
JOHN BASKERVYLE, of Old Withington and Blackden, esq. — MARIA, daughter of Edmond Jodrell, of Yardsley and Twemlowe, esq. married at sheriff of Cheshire 1703. Goosetrey Nov. 23, 1703, buried at Goosetrey Feb. 17, 1758, aged 90.

ELIZABETH. JOHN BASKERVYLE, son and heir, who assumed the name of Glegg in lieu of — MARIA, daughter and finally heiress of Robert Glegg, of Gayton, esq. married March 1, 1731, died Feb. 21, 1784, aged 72. Monument at Goosetrey.
MARY. Baskervyle (pursuant to the will of William Glegg, esq. who died 1758) died Jan. 19, 1784, aged 78. Monument at Goosetrey.

For issue, vide pedigree of GLEGG OF GAYTON, vol. II. p. 286.

^a Lysons's Magna Britannia, Cheshire, p. 733. From an abstract of antient deeds in possession of John Glegg, esq. communicated by sir J. T. Stanley, bart.

^b Information of John Glegg, esq.



LOWER WITHINGTON.

THE Domesday survey takes no notice of this township, but it was unquestionably retained in demesne by the earl. Dr. Williamson gives the following account of its first alienation in his MS Villare Cestriense.

“ This town, with its appurtenances and liberties, was given by Randle (Blundeville) earl of Chester and Lincoln, with xxs. rent out of the mills of Macclesfield, besides all the land which his father or grandfather held in Golsisley or Lindsey, cum pert. to Robert son of Salmon, to be held by a pair of gilt spurs, for which Robert remitted and quit-claimed to the earl and his heirs all the lands which his father held in Normandy. (These deeds were executed) during the justiceship of Philip de Orreby^a.”

Harl. MSS. 2074. 183. Robert de Salmon gives to Roger, son of Vivian de Davenport, in frank marriage with Mary his daughter, one half of Wythinton, with homages, relief, and wardships, half of Tunsted, Lundris, and Wardshaw, half of Hewood, and Weltrok, subject to foreign service and suit to the court of Weverham. Witnesses, Angenus dean of Macclesfield, Henry parson of Mottram, John de Birthiles, &c.

To the copy of the before-mentioned deed is annexed another grant of the said moiety of Wythinton, from the same to the same, with different descriptions of the minor estates accompanying it.

Gilbert Salmon of Lower Withington had a daughter and heiress, Mary wife of Richard de Bromhall, who was sued by the abbot of Vale Royal for neglecting to do suit to the court of Weverham^b. His daughter Ellen, wife of Matthew del Mere, judge of Chester, younger son of William Mere of Mere, esq. brought to her husband that moiety of Lower Withington which remained in the Salmons after the preceding alienation.

9 Ric. II. and again 11 Ric. II. Matthew del Mere and Ellen his wife settled the reversion of their estates on Randle Mainwaring of Peover, with divers remainders over^c.

This settlement subsequently gave rise to long disputes, but an award was made 16 Hen. VII. by which the moiety of this manor was confirmed to John Mainwaring of Peover, and the Teverton estates allotted to William Davenport of Bramhall, esq.^d

The following notices of the *moiety of the manor* settled on the Davenports of Davenport, as previously mentioned, have occurred in the inquisitions :

Inq. p. m. 6 and 9 Ric. II. A mention of a fourth of Withington manor, among the estates lately held by sir

Ralph Davenport, from the barony of Kindertone.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. VIII. Ralph Davenport, esq. held, inter alia, lands in Withington, from the abbot of Vale Royal in socage : val. xxs.

Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. VIII. John Davenport of Davenport held, inter alia, lands *ibid.* : val. lvi.

Inq. p. m. 1 and 2 Ph. and Mary. John Davenport of Davenport, esq. held, inter alia, lands in Withington, from sir Thomas Holcroft, knight, as of his manor-house of Vale Royal : val. vi.

Inq. p. m. 41 Eliz. John Davenport, of Davenport, esq. held, inter alia, lands and tenements cum pert. from Thomas Holcroft, as of his manor of Weverham, by fealty only : val. vi.

It does not appear from the Cheshire collections whether the manerial interest attached to both of these shares originally, fell in either case into disuse, or whether the two were united. The manor is now the property of Thomas Parker, of Astle, esq. and the township is also subject to the jurisdiction of the leet of Weverham^f.

In this township is a singular hill called TUNSTED, which precisely resembles in form an enormous tumulus, and is the first commencement of the natural undulations of surface which distinguish Macclesfield hundred, and gradually increase in size and number towards the eastward, until they form the bold barrier of hills ranged along the Staffordshire frontier. If the obvious etymology of Tunsted (the town's site) may be trusted, it would seem probable that before the Saxon period the houses of a village of some importance had been grouped upon its summit.

On the northern side of this hill is an antient timber mansion, embosomed in trees, WHELTROUGH HALL, in which a branch of the Davenports seated themselves in the reign of Edward the Third, and from which descended the distinguished collateral lines of BRAMHALL, HENBURY, and WOODFORD. The annexed pedigree brings down the Wheltrough family to the period when they appear to have become extinct, or to have left Cheshire. Shortly afterwards Wheltrough was vested in a branch of the Hollinsheads of Sutton, and having passed with Frances Mottershead Hollinshead, sole daughter and heiress of Francis Hollinshead of Wheelock, esq. to her husband Peter Brooke, esq. of Mere^g, was sold in 1792, by her grandson, the late Thomas Langford Brooke, esq. to the rev. John Parker, of Astle^h, whose son Thomas Parker, esq. is the present proprietor, 1817.

^a An estate in *Teverton*, with a *rent-charge on Dernhall mill*, was also settled by another deed in exchange for lands in Normandy possessed by the same Robert Salmon, as mentioned in the account of *Teverton*, vol. II. p. 149.

These deeds are curious as they give an account of the first settlement of a Norman land proprietor, whose name is yet common in the county. There is no regular descent of the SALMONS in the Cheshire collections, but their name occurs from a very early period among the marriages given in pedigrees of the families in the neighbourhood of Nantwich, and many respectable branches are yet in existence, which, in all probability, derive their remote origin from this source.

^b See vol. I. p. 85, LXXVI.

^c Williamson's Fines, 29 and 30.

^d Vill. Cest.

^e The jurors were ignorant of the tenure by which the Davenports of Davenport held their Withington estate from Vale Royal, and referred it therefore to the *barons of Kindertone as paramount lords of Davenport*; and the *Inqs.* of the Davenports of *Bramhall* (which was held from Dunham Massey) from a similar cause, state *their lands in Withington* to be also held from the last named barony.

^f See vol. I. p. 57.

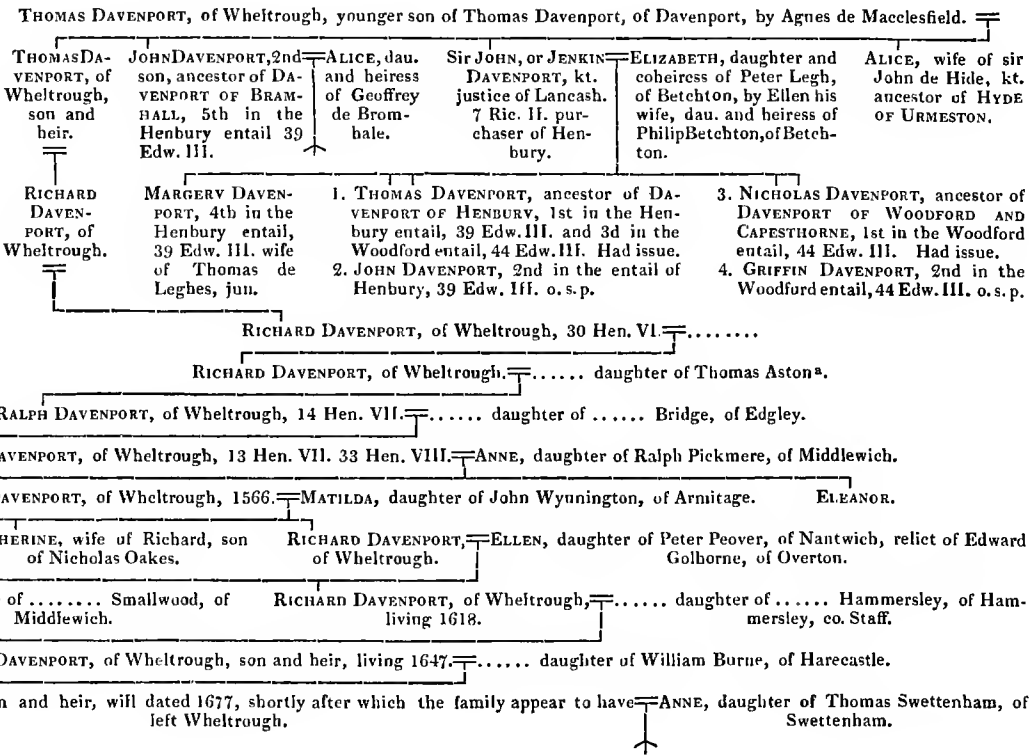
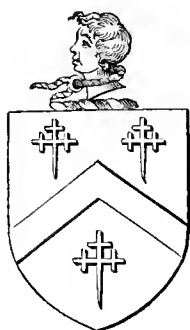
^g See vol. I. p. 360, and Monuments, 341.

^h Information communicated by P. L. Brooke, esq.

DAVENPORT OF WHELSTROUGH.

From Harl. MSS. 2119, p. 225, with a few additions in the arrangement of the collateral branches from settlements 39 and 44 Edw. III.

ARMS and CREST as DAVENPORT OF DAVENPORT, with filial distinction.



CAPESTHORNE.

CAPESTHORNE is one of the villis which have been noticed, in the extract from Domesday given under Henbury, as part of the original demesne of the earldom. It probably passed as an appendage of Gawsworth to the lords of Aldford, under whom an estate was held in this township by the Fittons of the former place, which is noticed in their successive inquisitions, subsequent to Hen. VII.

The mesne lords of the vill were the Capesthorne, probably by grant from the Orrebies of Gawsworth, the predecessors of the Fittons. In 1238 Thomas de Capesthorne contracted, for himself and his heirs, with Lucia de Orreby, lady of Gawsworth, to do her service of ward at Aldford castle, she finding him and his heirs an haubergeon. In the time of Edw. III. Sarah, daughter and heiress of Randle Capesthorne, brought this place in marriage to John le Ward.

The annexed pedigree brings down the Wards of Capesthorne, to their alienation of Capesthorne to the collateral line of Ward of Monksheath, in or about the reign of Elizabeth, and continues the latter line to its termination in coheiresses. Mary, eldest of the daughters of John Ward, and finally sole heiress, was grandmother of Davies Davenport, of Woodford and Capesthorne, esq. M. P. co. Cest. the present proprietor of this manor.

Capesthorne is now the residence of this branch of the Davenport family, and is situated in one of the most pleasing parts of the hundred, nearly equi-distant from Wilmslow and Congleton. The Hall is a spacious building, in the style of architecture used in the early part of the last century, and stands among extensive grounds to the right of the road leading to the place last mentioned, on the bank of a large piece of water formed by a stream issuing from Reed's Mere, over which the abrupt termination of the Cloud Hill appears to advantage in the distance.

Adjacent to the hall is a Chapel of Ease to Prestbury, of which Mr. Davenport is the patron^b. "This," says bishop Gastrell, in his MS Notitia Cestriensis, "is a new chappell, lately built by John Ward, esq. who has given all the tyths of this township towards its augmentation. It was augmented by the Governors of queen Anne's Bounty in 1722, and augmented again in 1723 with £200, which Mr. Ward gave out of Mrs. Barton's money^c."

In 1809, the bishop of Chester returned this curacy to the commissioners of queen Anne's Bounty, as augmented, not charged; yearly value of augmentation, tithes, and surplice fees £52. 3s. 8d.^d

The Registers begin in 1722.^e

^a Sir Thomas Beeston in other MSS.

^b Information of W. Ward, dep. reg.

^c Not. Cest.

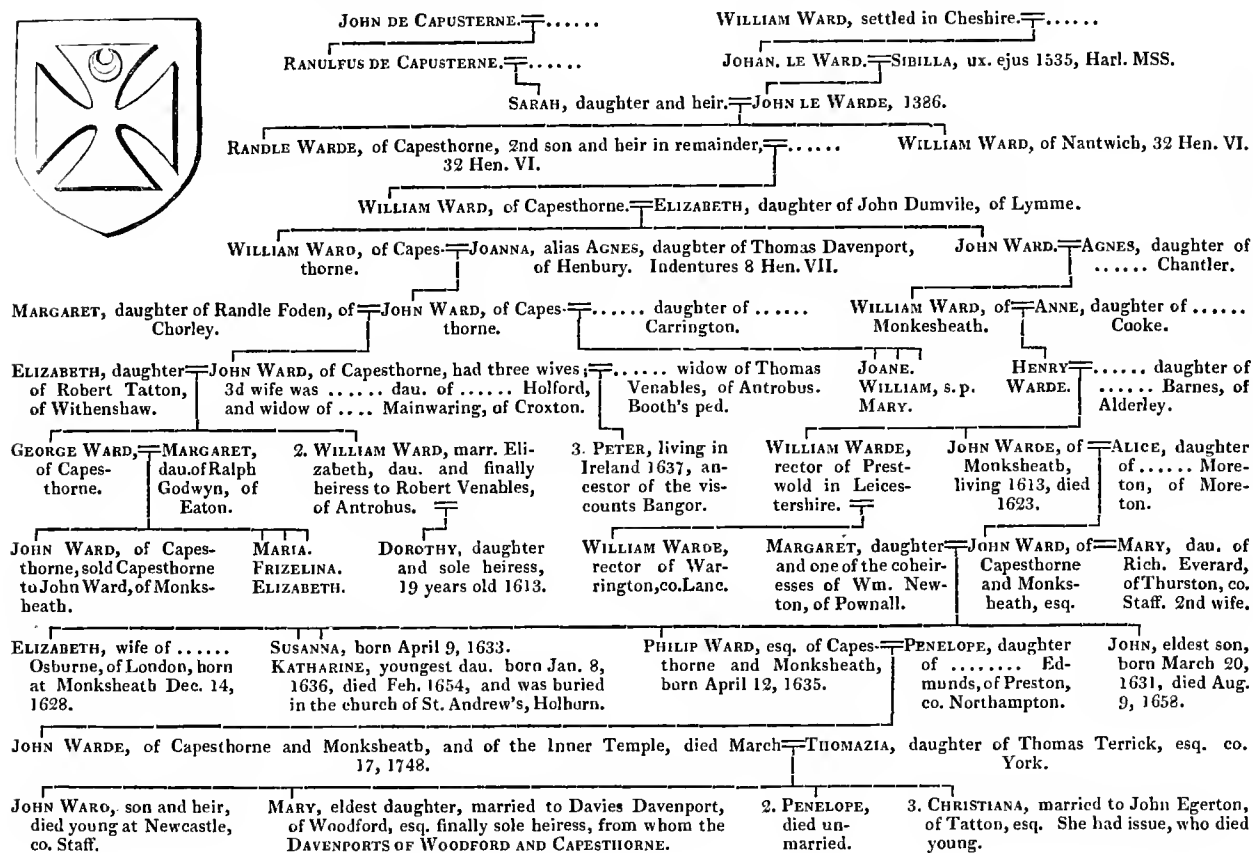
^d Returns printed by Parliament.

^e Returns in episcopal registers.

WARD OF CAPESTHORNE.

From Booth's pedigrees, corrected and continued from communications of the family.

ARMS OF WARD, respited but not proved in the Visitation of 1663-4. Azure, a cross patée Or, for difference a crescent.



MARTON.

THE two following passages in Domesday relate to this township:

"Ipse comes tenuit Merntune; *Godfric* tenuit; liber homo fuit. Ibi una virgata terræ geldabilis. Terra est una caruca; wasta fuit et est; ibi xx perticæ silvæ."

"Hugo (de Mara) tenet de comite Meretone; *Godric* tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Terra est dimidia caruca. Ibi una virgata terræ geldabilis; wasta fuit semper; ibi silva xx perticas longa, et tantundem lata."

It is observable with respect to these extracts, that Gilbert Venables, grandson of the Norman baron of Kinderton, had a moiety of Marton in marriage with Margaret, daughter of Walhew, daughter of *Wulfric*^a; that this *Wulfric* appears to have been the same with *Wulfric*, male ancestor of the powerful and widely spreading family of Croxton^b, which family included among their possessions Goostrey and Cranage, the first of which was certainly the same with *Gostrel*^c, and the second probably the same with *Craneche*^d, described among the estates of the dispossessed Saxon thane *Godric*, in Domesday.

The probable inference from these coincidences is, that *Wulfric*, who must have lived temp. Edw. Conf. and from whom Margaret Venables traced an heredi-

tary right to Marton, was heir (possibly brother) of *Godric*, and that the Norman conquerors who had dispossessed this family in the first instance re-admitted them to Marton, Goostrey, and Cranage.

William de Venables granted the before-mentioned moiety of Marton in marriage with his sister Amabilia, to Richard de Daunepo^e, in whose family the whole subsequently vested. The Davenport interest in the township is thus noticed in the inquisitions:

Inq. p. m. 6 and 9 Ric. II. Sir Ralph Davenport, knt. of Davenport, held, inter alia, the manor of Marton, from the heirs of Hugh Venables of Kinderton.

The said manor, then held by John Davenport, is valued at vii. l. per ann. in an *Inq. sup. ext.* 23 H. VIII.

Inq. p. m. 1 and 2 Phil. and Mary. John Davenport, esq. held the manor of Marton, inter alia, from sir Thomas Venables, by fealty, and the render of vi barbed arrows: val. xxvii. xiiii. i. vd.

Inq. p. m. 24 Eliz. John Davenport, esq. held, inter alia, as in the last inquisition, val. as before; and also the chapel and cemetery of Marton, held from the queen as of her manor of East Greenwich: val. i. d.

Inq. p. m. 41 Eliz. John Davenport held, as in the last inquisition, the chapel, &c. being held in free socage,

^a See p. 34, note b.

^b See Croxton, p. 113, col. 1, and note upon it in the addenda.

^c Vide Goostrey, p. 75.

^d See introduction to Macclesfield hundred, note i. p. 279, and a correction of that note with reference to Goostrey in addenda.

^e By the charter given in p. 34, note b.

but not in capite, by fealty only, for all services: val. as before.

The division of Marton between the coheirs of the eldest line of Davenport, has been given in the account of the towship of that name^f. John Davenport of Woodford, esq. husband of Anne, the youngest coheiress, had (inter alia) the mansion and half the manor of Marton.

After his death, without issue, the same passed to his nephew, Davies Davenport, esq. grandfather of Davies Davenport of Woodford and Capesthorpe, esq. M. P. the present proprietor, having never been out of the family of Davenport, since the marriage of Richard de Dauneport, with Amabilia Venables, in or about 1176^g.

The other moiety of Marton was allotted to Robert

Davies of Moldsworth and Manley, husband of Elizabeth Davenport, the eldest coheiress, and the only one that had issue. Her (grand-daughter?) Salisbury Davies, married sir Matthew Deane, of Dromore, who died without issue, and was succeeded by his brother sir Robert Deane. From him this moiety of the manor of Marton was purchased in 1760 by the late Richard Davenport of Davenport and Calveley, esq. in trust^h for his grandson (in the female line) and ward, Davies Davenport, of Capesthorpe, esq. the present proprietor of the entire manor.

The following fragments of the Davies pedigree, illustrative of the descent of this manor, and those of Davenport and Manley, will also explain the intricate connection of the later descents of Davies and Davenport.

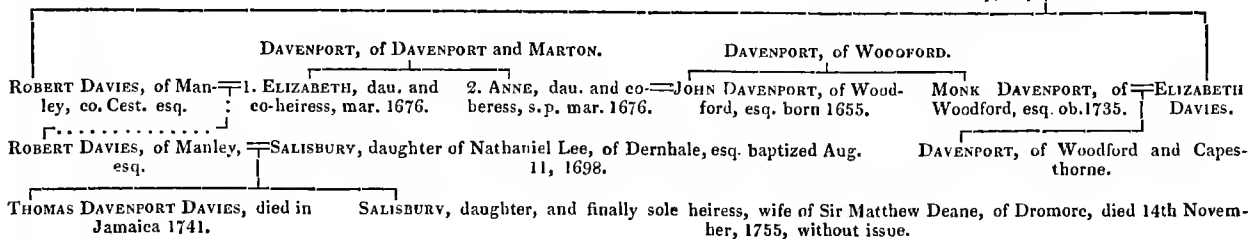
ROBERT DAVIS, purchaser of Ashton, Horton, Hartford, and Manley, died March 13, 1658, aged 85, buried at Tarvin, 1573. ELIZABETH, daughter and coheiress of Thomas Lancaster of Boughton, See Tarvin Monuments, vol. II. p. 169.

2. SUSANNA, daugh. of Henry Bunbury, of Stanney, esq. re-married to William Cawley, of Dodleston. WILLIAM DAVIS, of Dodleston, co. Cest. gent. son and heir, born 1602, died 26 August, 1658, buried at Tarvin. 1. ELIZABETH, dau. and coheiress of Christopher Blease, of Chester, ald. THOMAS DAVIS, of Mouldsworth, gent. 2nd son, died Nov. 8, 1668, bur. at Tarvin. MARY, dau. of John Cooke, sheriff of Chester, 1616. Four other sons, and four daughters.

HENRY DAVIS. WILLIAM. SUSANNA, buried 27 Jan. 1658-9, at Tarvin. ELIZABETH. ROBERT. MARY. One son and two daughters, died before 1658.

Qu. Which of these was father of John Davis, who succeeded to the representation of the family.

JOHN DAVIS, of Manley, esq.



The present hall of Marton is built with timber and plaister, in a plainer style than usual with such buildings, the squares of the timber not being filled up with quatrefoils or other ornaments. The centre and wings of the front project and terminate in gables. The porch in the centre opens to a hall, in which some long pikes yet remain suspended: on the left is a wainscoted parlour, over the mantle-piece of which, amongst old carvings in oak, apparently older than the building, are the arms and crest of Davenport, inlaid in various-coloured wood.

The situation is disadvantageous, with a rising ground in front immediately to the east of it; behind is a large mill-pool, with a water which doubtless once swelled into the mere which gave name to the township, and near the edge of it is the site of a more antient mansion.

CHAPEL.

About a quarter of a mile north-east of the Hall is the Chapel of Marton, consisting of a belfry with small

spire, porch, and nave and chancel, with side aisles, built exclusively with timber, excepting the chancel, which has been re-built with brick. The side aisles are separated from the body by rudely hewn timber-beams, resting on pillars of the same material; in some of the windows are fragments of antient painted glass.

The only monuments worthy of notice are two mutilated figuresⁱ placed in the chapel yard, to the south of the chapel, representing knights, armed, as far as can be traced, in plate armour, with conical helmets, and boots pointed at the toes, and much curved. The hands are clasped in prayer; the feet of each figure are pressed against an animal, and under the head of each is the Davenport crest, a felon's head coupé; the rope is only visible round one of the heads, the other is placed on something which has more the appearance of a chapeau, or cap of maintenance, than the wreath and helmet with which it has been usually borne.

This chapel occupies the site of an antient chantry, which was founded by sir John Davenport, knight, in the reign of Edw. III. and was dissolved at the reforma-

^f P. 38 of this vol.

^g See note h. p. 34.

^h Information of Davies Davenport, esq. M. P.

ⁱ The church notes of this chapel, Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 54, contain a drawing of the monuments in the church-yard, with this note, "It is said by ancient people that the were sir Jo. Davenp't and Vivian his sone who founded the chappell of Merton, and they lie buried there." In the painted glass was a kneeling armed figure, with surcoat, quarterly, 1 and 4, a chevron between three martlets; 2 and 3, Davenport. In the windows also arms of Davenport, Siddington, and Barry of 4 Sable and Argent, the second and third line indented.

Among the Davenport deeds is a grant from sir John de Davenport, kt. to Robert de Bradshaw, Thomas de Hoeknall, &c. of 4 messuages, and 60 acres of land, with the appertenances in the woods and wastes and all other profits in the ville of Merton near Mutlowe of the one part, and Yeaton on the other, to maintain a fit priest celebrating mass in the chapel of Merton for the souls of himself, his parents, and successors, and all faithful people deceased for ever; and he also grants to them common of pasture in all pastures in Merton till they should be appropriated; and if any heir of Davenport should contradict his will and grant, they should incur God's indignation. Witnesses, Thomas Fitton de Govesworth, William de Motelow, Roger de Swettenham, and others, dated at Merton on Sunday next after the feast of the nativity of St. John Baptist, in the year 1390. Communicated by the rev. Walter Davenport.

tion. James Whitacres, priest, who then served the chantry, retired on a pension of 111l. 1vs. and was living in 1566^k.

After the dissolution, the site of the chapel, &c. was granted by the crown to the Davenports of Davenport, who held it as mentioned in the inquisitions, and the

patronage of the curacy has passed in the same manner with Marton hall to Davies Davenport, esq. In 1809 the bishop of Chester returned the curacy as augmented, not charged; value in augmentation, stipend, and surplice fees, £66. 18s.^l The registers begin in 1584.^m

SIDDINGTON.

THE following extract from Domesday proves this township to have been originally a part of the possessions of the founder of Aldford fee.

“Isdem Bigod tenet Sudendune: Brun tenuit, et liber homo fuit; ibi una hida et dimidia geldabilis: terra est vii carucarum; ibi unus Francigena habet dimidiam carucam, et unus villanus et unus bordarius cum dimidia carucâ: ibi silva una leuva longa et dimidia lata. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos, modo v solidos.”

The paramount royalty descended to the Ardernes of Aldford. A general inquisition for Macclesfield hundred 16 Edw. III. states that two parts of the same had lately escheated to the crown in consequence of sir John Arderne having alienated the same contrary to the form of the late statute; but this forfeiture does not appear to have been of long duration.

The grantee was probably Edward, or Ed. de Syddington, alluded to in the following inquisition:

Inq. p. m. 35 Edw. III. Christiana, daughter of Ed. de Syddington, held, in fee simple, a third of the said manor from the lord of Aldford, by military service: val. 1v marks: and also two parts of the same, in fee tail, by mil. serv. from Thomas de Arderne, who held of the said earl in cap. by mil. serv.; val. viii marks. Richard, son of John de Coton, heir to the third part, and Richard, son of Alice, daughter of Robert de Hemeslegh, heir to the other two parts.

The Hemesleghs probably assumed the local name; or if not, this last share, either by heirship or purchase, reverted to the Syddingtons, and passed about the close of the fifteenth century, with Emmote, daughter and heiress of Robert de Syddinton, to Edward Fitton of Gawsworth. The SYDDINGTONS, as far as can be judged from their arms, were originally DAVENPORTS, their coat differing from that of the latter family only in the addition of three cross crosslets fitchèe in the base.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VIII. Edward Fitton, esq. held, inter alia, two parts of the manor of Siddington, from the king, as of his manor of Aldford, by the render of one rose at the feast of St. John the Baptist: val. xl.

Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VIII. John Fitton, esq. held, inter alia, as in the last inquisition.

Inq. p. m. 2 Edw. VI. Sir Edward Fitton, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Syddington, &c. from the king, as of his manor of Aldford, by the render of one red rose: val. per ann. xvi. vis. viiij.

At the time of this inquisition, therefore, the third of

the manor, which had been severed temp. Edw. III. was now re-united to the other share.

Inq. p. m. 22 Eliz. Sir Edward Fitton, knight, held, inter alia, mess. and lands in Syddington, from the queen, in socage, by render of one rose: val. as before.

The manor of Siddington passed to the heirs-general of this family, and was purchased by the Wards of Capesthorpe, from whom it has descended with the other estates of that family to the present proprietor, Davies Davenport, esq. M. P.

The DAVENPORTS had estates here from an early period. Temp. Edw. I. Emma, relict of Henry de Turnock, releases to Richard de Davenport, and his heirs, the lands which the said Richard held in Sydenton, and Turnock, a hamlet of the same*. The family of LOGES, or Lodges, had also estates here, temp. Hen. III. which they retained, temp. Hen. IV. and which passed by grants to the Davenports and Parkers of Copenhall.

The village of Siddington is a picturesque assemblage of farm-houses and cottages interspersed with fine timber trees, situated on the bank of a small brook to the left of the road from Wilmslow to Congleton, about seven miles south of the former place. The Hall, an antient timber and plaister building, finished with gables, is the property of Mr. Davenport. At a short distance from the hall is the Chapel, built partly with the same materials, and partly with brick painted in imitation of the older portion of the fabric. In the interior, the chancel is divided from the body of the church, by an oak screen, which was formerly painted and gilt, and is carved in a style of richness which greatly exceeds what would be expected from the exterior of the building.

In the returns made by the bishop of Chester to the Governors of queen Anne's bounty in 1809, the chapel of Siddington was returned augmented, not charged: value of augmentation and surplice fees £76. 5s. In the time of bishop Gastrell, the value was £22. 10s. the greatest part of which arose from £425. a legacy bequeathed towards the endowment of the chapel by John Foden. The vicar of Prestbury formerly paid 40s. per ann. to the curate, but this was withdrawn about 1712, when the nomination was claimed by the manerial proprietor.

In 1698 and 1712, nominations were made by the vicar, but afterwards by lady Mohun and the principal inhabitants^b; the patronage has subsequently been an appendage of the manor, and is now vested in Davies Davenport, esq.^c The Registers begin in 1721^d.

^k Pension roll in the possession of Mr. Sharp, of Coventry.

^m Returns in Ep. Reg. Chester.

^a Information of the rev. Walter Davenport.

^d Returns to Episcopal Registry. There is a school near the church, which was endowed by John Foden with £8. per ann. about 1710.

^l Returns to the governors of queen Anne's bounty.

^b Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^c Information of William Ward, esq. dep. reg.

In this township also are HENSHAW^e and THORNYCROFT, which became united by the marriage of John Thornycroft, esq. with Eleanor, daughter and sole heiress of John Henshaw, in 1712. Thornycroft is situated in that part of the township which abuts upon Gaws-worth, and was much improved by its late possessor, Edward Thornycroft, esq. in whom the male line of this

family terminated. Under his will, Thornycroft, with its dependencies, is vested in his two surviving sisters for life; with remainder to the rev. Charles Mytton, rector of Eccleston, and his issue.

A branch of this family settled at Milcomb, in Oxfordshire, and was elevated to a baronetcy in 1701, but the title became extinct in the next generation^f.

^e Henshaw is noticed in Domesday as Hofinchel, under the same head with Henbury, q. v. p. 351. col. 1.

^f In Le Neve's MS. Collections, p. 312, vol. III. in possession of Ralph Bigland, esq. is a singular correspondence relative to a grant of arms to the father of the first baronet during his illness, whose death is positively asserted to have been hastened by disappointment in hearing the instrument would be drawn up in the form of a grant, instead of an allowance of hereditary right. The following is an abstract of the correspondence.

I. 22 Sept. 1687. Draft of earl marshall's warrant to grant to John Thornicroft, of St. Andrew's, Holborn, barrister at law, and his elder brother Edward Thornicroft, of Thornicroft, co. Cest. esq. the following coat. Vert, a masele Or between four cross crosslets Argent. Crest, on a crown mural Gules, a falcon volant proper, jessed, membered, and beaked Or, between two palm branches Or.

The above inclosed in a letter to sir Thomas St. George, Garter, ordering the words of a grant to be adhered to, but the fees of a confirmation only to be taken.

II. 26 Sept. 1687. A letter from Gregory King, rouge dragon, to sir Thomas St. George, kt. stating that Mr. Thornicroft was dead before the patent was passed, "whereupon I could not but be troubled to hear from his ladies own mouth this very day, that he had so set his mind upon it that she believes the disappointment hastened his end, as it was one of the last things he enquired for."

III. 28 Sept. 1687. Same to the same, stating receipt of earl marshall's warrant to grant to the issue of John Thornicroft, deceased, and to Edward Thornicroft, of Thornicroft, esq. the arms beforementioned, and praying dispatch to oblige "a most afflicted widow and son, who impute the suddenness of this disaster to the trouble of mind which the gentleman exprest for being disappointed of what he was so intent upon."

IV. 2 Dec. 1688. Reference to the king at arms respecting what the Thornicrofts could advance touching their arms, and whether "if the same had been offered before the passing of the said grant, it might have been a reasonable ground for a confirmac'on. Signed Norfolk and Marshall."

V. 10 Dec. 1688, Thomas St. George Garter, and H. St. George Clarencieux, report,

That the seal of arms was affixed by E. Thornicroft, gent. to a deed of settlement 8 April, 8 Car. I.

That it also appeared in a collection of pedigrees said to be compiled by W. Smith, rouge dragon, 1613; but that they believed the said collection to be spurious, and to have belonged to some herald painters.

That the arms are omitted in an ordinary of Cheshire arms of the hand-writing of said Smith.

That the same are omitted in the Vale Royal by Webb and Smith.

And also in the Visitations of 1566—1584—1613, and 1663, and in all other collections in the library of the College of Arms.

Wherefore it does not appear from what was offered by Mr. Thornicroft, or what was entered in the books, that there was any reasonable ground for confirmation before grant, &c.

The following account of the MONUMENTS of this branch of the Thornycrofts, now remaining in Bloxam church, co. Oxon, three miles from Banbury, was communicated by archdeacon Churton.

"There is a handsome south transept in this fine lofty church, called Thornycroft chancel. A very fine Gothic window of seven lights in the east side of this chancel is in part blocked up by two handsome monuments of marble. On that to the left is this epitaph:

Here lyes the body of sir John Thornycroft, baronet, of Milcomb in the county of Oxon. He was a person of singular piety, and eldest son of John Thornycroft, esq. of Gray's Inn, and Dorothy his wife; he departed this life Dec'ber the 8th, anno Domini 1725, in the 66th year of his age.

The above is on the front of an altar monument of marble, and on the altar is a whole length statue of white marble, as if sitting on a sofa, the legs stretched out, the left crossing the right, his right elbow leaning on a pillow, the hand bending down and holding a book; the left hand elevated, open, the fingers bending towards the face, as if beckoning; a long handsome countenance, not very masculine, exhibiting a person under forty, rather than above threescore; a full bottomed wig flowing on his shoulders; the drapery of his gown thrown loosely about him as it were thin and transparent.

Behind, a niche or recess of grey marble, between two pilasters of variegated marble about five feet high, in the centre a pyramid of black marble; an arch thrown over from one pilaster to the other, and under the arch, at the top of the pyramid, cherubs of white marble.

Above the arch a shield bearing quarterly, 1 and 4, Vert, four cross crosslets Argent, in the fess point a masele Or. 2 and 3, Gules, three castles (2 and 1), and in fess point a plate Argent. A scutcheon of pretence Argent, a bend voided Ermine. Under the arms, "fortis qui se vincit."

On the right of the above a mural monument of marble, inscribed:

Sacred

to the memory of Elizabeth lady Thornycroft, wife of sir John Thornycroft, of Milcomb in this parish, and of Stockwell in the county of Surrey, baronet, and daughter and sole heir to Josiah Key, late of Milcomb aforesaid, gent. deceased, by Elizabeth his first wife. The said dame Elizabeth was born the 20th of December, anno 1665, and had issue by the said s'r John Thornycroft three sons and three daughters, whereof one son and two daughters, viz. John, Elizabeth, and Dorothy, survived her; the other three, a son stilborn, Hamo Thornycroft

A bust of lady Thornycroft in white marble above, an angel standing on each side; and below, party per pale, the dexter Thornycroft (the cross crosslets) as before, in chief the arms of Ulster; sinister, as before, Argent, a bend voided Ermine.

Between the two windows in the south wall, a marble monument,

Sacred

to the memory of John Thornycroft, late of Gray's Inn in the county of Middlesex, esq. descendent from the ancient family of Thornicroft, the seat of which is of the same name, in the county palatine of Chester, where the said family have resided for more than four hundred years laste past. He was born on the 1st day of January, 1616; died on the 25th day of September, 1687, and lyeth interr'd in the vault near to this place.

Likewise

To the memory of Dorothy his wife, eldest daughter of s'r John Howell, kt. serjeant att law, and also some time recorder of London, by dame Elizabeth his wife.

By which said Dorothy the aforesaid John Thornicroft

Above, a bust of sir John and of dame Dorothy. Below, party per pale, dexter, Thornycroft as before with a crescent in chief for difference; sinister, the castles and plate as before. Over the arms, for a crest, on a helmet a falcon volant, between two palm branches Or."

her third son, and Dorothy Elizabeth

her eldest daughter, dyed before her.

She yielded up this life for a better in

her house at Milcomb, after a lingering

sickness, on Monday the sixth of March,

1703, in the 38th year of her age (being very much lamented)

and lyeth here interred with

her father above-mentioned.

The foresaid s'r John Thornycroft in

commemoration of the exemplary piety, virtue,

and charity of the said Elizabeth lady Thornycroft his dear wife, and also of

her deserving to be rankt among y^e best

of wives and y^e most affectionate of mothers,

hath erected this monument.

had issue four sons, viz. John, Edward, Philip, and Henry; and five daughters, viz. Elizabeth, Dorothy, Alice, Mary, and Dorothy.

She was born on the ninth day of October, 1634, died on the 19th day of August 1717, and lyeth buried in the aforesaid vault.

Both of them

in full assurance through the alone merits of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to obtaine a most blessed and joyfull resurrection at the last day.

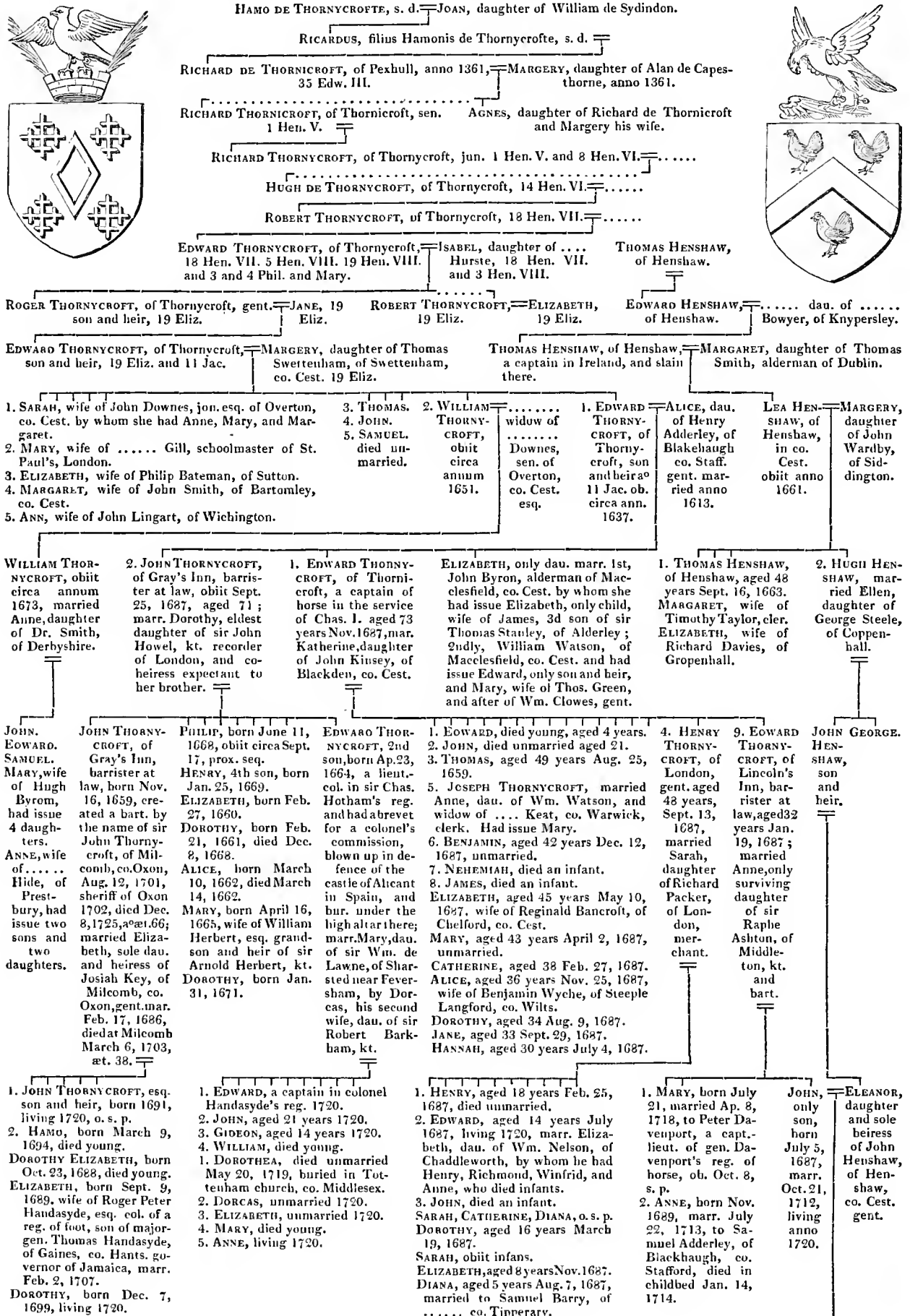
This monument

was erected by s'r John Thornicroft, barronett, their aforesaid eldest son, as well out of the dutifull respect which he bore to his said parents, as upon account of their great piety, probity, and virtue, the 7th day of Oct. anno Domini 1725.

THORNYCROFT OF THORNYCROFT, AND HENSHAW OF HENSHAW.

From a pedigree by Gregory King, R. D. 1687, ordered to be entered by Henry duke of Norfolk, Nov. 28, 1687.

ARMS OF THORNYCROFT. Vert, a lozenge Or between four cross-crosslets Argent. CREST. On a mural crown Gules a falcon volant proper, jessed, membered, and beaked Or, between two palm branches Or. ARMS OF HENSHAW, Argent, a chevron Sable, between three moor-bens close Gules. CREST. A falcon belled, with wings elevated, preying on a wing Argent, guttée du sang.



				a
ANNE, bapt. at Gawsorth Nov. 26, 1715, wife of the rev. Geo. Everard, rector of Heather, co. Leic. and minister of Capesthorpe, co. Cest. living 1782. s. p.	HENSHAW THORNYCROFT, of Thornycroft, co. Cest. bapt. at Gawsorth Dec. 16, 1713, ob. May 6, 1780.	MARY, daughter of James Marsden, co. Lanc. esq. mar. at Newton near Manchester June 25, 1741, buried Feb. 26, 1774, at Gawsorth.	JOHN TUORNYCROFT, 2nd son, born March 20, 1717, ob. May 17, 1718, bur. May 19.	
ELEANOR, buried at Gawsorth March 25, 1768.				
1. HENSHAW, buried at Gawsorth July 28, 1747.	2. ANNE, dowager viscountess of Barrington, married Feb. 1, 1812, at Whey, co. Glouc. died April 6, 1816, bur. at Gawsorth April 13.	3. EDWARD THORNYCROFT, of Thornycroft aforesaid, esq. bapt. at Gawsorth Nov. 4, 1752, died Jan. 20, 1817, buried at Gawsorth.	4. FRANCES, daughter of Bagot Read, of Maes Mawr and Penrhylan, co. Montgomery, and of Coedon, co. Flint, esq. by Anne his wife, dau. of John William, of Pont-y-gwyddel and of Nerquis, co. Flint, died Dec. 29, 1809, bur. at Gawsorth Jan. 6, 1810.	5. ELEANOR, bapt. at Gawsorth, unmarried 1818.
2. JAMES, buried at St. Anne's in Manchester, September 24, 1750.				6. MARY, bapt. at St. Anne's Jan. 14, 1748, buried at Gawsorth in Cheshire Sept. 25, 1756.
				6. ANNE, bapt. at Gawsorth, unmarried 1818.

NORTH RODE

OCCURS among the estates of Bigot, the predecessor of the lords of Aldford.

"Isdem Bigot tenet Rode; Bernulf tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est 11 carucarum: wasta est et sic invenitur. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat viii solidos; silva una leuva longa, et dimidia leuva lata."

The Mainwings of Warmincham, and their successors the Trussels, held the mesne manor under the paramount lordship before-mentioned.

Inq. p. m. 49 Edw. III. William Trussel, ch'v'r, held, inter alia, the manor of Northrode, from Thomas de Arderne, in capite, by mil. serv. as of his manor and fee of Aldford: val. per ann. xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 3 Ric. II. Sir William Trussel, of Cubleston, knight, held, inter alia, the manor of Northrode, from sir Thomas de Arderne, by military service.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. IV. Margaret, widow of sir Fulk de Penbrugge, knight, kinswoman and heiress of sir W. Trussel, held, inter alia, in fee tail, the manor of Northrode, from sir John Arderne, knight, in socage, by the render of one penny for all services: val. per ann. xx marks.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. IV. Sir William Trussel, knight, held, inter alia, the manor aforesaid, from sir John Stanley, knight, as of his manor of Aldford, by render aforesaid: val. per ann. xxi.

Inq. p. m. 21 Edw. IV. Sir William Trussel, knight, held, inter alia, the manor aforesaid, in fee simple from John Stanley, esq. as of his manor of Aldford, by render aforesaid: val. xxi.

Inq. p. m. 14 Hen. VII. Edward Trussel, a minor, held, inter alia, the manor aforesaid, from sir John Stanley, as before: val. xxivl.

Inq. p. m. 22 Hen. VII. John Trussel held, inter alia, the manor of Northrode, from John Stanley, as of his manor of Aldford, by *grand serjeancy*: val. xxivl.

The serjeancy, which is not noticed in the other inquisitions, was probably watch and ward at Aldford Castle in war time, the tenure by which other dependencies of that fee were held from it.

This manor passed from the Veres, earls of Oxford, (heirs general of the Trussels,) to sir Christopher Hutton, and from his representatives to the Crewes of Crewe, in the same manner with Warmincham^a, and having descended to John lord Crewe, was by him sold a few years ago, with large estates in the same, to John Smith Daintry, of Macclesfield, esq. who is the present proprietor, 1819.

The township is situated on the north bank of the Dane, and on the edge of the hundred, to the right of the turnpike road from Macclesfield to Leek, about five miles south-west of the former place.

BOSLEY.

HUGO de Mara, or Hugh Fitz-Norman, the proprietor of a large portion of those estates which afterwards formed the barony of Montalt, held this township at the time of the Domesday survey^b.

"Hugo tenet de comite Boslega: Godric tenuit, et liber homo fuit. Ibi dimidia hida geldabilis. Terra est iv carucarum: wasta est. Ibi silva 11 leuvis longa et dimidia leuva lata. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xx solidos."

The manor long continued an appendage of the barony of Montalt, passing with that lordship from the last baron to the crown, and from the crown by grant to

the Stanleys, in the manner which has been detailed in the account of Neston, which descended by the same title^c.

Inq. p. m. 37 Hen. VI. Thomas Stanley, ch'v'r (first earl of Derby), held, inter alia, in fee simple, the manor of Boseley, cum pert. from the lord prince, as the fourth part of a knight's fee: val. per ann. XLIIII marks. Thomas Stanley son and heir.

The manor is nevertheless stated to have been vested about this time in a younger branch of the Leghs, which assumed the name of Macclesfield^d, and to have been given in exchange by Ralph de Macclesfield, together

^a See p. 122, note.

^b A series of entries referring to Hugh de Mara recommence with Bosley, but he is by no means identified as such by *Domesday only*. The survey mentions Hugo de Mara, then Hugh Fitz Osberne, proceeding after him with *Isdem* Hugo, and then recommences in Bosley and Hamestan hundred with Hugo only. This Hugo is however abundantly proved to be the same with "Hugo de Mara" by some of his lands being noticed in the inquisitions as dependencies of Montalt. The estates referred to him in *Domesday* are Bosley, Marton, Somerford, and Caringham.

^c See Wirral hundred, vol. II. p. 294.

^d In a pedigree communicated by David Browne, esq. these Macclesfields are deduced from John de Macclesfield, son of John de Legh, stated to be a younger son of John Legh, of Adlington, by Maud Norley. The said John de Legh married Catherine, daughter of John de Kingsley (see note f p. 364). These Leghs first used the coat of the Lyme branch, and on the marriage with Kingsley gave the cross as Erwine, which coat has also been assigned to another family of the name of Macclesfield, noticed in the account of Mottram parish.

with his mansion "the old castle and place yard (of Macclesfield), and other lands," to the duke of Buckingham, for the manor of Mere, and lands in Chesterton, &c.; whereupon this family removed to Chesterton. This duke is supposed to be Edward Stafford, beheaded 13 Hen. VIII.

After this, sir Edward Stanley (created lord Montague in consequence of his achievements at Flodden, fifth son of the earl mentioned in the preceding inquisition,) had possession of Bosley; and by *Inq. p. m.* 16 Hen. VIII. was found to have died seized of the same, holding it by services unknown, from the king as earl: val. xli. Thomas Stanley lord Montague son and heir.

Subsequently Bosley reverted to the elder line of the Stanleys, and finally passed by sale from James earl of Derby to sir Edward Fitton of Gawsorth^e, who died

seized of the same, 1 Car. I. The manor has subsequently passed by the same title with Gawsorth, and is now vested in the earl of Harrington.

Bosley is situated five miles south of Macclesfield, on the road from that place to Leek, and abutting upon Staffordshire, in a vale watered by the stream of the Dane, between the Cloud hill and the range of the other hills included in Macclesfield forest. At the south end of the village is the church, a modern brick building with an antient embattled tower of stone, containing no monumental inscription of interest or curiosity^f. It is in the patronage of the vicar of Prestbury, and was returned by the bishop of Chester in 1809 as a curacy augmented, not charged. Value of augmentation, interest of benefactions, and surplice fees, £43.^g The registers begin in 1728^h.

Macclesfield Chapelry

COMPREHENDS nine townships:—Macclesfield, Sutton Downes, Wincle, Wildboardclough, Macclesfield Forest, Kettleshulme, Hardsfield, Rainow, and Pott Shrigley.

MACCLESFIELD.

IPSE comes tenet Eduinus Macclesfeld, comes tennit; ibi ii hidæ geldabiles. Terra est x carucarum. In dominio est una caruca, et iv servi: ibi molina serviens curiæ. Silva vi leuis longitudine et quatuor latitudine; et ibi vii haia erant: pratum bobus. Tertius denarius de Hundret pertinet huic manerio. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat viii libras, modo xx solidos. Wasta fuit.

This extract from Domesday exhibits an interesting picture of the state of Macclesfield before and after the Conquest. It had been one of the seats of earl Edwin, where a court had been kept for the Hundred of Hamestan, and to which the third penny of the Hundred was paid. The mill appropriated to the use of the court was remaining, with the pasture for kine, which probably stretched along the bank of the Bollin, and there was wood-land six miles in length and four in breadth, contiguous to the Forest hills, and containing six inclosures for taking the deer and wild goats, but the ravages of the invaders had reduced the value of the manor from viii l. to xx s.; and in these ravages the antient church of "Macclesfeld," from reasons mentioned in the introduction to the Hundred, appears to have perished, and is consequently unnoticed.

In a short period Macclesfield was restored to its former consequence; and though not one of the baronies

of the palatinate, from the circumstance of its being retained in demesne by the earl, it had a larger extent of manors holding from it than most of those baronies. These consisted partly of the minor vills in Hamestan Hundred enumerated in Domesday among the earl's possessions, and the later ones formed out of the wastes or remote districts of the great original manors of Macclesfield and Edulvintune. All (or nearly all) of these are described in the inquisitions to be held from the earl as of his manor of Macclesfield.

It appears that at this time the place was strengthened by a haia or fortification, which was repaired by the military tenants, one of whom was the lord of Aldford^a, probably with reference to the tenure of his neighbouring manor of Gawsorth. Other works were situated in the forest, which were repaired also by the earl's tenants, and garrisoned by them at the times of the earl's hunting^b. The park and vivaries of Macclesfield, which had been alienated to the Davenports, were reunited to the manor by a forcible resumption of Randle Blundeville^c.

The church (seated in a portion of the manor which had now become a distinct vill) was restored in a style of considerable architectural beauty^d: and, independently of the local courts, the great justiciary of the

^e Williamson's Vill. Cest.

^f The church notes of this chapel (Harl. MSS. 2151) taken Nov. 1, 1604, notice in the east window the arms of Stanley, of the king (viz. France and England quarterly); and in another window three crosses engrailed, the first, Ermine in a field Vert, marked with an annulet, Kingsley; the next Argent, in a field Gules, with a mullet, Legh of Macclesfield; the last, Ermine in a field Gules, Macclesfield. Underneath, Joh'is Regge (qu. Leghe) . . . et fact. fuit 1430, Katherine ux'is sue tunc d'n.

^g Returns to the governors of queen Anne's bounty. In 1717 the certified value was £3. 18s. being the interest of £78. of which £40. was given in 1715 by Nathaniel Finlow for four annual sermons, before which time there was no constant curate for many years. Gastrell, Not. Cest.

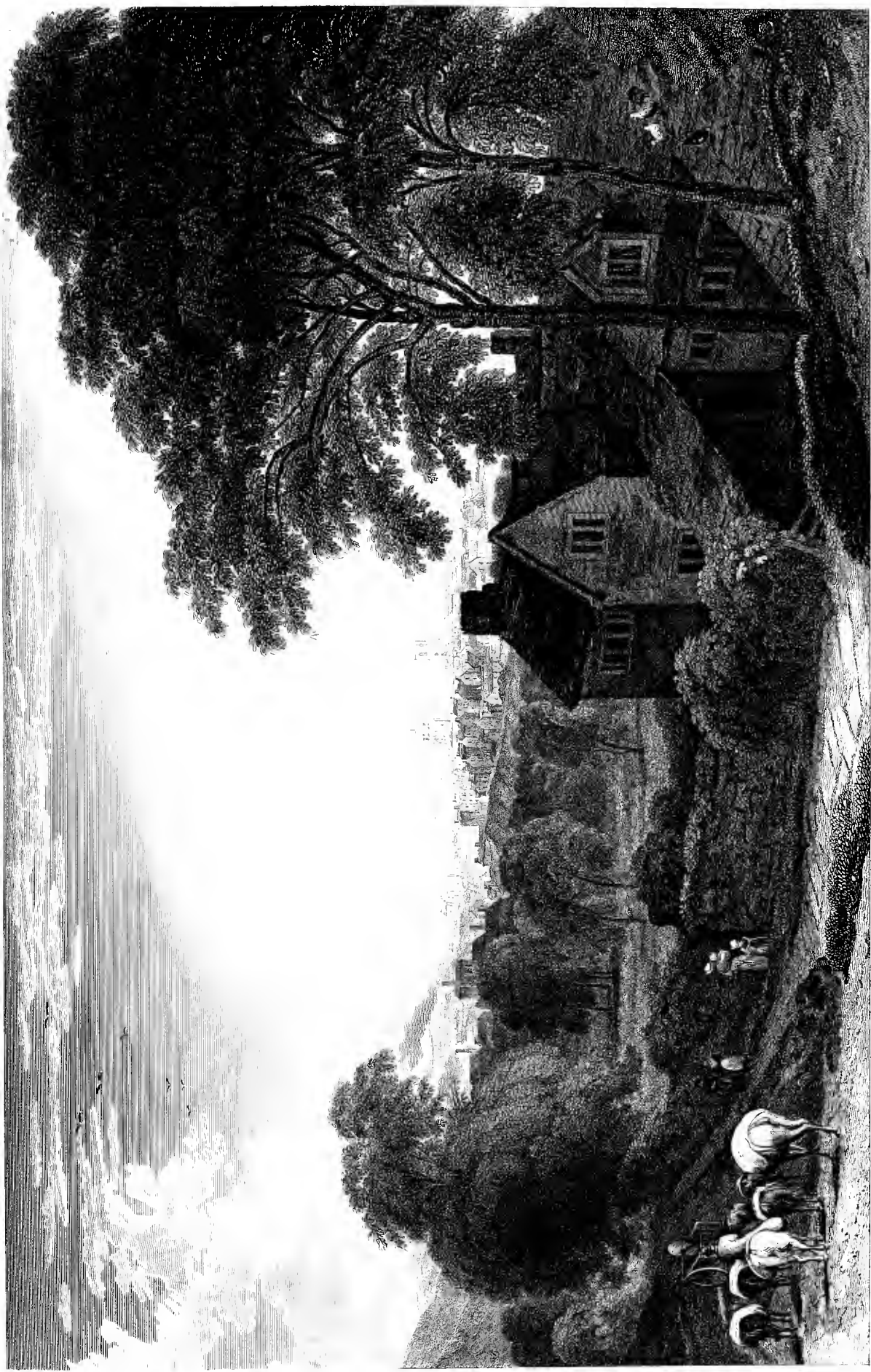
^h Returns to episcopal registry.

^a See the grant of Aldford to sir John de Arderne, vol. II. 412.

^b See the Inquisitions in Cheadle, Wilmslow, &c.

^c See Davenport, vol. III. p. 35.

^d See Introduction to the Hundred, p. 279, and vignette of the remains of the church, p. 328.



F. R. Day sculp.

And. Pub. Oct. 1860 by Eastman & Co.

MAGGLESFIELD.

J. De Witt delin.

earl, in the course of his Cheshire circuit, occasionally fixed his tribunal at Macclesfield^e.

After the extinction of the local earldom, the manor of Macclesfield passed as one of its appendages to the crown, in which it continues vested.

The particulars of the courts held here for the Hundred, and for the Forest of Macclesfield, have been given in the Introduction to this Hundred.

Macclesfield was made a free burgh by Randle earl of Chester (most probably the third earl of that name), who determined that it should consist of *cxx* burgages, each of which paid *xiii*d. to the earl^f. Anno 45 Edw. III. prince Edward, as earl of Chester, granted privileges therein to the burgesses of the same, with all liberties and free customs to the same belonging; and further confirmations were granted by Richard II. Edward IV. Elizabeth^g, and Charles II. by the last of which the corporation, as it now exists, is constituted.

The corporation consists of twenty-four aldermen, of whom four, including the mayor^h, are justices within the borough, having, as is believed, a concurrent jurisdiction therein with the magistrates of the county.

The corporation have the tolls of fairs and markets, and profits of the springs, which are given by charter to the corporation, for the use of the inhabitants.

They hold a general sessions half yearly before the mayor and justices, and recorder, for assaults and misdemeanors, but have no cognizance of felonies. The mayor and justices also hold a privy sessions weekly to settle disputes, hear paupers' cases, and other matters relating to their office of magistratesⁱ. The borough and township are co-extensive.

The King, as lord of the manor, did heretofore lease out the mines and minerals, cottages and inclosures; but on an act being obtained for inclosing the commons and waste lands, in 1796, he had a grant of lands in lieu of his manerial rights, and a reservation of the mines and minerals; and he has since sold these lands, and also the mines and minerals, to Mr. Charles Cooke, late of this town, deceased^k.

The present recorder (1818) is John Harriot Roe, esq. barrister-at-law; the mayor is Joseph Tunnicliff, esq.; and the town-clerk, Mr. John Clulow^l.



The common seal of the borough, composed of parts of the arms of the earls of Chester, is annexed.

The town of Macclesfield is built on the bank of a principal feeder of the Bollin, in a situation elevated with respect to the level of the stream, but much below

that of the greater part of the circumjacent country, and in consequence of the vast increase of its population, since the introduction of silk and cotton manufactures, it has greatly extended its buildings in all directions, but more particularly in that of the township of Sutton. There is nothing in its general appearance differing from the other manufacturing towns of Cheshire and Lancashire. The original trade of the place was the manufacture of wrought buttons of silk and mohair^m.

The principal market was formerly on Mondays, but has been altered to Tuesdays by the police act obtained for this town in 1814; and there are five fairs; May 6, June 22, July 11, Oct. 4, and Nov. 11.

The *Court-house* and *Gaol-tenement* are antient buildings of grey stone, situated near the church, in the market-place, and serve the purposes of the courts held for the borough, as well as for the Hundred and the Forest, as mentioned in the Introduction. There is also a tenement called the King's Bake-house, which continued the property of the Crown, until the year 1818ⁿ, which is doubtless the "*furnus villæ*" to which the burgesses were restricted by the charter of prince Edward.

South of the church, and of a steep and narrow pathway from the town to the river, called the Back Wall Gate, is a lofty wall of stone, behind which were the remains of the castellated palace, ascribed by Smith, in his description of Macclesfield, to one of the dukes of Buckingham, and which has been further noticed in the account of Bosley. In the lower part of the wall is a small door-way, under a pointed arch of considerable antiquity^o.

In Chester-gate is a ruinous timber building called *Bate Hall*, which has been long used as a public house, but was formerly the residence of the Stopfords, an-

^e See abstract of pleadings in Introduction, p. 280. This practice continued to a later period than the extinction of the local earldom. A field yet retains the name of the Gallows-field; and the author is informed by Mr. Browne, that Mr. Wright, his predecessor in the office of Deputy Steward, once mentioned to him that he had seen, in some manuscripts, an account, which had occurred in his local collections, of an execution having taken place there. The Gallows-field is described as *Gal'tre-hey*, in a conveyance from Ursula, lady Stafford, and sir Henry Stafford, her son, 2 and 3 Phil. and Mar. now in possession of Mr. Browne.

^f Williamson, Vill. Cest. referring to a plea in Randle Holnes's MS. marked P. R. f. 12 h. ^g The charter of Q. Elizabeth is given at length in Harl. MSS. 2074. 213, and recites the confirmations of Richard II. and Edw. IV. and the original charter by prince Edward, which is as follows:—*Edwardus illustris regis Angliæ primogenitus archiepiscopis, episcopis, abbatibus, prioribus, comitibus, baronibus, justiciariis, vicecomitibus, prepositis, ministris, ac omnibus ballivis, et fidelibus suis salutem. Sciatis nos concessisse, et presenti carta nostra confirmasse, pro nobis et heredibus nostris burgensibus nostris de Macclesfield, quod villa nostra de Macclesfield sit liber burgus, et quod burgenses nostri ejusdem ville habeant gildam mercatoriam in eodem burgo, cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ad hujusmodi gildam pertinentibus, et quod quieti sint per totam terram nostram Cesterseiriæ, tam per aquam quam per terram, de tolneto, passagio, pontagio, stallagio, lestagio, et omnibus aliis consuetudinibus (excepto sale in Wycis), et quod habeant pasturam et housebote, et haybote in foresta nostra, sicut habere consueverunt (salvo nobis pannagio nostro cum persona fuerit), et quod non implacentur, nec de aliquo placito iudicentur extra burgum suum, et si aliquis eorum in misericordiam nostram inciderit, pro aliquo forisfacto non det nisi duodecim denarios ante iudicium, et post iudicium rationabilem misericordiam secundum quantitatem delicti (nisi forisfactum illud pertineat ad gladium nostrum), et quod molant hlada sua ad molendinum nostrum ad vicesimum granum, sicut molere consueverunt: et quod burgenses prædicti faciant sibi prepositos per semetipsos, per assensum et consilium nostrum vel ballivorum nostrorum, et quod burgagia sua, et terras suas ad burgagia sua pertinentes, habeant et teneant liberè et quietè pro duodecim denariis per annum, et quod illa darc vendere vel inuadiare possint quandocunque et quibuscunque valuerint, nisi domibus religiosis, sicut consueverunt (salva nobis libertate *furni* nostri ejusdem ville). Quare volumus et firmiter præcipimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod præfati burgenses nostri habeant omnia predicta, et gaudeant omnibus libertatibus prescriptis, sicut plenius predictum est. Hiis testibus D'nis Erardo de Valory, Fulcone de Orreby tunc justiciario nostro Cestrie, Radulpho Basset, Thoma de Orreby tunc escaetore nostro Cestrie, Hugone de Clifford, Johanne le Breton custode garde-robe nostre, Thoma de Moulton, et aliis. Datum per manum nostram apud Guldford 29^o die Maij a^o R. d'ni Regis Patris nostri 45^o. Corrected from the original by D. Browne, esq.*

^h The charter directs a mayor and justice, and two aldermen, to be chosen annually, which is now done, and they are elected by these names.

ⁱ Information of D. Browne, esq.

^k Information of the same.

^l Information of the same.

^m Several particulars of this trade, which may be traced back nearly two centuries, will be found in Aikin's Manchester, p. 437, with a singular account of pedestrian chapmen, partly pedlars and partly jugglers and thieves, called the Flashmen and the Broken-Cross gang, from places near Macclesfield (the flash in Staffordshire and Broken Cross), who hawked these buttons at the fairs in the neighbouring districts. The latter were particularly notorious as rogues and horse-stealers: the former still continue their name and their occupation of hawking cloth and buttons.

ⁿ It then consisted of the bakehouse and a house divided into two dwellings, and was sold to a Mr. Timothy Jones, postmaster. The bakehouse is continued, and the adjoining house is used as the Post Office. Information of D. Browne, esq.

^o Nearly opposite to this door is a building roofed with stone, called the Town Well, evidently of ancient date, and no doubt connected with the castle. A flight of steps descended to the water; but many accidents having happened at it, it was some years ago walled up, and a pump substituted.

cestors of the earl of Courtown. It is in the style of the ruder specimens of timber edifices found in the rows of Chester; and though the buildings are very inconsiderable, they are ranged in imitation of the greater mansions of the county, round a small court, about ten yards long, by five in width.

Within the town are also four other places, called Halls: Stapleton Hall, formerly the property of the Stapletons of Upton, near Macclesfield, now converted into shops; Ogden Hall (now occupied as a private house), formerly Ogden's, afterwards Swetenham's of Somerford Booths, and now the property of Joseph Green, esq. of London, whose mother purchased it from the late Roger Swetenham, esq. Worth Hall (now occupied as a private house), with a field adjoining called Worth Orchard, was formerly archbishop Savage's, and is said to have been his occasional residence on his coming into the town from his house in Mottram Andrew. Pickford Hall formerly belonged to the Pickfords of Macclesfield, afterwards of Royton in Lancashire, represented by the late sir Joseph Radcliffe, bart. of Millsbridge (previously Joseph Pickford, esq.) distinguished for his spirited exertions during the disturbances in Yorkshire in 1812. This has been taken down and rebuilt, and is now the residence of William Ayton, esq.

The site of the *Park* which the earls of Chester had at Macclesfield is supposed to have been near the Park-lane, lying S.W. of the town, between the roads severally leading to Knutsford and Congleton. This park, in later days, was held under the Crown by the Savages, but has long been converted to other uses; and after having passed to the Cholmondeleys, with the other property of that family, was sold in lots. Near the Congleton road is a place called the Castle Field, which was probably the site of the local palace of the earls of Chester. In this a circular mount, or tumulus, is still remaining.

In a field adjoining to the school-house field, called "the Walley Heys," are also some inequalities of surface, which appear to be vestiges of antient buildings; and several *tumuli* occur in the vicinity. One of these stands on an elevated ridge, about one mile west of the town, near the road to Prestbury, not very far south of the line by which the Roman road from Condate to Rainow is supposed to have proceeded. Another was destroyed a few years ago on the common lying east of Macclesfield; and others occur in the township of Sutton.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL of Macclesfield, (considered a *free* grammar-school, in the extended sense of the word,) is situated at the west end of the town, in King Edward-street, and forms, with the school and various buildings (including the residence of the head master)

^p The charter directs that the school shall be called "the Free Grammar School of K. Edw. VI." and that it shall be taught by one master and under master, and shall be governed by xiv trustees, to be chosen from the inhabitants (*discretioribus et magis probioribus*) of the vill of Macclesfield and parish of Prestbury, who are made a body corporate with a common seal, and have power of filling up vacancies in their body occasioned by death or removal. The charter further endows the school with lands, parcel of the dissolved college of St. John, at Chester, called the prebend's lands, all the petit chanoury of that college, his majesty's tenement in Macclesfield called the school-house, and other lands in Macclesfield, Mottram, Broken Cross, and Prestbury, heretofore assigned for support of the said school, to be held of the manor of East Greenwich by the yearly payment of 25s. to the court of augmentation of the king's revenue. The beforementioned trustees have the appointment of the master and under master, and the management of the estates, the power of making new statutes with consent of the bishop, and permission to receive further benefactions not exceeding the value of xxl. per annum, and to appropriate the income from the whole to the salaries of the master and under master.

The original trustees named in the charter, were Edward Fitton, esq. John Davenport, of Henbury, esq. Richard Sutton, of Sutton, esq. Robert Hyde, esq. Jasper Worth, esq. John Cresswall, gent. James Browster, gent. Hugh Hollynshead, Thomas Grene, John Henshawe, Roger Rowe, Thomas Stepulton, Thomas Marler, and William Heyley.

^q The present trustees are Davies Davenport, esq. M.P. Capesthorpe; John Glegg, esq. Old Withington; Edw. Downes, esq. Shrigley; Thomas Parker, esq. Astle; Francis Jodrell, esq. Henbury; Laurence Wright, esq. Mottram Andrew; viscount Warren-Bulkeley, Poynton; the Vicar of Prestbury; Richard Legh, esq. Adlington; John Ryle, esq. Macclesfield; John Smith Daintry, esq. Sutton; Thomas Legh, esq. M.P. Lyme; Edward Stracey, esq. Titherington; Rev. Walter Davenport, Henbury.

^r Monuments of Brounswerd and Brancker are existing in Macclesfield parochial chapel, with others of George Leigh and Caleb Pott, also masters of this school: the latter of whom was probably preceded by Thomas Bold, "school-master of Macclesfield," who occurs among the delinquents whose estates were sequestered in 1645. Harl. MSS. 2130. Newton has been noticed in Butley, his native township, p. 336; and lives of him and of Brancker will be found in Chalmers's Biog. Diet. Warton also, in his History of English Poetry, mentions Brounswerd and Newton, vol. III. 259, 261, 390, 393. The present master was preceded by the rev. Dr. Ingles, who resigned Macclesfield several years previous to his being appointed head master at Rugby.

In order to correct an error which has appeared in a recent respectable work, it may be desirable to add that this School has *no* connection with the fellowships in Brasenose College, founded by sir R. Sutton, and that it leads to no exhibitions or scholarships whatsoever, in either of the Universities.

three sides of a quadrangle. The present site was purchased from the trustees of sir R. Davenport, knt. (see Adlington pedigree): the original one was on the east side of the parochial chapel, at a place which retains the name of the School Bank. It was founded in the first instance by sir John Percyvale, sometime lord mayor of London, said to have been born in this neighbourhood, who by will dated Jan. 25, 1502, endowed it with lands then valued at xl. per ann. These lands subsequently fell into the hands of the crown, and a new foundation took place under the king's letters patent, dated at Westminster, April 25, 6 Ed. VI. which take no notice of the original founder^p.

The governors having sold the school-house in 1750, purchased the present one, and made other exchanges; and in 1774 procured an act empowering them to make certain further exchanges and purchases, to grant building and repairing leases, to appoint such number of sub-masters as may be necessary to instruct in various branches of literature beside grammar and classical learning, and to increase the salaries of the head master and usher at discretion, the same being severally never less than £100. to the head master, and £40. to the usher per annum.



The seal of the trustees is represented by the annexed wood-cut, of the same size with the original.

The revenues, which are now very considerable, are under the direction of xiv trustees, elected according to the original charter, who are generally the representatives of the principal families of the parish^q.

Among the masters of this school in the sixteenth century, may be mentioned the names of Brounswerd and his kinsman Newton; and in the succeeding one, that of Brancker. The names of the two former masters were distinguished among the Latin poets of their time, and the second still maintains its place in various branches of general literature, as that of the third does in philosophy and mathematics. At all times the school appears to have held a rank highly respectable, and for several years, under the conduct of the rev. David Davies, D. D. its present able and learned head master, it has assumed a more prominent character; and though compared with greater national establishments for the education of youth, the number sent from hence to the university is relatively very inconsiderable, yet it has to boast out of that number *at least its due proportion* of those who have obtained the *highest* academical distinctions^r.

CHAPELS.

The parochial chapel of Macclesfield owes its foundation to Eleanor, queen of king Edward I. about the year 1278, and comprizes within its chapelry nine townships, Macclesfield, Sutton, Wincle, Wildboarclough, Macclesfield Forest, Kettleshulme, Hurdsfield, Rainow, and Pott Shrigley. The patron saint is St. Michael.

In the chartulary of Chester abbey (Harl. MSS. 1965. xxvi. col. 1.) are three documents relative to the dependency of this chapel on Prestbury: in the first, Edward, son of Henry king of England, decrees, that the chapel of Macclesfield, with all its rights, &c. shall be subject to the mother church of Prestbury, notwithstanding that the dedication of the same had taken place at the instance of his wife and queen Alienora. In the second, Alienora queen of England, as far as lies in her power, makes a similar decree; and the third contains an award, nearly in the same words, by Roger bishop of Coventry^s.

The curate of this church is appointed by the mayor for the time being, with the approval of the bishop^t, and has a stipend of £.50 per an. paid by the Crown, as king's preacher: his living in the bishop of Chester's return to the governors of queen Anne's bounty, Feb. 13, 1809, is stated to be a curacy, not augmented or charged, val. from stipend, interest of legacies, seat rents, and surplice fees, £120. 7s. 2d. The Registers begin 1572.

The present fabric of Macclesfield chapel comprizes an ancient tower, formerly surmounted with a spire^u, a nave with side aisles and galleries over them, and a chancel with a north side aisle. On the south side of the south aisle are also chapels belonging to the families of Legh of Lyme, and Savage of Rock Savage. The nave, with its side aisles and galleries, was re-built in the last century, and from a disarrangement of the original plan, the chancel is now at the end of the south side aisle, and its north aisle at the end of the central aisle of the nave.

In the vestibule of the church is an altar-tomb, on which are the recumbent figures of a knight and his lady. The knight's feet rest on a dog; in the lady's



head-dress, which is extremely rich, the letters I. H. C. are frequently repeated^x.

In the entrance to the Lyme chancel is a memorial of Thomas Brancker, M. A. which has been given in the account of Tilston parish^y.

In the Lyme chancel is the following inscription on a marble mural monument:

P. M. S.

D'næ Letticiæ Legh de Lyme, d'ni Georgii Calveley de Lea baronetti filiæ, et uxoris charissimæ rev'di Thomæ Legh, S. S. T. P. ecclesiæ parochial' de Walton et Sephton in Agro Lancast' i, rectoris vigilantiss' i, et d'ni Petri Legh de Lyme, equitis aurati, filii natu tertii. Obiit Oct. xiv^{to}, anno salutis MDCXLVIII.

Et Letticiæ, Thomæ et Letticiæ Legh filiæ pientissimæ. Obiit Febr'ii xxi^{mo} anno D'ni MDCLI^o anno ætat. xvi.

Atque Thomæ Legh de Lyme armigeri, rev'di Thomæ et Letticiæ p'dict' filii natu secundi, qui spe beatæ resurrectionis animam Deo piè reddidit Sept'bris xxi^o anno salutis MDCXCVII, anno ætatis suæ ferè LXI.

H. M. liberaliter constituit Petrus Legh de Lyme armiger anno MDCCXII.

On a brass plate near the same:

Here lyethe the bodie of Perkin a Legh,
That for king Richard the death did die;
Betrayed for righteousnes;
And the bones of sir Peers his sone,
That with king Henrie the fift did wonne
in Paris^z.

In the chancel are brass plates in memory of William Legh, schoolmaster of Macclesfield, said to be of the East Hall family (obiit 1630^z); and of Caleb Pott, M. A. successively schoolmaster at Knutsford, Sandbach, Newcastle, Audlem, and Macclesfield, (obiit 1690). A third memorial, cut on a brass plate, is as follows:

Joanni Brownsverdo, Maclesfeldensi Ludimagistro, viro pio pariter ac docto, hic sepulto et repulverescenti, Thomas Newton, Butlensis, pietatis, gratitudinis, et officii ergo, P.

Alpha poetarum, Coryphæus grammaticorum,
Flos pædagogôn, hac sepelitur humo^b.

Obiit 15 Apr. 1589.

In the north aisle of the chancel is the recumbent figure of a knight, in plate armour, under a niche in the wall. The feet rest on a dog, and the head upon a helmet, with mantlings and crest; but the whole is nearly concealed by the pew adjoining.

^x After the dissolution, two chantry-priests, who officiated in the chapel, retired on pensions of LXVIS. viiij. s. and were living in 1566. Their names were given in the pension-roll of that year, as Randle Pickeringe "nuper celebrans in capella de Maxfeilde," and Charles Alexander "nuper celebrans in sacello s'tæ Crucis in capella de Maxfeilde."—James Bradshaw, of the Darcy-Lever branch of that family, was ejected from this chapel under the Act of Uniformity, and is highly praised by Kimber, I. 264. edit. 1778. A List of the CURATES of MACCLESFIELD PAROCHIAL CHAPEL, which arrived too late for insertion here (without disarranging several sheets) will be found in the Addenda. ^t Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^u See Smith's description of Cheshire, vol. I. p. 110. A rude representation of the spire is annexed, being a fac-simile of the seal of the general rural dean of the archdeaconry of Chester, which appears to be copied from that used by the rural dean of Macclesfield, previous to the consolidation of the rural deaneries of the diocese. A part of the stone-work, which supported the spire, is yet remaining.

^x These recumbent figures represent sir John Savage and Katherine his wife, daughter of Thomas, first lord Stanley. The tomb was formerly placed on the north side of the chancel, and inconveniently so with reference to the communion-table, and will be restored to its former situation in the new chancel. Eight coats painted at the sides of it are now defaced, but are preserved in Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 12 b where a rude drawing of the tomb is given. ^y Broxton Hundred, p. 383.

^z These lines are followed by the annexed inscription, which contains the common error relative to Perkin a Legh, corrected in p. 336:

"This Perkin served king Edward the Third and the Black Prince his sonne, in all their warres in France, and was at the battell of Cressie, and hadd Lyme given him for that service, and after their deatbes served king Richard the Second, and left him not in his troubles, but was taken with him, and beheaded at Chester by king Henrie the Fourth, and the sayd sir Peers his sonne served king Henrie the Fift, and was slaine att the battell of Agincourt. In their memorie sir Peter Legh of Lyme, knight, descended from them, fynding the said ould verses written upon a stone in this chapel, did re-edifie this place an^o D'ni 1620."

^a The chancel and east end of the church have been taken down, and are now rebuilding (1819); and in a niche in the wall, under Legh's plate a figure of a man (probably Legh) was discovered, cut out of two blocks of stone, and previously concealed by the pews. His dress is that of an ecclesiastic.

^b There is a singular variation between this inscription and the copy taken by Webb in 1621. See p. 287.

On the south side of the church is the SAVAGE CHAPEL^c, formerly communicating with the church by a door now built up. The entrance is on the west side, under a turret of three stories. Over the door is a projecting window, on the lower part of which are carved the arms of England, placed between those of the see of York, impaling Argent, a pale lozenge Sable (Savage antient) on the left hand, and the coat of Savage quartered with those of archbishop Savage's successive sees on the right^d. The entrance is enriched with various other shields and gothic ornaments.

On the north side are two altar-tombs, placed under obtuse gothic arches, opening to the church, as well as the chancel. On the first is the recumbent alabaster figure of a warrior in plate armour, his head resting on his helmet, and his feet on a dog, a chain being suspended round his neck. The countenance very aged. In the centre niche of the tomb below is a coat much defaced, impaling Savage antient.

On the second is another recumbent alabaster figure of a warrior in plate armour; the face has a much more youthful expression than the last: his collar is com-

posed of SS. and the belts for the sword and dagger are richly studded. His head rests on a helmet, with the family crest, and his feet on a lion.

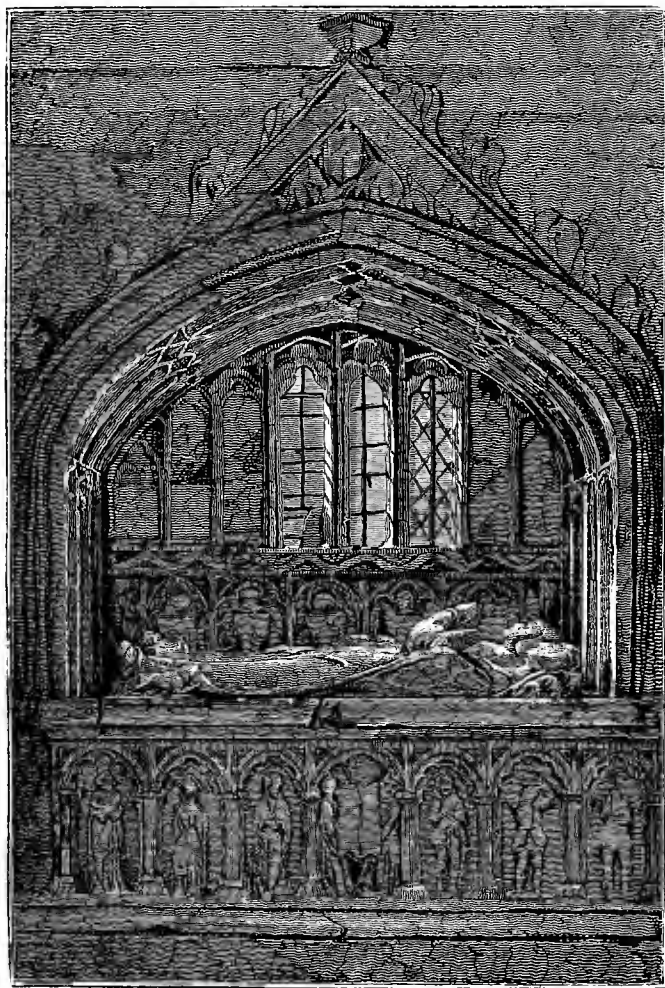
In niches at the side of the altar tomb below, are figures of angels supporting blank shields.

Over the arches are mouldings ornamented with crockets and finials, and the arms of Savage placed between two unicorns' heads.

In the centre of the opposite side is an arch with an altar tomb, closely resembling the last, from which the figure has been removed, and a smaller arch nearer the entrance, also without a figure.

Nearer the east end, on this side, is a third arch, much loftier, but finished in the same style with canopy, crockets, and a rich finial. The outer wall is pierced below the arch into a window consisting of eight trefoil-headed lights, under which is an altar-tomb, in niches at the side of which are three male and three female figures, the centre niche being occupied by an armorial shield supported by angels.

On the tomb repose two figures executed in alabaster, and represented in the vignette subjoined^e.



^c Built by Thomas Savage (bishop of Rochester 1492, and London 1497, and afterwards archbishop of York 1501) younger son of sir John Savage of Clifton by Catharine Stanley. He died 1508, and his body was buried at York, "and his heart at Maxfield, where he built a chappel at the side of Maxfield church, and intended to have made a college there." See Lyecester, vol. I. p. 527. Smith (in his treatise on Cheshire, vol. I. p. 110) speaking of this church, says there is a college adjoining on the south side; but he probably meant only this chantry. The author is informed by Mr. Caley that there are no documents in the Augmentation office on the subject. An engraving of archbishop Savage's monument in York Minster, engraved by Le Keux after a drawing by Blore, is given in Britton's history of that edifice, plate xxix.

^d Viz. 1. York. 2. London. 3. Rochester. 4. Savage.

^e The knight is habited in plate armour, and has a collar of SS round his neck, with a jewel dependent at it. The countenance expresses great age: his head rests on his helmet, and his feet on a dog, which lolls out its tongue as if in blaudishment. The lady has a close bead-dress, and a slender chain dependent from her neck; her robe is confined over the breast by a cord fastened to a rose on each side, and is held at the bottom by a small lap-dog. Under her head is a pillow supported by angels. In 1584 this imperfect inscription was visible on the edge of the arch: "..... sir John Savage which was made knight in the wars of which died the 26th day of July in the year mcccxcxvii, and lady Elizabeth his wife, dau. to which lady Elizabeth died the day of anno domini" Either this transcriber, or sir Peter Lyecester, have committed a slight error in the date of sir John Savage's death. See vol. I. 528. col. 1. His widow married sir W. Breerton, of the Shocklach branch, who was beheaded for "matters touching queen Anne." See *ibid.* and vol. II. 315. 377.

At the west end of the chancel is a large mural monument, consisting of an altar-tomb, on which are the figures of an armed knight and his lady, and of a female sitting at their feet. Over them is a circular arch, in front of which are two pillars terminating in pyramids. The arch is surmounted with two figures, and the arms and supporters of Savage. Within the arch are three tablets, the first of which is inscribed :

Memoriæ sacrum
 viri clarissimi, prudentissimi, piissimiq. D.
 Joannis Savagi, equitis aurati, antiqua
 Savagorum gente oriundi, de tota republica
 Cestriensi et Hamptoniensi optimè meriti, 5to Decemb.
 anno 1597^o, ætat. 74, in dolorem consanguineorū
 et honorum omnium vita functi. Thomas
 Savagus miles et baronettus, majore filio
 nepos, in uxorem duxit Elizabetham filia'
 Thomæ baronis Darcie de Chich prima',
 et per eam favore principis indulgentiori
 existens sorte thalami et affinitate cineri,
 in successione proximus isti honori, pietatis,
 ergo singularis, hoc posuit monumentum.

On the other tablets are the following verses :

Cum fermè octavum finisset maxima lustrum
 Imperii princeps Elizabetha sui,
 Et gelidum bis ter lustrasset luce Decembrem
 Sol, nondum occiduis præcipitatus aquis,
 Divino jussu arripitur Savagus ad astra ;
 Nunc sacro Abrami nobilis umbra sinu.
 Duodenus miles successivè hicce Johannes,
 Familia ex illa, nominis ejus erat.
 Mater erat comitis, comitis conjux quoq; nata,
 Ex illo dena prole beata parens ;
 Mascula cujus erat pars æqua, at tres obierunt,
 Et tantum inventi jam superesse duo,
 Nempe, Johannes major eques auratus, et alter
 Edwardus titulum qui tenet armigeri.
 Fæminei sexus numero quoq; quinque fuere,
 Quæ de prædictis prodierant thalamis :
 Prima Breretoni natarum militis uxor,
 Margareta, ipso nomine gemma fuit ;
 Waltoniusq; Baro duxit Langtonus Elizam ;
 Cessit Bagnoliis Ele(a)nora toris ;
 Militibus Millo ac Weero, nupsere sorores
 Maria et Francisca, utraq; fausta viro.
 Hanc habuit prolem generosi stemmatis hæres,
 A victore suos qui numerabat avos.
 Bis ter functus erat Comitis Vice ; ter quoque Major
 Quem dubiis legit Cestria rebus erat.
 Justitia, Hospitium, cum prompta ad munera dextrâ
 Hic monumentum illi firmius ære struunt :
 Mortuus is cum Savagis majoribus ejus
 Macclesfeldensi conditnr æde sacrâ.
 Dixit Aristoteles fælicia saxa deorum
 quibus sacris thura fuere rogis
bus insunt clausa virorum
b.....beata suis.

On the opposite side is a large mural monument occupying the recess for the altar. Above a large altar tomb is a recumbent figure in a flowing robe and large wig, under a canopy supported by four marble Corin-

thian pillars. Over which are the arms and crest of Savage, with the supporters, a falcon belled Or, and a unicorn Argent. Over the pillars are also the earl's arms impaled with those of his wives.

Over the figure is inscribed :

Here lyeth the body of the
 right hon'ble Thomas earle Rivers,
 viscount Colchester & Savage of Rock Savage,
 baron of Darcy of Chich, who died
 the 14th day of September, 1694,
 at his house in Great Queen-street, within y^e
 parish of St. Giles in the Fields, in the
 county of Middlesex, & was here interr'd
 the 14th day of October following,
 in the 67th year of his age.

The inscription is thus continued in front of the tomb below :

He married two wives, y^e first was y^e lady Elizabeth'
 Scrope, one of y^e three coheirs of the right hon'ble
 Emanuel earle of Sunderland, baron Scrope of Bolton,
 and lord president of y^e king's concell in y^e north, by
 whom
 he had issue the hon'ble Thomas viscount Colchester,
 dec'd, who
 married y^e lady Charlotte Stanley, eldest daughter of y^e
 right hon'ble Charles earle of Derby, baron Stanley
 (Strange of
 Knokyn) and Mohun, lord of Man and y^e Isles, but left
 noe issue male ;
 and y^e now right hon'ble Richard earle Rivers, viscount Col-
 chester and Savage of Rock Savage, baron Darcy of
 Chich, lord
 lieutenant of y^e county palatine of Chester, as also custos
 rotulorum for y^e said county palatine, lieutenant general of
 horse under his most excellent ma'tic king William the
 3d, and capt. of
 y^e 3d troop of guards, and y^e ladys Elizabeth and Anna-
 bella Savage,
 yet living, with several other children who dyed young.
 His second wife was the lady Arabella Bertie,
 daughter of y^e now right hon'ble Robert earle
 of Lindsey, baron Wilughby of Eresby, great
 chamberlain of England, lord lieutenant of y^e county
 of Lincoln, and custos rotulorum for the parts of
 Holland, Kesteven, and Lindsey, in the same county,
 and one of
 the lords of his majestyes most hon'ble privy concell.
 She survived him, and is now living,
 but never had any issue.
 This tomb was erected in the moneth
 of September, 1696.

Near this monument is an antient gravestone, orna-
 mented with a decorated cross and various carvings ;
 the inscription round the edge is obliterated².

In the north-east angle is a board, to which are
 affixed some brasses which have been removed from the
 wall below.

This monument is particularly noticed in Mr. Bur-
 rough's View of Popery, and was engraved when more
 perfect than it is at present. In the lower part were the
 figures of Roger Legh (third possessor), of Ridge, and
 Elizabeth his wife, dau' of — Sutton of Sutton, with
 —^a sons and 6 dau'rs kneeling behind them, and un-

² In Harl. MSS. 2151 (in church notes taken 1584) is a drawing of this monument. The cross is bottonde and fixed in the ground, and has a wreath suspended on a cross heam at its junction with the centre ; lower down a shield charged with a heart is fixed to it ; on the right of it are sculls and cross bones, and to the left an ecclesiastic, standing, praying to the cross, and below his feet a Bible. Round the sides, Hic jacet corpus d'ni Georgi Savage, qui obiit die mensis 1552. Qu. whether this was not George Savage, rector of Davenham, and father of the infamous Bonner? See vol. I. p. 527, and vol. II. p. 128.

^a In the copy of the monument (Harl. MSS. 2151, p. 12) seven sons.

derneath, "Orate p' a'i'abus Rogeri Legh et Elizabeth ux'is sue, qui quid'm Rogerus obiit 1111^o die Novembris a^o D'ni M^oCC^oVI^o. Elizabeth vero obiit v^o die Octobris a^o D'ni M^oCCCLXXXIX^o quor' a'iab' p'picietur d'.

The label from the man's mouth defaced^b. From the woman "a dampnac'o'e p'petua lib'a nos D'ne. Over the space between the figures, the pope kneeling before an altar, behind which is a naked figure of our Saviour; and under the papal figure are these words: "The p'don for saying of v pater nost', v aves, and a cred, is xxvi thousand yeres and xxvi dayes of pardon."^c

CHRIST CHURCH, or the New Chapel of Macclesfield, is a large building of brick, with a lofty tower containing ten bells, erected in a very tasteless style of architecture, and flaring upon the eye in most of the general views of Macclesfield. The entire fabric was erected in seven months in 1775.

On the south side of the communion table is a marble monument in memory of the founder, Charles Roe, which is given at length in the note subjoined^d. A female figure holds in one hand a medallion of the deceased, and in the other an engine wheel; and below her are representations of the Church, and of the brass and smelting works of its erector. In another part of the church is a memorial of the rev. David Simpson, M. A. the first minister; obiit March 29, 1799, aged 54.

The patronage of this Chapel is vested by act of Parliament in the heirs of the founder, who endowed it with £100. per ann. In 1809 the bishop of Chester returned it, as not augmented or charged, val. of stipend and surplice fees per ann. £110. The Registers begin in 1776^e.

SUTTON DOWNES.

THIS township, which has been from time immemorial included in the forest of Macclesfield, and extends into the bleak and mountainous districts on the confines of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, was omitted for an obvious reason in the Domesday. It was antiently mized as two townships, and appears from the inquisitions to have contained formerly two mesne manors, Sutton and

Downes, which gave names to antient families; but have been long disused. The tenure is partly freehold but mostly copyhold.

The SUTTON HALL estate in this township (sometimes called the manor of Sutton), is one of those which was granted out by the Norman earls, to be held by the performance of duties in the forest of Macclesfield, of

^b Ibid. "in die iudicii libera nos domine.

^c The following additional notices of monumental memorials not now existing, are transcribed from church notes taken Oct. 14, 1584, Harl. MSS. 2151, 12, among which also are preserved others of minor importance.

^d Upon the north side of the church kneeleth a man and a woman in these coates armer, with the inscription under:

(Arms. Two coats. The first quarterly, 1. Savage, 2. Vernon, 3. Bostock, 4. Gules, a chevron Argent between three martlets of the second. The second coat, lozengy Or and Gules, a bend Ermine.)

"Orate pro bono stato Edmundi Savage fondatoris hujus fenestraz (qui in eversione Edinburie et Leith miles constitotus fuit anno RR. illustrissimi R. Henrici Octavi trigesimo septimo, necnon de villa de Makelesfild suffectos major anno Edwardi sexti primo) et d'næ Mariæ uxoris, et antea nuptæ Rogero Legh armigero."

In a window the following coat for Distelegh. (Sable, on a bend Gules, coticed with two bendlets dancette of the second, three swans Or; quartering Sable, a bend Argent between two owls of the second.)

There are also notices of various escocheons of the Savages, and inscriptions, which are too imperfect to be given at length, commemorating sir John Savage and Katherine his wife, daughter of Thomas lord Stanley, and sister of Thomas 1st earl of Derby; and requesting in one place intercession for Thomas earl of Derby and George lord Strange his son; and in another the same for sir John Savage, kt. and Catherine his wife, sister of the said earl, and for Thomas archbishop of York "qui istam capellam fondaveront," alluding apparently to the Savage chancel,

^e "Whoever thou art,

whom a curiosity to search into the monuments of the dead,

or an ambition to emulate their living virtues,

has brought hither,

receive the gratification of either object, in the example of

CHARLES ROE, esq.

"A gentleman who, with a slender portion on his entrance into business, carried on the Lutton and twist manufacture in this town with the most active industry, ingenuity, and integrity; and by an happy versatility of genius, at different periods of his life, first established here, and made instrumental to the acquisition of an ample fortune, the silk and copper manufactories, by which many thousands of families have been since supported. The obstacles which envy and malevolence threw in his way retarded not his progress: enterprising, emulous, and indefatigable, difficulties to others were incitements to action in him. His mind was vast and comprehensive, formed for great undertakings, and equal to their accomplishment. By an intuitive kind of knowledge, he acquired an intimate acquaintance with the mineral strata of the earth; and was esteemed, by competent judges, greatly to excel in the art of mining. In that line his concerns were extensive; and the land-owners, as well as proprietors, of the valuable mine in the Isle of Anglesea, are indebted to him for the discovery.

"It pleased the Almighty to bless his various labours and benevolent designs. His grateful heart delighted to acknowledge the mercies he received. God was in all his thoughts. And actuated by the purest sentiments of genuine devotion, which burnt steadily through his life, and the brighter as he approached the Fountain of Light, he dedicated to the service of his Maker a part of that increase his bounty had bestowed, erecting and endowing, at his sole expence, the elegant structure which incloses this monument; and which, it is remarkable, was built from the surface of the ground, and completely finished, both inside and out, in so short a space of time as seven months.

"Reader, when thou hast performed the duties which brought thee hither, think on the founder of this beautiful edifice, and aspire after the virtues which enabled him to raise it.

"He died the 3d of May, 1724, aged 67 years, leaving a widow and ten children (who have erected this monument as a tribute to conjugal and filial affection) poignantly to lament a most indulgent husband, a tender father, and a general loss."

^e The Parliamentary return of Charities is given at the end of the hundred, but the following benefactions of later date are mentioned on tablets in the two chapels of Macclesfield:

In St. Michael's chapel. 1793, William Norton, M. D. 120*l.* interest to be distributed in bread. 1794, John Lomas 20*l.* interest to be distributed on St. Thomas's day. 1799, Bridget Eleanor Hayes 60*l.* interest to procure an annual sermon and distribution of bread. 1808, Ann Norton 100*l.* interest to be given in gowns and cloaks at Christmas.

In Christ Church chapel (among some minor donations):—1787, Miss Roe 600*l.* for the education of poor children, and 100*l.* interest to be given in bibles. 1813, Thomas Allen and Martha his wife, the annual sum of 10*l.* to be given in cloth on St. Thomas's day to spinsters and widows not receiving parish relief.

which subordinate foresterships, as mentioned in the introduction to this hundred, there were nine. The original grant of these lands subject to this service was made by Hugh Kevelioc (1153—81.) to Adam son of Onyt, whose posterity assumed the local name of Sutton. This grant is stated by Dr. Williamson^a to have been pleaded 15 Edw. I. by Richard de Sutton in answer to a writ of quo warranto to shew cause why he held two bovates of land in Sutton, which belonged to the manor of Macclesfield.

II. Adam de Sutton (probably son or grandson of Adam last named), was master serjeant of Macclesfield hundred before 1226, which office he ceded, or was deprived of, to make way for the appointment of Vivian de Davenport^b.

III. Richard de Sutton has been already noticed as tenant of lands here by forest service, 15 Edw. I.

IV. In the next year, Adam de Sutton son of Alan, and John de Sutton, both held lands by forest service^c. They were probably nephews of the preceding Richard, between whom the land subject to this service might have been temporarily divided. John, and his forestership occur no more, and he probably died s. p. Adam is made continuer of the male line in the ordinary Sutton pedigrees, which commence with his father Alan.

V. William de Sutton, according to the Cheshire pedigrees, was son of Adam, and father of

VI. John de Sutton^d, with whom the series of inquisitions commences.

Inq. p. m. 36 Edw. III. John de Sutton held in demesne as of fee, a certain forestership in fee in the forest of Macclesfield, with lands adjacent, from the earl in capite, val. xxs.; and held also lands as aforesaid, in Waylegh, from William de Stanlegh; and also certain closes and tenements in Sutton from the earl, as a customary tenant of the manor of Macclesfield: val. tot. £3. 6s. 8d. John, son of Richard de Sutton, his heir.

VII. This John was bailiff of Macclesfield forest 46 Edw. III. His father Richard, according to the Cheshire pedigrees, was son of William, son of John, to whom the preceding inquisition relates. Richard Sutton, his father, married a daughter and heiress of the Lancashire family of Worsley, as appears by arms emblazoned on her figure formerly in Gawsworth church windows, and by the quarterings used by her descendants. By this marriage Richard had issue

John, who succeeded to his great grandfather (if the Cheshire pedigrees are correct), and another son and two daughters^e.

Inq. p. m. 6 Ric. II. John de Sutton of Sutton, senr. held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Sutton, with lands, &c. therein, and in Distilegh in the forest of Macclesfield, from the lady Katherine queen of England, in cap. by mil. serv. val. xxs.: also other lands in the same, from the same, in socage: val. viii marks. John de Sutton next heir.

VIII. *Inq. p. m.* 12 Edw. IV. John Sutton held in demesne, as of fee, in socage from the king as of the manor of Macclesfield, the manor of Sutton, and lands in Sutton and Distilegh, by mil. serv. and by the service of finding one forester in the forest of Macclesfield; also other lands in Sutton, as before. John Sutton son and heir: val. as before.

IX. *Inq. p. m.* 10 Hen. VII. John Sutton held in Sutton and Distilegh, as in the preceding inquisition. John Sutton son and heir.

With this inquisition all evidence relative to the *original line of the Suttons of Sutton* terminates, unless we except a licence to impark, granted to John Sutton of Sutton, 8 Hen. VIII. which may either relate to the John found heir in the last inquisition, or to his successor of the same name.

The first of the *second line of Sutton*, was John Sutton, nephew of sir Richard Sutton, founder of Brasenose College, who in his will, dated March 16, 15 Hen. VIII. mentions "my nephew John Sutton of Sutton,"^f who had therefore succeeded before that year. According to his pedigree drawn by the accurate Glover, and sworn to by his grandson in the visitation of Cheshire 1580, this John was son of sir John Sutton, knight, and grandson of sir William Sutton, master of Burton Lazars, but their further connection with their predecessors of the same surname in the Sutton estate is extremely obscure.

All that can be collected on the subject is given in the annexed note, and it can only be stated as certainty, that after the death of John Sutton of Sutton, found heir by the last inquisition, a representative of the family, either in the male or female line, succeeded, and that there is not reason for supposing that he succeeded otherwise than by inheritance^g.

^a MS. Vill. Cest.

^b See p. 35.

^c See the claims of the Foresters, p. 7.

^d Harl. MSS. 2040, p. 200. He was there first written *Ivo* by mistake, but the error is corrected in a note by one of the Randle Holmes.

^e See Gawsworth monuments in note p. 296. This Richard, whose son succeeded to Sutton 36 Edw. III. is confounded in Dugdale's church notes of Gawsworth, appended to his Visitation (MSS. Coll. Arm.) with sir Richard Sutton founder of Brasenose, temp. Hen. VIII. This is the earliest authority that has occurred for the arms of Sutton of Sutton, an official and family coat borne quarterly, (the latter of which appears to be formed upon the arms of Davenport, of whom the Suttons might possibly be a younger line. Subsequently the coats differed only in the form of the crosslets, (those of Sutton not being fitchy) but in some instances a further distinction is introduced, the *colours* of the Sutton coat being inverted, and the *field* instead of the *charge* being Sable.

^f See the will in Churton's "Founders of Brasenose," 545.

^g The entry in Vincent, D. 1. 14. Coll. Arm. is the only regular authority for sir Richard Sutton's descent, and the copies of it in Harl. MSS. 1505, 1535, 2040, 2113, 2187, only vary from this where they fall into manifest errors, whilst other volumes of Cheshire pedigrees, *ibid.* 2119, 2161, are silent on this topic. Lest, however, the author should be supposed in any degree to have slighted a subject of interest to every member of sir Richard Sutton's college, he has collated the entries in all these MSS. and the result is as follows. Harl. MSS. 2040, p. 200, was at first a copy of Glover, but afterwards the writer added, "from Mr. Booth's lib.," a pedigree which makes sir Richard Sutton son of John, the son of John Sutton, of Sutton, senr. and he stands in the MS. as son of *both* fathers. Harl. MSS. 1505, and 2113, pp. 66. 80, make sir William father of sir John, but omit his younger son sir Richard, the founder, altogether. Harl. MSS. 2187, gives a sir Richard as son of the master of "Overton Lazark," (Burton Lazarus) but makes him die in 1424, and further makes the said master, who died in 1491, son of Adam filius Alani, living 16 Edw. I. and calls him a priest! Booth's pedigree agrees pretty nearly with the one here given, excepting that he omits early collaterals, begins with Adam Fitz Alan, and makes John Sutton of Sutton (who died 12 Edw. IV.) father of the founder of Brasenose. Harl. MSS. 1535, follows Booth, excepting that it falls into the error noticed in Harl. MSS. 2187, of making the master of the hospital at Burton Lazarus son of Adam Fitz Alan, and makes his son sir Richard (the founder) his great grandson's great grandson. This tissue of errors was collated with the MSS. after the types were set up, to ensure perfect accuracy in shewing the worthlessness of all the known MS collateral documents on the subject.

That the second line were descended from the first is clear from their using two quarterings of the former line in addition to the official coat with the bugles, viz. the coat with the chevron and crosslets, and the Worsley coat. The official coat *only* was allowed in the Visitation of 1580 (after the lion coat, which then first appears for these Suttons, the said official coat being followed by the quarterings of Cholmondeley and Hubbard) according to Glover's copy, 1 D. 14. Coll. Arm. and another copy, Grosvenor MSS. xxi. 5. but in several of the copies in Harl. MSS. the crosslet coat and Worsley coat were inserted; they were both introduced also by the Moseleys (descended from an heir general of this family) in an achieve-

SECOND LINE OF SUTTON.

I. John, son of sir John Sutton, and nephew of the founder of Brasenose, the first of this line that appears to have possessed Sutton, was probably seized of it 8 Hen. VIII. as before mentioned, and certainly in 15 Hen. VIII. and to him the following inquisition relates.

Inq. p. m. 28 Hen. VIII. John Sutton, esq. held a capital messuage in Sutton, from the king as earl of Chester, by fealty only; val. xl.: also lands in Northwich, Davenham, Leftwich, Shipbrook, Bradford, Stanthorne, Faddiley, Middlewich, Hale, Barneton, Frodsham, Daresbury, Gropenhall, Disley, Cholmondeley, Egerton^h, and Anderton. Died Jan. 2, a^o p'd'to. Richard Sutton, next of kin and heir (grandson), aged 15 years; val. tot. xxxiiii. xixs.

II. *Inq. p. m.* 24 Eliz. Richard Sutton, esq. held the manors of Sutton and Anderton from the queen by fealty; val. xvii. xiifs. ivd.; also lands in Sutton, Dishley, Ranowe, Northwich, Wymyncham, Northwich, Wynington, Shibrock, Davenham, Stanthorne, Daresbury, Gropenhall, Aston, Hield, Pickmere, Barneton, Leigh, Faddiley, Egerton, Middlewich, Buerton, Macclesfield, Norton, and Kingsley, co. Cest. the manor of Chipnall, co. Salop, and lands in Harnesworth, co. Middlesex: died June 4, a^o p'd'to. Francis Sutton son and heirⁱ.

III. *Inq. p. m.* 26 Eliz. Francis Sutton, esq. held, as in the preceding inquisition; and died April 13, a^o p'd'to. Richard Sutton son and heir, aged upwards of 8 years.

IV. Richard Sutton, found heir by this inquisition, was slain at Chester in 1601. He had three sisters and coheireses, mentioned in the pedigree, the eldest of whom, Margaret wife of Philip Monckton, left issue Francis, who was found heir to his uncle by inquisition

44 Eliz.^j Dr. Williamson however states, with seeming correctness, that one part of the Sutton estate passed with the second sister Mary to sir Humphrey Davenport, lord chief baron of the exchequer, who bought the shares of the other two coheireses^k.

Towards the latter end of the seventeenth century, sir Rowland Belaysse, K.B. younger brother of Thomas earl of Fauconberg, married Anne, eldest daughter and sole heiress of James Davenport of Sutton^l, esq. (second son and heir of sir Humphrey), and died at Sutton in 1699, leaving issue Thomas, afterwards earl of Fauconberg, three younger sons, and two daughters^m.

The Sutton Hall estate is now (1819) vested in Elizabeth, second daughter and coheires of the late Henry earl of Fauconberg, who married Richard earl of Lucan after her divorce from her first husband, Bernard Edward Howard, esq. now duke of Norfolkⁿ.

Sutton Hall is situated about one mile south of Macclesfield, at the confluence of two small brooks which form one of the principal feeders of the Bollin, and is yet environed with stately trees. One wing only of the building is standing, which is chiefly built of timber and plaister, with gables and numerous irregular projections, and in this part remains the Hall, which has been lately fitted up as a modern drawing room. At the back of this wing is a massy substructure of stone, which appears to have supported one of the ponderous stacks of chimneys common in old mansions; and in front are some antient carved wooden figures at the angles, one of which represents a warrior in scale armour, with his mace. The rooms up stairs appear to have been small, but numerous; and one of them in 1817 retained its original floor of cement^o.

ment at Cheadle, Harl. MSS. 2151, 148, b. and the crosslet coat is quartered with the lion and the bugle coats in antient painted glass noticed in this volume at p. 90, and a monument described in a note in p. 331.

This then proves the descent of the second line from the first, but in all these cases the quarterings are preceded by a lion rampant queue furchée, as the *paternal* coat of Richard Sutton, who died 24 Eliz. which (if the herald was right) would derive him in the male line from the *Suttons, alias Dudleys**, then represented by the earl of Leicester, and make the second line of Suttons of Sutton seem to quarter the arms of the first in consequence of a *marriage with their heiress*.

It may however be questioned whether these later Suttons (though possibly a collateral male line of the first) did *not fail in technical proof* of their old family coat, the chevron and crosslets, in lieu of which the lion is substituted in the most authentic copies of the Visitation of 1580, in which case Flower, from interested motives, might persuade them to accept a grant of another coat, borne indeed by a family of similar name, but unconnected with the line of their predecessors. There is no proof of the lion being used by them before this Visitation, and the arms of sir Richard Sutton, as quartered by Brasenose, consist of the bugle and crosslet coats only. His seal itself cannot be quoted, as the author is informed by the principal of Brasenose that the bearings are no longer distinguishable; neither can the emblazoned surcoat on his picture in Brasenose hall, and the duplicate of it in the Picture Gallery at Oxford be referred to, as it is omitted in Parker's engraving of this portrait, and therefore appears to have been a later addition, and it is also incorrect in giving the Davenport crosslets for those of Sutton.

If the author's conjecture on this subject may be hazarded, it inclines to the last mentioned opinion, viz. that the later Suttons descended from the first in the male line, but could not prove their descent. He fully believes sir William Sutton to have been a younger brother of John Sutton of Sutton, who died 10 Hen. VII. and has connected them by a *dotted line* in the pedigree accordingly.

^h John Sutton had probably acquired these last mentioned estates with his wife Thomasin, daughter and heiress of William Cholmondeley, of Norton in Hales, co. Salop, with whom he had other estates in the counties of Worcester, Salop, and Gloucester. See deeds quoted in Churton's Founders of Brasenose, 413.

ⁱ The estates in the neighbourhood of Northwich held by this Richard Sutton, account for his donation of painted glass to Witton chapel in 1547. See p. 90, col. 2.

^j Wilcoxon's Abstract of Inquisitions. Grosvenor MSS.

^k MS. Villare Cest.

^l See pedigree of Davenport of Bramhall.

^m Collins's Peerage, VI. 179, ed. 1763; which is however incorrect in describing Anne Davenport as *daughter* of her *uncle* Humphrey. See Dugd. Vis. Cest. 1664.

ⁿ Lady Lucan died in 1819, whilst these sheets were going through the press.

^o After the elaborate memoir of sir Richard de Sutton, which has been composed by the biographer of the Founders of Brasenose, it would be frivolous to attempt to produce any thing new on the subject, but it would be equally ungrateful in a member of his college to omit all notice of that munificent founder, to whom more peculiarly the county, which is the subject of this work, has for three centuries owned such deep obligations. The facts, however, which have been recovered with respect to him are few. The place of his birth is unknown. He was a barrister, and afterwards governor of the Inner Temple, and in or before 1497 was made a member of the privy council. In 1513 he occurs as steward of Sion monastery, near Brentford, where he had chambers, and often resided; and from this place he named his "*Orebarde of Syon*," of which the reader will find an interesting account in Mr. Dibdin's edition of Ames, with a fac-simile of the curious title-page. His knighthood was conferred between May 14 Hen. VIII. and the year following. The joint design of the bishop of Lincoln and of sir Richard Sutton, with respect to their intended foundation, was known at Oxford in 1507, and the foundation stone of Brasenose was laid in 1509. On the 15th of Jan. 1511-12, the foundation charter received the confirmation of the royal signature, and the fellow-founder, the bishop of Lincoln, died Jan. 2, 1513-14. After this the principal waited on sir Richard Sutton to request his revision of the statutes, which were ratified by his seal 13 Hen. VIII. 1521-2.

Two years after this, sir Richard Sutton subscribed his will with "*his syke hand*," March 16, 15 Hen. VIII.; and before the end of the year an obituary mass was performed for him; but unless its commemoration, the Sunday after Michaelmas, may be supposed to be the time of decease, the exact day is unknown. His will was dated Nov. 7, 1524.

The place of his birth, as before-mentioned, is unknown. Mr. Churton, who was not aware of sir Richard's branch of the Suttons being only a

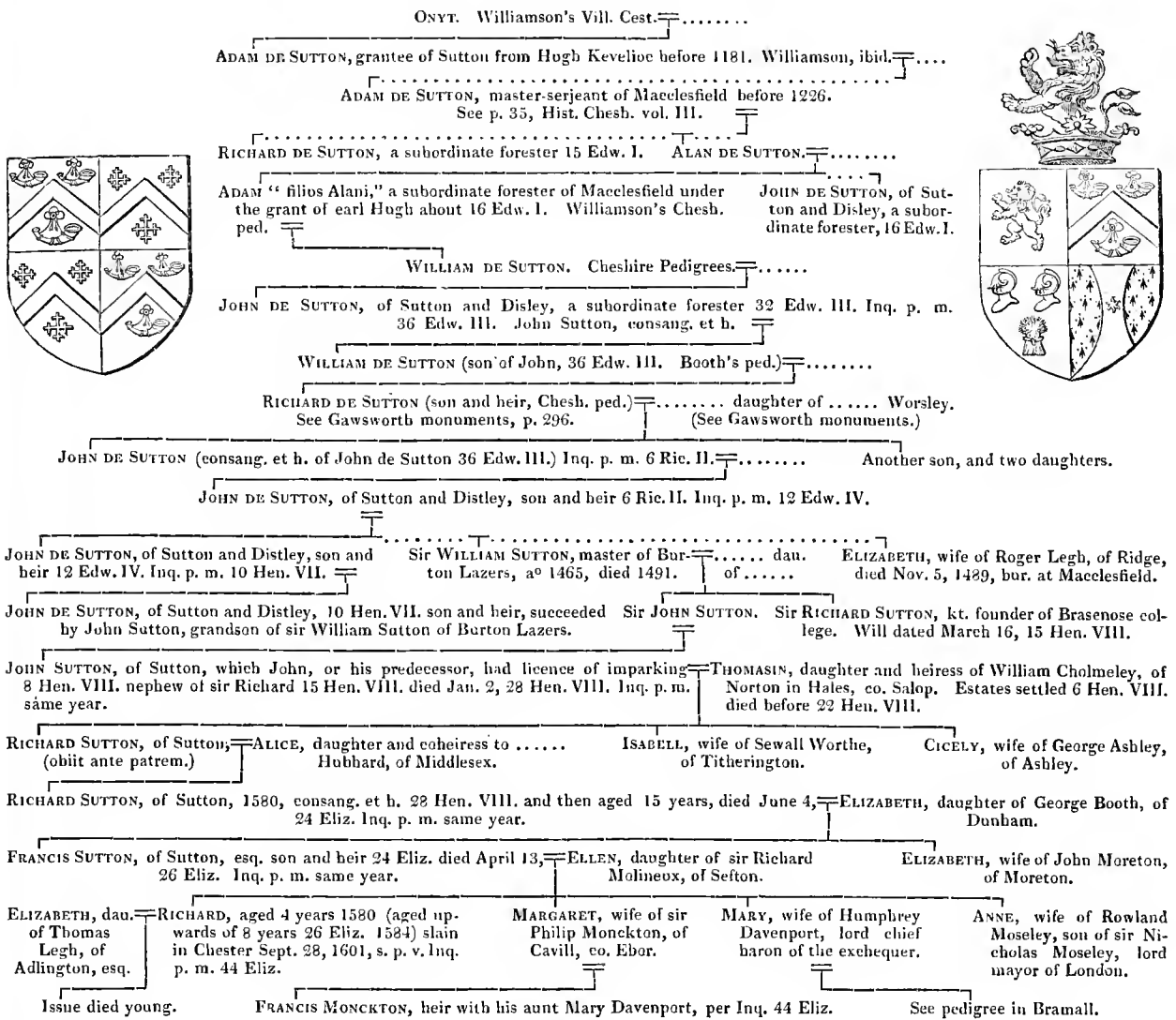
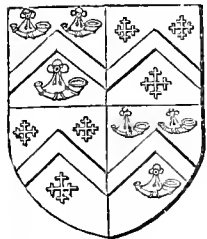
* The *SUTTONS* afterwards *Dudleys*, serjeants of the peace for Cheshire, and the *SUTTONS* alias *Mertons*, foresters of Delamere, have been confounded by several writers with the *Suttons of Sutton*. See their pedigrees, vol. II. pp. 333, and 96.

SUTTON OF SUTTON.

From abstracts of deeds, Inquisitions, and the Visitation of 1580.

ORIGINAL ARMS. Quarterly, 1 and 4, Argent, a chevron Sable between three bugles strung of the second. 2 and 3, a chevron between three crosslets, colours as before, but in some ancient instances inverted. COAT allowed to sir Richard Sutton's branch of this family in 1580. 1. Or, a lion rampant queue forcèd, Vert (for Sutton). 2. A chevron between three bogles as before. (Official coat of Sutton). 3. Cholmondeley, see Vol. II. p. 356. 4. Sable, between two flanches Ermine, a star of 6 points Argent. Hubbard.

CREST. Issuant out of a ducal coronet Or, a demi-lion rampant queue forcèd Vert.



Three other estates remain to be noticed in Sutton, which were held by services of free forestry.

HOGHLEGH, HEGHLEGH, or HEALIE, gave name to a family who held this place by forest service (under a charter from one of the earls Randle) and were represented by Richard de Hoghlegh 16 Edw. I.^p

The general Inq. 16 Edw. III. states, that the forestership of Hoghlegh, late held by Robert Foxwiste, escheated to the king by his felony, who granted the same (val. xxviii. viii.) to John Creswall for life. This

place passed to the Leghs of Lyme before 23 Eliz. as appears by the record of a swainmote court held in that year, in which sir Peter Legh occurs among the subordinate foresters in right of this estate; and it has subsequently passed with Lyme.

A part of the township, called Sutton Downes (mized antiently as *the vill of Downes*), occurs in the old Inquisitions as the manor of DOWNES, held by free forestry, together with Taxal, and gave name to that antient family. It is fully noticed in the inquisitions of the family

collateral line of this house, that succeeded *after the birth* of sir Richard, says, "born, it is believed, at the family seat of Sutton in the parish of Presbury." Fuller, quoting the information of his "good friend Dr. Yate, principal of Brasenose," says he was born at Prestbury. Whether, however, Cheshire and Prestbury were the native county and parish of sir Richard or not, they were certainly those of his adoption, the country where his remote ancestors flourished, where his parents were interred*, and where his family were re-established before his decease; and it may be added that they composed the district to which his affectionate regard ordered the principal and fellows of his college to shew that preference in their elections, which his friend the bishop of Lincoln had directed to be shewn to what are supposed to be the place of *his* nativity, the parish of Prescot and the county of Lancaster.

^p For the forest tenures, see p. 280.

* There is at least a strong probability that they were interred at Macclesfield. Sir Richard Sutton ordered a chantry to be endowed at Macclesfield or Sutton, and appointed "an obit or yeris minde to be kept for him and also for his father and mother at Macclesfield, and also that certain grauties be distributed to the master of the grammar seole." See Churton's Founders, p. 454.

of Downes of Taxal. One part of this estate is supposed to have passed with Sutton Hall to the countess of Luncan⁹, and another part to William Smyth, esq. with the estates of the Leghs of Ridge⁹.

The THIRD ESTATE held here by forest tenure, was vested in the Dicons. By Inq. 38 Hen. VI. John, son of Roger Dicon of Sutton, held in fee here, a mess. and lands, and one bailywick or forestership in Macclesfield from Henry IV. late king of England, by military service. This must have been a portion of the lands held by forest service by the Stanleghs of Stanlegh in Disley, who were succeeded by the Dicons before the general inquisition 18 Edw. III. (see p. 280.) Before 23 Eliz. the Dicons had been succeeded by the Savages.

LANGLEY HALL in Sutton lies about half a mile N. N. E. of Sutton Hall, on the bank of a small rivulet in a sequestered valley, and is an antient respectable building of stone. For many generations it was the property and residence of the family of Clowes of Langley, which was "lineally descended from the Clowes's of Whiteleigh, in the neighbouring township of Wincle.

"William Clowes the great grandson of Richard Clowes of Whiteleigh, married in 1651 Katherine, daughter of Robert Yeveley of Langley, gent. and by that marriage acquired Langley.

"Robert Clowes, the grandson of the above named William, married Hannah Salt, daughter of George Salt of Betley, in the county of Stafford, gent. by whom he had issue three sons and several daughters; the sons, viz. Robert, William, and George, married the three co-

heiresses of John Daniell of Daresbury, esq. according to their several seniorities.

"The first-named Robert devised Langley to his son Robert, who devised the same to his brother William, and again he devised it to his eldest son (the late) Charles Clowes, esq. who in or about the year 1808 sold the same to Mr. David Yates, the present proprietor, 1817."^r

In this township also is RIDGE, which vested in a younger branch of the Leghs of Lyme, by marriage with the heiress of Alcocke about the time of Hen. VI. The pedigree of this branch, which has been sometimes confounded with the Leghs (afterwards Macclesfields) of Macclesfield and Bosley, is subjoined.

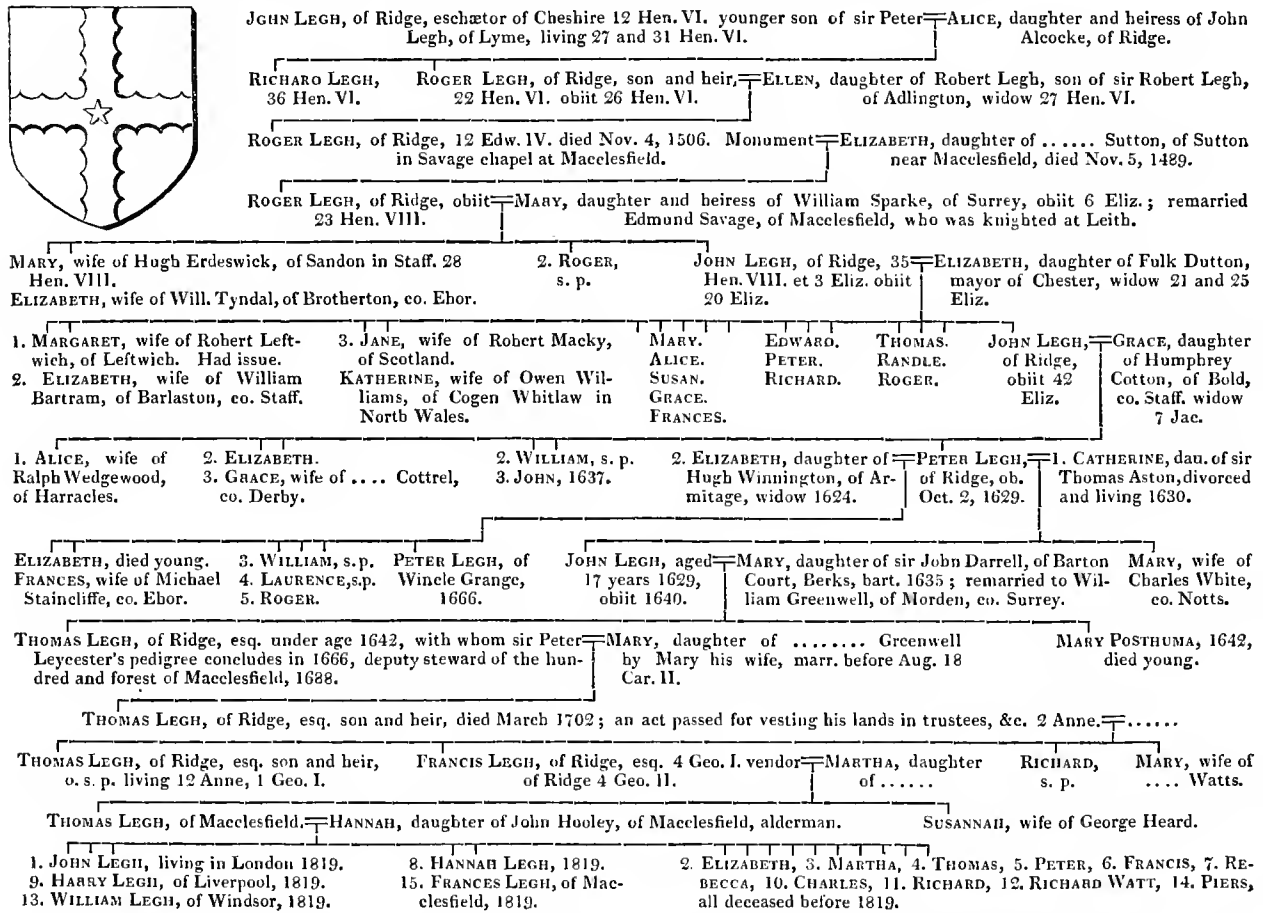
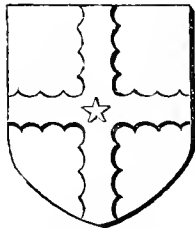
In 2 Anne an act passed for vesting the estate of Thomas Legh, late of Ridge, esq. deceased, in trustees, for payment of his debts, &c. &c. on the petition of Thomas, Francis, Richard, and Mary Legh, infants, by Mary Greenwell, widow, their great-grandmother and guardian.

4 Geo. II. June 4, Francis Legh (before-mentioned) suffers a recovery of the Ridge estate, and then surrenders the same to Will. Norton, of Buxton, gent. to whom it appears to have been previously mortgaged. After the death of William Norton, M.D. (son of the first named William Norton) the said estate passed to his last surviving sister, Anne Norton, and, by her bequest, to his great nephew William Smyth, esq. professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge, in whom it is now vested, 1819.

LEGH OF RIDGE.

Compiled from family deeds by sir Peter Lyecester to 1666, and continued from court rolls and the information of the family, by David Browne, esq.

ARMS as Legh of Lyme (without the honorary escocheon), in the centre point a mullet Sable⁹.



⁹ Information of David Browne, esq.

^r Communicated by the late Charles Clowes, esq. 1817.

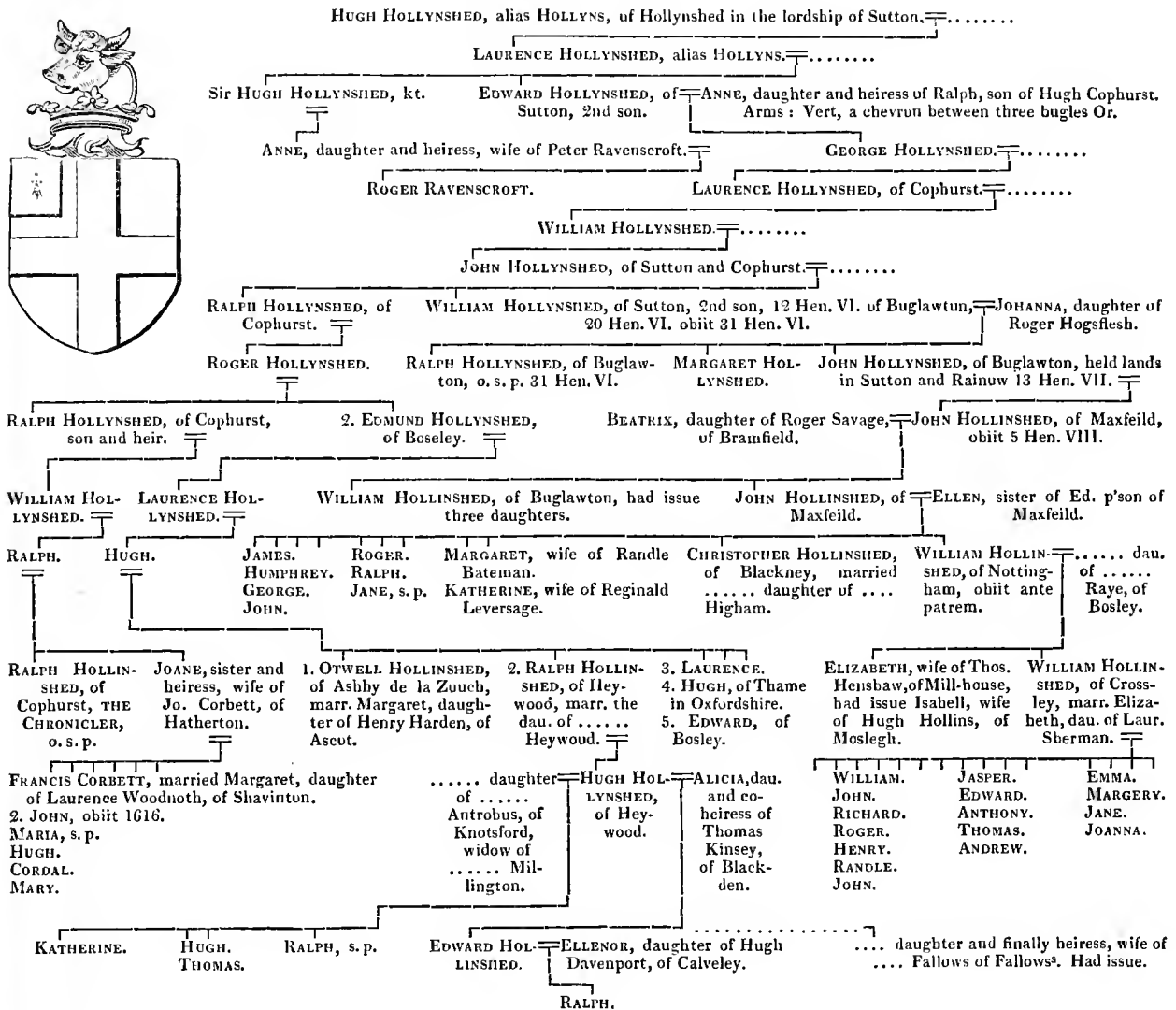
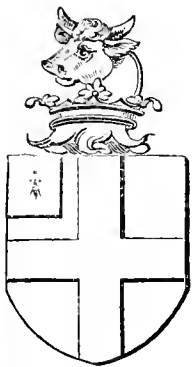
^s With reference to the old pedigrees, which make the first Legh of Ridge a younger brother instead of younger son of the first Legh of Lyme, and consequently a *third* brother of the Adlington family.

HOLLINS, or Hollinshed, in Sutton, gave name, about the time of Henry III. to a family of which Booth has given the following pedigree :

HOLLINSHED OF HOLLINSHED.

ARMS. Argent, a cross Sable, canton Ermine.

CREST. A bull's head erased, ducally gorged, colours unknown.



The male line, as appears by this pedigree, after the early extinction of the eldest branch, was continued by the Hollinsheds of *Cophurst*, also in Sutton, a bleak elevated ridge, forming one of the first links in the chain of hills, which shortly afterwards rises in Shutlingslow, and then connects itself with the line of the Peak. The male line of this branch terminated in Raphaell Hollinshed the Chronicler^t, a name which most people will place in the bead-roll of Cheshire fame, immediately above that of sir Peter Leycester, and only below those of sir Hugh Calveley and viscount Brackley. The historian appears to have possessed the Cophurst estate, and was most probably born there.

The Hollinsheds of Bosley also noticed in the pedigree, removed to Heywood in Alderley, after marrying the heiress of the Heywoods of that place, and terminated in an heir general, about the beginning of the eighteenth century, who married into the family of Fal-

lows of Fallows Hall in that parish. From the other lines numerous families of the name, yet existing in this part of Cheshire, have probably descended. The Hollinsheds of Wheelock, whose connection with the parent stock is uncertain, terminated in the last century in an heiress, who married Peter Brooke of Mere, esq.

The Hollins was the property of John Stonehewer, esq. late of Foden Bank in this township, and is now vested in his descendants.

Cophurst was sold by the late colonel Legh of Lyme to Mr. James Bullock, who devised it in parcels to his son^u.

Last in the list of minor estates in Sutton, may be noticed the OAK, situated two miles south of Macclesfield, to the right of the road to Leek, for many years the residence of a branch of the Ardernes, descended from Philip Arderne, a younger son of Ralph Arderne of Harden and Alvanley, esq. by the coheirress of the Dones of

^s Information of John Glegg, esq. who purchased the Fallows estate in Blackden.

^t *Raphaell* in the title-page of his works, but *Ralph* in Booth's pedigree, and the latter appears to have been the family name. The editor of the Biographical Dictionary erroneously deduces him from the Hollinsheds of Bosley. Hugh Hollinshed his uncle was one of the original trustees of Macclesfield school. See p. 366.

^u Information of David Browne, esq.

Utkinton. His son, James Arderne, was the godson and favourite nephew of his namesake the dean of Chester, and for him the estates are traditionally said to have been intended, which were finally bequeathed, in consequence of some pique, to the Dean and Chapter of Chester. In the division of the estates of this branch of the Ardernes, the Oak passed to the youngest coheir of John Arderne, Martha wife of the rev. P. Mere, vicar of Prestbury, who left two daughters and

coheireses. In consequence of a recent partition, the Oak estate is now vested in David Davies, D. D. in right of his late wife Frances Mere, the youngest coheir^x.

The general surface of ground in Sutton partakes of the character of the adjacent mountainous district; it is enriched by a sufficiency of trees in the valleys nearer Macclesfield, but becomes bleak and desolate as it approaches the boundary of Derbyshire.

TOWNSHIPS EAST, NORTH-EAST, AND SOUTH-EAST OF MACCLESFIELD.

Six townships remain to be noticed, situated as above-mentioned with reference to Macclesfield, and consisting chiefly of moorish hills, or reclaimed pastures divided by stone walls, differing little in appearance from the moors adjacent. Some portions have been brought into good cultivation, and agricultural improvements are gaining ground fast in the neighbourhood; but the only varieties in the greater part of the district are modern plantations of firs inclosed with stone walls, or a few detached acres of meadow, parted with luxuriant hedge-rows, at the sides of the clear brooks which sparkle in the valleys. These townships are, WINCLE, KETTLESHULME, HURDSFIELD, and RAINOW, which are chiefly copyhold, and WILDBOARCLOUGH and MACCLESFIELD FOREST, which belong solely to the earl of Derby. In the centre of this district (within Wildboarclough) rises Shutlingslow, a hill whose summit presents to the eye the appearance of a huge natural tumulus, which is a conspicuous object in most parts of the surrounding counties.

WINCLE lies south-east of Sutton, on the edge of Staffordshire. The monks of Combermere had a grange here, which was valued in the Taxation of Pope Nicholas at 10s. per ann. (the stock upon it being four times the value of the land); and in the general valuation 26 Hen. VIII. at LIIIS. IVD. per ann. After the dissolution this grange passed with Combermere to the Cottons; and by a late purchase passed to the father of the present proprietor, John Smith Daintry, esq. The tenure in Wincle is exclusively copyhold.

Under a steep hill in this township, to the right of the road from Congleton to Buxton, is the CHAPEL OF WINCLE. In the time of bishop Gastrell, there was neither communion table nor pulpit, but a reading-desk at the east end of the Chapel, and no font; children had nevertheless been baptized, but the sacrament had never been administered. The chapel was "a very handsome one," and the church-yard was used for burials, in consequence of a licence granted by bishop Hall, according to the traditional "report of an old man." There was no salary for a minister, the inhabitants paying what they pleased for preaching "when there is any, but there has been none for half a year past. May 16, 1717."—Gastrell MS. Not. Cest.

The Chapel, which has been rebuilt with stone, and is now undergoing considerable repairs, retains a few fragments of painted glass from the former building, and an uncouth couplet over the entrance. The curacy is in the gift of the vicar of Prestbury, and was returned by the bishop of Chester in 1809, as being of the yearly value of £49. 10s. per ann. arising from augmentation and surplice fees.

WILDBOARCLOUGH is a district totally uninteresting, a series of moors stretching between Shutlingslow, and the edge of Derbyshire, one of the roads through which is partly the bed of a stream, almost inaccessible to any but the natives in the midst of summer.

To the north of this is FOREST, or MACCLESFIELD LE FOREST, seated high among the hills, to the right of the

road from Macclesfield to Buxton, near the point where two vales severally branch off through Wildboarclough and Sutton, towards Wincle and Macclesfield. The village consists of a few antient cottages of grey stone, and the Chapel, a low long building of the same material, fitted up with oak benches. The earl of Derby is patron, and sole proprietor of this and the preceding township.

In bishop Gastrell's time there was "no certain maintenance for a minister, only some small allowance from lord Derby, and the inhabitants of the townships, when any body preached there." The chapel was "not consecrated." In 1809 the bishop of Chester returned the yearly value as amounting to £64. 17s. arising from augmentation, seat rents, interest of benefactions, surplice fees, and official house, valued at £22. per ann.

HURDSFIELD and KETTLESHULME, almost exclusively copyhold^y, present nothing worthy of notice, with the exception of Swansco Park in the former, which was held by the earls of Derby, before the great rebellion, as an appendage of the stewardship of the Forest; it was afterwards in the Breretons of Honford, who acquired it by the intrusion of sir William Brereton during the civil wars, but retained it as late as 1667^z. After passing through various hands it was purchased many years ago by Messrs. Thomas Ward and Thomas Wardle of Macclesfield, and is now the property of Mr. Thomas Ward, the purchaser's grandson. Part of the old park wall is still standing. A singular instance of longevity occurred in this township in the person of Margaret Broadhurst, who is said to have been living in 1711, at the great age of 140 years^b.

RAINOW is situated about two miles north-east of Macclesfield, on the road to Chapel en le Frith. At this point the Roman road from Manchester to Buxton is supposed to have met with another line of road proceeding from Chester and Condote, and it is not improbable (as mentioned in the introduction to the hundred) that some minor station may have existed in its immediate neigh-

^x See the pedigree of Arderne of the Oak, vol. II. p. 135. This estate is usually called the Great Oak, in contradistinction from the Broad Oak estate adjacent, which is also the property of Dr. Davies by purchase.

^y With the exception only of one freehold tenement in the former, which belongs to lord Derby.

^z See deeds in Handford.

^b See Hearne's edit. of Leland's Itinerary, for a letter from the rev. Francis Brokesby, vol. VI.

bourhood. The place is at present a considerable village, built with stone, composed chiefly of manufactories, and the houses of the people employed therein, and containing a Chapel, rebuilt of late years. The patronage belongs to the vicar of Prestbury.

In 1809 the bishop of Chester returned the yearly value of this curacy £17. per ann. proceeding from augmentation and surplice fees. The Registers begin in 1765.

In front of Rainow to the west is the long monotonous line of Kerridge Hill, the first syllable of which, an obvious corruption of *Caer*, had possibly some reference to the works before mentioned^a. The other side of the township on the east extends into the wild country towards Taxal, commanding a long series of steep hills, and unpicturesque barrenness, consisting of large tracts of moors divided into sheep-walks by stone walls, but seldom rising into bold crags or precipices. Most of the valleys are watered by small brooks, and the prospect is a little varied by a few ash trees on their banks.

In one of the most desolate parts of this district is JENKIN OR SALTERSFORD CHAPEL (consisting of a belfry, turret, a body, and chancel, built with grey stone), which was erected near Jenkin's Cross, by the inhabi-

tants in or about 1739, and is in the patronage of the vicar of Prestbury.

The value of the curacy was returned by the bishop of Chester in 1809 as £61. 7s. 9d. arising from augmentation, interest of benefactions, seat rents, and surplice fees. The Registers begin in 1770.

Below the Chapel is a deep dingle, in which near the bank of a small rivulet is SALTERSFORD HALL, an antient stone mansion, varying little in present appearance from the adjacent farm-houses, and said to have been built in 1594^b. James Stopford, gent. of this place, and of Bate Hall in Macclesfield, was a general in the Parliament's army in Ireland, where he acquired large estates, and fixed his chief residence at Tarah Hill in the county of Meath^b. In his descendant, the present earl of Courtown, the Saltersford Hall estate is now vested, and he derives therefrom his English title of baron Saltersford of Saltersford.

In the southern part of the township is another antient stone mansion, called the ONE HOUSE, which for many generations has been the residence of the Hulleyes, who not improbably represent a younger branch of the Hoghleghs of Taxall, one of the nine families which held lands by forest service in Macclesfield forest in the reign of Edward the First^c.

POTT SHRIGLEY.

It is generally allowed that at an early period the principal estate in this township belonged to the Shrigleys, from whom the place received its additional name, and from whom a collateral line of the same name is said to have descended, which continued settled at Beristow in this township in the seventeenth century; and it is also supposed, with great probability, that the daughter and heiress of the last of the direct line was one of the wives which are deficient in the early part of the following pedigree of Downes of Shrigley. This estate appears to have been further increased by the purchases of William Downes, third in the pedigree, temp. Edw. III. and by a grant of waste to William Downes his son.

Roger de Downes, grandson of William, married the heiress of the family of Hulme, with whom, as mentioned in the account of Worth, he had that manor and lands in Upton, held by forest service; after which period the Downeses of Shrigley occur constantly among the eight subordinate foresters of Macclesfield, in which number was also included the kindred family of Downes of Taxall. The issue of this marriage is the subject of the following inquisitions:

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Robert del Downes, esq. held in demesne the Ratones field in Upton, by forest service, and other lands therein, and in Pouwington (Poynton), Adlington, and Macclesfield. Robert Downes son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 5 Hen. VII. Robert del Downes, esq. held,

as in the last inquisition; also the manor of Shrigley, cum pert. from the king as earl of Chester, in socage, by the render of LXs. per ann. Robert Downes son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 11 Hen. VII. Robert Downes held as in the last inquisition; and also other lands in Bolynton, all which lands Robert, father of the said Robert, had given to Emma, daughter of Roger de Boothe. Roger Downes son and heir.

Roger Downes found heir by this inquisition, who is further noticed in the following pedigree, was succeeded by his grandson of the same name.

Inq. p. m. 1 and 2 Ph. and Mary. Roger Downes, esq. held lands in Poynton, Upton, Stockport, Adlington, Taxall, and Bradbury; and XIII. s. 1vd. rent in Torkinton: and died May 2 a^o p^d'to. Robert Downes son and heir.

This Robert being disinherited, or having determined not to marry, as mentioned in the pedigree, joined in the settlement of the family estates on his brother's marriage, who left issue Roger, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz. Roger Downes of Shrigley, esq. held lands in Poynton, Taxall, Adlington, Upton, Macclesfield, and Pot Shrigley^d; val. tot. vii. vs. vii. : died Jan. 4 last past. Lawrence Downes son and heir, aged 10 years and 5 months.

From this period the following pedigree brings down the descent of Shrigley to its late proprietor Edward Downes, esq. the 19th in male descent from Robert de Downes, who assumed his local name from Downes in

^a Kerridge hill lies partly in Rainow and partly in Bollington (p. 350), the boundary wall of which ranges along the top from north to south. On the Bollington side great quantities of good stone, flags, and slate, are got and worked there, and then sent to Macclesfield and its vicinity, and to Stockport, and Congleton, and into Staffordsbire. These quarries were formerly leased by the crown to the corporation of Macclesfield, but were afterwards allotted to the antient enclosed lands, in pursuance of an act of parliament 1 Car. I. entitled an act for the enabling and confirmation of an agreement or composition made between the king's majesty's commissioners of revenue, and his majesty's copyholders of his highness' manor of Macclesfield, co. Cest. and of a decree made in the exchequer of Chester. Information of D. Browne, esq.

^b Information of the late Gamaliel Lloyd, esq.

^c The tenure of this township is copyhold, with the exception of those portions called Harrop and Saltersford, which severally belong to the earls of Derby and Courtown, and are freehold.

^d These were held of the king as of his manor of East Greenwich, and consequently appear to have been the lands attached to the dissolved chantry of Shrigley.

Sutton, in the reign of king John, and who was common ancestor of the TAXAL and SHRIGLEY branches of this antient family^b. Mr. Downes has lately sold all his Shrigley and adjacent property to Mr. William Turner of Mill Hill, near Blackburn in Lancashire, in whom the same is now vested 1819^c.

The hall of Shrigley stands on an elevation, among grounds which are well timbered, and possess very considerable inequalities of surface, gradually rising behind the mansion into the mountainous range of hills towards Lyme. The house has been altered at various periods, but retains the gables of the roof, and in several instances the heavy mullions of the windows: in the interior the antient Hall is also preserved, and has experienced little alteration.

At a short distance from the gates is the Chapel of Pott Shrigley, situated at the junction of several valleys, in a wooded dingle. It consists of a handsome embattled stone tower, containing three bells, a nave with side aisles, and a chancel. The side aisles are divided from the nave by two pointed arches on each side.

On the south side of the chancel is a memorial of a gallant officer, Peter Downes, a midshipman of the Leander, son of Peter Downes, esq. and Elizabeth-Anne his wife, who was born at Butley 9 Sept. 1778, and died 18 Aug. 1798. He received a mortal wound the preceding day, in the action between the Leander and the *Geneux*, near Candia, having greatly distinguished himself in the action by his services, for which he received the thanks of his commander sir Thomas Boulden Thompson.

The roofs of the nave and chancel are of painted oak, and in the east window are the remains of some antient glass. The general appearance of the chapel (with the exception of the pews) has more resemblance to that of a collegiate chapel than a country church, from the style of decoration with which it has recently been fitted up by the late patron. The neatness of the exterior fully corresponds with the internal arrangements.

In Harl. MSS. 2151, are notes of this chapel, taken Ap. 17, 1589, which mention in the east window a figure of a female kneeling before a desk, between these coats. To the right, Argent, a saltier engrailed Gules; and to the left the same coat ranged paleways, with two others, viz. 2. Argent, a lion rampant Sable, and 3. Gules, three lions passant gardant Or within a bordure Argent. The first and last coat were repeated in another part of the window. Underneath "Orate pro bono statu d'ne Johanne Inglithorpe, que hanc fenestram fieri fecit anno D'ni —."

On the south side of the chancel, a figure kneeling, in a gown, with these arms for Downes: Sable, a stag lodged Argent, within a bordure Or, semée of quatrefoils Sable; underneath "Orate pro bone valence, *Galfridi Downes qui istam capellam fieri fecit.*"

On the north side the same coat twice, singly, and

impaling Shrigley, viz. Sable, a chevron Argent between three legs coupé of the second.

This Geoffry Downes, founder of this chantry or chapel, was younger brother of Robert Downes of Shrigley, and died about 7 Hen. VII. in which year his will is dated. The lands with which the chapel was endowed were seized on by the Crown when the chantry was dissolved, and, according to bishop Gastrel, would in his time have been worth £200 per ann.^d These estates, or a portion of them were, as already mentioned, afterwards held under the Crown by the Downes family; and in 1566, the two ejected chantry priests were living on the following pensions^e:

Pencio Hugo's Turnor unius cantarist' nup' cant' in capell' vocat' Downes Chaple, al's Potte Chaple, p' ann' 1111. xivs. 1xd.

Rad'hi Ramshawe unius alter' cantar' ibid'm p' ann' cs.

In 1809 the bishop of Chester returned the annual value of this chapel (the patronage of which has descended with the Shrigley Hall estates) as £43. 16s. 3d. arising from augmentation, stipend, interest of benefactions, glebe, official house (£6. 19s.) seat rents, and surplice fees.

BERISTOW HALL and POTT HALL in this township, which were included in the sale of Shrigley Hall and its dependencies, were purchased by the present Mr. Downes, from James Beech, esq. of Shaw, near Chedle in Staffordshire^f. The first of these was the residence of the Shrigleys of Beristow, who were probably a younger branch of the predecessors of the Downes family in the Shrigley Hall estate, and who are traced in the Cheshire pedigrees to Reginald de Shrigley, temp. Hen. VI. and remained seated here until the middle

of the seventeenth century, when they sold their estate^g. They bore Sable, a chevron Argent, between three legs coupé at the knee of the second.

POTT HALL was the seat of a family which assumed its local name from the township, and bore for arms Azure, two bars Or, over all a bend of the second. Crest, on a wreath, a wild cat sciant, collared and chained Or.

Edmund Pott of Pott, aged 23 years at the visitation of 1663-4, according to the Cheshire pedigrees, was fifth in descent from Roger Pot, who resided on the edge of Taxall. This family is believed to have ended in the direct line in coheiresces; and another family of similar name, now represented by Henry Potts, of Chester,



esq. is traditionally said to be descended from it, and alienated an estate in the township in the last century^h.

^b The two branches severally descend from Edmund (or Edward) and William Downes, sons of the second Robert Downes. Edmund in the Shrigley pedigree is said to be *second* son, but on what authority does not appear. He had his father's manors of Downes and Taxal, and his forestership, whereas the issue of William settled at Shrigley, which came partly by marriage and partly by purchase, and bore formerly (as appears by the following church notes) a border semée of quatrefoils for difference.

The following pedigree of Downes of Downes and of Overton in Taxall, is arranged from the Inqs. p. m. with additions from deeds and Booth's pedigrees, and Harl. MSS. 2161, and that of Downes of Shrigley and Worth from a pedigree copied by sir Francis Leycester, bart. from an original roll out of the evidences of Edward Downes, esq. 1730, by the rev. H. Richardson, and now in the possession of Edward Downes, esq. and continued from his information.

In Harl. MSS. 2142, p. 138, are several notes by Randle Holme relative to the connection of the Shrigley branch with those of Warford, Chorley, and Wardley; and in Harl. MSS. 2161, 175 C. is a singular letter from Mr. James Downes of Shrewsbury in 1663, who, together with Randle Holme, had fallen under sir W. Dugdale's displeasure, by an attempt to connect himself with the Shrigley family by an erroneous pedigree.

^c Information of Edward Downes, esq.

^d Gastrel, Not. Cest.

^e Original pension roll in possession of Mr. Sharpe of Coventry.

^f Information of Edward Downes, esq.

^g Harl. MSS. 2010, in a Villare of 1662.

^h Information of Henry Potts, esq. A parcel of land which is now the property of Mr. Potts, and lies waste, was reserved when his ancestor sold Cockshutt Hey, the estate above-mentioned. Information of D. Browne, esq.

DOWNES OF DOWNES AND TAXAL, AND DOWNES OF SHRIGLEY AND WORTH.

ARMS. Sable, a hart lodged Argent. The Shrigley branch bore antiently for difference a hordure Or, semée of quatrefoils Sable. See p. 378.



ROBERT DE DOUNIS, temp. reg. Johann. et Hen. 3^{ti}, had lands in Macclesfield and Upton, living 30 Hen. III.

MARGERY, sister of Edward Fitton, of Bollin, who gave to her his lands in Chorley. ... ROBERT DE DOWNES, son and heir, lord of Downes in Sotton, and of Taxal, and a forester of Macclesfield forest, 16 Edw. I. dau. of ... 2nd wife.

MAUD, daughter and heiress to her mother, 2nd wife of William de Madborlegh, lord of a moiety of Mobberley, by whom she had female issue. ... EDMUND DOUNES, of Doones and Taxal, a forester of the forest of Macclesfield 18 Edw. III. ... MARGERY, daughter and heiress of Roger Trassel, of Macclesfield. ... WILLIAM DE DOWNES, purchased lands in Shrigley anno 1313, living 1 Edw. III. when the royalty of Bollington was granted to him by sir Hugh Dutton. ... MAUDE, dau. of ...

EDMUND DEL DOUNES, of Doones and Taxal, son and heir, Inq. p. m. 50 Edw. III. ... ROBERT, eldest son, married Agnes, fourth daughter and coheir of William de Tablegh, a forester of Macclesfield, o. s. p. 16 Edw. III. ... WILLIAM DE DOWNES, 2nd son and heir, had a grant of 20 acres of waste land in Shrigley 15 Edw. III. and was fined 20^l. for trespasses 19 Edw. III. ... 3. HENRY. 4. JOHN. 5. PETER. 6. THOMAS.

EDMUND DEL DOUNES, of Doones and Taxal, son and heir, Inq. p. m. 23 Ric. II. ... WILLIAM DE DOWNES, stiled of Shrigley 36 Edw. III. living 8 Ric. II. ... ALICE DE PRESTBURY, survived to the 24th Hen. VI. ... MARGERY, wife of Edward de Upton, SYBELLA, wife of Richard de Newton.

JOHN DE DOUNES, of Doones and Taxal, son and heir, Inq. p. m. 15 Hen. VI. ... ANNE, daughter of ... Brydde. ... ROBERT DE DOWNES, son and heir, obit 38 Hen. VI. per Inq. ... ALICE, daughter to sir Gilbert de Haydock, 2 Hen. V. ... AGNES, wife of John Shaleross, of Shaleross. wife of Thomas Smethwick, of Smethwick. ... GEOFFREY DOWNES.

REGINALD DOUNES, of Doones and Taxal, son and heir, 15 Hen. VI. ... daughter of ... ROBERT DE DOWNES, son and heir, obit 5 Hen. VII. per Inq. ... JOHN, father of John, Thomas, and Geoffry.

RICHARD DOWNES, of Downes and Taxal, son and heir, Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VIII. ... MARGERY. ... ROBERT DE DOWNES, son and heir, Inq. p. m. 5 and 11 Hen. VII. ... EMMA, of EMMOTE, daughter of Roger de Bothe. ... GEOFFREY DOWNES, founder of the chapel REGINALD. ... wife of ... W. Fitton, of Carden.

JOHN DOWNES, of Downes and Taxal, son and heir, 4 Hen. VIII. ... ANNE, daughter of John Pigott, of Chetwynd, co. Salop. ... ROGER DOWNES, son and heir, paid his fine for not being knighted 19 Hen. VII. died before 19 Hen. VIII. ... HELEN, dau. to ... EMMOTE, wife of ... de Bradley. HELEN.

1. REGINALD DOWNES, of Downes and Taxall 1566, marr. Jane, daughter of George Trafford, of Garratt Hall, s. p. l. ... 2. HUMPHREY DOWNES. ... PETER, third son, married Isabell, dau. of Thomas Scott Bothill, of Yeo. ... JOYCE, wife of Hugh Grey, of Downes. ... 2. LAURENCE. 3. PIERS. 4. RICHARD. 5. THOMAS. 6. NICHOLAS. ... ROBERT DOWNES, son and heir, died before 12 Hen. VIII. in the life of his father. ... PARNEL, dau. of Thomas Davenport, of Henbury. ... CHRISTOPHER, a priest in Cambridgeshire. GEOFFREY, chancellor of York. A dau. wife of John Wetenhall, of Coppenball.

ROGER. ANNE. REGINALD DOWNES, heir to his uncle, died July 26, 1610, Inq. p. m. 10 Jac. I. ... HUMPHREY. ... ROGER DOWNES, heir to his grandfather, obit May 2, 1553, Inq. p. m. 1 and 2 Phil. and Mar. ... HELEN, daughter to Laurence Warren, esq. 12 Hen. VIII. ... CHRISTOPHER, a priest.

JOHN DOWNES, of Downes and Taxall, son and heir, aged 14 years 1610, marr. Sarah, dau. of Edw. Thornicroft, of Siddington, and had female issue. ... EDMUND DOWNES, patron of Taxall church 1660, marr. 1643, Barbara, dau. of Rowland Smith, of Waterford. ... ROBERT, eldest son, disinherited, "or would not marry, as he joynd in his brother's settlement." ... LAURENCE DOWNES, of Shrigley, obit 6 Eliz. 1564. ... ELIZABETH, sister to sir Piers Legh, of Lyme, 5 Edw. VI. ... 1. DOROTHY. 2. CATHERINE. 3. SYBELL. 4. MARGARET. 5. ELIZABETH, wife of ... Sewell, of London, mercant. 8. JANE. 9. MARGERY.

2. EDMUND. ... 1. REGINALD DOWNES, patron of Taxall church 1672-1690. Alienates the manor of Taxall 1691. ... 1. ELIZABETH, daughter of Thomas Stanley, of Alderley, esq. ... ROGER DOWNES, son and heir, served many years in the army in Ireland, ob. Jan. 14, 44 Eliz. Inq. p. m. same year; married 2ndly, ... daughter of ... 3. ANNE, dau. of John Warren, of ... esq. remarried William Davenport, of Woodford.

EDMUND DOWNES, son and heir apparent 1691. ... FRANCIS. MARGARET, wife of Philip Worth, of Titherington, remar. to sir Hugh Beeston. ... DOROTHY, wife of John, a younger son of Warren of Poynton. ... MARY, wife of Thomas Hampton, gent. ... LAURENCE DOWNES, of Shrigley, esq. son and heir, obit 1635. ... MARGARET, dau. of Robert Duckenfield, of Duckenfield. ... WILLIAM. THOMAS. RANDLE. ROBERT.

WILLIAM DOWNES, married Mary, daughter of ... Birkenhead, of Manley, by whom he had Mary, who died an infant. ... ELIZABETH, daughter of John Lightbourne, and widow of Francis Lindley, co. Ebor. ... EDWARD DOWNES, esq. 6th son, became heir to his brothers, born anno 1630. ... ELIZABETH, daughter of John Shalleross, of Shalleross. ... 3. GEOFFREY, o. s. p. 4. LAURENCE, o. s. p. 1662. 5. ROGER, a fellow of Brasenose college, Oxon. MARY, and other daughters.

LAURENCE, o. s. p. ... MARGARET. ELEANOR. ANNE. ... EDWARD DOWNES, of Shrigley, esq. son and heir, born 1662, living 1731. ... SARAH, daughter of Robert Assheton, of the co. of Derby, brought with her the manor of Nether Padley there. ... THOMAS, o. s. p. ELIZABETH, wife of Thomas Lander, of Newhall, co. Lanc. Had issue.

EDWARD DOWNES, of Shrigley, esq. son and heir, died August 4, 1748, bur. at Prestbury. ... BRIDGET, daughter of Philip Egerton, D. D. second son of sir Philip Egerton, of Egerton and Olton, kt. buried at Manchester. ... ELIZABETH, died unmarried. SARAH, wife of William Watts, of Batleigh.

1. JOHN DOWNES, eldest son and heir, seized of Shrigley, died unmarr. Mar. 2, 1764. ... 2. PETER DOWNES, heir to his brother, died at Batley, buried at Prestbury. ... ELIZABETH ANNE, dau. of John Craven, of the city of London, merchant, died at Batley, and was bur. at Prestbury. ... 1. SARAH, died an infant. 2. FRANCES, died at Bath, unmarried, 1812. 3. BRIDGET, died unmarried. 4. ELIZABETH, wife of William Birtles, of Stockport, attorney at law. ... 5. MARGARET, wife of Will. Starkie, of Manchester, surgeon. 6. CHRISTIANA, wife of Thos. Starkie, of Frenchwood, near Prestm, esq.

EDWARD DOWNES, of Shrigley, in the co. of Chester, esq. eldest son and heir, living unmarried 1819. ... PETER DOWNES, 2nd son, born at Batley Sept. 9, 1778, died Aug. 1798, of wounds received in the battle between the Leander and Genevex. ... 1. ELIZABETH, 3. ANNE, 4. FRANCES, died young, s. p. 2. BRIDGET, eldest surviving sister, living at Shrigley, unmarr. 1819. ... 5. SARAH, wife of John Leach Panter, of Northend, Fulham.

EDWARD, born 1803 in Barbadoes, died there an infant. ... EMILY, born at Paddington 1805. MARIA, born in Park-street 1807. ... FRERERIC DOWNES, born at Northend 1809. ... LOUISA, 1809. ... JOHN EDWARD, 1811. SARAH MARIA, 1813.

Taxall Parish

CONTAINS two townships only, Taxall, and Yeadsley cum Whaley.

TAXALL

Is situated in a romantic and sequestered vale on the bank of the Goit, a clear and rapid trout stream, which divides it from Derbyshire on the eastern side; to the west the ground rises into a range of rocky hills, planted with larches and other firs, which thrive in the more sheltered parts, but are cut by the sea breezes which sweep over the flat part of Cheshire, on the side where they are exposed to the westerly air.

The manor of Taxal was vested for many centuries in the antient house of Downes, of Sutton Downes and of Overton in Taxall, which separated from the Shrigley branch of the same family in the person of Edmund, son of Robert de Downes, of Downes in Sutton^a, which Robert, as appears by an Inq. 16 Edw. I.^b, held Dounes and Taxall in fee by inheritance, by the service of finding one forester.

II. This Edmund (or Edward^c) by Inq. 18 Edw. III. was found to hold Downes and Taxall by forest service, val. cs. per ann.; and in the same year "he gave the manor of Taxall, and the advowson of the church situated in the forest of Macclesfield, to Edmund his son, which gift was confirmed by the king.

III. Inq. p. m. 50 Edw. III. Edmund del Downes held, in demesne as of fee, the manors of Taxsale and Dounes, cum pert. from the lord earl of Chester, in cap. by grand serjeancy; val. v marks. Edmund del Dounes son and heir.

IV. Inq. p. m. 23 Ric. II. Edmund del Dounes held, in demesne as of fee, the manors of Downes and Taxall, with land called Oxford Crofts, and a certain forestership in fee, in Macclesfield Forest, and the advowson of Taxall, cum pert. from the King as *Prince of Chester*, as lord of Macclesfield, in cap. by grand serjeancy; val. per ann. vi. xiiii. s. i. d. John del Downes son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 15 Hen. VI. John le Dounes held, in demesne as of fee, the manor of Tacksall, with the advowson of the church of that manor, from the king as earl of Chester, in cap. by no service; val. xxvi. s. viii. d. :

also c acres of land in Dounes near Macclesfield, and one forestership in that forest from the king, by military service; val. per ann. xxxs. i. d. Reginald Dounes son and heir.

This Reginald, according to the pedigree, was succeeded by his son Richard.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. VIII. Richard Downes of Taxhall held the manor of Taxhall, and the advowson of the church there, and one forestership in the forest of Macclesfield, from the king as earl of Chester, in capite, by military service; val. lxxi. s. i. d. : also lands in Downes, as above; val. xlvi. s. viii. d. under an entail made 18 Edw. III. : died die Jovis before the feast of Ascension last past. John Downes son and heir, aged upwards of 21 years.

This John, as appears by a pedigree drawn from deeds Harl. MSS. 2161. was succeeded by his nephew Reginald, the husband of his base daughter Anne.

Inq. p. m. 10 Jac. I. Reginald Downes, gent. held a manor, &c. in Taxal, in the forest of Macclesfield, from Henry prince of Wales, as earl of Chester, in capite, by grand serjeancy; val. xiiii. s. i. d. : also the manor of Downes, and messuages in Sutton, from the same, by military service: he died July 26, 1610. John Downes son and heir, aged 14 years 6 months and 13 days at the time of this inquisition.

John Downes left issue four daughters, Margaret, Mary, Anne, Sarah, from whom the estate was wrested by their uncle Edmund as heir male^c, which Edmund was father of Reginald^d who joined with his son Edmund in conveying his manor and advowson of Taxall to John Shallcross, of Shallcross in Derbyshire, esq. to whom John Downes, "second son of Reginald Downes, late of Overton in Taxall, gent." confirmed the same by a release in 1715^e.

The pedigree of Downes, of Downes and Taxall, to this point has been already given in the account of Shrigley^f.

The manor of Taxall, and the Overton Hall estate

^a See note in pp. 377-8.

^c Edmund in the Downes pedigree, and in Inq. 18 Edw. III.; Edward in Gastrell's Not. Cest. but Edmund appears correct.

^d Harl. MSS. 2142. 2161.

^e From the original release communicated by David Browne, esq.

^f Amongst a variety of old deeds relative to Taxal (communicated by David Browne, esq.) are various depositions, made in and about 1720, with respect to the manerial rights enjoyed by the Downes family, specifying their getting turves and coal, claiming ways and strays, maintaining their pinfold, and to a boast of the last Reginald Downes that "hee could bring all Taxall to his court to be kept in his *compass window*, commonly called by the name of the bay window, adjoining to the *houseplace* (the hall or living room) at Overton, where the courts had been formerly kept."

"That hee, when y^e king came a hunting, allways rowed y^e stagg, and when y^e king came to y^e forest Mr. D. held y^e king's stirrup, and y^e P'd Darby held his stirrup; and that y^e P'd Darby, instead of actually holding y^e stirrup, put his strop or whip, and held it towards y^e stirrup whilst Mr. Downes mounted."—"That the said Mr. Downes has informed this deponent, that he held his land by a blast of his horn on Midsummer day, and paying of a pepper corn yearly; and that once, about 63 or 64 years agoe, this deponent was with the said Mr. Downes when he blow'd his horn at Windceather (a range of high rocks above Taxal) on that occasion."

—"That there is a common tradition y^t y^e said Mr. Downes's family had formerly the liberty to hang and draw within themselves, and that a spott of land near Overton hall (w^{ch} goes by the name of the gallows yard) was the place where offenders have been formerly executed."

passed subsequently (before 1739), by sale from the family of Shallcross to the Dickensons of Manchester, from whom it was purchased by the late Foster Bower, esq. recorder of Chester, paternal uncle of Francis Jodrell of Henbury, esq. the present proprietor. The advowson is now in gross, and the property of the present incumbent.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. James.

Discharged Living, Certif. Val. £41. 4s. 10d.

The Church of Taxall stands on the bank of the Goyt river, and consists of a tower containing three bells, a body without side aisles, and chancel. The east window has five lights divided by stone shafts, which appear originally to have terminated in lancet heads.

Against the north wall is a monument inscribed: Underneath lyeth the body of Michael Heatbcote, esquire, gentleman of the pantry and yeoman of the mouth to his late majesty king George the Second, who died June the 22d 1768, aged 75 years.

On a brass in the chancel is a memorial of Edward Potts, A. B. rector of Taxall, who died July 5, 1753.

In the church-yard are the steps and shaft of an antient cross; and here, and within the chancel rails, are several memorials of the family of Shalcross, who were patrons of this church in the early part of the last century, and resided from an early period at Shalcross Hall, in Derbyshire, which stands immediately opposite to the church on the east bank of the river below.

RECTORS OF TAXALL.

PRESENTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1327.	Ricardus de Greene.	Edmundus de Downes.	P. m. Ric. de Greene.
1365.	Ricardus de Downes, pr'b'r.	Edmundus Downes.	P. m. Ric. de Downes.
1383.	Johannes Shalcrosse, pr'b'r.	Edmundus Downes.	P. m. Jo. Shalcrosse.
1438.	Willielmus de Hanlegh.	Rogerus Downes.	P. m. Will. de Hanlegh.
1438.	Robertus Colightman.		
1598, 21 Feb.	Thomas Gaskell.		
1606, 4 Feb.	Thomas Costentyne.	Tho. Gee and Reg. Downes.	Death of Tho. Gaskell.
1631, 8 June.	Richard Fryer.	Godfrey Bowden.	
1660, 18 Oct.	Bradley Hayhurst.	Edmund Downes.	
1662 circa.	Anthony Elcock.		
1672, 11 Feb.	William Higginbottom.	Reginald Downes.	
1686, 13 April.	Peter Needham.	James Rex.	
1690, 23 July.	James Bowker.	Reginald Downes.	
1703, 26 Oct.	Roger Bolton, A. M.	John Shallcrosse.	Res. of James Bowker.
	William Newton.		
1726, 29 June.	Joseph Dale.	John Shallcrosse.	Death of William Newton.
1727, 27 Dec.	Edward Potts, A. B.	John Shallcrosse.	Res. of Joseph Dale.
1753, 12 Sept.	John Lowe, A. M.	Joseph Dale, clerk.	Death of Edward Potts.
1768, 30 Jan.	John Swain, A. B.	Elizabeth Lowe, spinster, and Thomas Hatsell.	Death of John Lowe, A.M.
1774, 6 June.	John Swain, jun. A. B.	Said John Swain.	Res. of John Swain, senr.
1775, 9 Jan.	John Swain.	Said John Swain.	Cess. of said John Swain.
1790, 6 May.	Joseph Smith.	Said Joseph Smith.	Death of John Swain.
1800, 23 Dec.	John Swain.	Said John Swain.	Res. of Joseph Smith.
1806, 1 March.	John Swain.	Bishop of Chester.	Cess. of said John Swain.

YEARDSLEY CUM WHALEY.

This township is situated on the edge of the county, between the Goyt and an elevated ridge, called Whaley Moor, on the road from Manchester to London through Buxton. The tenure is exclusively copyhold of the forest court of Macclesfield.

Yeardsley Hall in this township, an antient stone

building, now occupied as a farm-house, is the property of Francis Jodrell, esq. representative in the female line of the Jodrells of Yeardsley, who resided here from the reign of Richard II. to the middle of the last century. The annexed pedigree brings down their descent to the present period.

The tenure of the horn (which, in one of the depositions, is said to require three blasts) will not fail to remind the reader of "That fair dome where suit is paid by blast of bugle free,"—the barony of Pennycuik—held by a singular tenure: the proprietor being bound to sit upon a large rocky fragment called the Buckstane, and wind three blasts of a horn, when the king shall come to hunt in the Borough Muir near Edinburgh." W. Scott's Ballads, p. 71. The subordination of the earl of Derby was probably a tale originating in family vanity, but it is not unlikely that the seat of the forester had been graced with the neighbourhood of the fatal tree, not with reference to a jurisdiction far beyond the powers of a petty manerial court, but connected with that prompt execution which the foresters might inflict on offenders seized in the fact in their official perambulations.

From the same depositions it appears that the Downes family had sold a tenement in Taxal, with 1000 acres of common, temp. Eliz. to the Leghs of East Hall, which tenement, in the Inq. after the death of Thomas Legb, esq. 4 Car. is stated to be held by grand serjeancy, and is called the "Castid," apparently a corruption of Castle Ditch, or Cast Ditch, and not improbably occupying the site of some pale like "the Combs," noticed in the general account of the forest, or that of the fortified castellet or peel tower of some of the early foresters.

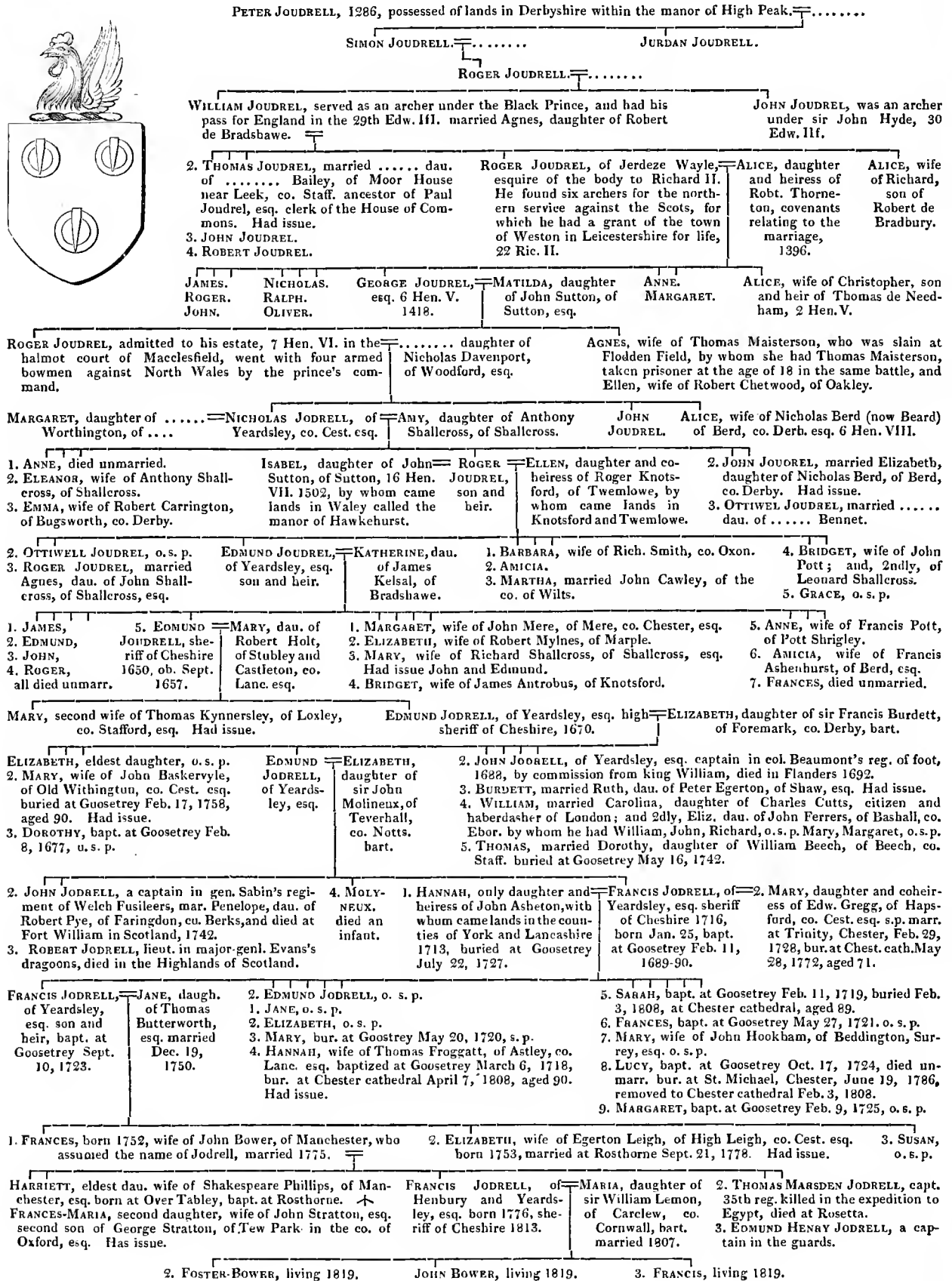
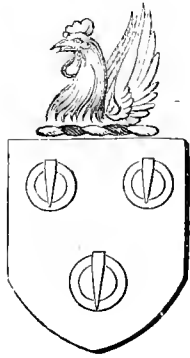
† Afterwards dean of York. See ped. p. 188.

JODRELL OF YEARDSLEY.

Transcribed from a copy of the family pedigree in the Wincham genealogical MS. and collated with the original pedigree, and continued to the present time by David Browne, esq.

ARMS. Sable, three buckles Argent.

CREST. On a wreath a cock's head couped Or, winged Argent, comb and wattles Gules.



Stockport Parish.

THE parish of Stockport stretches across the southern extremity of the great horn of the county which shoots up between Derbyshire and Lancashire, and abuts upon those counties and on the parishes of Mottram Longden-dale, Prestbury, Northenden, and Cheadle. Its component townships are given in the population table.

Barons of Stockport.

IN Mr. Watson's History of the House of Warren, the origin of the BARONY OF STOCKPORT is discussed under a separate head, and among various conjectures, founded on references to Lee's "N—— baron of Stockport," in the Vale Royal^a, and Williamson's and Lucas's MSS. which are too unimportant to notice, he mentions the facts of Stockport having been defended by Roman and Saxon works; that Stockport had, soon after the Conquest, a Norman castle, defended by Geoffry de Costentin against Henry II.; that it is probable that this fortress was an appendage to a *barony*, intended as a check to Manchester (the baronies of the earls of Chester and Roger Pictavensis, being placed as a check opposite to each other)^b, and he proves that Robert de Stokeport was living before the extinction of the local earldom; but honestly confesses that he has not authentic evidence to support any genealogical deductions beyond him. Hist. of Warren, vol. II. 185—98.

STOCKPORT itself appears to have been of importance as a military position from the time of the Romans to the Conquest, and it then is entirely unnoticed in Domesday. There can be little doubt that a church had existed here which was the head of a most extensive

parish, and which is not noticed in any neighbouring vill in which Stockport might have been included. It is probable, therefore, that the whole was wasted by the Normans^c, and it is no small confirmation of this supposition that the adjacent township (in which a part of the Saxon town was probably situated, where it is marked by the name of "Portwood," the inverted translation of "Stokeport") is also omitted, and occurs first among the lands of the baron of Dunham, by the name of Brinnington, or the burnt town^c.

In 1173 the castle of Stockport was held by Geoffry de Costentyn against Henry II.^d; but it does not appear whether the earl or Geoffry was then the possessor. It was afterwards the property of the Despencers, who had lands in Barrow, Winnington, and other parts of Cheshire: and *under them* it was held by the Stockports. After the forfeiture of Hugh Despencer, earl of Winchester, who took part with Simon de Montfort, the paramount royalty escheated to the earl, and subsequently the lord of Stockport held that manor and advowson, from the earl in capite, "*per forisfacturam Hugonis Dispenser^e*;" as abundantly proved by the inquisition after the death of sir John Warren, 9 Hen. VIII. and others.

^a This *N. de Stockport* (see vol. I. p. 147-8) has led many Cheshire antiquaries into an unaccountable error from the time of Vernon, who was corrected in his obvious error by Dugdale. See his MS. letter, Aug. 2, 1651, Harl. MSS. 1967. "As to your barons, I make no question but y^t *N. de Stockport* was one. *N. doth not stand for the first letter of his name, but is com'only used where the Christen name is unknowne.*"

^b With respect to the general fact of placing Cheshire and Lancashire baronies as checks on each other, admitting even an establishment of Lancashire baronies in the time of Roger Pictavensis, Mr. Watson's theory will be found incorrect by referring to the arrangement of Cheshire Baronies in the introduction. It does not appear that the earls had any thing to fear from their countrymen in Lancashire, and the baronial seats were placed indifferently on the Welsh border, *in the centre of their own county*, and on the Lancashire and Staffordshire borders, to guard the fords and passes on the principal approaches to Chester, which, at that period, followed the lines of Roman and British roads, as is, in a great measure, the case at the present day.

That one of these was guarded by the *castle* of Stockport at an early period is certain, as it also is that this castle, either preserved or restored, occupied the place of a more antient fort; but the *barony* will not be found to occur until a much later period, when the castle and vill of Stokeport, with adjacent lordships had been granted by the earl, or the tenants of the earldom, to Robert de Stokeport or his immediate predecessors. The general importance of the position to the palatinate still continued; but there could *then* certainly be no jealousy of *Lancashire* in particular, for the *greatest part of its Southern Hundreds was actually the property of the earl of Chester*, by grant from Roger de Marescy, and the custody of the honour of Lancaster had been committed to him by the crown, 1 Hen. III. See vol. I. pp. 34, 36, 37.

^c Mr. Watson, vol. II. p. 195, observes that we must not expect to find in Domesday mention of Stockport, which was the name of a castle to defend the Mersey, and not of a district, when it is silent about the castles of Halton and Dunham, though confessedly made baronies by Hugh Lupus. This, however, will not explain the silence. There is every reason for supposing the antecedent existence of a fortress at Stockport, but there is no reason for supposing that the barons of Halton had fixed on the sites for the heads of their Norman baronies at the time of the Domesday survey, and much less erected them; and there are no grounds for supposing *previous fortresses in those places*. The omission was probably occasioned by the destruction of the Saxon fortress noticed above.

^d See vol. II. p. 405, note u. It does not appear who this Geoffry de Costentin was, but he occurs in a charter, vol. I. p. 32, signing after the countess of Chester, William Patrick, and Alured de Cambray.

^e *Hugh de Dispenser* and Hamon de Massye, the paramount lords of Stockport and of the greatest part of its dependencies, occur as first witnesses of Robert de Stockport's charter to his burgesses.

The following passage in Mr. Watson's Hist. ascertains him to have been very near discovering the mode in which the *vill* of Stockport passed to the Stockports, but Dr. Williamson (if correctly quoted) misled him, by confounding the Despencers (who derived their name from the Norman office of their ancestors), with the barons of Montalt, "*Dapiferi, Dispensatores, senescalli,*" or stewards of the Palatinate. If Watson, however, had

The other Cheshire estates of the lords of Stockport were the villis, or parts of the villis of Etchells, Bredbury, Brinnington, Poynton, Woodford, Romiley, Hattersley, Wodeley, and Offerton. Etchells, Brinnington, and Bredbury, in which last Wodeley is situated, and Romiley, were a subinfeudation under Dunham Massey. Poynton was held under the family of Poutrell, Hattersley under Mottram Longdendale, and Offerton and Woodford from the lord of Aldford. Nothing was originally held in capite from the earldom, as proved in the plea between the earl and Hamon de Massey, respecting the custody of the lands, and heir of Richard de Stockport.

The annexed charter^e throws considerable light on the descent of Robert de Stokeport, in whom these estates were centered. It contains a confirmation of Etchells, Bredbury, and Brinnington, from the baron of Dunham to Robert Fitz Waltheof, to be held by a very singular tenure; and the first Robert de Stokeport is ascertained by inquisition to have held *immediately* from the baron of Dunham by the same service. This being prior to the statutes relating to subinfeudations, he must have held by inheritance from Robert Fitz Waltheof, or an intermediate grantee would have been specified. There can be little doubt that he was grandson of Waltheof, and he was most probably son of Robert.

The circumstances observable in the early subdivision of estates, refer Waltheof to the family of the baronial grantor; and the arms of his successors the Stockports, before the addition of the crosslets, were the same as those of the Baguleys, who are also supposed, from circumstances of tenure, to have been connected with the Masseys of Dunham. A coat nearly resembling theirs was used by the Sales, also dependants of Dunham, and continued by their successors the Massies, as that of the Baguleys was (with a slight alteration) by their female descendants the Hydes.

With this Robert de Stokeport, whose descent is thus referred to the baronial house of Dunham, the history of the barons of Stokeport begins, as traced by Mr. Watson, and the circumstances above mentioned explain the causes of the foundation of this barony, which was doubtless to add influence, and dignity to the possessor of a fortress which was one of the keys of the palatinate. The powers of the new court were fully equal to those of the original baronies, having power of judging capital causes, and in cases of appeal to the earl's sword, retaining the execution of the criminals^f; but one distinguishing feature existed between them: the baron of Stockport held not his lordship in capite from his earls; all his lands were subinfeudations under other baronies or manors, whereas the lords of the other great fees, as well as the barons, were subject only to their local prince, and received in their courts the homage of the mesne lords of towns which had been granted to their Norman ancestors by Hugh Lupus.

I. Sir Robert de Stokeport, mesne lord of Stockport under the family of Despenser during the time of the Norman carldom, as proved by preceding evidences, (either by grant to himself, or by inheriting it with other possessions of Robert Fitz-Waltheof) occurs in the Monasticon^g, as witness to a deed made temp. Ric. I. being witnessed also by John as earl of Moreton, and is mentioned in Burton's Leicestershire, as having given the manor of Little Appleby, and adwoson of Great Appleby in that county, to William de Vernon^h.

By another deed (given at length by Mr. Watson), he exchanges land in Stockport for other lands held in Rumley (Romiley), by Robert de Rumley, with various remarkable privileges specified in the extract belowⁱ. The said charter proves that this lord of Stockport granted out the office of hereditary serjeant of his court, which serjeant was the head of those servants, whose duties, specified in the plea to a quo warranto subjoined^k,

examined the tenures specified in the Inquisitions, he could not have fallen into any mistake as to which Despensers were intended. "In a manuscript written by the late Dr. Williamson, the barony of Stockport is supposed to have belonged originally to *Ranulph the Dapifer*, whose name is conjectured to have been *Spenser* (anciently written *le Despencer*), and whose family, growing into great wealth and favour with the kings of England, sold it to Robert de Stockport about Henry III's time, before whose reign he says there is little or no mention of this family." Vol. II. p. 196.

It does not appear what MS. of Dr. Williamson is quoted, but in his MS. Villare Cest. the passage which appears to be alluded to, stands thus, being free from the error imputed to him: "Stockport was y^e seat of one of y^e barons belonging to y^e earl of Chester, and y^e De le Spencers were y^e first lords thereof after y^e Conquest, but 33 Hen. III. I find y^t Robert de Stockport died seized of this manor, which he held of Hugh de le Spencer by 11s. a year, &c." Here the *Despensers*, are in no way confounded with the "*Dispensatores Com. Cest.*"

^e Hamo de Massy omnibus hominibus suis Francis et Anglicis, clericis et laicis, tam futuris quam presentibus, salutem; notum sit vobis omnibus me reddidisse Roberto filio Waltheof, totam terram quam Waltheof pater suus tenuit de me et antecessoribus meis ut hereditatem suam; scilicet Hecheles, cum pertinentiis, illi et heredibus suis, tenendam de me et heredibus meis libere quiete et pacifice in servicio dimidii militis: et ego Hamo retineo ad opus meum cervum et bissam, et Aprum de Hulreswud, et aliaz libertates remaneant Roberto filio Waltheof et heredibus suis. Et ego Hamo reddo Roberto filio Waltheof, Bredburie et Brinintonam, cum pertinentiis, ut hereditatem suam, illi et heredibus suis, tenendam de me et heredibus meis per hoc servicium faciendum ad talamum meum, ad arma mea, vel ad indumenta mea portanda, quando propria persona domini comitis irit in Walleiam, et ego Hamo et heredes mei reddemus plenarie Roberto filio Waltheof et heredibus suis hunc sumerium et hominem, et saccum, et supernominato homini et sumerio astoverium inveniemus, dum nobiscum fuerit in exercitu donec reddantur Roberto vel heredibus suis. Et Robertus filius Waltheof adjuvabit me ad deliberandum corpus meum de captione et de impedimento et ad meum filium primogenitum faciendum militem, et meam filiam primevam daturam, et in recognitione horum Robertus dedit mihi annulum aureum. Hiis testibus Ra'ulfo de Menilwarin, Roberto de Menilwarin, Gilb. de Bischerevill et Alano de Maledit, Rich. de Bechetona, Hug. de Balemont, Ham. de Bechetona, Rog. de Fulshea, Brice Coterele, Gilb. de Carringtona, Will. de Carringtona, Math. de Bromhale, Tho. de Norburi, Alex. fil. Ham. de Bredburi, et Jordano et Rado et Ada filiis Alexandri, Waltheof de Bredburi, et Jo. de Bredburi, et Stephano fr'e suo, Matheo clerico de Stokeport, Rad. capell. de Spondon, Rob'to clerico de Warringtona, et multis aliis. Manu. Edw. Fitton, bart. anno 1636.

^f See the plea of sir John Warren, below.

^g Vol. I. p. 499.

^h P. 15.

ⁱ Dedi eciam eidem Roberto *serviciam feodi mei* de Stokeport, *curie mee pertinentem*, ita scilicet quod dictus Robertus et heredes sui mihi Roberto et heredibus meis fideliter servient. Dedi eciam eidem Roberto et heredibus suis herbagium de *parco meo* de Stokeport, nisi contingat quod ego Robertus vel heredes mei in villa de Stokeport vellemus morare, vel bestias infra parcum ponere, et tunc faciemus eidem Roberto valorem illius herbagii, et idem Robertus et heredes sui habebunt *ligna venientia fluctu aque de Mersey* infra divisas de parco et *le Aide Stickys de parco* exceptis viridibus arboribus secundis, et habebunt *porcos* suos proprios, *quietos de pannagio*, infra boscum de Stokeport, et idem Robertus habebit *robam* annuatim cum ceteris armigeris.

^k John Warren, kut. was summoned to answer Prince Arthur, the earl of Chester (son of king Henry VII.), to shew cause why he claimed for himself and his heirs *view of frank pledge within his manor of Stokport, as also infangthief and outfangthief, waif and stray, gallows, cart, pillory, and cucking-stool*, which belonged to the sword and dignity of the said prince, as earl of Chester?

To which he replied, that he claimed to have *view of frank pledge* once in a year, after the feast of St. Michael the archangel, within his manor of Stockport, and that he had at the same view the amendments of bread and beer, amerciaments for shedding of blood, and for hue and cry, and for narrow and obstructed ways, and for other things belonging to the said view, viz. as well at the presentation of his beadle of the said manor, as at the presentation of xii jurymen, appointed by his steward; and that his beadle should present, at any court, breaches of peace and bloodshed; and such as should be found guilty should be punished by amerciaments. He claimed also to punish delinquents against the assize of bread and beer, and brawlers, bakers, and brewers, for three times, by amerciaments; and if they offended the fourth time, he claimed to punish bakers by pillory, brewers

are full proof of the lords of Stockport enjoying the highest powers of barons of the palatinate.

In this instrument those powers are claimed by prescription, and it does not therefore appear when they were granted; but from this Robert's charter to his serjeant and his burgesses¹ there can be no doubt that Stockport in the time of this Robert had obtained its privileges, viz. before the extinction of the local earldom, and during *the time that it was a mesne manor*, holding from the Despensers.

The same Robert appears from this charter also to

have followed the example of the great barons of the realm, in presenting a robe annually to his esquires and the officers of his household, and to have possessed near Stockport a park and extensive wood, which supplied his serjeant the perquisites of decayed timber and free pasture for his hogs, and in which, as appeared by the charter to the burgesses, they also had free pasturage, and wood for building and fuel. It is also observable, that the timber washed by the floods of the Mersey from the forest hills and the district of Longdendale, and thrown by the stream on the banks within the park, was

by tumbrill, and brawlers by the cucking-stool* or by fine, at the pleasure of the said John, or of the stewards of his manor aforesaid. For Infangthief he claimed, that when any thief was taken within his manor aforesaid with the goods upon him, or apprehended in the fact, a day should be fixed, at the suit of the party, within three days following; to which court if the prosecutor came, the thief should be arraigned; and if he put himself upon the inquisition of the court, an inquisition should immediately be made, and judgment given thereon; and if he would not put himself upon the inquisition of the court, he should forthwith be taken, with the goods found upon him, to the castle of Chester, to be tried; and if he was found guilty and ought to be hanged, the servants of the said John were to bring him back to his own proper gallows, and there hang him. For Outfangthief he claimed, that when any thief, who was a tenant of the said John in his demain and fee, was convicted of any felony for which he ought to be hanged, in whatever court he should be convicted, he should be taken by the servants of the said John to his proper gallows, and there be hanged. For waif he claimed, that if any beasts, or any goods or chattels, were taken by a felon, and waived or left by the said felon within the said manor, he might convert the same to his own use. For Stray he claimed, that animals coming from unknown places into the said manor, might be detained till proclamation was made, according to the law and custom of the said county, in villages, markets, and parish churches, that such animals were there detained; and if any one, after such proclamation made, would claim the same, and bring sufficient proof that they were his, within a year and a day, they should be restored to him, making reasonable satisfaction; and if no one claimed them within a year and a day, they should belong to the said John. And these liberties and profits the said John and his ancestors had enjoyed time immemorial, as appurtenances to the said manor.—Watson, II. 217. 220.

A further explanation of some points was given in reply to William Greville, the Prince's attorney, and is printed by Mr. Watson, as above referred to, but nothing was found for the Prince.

¹ Omnibus presentibus et futuris presentem cartam inspecturis vel audituris dominus Robertus de Stokeport, salutem. Noveritis me dedisse, concessisse, et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse quod villa de Stokeport sit liber burgus secundum cartam quam impetravi a domino Cestr(e)shir(iæ). Et quod burgenses in illo burgo habitantes et tenentes habeant et teneant omnes istas libertates subscriptas.

In primo quod quilibet burgensis habeat unam perticatam terre ad mansum suum et unam acram in campo, et reddet pro quolibet burgagio suo per annum XII denarios, pro omnibus firmis que ad illud burgagium pertinent.

Si vero aliquis prepositus ville aliquem burgensem calumpniaverit de aliquo placito, et calumpniatus non venerit ad diem, nec aliquis pro eo infra le Portemanimote, in forisfacturâ mea erit de XII denariis.

Item si aliquis burgensis aliquem burgensem implicaverit de aliquo debito, et ipse cognoverit debitum, prepositus ponet ei diem, scilicet octavum, et si non venerit ad diem, reddet XII denarios pro forisfactura diei, et debitum reddet et IV denarios preposito.

Item si aliquis burgensis aliquem burgensem per iram percusserit vel vulneraverit absque sanguinis effusione in burgo, per visum burgensium pacem suam faciet salvo jure meo scilicet XII denariorum.

Item si aliquis implicatus fuerit in burgo de aliquo placito, non respondet nec burgensi, nec ballivo meo, nec alicui alio nisi in Portemanimote, scilicet de placitis que ad burgum pertinent.

Item si aliquis burgensis vel alius appellat aliquem burgensem de latrocinio, prepositus attachiabit eum ad respondendum, et stare inde iudicio in Portemanimote salvo jure meo.

Item si aliquis implicatus fuerit de vicino suo, vel de aliquo alio de aliquibus que ad burgum pertinent, et III dies secutus fuerit, si testimonium habuerit de preposito et vicinis suis, quod adversarius suus defectus fuerit ad hos III dies, nullum pretereâ dabit ei responsum de illo placito, et alter cadet in misericordiam.

Item predicti burgenses possunt eligere prepositum de seipsis quem voluerint, et remove in fine anni per consilium domini vel sui ballivi.

Item quilibet burgensis burgagium suum potest dare, ignorare vel vendere cuiunque voluerit, nisi dominis capitalibus, Judeis, vel viris religiosis, sed heres propinquior erit ad illud emendum salvo jure meo.

Item burgenses possunt namare debitores suos pro debito suo in burgo, si debitor cognoverit debitum, nisi sint tenentes de burgo. Catalla burgensium non debent namari pro aliquibus debitis nisi pro suis propriis debitis.

Item predicti burgenses de quocunque emerint vel venderint ubicunq. fuerint in comitatu Cestr(iæ), sive in nundinis sive in foris, quieti erunt de tolneto; salvo in les Wyches de tolneto salis.

Item predicti burgenses debent molere omnia blada sua crescentia supra terram suam infra metas de Stokeport, vel blada moram faciencia in villa de Stokeport, ad molendinum vel molendina mea ad sextum decimum vas, si habeam molendinum vel molendina infra divisas de Stokeport.

Item si predicti burgenses voluerint fornare panem ad vendendum debent fornare ad fornacem meam si habeam fornacem in villa de Stokeport, et si non habeam fornacem ubicunq. voluerint.

Item quicunque fregerit assisam ville sive de pane sive de cervisia, remanebit in forisfactura mea de XII denariis tribus vicibus, sed ad quartam in forisfactura servare assisam ville.

Ipsi autem burgenses habebunt communem pasturam, et liberi erunt in bosco et plano, in turbario, in bruario, in moris, in pasturis, et in omnibus communibus easiamenis ville de Stokeport pertinentibus, et quieti erunt de pannagio in bosco ville de Stokeport pertinente.

Item predicti burgenses rationabiliter de predicto bosco capient omnia necessaria sua ad arandum et edificandum.

Item quilibet potest esse ad placitum pro sponsâ et familiâ sua, et sponsa cujuslibet potest firmam suam reddere preposito, et facere quod fieri debeat, et placitum sequi pro sponso suo si forsan alibi sit.

Item burgensis, si non habuerit heredem, legare potest burgagium suum et catalla sua, si moriatur, ubicunq. ei placuerit, salvo tamen jure meo, scilicet IV denariis, et salvo servicio ad ipsum burgagium pertinente, ita quod non alienatur in religione vel Judaismo.

Item cum burgensis moriatur sponsa sua manebit in domo cum herede, et ibi habebit necessaria quamdiu sine marito fuerit, et si maritali voluerit, decedet liberè sine dote, et heres ut dominus manebit in domo.

* Mr. Watson quotes from Cowel (as a similar claim) that of the earl of Kent for Bushton and Ayton, and probably was not aware that these were Rushton and Ayton, in Cheshire. The claims for these manors and Tarporley have been noticed in the account of that town, as varying only from those of the Cheshire baronies in the omission of capital jurisdiction.

The cucking-stool (or sella stercoris), from *cucken*, Sax. *stercus*, was applied only to female brawlers at Stockport, as appears by the reply to Greville's objection as to the generality of the plea. It was a punishment of high antiquity in the county, being awarded to bad brewers at Chester, in the time of the Confessor, as stated in the Domesday account of the laws of that City. The *ducking-stool*, which was a distinct punishment, superseded this for scolds, and sometimes usurped its name. A small pool, with the stool and post, was remaining at Macclesfield in the last century; and there also is yet preserved, an iron brank, or bridle, for scolds, which has been used within the memory of the Author's informant, Mr. Browne, and which is mentioned as "a brydle for a curste queane," among the articles delivered by the Serjeant to sir Urian Legh, knt. on his being elected mayor, Oct. 3, 21 Jac. I. An iron bridle was used at Bolton-le-Moors, in Lancashire, a few years ago, as a punishment for prostitutes. The bridle was fixed in their mouth, and tied at the back of the head with ribbands; and, so attired, they were paraded from the cross to the church steps, and back again, by the beadles.

sufficient in quantity to be regularly granted as another main perquisite of the hereditary office.

The other deeds collected by Mr. Watson are briefly— a release to Stephen de Bradbury of talliage of lands not within the vill of Stockport, and of suit to Stockport mill for such lands; a similar release of suit to court and mill to Jordan de Trafford; a charter constituting Stockport a free burgh, subjoined entire¹; a release of suit to Stockport court to Richard son of Hamon de Hedesley, and William, son of William de Offirtun; releases from work on his mill dam to Jordan de Bredbury, and William de Offirtun; a confirmation of the vill of Handford to Henry de Honefort; a confirmation of his mother's grants to St. Cuthbert's priory at Lytham in Lancashire, and a grant (made jointly with his son Robert) to the same of the son of Orm, cum catallis et sequelâ.

This sir Robert (adds Mr. Watson) was a man of very considerable property, being possessed, amongst other estates, if not of the whole, yet of a great part of Stockport, Poynton, Wydesford, Bredbury, Romiley, Wernith, Hattersley, Wodeley, Offerton, and Etchels, and a capital message in Cheadle, all in Cheshire; and of Plumpton and Formby in Lancashire: he died in 23 Hen. III. 1239, leaving a widow Roesia, remarried to Alexander de Bamville (of the Storeton family), who released to her grandson, Richard de Stokeport, her claim of dower in the manors of Echells, Stockport, Bredbury, Romilegh, Wernith, and Hatterslegh, &c. and had issue Margaret, wife of William de Vernon, and Robert son and heir.

II. Sir Robert de Stokeport, knight, who was of age in his father's life-time, had a grant from Randle III. (as Robert son of Robert) of Marple and Wiberslegh, &c.; to be held by forest service in the earl's forest of Macclesfield, which he afterwards granted in frank marriage with his sister Margaret to William de Vernon. In 1260 he had a grant from prince Edward of a Friday's market at Stockport, with a fair on St. Wilfrid's day and seven days after, and occurs for the last time as witness to a deed made during the justiceship of Thomas de Boulton, 53—54 Hen. III. He married twice; by his first wife Maud^m, he had issue sir Richard son and heir, and Roger, living 17 Edw. I. who had lands in Woodford, Hatterslegh and Poynton. Elen his second wife, by whom he had no issue, remarried John baron of Montalt, and seneschal of Chester, with whom she occurs in a deed relating to the advowson of Prestburyⁿ.

III. Sir Richard de Stokeport, knight, son and heir of Robert, in 6 Edw. I. has a release from Hamo de Masie, for himself and his tenants, within his manors of Etchells, Bredbury, and Brinnington, from being impleaded in the court of Dunham. In the next year he occurs in a deed, from which it appears he had released the manor of Poynton, with lands in Offerton, to his father in law, John de Montalt, for life^o; and died 20 Edw. I. leaving issue, by his wife Cicely, daughter of William ———, two daughters and coheireses, Joan and Maud.

“Joan, the elder of the above two sisters, married first sir Nicholas de Eton; 2dly, sir John Arden. She was two years and a half old at her father's death. Sir John Arden who married her had part of the lands in Echels to him and his wife, and their heirs, in the time of Edw. III. by agreement, and also Stockport, Poynton, and Wydesford, for his life. In consequence of this agreement, Nicholas, son of sir Nicholas de Eton the younger, released to sir John Arden all his right to the said manors of Stockport, Etchells, Poynton, and Wydesford (as they are there written), with advowsons of the churches of the said manors, 6 Edw. III. 1332, also 9 Edw. III.; and Robert, son of sir Nicholas de Eton did the same in 1340, on which, in the same year, sir John granted to Robert de Hampton, parson of Alderley, and Richard de Manchester, chaplain, the manor of Stokeport, with the advowson of the church, and the manors of Poynton, Wydesford, and Etchells, which they regranted to him the same year for his life: and also at the same time granted to Robert, son of Nicholas de Eton and Isabel his wife, and heirs, the reversion of the said manors, and advowson of Stokeport church, after the death of the said sir John; with remainder to the right heirs of Robert, son of Nicholas de Eton. In the same year, this sir John released to the said Robert and his heirs, all his right to the manors of Wood Plumpton and Formby.” Watson, vol. II. 233-4.^q

Maud, the younger coheireess, was ward of Hamon de Masey, and married William de Dutton, who has been already mentioned to have been indicted, 35 Edw. I. for forcibly carrying her, nearly in a state of nakedness, from the baronial residence of her guardian^r.

IV. Sir Nicholas de Eton, knight, baron of Stockport, in right of Joan, eldest of these coheireses, was son of sir Nicholas de Eton, knight^s (by Margaret, daughter and heiress of sir William Coleville, knight.) “By this Joan sir Nicholas had Nicholas, who married Margaret,

Item cum burgensis moriatur beres ejus nullum aliud relevium dabit mihi nisi bujusmodi arma, gladium, arcum, vel lanceam. Nullus infra terram mean de Stokeport, ut sutor, pelliparius, fullo, vel aliquis talis exercebit officium suum, nisi sit in burgo.

Item prefati burgenses dabunt firmum suum de burgagiis suis ad festum omnium Sanctorum.

Omnia predicta placita erunt terminata per visum burgensium et mei ballivi. Quicumque burgagium suum vendere voluerit, et a villa decedere, dabit mihi iv denarios, et liberè ibit quocunque voluerit cum omnibus catallis suis.

Ego vero et heredes mei omnes predictas libertates et consuetudines predictis burgensibus et heredibus suis contra omnes gentes in perpetuum warrantizabimus salvo mihi et heredibus meis rationabili tallagio quando dominus rex Angliæ burgos suos per Angliam talliari fecerit. In ejus rei testimonium presenti pagine sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus domino Hugone De Spencer, domino Hamone de Massye, domino Willielmo de Massye, Roberto de Hyde, Galfrido de Chedle, Galfrido de Bromale, Hamone de Bruninton, Roberto de Godley, Henrico de Worthbe, et aliis.— Watson, House of Warren, vol. II. p. 203—6.

¹ See note 1 in preceding page.

^m Flower's Visit. Cest. 1580.

ⁿ In Watson's Earls of Warren are the seals of this John and Ellen as appendant to a deed; the husband's a lion rampant, circumscribed Job's de Montealto; the wife's a lozenge, circumscribed Sigillum Elene de Stokeport, and within the lozenge a female figure holding shields of Malban and Stokeport. The latter was probably cut during her first widowhood.

^o Dr. Watson mentions a deed by this sir Richard, which he considers very singular, being a release of his serjeant, William Scarstun, from all calumny (ab omne calumpnia), from the time of his entering into his service. The word calumpnia does not however mean any thing beyond demands, *claim*, or challenge, and is defined by Du Cange, “Actio in jure qua quis rem quampiam sibi per solennes juris formulas asserere conatur.”

^q The release to sir John Arden is dated at Aldford (the seat of sir John), and the trust deed to Robert de Hampton is dated at Poynton. The seal of sir N. de Eton to the former, circumscribed with his name, is the coat of his wife's family, semee of cross crosslets three lozenges, but differs in the crosslets being fitchèe. He had therefore abandoned the coat with which he previously sealed, “a chevron between three double-headed eaglets displayed.” Watson, &c. II. 233.

^r See Dutton in Bucklow hundred, vol. I. p. 477.

^s This sir Nicholas, the elder, 15 Edw. I. purchased Rotley from sir Thomas de Arden, kt. one of that Warwickshire family of Arden, which has been so often confounded with the Cheshire Ardenes.

daughter of sir John Arderne, knight, but had no issue; Robert; John, who married Catharine, but had no issue; and Cicely, who married first John, son of sir John Arderne, knight, but was divorced from him, having had no issue by him; 2ndly, she married *sir Edward Warren, knight*, whose son, sir John, succeeded to the estates belonging to the family of Eton, on account of Richard and Isabel, the children of Richard de Eton or Stockport, mentioned below, dying without issue.

“The time when Nicholas, who married Margaret Arderne lived, is shewn by a fine passed at Chester 4 Edw. III. between William de Baguley and John Arderne the elder, and Joan his wife, of lands in Echells to the said William for life; remainder to William his son; remainder to Nicholas, son of Nicholas de Eton, and Margery his wife. This Nicholas, by the name and description of Nicholas de Eton, eldest son of Joan, daughter and heiress of sir Richard de Stockport, confirmed by deed without date to Margery de Ardern, the manor of Wood Plumpton, with advowson of the church of the said manor, which Joan his mother had granted to the said Margery; by this it appears that Joan survived her husband sir Nicholas. They were married before the decease of king Edward I.; for some time in that reign, Nicholas, son of Nicholas de Eton and Joan his wife, quitclaimed to Adam, son of Jordan de Bredbury and his heirs, all services, actions, and demands, for the tenements held of them in Bredbury, except homage, marriage, ward, and escheat. In 1312, the abbot of Chester granted to this Nicholas, and Joan his wife, that he would find a chaplain in the chapel of Ponynton for ever, for the benefit of them and the rest of the inhabitants of Ponynton. This shews that they lived there. I find them both mentioned in a deed in 1320; but in 1326 Joan, lady of Stockport, some time wife of sir Nicholas de Eton, granted to sir Nicholas de Eton, father of her husband, the manor of Stockport, with the advowson there, Ponynton, Etchels, Wodeley, Wydeford, and Bredbury, with the hanlets thereof, and all other her lands in Cheshire. This was in trust; for the year following, a fine was passed for the manor of Stockport with advowson, Etchels, Ponynton, and Wydeford, a messuage and 360 acres of land in Cheadle, between these parties, whereby the said manors and lands were settled on the said Joan for life, remainder to Nicholas son of sir Nicholas Eton the younger in tail, remainder to Robert, brother of Nicholas, son of sir Nicholas the younger in tail, remainder to John brother of Robert in tail, remainder to right heirs of Joan.”^t—Watson, II. 237-9.

VI. “Robert de Eton was also surnamed de Stokeport, and in right of his brother,

(V. Nicholas, who died and left him his estate),” was “baron of Stockport. He married Isabel, daughter of sir John Davenport, knt. She survived him, and was, as some say, four times married after his death; viz. 1st,

to sir John Stafford, knt.; 2d, to Robert Foljambe; 3d, to Thomas Statham; and 4th, to Robert Legh of Adlington. This Isabel was the wife of John Stafford 29 Edw. III. and was his widow on Wednesday after St. Barnabas day, 34 Edw. III. 1360. She was the wife of Thomas de Statham on Thursday being St. Martin’s day, 35 Edw. III.; also on Friday after the decollation of St. John the Baptist, 38 Edw. III.; and was living on Sunday after St. James the Apostle’s day, 4 Rich. II. 1389: for there is a grant of that date from Robert de Legh the elder, Randle de Legh, and Thomas de Baggiley, to William Elkus, the chaplain, of all their manors, lands, &c. in the county of Chester, with advowson of the church of Stockport, with the court, fair, and market, of the said town; all which the said Robert had of the grant of Isabel, late wife of Thomas Statham. One written paper says she died in 1381, surviving both her son and grandson. She held Poynton in jointure.”^u Watson, II. 241, 2.

VII. “Sir Richard de Eton, knt. surnamed also de Stokeport, was son of Robert by the said Isabel. He was under age 27 Edw. III. Before this, viz. 24 Edw. III. 1350, I find that Henry de Walton, archdeacon of Richmond, and Hugh de Barwick, attornies-general of the earl of Lancaster, granted to John de Stafford the wardship of the body and lands in Cheshire, of Richard, son and heir of Robert de Stokeport. This sir Richard married Margaret, daughter of Richard Fitton. By her he had Richard de Eton or Stockport, who died young without issue, and Isabel, who being heir to her father, died also without issue. In Harl. MSS. 2074. is an *Inq. p. m.* wherein the jurors say that this Isabel, daughter of Richard de Stokeport, knt. held of Roger le Strange, *lord of Dunham*, in her demesne as of fee, by military service, the manor of Bredbury, worth yearly cs.; also the vill of Ramylegh, of the same value, and certain lands in Wyrnyth of the same value; also a place in Echells called Ryll, worth yearly xls.; and another place in the same vill, called Alyngbey, of the same value; also a place in Hattersley, *of the lord of the county of Chester*, as parcel of the lordship of Longdendale, by plough-service, doing suit and service to the court at Tingtwisel, the said place being yearly worth xxs. That the said Isabel died in the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist, 43 Edw. III. and that John, son of Edward de Warren, knt. was her heir, viz. son of Cecily, the sister of Robert de Stokeport, father of Richard de Stokeport, knt. father of the said Isabel; also that John, son of the said Edward Warren, was, at the date of the said inquisition, of the age of 26 years and upwards.” Watson, II. 243-4.

From this period Stockport descended in the family of Warren of Poynton, to their present representative, and the several steps of the descent are supplied by the pedigree given in the account of Poynton.

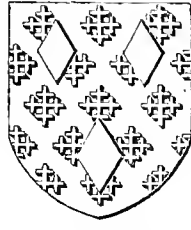
^t “To the deed of sir Nicholas (the elder), on this occasion, a seal was appendant, containing a chevron between three double-headed eagles displayed: *Inscrip. Sigillum Nieh'i Eton militis.* Witnesses: Sir Richard Damory, justice of Chester; Rafe de Vernon, &c. From this deed it appears, that sir Nicholas de Eton the younger died before his father, in the time of Edw. II. for the above fine was passed on Toesday before Saint Valentine’s day, 1 Edw. III. and Joan was then a widow. He also died before any of his sons, all of whom are said, in one account, to have been surnamed De Stokeport. One of these, viz. Nicholas, Dugdale says, was certified into the Chancery amongst the knights and men at arms then residing in Warwickshire; but as he makes him the father of Cecily, who married sir Edward Warren, he mistakes the son for the father.” Watson, II. 239-40.

^u “In the Heralds’ Office is a MS. marked Vincent’s Cheshire, No. 120, in Glover’s hand writing, which says, that this Isabel “tempore minoris ætatis deputabatur custodiæ comitis Warwici, qui interim duos clericos presentavit rectorie de Rotley, et durante minoritate dictæ Isabellæ, appropriavit ecclesiam de Rotley priori et conventui de Clattercote. But see Dogdale’s Warwickshire, p. 419.” Watson, p. 242.

BARONS OF STOKEPORT.

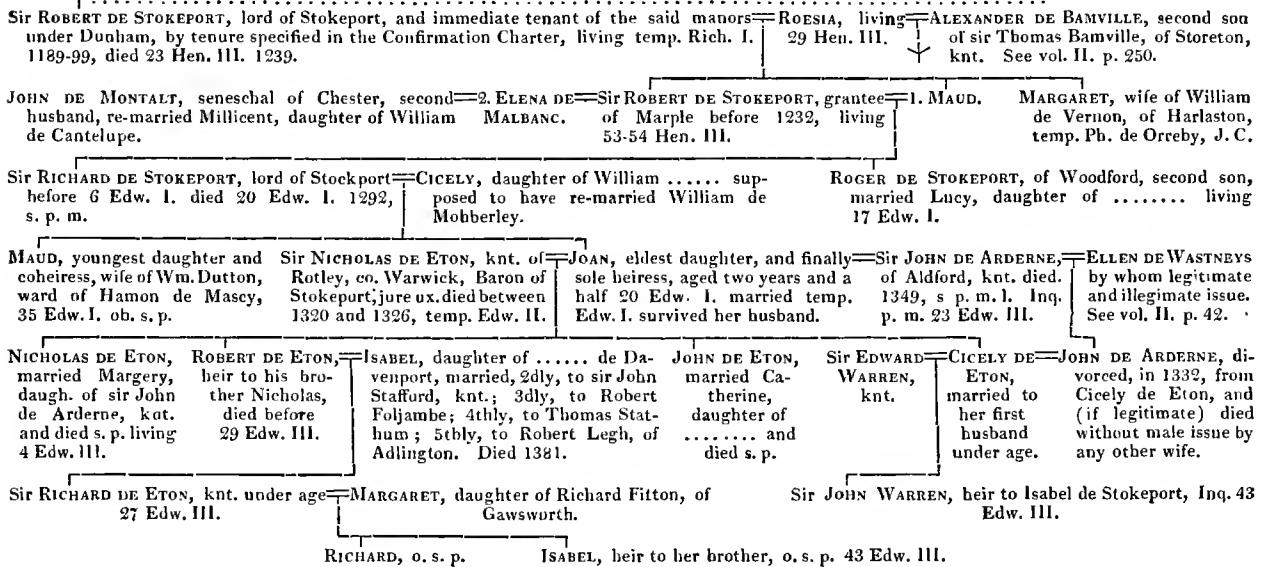
ARMS of STOKEPORT, antiently, Azure, 3 lozenges Or 2 and 1.^w Subsequently, Azure, semée of cross crosslets Or, three lozenges of the second.

ARMS of EATON, Argent, a chevron Gules between three eagles displayed and double-headed, of the second.



WALTHEOF, lord of Etchells, Bredbury, and Brinnington under Dunham Massey.

ROBERT FITZWALTHEOF had confirmation of the same from the baron of Dunham Massey, circa temp. Hen. II.



The viscount and viscountess Bulkeley, as lord and lady of the manor and barony of Stockport, hold a court leet and a court baron twice in the year for the same. The jurisdiction of the leet is co-extensive with the township; and at the Michaelmas court the mayor, constables, and other officers of the town, are annually appointed. The lord and lady of the manor appoint the two constables; but the mayor is chosen by the jury, at this court, out of four burgesses, nominated by the lord and lady of the manor for the time being, and by them returned to the Jury, who appoint the other officers, to the number of fifty, all of whom are sworn into their respective offices by the steward, at an adjourned court for that purpose^x.

The jurisdiction of the mayor is little more than nominal; and the government of the town, like that of ordinary vills, is vested in the constables, under the direction of the county magistrates.

The most antient part of the town of Stockport surrounds the church and market-place, which are situated on an abrupt elevation overhanging the Mersey, approached by several steep and narrow streets. Under

this hill another street of the same description, following for a short distance the line of the Roman road, leads southwards towards Buxton; and in this is an antient timber-building, which for several centuries has been the occasional residence of the Ardernes of Harden. North of the church is the site of the antient castle, and of the Roman works, occupied by a brick circular building, erected by the late sir Geo. Warren for commercial purposes; and higher up, on the road towards Marple, is the Rectory-house, the precincts of which are said to have been subject to an antient court of peculiar jurisdiction held by the rectors.

From this centre the town of Stockport, replete with manufactories of various descriptions, diverges in all directions, and spreads with connected streets and groupes of edifices devoted to commerce, for miles, towards the Cheshire hills on the south-east, towards Cheadle on the west, and towards Manchester, across the Mersey, on the north. The commercial and mechanical details, connected with the subject of these manufactures, are not considered to be within the scope of the History of Cheshire^y.

^w In one instance the lozenges are conjoined in the fesse point. See Watson, vol. II. p. 213.

^x Information of J. A. Newton, esq. agent of lord Bulkeley, and steward of the manor.

^y In 1644, Stockport was held for the Parliament by colonels Dukenfield and Mainwaring of Kermincham. On the 15th of May Prince Rupert, who had gathered men in Wales and Shropshire, advanced to Market Drayton, and proceeded by Haslington, Sandbach, and Knutsford, towards Stockport, "plundering most fearfully" *.

On the 25th of May the Prince arrived at Stockport, from whence the parliament officers fled before him into Lancashire †; and as only one man is entered as being killed in the burial register, he probably met with no resistance.



W. Woolnoth sculp.

Land Pub. Co. Lith. by Tinsdalen & Co.

STOCKHOLM.

F. De Witt delin.

RECTORS OF STOCKPORT^b.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1190 circa.	Matheus, clericus.		
1300, kal. Dec.	Robertus de Gassings, cl'us.	Willielmus de Morley miles, rac'o'e Johannæ primog. her. d'ni Ric. de Stockport mil. def. infra æt. in custod. dic. W. Morley.	
1306.	Robertus de Basinge.		
1306, 18 kal. Jan.	Ricardus de Vernon.	Nicholaus fil. Nich. de Eaton.	
1334, non. Aug.	Petrus fil. Jo. de Wetenhall, cl'us.	Johannes de Arderna miles, et Johanna ux. ejus.	P. m. Ric. de Vernon.
1348, 6 id. Dec.	Willielmus de Northwell, cap.	Edwardus comes Cest. hac vice.	
1363, 11 kal. Feb.	Jordanus de Hulme.	Ricardus de Stockport.	P. m. W. de Northwell.
1364, 5 kal. Aug.	Johannes de Massey, pr'b'r.	Thomas de Stathom jure uxoris.	
1376, 9 Oct.	Jacobus de Baggelegh.	Rad'us de Legh et Tho. de Baggelegh hac vice.	P. m. Jo. de Massey.
1404, 29 Nov.	Hugo de Toft, cap's.	Jo. le Manwaring d'nus de Stockport.	P. m. Jac. de Baggelegh.
1407, ult. Aug.	Mag'r Johannes de Fitton, cap.	Jo. Manwaring, scutifer.	P. res. Hug. de Toft.
1460, ante.	Willielmus Tabley.		
1466, 24 Oct.	Johannes Warren, pr'b'r.	Jo. Warren, arm.	P. m. Will. Tabley.
1473, 11 Maii.	Henricus Warren, cap.	Jo. Warren, arm.	P. m. Jo. Warren.
1492, 1 Jun.	Johannes Gerrard, cl'us.	Tho. comes Derby et Robertus Fulleshurst mil. rac'o'e donat. man. de Poynton.	P. m. Hen. de Warren.
1570 circa.	Richard Gerrard, B. D.		
1615, 1 Aug.	Edward Doughty.	Thomas Warren.	Death of Ric. Gerrard.
1616 circa.	Thomas Moreton, D. D.		

The following further particulars, relating to the connection of Stockport with the civil wars, are transcribed from Mr. Watson's extracts from the MS. Journal of Mr. Davenport of Bramall.

"Saturday, May 10, 1645.—Lurd Fairfax's own regiment of horse, under command of lieut. col. Spencer, removed from Macclesfield, where they had been a fortnight, into the neighbourhood of Stockport, and staid a week, then marching to Yorkshire, alleging as a reason for staying their visit, that sir W. Brereton had withheld their pay from them.

"17 Aug. 1645.—Many Scots, 6000 horse and 1000 dragoons, fixed their head-quarters at Stockport, marching that day from Congleton, under command of Lieut. Gen. Lesley. They reported they came from the siege of Hereford that day se'nnight, and that their design was to intercept the King in his expected march into Scotland, who, drawing down towards Bakewell the Thursday before, had given a general alarm to these parts.

"Monday, 25 Aug. 1645.—Major Jackson, commanding eight troopes of Lancashire horse, who had marched forth out of Lancashire in the rear of the Scots, came out of Yorkshire to Stockport. The Major, with Capt. Markland and others, quartered at Bramall. They stayed till Wednesday, and then marched to the Leaguer at Lathom.

"In all these, many quartered at Bromhall."

In the last century, Stockport was twice visited by the rebel army, in 1745, in their advance to and subsequent retreat from Derby, as mentioned at large in the general Introduction.

^b *Matheus, clericus de Stokeport*, first in the list of incumbents, is given on the authority of the witnesses to the baron of Dunham's charter in p. 3, vol. III. Most of his successors bear the names of antient Cheshire families, and many of them may be identified. *Richard de Vernon*, son of the long-lived baron of Shipbrook, will be found in III. 131; and *John de Massey* is referred by his seal, which has occurred several times among the Harl. MSS. to the Tatton family. *William Tabley* and *John Warren* will be found in trust deeds of the Warren family (Watson, vol. II. 112); and the second *Henry Warren* in the family pedigree (vol. III. 344). *Thomas Moreton* is noticed in the account of the bishops of Chester (I. 76); *William Nichols* among the rectors of Cheadle, III. 321, and the Chester monuments, I. 243; and *Richard Gerard* and *Legh Richmond* in the account of the monuments at Stockport, and the former of these in Gerard ped. vol. I. p. 414.

Walker and Calamy both pass over this living in silence, but *Edmund Shaleross* (most probably of the family of that name seated near Taxall) occurs as a suffering loyalist in the list of delinquents of Macclesfield hundred, Aug. 10, 1644. Harl. MSS. 1999. 158.

William Shippen, S. T. P. was instituted in 1675 to the rectory of Aldford in Broxton hundred, and ceded it in 1677, on being presented to Stockport.

William Shippen, a distinguished political character during sir R. Walpole's administration, and son of this rector, about 1672 married the daughter and coheir of sir Richard Stote, kt. by whom he obtained a fortune of 70,000*l*. He represented successively Bramber in Sussex, Saltash in Cornwall, and Newton in Lancashire, for the latter of which he was elected through the interest of Mr. Legh of Lyme, whose aunt, lady Clarke, was married to Dr. Robert Shippen. This William Shippen was the author of several pamphlets and some political poems, and was celebrated both by Pope and Sheffield duke of Buckingham. He died about 1741. His brother, Dr. Robert Shippen, a man of distinguished abilities, was principal of Brasenose college, Oxford, from 1710 to 1745, and has a monument in the antechapel there. As neither Shippen or any of his brothers left any sons, his paternal estate passed to his nephews, the sons of his sister. See Coxe's Life of Sir Robert Walpole, vol. III. p. 204.—Chalmers' Oxford, p. 255.—Bowles's Pope, vol. IV. p. 80. A collateral branch of the family of Shippen were living at Philadelphia in 1787.

John Watson, M. A. who occurs near the close of the list is well known to the literary world by his Histories of the Parish of Halifax and of the House of Warren, and by six antiquarian essays preserved in the Archæologia, to which labours must be added extensive MS. collections for the hundred of Macclesfield. These manuscripts still continue in the possession of his descendants, written in a beautiful hand, and illustrated with sketches of seals and armorial bearings, drawn chiefly from the original muniments of the neighbouring families.

A learned antiquary who has lately followed his steps in Halifax, allows him to have possessed "great antiquarian curiosity coupled with persevering industry,"—"without much either of acuteness or enthusiasm." The same criticism may in a great measure be applied to his account of the Warrens, and more particularly to that of the Stokeports included in the same volumes. He will generally be found unskilful in appreciating the relative value of his various MS. materials, and too much encumbered with the mass which he has collected, to bring it to bear with effect on the subject of his work, but his diligence in collecting is apparent throughout, and his accuracy in abstracting and transcribing is unquestionable.

To the present worthy incumbent the community is indebted for the fulfilment of a higher task, for having superadded to his clerical functions the active discharge of incessant magisterial duties, at a period when insubordination has assumed, and continues to display, the most formidable appearance in the important and populous district committed to his charge.

INSTITUTED.	RECTORS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1644 ante.	Edmund Shalcros. Henry Warren. —— Gerard.		
1674, 11 Aug. 1677, 11 Feb.	Leonard Clayton. William Shippen, S. T. P. William Nichols.	John Warren. John Warren.	Death of Hen. Warren. Death of Leon. Clayton.
1716, 25 Feb. 1726, 29 Dec. 1742, 14 Ap. 1750, 2 Jan. 1769, 2 Aug. 1783, 21 May.	Henry Style, A. M. Henry Style, A. M. Samuel Stead, A. M. Legh Richmond. John Watson, A. M. Charles Prescot, B. D.	Edward Warren. Edward Warren. Samuel Stead, merchant. George Warren, esq. Sir George Warren, K. B. Mary Prescot, widow.	Death of Will. Nichols. Cess. of Hen. Style. Death of Hen. Style. Death of Sam. Stead. Death of L. Richmond. Death of John Watson.

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Mary.

Tax P. N. £18. 13s. 4d. Val Eccl. £70. 16s. 8d.

From the total silence of Domesday with respect to the churches in Macclesfield Hundred, and from other collateral circumstances, there is reason, as before mentioned, for supposing that the antient mother churches of the extensive parishes of Stockport and Prestbury perished in the troubles consequent on the arrival of the Normans in Cheshire.

The advowson of Stockport has been appendant to the manor from the earliest period to which records extend, to the present time.

The late church, an antient building composed of very friable red stone, was supposed to have been erected in the fourteenth century. It consisted of a tower, with nave and side ailes terminating in private chancels, and a principal chancel, to the south of which was another private chancel or oratory, erected by the Vernons of Harleston and Haddon, lords of Marple in this parish.

An act for repairing or rebuilding this church, and the tower of the same, and for making a cemetery for the use of the parish of Stockport, was passed 50 Geo. III. cap. clxv, and a further act for enlarging the powers of the same passed in 1815.

The new church, erected under the sanction of these acts, is a sumptuous fabric, in the florid Gothic style, consisting of a lofty tower, finished with pinnacles and pierced battlements (containing eight bells), a nave with side ailes, and a chancel. The arches which separate the nave from the side ailes are carried up to the ceiling, in order to accommodate the galleries. This arrangement, which the populousness of the parish rendered necessary, has a singular effect to an eye accustomed to the clerestory windows, which usually appear over arches in similar situations.

The following monuments, from the former church, had been re-erected when these church notes were taken in 1817.

On the north side of the chancel a large mural monument. Arms, Sable, a chevron Argent, between three bulls' heads of the second. A crescent Or for difference. Over it is a bust of the deceased, and the inscription is as follows :

Ranulphus
Wilhelmi Wright
de Mottram Andreae armigeri,
et
Franciscæ-Alicia conjugis,
filius.

Natus est secundo die Maii MDCCXXXI;
obiit vicesimo quarto die Aprilis MDCCLIII.

et intra hanc ecclesiam ad australe latus sepultus est.

O rarest pattern of untainted youth,
Of purest manners, probity, and truth,
Humane, benevolent, of social mind,
The friend of virtue and of human kind.
From your own Heaven could you no longer stay?
Unkind to leave us, till we 'd learnt the way;
To leave us thus forlorn without relief,
The only time you ever gave us grief.
If Heaven, in pity to the growing race
Had lent your virtues for a longer space,
What youth must not have felt the influence
Of your just conduct, and your manly sense!
But ah! too soon remov'd, in you we 've lost
A bright example, when we want it most;
Tho' in these rites your absence we deplore,
Soon must we meet again and part no more,
In happier climes and on a safer shore. }
Till then, accept this stone, this verse receive,
All that a father's fondness now can give.

Una reponuntur cineres
Henrici

Wilhelmi Wright de Mottram Andrew armig.
et Franciscæ Aliciæ conjugis,
filii natu maximi.

Nati 1 die Septembris MDCCXXVII. denati 30 die Mart.

MDCCXXVIII.

Elizabethæ fil. nat. 3 natæ 24 die Apr. 1726 denatæ 7 die Mart. 1730.
Mariæ fil. nat. max. natæ 13 die Mart. 1724 denatæ 29 die Oct. 1731.
Franciscæ fil. nat. 2 natæ 6 die Maii 1725 denatæ 22 die Oct. 1740.
Laurentii fil. nat. 3 nati 29 die Mart. 1735 denatæ 5 die Dec. 1740.
Purefoy fil. nat. 4 natæ 27 die Julii 1733 denatæ 22 die Maii 1743.

Talium est regnum Dei.

Hoc marmor

charissimis liberis pater mœrens

P.

MDCCCLVI.

Eastward of this is another mural monument by Westmacott, consisting of a tablet, inscribed as follows, over which is a female figure with a palm-branch in her left hand, reclining against a column, at the foot of which are strewed the insignia of the order of the Bath.

TO THE MEMORY of sir George Warren, late of Poynton in this county, knight of the most honourable order of the Bath, descended lineally from the noble and antient race of the earls of Warren and Surrey, many years representative in parliament for the town of Lancaster, lord of the barony and manor of Stockport, &c. &c. whose remains lie interred in a family vault near this place, in whom the tender affections of the parent, the polished manners of the gentleman, the amiable qualities of the friend, and the social endearing attrac-

tions of the neighbour, were conspicuously united. Elizabeth Harriet Warren Bulkeley (viscountess Bulkeley), wife of Thomas James Warren Bulkeley, viscount Bulkeley of Cashel in the kingdom of Ireland, and baron Bulkeley of Beaumaris in the kingdom of England, his dutiful only daughter and heiress by his first wife, Jane Revell, the only daughter and heiress of Thomas Revell, of Fetcham in the county of Surrey, esquire, deceased, has dedicated this monument as a grateful tribute of her affection and filial piety, and as a lasting record to posterity of her sincere love and regard for the best and tenderest of parents. Obiit Aug. 31, 1801, ætat. 67.

Near this a small mural tablet, inscribed :

In memory
of Jane Frances, daughter
of Robert Langley Appleyard, of London, esq.
and Jane Mary his wife,
and grand-daughter
of the rev. Charles Prescott, rector of this parish.
Died 13th April, 1812,
aged 4 years and 9 months.

Above this, and beyond the communion steps, is a very obtuse arch within the wall, under which has probably been a recumbent figure. At each end are the arms and quarterings of Warren, and in the centre those of Warren impaling Arderne.

On the opposite side, above the altar-steps, are three stalls for officiating priests, placed under cinquefoil arches, inserted within pyramidal niches ornamented with crockets and finials. East of these is a piscina, within a richly ornamented arch.

Within the pillars supporting the stalls is laid the figure of Richard de Vernon rector of Stockport 28 years, who died 16 July 1334. He is habited in his ecclesiastical robes, the head reposes on a small lozenge-shaped cushion, and the feet on a dog couchant. Round the sides of the slab is carved the following inscription, now mutilated :

Ici gist Richard Vernouna personne cest Eglise.

Below the last-mentioned monument is another inscribed :

M. S.
Reverendi Viri Legh Richmond,
hujus ecclesie per viginti fere annos rectoris,
morum integritate, mansuetudine, temperantiâ,
animi liberalitate, constantia, tranquillitate,
et quod cæteris omnibus præstat
pietate verè Christiana
insigniti.
Pastoris boni fidelisque munus alacriter explevit,
suæ pariter ac alienæ salutis memor
otium in urbanis erga amicos officiis,
in strennis erga rem publicam studiis,
omne contrivit.
Dum legum auctoritatem summâ cum fide,
atque diligentîâ latius diffunderet,
dum improborum civium libidines castigaret,
nihil ei sanctius et antiquius erat,

quam innocentiam vi oppressam fortiter vindicare,
miserorum labores, pauperumque inopiam sublevare,
lites denique inter vicinos temerè concertantes
componere :

inimicos non habuit, nisi impios et nefarios homines
quibus nulla lex, nulla religio, nullus existimationis
pudor.

Postquam sexaginta et sex annos cum maxima laude
feliciter compleverat,

uxore, liberis, et plurimis amicis,
febilis decessit

decimo calendar. Julii A. Sal. Hum. 1769.

Monumentum hoc qualecunque sit,
ne testimonium deesset pietatis,
erga parentem optime de suis meritum
posuit filius.

NEAR THIS is a memorial of Henry Richmond, M. D. son of the preceding ; obiit Oct. 4, 1806, aged 64 years.

ON a mural monument at the end of the south aisle :

At the foot of this pillar lie the remains of
John Ardern, of Harden, esq. who died at London,
May y^e 27th, A. D. 1703, an. ætat. 40.

He left issue behind him 2 d^{rs} Margaret & Catherine, by Ann, y^e 2d d^r of St Wm. Ingleby, of Ripley, bart. who in just esteem to her husband's virtues, erected this monum^t to his memory, and to admonish thee (Reader) that hee was worthy thy imitation ; for as he was singularly happy in all y^e virtues of a private conditioⁿ so y^e great concern he shewed in procuring y^e authority of y^e legislature to enable him to do honourable right to his family, tho' to y^e diminution of his own revenue, shows y^t his goodness was not confin'd to himselfe ; and his known abilities might have rendered him a publick blessing, had not circumstances of y^e times he lived in, and those strickt rules by which he govern'd himselfe, hinder'd him from entring upon publick action.

Reader, farewell ! imitate his virtues if thou can'st, or honour at least the memory of him who possesst 'em.

Arms : Ardern impaling Ingleby. Crest : a plume of five white ostrich feathers issuing from a ducal coronet, intended for Arderne, but incorrect.

The following monumental inscription was at the same time on the point of being restored to its original situation :

Near this place
(by permission of Peter Legh of Lyme, esquire),
were interred the remains of
George Clarke, of Hyde, esquire,
who died the 11th November 1777,
aged 62 years ;
and also Edward Clarke, esquire,
his younger brother,
who died the 6th September 1776,
aged 60 years,
being of the elder branch of the family
of the Hydes of Hyde and Norbury^e.

† The following church notes relating to Stockport are preserved in Harl. MSS. 2151, and were taken in the seventeenth century.

“ On the north side of the chancell, painted upon cloths, and set in a frame of wood, is this monument, with the sev'all writings on it :

(A representation of a large tomb, over which is an arched canopy, decorated with arms, &c. of Gerard and Arderne, and supported by eight pillars. On the tomb a recumbent figure in a gown holding a bible. A female figure kneeling at the side.)

On the 1st and 2nd tablet below, several verses out of the Psalms. On the 3d : this monument was erected at the proper cost and charge of Elizabeth Mosley, daughter to Mr. Richard Gerrard, April 10th, anno D'ni 1628. On the 4th : Mr. Richard Gerrard, parson of Stoppport, died May 10, an'o D'ni 1614, æt. suæ 61.

On a larger tablet above : “ Here lieth the body of that reverent and faithfull pastor of this church, Mr. Richard Gerrard, bachelor of divinity, which continued rector of this church above 40 yeares : he was son of William Gerrard, esq. of the parish of Harrow-on-the-Hill in Middlesex, and was married to Ursula Arderne, daughter to Ralph Arderne, of Hawarden, esq. and had 10 children lawfully begotten of her body, viz. Mary, Francis, William, John, Elizabeth, Phillip, Margaret, Richard, Peter, Thomas ; and two others, namely a son and a daughter, who died soon after they were burn.

The Registers of this parish, which are extremely voluminous, commence in 1584^d.

On the western side of the town is the CHAPEL OF ST. PETER, a neat fabric of brick, built in 1768, under the sanction of an Act of Parliament, by William Wright, esq. The endowment consists of the pew rents, a rent charge of £120. per annum, fixed on lands in Mottram Andrew^e, and an augmentation from queen Anne's bounty. The patronage is vested in Lawrence Wright, of Mottram Andrew, esq.

On a handsome pyramidal mural monument, in the centre of the north side of this chapel is this inscription :

To the memory of
William Wright,

of Mottram St. Andrew, in the county of Chester, esq. As a magistrate he was upright, vigilant, and intrepid, but always tempered the severity of justice with the sweetness

of a benevolent heart.

Of virtue and learning he was the patron and example.

In his private conduct he was temperate and regular ;

severe in examining himself, but candid to others ;

tender and affectionate to his wife and family ;

and to sum up all,

the friend of human kind.

To his pious munificence,

we owe this chapel of St. Peter,

erected and amply endowed by him in his life-time,

and also a provision for poor and deserted children of this town,

where he resided many years.

Nor was his bounty confined to the place of his abode,

but largely extended through the course of his life to every useful institution and proper object of compassion.

Supported by a lively faith in Christ,

and an entire resignation to the will of God,

after a life of seventy-three years, embittered with pain and trouble,

he was rewarded with an easy death

on the third day of December, 1770.

To shew to after-times the bright example

of every Christian virtue ;

and as a small testimony of his gratitude

to the memory of his kind relative,

this monument is erected

by the rev. Henry Offley Wright.

Arms: Wright impaling Wilbraham.

On the north side of the altar is a tablet, inscribed :

To the memory of

the rev. Thomas Bentham, M. A.

son of the rev. Samuel Bentham of Ely.

He was born within the precincts of that cathedral, and educated at St. John's college, Cambridge.

In the year 1737 he succeeded to the vicarage of

Aberford in the county of York,

where his laborious discharge of all parochial duties for thirty years

recommended him to the pious founders of this chapel, to which he was presented upon its consecration.

Anxious to promote the glory of God,

and the good of mankind,

he devoted his time and talents

to the duties of his sacred office.

In the public discharge of his ministry,

he was watchful, zealous, prudent ;

in the intercourse of private life,

benevolent, humble, pious ;

recommending what he taught

by the uniform tenor of his own example.

He died May the 2nd, 1790,

in the 76th year of his age.

OPPOSITE to this is an elegant tablet of white marble,

In memory of the rev. George Edward Leigh, A. B.

late minister of this church,

son of John and Susanna Leigh,

of Oughtrington Hall.

He died May 5th, 1808, in the 36th year of his age,

and was interred in the family vault at Lymm.

He was endeared in every relation of life by a most benevolent disposition, and by cheerful piety in the discharge of his sacred duties ; his early death was lamented by all who knew him^f.

BRINNINGTON.

THE township of Brinnington is unnoticed in Domesday, but was shortly afterwards the property of the barons of Dunham Massey, and was confirmed by Hamon,

third baron, to Robert Fitz Walthcof, with Bredbury and Etchels, by a charter which has been given in the account of Stockport^g. In the same account have been

On a gravestone in the chancel :

Here lyeth the body of Arthur Storer, M^r of Arts, who was a most faithful teacher of God's truth, a worthy pillar of Christ's church, and turned many to righteousness, spent himself in this place 37 yeares to give light to others, and now shines in glory the rewarde of his workes, who departed this life the 28 March, 1630. The memory of the just shall be blessed.

In the windows the arms of Grosvenor, Vernon, Grey of Wilton, Sandbach, Arderne, Baguley, Hyde, and Kelveioc earl of Chester, and these unappropriated coats. Ermine, a fesse componè Or and Azure. Gules, a lion rampant crowned Or. Gules, three lioncels rampant Argent ; and Gules, a cross patonce Argent.

In the higher windows, fragments of requests of intercession for Jordan Arderne, John Arderne, "maistris Margery his wyfe," Hyde, John Da'port and Catherine his wife, who contributed the painted glass, and the arms of Arderne, Hyde, Davenport, and Warren.

^d In this parish, as in Astbury, are parish officers called prepositi, or posts, each of whom chuses one of the four annual churchwardens, and they, by yearly custom, make up their annual accounts to such of them as happen to be at the meeting appointed for the purpose. These officers are the lords of Bredbury, Bramall, Brinnington, and Norbury, whom Mr. Watson supposes to have been the persons of the greatest trust and authority *under*, and perhaps the *esquires* of the barons of Stockport, and to have derived their power from the lords of the manor, patrons of the church, "for they who had no estate in the *town* cannot be supposed to have had any original authority there." It is difficult to account for Mr. Watson's not seeing that the office related not to the *town*, but to the *parish*, in which all these families had large estates. Bredbury, with which this office was connected, passed to the Ardernes after the loss of their great lordship of Aldford, but nevertheless they, as well as the other prepositi, would, most probably, have thought themselves degraded if they could have anticipated being hereafter reputed *esquires of the mesne lord of Stockport* (without any disparagement to him), those officers of the baron, by the deed of sir Robert de Stokeport (given by Watson, vol. 11. p. 200) being put precisely on the same footing with his serjeant "Robertus de Ruuley, *generosus*."

^f The *charitable benefactions* will be found at the end of the hundred. Those of modern date, supported by subscription, include a dispensary, and schools for the education of poor children of all denominations.

^e Lysons's Magna Britannia.

^g Vol. 1. p. 399.

mentioned several circumstances which make it probable that the Saxon Stockport was included in this vill, and destroyed on the Norman invasion, leaving the name of Portwood (an inversion of Stokeport) to a part of the township, and that of the "burnt town" to the whole of it.

This Robert appears to have been ancestor of the barons of Stockport, and either the same with, or father of Robert de Stockport, who died 23 Hen. III. holding Etchels, Brinnington, and Bredbury, by the services reserved in the charter before mentioned.

1 Edw. III. Robert Dokenfield obtained from William, son of Walter de Stockport, chaplain, the manors of Dockenfield and *Bernington*, for life, with remainder as mentioned under Duckenfield.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. IV. John de Dokenfield held, inter alia, in joint feoffment with Agnes his wife, the manor of Brinyngton, by military service: val. per ann. xl.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. VI. Robert Dockenfield, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Brinyngton, alias Portwood, with a park and water mill therein, from the king, in capite, by military service: val. xiiii l. viis. vii d. ; and ix mess. in Brinyngton in the same manner; val. xii l. i vs. id.

^bThe manor of Brinnington, with its demesne of Portwood, passed in the same manner with Duckenfield, to the late John Astley, esq. In 1812, William Fox, esq. (the present proprietor of this manor) agreed with the trustees under the will of James Harrison, esq. (purchaser from Mr. Astley), for the purchase of the manor of Brinnington, with several estates therein, which were paid for into the court of Chancery in 1813, when possession was given, but the conveyance was not made complete until 1815.

The lands comprized in this conveyance were 458 acres, which, with 14 afterwards purchased by Mr. Fox, and two farms of 61 acres belonging to Mr. Thomas Marriot, constitute the *whole of Brinnington*, as distinguished from Portwood.

In PORTWOOD, Messrs. Borrons and Farrington purchased from Mr. Harrison's trustees, in 1810, Portwood Hall and lands, which now (1819) belong to Messrs. Borrons only, and amount to 124 acres; 50 acres in the same were purchased by Mr. Fox, 23 by Mr. Jesse Howard, 15 by Mr. Peter Marsland, 27 remain unsold, and 15 were sold as building land.

The whole township thus contains 787 acres, of which the demesne of Portwood comprizes 254.

The township and manor of Brinnington are co-extensive; and a court baron is held for the manor. No suit is due to any other court than the leet of the hundred of Macclesfield, at which court the constables are sworn.

The half of one of the chapels in Stockport church is appurtenant to the manor, and the owner thereof is one of the four præpositi of the parish.

The Portwood part of Brinnington is now become populous, and forms part of the town of Stockport. Since the purchase above-mentioned, the present manerial proprietor has inclosed Brinnington moor, and made extensive plantations; and for the improvement of the higher and more distant part of the township, in 1816, procured an act of parliament for making through it and Portwood, a branch from the Aston-under-line turnpike road to the bridge over the Mersey in Portwood, which has been since laid out, and is now nearly completed.

H Y D E.

ABOUT the time of king John one moiety of this township was vested in a family which bore the local name, and was then represented by Matthew de Hyde, who had issue, according to Dugdale's pedigree, II. sir Robert Hyde, kt. son and heir, who was lord of this manor and Newton (or part thereof) in Cheshire, Shalcross and Ferneley in Derbyshire, and Halghton and Denton in Lancashire, in which county he had also 9 oxgangs of land in Heiton^c.

III. Robert, son of this Robert, married, according to the same authority, cosyn and heir of Thomas de Norbury, by which marriage the lordship of Norbury came to the Hydes, but it appears probable that this match refers to the preceding generation, as the second Robert certainly married Alice de Hyde mentioned in the following pedigree, and appears to have had an elder brother, John; which John, as "son of Agnes de Herdislee, cousin and heiress of Thomas de Norbury," quitclaims to Robert his right in Norbury, Newton, and half of Hyde^d. This grant implies an earlier union of Norbury and Hyde than Dugdale's pedigree would allow, and in the subjoined genealogical table is marked by dotted lines, leaving the male descent unaltered.

This Robert had issue sir John Hyde, knt. son and heir, and Alexander, ancestor of the Hydes of Denton, an adjacent township on the Lancashire bank of the Tame, which he had by gift of his father^e.

III. Sir John Hyde, kt. married, to his second wife^f, one of the daughters of sir William Baggiley, of Baggiley, sister and coheiress of John Baggiley of Baggiley. On this sir John was settled by the said sir William in 13 Edw. II. "the manor of Hyde,"^g meaning most probably the other moiety of Hyde, which afterwards passed to the other sister, but he nevertheless obtained several estates by this marriage (as mentioned in Godley), and the Hydes henceforth used the coat of Baggiley, inverting the colours and adding a chevron for difference.

To his first wife he married Margaret, daughter of sir John Davenport, by whom he had, 1. John, and 2. Roger, mentioned in settlements of the manor of Norbury and half of Hyde^h, 12 Edw. II. and 31 Edw. III. as issue of this marriage, who appear to have died without issue. He had also issue, 3. William, mentioned in the last settlement (but not as son of Margaret) who appears to have been issue by the second

^b The author is indebted to William Fox, esq. for the subsequent information.

^c Hyde MSS.

^d Williamson MS. Vill. Cest.

^e Hyde MSS.

^f She is called erroneously in the pedigrees *Isabel*, which was the name of her sister, who married sir John Legh of Booths, as by *Inq. p. m.* 43 Edw. III. Her own name was probably *Ellen*, as that name is sometimes given in the pedigrees to her sister by mistake.

^g See vol. I. p. 415.

^h Williamson, MS. Vill. Cest.

marriage; 4. Ralph, ancestor of Hyde of Urmeston, co. Lanc.; 5. John, (according to Dugdale, who omits the two first,) and according to a pedigree, apparently drawn from deeds (Harl. MSS. 2161), had also issue Hugh, Thomas, and Robert, the last of which was of Halghton, 51 Edw. III. and married to Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Staveleyⁱ.

This sir John served under the Black Prince 30 Edw. III.^k and sold the manors and estates of Shalcross, Ferneley, Godley, Newton, Heigham, &c. and his lands in Heaton^l.

IV. William de Hyde, third son and heir, married, according to Dugdale, Margaret, daughter and heir of sir John Davenport, of Bramhall, which from comparison of dates appears erroneous. H. MSS. 2161. substitutes, and probably with correctness, Alice, daughter of Richard de Bromhall.

V. Robert Hyde, son of William, appoints, 2 Hen. IV. Thomas Staveley, of Staveley, his attorney, for his manors of Norbury and half of Hyde.

IX. Robert Hyde, of Hyde and Norbury, fourth in descent from Robert last mentioned, died 22 Hen. VIII. holding, inter alia, half of this manor, eight messuages, and 640 acres of land therein from John Legh of Baggiley, by the yearly payment of 4s. leaving his grandson Robert his heir. By a third marriage this Robert (the elder) was ancestor of the Hydes of Westhatch, of whom was Edward Hyde, earl of Clarendon, and chancellor of England, grandfather, through his daughter, Anne Hyde, duchess of York, of ANNE and MARY successively QUEENS OF ENGLAND.

The direct male line of this family terminated, about the beginning of the last century, in Edward Hyde, who had issue two sons and one daughter, who died without

issue; and another daughter, Anne, wife of George Clarke, lieutenant-governor of the province of New York, and son of George Clarke, esq. of Swanswick, near Bath. Mr. Clarke dying in 1760, was succeeded by his eldest son of the same name, who died without issue in 1777, whereupon the manor of Hyde passed to his nephew, George Hyde Clarke, esq. in whom the same is now vested.

Hyde Hall (generally called Hyde Mill, from an ancient mill near the mansion,) is the residence of the manerial proprietor, and was new-cased with brick by the late possessor, in his father's life-time. A considerable portion of the former fabric is preserved in the interior; and from the arms of Hyde, with several quarterings, *impaling Brooke*, appearing in the carved wainscot of one of the apartments, it is probable that the hall was rebuilt about the time of the restoration. It is situated on low ground, near the Tame river, on the verge of the county; and of late years the increase of collieries and manufactories in the immediate neighbourhood, has added more materially to the value of the land, than to either the picturesque appearance or actual comfort of the surrounding district.

A court is held regularly for the manor, and suit is due from the township to the court leet held for the hundred of Macclesfield.

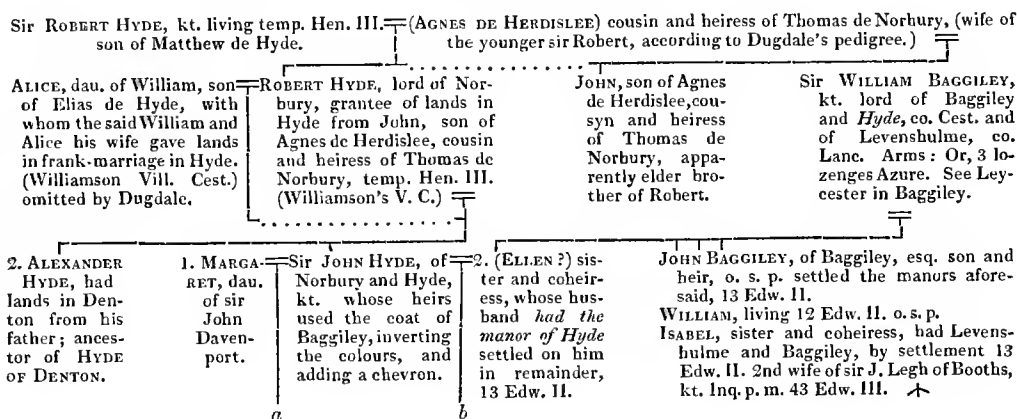
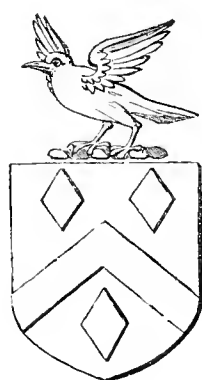
From the inquisitions after the death of Robert Hyde, 22 Hen. VIII. it appears that the share of this manor, which descended from the Baggileys of Baggiley to the Leghs, had a paramount jurisdiction over the other moiety; but this is supposed to have been long united to the Hyde share by purchase, and the lands which passed with it are said to have been sold in parcels.

HYDE OF NORBURY AND HYDE.

From a pedigree entered in the Visitation of William Dugdale 1663-4, and another pedigree in the possession of the family, collated with Leicester's and Williamson's collections, and corrected therefrom in the early parts, and continued from the information of G. H. Clarke, esq. to the present time.

ARMS OF HYDE. Azure, a chevron Or between three lozenges of the second.

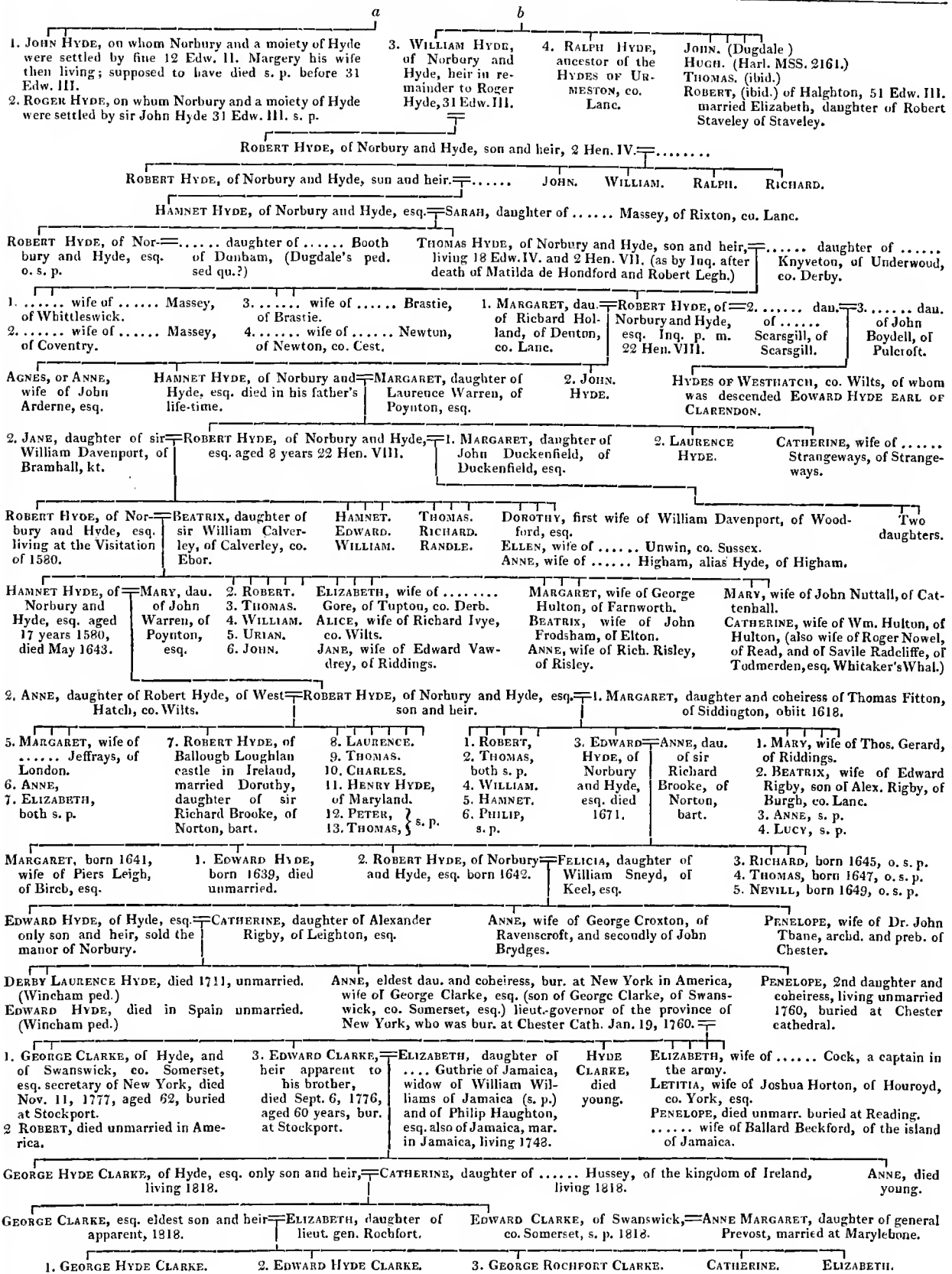
CREST. On a wreath a crow, with wings elevated, proper.



ⁱ A branch of the Hydes occurs at Halghton, or Haughton, in Lancashire (adjacent to Hyde), temp. Edw. IV. See vol. I. p. 401. col. II. The Hydes of Ardwick, in Lancashire, who descend from Thomas Hyde, of Haughton, living Jan. 24, 1622, are traditionally said to have branched from the Hydes of Hyde; but whether from this line or otherwise, no opportunity has occurred of determining. The manor of Haughton now belongs to G. H. Clarke, esq. but an estate therein is or was lately the property of the Ardwick branch.

^k MSS. 2161. 254. b. This pedigree appears to be the first draft of a pedigree from deeds, and the compiler seems to have got into considerable confusion in consequence of this John having a son of the same name.

^l Hyde MSS. and Williamson's Fines, as to Godley; but, according to the Newton pedigree (see Pownall), Newton was alienated, temp. Hen. III. by Robert, brother and heir of Richard de Hyde, an elder brother, not named in the pedigree.



DUCKENFIELD, OR DUKENFIELD.

At the earliest period to which records extend, this vill was parcel of the fee of Dunham Massey; from which circumstance it is most probable that it was either included among the extensive appendages of the demesnes of Bromale or Bretberic, the first of which was held by the barons of Dunham at the conquest, and the latter shortly afterwards transferred to them by the Vernons of Shipbrook.

In the account of Bramall, mention is made that Dukenfield was confirmed to Matthew de Bromeale about the time of Richard I. as part of his father's estates, by the third Hamon de Massey; and that with reference to this, among other townships, Richard de Bromeale had a release from being impleaded in the court of Dunham, 17 Edw. I.

Previous to this, if the following pedigree by Booth is correct, mesne lords had assumed the local name. These held Dukenfield under Bramall, from the lords of which place they were probably descended; and it is observable, that the second in the pedigree bears the favourite name of the barons of Dunham.

1 Edw. III. Robert Dokenfield obtained from William, son of Walter de Stockport, chaplain, the manors of Dokenfield and Brinnington, for life, with remainder to his heirs; then to Robert, son of Ellen Banestre, and his heirs; then to John, brother of Robert; remainder to Joan, sister of John; remainder to Alexander Dokenfield and his heirs.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. IV. John de Dokenfield held, in joint feoffment with Agnes his wife, the manors of Dokenfield and Brinnington, cum pert. from the lord of Bromall, by military service, val. per ann. xvij. xiiij. s. i. d. Robert, son of Thurstan de Dokenfield, next of kin and heir.

Robert, found heir by this inquisition, is recognized as manerial lord of Dokenfield, in the inquisition after the death of John Pigott, of Butteleggh, 6 Hen. VI.

Inq. p. m. 3 Edw. VI. Robert Dokenfield, esq. held the manor of Dokenfield from the king, in capite, by military service, and the render of 11s. viij. d. value xvij. s.; also the manor of Brinnington, alias Portwood, and lands therein and in Baguley, Stockport, and Eggerley. Val. tot. lxxxvi. viij. s. xij. d. Edward Dokenfield son and heir.

From this period the annexed pedigree brings down the descent of the manor and its dependencies to the last male representative of the *direct* line, sir William Dukenfield Daniell, bart. and the subsequent descent of the baronetcy, in the next collateral male line, to sir Nathaniel Dukenfield, bart.

The said sir William Dukenfield Daniell (who assumed that name on succeeding to the property of the Daniells of Over Tabley) settled his estates in remainder, after the death of his daughter, on his widow Penelope, who re-married John Astley, esq. a portrait-painter, of London, of whom a memoir is given in the Biographical Dictionary of Chalmers.

Mr. Astley re-married, and had issue as mentioned in the following pedigree, and was succeeded by his eldest son by the second marriage, Francis Dukenfield Astley, esq. in the manor of Dukenfield, and such of the estates of the Dukenfields and Daniells as were not alienated by

Mr. Astley or his trustees. A court-baron is held for the manor^a.

The present residence of the manerial proprietor is a house called Dukenfield Lodge, built opposite to the town of Ashton-under-Lyne, which is on the other side of the Tame. This river flows with a clear and rapid current in front of the mansion, through scenery naturally highly varied and picturesque: but the streets and manufactories of Ashton have joined themselves to similar buildings, extending through the greater part of this township, and, added to the effects of the numerous collieries in the neighbourhood, have long destroyed all appearances of picturesque beauty or of comfort. Dukenfield hall, the seat of the antient proprietors, is situated on high ground in the western part of the township, and appears to have been originally a large quadrangular building of timber and plaister, surrounded by a moat yet partly remaining. Views of both mansions are given in Aikin's History of Manchester.

A CHAPEL is attached to the old Hall, for which, as a private oratory, a licence was granted to John de Dokenfield, 1398^b. It is included by sir Peter Leycester among the chapels of ease in Stockport, and is inserted as such in the present official catalogue of them, but does not appear to have been ever otherwise than domestic. In this chapel, according to Aikin's Manchester, "are buried some of the later branches of the Dukenfield family, under large tomb-stones," the inscriptions on which are stated to be "still perfect," but when the hall was examined in 1817, if any remained they were concealed under litter. The chapel had ceased to be used as such before the publication of the beforementioned work in 1795.

LIEUT. COL. ROBERT DUKENFIELD, the celebrated Parliament officer, was born (according to Mr. Watson, from whose MSS. this brief memoir is chiefly taken^c) Aug. 28, 1619. In 1643 he was appointed by parliament one of their commissioners for Cheshire in the ordinance for sequestering estates of delinquents, and in another for raising money for the service of the commonwealth. In the next year (May 25), in concert with col. Mainwaring of Kermineham, he commanded a few forces sent to guard Stockport bridge against prince Rupert. His soldiers are supposed to have retired without fighting, as only one soldier is entered as killed in the parish register.

His next service was the siege of Withenshaw, see p. 314.

In 1647, Dec. 25, col. Dukenfield occurs among the persons to whom Fairfax wrote respecting the disbanding regiments on the side of the parliament, to which great arrears were due; (Rushworth, 7. 946.) and in the proceedings of the Commons, May 24, 1648 (Ibid. 7. 1127) it is mentioned that he had held a meeting with the gentlemen of Cheshire, and had concluded to raise three regiments of foot and one of horse. Some correspondence on this subject will be found under the head of Marple.

In 1650 col. Dukenfield was governor of Chester, and on Aug. 20 in this year, it was agreed that four regiments of 700 each should be raised in Cheshire, Dukenfield to have the regiment composed of Wirral and Broxton men.

He next appears as a member of the court martial

^a Information of Mr. J. A. Newton, agent of Mr. Astley.

^c A few additions have been made from other MSS. and the references verified.

^b Gastrell, Not. Cest.

which sat over the earl of Derby, a transaction which, in depth of murderous malice, certainly brings the members of this black tribunal awfully near to the guilt of the regicides themselves. The deposition of Elcocke (given under Marple) states that a pardon was obtained by Henry Bradshaw for the noble earl, and was lodged in the hands of col. Dukenfield, but the reader will probably not think that deposition sufficient evidence for charging the colonel with its suppression.

His next operations were announced in the earl of Derby's last letter to his brave countess, Oct. 12, 1651. "The governor of this place (Chester) col. Dukenfield is general of the forces which are now going against the isle of Man, and however you might do for the present, in time it would be a grievous and troublesome business to resist, especially them that at this hour command three nations. Wherefore my advice, notwithstanding my great affection to that place, is, that you would make conditions for yourself, and children, and servants, and people there, and such as came there to me, to the end you may go to some place of rest where you may not be concerned in war; and taking thought of your poor children, you may in some sort provide for them, then prepare yourself to come to your friends above in that blessed place where bliss is, and no mingling of opinions."

On the 18th of this month col. Dukenfield sailed from Chester, but was driven to Beaumaris, and did not arrive at the isle of Man before the 25th. The countess of Derby replied to his summons that she was to keep the place by her lord's command, and that without his order she would not deliver it, but the islanders deserting her, she judged it prudent to submit. Captain Christian, to whose care the place was entrusted, suffered the forces of colonels Dukenfield and Birch to land without resistance, and seized upon the lady and her children, which he delivered up with the governors of Castle Rushen and Peel castle. The thanks of the parliament were voted to the officers last mentioned, and the articles drawn

up by capt. Christian approved by the parliament.

Col. Dukenfield was subsequently returned for Cheshire with Henry Birkhead in the little parliament which met July 5, and sat to Dec. 12, 1653, and these, with 137 others, were nominated members of the council of state appointed by Oliver Cromwell July 4, 1653^c.

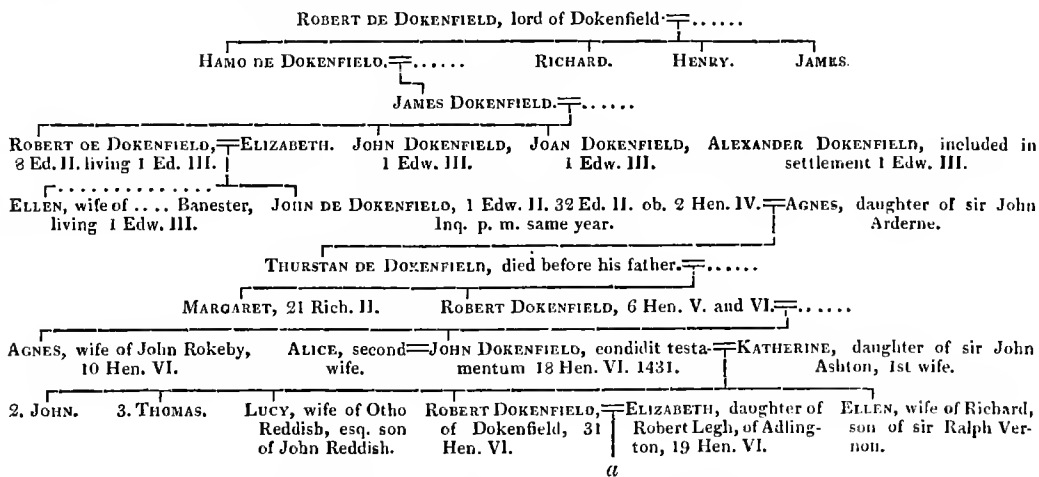
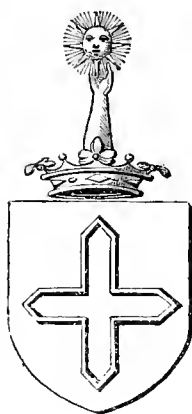
In 1659, Dukenfield was engaged, under Lambert, in suppressing sir Geo. Booth's insurrection, and had £200 voted for his services; but was immediately after instrumental, along with colonels Ashfield and Cobbet, in forwarding to the parliament a petition from the officers of Lambert's brigade, complaining of their tardiness in suppressing the late rebellions, and the inadequacy of the rewards given to those concerned in its suppression, &c. The parliament finding that compliances which they had shewn encouraged the army to become mutinous, voted the commissions of the subscribers, as well as that of general Fleetwood, to be void, and thereby causing an alarm, the officers concerned in the intended reform drew together, and the parliament ordered some regiments to march to Westminster for their defence, where they and their troops were subsequently blockaded by Lambert and his adherents. The differences of the soldiers were settled by the council of state the same evening, but during this commotion, the speaker, endeavouring to pass in his coach through the malcontents towards the house, was prevented by col. Dukenfield, and his coach was turned by him, and sent back^d.

After the restoration he was tried as one of the officers who sat on the earl of Derby's trial, "and afterwards imprisoned in the county, under pretence of being concerned with many others in carrying on a plot to seize the king and tower, to kill the queen and as many of the French nation as should be found there, and to restore the parliament." This appears to be the last occasion in which he was brought forward in public life. The exact time of his decease has not occurred, but it most probably took place before 1665, when his son was elevated by Charles II. to a baronetcy.

DUKENFIELD OF DUKENFIELD.

ARMS: Argent, a cross voided, pointed, Sable.

CREST: a cubit arm proper, issuing from a ducal coronet, and grasping a sun, with rays, Or.



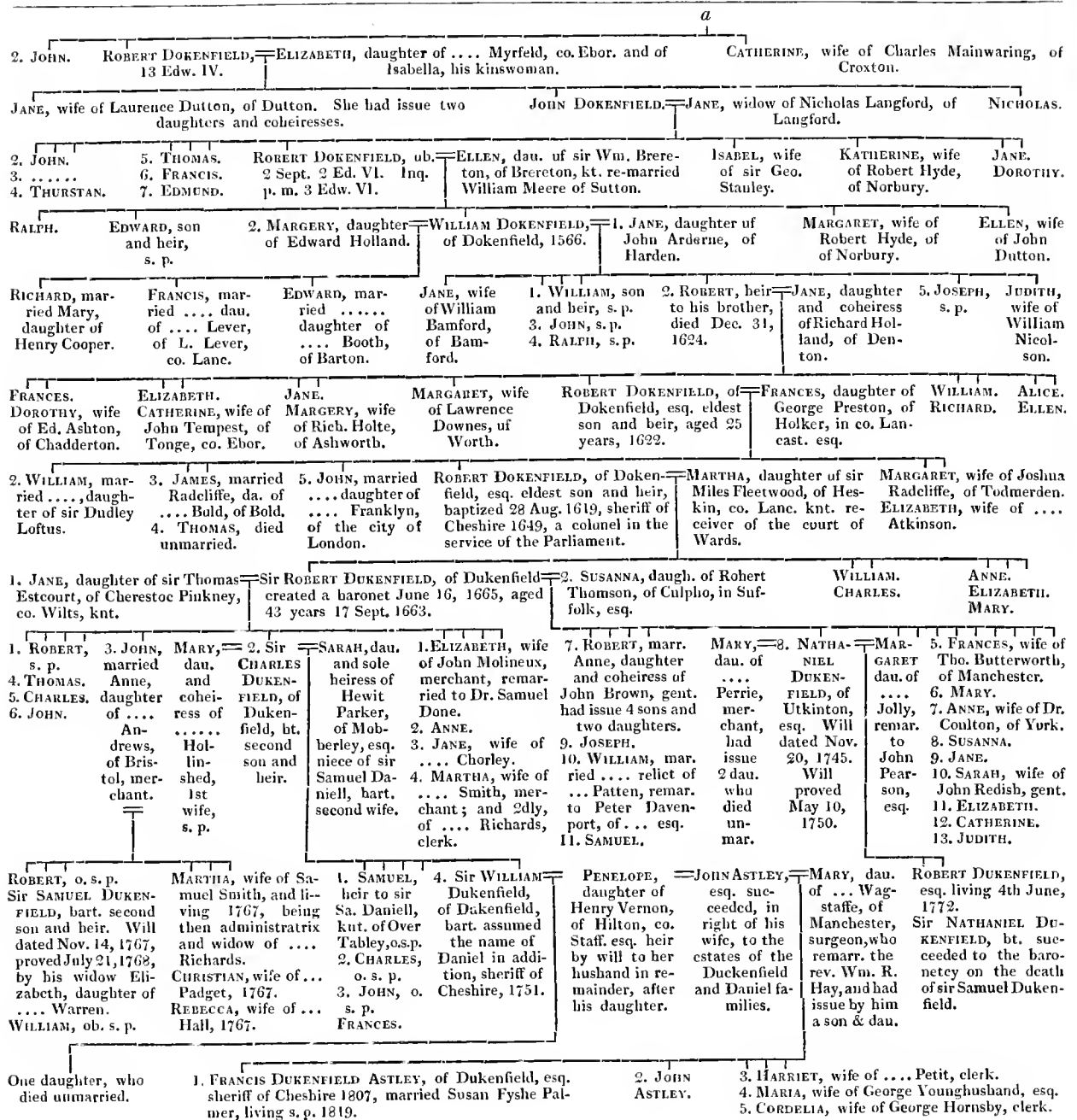
^c Mr. Watson gives in his MS. a copy of an instrument appointing colonel Dukenfield, which differs materially from that in Whitlock's memoirs, p. 532. It was not the original appointment, for which reason it is not here inserted, but it was found among col. Dukenfield's papers.

^d See Heath's Chronicle, 428-9, and Ludlow's Memoirs. The subject is introduced in a loyal old song, entitled, "The Gang, or the Nine Worthies and Champions," as follows:—

Dukenfield (steel was never so true,
And as wise as ever was Toby)
Lay in the porfeu,
The cock-pit avenue,
To hinder the speaker's go-by.

And in the 2nd part,

Duckenfield's in a pitiful case,
The speaker's horses and coach
Were at stake with the mace,
But he threw aums ace,
Tyburn owes him a reproach.



B R E D B U R Y.

ISDEM Ricardus de Vernon tenet Bretberie, et Uluric de eo; qui et tenuit ut liber homo. Ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est in carucarum: ibi unus Radman et vi villani, et ii bordarii habent unam carucam. Silva ibi una leuvâ longa, et dimidia leuvâ lata, et iii haia et una aira accipitris. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x solidos, modo similiter.

From the Vernons of Shipbrook this manor passed to the Masseys of Dunham, most probably by one of the early exchanges of lands which, in other instances, transferred estates from one of the original Cheshire baronies to another; and in the time of Hen. II. the same was held under Dunham by Walthcof. To his son Robert it was confirmed, temp. Ric. I. or Johan. by Hamon de Masci, third baron, by the charter printed in the account of Stockport; and temp. Hen. III. Robert de Stokeport, apparently either the same with the preceding

Robert, or his son, held it from Dunham with Etchells and Brinnington, by the tenure specified in the charter before mentioned, as by *Inq. p. m.* 23 Hen. III.

30 Hen. III. Gervase de Bura, with consent of Alice his wife, restored to Robert de Stockport all the land which they held of him in Bredbury, Hattersleigh, &c.^a

16 Edw. III. in a general inquisition relating to tenures, the manor of Bredbury is found to be held from the lord of Dunham by doing service to the king in time of war, with one uncaparisoned horse.

40 Edw. III. Isabel, daughter of sir Richard Stokeport, held, inter alia, the manor of Bredbury, cum pert. in demesne, from Roger Strange, lord of Dunham, by military service, value per ann. cs.

Two subinfeudations took place in this township, about this time, in consequence of which the Ardernes

^a Williamson's Fines.

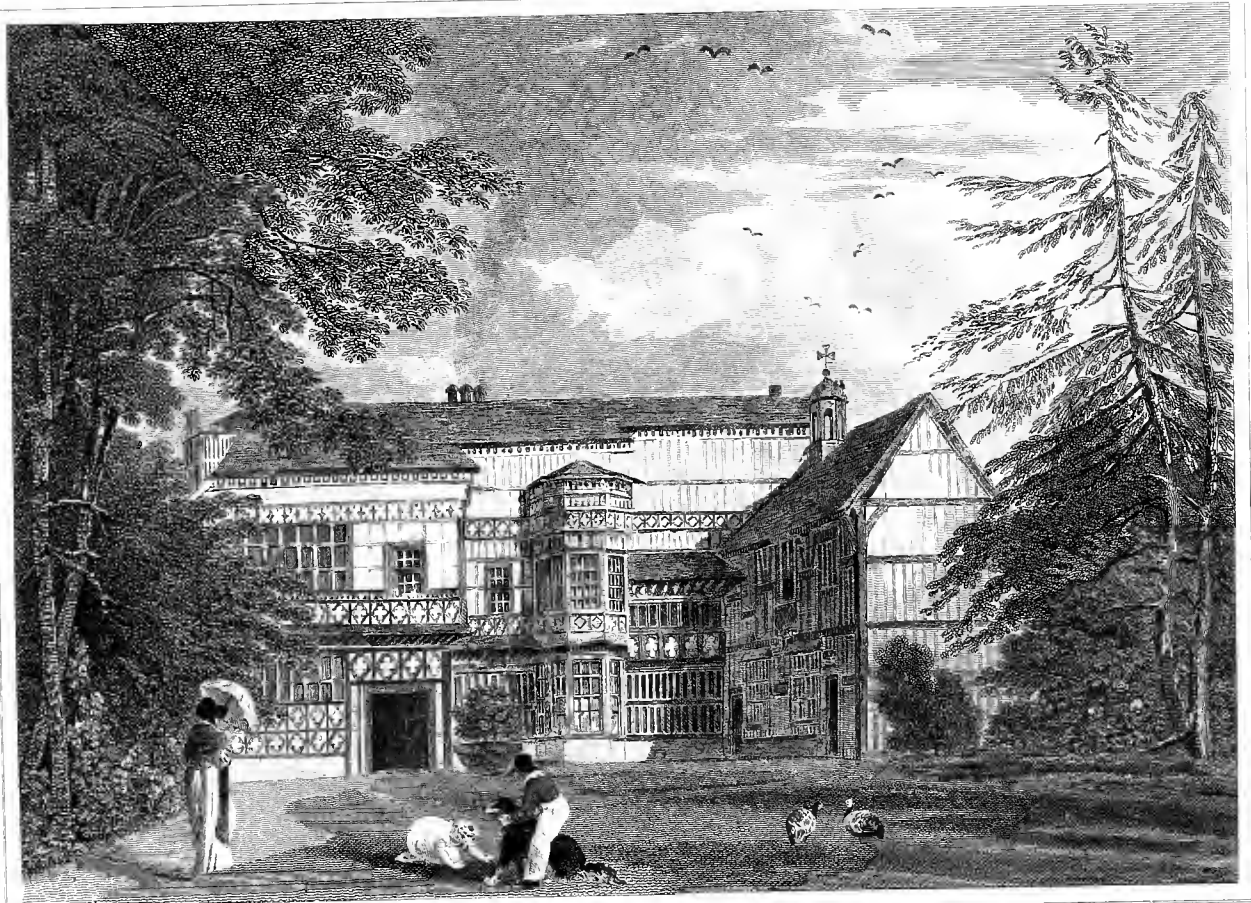


F. De Wit delin^t

Local Pub. March 1. 1850 by Lockington & C^o

W. Woolmoth sculp^t

HARDEN HALL.



F. De Wit delin^t

Local Pub. March 1. 1850 by Lockington & C^o

W. Woolmoth sculp^t

BRAMALL HALL.

of Alvanley and the Davenports of Henbury, both possessed manerial rights in this township.

The ARDERNES of Alvanley obtained their interest in the township in right of the marriage of Peter de Arderne with Cecilia, daughter and heiress of Adam de Bredbury, the particulars of which have been given from an abstract of the Arderne evidences, in the account of Alvanley^b.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VIII. Thomas Arderne held, inter alia, the manor of Harden, and lands in Bredbury, from sir William Booth, knt. as of his manor of Dunham Massie, in socage. Value, per annum, viii.

Inq. p. m. 30 Hen. VIII. Ralph Arderne, esq. held, in demesne as of fee, inter alia, the manor of Hardyn and the water-mill of Bradbury, from George Booth, esq. as of his manor of Dunham Mascy, in socage. Value, xiiii. vis. vii. d.

Inq. p. m. 6 Edw. VI. John Arderne, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Hawarden, and lands, messuages, and mill, in Bredbury, from George Booth, esq. in socage, by fealty only. Value, per ann. xxxiiii. os. vii. d.

From this period the hall and demesne of Harden, and the interest of the Ardernes in this manor, have descended, according to the pedigree given under Alvanley^c, to the present representative of that family, John Arden, esq.

With respect to the manerial interest possessed by the DAVENPORTS of HENBURY, in this township, it appears that, 5 Rich. II. John Davenport, sen. and Thomas, his son, obtained from sir John Warren and Margaret his lady, 30 messuages and 410 acres of land therein, and 20s. rent, cum pert. in Romiley, Wernith, and Etchells, to be held to them and their heirs, paying 1d. yearly^d.

Inq. sup. br. 5 Hen. V. Margaret^e, widow of Gilbert Trussel, held in dower, after the death of John de Davenport, late her husband, lands in Bredbury, Romyleghe, and Wernith, from the lord of Stockport, in socage, by the render of 1d. for all services, value vi. Christopher Davenport, of Woodford, son of Nicholas, son of John and Margaret, next of kin and heir.

Notwithstanding this inquisition, by which the Woodford branch were found heirs, the Henbury line had succeeded to this property, as appears by the following inquisition, taken the year preceding.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. V. Hugh Davenport of Henbury held, inter alia, two parts of the manor of Bredbury, Romyley, and Wernith, with the reversion of those parts of the same which Margaret, widow of William de Brereton (*qu. Newport?* See *ped.*), held in dower; which manors are held of the lord of Stockport in socage. Val. per ann. xl.

In 44 Eliz. Randle Davenport, of Henbury, esq. and William his son, passed over to George Sanders (apparently in trust) the manors of Henbury, Pexhull, Bredbury, Wernith, and Romiley, and 200 messuages^f.

In 1645, Goyte Hall, in Bredbury, is noticed as the

property of the Davenports of Henbury (in a list of delinquents, Harl. MSS. 2130.), and it is probable, that subsequently their manerial rights in the township either fell into disuse, or were conveyed to the Ardernes.

A court baron is now held for this manor by John Arden, esq. the style of which is "the court of the manor of Bredbury cum Goit."

Harden, the demesne land of this manor, gave name, about the time of king John, to Richard de Harderna, contemporary with Richard lord of Aldford, to whose estates John de Arderne, the earliest known ancestor of the Ardernes of Alvanley and Harden, succeeded. It is not improbable, as mentioned in the accounts of Alvanley and Aldford, that Hardern might be a local name occasionally used by the lord of Aldford, and consequently that the ancestors of the Ardernes had an estate in the township previous to their obtaining a manerial interest here by marriage with the heiress of Bredbury. The name of Harden is now usually pronounced Arderne in the neighbourhood, and is somewhat fancifully supposed by Mr. Whitaker to be one of the relics of the name of Arderne, the forest in which he is pleased to place his British Mancenion^g.

Whatever may be thought of this theory, Harden is highly interesting as a fine specimen of the domestic architecture of the sixteenth century. In the form of the windows and staircase turret, and the arrangement of the entrance, it bears so near a resemblance to Poole Hall, in Wirral, that it is not improbable both mansions were from the design of one architect. The situation is high ground, immediately overhanging the stream of the Tame; and the original part of the fabric is a tall pile of grey stone, behind which a slender turret rises above the rest of the building, and includes a circular stair-case: in the front of the mansion are projections terminating in gables, some unusually large bay-windows, and a flight of steps leading to the great hall. This apartment is about eleven yards in length by eight wide; but at the upper end is a raised part, which extends into the one projection noticed in the front, and into another at the back of the building, making the ground-plan somewhat resemble the form of a T. The room is very lofty, and is wainscotted about three yards high, the upper part being plaster; but nearly the whole surface is covered with a very unusual number of ancient family paintings, the greater part of which are going rapidly to decay, and some gone irrecoverably. The rest of the apartments are small: some of them are wainscotted, and some have ceilings ornamented with pendants; and in one apartment is an ancient carved oak bedstead, probably coeval with the hall itself.

At the sides of the mansion are two small buildings of brick, projecting at right angles, and stuccoed, one of which appears to be an addition of late date, and is therefore omitted in the annexed engraving.

^b Vol. II. p. 39.

^c Vol. II. p. 41.

^d Williamson's Fines.

^e This is a misnomer either of the jury or the transcriber of this Inquisition, for *Elizabeth*. The wife of this John Davenport was Elizabeth Legh, of Betchton, and *Margaret* was the name of her elder sister, who married Thomas Fitton. See p. 160.

^f Williamson's Fines.

^g History of Manchester, quarto edition, pp. 342-9.

BRAMHALL, OR BRAMALL.

FROM the following extract from Domesday, it appears that two manors existed in this township in the Saxon period, the proprietors of which were ejected to make way for the baron of Dunham Massey.

Isdem Hamo tenet Bramale; Brunus et Haccun pro 11 maneriis tenuerunt, et liberi homines fuerunt: ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est vi carucarum: ibi unus Radman, et 11 villani, et 11 bordarii, habent unam carucam; silva ibi dimidia leuva longa, et tantundem lata, et dimidia haia, et una acra prati: Tempore R. Edwardi valebat xxxii solidos, modo v solidos. Wasta invenitur.

The annexed charter from the third baron of Dunham (temp. Hen. II.) confirms to Mathew de Bromeale, the manors of Bramall, Duckenfield, and two parts of Baggiley, which had been previously held by his father, whose name is not mentioned, but who was probably younger son or near kinsman of Hamo de Masci, the Norman grantee.

Hamo de Masci omnibus amicis, clericis et laicis tam presentibus quam futuris salutem. Sciatis omnes, me dedisse, &c. Matheo de Bromeale, Bromeale et Dukenfeld et 11 partes de Bagguley quas pater suus de me tenuit, et heredibus suis in feodo loricae, illi et heredibus suis tenendum de me et heredibus meis libere et quiete, &c. faciendo mihi et heredibus meis liberum servicium feodi unius loricae: et sciatis me hunc predictum Matheum, et heredes suos, et terras illas predictas ei quietum clamasse, de me et heredibus meis, de servicio et consuetudine quas ego Hamo de illis predictis mihi fieri postulabam, videlicet de aratro et hercia^b, et segete^b ferendis, fenum^b colligendo et homagio faciendo, de averiis, et pannagiis et de salicis^c, et de omnibus aliis serviciis, praeter servicium feodi unius loricae. Hiis testibus Rogero de Massye, Will. de Carington, Rob. de Massie, et Ric. de Fitton, et plurimis aliis hoc audientibus et videntibus^d.

6 Edw. I. Richard de Bromhall obtained a conditional release for himself and his tenants, in Bromhall, Duckenfield, and 11 parts of Baguley, from Hamon de Massey, from being impleaded in the court of Dunham. He is called sir Richard in the pedigrees of this family, "son of William, son of John, son of Edward," and is allowed for his armorial coat, Sable, a lion rampant Or, which might possibly have reference to the lion rampant on the early seals of the lords of Dunham, but that bearing is of such common occurrence, that it is perhaps scarcely to be considered (on seals) as the representation of an armorial distinction at that period.

Richard de Bromhal, had issue sir Geoffry, whose daughter and heiress, Alice, according to Dugdale's and other pedigrees, married John Davenport, second



son of Thomas Davenport of Wheltrough, 22 Edw. III.^e 20 Ric. II. Hugh de Toft, chaplain, obtained of John Davenport, of Bromhall, and Alice his wife, the manor of Bromhall, half the manor of ———, and the 20th part of the barony of Nantwich^f.

Inq. p. m. 15 Hen. VI. Robert Davenport held messuages and lands, 23s. rent, and the render of half a pound of pepper; and of half of two barbed arrows in Sydenhall, Wich Malbank, Haslington, Coule, Copenhall, Groystow, and Whelocke, in joint feoffment with Jane his wife (of the feoffment of Hugh de Toft, chaplain) of the king as earl of Chester in capite, val. per ann. x marks; he held also a xxth part of the barony of Wich Malbank, and lands in Withington; and held in demesne as of fee from sir Thomas Stanley and sir Robert Booth, and William Chantrell, as of their barony of Dunham Massey, the manor of Bromhale by the service of one haubergeon fee. Val. xl marks. John de Davenport, next of kin and heir.

Inq. p. m. 18 Edw. IV. John Davenport, of Bromhall, esq. held in demesne as of fee, lands in Sydenhall, Wich Malbank, Haslington, Cowle, Coppenhall, Grestowe, Whelocke, and Teverton, val. £11. 17s. 6d. and held also the manor of Bromehall, and lands in Wythington, from George Booth and Robert Massey, by services unknown. Val. xl marks. William Davenport son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 33 Hen. VIII. William Davenport, of Bromhall, held lands in Sydenhall, &c. as in the preceding inquisition; and lands in Dockenfield, Hale, Macclesfield, Upton, and Weston, and held also the manor of Bromhall from Edward earl of Derby, George Booth, esq. and Robert Chauntrell, gent. as of their manor of Dunham by the render of xxviii. ijd. Val. xlii. xii. xid. Died Oct. 29, anno p'd'to. William Davenport son and heir. Val. tot. lxxvi. iis. viid.

Inq. p. m. 19 Eliz. Sir William Davenport, kt. held the manor of Bromhall, and lands therein, from the heirs of Hamon de Massie, by the military service of one haubergeon, and by the render of xxvi. viiid. val. per ann. xl. xijs. viiid.; also lands in the townships before mentioned, and in Clotton. Died Sept. 13, a'o p'd'to. William Davenport, esq. son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 28 Eliz. William Davenport held the manor of Bromhall, as in the last *Inq.* val. liiii. xijs. viiid. and various tenements therein and in Cowdale severally valued, and estates in Sydenhall, Wich Malbank, and the various townships before mentioned. Died Sept. 6, a'o p'd'to. William Davenport, son and heir.

The annexed pedigree will connect these inquisitions, and brings down the descent of the manor to the present proprietor, William Davenport, esq. who holds a court baron for the same, and to whom every estate in the township pays quit-rents. The constables are sworn in the court leet of Macclesfield hundred^g.

^b In MS. *harcet et segitt*, and *feu*, which are obvious corruptions of the transcriber. *Seges* occurs in another instance (Chron. MS. An. 1196.) in the sense here meant, viz. "*Granum quod ad molendum defertur.*" See Adlung (quoting Carpenter), Gloss. Manuale, vol. VI. p. 167.

^c In MS. *Salicher*, another obvious error. *Salica*, opera quae a domino exigi possunt. Carp. Gloss.

^d Harl. MSS. 2074, 122 b, from a charter penes Jo. Booth, gent. 1651, C. 124 a.

^e See Davenport, p. 39, Wheltrough, p. 357, and Henbury, p. 351.

^f Williamson's Fines.

^g The following narrative of the grievances of Peter Davenport, of Bramall, during the great rebellion, written by himself, with a singular simplicity, is transcribed from a copy of the original, made by Mr. Watson, rector of Stockport, now in the hands of his nephew, Holland Watson of Congleton, and presents an interesting picture of the mode in which the comforts of the considerable families were affected by the national calamities, even when distant from the great scenes of action, and unaffected by the loss of relatives in the struggle.

"On New Year's Day, 1643, sir William Brereton being about Stopport, captain Sankey, captain Francis Dokenfield, with two or three troops,



P. De Witt sculp.

London: Pub. for Lillie by Livingston & Co.

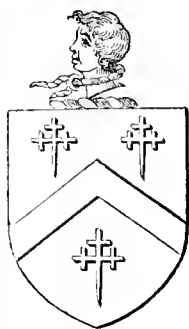
BROADWAY, N. Y.

Chas. F. Smith sculp.

DAVENPORT OF BRAMHALL.

From the records of the College of Arms, collated with Harl. MSS. 2119, the Visitations, and other evidences.

ARMS and CREST as Davenport of Davenport, with filial distinction.



came to Bromhall and went into my stable, and took out all my horses; then they drove all they could find out of the Parke, taking them quite away with them, above twenty in all; afterwards searched my house for armes again, took my fowling-piece, stocking-piece, and drom (which sir William had left me), with divers other things; and although, by means my wife made to sir William Brereton, we had a warrant from him to have all my goods taken at that time to be restored, and had my young horse, with some other horses, againe, yet we lost them, both horses and other goods, which we could never after get. In May 1644, captaine Standley's men took my mare from me at Widford, and made me to come home on foot, and shortly after came to Bromhall to be quartered notwithstanding. Next day after they were gone, came prince Rupert his army, by whom I lost better than a hundred pounds in linens and other goods, at Miles End, besides the rifling and pulling in pieces of my house. By whom and my lord Goringe's army I lost eight horses, and besides victuals and other provisions, they ate me threescore bushells of oats. No sooner was the Prince gone, but Standley's cornet, one Lely, and twenty of his troope (which before had fled the country), hastened their return to plunder me of my horses which the Prince had left me, which they did, not regarding the quarter they had here before, their captaine's letter concerning my mare, nor my care in preserving what I could of my neighbours horses being taken, but tooke all I had, seventeen of mine own and my children's, of which

Bramhall is situated about two miles south-west of Stockport. The first appearance of the hall is unusually striking, exhibiting a long and lofty line of irregular buildings of timber and plaister, standing on a considerable elevation at the intersection of two deep vallies, near the bank of a rivulet. The building was originally quadrangular, but the western side of the quadrangle was removed by the present proprietor, who has also taken down a long gallery which extended along the top of the eastern side, and added much to the imposing effect of the building^b.

A porch admits from the court into the great hall, (situated on the east side of the former quadrangle) which still retains its bay-window, marking the site of the high table. At the other end was formerly a passage through the building, as in college halls, communicating with the culinary offices on one side, and with the hall on the other.

A spiral staircase, composed of solid blocks of oak, leads from hence to the drawing room, a noble apartment, about twelve yards square, wainscotted nearly to the top. Over the wainscot are ornaments in stucco, and the arms of the successive alliances of the Davenports. The ceiling is enriched with pendants. On the mantle-piece, which ascends to the top of the room, are the arms of Elizabeth, and the date 1592 occurs in the ornamental casings of the door-posts. Round the apartment is hung a fine series of family portraits, commencing with sir William Davenport, aged 65, and dame Dorothy his wife, aged 66, 1627. Among other portraits, are originals of Edward Warren of Poynton, 1594, æt. 32; Sir Urian Legh of Adlington, æt. 39, 1632; and Henry earl of Derby, 1583, æt. 51, being then lord-lieutenant of Lancashire and Cheshire.

Beyond this are the plaster room (so called from the materials of the floor) hung round with buff coats, imperfect suits of armour, and military weapons; and a bed-chamber, called the paradise room, from a bed in which the entire history of the Fall was worked in worsted by the hands of dame Dorothy Davenport, who appears

by the inscription to have laboured on it from 1610 to 1614. The entire arrangement of this little room is probably unequalled as a specimen of the furniture and decorations of the time. A wainscotted apartment in the south-east angle leads hence to the banqueting room, which occupies nearly all that remains of the first story on the south side of the quadrangle. This singularly curious room is about forty-two feet by twenty-one; the floor is plaister, and the sides are timber and plaister, painted with figures and foliage in imitation of tapestry. The roof is divided lengthways into six compartments supported by massy arched timbers, the alternate ones being supported by uprights, resting on obtuse arches of oak, sprung from pilasters: the sides of these arches are ornamented with foliage, rosettes, and quatrefoils, and finished at the top with an embattled moulding. There have been originally three windows in each side divided by upright mullions only, with highly carved gothic heads. The central window on the north side projects out into the quadrangle, resting on a bracket below, on which among some bold carvings in oak is the shield of the Bramhall family. In these windows are armorial bearings in stained glass with damasked grounds.

The domestic chapel, which is in the south-east angle, under the wainscotted room before mentioned, has a flat roof supported by brackets, is fitted up with oaken benches, and retains much antient painted glass in its windows. At the end of one of the benches is a curious carving in oak, the æra of which, from the devices, consisting of the rose and fetterlock, the feathers of the principality, the ragged staff and the rampant bear of the heiress of the earls of Warwick, may be referred indubitably within the reign of Richard the Third.

In this chapel is the family vault, over which is an inscription, commemorating

Martha, wife of William Davenport, esq.
who died
December 25th, 1810,
aged 63 years.

we could never get any one restored. Then came the commission for sequestration. On Friday the 9th of Aug. 1644, information was brought in to the sequestrators for delinquency, by oath as they say, but by whose malicious instigation I could not yet come to know, but certainly by my own tenants.

Aug. 12. (Notwithstanding all the aforesaid losses and expenses I had suffered on the parliament's side, and sir William Brereton's promise to the contrary), there came to Bromhall William Barret, capt. Edmond Shelderdine, Richard Button, George Newton, Gerard Heys, Robert Ridgway, John Wharmby, William Thompson my tenant, Daniel of the Lane, William Smith, commissioners deputed by the sequestrators for Macclesfield hundred (viz. Henry Bradshaw, Edward Jackson, William Watson, Michael Parker, William Siddall my tenant, Francis Newton) with a commission directed to them from the said sequestrators to take an inventory of all my goods, both within the house and without, which they in a most strict and severe manner performed, going into every room of the house, and narrowly searching every corner, causing all boxes and chests to be opened, which otherwise they threatened to break uppe, being in the mean time guarded with a company of musquettiers, who stood in the parke and all about the house with their matches lighted.

The Thursday next ensuing they began their examination of witnesses to prove me a delinquent, not sparing what they could extort from any one that might turne to my *disadvantage*, wherein some of my owne tenants shewed themselves forward to give in evidence against me, but I must not know who they were.

About three weeks after I received a warrant from the sequestrators to appear before them at Stopport in person, to answer such objections as they had framed against me, which I accordingly did, where they alledged against me that I had joined with the commissioners of array at Hooe-heath, at Knotesford, and at Macclesfield; whereunto I affirmatively answered that I was there, and withall gave them such reasons for my being there as might have satisfied them, yet nevertheless I did conceive that my composition made with sir William Brereton, sir George Booth, and col. Dockenfield since then, and my restraint from armes, might free mee from delinquency in that point, if thereby I had incurred the penalty thereof. With these and such other allegations in defence of myselfe at that time, I thought I had given them such satisfaction as I should have heard no more from them, till above a month afterwards I received another warrant to appear before them at Stopport againe, where they said they had more to charge me withall, concerning my delinquency. I accordingly came before them the second time (colonel Dockenfield being there) and then they demanded if I had taken the national covenant, and pressed me with it, whereunto I desired to have time given me in such a weighty matter to advise with some of my friends about it, and at length got ten days respite to answer it at Namptwich, where I in the mean time satisfied the gentlemen and councill of warre, and had a certificate from them to the sequestrators for that purpose; they not herewith contented nor with any reasonable satisfaction I could give them, and neglecting my just allegations in defence of my innocency, proceeded further against mee in renewing their commands to my tenants to detaine my rents from mee, and commanding them to bring their leases before them in viewing and rating all my landes; and in conclusion, unlesse I would agree to give them 500*l*. in composition, they intended to proceed against me as a delinquent in all rigour and extremity. This composition of 500*l*. I was constrained to make with them on Friday the 7 of March 1644, though not as acknowledging myselfe guilty of delinquency, yet thereby to buy my own peace, and rather than suffer myselfe and my estate to fall into the handes of them of whose unjust proceedings I have already sufficient tryall, referring my future success to the protection of the mighty God of Heaven, who will right me I hope in his good time.

^b The gallery is restored from an original drawing (taken by the author in 1809) in the annexed engraving of Bramhall hall (east front), and the interior of the former quadrangle is given in another plate, placed opposite p. 399, which exhibits the entrance to the great hall, and its bay window, and the projecting wing containing the banqueting room. This is unquestionably the oldest part of the fabric, and is generally supposed to have been erected by the Bramhalls, but this rests only on the circumstance of their shield being introduced unimpaled.

DISLEY STANLEY.

This vill consists partly of freeholders and partly of copyholders holding from the forest court of Macclesfield, in the jurisdiction of which the township is included. Two families, severally bearing the names of the hamlets of which the township consisted, held their lands here by the service of subordinate foresters.

JORDAN DE DYSTELEGH has been already noticed as one of the nine foresters claimants of liberties in Macclefield forest about 16 Edw. I. which Jordan held his land of Dysteleghe by a charter of earl Randle, viz. by a charter granted to his predecessors^a.

General Inq. of tenures 16 Edw. III. John de Sherde holds a certain forestership in right of Joan his wife, val. per ann. xxs. This Joan was heir general of the Disteleys, and probably daughter of Richard de Per-ton, who by an Inq. taken subsequently was found to have held inter alia a forestership in Macclesfield forest, held from the earl of Chester by grand serjeancy, val. xxs. to which at the time of that Inq. his next kinsmen, Richard, son of Richard de Sherd, and Richard, son of

Richard de Reddish, were next heirs.

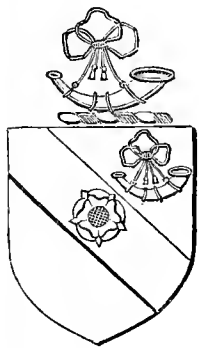
Inq. p. m. 16 Hen. VI. William del Sherd held in demesne, as of fee, messuages and lands in Disteleghe, and a forestership in Disteleghe, from the king as of his manor of Macclesfield, as the tenth part of a knight's fee, val. xxviss. viiijd.; also lands in Adlington; the rest of the Inq. torn.

Inq. p. m. 13 Edw. IV. Hugh del Sherde held as in the last Inq. William Sherd son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 12 Hen. VII. William del Sherde held in Disteleghe as before. William Sherd son and heir.

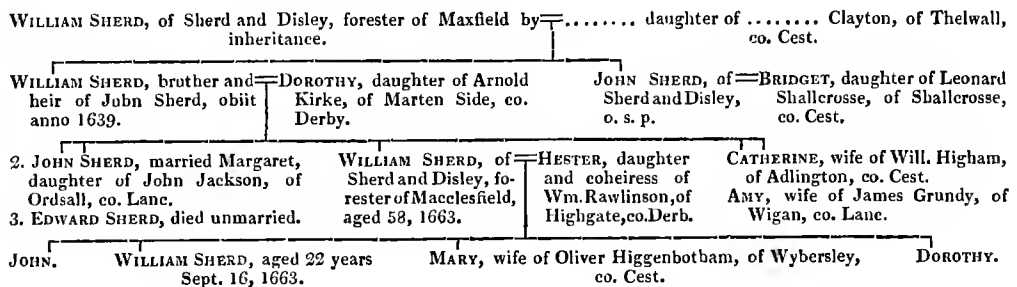
Inq. p. m. 7 Hen. VIII. William Sherd held in Disley as before, and died 5 Hen. VIII. William Sherd, son and heir, aged 4 years.

No opportunity has occurred of tracing this family beyond the annexed pedigree, transcribed from Dugdale's Visitation of 1663-4, which commences with the heir mentioned in this Inq. who has also been noticed as appointing his deputy forester in a swainmote court held 20th Eliz.^b



ARMS. Argent, on a bend Sable a rose Argent, in the sinister canton a bugle strung Sable.

CREST. On a wreath a bugle Argent, strung and garnished Sable.



GRYM DE STANLEGH has been mentioned in the claim, 16 Edw. I. as one of the foresters already noticed, holding Stanlegh (on the north side of Disley) by antient tenure. William "de Stanlega" occurs also among the witnesses of earl Randle Blundeville's grant of Marple to Robert de Stokeport, and was most probably of this family, which appears to have escaped all notice of the Cheshire collectors.

No inquisitions of the Stanleghs have occurred, but they probably held lands in Sutton, to the tenure of which their forest services had also relation, as lands in Sutton only are mentioned in the Inq. after the death of John, son of Roger Dicon, 38 Hen. VI. as the estate to which his forest service was attached, and Roger, son of John Dicon, stands in the place of the Stanleghs in the general Inq. 16 Edw. III.^c

The forestership of the Stanleghs had passed to the Savages before 20th Eliz.^d

Lands in Disley were also held by the Suttons of Sutton by forest tenure, which were part of the estate held by antient tenure 16 Edw. I. in Sutton and Dysteleghe by John de Sutton, and afterwards merged in the descendants of his brother forester and apparent kins-

man, Adam Fitz Alan de Sutton, noticed in the same Inq.^e

This township (in which the chief property now belongs to the Leghs of Lyme) is situated on the edge of Derbyshire, and in the centre of it is the village of Disley, chiefly built with stone, a considerable thoroughfare between Manchester and Buxton. The situation is on the bank of a small stream, in a deep and wooded valley, the church standing on a hill immediately above the buildings, surrounded with limes, and seen to singular advantage from the garden of the neat and comfortable inn of the village.

The present fabric of the church is composed of an embattled stone tower, containing six bells, a body without side aisles, and a chancel. The chancel and the vestry adjoining have been rebuilt with brick.

The windows in the chancel, in the gallery appropriated to the Legh of Lyme family, and in those opposite to it, namely those at the west end of the church, and a large one in the steeple (which is open to the church) are filled with a miscellaneous collection of stained glass. In the last is a fine series of the arms and quarterings of the antient English nobility of the time

^a Vide p. 280.

^b P. 281.

^c See p. 281. The services of the Downes family are in like manner sometimes referred to Sutton Downes, and sometimes to Taxall.

^d Ibid.

^e See Sutton, and p. 280.

of Elizabeth, and in the others are some portraits, and several fine old shields emblazoned with the quarterings of the Leghs of Lyme.

In the body of the church is a brass memorial in memory of Henry Sumner, curate of Disley (died Sept. 21, 1606, buried Sept. 24 following) put up by sir Peter Legh, of Lyme, and near it a mural tablet commemorating George Barbor, also curate of Disley, who died June 12, 1799, aged 81.

On a flag-stone is also a memorial of Joseph Watson, buried June 3, 1753, aged 104, park-keeper at Lyme more than 64 years, "the first that perfected the art of driving the stags."

"This chapel was consecrated in 1558^f, and dedicated

to the Virgin Mary, and was made parochial upon a composition between sir Peter Legh of Lyme and the inhabitants of Disley, and sir Edward Warren, patron of Stockport, and the inhabitants of that parish: the inhabitants to repair their chapel, and to pay all dues to y^e mother church."^g It was certified to bishop Gastrell that 20 nobles (£6. 13s. 4d.) were paid by the rector, which, with surplice fees and contributions, made it worth about £25. per ann.

The patronage is vested in the Leghs of Lyme, and the value of the curacy was returned by the bishop of Chester in 1809 as £44. 10s. per ann. arising from augmentation, stipend, surplice fees, seat rents, and interest of legacies. The Registers commence in 1591.

NORBURY.

BIGOT, the Norman grantee of those townships which afterwards formed the great fee of Aldford, held this township at the time of the Domesday survey, the description of which probably includes Offerton and Torkington, which were dependencies of the same fee, but are not noticed by name in Domesday.

Isdem Bigot tenet Nordberie; Brun tenuit, et liber homo fuit; ibi una hida geldabilis: terra est iv carucarum. Ibi unus Radman, cum iii bordariis habet unam carucam: ibi una acra prati: silva v leuis longa, et iii leuis lata, et ibi iii haiæ. Tempore R. Edwardi valebat x solidos, modo iii solidos; wasta inuenitur.

A mesne manor was afterwards vested in a family which bore the local name, and in the time of Hen. III. . . . cousin and heiress of Thomas de Norbury brought the same in marriage to Robert de Hyde, as more fully mentioned in the account of that township.

Norbury continued vested in this family until the close of the seventeenth century, about which time it passed by sale from Edward Hyde, of Hyde, esq. to the Leghs of Lyme, with which estate it has subsequently passed, Thomas Legh, of Lyme, esq. having a life

interest therein, with remainder as in that estate and its other dependencies.

A court-baron is incident to the manor, and suit is due from Norbury (which lies partly in the forest and partly in the hundred of Macclesfield) to the court-leet of the latter, in which the constables are sworn.

The hall is a ruinous building, originally built with timber and plaister, standing to the right of the road from Stockport to Macclesfield, about four miles south of the former.

Nearly opposite to the hall is the chapel of Norbury, a plain, low building of brick. In bishop Gastrell's time it was certified that there was no certain maintenance for the curate. He served Poynton as well as this chapel, and his surplice fees in both were about £1. per ann. and his other receipts from Norbury about £8. 10s. per ann. of which £4. was paid by Mr. Legh the patron, the rest by the inhabitants.

The patronage of the chapel is still vested in the material proprietor. In 1809 the bishop of Chester returned the yearly value £66. 15s. arising from augmentation, stipend, seat-rent, and surplice fees.

The Registers begin in 1723.

TORKINGTON.

TORKINGTON^a and Offerton, as previously mentioned, were antiently dependencies of the great fee of Aldford in Broxton hundred, and are unnoticed in Domesday, both being probably included in the survey of Nordberie adjacent, which was held also from Aldford. A mesne manor in Torkington was afterwards held under the Ardernes of Aldford by the Leghs of Booths, who pro-

bably acquired it in marriage, in the same manner as their moiety of Mobberley.

33 Edw. III. Isabel, wife of John Legh, obtained from Richard del Hall of Bromhall, and Margery his wife, Peter Cartwright of Altrincham and Margery his wife, the fourth part of the manor of Torkington.

In 17 Ric. II. John, son of Henry de Honford, is

^f There was, however, an antient chantry at Disley, which is thus noticed in the general ecclesiastical survey, 26 Hen. VIII.

Cantaria in Dystley Deyn Thomas Davenport, capellanus, ib'm.

Valet in terris et tenementis eidem cantarie spectan. per a'm iii l.

X^{ma} inde viijs.

There is a school at Disley with a small endowment, the master of which is nominated by the Leghs of Lyme. It is mentioned in Gastrell's Notitia (about 1719), but the master had then no settled salary.

^g Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^a If the reader is fond of etymologies, he may turn to Whitaker's Manchester, vol. II. p. 48, 4to edit. where that author gravely refers the origin of the name of Torkington to sir Turquine, no less a personage than one of Arthur's knights, whom he makes the Saxon commandant of Manchester castle, giving his history in three quarto pages!!

found to hold lands in Torkynton from John Arderne of Aldford; and 7 Hen. VIII. William de Handford is found to hold the same from Leigh of Booths.

Inq. p. m. 18 Hen. VIII. Philip Leigh, of Booths, esq. held, inter alia, the manor of Torkynton, and lands in Offerton, from the heirs of sir John Arderne, kt. in socage, by the render of viiid. ob. per ann. Val. xii. viiis. viiid.

Inq. p. m. 5 and 6 Phil. and Mar. Sir John Leighe, of Booths, kt. held, inter alia, the manor of Torkynton from the crown, valued, together with lands in Moberley, at xviii. xiiis. ijd.

The reputed manor of Torkington is at present vested in John Legh, esq. of Bedford-square, London, second surviving son of the late Peter Legh, esq. of Booths^b.

Webb mentions in his Itinerary a family resident here in 1621, which bore the local name, but they appear to have been only freeholders, and are not said to have possessed any interest in the manor.

The township is situated three miles south of Stockport, at the division of the roads to Disley and Macclesfield, at the sides of which is built a populous village called Bullock Smithy, deriving its name from an ancient tenement of that name, which occurs in the perambulation of Macclesfield forest, 17 Jac. I. as one of the boundaries between the forest and hundred^c. Torkington lies within both these jurisdictions, and the constables are sworn in the hundred court^d; no court-baron is held or claimed for the reputed manor^e.

OFFERTON.

It has been stated in the preceding township, that Offerton was probably included in Bigot's manor of Nordberie at the time of the Domesday survey, and that afterwards, like Bigot's other estates, it was a dependency of Aldford; under this great fee it was held by the Stockports, and afterwards by a family which bore the local name, the heiress of which, about the time of Edw. IV. married Thomas Wynington.

Ralph Wynington, fifth in descent from these parties, dying without male issue about the end of the sixteenth century, his estates were parted between the Wrights of Nantwich and Bradshaws of Marple, into which families his daughters had married. The reputed manor and hall of Offerton are now vested in Lawrence Wright,

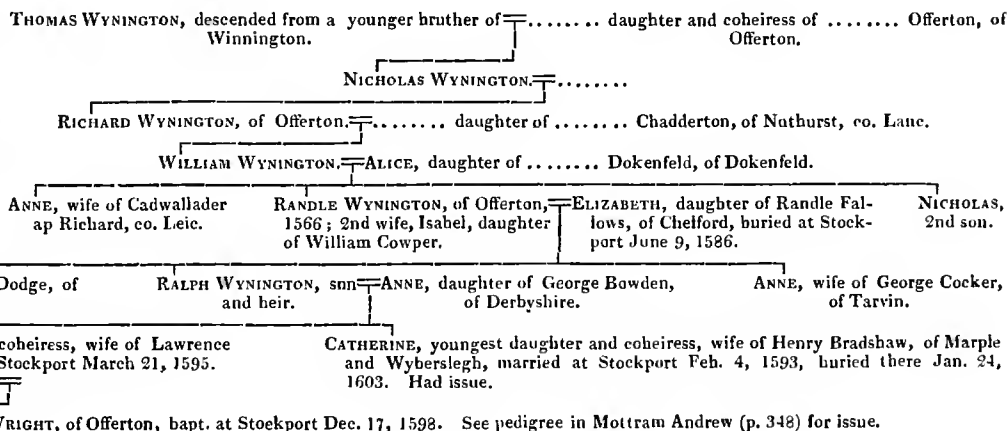
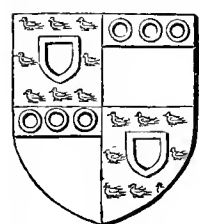
of Offerton and Mottram Andrew, esq. lineal descendant of Lawrence Wright and Anne Winnington, the eldest of these coheirresses.

Offerton hall is a large antient building of brick with numerous gables, now occupied as a farm-house. The ground is flat in front, and the general aspect of the surrounding cottages and country have the unpleasant appearance inseparable from the precincts of a manufacturing town, but the back of the mansion commands a prospect over a rich valley towards Torkington. No court-baron is held for the manor, but suit is due from the township to the leet of Macclesfield forest, in which court the constables are sworn, and in which district the entire vill is situated.

WYNINGTON OF OFFERTON^f.

From Buoth's MS. pedigrees, with additions from the Stockport registers.

ARMS as Winnington of Winnington: Argent, an inesccheon Sable within an orle of martlets of the second, (see vol. II. p. 112) quartering Offerton: Gules, on a chief Or three annulets of the first.



^b See ped. vol. I. p. 383.

^c P. 281, note.

^d See p. 283.

^e Information of John Legh, esq.

^f The Winningtons of Stanford Court in Worcestershire, barts. were probably either of this branch of Wynington, or of the *Hermitage* line. Sir Francis Winnington, solicitor general, founder of that family, is stated by Kimber (vol. III. p. 135) to be son of Francis Winnington of Powick, an officer in the army, temp. Car. I. but (as the author is informed by Dr. Prattinton) in the entry of his admission into the society of the Middle Temple, he is described (28 Nov. 1656) as "Mr. Francis Winington, eldest son of John Winington, of the countie of Chester, gent."—and the *still*, the crest of the Cheshire family, appears on the book-plate of Edward Winington, son of sir Francis, and justice of the great court of session of Chester.

M A R P L E.

THE name of this township was antiently Merpull, alluding obviously to the antient expansion of the waters of the Goyt in the vale below. It is omitted in Domesday, being most probably a waste district within the forest of the earl, and was granted out in the time of Philip de Orreby, just. Cest.

Randle earl of Chester, by deed without date, then granted to Robert, son of Robert de Stokeport, "Merpel et Wibreslegam" cum pert. the land which Walter held from the aforesaid Robert in Upton, and one burgage in Macclesfield, to be held from the earl "in feodo &c. per servicium forestarie pro omni servicio, salvis mihi et heredibus meis aeriis accipitrum et nisorum, et falconum, et venatione in boscis ad predictas terras pertinentibus. Et predictus Robertus, et heredes sui, et eorum homines, habebunt sibi necessaria in predictis boscis, sine vastatione et destructione foreste mee. Hiis test. Philippo de Orreby," &c.

By a subsequent charter, which describes the bounds of Marple and Wibresleg, these places were granted by the aforesaid Robert to his sister Margery, and her husband William Vernon, to be held by the service of finding one forester, with exceptions in favour of the earl as before. Test. Ph. de Orreby, &c. Seal, a triangular shield, emblazoned with three lozenges, circumscribed Sigill. Roberti de Stokeport^a.

This William Vernon was chief-justice of Chester 1230-2, and was male ancestor of the Vernons of Harleston, Haddon, Sudbury, and Hilton; he has been generally supposed to be the same with William Vernon, younger son of Richard baron of Shipbrook; but from the circumstance of his having succeeded to the estate of Harleston, or Herlaveston, in Staffordshire, it has been doubted of late whether he was not son of Walter Vernon of that place^b.

The interest of the Vernons, of Harleston and Haddon, in Marple, is subsequently noticed as follows in the fines and inquisitions.

30 Edw. I. John de Mottrum obtained of Richard de Vernon the manor of Merpul cum pert.

3 Edw. II. Robert Mottershead remits to Richard de Vernon the manor of Merpul cum pert. excepting 12 bovates of land, 20 acres of wood, and 40s. rent, &c. cum pert.

General Inq. of tenures 16 Edw. III. The lord of Merpull holds the said vill from the king by free forestry in the forest of Macclesfield. Val. 20 marks.

Inq. p. m. 50 Edw. III. Richard de Vernon, of Harleston, held in demesne as of fee the manor of Merpull cum pert. from the earl in capite by grand serjeancy. Val. xvii. xvs. xd. ob. Ralph Vernon son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. IV. Richard de Vernon, of Harleston, ch'v'r, held in demesne, as of fee, two parts of the manors of Merpull and Wibresleg in the forest of Macclesfield, and the reversion of the third which

Juliana, widow of one Richard de Vernon, ch'v'r, holds in dower from the earl in capite by military service, and by finding one forester in the said forest. The two parts worth xli. xiiii. iyd. Richard son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 17 Hen. VI. Sir Richard Vernon, kt. held in demesne, as of fee, the manor of Merpull cum pert. from the king in capite. Val. per ann. xx marks. Fulco Vernon son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 38 Hen. VI. Elizabeth, late wife of John le Zouche, held in demesne, as of fee, for life, the manors of Marpull and Wybresley, from the king by the service of free forestry in Macclesfield forest. Val. per ann. xl. Found to have died without heir.

Inq. p. m. 7 Edw. IV. Sir William Vernon, kt. held in demesne, as of fee, the manors and vills of Merpull and Wybresley from the king as earl of Chester, by service of free forestry in the forest of Macclesfield. Val. per ann. xl. Henry Vernon son and heir^c.

Sir Henry Vernon, found heir by the last Inq. was the erector of one of the noblest specimens of antient domestic architecture now remaining in England, Haddon hall, situated on the bank of the Wye near Bakewell. His grandson, sir George Vernon, named the king of the Peak from his wealth and hospitality, died without issue male, leaving two daughters, Dorothy, wife of sir John Manners, ancestor of the duke of Rutland, and Margaret, wife of Thomas Stanley of Winwick, ancestor of the present earl of Derby. The male line was however continued by the younger sons of sir Henry Vernon, from the fourth of whom, Humphrey Vernon of Hodnet, the present lord Vernon is descended, who represents also the Vernons of Haslington and Vernons of Sudbury in the female line.

In the partition of the lands of sir George Vernon, Marple and Wybresleg, with Tonge, and probably other estates, passed to his daughter Margaret Stanley.

Inq. p. m. 42 Eliz. Margaret lady Stanley, late wife of sir Thomas Stanley, kt. and afterwards of William Mather, esq. held in demesne, as of frank tenement, for life, with remainder to her right heirs, the manors of Marple and Wybresleg cum pert. with lands therein, from the queen as of the earldom of Chester, by military service, and by finding one forester within the forest of Macclesfield. Val. per ann. xviii. xs. She died at Coventry Sept. 9, 38 Eliz. Edward Stanley, of Winwicke, esq. next of kin and heir, aged upwards of xxxv years.

The manor and lands of Marple were sold in parcels by sir Edward Stanley, found heir by this Inq. The manor was conveyed to Thomas Hibbert, of Marple, of whom a note on his pedigree in Harl. MSS. 2161, observes: "This Thomas was one of the foure that bought the lordship of Marple fro' s'r Edw. Stanley of Touge castle, and he being the surviveing purchaser, the rialty fell to his heires. All other freeholders of that towne

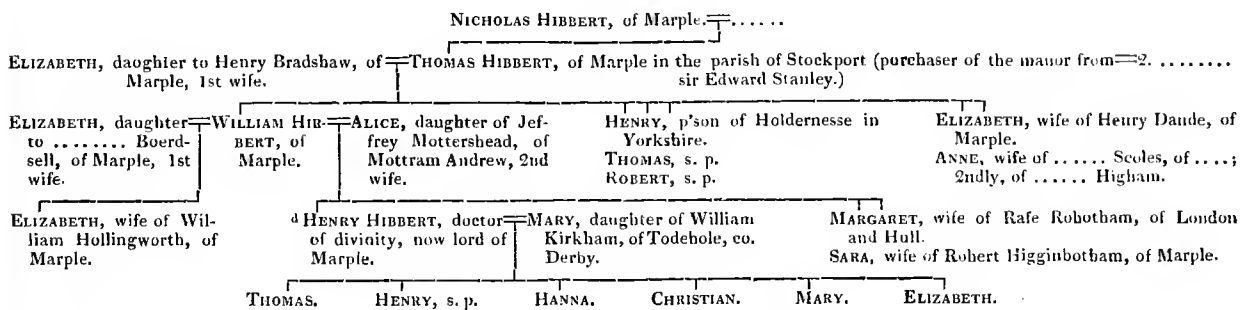
^a Both charters are given in Watson's Earls of Warren, vol. II. pp. 224-6, from originals then in possession of Thos. Isherwood, of Marple, esq.

^b See p. 133, and Shaw's Staff. vol. I. p. 404.

^c From these Inquisitions it seems that Marple was the only Cheshire estate held by this distinguished branch of the Shipbrook family, from which the present lord Vernon is a male descendant. Their descent has been miserably mangled by Collins (Peerage, tit. lord Vernon) and Shaw (Staff. II. 400), but the History of the latter contains also an elaborate pedigree, drawn from original documents by S. P. Wolferstan, esq. (Ibid. p. 404) the latter part of which is given in a corrected form at the end of the same volume, and in Nichols's Leicestershire, Gathlaxton hundred, p. 422, and which may be safely referred to as the most authentic and successful unravelment of this very intricate descent. In the account above, the author professes merely to give extracts from the official abstracts of the Inquisitions, some of which are retrospective, and appear to refer to heirs that died without issue, but though prevented by his limits from entering further into the descent of a Staffordshire family, he has pleasure in acknowledging the communication of a mass of original documents on the subject by Mr. S. P. Wolferstan, drawn as well from his own valuable collections as from an abstract of the Haddon papers made by Mr. Wolley of Matluck.

did after purchase fro' them four." A Villare of 1666 in Harl. MSS. 2010. further observes: "This lordship (Marpull) was late sir Edw'd Stanley, of Bickerstaff, who sold it to 4 of the tenants, so that all are free-

holders, yet the royalty — Hibbert reserved to himself and his heirs." This is the last notice of the manor which has occurred, and its rights have been long disused. The descent of Hibbert is as follows^c.



With respect to the HALL OF MARPLE, it appears by an original deed, dated July 7, 1606, 4 Jac. that "sir Edward Stanley, of Tbonge, co. Salop, K. B." in consideration of £270, conveyed premises in Marple and Wyberslegh, consisting of one messuage with its appurtenances, and a tenement called "the Plase," to Henry Bradshaw, yeoman, the elder, and his heirs, &c. the said premises being partly occupied by the said Henry Bradshaw, and partly by Henry Bradshaw the younger, his son and heir apparent. Seal appendant, Stanley, with seven other quarterings.

Two generations afterwards, the hall of Wyberslegh in this township, was settled by Barnard Wells, of Hope, co. Derby. on Henry Bradshaw, grandson of the purchaser above mentioned, in consequence of his marriage with his daughter Mary. Settlement dated 30 Sept. 6 Car. I. 1631.

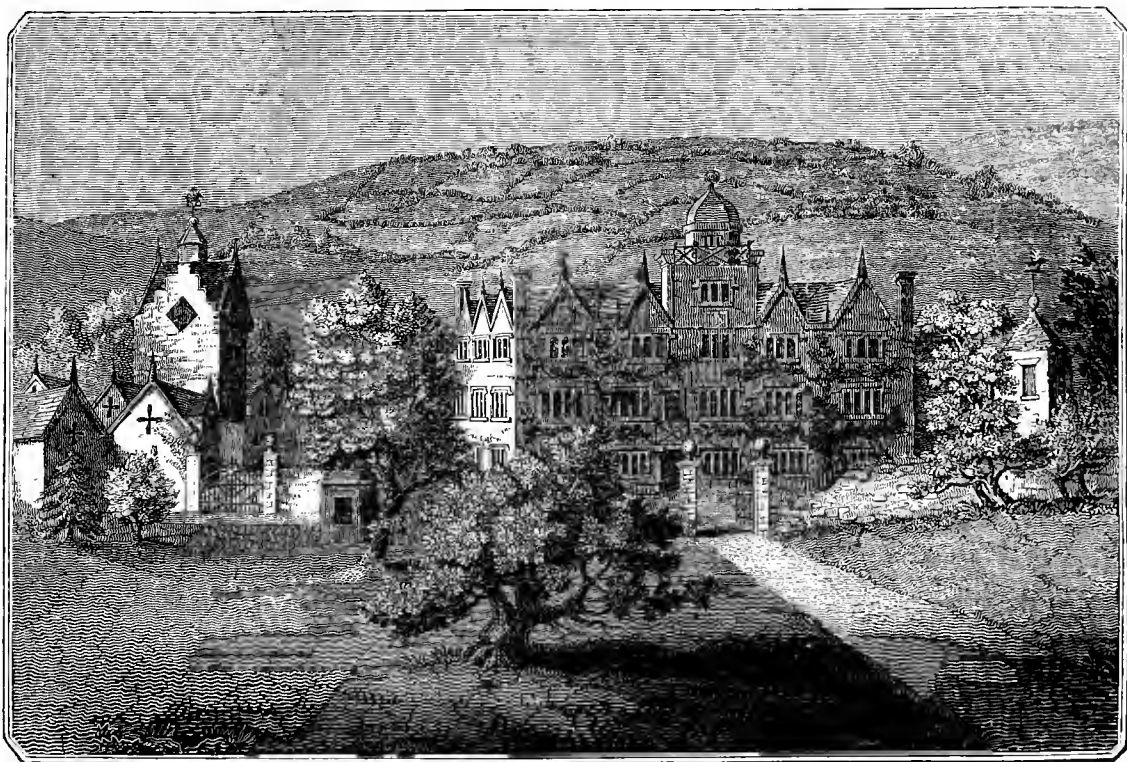
From this period the halls of Marple and Wyberslegh, with their demesne, have descended according to the pedigree following, and are now vested for life in John Isherwood, esq. with remainder to his male issue, and other remainders over.

Wyberslegh hall, an antient stone building, finished

with gables, is occupied by a tenant. Marple hall the residence of Mr. Isherwood, is one of the most interesting specimens of domestic architecture the county contains, and when approached from Stockport, bursts most agreeably on the eye, seated on the edge of a hill, with woods and the romantic stream of the Goyt below it, and raising its fronts of dark stone over numerous surrounding stables and offices. The principal front is within a square court, and was originally finished with gables, bay windows, and a tower over the entrance, which opens to a low hall, darkened with painted glass, and an antient heavy staircase, hung with armorial paintings, plans, and family portraits, and leading to small but numerous apartments. To the right of the house is the garden, and to the left the offices before-mentioned, some of which have embattled gables resembling the Scotch architecture, and, lastly, behind the house is a terrace which intervenes between the mansion and the precipice on which it is built, and looks down on a wood below, which stretches along the banks of the river. The principal front is represented in the annexed vignette, executed by Branston after a drawing by Mrs. Isherwood,

^c Extracted from Harl. MSS. 2161, where the following arms are sketched by Randle Holmes for Hibbert: Ermine, on a bend Sable, three crescents of the first. For crest: Sable, cuffed Ermine a cubit arm, hand proper grasping a crescent Argent.

^d Supposed to be Dr. Henry Hibbert, successively rector of Allhallows the less, and of St. Olave in the Old Jewry; author of "Syntagma Theologicum;" died 1678. Vide Wood's Athen. Oxon. Granger's Biog. Diet. vol. III. p. 291.

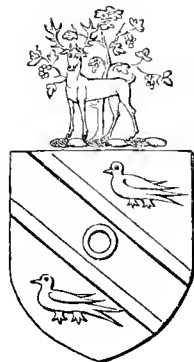


BRADSHAW AND ISHERWOOD OF MARPLE AND WYBERSLEGH.

Compiled from original evidences remaining at Marple, and Parochial Registers, June 1817^d.

ARMS. Argent, two bendlets Sable, between two martlets of the second, for difference an annulet Gules.

CREST. On a wreath a stag at gaze proper, under a vine tree, fruited, proper.



HENRY BRADSHAW, son and heir of William Bradshawe, by his wife daughter of ELIZABETH, daughter of Kirke, which William was son of John Bradshawe, by his wife Cicely, daughter of Thomas of Robert Eyre. W. Foljambe. W.

1. JOHN BRADSHAWE, father of Richard Bradshawe, who died s. p. W. 2. WILLIAM BRADSHAWE, of Bradshawe, co. Derb. W.^e MARGARET, daughter of Christopher Clayton, of Cheshire. W.

1. GODFREY BRADSHAWE, OF BRADSHAWE HALL, co. Derb. married Emma, dau. of Anthony Shalcross, of Shalcross, co. Derb. and had male issue. 2. HENRY BRADSHAW, of Marple, the elder, purchaser of Marple hall, and lands in Marple and Wyberslegh from sir Edward Stanley, K. B. June 4, 1606, 4 Jac. I. DOROTHY, daughter and coheir of George Bagshaw, of Ridge, co. Derby. W. 3. ANTHONY. W. 4. FRANCIS. W.

ELIZABETH, wife of Thomas Hibbert, of Marple (see preceding page.) HENRY BRADSHAW, eldest son and heir apparent, living in Wyberslegh 1606, buried at Stockport Aug. 3, 1654. CATHERINE, daughter and coheir of Ralph Winnington, of Offer-ton, esq. married at Stockport Feb. 4, 1593, buried at Stockport Jan. 24, 1603.

1. WILLIAM, bapt. Jan. 2, 1596, buried Nov. 19, 1597, at Stockport. DOROTHY, baptized at Stockport Aug. 11, 1598, wife of George Newton, gent. married at Stockport August 20, 1618. ANNE, baptized at Stockport Nov. 9, 1599, buried at Stockport March 22, 1669. 2. ANNE, dau. of George Bowdon, of Bowdon, co. Cest. W. 2. HENRY BRADSHAWE, of Marple and Wyberslegh, esq. second son and heir, bapt. at Stockport Jan. 23, 1600, bur. there March 15, 1661. 1. MARY, daughter of Barnard Wells, of Hope, co. Derb. gent. with whom her husband had Wyberslegh hall. (marr. cov. dated 30 Sept. 6 Car. I. remaining at Marple 1817.) 3. JOHN BRADSHAWE, serjeant at law, president of the pretended high court of justice, M. P. co. Cest. chief justice of Chester, and chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, bapt. at Stockport Dec. 10, 1602, marr. Mary, dau. of Thos. Marbury, of Marbury, co. Cest. and died issueless 1659. Will proved in London Dec. 16, 1659. Probate copy at Marple 1817. 4. FRANCIS, bapt. at Stockport Jan. 13, 1603.

JOHN, WILLIAM, ANN BRADSHAWE, of Peel in Lancashire, buried at Stockport April 11, 1692. HENRY BRADSHAWE, of Marple and Wyberslegh, esq. son and heir, purchaser of Bradshaw hall in Lancashire, 1693, proved the will of his uncle, John Bradshaw, Dec. 16, 1659, bur. at Stockport Oct. 11, 1698. MAGDALEN, daughter and coheir of Thomas Barcroft, of Barcroft, in the co. pal. of Lanc. esq.

HENRY BRADSHAWE, of Bradshaw and Marple, esq. son and heir, bapt. at Stockport Aug. 28, 1666, high sheriff of the co. of Derby, 1701, (o. s. p. before 1724); marr. Elizabeth, dau. of Richard Legh, of the East Hall in High Legh, esq. bur. at Stockport Dec. 10, 1724. THOMAS BRADSHAWE, of Bradshaw and Marple, esq. 2nd son, and heir to his brother, bapt. at Stockport June 8, 1672, bur. at Stockport Jan. 26, 1743-4, o. s. p. JOHN BRADSHAWE, 3d son, bapt. at Stockport Sept. 19, 1678, died before his elder brother, s. p. buried at Stockport Oct. 23, 1741. ANNE. NATHANIEL ISHERWOOD, of Bolton le Moors, co. pal. Lanc. 2nd husb. MARY BRADSHAWE, finally heir-ess, bapt. at Stockport, May 1, 1674. WILLIAM PIMLOT, 1st husband.

1. NATHANIEL ISHERWOOD, of Bradshaw and Marple, succeeded on the death of John Pimlot under his uncle's settlement, bur. at Stockport Oct. 15, 1765, o. s. p.; marr. Elizabeth, daughter of Brabin, of Brabins hall in Marple, married at Stockport May 30, 1765. ELIZABETH, daughter of Thomas Attcroft, of Gilibraud house near Blackburn, had issue one son, who died an infant, and six daughters. 1st wife. 2. THOMAS ISHERWOOD, of Bradshaw and Marple, esq. succeeded on the death of his brother. MARY, dau. of Thomas Orrel, of Mobberley, co. Cest. gent. 2nd wife. JOHN PIMLOT, son and heir, succeeded under a settlement by Thomas Bradshawe, and had issue one daughter, wife of Lindon Evelyn, esq. M. P. for Dundalk, o. s. p. m. HENRY, died s. p. W.

1. MAGDALEN BARCROFT, wife of Henry Salvin, of Thorpe Salvin, esq. 2. MIRIAM, wife of George Salvin, esq. 3. HANNAH. 4. MARY ANNE. 5. MARGARET, died unmarried. 1. THOMAS BRADSHAWE ISHERWOOD, of Bradshaw and Marple, esq. born 1762, eldest son and heir, died unmarr. Jan. 5, 1791, bur. at Mobberley, s. p. 2. HENRY BRADSHAWE ISHERWOOD, of Bradshaw and Marple, esq. 2nd son, and heir to his brother, died Jan. 26, 1801, aged 26 years, bur. at Mobberley, s. p. 3. JOHN ISHERWOOD, of Bradshaw and Marple, esq. 3d son, and heir to his brother, born June 19, bapt. at Marple July 2, 1776, B. A. of Trinity coll. Camb. and sheriff of Cheshire 1815. ELIZABETH, eldest daughter and coheir of Thos. Barcroft, M. A. clerk, vicar of Bolton le Moors, co. pal. Lanc. mar. at Bolton Oct. 19, 1812. JAMES BRADSHAWE ISHERWOOD, esq. 4th son, M. A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, living unmarried 1817.

1. ELIZABETH. 2. ANNA MARIA. 3. MIRIAM. 4. ANNE MAGDALEN. 5. MARGARET SARAH.

JOHN BRADSHAWE, the celebrated president of the pretended high court of justice, whose descent is exhibited in the pedigree annexed, is traditionally said to have been born at Wyberslegh hall, a seat which came into the Bradshaw family by the marriage of his elder brother; the story therefore, though possibly true, is improbable. A faithful memoir of the various steps of

his public life, was arranged by the late Mr. Watson from family documents and historical collections, and to this it is believed nothing can be added interesting or authentic^e; but an abstract of the probate copy of his will, now remaining at Marple, is subjoined below, and may possibly be deemed curious^h. His estates in various counties mentioned therein, were of course seized

^d Excepting the parts to which W. is added, which are extracted from a pedigree compiled by the late John Watson, M. A. rector of Stockport, and agreeing with one by R. Hulme, Harl. MSS. 2153, except as undermentioned. A monument relating to this family, put up at Stockport since the church notes were taken, will be found in the Addenda.

^e Younger son of John, and *not* brother, in Harl. MSS. 2153.

^f Elizabeth in Mr. Watson's pedigree, and Dr. Whitaker's Barcroft pedigree in the History of Whalley.

^g A copy of this MS. was communicated by Holland Watson, esq. but having been previously lent to the editors of the Beauties of England, the matter of it was inserted in that work, vol. II. pp. 264-8, and to this (though not there mentioned as being founded on the compilation of Mr. Watson) the reader is referred as to the most authentic memorial on the subject.

^h John Bradshawe, serjeant at law and chief justice of Chester, bequeaths all his manors, lands, and hereditaments in the counties of Kent and Middlesex, to his wife Mary Bradshaw for life, as jointure, in lieu of dower, and devises to her, and her executors in case of her decease, his manors, &c. in Kent, for the term of five years, to commence immediately after her decease, with liberty in her life-time to dispart the parke at Somerhill, for her subsistence, and for making provision for her kindred, "God not having vouchsafed me issue." He further devises his manors, &c. in the counties of Berks, Southampton, Wilts, and Somerset, with his reversions in Middlesex, in trust to his friend Peter Brereton, esq. his nephew Peter

by government, but none of them appear to have been situated in the county of Chester.

HENRY BRADSHAW, of Marple and Wyberslegh, the elder brother of the president, occurs as the first signature to the Cheshire petition addressed to the houses of parliament, July 6, 1646, praying for the establishment of the presbyterian religion. He acted as a magistrate under the parliamentary government, and had a commission in their army, being serjeant major in col.

Dukenfield's regiment, under the appointment of lord Fairfax, and he had also a lieut.-col.'s commission in col. Ashton's regiment of foot. At a later period he was nominated to the command of the militia of Macclesfield hundred, and was present with it in the battle of Worcester, where he was wounded. In 1652 he was one of the court martial which sat on the trial of the earl of Derby and other loyalists at Chester¹.

In 1660 the survivors of the persons who composed

Newton, and his trustie servant Thomas Parnell, and their heires, for payment of debts, &c. for payment of 100l. per ann. for 10 years after his decease to his nephew Henry Bradshawe, and 20l. per ann. to his cozen Katherine Leigh for life, with further trust to pay 300l. per ann. to his brother Henry Bradshawe until the estates settled by this will descend to him, to expend 700l. in purchasing an annuity for manteyning a free schoole in Marple in Cheshire, 500l. for increasing the wages of the master and usher of Bunbury schoole, and 500l. for amending the wages of the schoolmaster and usher of Middleton schoole in Lanc'r, (in which two schooles of Bunb'rie and Middleton I had part of my educac'on, and returne this as part of my thankfull acknowledgement for the same) these two sums of 500l. to be laid out in purchasing annuities.

After this follow a bequest of an annuity of 40l. for 7 years to Samuell Roe, gent. his secretary, for maintaining him at Graves Inn, and remunerating his assistance to his executors, various legacies to friends, and of 250l. to the poor of Fountill, Stopp, Westminster, and Feltham; a bequest of the impropriation of Feltham for the use of a proper minister to be established there; a bequest of an annuity of 20l. for providing a minister at Hatch in Wiltshire, charged on his estate there; legacies to his chaplain Mr. Parr, Mr. Strong the preacher at the abbey, and Mr. Clyve, a Scottish minister; and his houses and lodgings at Westminster to the governors of the alms-house and school there. All the residue to his brother before mentioned, excepting 100l. to his niece Meverell, and her sister of the whole blood. Dated March 22, 1653.

A codicil, dated March 23, 1653, directs his executors to sell his estates in the county of Southampton, and to fell timber not exceeding the value of 2000l. on his estates in the county of Kent, for payment of his debts, and of the sum of 50l. to my cozen Kath. Leigh, who now liveth with me; and bequeaths all his lawe bookes, and such divinity, history, and other bookes as shee (his wife the executrix) shall judge fitt for him, to his nepbew Harrie Bradshawe*.

A second codicil, dated Sept. 10, 1655, in which the testator is also styled chief justice of Chester, gives to his wife's assignees 7 years interest in his Kentish estates after her death, confirming her right of disparking Somerhill, disposing of the deer, and converting the same to the uses of husbandry. Confirms to his wife his Middlesex estates for life, and gives her his house at Westminster, held on lease from the governors of the school there, and 1000l. arrears due from the state on account of his offices of chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, and chief justice of Chester, Flint, Denbigh, and Montgomery, the last to be applied to the discharge of his debts. The codicil annuls several legacies, and appoints others (among them to Mr. John Milton ten pounds), appoints a legacy of five pounds each to all his servants living at the time of his decease, and makes several additional legal provisions.

Will proved at London Dec. 16, 1659, by Henry Bradshawe, esq. the nephew of the testator, Mary Bradshawe, his late wife and sole executrix, having dyed before the said John Bradshaw the testator, and Henry Bradshawe, the n'rall and lawful and onely brother of the said John Bradshawe, deceased, having actually and judicially renounced y^e exec'on of y^e s'd wills and codicills.

¹ For these notices of Henry Bradshaw the author is indebted to Mr. Watson's compilation above-mentioned, from which he has also abstracted the contents of the following letters, transcribed by Mr. Watson from the originals at Marple. They have been referred to in various parts of the work, and exhibit an interesting picture of the state of the country at this period.

Correspondence of Henry Bradshaw.

1. Letter from col. James Louthiane, dated Aderley, May 24, 1648, to serjeant-major Bradshaw, capt. Booth, and capt. Newton,

Mentions that the sheriff and deputy lieutenants have met several times in consequence of the reported advance of sir Marmaduke Langdale and others, the common enemies of the kingdom, but lastly yesterday, at Bowdon, to consider of putting the county in a posture of defence, where it was resolved to raise 3 regiments of 600 men each, to be commanded by col. Croxton, col. Massie, and the writer, the last to have Macclesfield and Bucklow, each hundred to raise 3 companies, and to be divided into 3 parts; whereon col. Dukenfield nominated for Macclesfield hundred as commanders, Bradshaw, capt. Anthony Booth, and capt. Newton. Does not doubt the readiness of Bradshaw in a cause where he had formerly bled, and desires him to call the other captains to him and proceed furthwith, with advice of Mr. Stanley and col. Dukenfield. That the commissions were not ready for want of a regular clerk, that he wishes Bradshaw and the other captains to have them drawn, and they shall be signed when wanted.

2. In a letter dated Wyberslegh, May 30, 1648, to col. James Louthiane at Nantwich, H. Bradshaw for himself and the others declines the office, alleging that they being of inferior rank are incompetent to give satisfaction in discharging it; that the soldiers would slight them if again called on without the payment of the arrears, upon which Bradshaw has often remonstrated to the Committee and deputy lieutenants; that they therefore wish the deputy lieutenants to use their great influence in calling in the people themselves, but if this fails, when they have seen their authority, the command of parliament, and his excellency's orders, that they will not only consult the deputy lieutenants, but will "employ our utmost diligence in our duties for our county and country's defence."

3. To the right worshipful col. Robert Duckingfield, esq. governor of West Chester. (This and the following from H. Bradshaw.)

A letter requesting alterations in his commission, and assurances of his best endeavours in arming the country, which he expects to find refractory. Wyberslegh, 13^o Junii, 1648.

4. To the honorable sir George Booth, knt. and baronett, at his house, Duham.

Henry Bradshaw mentions having been commissioned by the high sberiff, sir George Booth, and six deputy lieutenants, in conjunction with his kinsman capt. Newton, and capt. Anthony Booth, to divide and arm the hundred as before mentioned, to serve under col. James Louthiane, but that his orders had been generally slighted, and some of the principal townships, namely Etechells and Cheadle, had sent in no soldiers whatsoever, excepting some tenants of sir William Brereton's; on these grounds he begs leave to resign his commission, and in a postscript informs sir George Booth that two troops of the enemy are said to be in readiness to enter Cheshire at Whaley bridge, and plunder the parliamentarians of horses and arms, for prevention of which he begs direction and assistance.

Wyberslegh, 30 Junii, 1648.

5. To the worshipful Mr. Edward Harpur, maior of the burrough of Stockport.

An order for the men returned to appear with their arms on the following Tuesday, or to send an answer in writing.

Wyberslegh, 2^o Julii, 1648.

6. To the right worshipful Edward Hyde, esq. at his house Northbury.

That the muster on Tuesday was not attended by forty soldiers, most of whom were without arms, part of the townships sending excuses by the constables, and some being wholly absent. That the three townships next to Whaley bridge had kept a guard there, but that a party of enemies horse had penetrated on Monday to the Chamber of Macclesfield forest, and out of the great close there had taken all the horses, and gone with them to Pontefract.

Wyberslegh, 5^o Julii, 1648.

7. To sir George Booth, &c.

That on the preceding Tuesday many of the inhabitants of Cheadle and Etechells appeared before him at Bullock Smithy, and refused to be inlisted; that this was the sixth time he had called upon the townships, and that every day produced more backwardness.

July 19, 1648.

* The library thus bequeathed continued at Marple until the close of the last century, and was then sold to Mr. Edwards of Halifax, having been augmented probably by the later generations of the Bradshaws, but having been also most materially injured by rats and damp. It was subsequently offered to sale by Messrs. Edwards of Pall-mall, being joined in one catalogue with the libraries of N. Wilson, esq. of Pontefract, and two deceased antiquaries; and the entire collection, according to a writer in the Gent. Mag. vol. LXXXVI. part 1. is described as being more splendid and truly valuable than any which had been previously presented to the curious, and such as "astonished not only the opulent purchasers, but the most experienced and intelligent booksellers of the Metropolis."

this court, including Bradshawe, were summoned to appear before the lords' committee, appointed to consider of the privileges of the peerage of this kingdom, to whom the countess of Derby's petition had been referred. On this occasion it appears that col. Henrie Bradshaw was in restraint in the house of Thomas Lee, a messenger of the black rod, from the 17th of July to the 14th of Aug. 1660, on which day the said col. Bradshaw, Henry Bradshaw, of Gray's Inn, and Cromwell Meverell, of Tideswell in Derbyshire, gent. were bound in £500. to Alex. Thane, gent. usher of the black rod, for the said colonel's appearance.

"At Marple were several forms for an apology or answer of col. Bradshaw to the charge against him, the substance of all which is this: that being an officer under general Cromwell, he was by him commanded to be present at a court-martial at Chester for the trial of the earl of Derby, and that not knowing what danger

he might incur if he should absent himself, was sometimes, though not constantly, present at the managing the said trial, but never subscribed any warrant for his execution: that he knew not by what authority he was removed from Chester, but on the contrary laboured as much as he could to save the earl's life, and at the instance of the succeeding earl of Derby, he presented a petition to col. Mackworth, president of the court, for sparing the earl's life, and did earnestly press it, and should not have been present at the last court but that he had engaged himself to deliver that petition; *that being sent for by the late earl he did immediately attend him, and at his desire wrote to his brother, John Bradshaw, then president of the council of state, to use his utmost endeavours for sparing the earl's life*^k; that he never had any thing which belonged to the said earl, his countess, or any of theirs: that he was a poor man, indebted, with a small estate, and a poor wife and eleven chil-

8. To the worshipfull John Crewe, esq. at Hawarden or elsewhere.

Regretting the commotions in North Wales and the bad posture of the country, and adding, "I have letters this afternoon to dispatch for London by a *foote post*, which is to goe this day, and therefore I cannot possiblie attend you."

Wyberslegh, Aug. 2, 1648.

9. To Peter Bold, of Bold, esq.

Congratulating the Commonwealth on the acquisition of him for a friend, and Mr. Bold on the comfort and honour which he and his family would reap thereby, though the daily trouble thereof might be more than his tender years might well admit of.

Dec. 1649.

10. To col. Robert Duckinfield, governor of Chester.

That the late nominated colonels were inlisting their companies, and inquiring what number should be in each regiment, and what horse, and in what manner they should be raised. After his signature is written:—

By a letter which I sawe yesterday, Montrosse is taken, and brought to Edinburgh.

23 May, 1650.

11. To the Mayor and Aldermen of Stockport.

That the officers belonging to the recruits and forces destined for Ireland, will be shortly expected to join their respective charges.

18 Mar. 1650.

12. To lady Felicia Fitton—

Respecting the charges she is likely to be put to on account of her disaffection to the government, advising her to write to col. Duckinfield.

Aug. 26, 1650.

Col. Duckinfield having sent Mr. Bradshaw a warrant for collecting £333. 16s. 8d. as the proportion for Macclesfield Hundred of 600 per month, towards the monthly assessment, by parliament, of £60,000, H. B. stops the execution of it till he was satisfied that the hundred was not over-rated.

13. To the worshipfull Robert Tatton, esq. at his house at Wythbinshaw.

That whereas he had alledged, that on account of the charge he had of late been put to, he thought himself not liable to pay towards raising of the foot, desiring that his condition might be considered, and that he might not be overcharged further than the Act extended. He (Mr. Bradshaw) was assured that the commissioners did consider him and others; and if it appeared that he was injured, there was no doubt, but on signifying so much to them, he would be redressed.

Oct. 4, 1650.

14. To captain Shepley, from H. B. and Tho. Stanley.

That whereas his troop was come into Macclesfield Hundred to quarter, and not knowing whether he was acquainted in what condition part of the Hundred then was, they informed him, that by reason of the most unseasonable weather during the late harvest, great part of the corn and bay was utterly spoiled, nor did they know how to provide themselves with seed corn for a new supply, so that many families were in danger of wanting necessary food, many of their cattle and horses being rendered useless by the aforesaid heavy judgment; concluding, that for these, and many other reasons, they could not entertain the troop, though paid for quarterage, without exposing their families to beggary, and losing the cattle they had left.

Nov. 7, 1650.

15. To his brother, judge Bradshaw.

In this letter is the following passage:—"For the militia, as itt was of greate concernement to the publike, where itt was put in execution, and good securitie and satisfaction to the peaceable well affected, so was itt, as you well knowe, by those few that did appeare, of special and extraordinary use in that last greate day (almost forgotten); and if you now discontynue itt (if my judgment, with thousands more, fail not,) a greater encouragement to the malignant parties, discontent and disservice to the quiett of this commonwealth, cannot probable happen unto itt. I wonder not that it is by some disliked, and I beare some of them even there, where itt pleased the Lord last to honour me, as a poore weake instrument to do him service. Other end I neither then hadd, nor now have, and how otherwaies I am thereby advantaged is not unknowne. I do conceive the continuance of itt in faithful men's handes to be the best meanes to keep the country quiett, and being laid downe, to bringe them into so serviceable well pleasinge a posture; but I leave itt to your better judgment.

26 Jan. 1651.

16. For Mr. Stanley.

Respecting a petition relative to the monthly assessment, from "that proud disaffected burrough of Macclesfield, referred to the quarter sessions."

Wyberslegh, 15 Jan. 1652.

17. To col. Henrie Brooke, at Norton, Aug. 4, 1653.—Unimportant.

18. For the honourable colonel Thomas Croxton, governor of Chester, dated Marple, 23^o Jan. 1657.

Sir, I have received informacion, upon a single oatb, against one William Cr(es?)well, of Sutton, near Macclesfield, esq. who hath a wild stoned horse, which he called stoned Robin, which he saith he keepeth to be the death of the Lord Protector. He also saith he hath some armes in his house, and that he hoped the king will come soon, and then he will have more armes and horses for him. I sent out my warrant for him last weeke, but I heare the constables cannot or dare not take him, for I am told he lives like an outlawe, and is a notorious eneonic.

Your real friend and servant,

H. B.

19. } For sir George Booth, printed in the account of Dunham Massey.
20. }

^k Mr. Watson, transcribing from original papers, observes on this subject, that Thomas Elcocke, of Stockport, servant of Henry Bradshawe, deposed, in confirmation of Henry Bradshawe's statement, and mentioned that the said Henry Bradshawe had informed him that the earle promised, as the grounds of his intercession, "that hee would engage himselfe and honor that he would bee faithful to the then present government, and alsoe that nothing should passe in France against the then present government, but the said counsell should have notice of the same;" and the said Thomas Elcocke added also, that in consequence of Henry Bradshawe's intercession with his brother, "the said earle's pardon was granted, and did come down into the hands of Robert Duckenfield, esq. as this informer hath credibly heard." The strange mystery of the latter statement may be done away with by the first. It is not to be believed that the gallant earl would have made the humiliating stipulation which Elcocke deposes to, in order to have saved the lives of all his noble race.

dren, all unprovided, to maintain. Wherefore, intending for the future so to demean himself as becomes an obedient subject, he humbly craved the benefit of his Majesty's most gracious pardon, and their lordships' favourable construction of the premises, and that his errors might be imputed to his much lamented ignorance and mistake."

Henry Bradshaw obtained his release, as appears by a receipt¹ for £.40, dated Aug. 14, 1660, and signed Alexander Thane, being in full of fees due to him, as usher of the black rod, from col. Henrie Bradshaw, during his confinement; and by another signed Cromwell Meverell, dated Feb. 23, 1660, for the colonel's pardon suing out, and 30s. paid to the master of the black rod, as a gratuity on the delivery in of his bail-book. On the 15th of March following the said Henry Bradshaw was buried at Stockport.

ON the eastern side of this township is a chapel of ease to Stockport, which has been recently rebuilt with stone, and contains in its tower the bells of the old

church of Stockport. The patronage is vested in the rector of the parish, and the registers begin 1655.

In bishop Gastrell's time the minister's salary consisted of xx nobles (£6. 13s. 4d.), paid by the rector, and 2l. by other individuals. The present salary was returned by the bishop of Chester, in 1809, as 42l. per annum, arising from augmentation, rent-charge, and surplice fees. Two hundred pounds were given towards the endowment, in 1724, by Thomas Bradshawe, of Marple, esq.^m

There is also a school here, which Gastrell states to have been built by the contributions of the neighbourhood, and which has a small endowment, arising, as already stated, from the benefactions of the Bradshaws of Marple, and other benefactors, of whom the said Thomas Bradshaw bequeathed 100l. in 1739^m. It has been previously mentioned, that the president Bradshawe had contemplated one on a larger scale, and bequeathed £700 for its endowment, but his intentions were prevented from being realized by subsequent confiscation.

ROMILEY.

THE township of Romiley lies about four miles east of Stockport, in a hilly district, contiguous to Derbyshire, on the right bank of the Etherow, at the confluence of that river with the Goyt. It is described as one wasted virgate, called Rumelie, among the earl's possessions noticed in Domesday, but appears to have afterwards passed to the barons of Dunham, under whom it was held by the Stockport family, having been probably included among the appendages of Hecheles, Brinnington, and Bredbury, confirmed by Hamon de Massey to Robert Fitz Waltheof.

Inq. p. m. 44 Edw. III. Isabel, a daughter of Richard Stockport, knt. held, inter alia, "the vill of Romelegh, cum pert." in Wernith, val. per ann. cs.

Previous to this, a moiety of Romiley had been held under the lords of Stockport by the family of Bredbury. 6 Edw. III., Adam de Bredbury and Cicely his wife obtained, from William de Stockport, chaplain, inter alia, half the manor of Romiley, to them and their heirs male, remainder to Peter Arderne and Cicely his wife, and their heirsⁿ.

The *Arderne* interest, in Romiley, is subsequently noticed as follows, in the inquisitions and fines.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VIII. Thomas Arderne held, inter alia, lands in Romiley, and lands in Werneth from sir William Boothe, knt. as of his manor of Dunham Massey, value xs.

13 Hen. VIII. sir Wm. Smith, knt. obtained of Thomas Peacock and Alice his wife, daughter and heiress of Thomas Arderne, esq. inter alia, the manor of Romiley, &c.^o

Inq. p. m. 30 Hen. VIII. Ralph Arderne, esq. held, inter alia, lands in Romiley and Wernith from George Booth, esq. as of his manor of Dunham Massey, in socage, value, severally, 111l. and xs. and other lands in Romiley, from the king, as earl of Chester, by military service, value vis. vii11d.

Inq. p. m. 6 Edw. VI. John Arderne, esq. held, inter alia, in Romiley and Wernith, from George Booth, esq. as

in the last inquisition, and other lands from the Crown, in Romiley, value xv11s. vii1d.

In the same documents the following notices occur of the manerial interest which the *Davenports of Henbury* possessed in this township, and which they held as a subinfeudation under the barony of Stockport.

5 Rich. II. John Davenport, sen. and Thomas his son, obtained from sir John Warren and Margaret his lady, inter alia, 20s. rent, cum pert. in Romiley and other townships.

Inq. sup. br. 5 Hen. V. Margaret, widow of Gilbert Trussel, held in dower, after the death of John Davenport, her late husband, inter alia, lands in Romiley.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. V. Hugh de Davenport held, inter alia, two parts of the manor of Romiley, and a third part of the same, which Margaret, widow of William Brereton, held in dower.

44 Eliz. Randle Davenport, esq. and William his son, passed over to George Sanders, inter alia, the manor of Romiley.

Manerial interests in this township are claimed by John Arden of Harden, esq. and Thomas William Tatton of Withenshaw, esq. the former of whom is male representative of the Ardernes, noticed in the preceding extracts. The grandfather of the latter purchased, in 1768, "the manors of Wernith and Romiley," from the representatives of the family of Bretland of Thorncliffe in Mottram Longdendale^p, and it is most probable that the Bretlands purchased the same from the heirs of the Davenports of Henbury about the close of the seventeenth century.

No court is held for Romiley^q, but it owes suit to the leet of Macclesfield hundred, in which the constables are sworn.

In the south-west part of this township, opposite to Marple hall, is Chadkirk chapel, which is not probably the site of a manor, which a Saxon was suffered to retain possession of at the time of the Domesday

¹ Formerly at Marple. ^m Information communicated by Mrs. Isherwood.

ⁿ Williamson's MSS. See note respecting this fine in Bredbury.

^o This daughter and heiress is not noticed in the ordinary Arderne pedigrees, and probably died without issue; at all events, her uncle, Ralph Arderne, succeeded to the family estates.

^p Information communicated by T. W. Tatton, esq.

^q Information of J. A. Newton, esq. agent of Mr. Arden.

Survey, but which might afterwards merge in the adjacent lordships of the baron of Dunham Massey.

Gamel tenet de comite *Cedde*; pater ejus tenuit, ut liber homo; ibi 11 hidæ geldabiles: terra est vi carucarum; in dominio est una, et 11 bovarii et iv villani, et 111 bordarii cum 11 carucis. Silva ibi una leuva longa, et dimidia lata: et haia et aira accipitris, et una acra prati, valuit et valet x solidos. Totum manerium habet 11 leuvas longitudine, et unum latitudine.

An ancient chantry existed here, which is thus noticed in the general ecclesiastical survey.

CANTARIA IN CHADKYRKE.

Rad'us Grene capellanus, ib'm valet	£.	s.	d.	
in terris et tenementis eidem cantar'				
spectan'	-	-	-	1111 0 XVI
X ^{ma} inde	-	-	-	0 VIII I ob.

“Serjeant Bretland left £.5. per annum to any orthodox preaching minister, at Chadkirk, payable out of the rents of his manours of Wernith and Romeley, desiring in his will that the parson of Stockport may add so much thereto.” The serjeant died in 1703, and in 1718 it was certified that the rent-charge had never been paid, that the chapel was ruinous, and that no service had been performed for 30 or 40 years^d.

The chapel was subsequently rebuilt by subscription, and the rent-charge paid by the proprietors of the abovementioned manerial estates. The patronage is vested in the rector of Stockport, and the yearly value was returned by the bishop of Chester in 1809, as £.89. 14s. arising from augmentation, rent-charge, and surplice-fees.

WERNITH.

THIS township is situated immediately north of Romiley, on the right bank of the Etherow, and the edge of Derbyshire. It is noticed as “Warnet” in the Domesday Survey, precisely as that township is, but appears to have passed to the Stokeports after an intermediate alienation to the lords of Longdendale, under whom it was held, in 16 Edw. III. as mentioned in the account of Mottram.

Inq. p. m. 44 Edw. III. Isabella, daughter of Richard Stokeport, knt. held, inter alia, quendam placeam terræ, cum pert. in Wernith, value cs.

The Ardernes held lands here at an early period, under Dunham Massey, which descended in the same manner with their share of the manor of Romiley, but the manerial rights appear to have been vested in the Davenports of Henbury, who obtained the same from the successors of the Stokeports, from the heirs of which barony they are stated to hold the said manor in the Inquisitions.

5 Rich. II. John Davenport, sen. and Thomas his son, obtained from sir John Warren and Margaret his lady, inter alia, 20s. rent, cum pert. in Wernith and other townships.

Inq. sup. br. 5 Hen. V. Margaret, widow of Gilbert Trussel, held in dower, after the death of John Davenport, her late husband, inter alia, lands in Wernith.

Inq. p. m. 4 Hen. V. Hugh de Davenport held, inter

alia, two parts of the manor of Wernith and the reversion of the third, which Margaret, widow of William Brereton, held in dower.

Inq. p. m. 4 and 5 Phil. and Mary, John Davenport, esq. held, inter alia, lands in Wernith by services unknown, value per ann. xiiii. 1vd.

44 Eliz. Randle Davenport, esq. and William his son, passed over to G. Sanders, &c. inter alia, the manor of Wernith.

The manor is at present vested in Thomas William Tatton, of Withenshaw, to whose family it passed from the Bretlands in the manner mentioned in Romiley, having been probably purchased by that family from the representatives of the Davenports.

It does not appear that any court baron is held for the township^a; suit is due from it to the leet of Macclesfield Hundred, in which the constables are sworn.

Wernith Hall, an ancient mansion in this township, was purchased, about 1812, from the rev. Mr. Coke, by James Bradshawe Isherwood, esq. a younger brother of the Marple family, and was resold, in 1815, to Mr. Andrew, of Compstall Bridge, co. Cest. the present proprietor, 1817.

One of the most elevated points of the range of Cheshire hills, on the Derbyshire border, is situated in this township, and well known by the name of Wernith Low.

^d Gastrell, Not. Cest.

^a None is claimed in Mr. Tatton's answers to inquiries.

Mottram in Longdendale Parish.

THE Parish of Mottram occupies the greater part of the long horn or promontory which shoots out from the north-east angle of Cheshire, between the counties of Lancaster, York, and Derby, by which this parish is bounded on three sides, abutting on the parish of Stockport to the south-west. To the west of the town of Mottram, the parish is filled with manufactories and an uncivilized population, and exhibits the continuation of a similar district, as far as the eye can reach to the northwards. It contains eight townships; Mottram, Newton, Godley, Hattersley, Matley, Stayley, Hollingworth, and Tintwisle, all of which appear to have been included in the original vill of Mottram, and render suit to the present court leet of that manor.

M O T T R A M.

This whole parish was anciently called the lordship of Tintwistle^a, which occurs as "Tengestvisie, de una virgata (geldabilis)," in the survey of the eight manors noticed under Henbury, held by the earl after the ejection of eight free tenants. The survey further adds: in Tengestvisie silva est iv leuvis longa et 11 lata.

No copy, or abstract of the original grant of this lordship has occurred, but the family of De Burgh are the earliest tenants under the earldom that are noticed^b. It was granted, in 11 Edw. II. by Thomas de Burgh, to Thomas earl of Lancaster^c, who was attainted and beheaded 15 Edw. II.

Dr. Williamson supposed Longdendale to have reverted, by this attainder, to the Crown; but it is observable, that sir Robert de Holland, a dependant of the earl of Lancaster, and the ancestor of the subsequent proprietors, presents to Mottram church in 1320. The patronage was however probably granted *hac vice*, as the two next presentations are made by the Crown, and the priest presented, John le Zouche, (possibly a near kinsman of Maud le Zouche, wife of the patron sir Robert), resigned the year following. The manor was, nevertheless, subsequently either granted or confirmed to this sir Robert, first lord Holland, probably as the price of his treachery to the earl of Lancaster; his widow presented to the church, 1329-42; and, in subsequent inquisitions, Mottram is stated to be held from the Crown as of the barony of Halton, which the Crown acquired by the earl of Lancaster's attainder.

Robert, second lord Holland, left issue one granddaughter and heir, Maud, wife of sir John Lovell, during whose possession the following inquisition was taken, with reference to Mottram and its dependencies.

General Inquisition of tenures, 16 Edw. III. John Lovell holds from the king, as earl of Chester, the lordship of Longdendale, in capite, by military service, which, with the advowson of the church of Mottram, is worth, per annum, xxl.

From the said John hold the following tenants, as of the fee of the lordship aforesaid;

Robert de Stavelegh holds the vill of *Stavelegh*, val. per ann. xx marks.

John de Holynworth holds the vill of that name, val. per ann. cs.

Richard de Mascy holds the vill of *Goddelegh*, val. per ann. xx marks.

The vill of *Mattlegh*, which is held from the same, val. per ann. xlis.

The vill of *Wodley*, which is held from the same, val. per ann. cs.

Hatterlegh and *Wernith*, which are held from the same, val. xls. are held from the same John, in capite, by the same service.

It is observable that this inquisition omits Newton, which had probably not been granted out, and includes *Wernith* and *Woodley* (in *Bredbury*), which have long been severed from the fee.

Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. IV. John Lovell, ch'v'r, held in demesne, as of fee, a sixth part of the barony of Nantwich, cum pert.; also, in right of Maud his wife, the manor of Mottram in Longdendale, Tyngetwisesles, or Longdendale, with lands therein, the advowson of Mottram church, and all its members and appurtenances, held from the king as of his barony of Halton, by military service, and by the render of 111s. viiij. Val. £43. 6s. 8d. John Lovell son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 1 Hen. VI. Maud, widow of John Lovell, ch'v'r, held in demesne, as of fee, the manor and lordship of Longdendale, with its appurtenances, and the manor of Tingwisell, from the king, as earl of Chester, by military service, value x marks; the advowson of the church of Mottram; a third part of a sixth part of the barony of Nantwich; and a third part of the manor of Monks Coppenhall. William Lovell next of kin and heir.

This William was son of John Lovell, found heir by the inquisition 9 Hen. IV. whose

Inq. p. m. 2 Hen. V. is imperfect, excepting in what relates to Nantwich.

Inq. p. m. 33 Hen. VI. William Lovell held in demesne, as of fee, certain portions of the barony of Wich Malbank, and the manor of Mottram in Longdendale, Tingetwisell, and Longdendale, and the advowson of the church of Mottram, in capite, from the lordship of Halton, by military service. Val. per ann. x marks. Sir John Lovell, knt. son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 5 Edw. IV. relates only to portions of the barony of Nantwich, held by sir John Lovell, in joint feoffment with Jane his wife. Francis Lovell, son and heir.

^a In Dr. Whitaker's Whalley, edit. 1818, p. 377, will be found an ingenious etymology of Twistle, a termination common in Lancashire, but occurring in Cheshire only in this solitary instance. The sense there given to it (boundary or intervening space) could never be applied more appropriately than to the site of this original lordship.

^b Certainly before 1300, when they presented to Mottram. See also a note on the subject in Godley.

^c Deed, Harl. MSS. 2074.

Inq. p. m. 14 Edw. IV. Alicia, lady Lovell, Deyncourt, and Dessey, late wife of Ralph Butler (and widow of William Lovell above mentioned), held in dower the manor of Longdendale, cum pert. the vill of Tingetwisell, and the church of Mottram, from the prince, as earl of Chester, by military service. Val. per ann. XLII. Francis Lovell, son of John Lovell, next heir.

Inq. p. m. 14 Edw. IV. Jane, wife of sir John Lovell, knt. held in dower certain portions of the barony of Nantwich. Francis Lovell, son and heir.

Inq. p. m. 3 Hen. VII. Francis, late lord Lovell, held in fee simple, on the viith of Nov. 1 Hen. VII. on which day he was attainted of high treason, the manor and demesne of Longdendale (with all its members), the vill of Tingetwisell, and the advowson of Mottram, held from the king as earl of Chester, val. per ann. XLII. and also certain portions of the barony of Nantwich, and a third part of the manor of Monks Coppenhall. Willielmus Stanley, miles, receipt proficua, &c.

In 4 Hen. VII. the lordship of Longdendale was granted in fee to sir William Stanley, of Holt, by the king, with the interest of the late lord Lovell in the barony of Nantwich, as more fully mentioned in the account of that place; and in 1495 reverted to the crown, for the third time, by attainder for high treason.

Longdendale subsequently passed by grant to the Wilbrahams of Woodhey; and in the Inquisition after the death of Thomas Wilbraham, esq. 23 March, 10 Jac. I. is stated to have been held by him in fee tail, to himself and the heirs male of the body of his father, Richard Wilbraham, esq. deceased, with reversion to the Crown; and is described as consisting of the manors of Longdendale and Mottram in Longdendale, held from the king in capite, by the services of the

40th part of a knight's fee, and the annual rent of XVIII. XIIS.

A grant in perpetuity was subsequently made by king William and queen Mary, 1691, to sir Thomas Wilbraham, bart. which was enrolled at Chester, June 6, in the same year; and under this, his descendant, the earl of Dysart, now holds the manors of Mottram and Longdendale^c.

Lord Dysart holds a court leet and court baron for Mottram in Longdendale, the jurisdiction of the leet extending over the whole parish. At the Michaelmas court, the constables for the eight townships, constituting the parish, are chosen by the leet jury, and sworn into office by the steward of the court. His lordship, as lord paramount of the whole parish, claims also a *manerial* interest in all the eight townships, and receives chief rents from the halls of Stayley, Matley, and Hollinworth, and from lands in Newton^d.

Mottram is situated on a steep hill, at the western end of the vale of Tintwisle, and is a populous town, consisting exclusively of houses built with hard yellow stone, and covered with heavy flags instead of slates, the only covering able to brave the wintry storms in this wild district. The annexed plate represents the church and the most elevated part of the town, and gives also a prospect down the vale into Tintwisle. The hills on the right are situated on the Derbyshire bank of the Etherow, in the parish of Glossop, and those on the left extend into the moors of Hollingworth, Tintwisle, and Staley, (which abound with great quantities of grouse, preserved at very considerable annual expence by lord Dysart,) and connect themselves with the mountainous districts of the west riding of Yorkshire.

VICARS OF MOTTRAM.

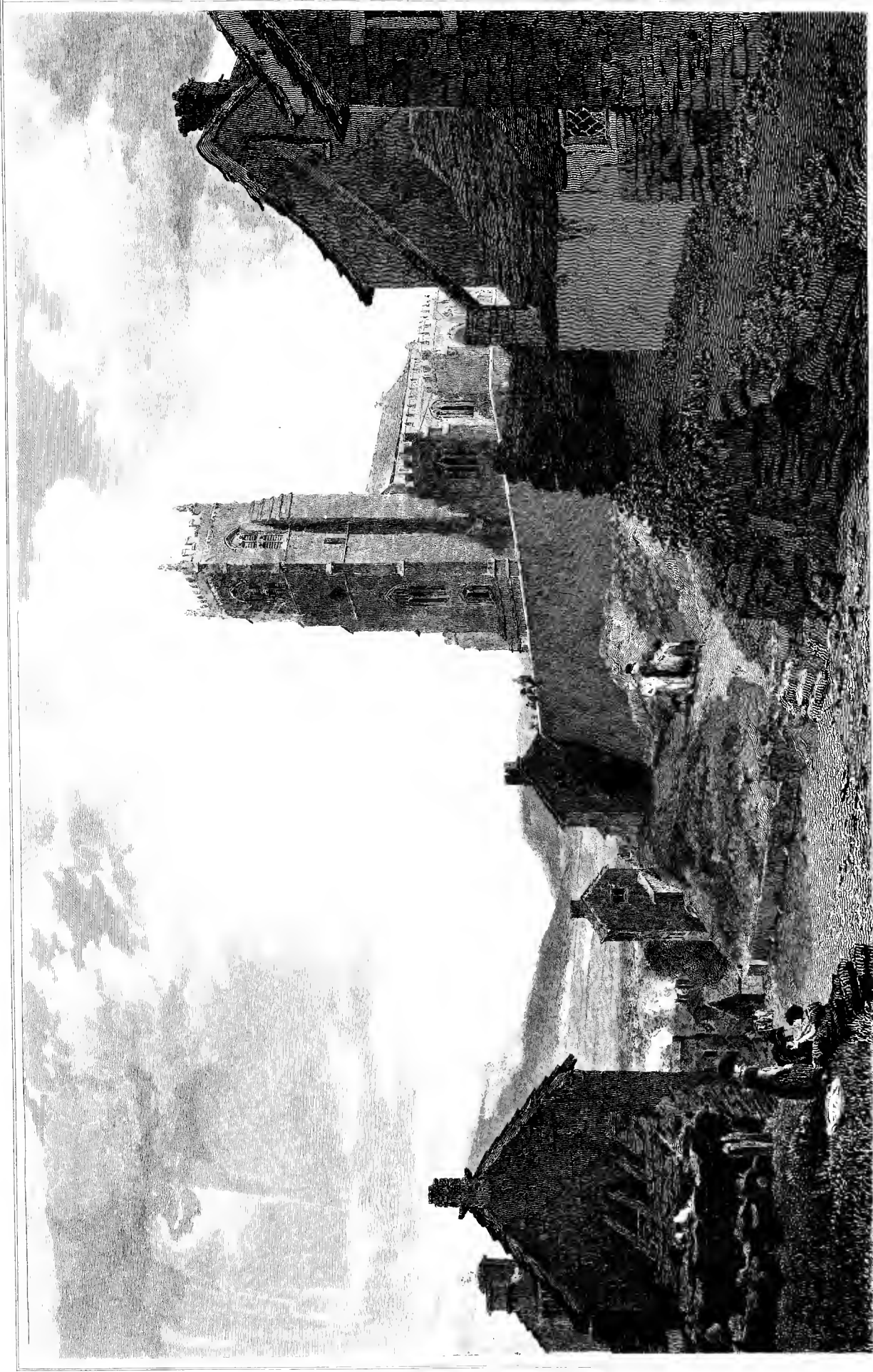
INSTITUTED.	VICARS.	PATRONS.	VACANCY.
1300, 16 kal. Jun.	Jordannus de Macclesfield.	Thomas de Burgo.	
1314, 2 non. Feb.	Thomas de Cressacre.	Thomas de Burgo.	P. res. Jord. de Macclesfield.
1317, 8 id. Dec.	Thomas de Legh, acol.	Thomas de Burgo, mil.	P. res. Tho. de Cressacre.
1320, 18 kal. Julii	Johannes le Zouch, p'b'r.	D'nus Rob'tus de Holland, miles.	P. res. Tho. de Legh.
1322.	Adamus de Mosely, acol.	Edw. Rex.	P. res. Jo. le Zouch.
1327, 10 kal. Oct.	Johannes de Woodhouse, p'b'r.	Edw. Rex.	P. res. Adam. de Moseley.
	Willielmus de Keldsley.		
1329, 8 id. Mart.	Richardus de Breugh de Banbury.	D'na Matilda de Holland.	P. res. Will. de Keldsley.
1339, 4 kal. Dec.	Robertus de Rompston, cler.	Matilda, q. f. ux. d'ni Rob. de Holland, mil.	
1342.	Rogerus de Hasalbach.	Eadem.	P. m. Rob. de Rompston.
1375, 11 kal. Nov.	Thomas Hobard.	D'nus Jo. Lovell, mil.	
1376, 5 Nov.	Willielmus de Gayton.	Jo. Lovell, miles.	P. m. Tho. Hobard.
1401, 7 Feb.	Robertus Gilbert, cl'us.	Jo. d'nus Lovell et Holland.	
1411, ult. Jan.	Johannes Attewell.	Matilda, d'na Lovell, &c.	P. dimiss. R. Gilbert.
	Johannes Yoxale, alias Alleyne.		
1422.	Jacobus Gerveys.	Will'mus, d'nus Lovell, &c.	Permut. cum Jo. Yoxale.
	Nicholas Hyde.		
1575, 4 June.	John Hide.	Bishop of Chester.	D. of Nicholas Hyde.
	Thomas Robinson ^e .		
1748, 23 Jan.	John Harrison.	Bishop of Chester.	D. of Tho. Robinson.
1762, 27 July.	Thomas Potts.	Bishop of Chester.	D. of John Harrison.
1778, June.	Ralph Kinder.	Bishop of Chester.	D. of Tho. Potts.

With this incumbent the returns from Chester registry close, but he was succeeded in or about 1794, by James Turner, vicar of Mottram 1818. To the upper part of this list may be added Robert Massey, "nup. incumbent in Mottram," whose salary, "p' ann' XVIIIIS." is noticed in the pension roll of 1556.

^c Information of Mr. J. A. Newton, agent of lord Dysart.

^d Information of Mr. J. A. Newton.

^e The returns from Chester registry supply nothing to fill up the chasm between Hyde and Robinson.



C. Heath. Engr.

London: Published by W. Wood & Co., 15, Abchurch Lane.

MOTTURAM LONGDENDALE.

F. O. Wood & Co.,

CHURCH.

Dedicated to St. Michael.

Tax P. N. £10. Val. Eeel. (Rect.) £32. 3s. 9d.

Certif. val. of Vic. £21.

The patronage of the rectory of Mottram was annexed to the manor, as appears by the preceding list of Incumbents, until the forfeiture by Francis lord Lovell, 1 Hen. VII.

By pat. 38 Hen. VIII. the appropriated rectory and the advowson of the vicarage were granted, inter alia, to the bishop of Chester, in exchange for his temporalities, and still constitute part of the endowments of the see^e. The tithes are held under the bishop by lease.

Bishop Gastrell gave the first two hundred pounds which he received from Mottram towards the augmentation of the curacy, as he terms it; but in other documents it is usually denominated vicarage, and the ministers have been regularly instituted. The registers begin in 1562.

The charitable benefactions are given at the end of the hundred, from the parliamentary survey, in addition to which must be mentioned the free school of Mottram. The endowment consists of lands in Haughton in Bunbury parish, houses in Manchester, and rent-charge in Chadkirk of £5 per ann. given by Robert Hyde, of Cattenhall, esq. The Haughton estate was purchased with £200, given in equal portions by Robert Gartside of Northwich, and sir Richard Wilbraham of Woodhey; and the Manchester houses were purchased with the timber on this estate, which in bishop Gastrell's time was valued at £135. The nomination of the master is stated, in the Notitia, to be in the bishop or parishioners in 1717; and in a subsequent entry, in 1722, in the minister and churchwardens.

The parish church of Mottram consists of a handsome tower, containing eight bells (the lower part of which is used as a baptistery), a nave, chancel, and side-aisles. The side-aisles terminate in two private chancels, belonging severally to the Halls of Hollingworth, and the earl of Stamford's manor of Staley.

The nave is separated from the north side-aisle by five pointed arches, and by six from the south aisle. The eastern one on each side is much larger than the others. The chancel is also separated from the private chancels by a pointed arch on each side.

In the latter of these (the south chancel) are the recumbent figures of Ralph Staley and his wife, on an altar tomb. The man is in a complete suit of plate-armour.

On the side of the principal chancel is an altar tomb of white marble, on which is a recumbent figure of serjeant Bretland, in his gown and wig, holding a scroll in the left hand, and leaning on the right arm, which rests on a pillow placed on a pile of books. At the side of the tomb is the following inscription:

H. S. E.

quicquid mortale fuit

Reginaldi Bretland, A. L. S.

familia non ignobili orti,

virtute, doctrina, ingenio præclari,

qui

consultando prudens, eloquendo facundus, agendo fortis,
paci studiosus, escarum fugax, clientibus in maximis
fidus.

Res aliorum sibi commissas tam diligenter quam suas ad-
ministrabat;

neque constituere litium rationes quam controversias
tollere maluit.

Nullus illi per otium dies exiit.

Vitæ tandem satur,

animam virtutibus onustam beneque de repub. meritam,
placide Deo reddidit die tertio Aprilis, anno Dom. 1703,
ætatis suæ 62.

Semper laboremus;

omnia sunt hominum tenui pendencia filo;

dum loquimur fugerit invida

ætas, cape quam minimum credula postero.

On a flag-stone in the middle aisle:

Robert Hyde, of Cattenhall hall, gent. grandson of
John Hyde, dean rural of Macclesfield, married Catherine,
only daughter of John Bretland, of Thorncliffe,
gent. departed this life the 24th day of July, 1681, aged
61, and did bequeath to the free-school of Mottram £6.
and to the poor thirty shillings yearly^f.

NEWTON

Is said to have given name antiently to a family, and to have had a mesne manor, which was conveyed in 1692 by Alexander Newton to sir Charles Duckenfield, bart. and passed subsequently with the manor of Duckenfield^a.

No court-baron is held in this township, but suit is

due from it to the leet of Mottram^b, in which the constables are sworn.

This township was probably not in existence as a distinct vill in 16 Edw. III. as in the general Inq. of that year it is not mentioned in the enumeration of the dependencies of the lordship of Longdendale.

^e See vol. I. p. 74.

^f The church notes of Mottram, taken in 1662, mention the Staley monument being then attributed to "Roe of Staley," and give a drawing of another tomb in the chancel, with an alabaster top, on which was this inscription round the recumbent figure of an ecclesiastic in canonicals, his hands clasped, and head resting on a cushion between a bible and hour-glass. The vulgar error respecting the Staley monument still continues.

..... magister Johan'es istius eccle'e feliciter obiit, an'o D'ni mille'mo ccccc xvij ejus a'i'e propiciet' Deus. Amen.

^a Lysons's Magna Britannia. The earlier account of the township there given from Booth's pedigrees, relates however to *Newton juxta Butley*, the property of the Newtons of Pownall, from whom "that antient family," of which Alexander Newton of Newton, here mentioned, was "last heir male," must have been distinct.

^b Information of J. A. Newton, esq. agent to F. D. Astley, esq. of Duckenfield, and to the lord of the paramount royalty of Mottram.

G O D L E Y

ANTIENLY gave name to a family which bore the local name, and were settled here about the time of king John or Henry III.^a

27 Edw. I. Robert, son of Henry de Godelegh, obtained from William, son to Henry de Godelegh, lands in Godelegh; and acknowledged that other lands which Richard de Duckenfield and Avice his wife held in dower, were his right.

2 Edw. II. Robert, son of Henry de Godelegh, obtained against Henry de Godelegh the manor of Godelegh, with lands therein, and settled it on Robert for life, remainder to Henry and his heirs.

12 Edw. II. William de Baggulegh, and William his son, obtained from Robert de Godelegh the manor of Godelegh, to them and their heirs.

After this only one moiety of the manor is noticed in such of the inquisitions and fines as have occurred, which moiety was purchased by the Massies of Sale from sir John Hyde of Hyde, son-in-law of William Baggulegh above-mentioned.

37 Edw. III. Richard, son to Richard Massey of Sale, obtained from sir John Hyde, and Alice his wife, half the manor of Godley, the sixth part of the manor

of Newton in Longdendale, the fourth part of the manor of Mattlegh, and lands therein, and in Stockport and Baggulegh, to him and his heirs.

Inq. p. m. 5 Edw. VI. James Massie, of Sale, esq. held, inter alia, half the manor of Godley, and lands in the above townships. Godley being held from the king by reason of the attainder of lord Lovell, and valued at xxs.

Inq. p. m. 44 Eliz. Richard Massey, of Sale, esq. held inter alia, as in the last *Inq. Val.* xiiii. xivs. i. v. d. the moiety of Godley being held from sir Thomas Wilbraham of Woodhey, as of his manor of Tingetwissel, by military service.

The inquisitions further notice lands in this township held by the Redishes of Groppenhall and the Booths of Dunham under the lords of Mottram, and other lands held by the Carringtons of Carrington under the Massies of Sale. It does not appear when the mesne manerial rights of the Massies fell into disuse, or that any manerial rights are now claimed or exercised in this vill, excepting those included in the paramount royalty of Mottram Longdendale.

H A T T E R S L E G H.

THIS manor appears to have been held by the Stokeports under the earldom as of the manor of Longdendale.

23 Hen. III. Robert de Stokeport died seized of this manor, which he held by finding a suitor to the court of Mottram^b.

By deed without date, Thomas, son of Richard de Hatterslegh, gave to his lord, Roger de Stokeport, and Lucy his wife, all his land of Hatterslegh^c.

Inq. p. m. 44 Edw. III. Isabel, daughter of sir Richard de Stokeport, held, inter alia, a place in Haccreslegh, in fee simple from the earl of Chester, by ploughing with all her ploughs from Haccreslegh, in time of Lent,

at the earl's manor house of Tyngetwisell, and by suit to the court there once a fortnight. Val. xxs.

The principal estate appears to have been afterwards vested in the Caringtons, who, by *Inqs. p. m.* 2 Edw. VI. and 20 Eliz. are found to hold lands here from the heirs of the Stokeport family by the annual render of a barbed arrow.

These lands passed, with Carrington, through the Booths of Dunham Massey, to the present earl of Stamford, who holds a court-baron for his manor of Hatterslegh^d. Suit is due from the township to the leet of the paramount royalty of Mottram, in which the constables are sworn^e.

S T A V E L E Y, O R S T A Y L E Y.

THE first mesne lords of this place that are noticed in the Cheshire collections are the Macclesfields, under whom were the Staveleghs.

In the general *Inq.* 16 Edw. III. Robert de Stavelegh is found to hold the vill of Stavelegh from the lord of Mottram, but the superior (though mesne) right of the Macclesfields occurs as follows:

1 Edw. I. Thomas de Macclesfield, as lord of Stavelegh, remitted to Robert de Stavelegh, in frank marriage with Dionysia, 11s. vi. d. annual rent which he was wont to pay him for lands held in Stavelegh, to be held by the render of id. per ann. at the feast of Pentecost^f.

30 Edw. III. Jordan de Macclesfield held in demesne

^a About fourteen years ago the author accidentally saw, in the hands of a country solicitor, a fine series of the charters of the Godleys, with appendant seals in beautiful preservation. They had been separated from the deeds bearing on the legal title, and the oldest of them, to the best of the author's recollection, were about the time of king John. One of these charters was a grant from the family of De Burgh, the antient lords of Tintwisle.

^b Williamson, Vill. Cest.

^c Ibid.

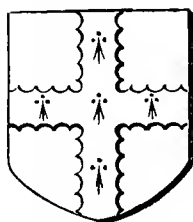
^d Information communicated by the late earl of Stamford.

^e Information of J. A. Newton, esq. agent to the earl of Dysart.

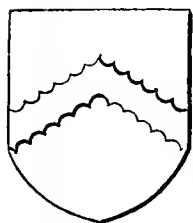
^f Williamson's Vill. Cest.

as of fee, from the earl in capite, le Bothemfield in Macclesfield forest, Little Hurdesfield, lands in Great Hurdesfield and Shrigley, five burgages in Macclesfield, Tydenabothe, and xii messuages in Gawsworth, le Haleslee, and lands in Shiglachmore, and Worthingburie; and also from the lord Hollande one place called Stavelegh, by mil. serv. Val. xxxs. John de Macclesfield, son and heir.

This Jordan de Macclesfield was one of the justices in Eyre for Cheshire, temp. Edw. III.^a and according to a pedigree, Harl. MSS. 1535, 378, was fourth in descent from Gilbert de Macclesfield, and had three sons, Thomas, John, and Jordan, who died s. p. and three daughters, finally coheireses, Margaret, wife of John Moreton, of Little Moreton; Mary, wife of . . . Gerberge (qu. Warburton?); and Millicent, wife of Robert Holt.



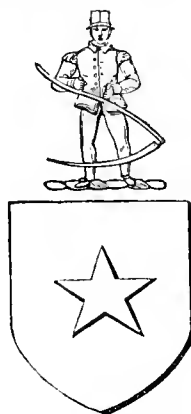
To this family is assigned for arms a coat which was borne by the Leghs (afterwards Macclesfields) of Macclesfield, and which they had founded on that of the Kingsleys, viz. Gules, a cross engrailed Ermine^b. Their successors, the Staveleys, bore Argent, a chevron engrailed Gules.



Oliver de Stavelegh has already occurred thrice among the patrons of the church of Thornton le Moors^c, in right of his wife, Johanna, daughter of Hamon Fitton of Bollin, and widow of Richard Venables.

The direct male line of the Staveleghs continued seated here until Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Ralph Stavelegh, married Thomas, son and heir of John de Ashton, which Thomas and Elizabeth, 10 Ed. IV. passed a fine of the said manor, and lands and messuages therein, settling the same on themselves, and the heirs of the said Elizabeth^d.

This Thomas Ashton (last heir-male of the *eldest* branch of the antient family of Ashton of Ashton-under-Lyne), was knighted at Rippon, 7 Hen. VII.



and is supposed to have contributed largely towards rebuilding the church of Ashton-under-Lyne, on the steeple of which is the coat of Ashton (Argent, a mullet Sable) impaling that of his second wife Margaret Staveley^e. He died about 8 Hen. VIII. leaving two daughters by his first wife, Agnes Harrington, of Westby, and by his second he had issue Margaret, wife of William Booth, of Dunham, esq. and Elizabeth, wife of Ralph Ashton, of Middleton, esq. who died without issue.

Inq. p. m. 2 Eliz. Elizabeth Ashton, widow, held lands in Staveley, Matteley, and Godeley, and 11d. rent therein in socage from the queen (by reason of the forfeiture of Francis lord Lovell) by the render of 1d. Val. xx11. xs. xd. ob. William Booth, great grandson of her sister Margaret Booth, next of kin and heir.

George Booth (son of the said Margaret) by *Inq.* 23 Hen. VIII. had previously died seized of other lands in Mattley, Godley, and Styall, held as above. Val. £28. 13s. 4d.

From this family Staley has passed with the other estates of the Booths to the present earl of Stamford, who holds a court baron for the same. The township is also subject to the leet of Mottram.

Staley hall is situated on the verge of the county, in the vale north of Featherbed moss, through which the Tame descends from Yorkshire towards Ashton. A correct view of the old hall, an antient stone building with bay windows and gables, is given in Aikin's Manchester. The situation is a high knoll overhanging the river, with a wild country in the distance, from which the venerable old mansion comes out finely in the foreground, grouping with the farm buildings, and some high sycamores behind it. On the hills behind appears the British fortress of Buckton castle, seated at the eastern extremity of the township, and noticed in the introduction to this hundred.

MATLEY.

7 Edw. II. William, son of William de Baggelegh, obtained against Richard de Matlegh, one messuage, four tofts, and half a bovat of land, in Matlegh, and settled them on Richard for life, remainder to William, son of Richard and Almarice, daughter of John de Hyde, remainder to the heirs of Richard.

Portions of this manor were afterwards in the Mascies of Sale, who derived their title to the same, through the Hydes and Baggileghs, from the Godleys of Godley^f;

and others in the Booths, who inherited through the Ashtons from the Staveleys of Staveley, as mentioned in that township.

The manor is at present vested in the earl of Stamford, representative of the Booths, who holds a court-baron for the same^g: the township also owes suit and service to the paramount royalty of Mottram Longden-dale^h, in the leet of which the constables are sworn.

^a See vol. II. p. 190. The Jordan-Gate of Macclesfield derived its name from this person, as mentioned at large in the additions to the account of that place.

^b See Bosley, p. 363, and note in p. 364.

^c Vol. II. p. 16, and Wilmslow, in this volume, p. 308, col. 2.

^d Williamson, Vill. Cest.

^e The coat of Ashton has been variously differenced by collateral branches, but was confirmed as above in the Visitation of Lancashire 1533, (Harl. MSS. 2076.) with the singular crest, a mower, party per pale, Sable and Argent. The church of Ashton-under-Lyne is situated (as its name implies), beyond the *Lyme* of Cheshire, but it is impossible to notice it without directing the attention of the antiquary to the fine remains of antient stained glass in the north side aisle and east window, the latter of which relates to the military achievements of the Ashtons, of whom an excellent account is given in Collins's Baronetage, vol. II. p. 207, edit. 1720.

^f See Godley, p. 416.

^g Information communicated by the late earl of Stamford.

^h Information of J. A. Newton, esq. agent of the earl of Dysart.

HOLLINGWORTH.

SIR Peter Leycester supposes this township to be the "Holisurde" of Domesday, which is included in the description of the wasted lands then held by the earl, but previously held by eight free men as manors. It had been rated at one virgate^a.

Hollingworth was afterwards a dependency of the earl's great lordship of Longdendale, and by the general Inq. 16 Edw. III. is found to be held by John de Holynworth from that lordship (then the property of John Lovell), and to be worth cs. per ann.

Previous to this, 19 Edw. II. John de Hollinworth obtained from Henry Payn, chaplain, the manor of Hollinworth cum pert. for his life, then to John his son and Ameria his wife, and their heirs^b.

This family had been seated here at least as early as the reign of king John, and appears to have terminated, in one branch, in an heir female before 17 Edw. I. when Roger Booth, and Petronell his wife, gave to Roger de Hyde, and Margery his wife, their whole land of Hollingworth, which came to them by descent from William, son of Robert de Hollingworth^c.

32 Eliz. Robert Hollinworth, gent. passed over this manor, 7 messuages, 7 gardens, and 200 acres of land; and 42 Eliz. Reginald Hollinworth passed over the same, with 20 messuages here and in Matley^d.

The further descent of the reputed mesne manor is given from title deeds^e.

In 1662 Francis (who appears to have been brother of John Hollingworth) executed deeds to make a tenant to the præcipe for suffering a recovery of the manor of Hollingworth, &c. the uses whereof were limited in strict settlement on said Francis and his issue in tail male, with remainder to Arthur Hollingworth (son of Arthur Hollingworth) in fee.

In 1675 Arthur Hollingworth, on his marriage with Annabella Buckeridge, limited the manor of Hollingworth, &c. in strict settlement on himself and issue in tail male, with remainder to himself in fee.

In April, 1703, Arthur, son and heir of the last named Arthur, executed deeds to make a tenant to the præcipe for suffering a recovery of said manor, the uses whereof were declared by said deeds.

In May, 1703, Annabella Hollingworth, Jacob Hollingworth, and George Hollingworth, and Gwynnett Freeman, and Elizabeth his wife, executed deeds, being a settlement of said manor to certain uses therein mentioned.

In March, 1706, Jacob Hollingworth executed deeds for suffering a recovery of said manor of Hollingworth, &c.

In April, 1707, Jacob Hollingworth, on his marriage with Mary Leigh, settled the manor of Hollingworth, &c.

In April, 1734, Jacob, son of the last named Jacob Hollingworth, sold the manor of Hollingworth, the manor-house and demesne, &c. &c. to Daniel Whitle, gent.

Daniel Whitle, the purchaser, made his will in 1755, and in 1756 his son John Whitle appears to be in possession.

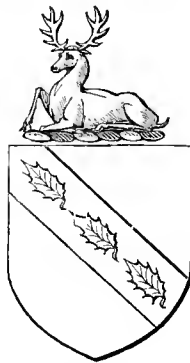
In November, 1792, John Whitle made his will, devising the manor of Hollingworth, &c. to his brother Daniel and his issue, which Daniel died leaving issue a son and daughter, living and minors in 1811.

No court is held or claimed for the reputed mesne manor; the township owes suit to the leet of Mottram, and the constables are there sworn^f.

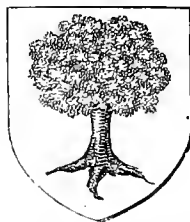
Besides Hollingworth hall, which has passed with the reputed manor, and which pays a quit-rent of vs. 1vd. to the lord of Mottram, there is another seat on the side of the township nearest to Mottram, called the Old hall, (antiently the Nether hall) which was for several centuries the seat of a collateral line of the Hollingworths, and was sold by their representatives about the commencement of this century to the uncle of George Hadfield, esq. the present proprietor.

Both lines of this family used the same allusive coat: Azure, on a bend Argent, three holly leaves Vert. In the Visitation of 1663-4 the Hollingworths of the Nether hall, had an allowance of the following crest: on a wreath a hart recumbent proper.

Eastwards of the Old hall is Thorncliffe, which is also the property of George Hadfield, esq. who, in 1810, purchased the same from Thomas William Tatton, of Withenshaw, esq. to whose grandfather



it had been sold, with the manors of Wernith and Romiley, in 1768, by the representatives of the Bretlands^g.



This family derived their name from Bretland Edge, on the adjacent border of Yorkshire, and bore for arms, Argent, a hawthorn tree erased Vert, flowered Gules. This coat was allowed in the Visitation of 1663-4, in which the pedigree ends with Reginald Bretland, then aged 23 years, and afterwards serjeant at law, for whom a sumptuous monument is erected in the church of Mottram, which has been already described.

^a See the extract at large in Henbury, p. 418.

^d Williamson, Vill. Cest.

^f The rights of the mesne manor have been twice disputed of late years; first, by the earl of Dysart as lord of the paramount royalty of Mottram, in 1799, with respect to estrays in the said manor; and secondly in 1811, by a considerable freeholder (when the opposition was made to the guardian of Mr. Whitle's infants) who claimed to concur in an arbitration respecting the boundary line of Stayley and Hollingworth, as lord of the manor, and not as a common freeholder. Opinions in favour of the mesne manorial rights were severally given on these occasions by the present sir George Wood and sir Vicary Gibbs, the counsel consulted by the claimants of the reputed manor.

^g Tobias Bretland, of Thorncliffe, died without male issue in the last century. His third daughter and coheir, Dorothy, married sir John Chetwode, bart.

^b Williamson's Fines.

^e Communicated by Mr. William Pass, of Altrineham.

^c Williamson, Vill. Cest.

TINTWISTLE.

THE manor of Tintwisle, or Longendale, is still a component part of the lordship to which it once gave name, and it does not appear that any mesne manor ever existed in this township.

Near its eastern extremity is the chapel of WOODHEAD, built by sir Edmund Shaa, who was lord mayor of London at the time of the usurpation of the crown by Richard the Third, and endowed the same, by will, with £4. 6s. 8d. yearly, for the salary of a chantry priest.

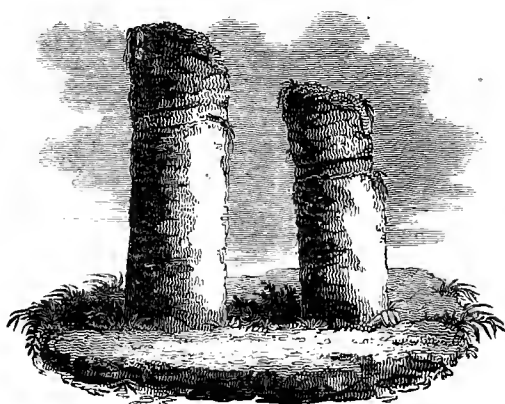
The patronage of the curacy of this little chapel is now vested in the Diocesan, as rector of Mottram, and its value was returned by him in 1809 as £57. 14s. per ann. arising from augmentation and surplice fees.

The first entrance into the vale of Tintwisle, or Longendale, exhibits the perspective of a long, deep, and wild vale, which gradually contracts in the distance, the right side of the valley, in the nearer part of the prospect, being formed by the Derbyshire hills, ranged boldly in the form of an irregular crescent. The same series of manufacturing villages continues which was observed on the other side of Mottram, but the general substitution of the powers of water for those of the steam-engine, and the hue of the stone with which the buildings are composed, do away in some measure with the usual effect of these unpleasant accompaniments of landscape. Old farm-houses likewise, and minor Halls, dark and moss-grown, appear blended with the hue of the heath on the hill-tops, and the rows of stone walls, are broken with occasional clumps of ash-trees which have grown up around them.

Further onwards the valley contracts, and assumes a wilder aspect. The summits of the hills are uniformly covered with heath and cranberry plants, and the sides partly composed of broken shale washed down by the torrents, and partly with patches of bright vegetation where the springs have spread over the surface. A noble road winds along the edge of the precipices, and below are successive groves of oak, and the clear stream of the Etherow in the bottom of the valley. Occasionally, and particularly on the Derbyshire side, are vast beds of rock which the winter torrents have laid bare in dashing from the hills, and nearly opposite to one of these, where the bend in the vale gives every possible effect of light and shade to the scenery, the little chapel of Woodhead, perched on an eminence to the left, built of plain grey stone, becomes a prominent object in the picture.

After this the scenery becomes tamer, and the vale shortly after divides into two branches, between which rises the end of the bold pointed rock of Pickenhurst, on the extremity of which are the remains of a tumulus, used most probably in former days for the purpose of a fire-beacon, as the site commands a boundless prospect over the town and church of Mottram in the direction of the Clwydian hills. At the base of this hill the road divides into two several branches, which shortly afterwards ascend the dark moors near Bretland Edge, on the verge of Yorkshire, and pass the boundaries of the Cheshire Palatinate.

. The annexed Vignette represents the rude double Cross, called the Bowstone, situated at the entrance of one of the gates of Lyme Park in this hundred, and described in p. 282.



Abstract of Returns of Charitable Donations, &c. 1787—1788.

SO FAR AS RELATES TO THE HUNDRED OF MACCLESFIELD.

Ordered by the HOUSE OF COMMONS to be printed 1816.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Clear Annual Produce of that given in land, after deducting the Rents issuing thereout.		
				Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
ADLINGTON.						
Roger Holland	1694—Will	To poor housekeepers—Land - -	Samuel Holland	-	-	0 10 0
Joanna Legh	1701—Will	Do - - Money - -	Elizabeth Legh	-	1 0 0	-
Ann Fernal	1775—Will	Do - - Do - -	Elizabeth Legh	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
ALDERLEY.						
Unknown	Unknown	To the poor - - Do - -	Sir John Thos. Stanley	4 6 0	1 15 2	-
Do	Do	Do - - Do - -	Wm. Fallows	16 0 0	0 16 0	-
Do	Do	Do - - Do - -	Thomas Henshall	100 0 0	5 0 0	-
Do	Do	Do - - Do - -	Thomas Norbury	13 10 0	0 13 6	-
N. and T. Hobson	Will	Do - - Do - -	John Pott	50 0 0	2 10 0	-
Parish of Over Alderley	Unknown	Do - - Do - -	John Pott	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
BIRTLES.	-	- - - None.	-	-	-	-
BOLLINGTON.						
Mr. Holland	Will	{ To poor householders not receiving relief from the township—Land	Mr. Holland	-	-	0 3 8
Mr. Venables	Do	Do - - - Money - -	Richard Broster	10 0 0	0 9 0	-
Mr. Stafford	Do	Do - - - Do - -	Rev. Mr. Johnson	30 0 0	1 10 0	-
Mr. Watkinson	Do	Do - - - House - -	Mr. Wilkinson	-	-	0 6 0
BOSLEY.						
Roger Holland	1694—Will	{ To the poor of 23 townships in the said parish, of which Bosley is one—Money	Ralph Vernon	-	0 5 0	-
Edw. Davison	1736—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Thomas Percival	12 0 0	0 12 0	-
John Thornley	1764—Will	To poor housekeepers—Money - -	Jos. Yates of Eccleshall	-	0 16 0	and a bible
BRINNINGTON.	-	- - - None.	-	-	-	-
BUTLEY CUM NEWTON.						
Elizab. Downes	1767—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Peter Downes	20 0 0	0 16 0	-
Francis Hobson	1712—Will	Do - - Do - -	Thomas Starkie	20 0 0	0 16 0	(^a)
Roger Holland	1694—Will	{ To such aged and infirm persons as are not able to work—Rent-charge	Samuel Holland	-	0 14 8	0 15 0 ^b
Ann Whitaker	Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Matthew Mottershed	13 0 0	0 13 0	-
-	-	- - - Do - - -	{ This legacy has been paid yearly by the Leghs of Adlington, for many years last past	-	1 0 0	-
John Faulkener	Will	Do - - Do - -	Randle Alcock	20 0 0	0 18 0	-
-	Do	- - - Do - - -	Matthew Mottershed	13 0 0	0 13 0	-
CAPESTHORNE.						
Roger Holland	1694—Will	To poor householders—Rent-charge -	Samuel Holland	-	-	0 3 0
CHADKIRK.	-	- - - None.	-	-	-	-
CHEADLE.						
Eliz. Hansby	1669	{ For bread to the poor who constantly attend divine service—Rent-charge	Churchwardens and Overseers	-	-	5 0 0
Dor. Bulkeley	1669--Deed	{ For apprenticing a tenant's child of Cheadle Bulkeley—Land - - -	John Arden William Davenport William Tatton, &c.	-	-	7 0 0 ^c
Rich. Downes	1678--Deed	{ To 10 aged persons of Cheadle Moseley—Land - - -	Thomas Robinson Reginald Fowden John Robinson, &c.	-	-	2 10 0
James Kelsal	1745—Will	{ To poor housekeepers of Moseley and Bulkeley—Money - - -	Overseers and Churchwardens	30 0 0	1 10 0	-
John Gatley	1773—Will	To teaching poor children—Money -	Samuel Cbeers Samuel Bower John Sumner	100 0 0	4 0 0	(^d)

^a No interest hath been paid for several years.^b To Butley 10s. and Newton 5s.^c This charity has not been properly applied for many years past; and Jas. Bancroft of Cheadle, the person who has had the management of it, has made up no accounts for 11 years past, or more: He is no trustee; but we got information that the trust deed is in his hands, and he has refused to deliver it up to the churchwardens, or to give a copy of it, who are, together with a number of neighbouring gentlemen, trustees of the said charity, and wish to have it properly applied. Vide Circular Letter.^d Paid out of the poor's rate.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, and for what Purposes given and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.		Annual Produce of the Mune.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.	
				£.	s. d.		£.	s. d.
CHELFORD WITH ASTLE.								
Will. Smallwood	Will	{ To poor housekeepers not receiving weekly pensions—Money - - - }	Freeholders	2	10	0		
Rev. R. Kelsall	Do	- - - - -	Do - - -	10	0	0		
Thos. Smallwood	Do	Do - - - Do - - -	Do - - -	10	0	0		2 6 1 ^e
Mr. Bagualley & Mr. Stanley }	Do	Do - - - Do - - -	Do - - -	25	10	0		
Wm. Henshall	Do	Do - - - Do - - -	Do - - -	5	0	0		
Sam. Brooke	1772—Will	Do - - - Do - - -	R. S. Brooke	100	0	0	4	0 0
Cather. Brooke	1775—Will	Do - - - Do - - -	Do - - -	100	0	0	4	0 0
-	-	A yearly donation received at Prestbury -	- - -	-	-	-	-	0 5 8
DISTLEY.								
Thomas Hough	Will	{ To poor householders not receiving weekly pay—Rent-charge - - - }	Robert Longden	-	-	-	-	1 3 4
Alex. Knowles	Do	To poor householders—Do - - -	Samuel Bowler	-	-	-	-	1 10 0
— Gaskill	Do	Do - - - Do - - -	John Gaskill	-	-	-	-	0 10 0
DUCKINFIELD.								
Dr. Dan. Wild	1702—Will	{ To the aged poor, according to the discretion of the feoffees—Rent-charge - }	Wm. Buckley, minister } George Fletcher }	50	0	0	2	5 0
Unknown	1708—Will	- - - - -	Joshua Heap } Robert Grimshaw }	5	0	0	0	4 6
EATON.								
John Holford	1712—Will	{ To a poor person not receiving parish relief—Land - - - }	John Egerton	-	-	-	-	1 4 0
STOCKPORT ET CHELLS.								
Unknown	supposed by Will }	{ To the poor not chargeable to the township—Money - - - }	Overseers	60	0	0	2	7 0
FALLIBROOM.								
		- - - None.	—	—	—	—	—	—
GAWSWORTH.								
Earl of Macclesfield - }	1643—Will	{ To poor housekeepers not receiving parish relief—Money - - - }	Parishioners	16	13	4		
The Parishioners	Some time after 1643—subscription	{ To make up the above-named legacy of £20.—Money - - - }	Do - - -	3	6	8	1	0 0
John Swain, & others }	Above 80 years since	For the uses above-mentioned—Money -	Do - - -	23	0	0	1	3 0
Rev. J. Hammond	1724—Will	For the uses above-mentioned—Money -	Do - - -	50	0	0	2	10 0
HENBURY-CUM-PEXALL.								
Roger Holland	1694—Will	To poor housekeepers—Rent-charge -	Sam. Holland	-	-	-	-	0 3 0
HOLLINGWORTH.								
Mrs. Hyde	70 or 80 years since	To the poor—Money - - -	Thos. Howard	20	0	0	0	18 0
HURDSFIELD.								
Joshua Walker	Unknown	For bread to poor housekeepers—Rent-charge -	Thos. Smyth	12	0	0	-	0 12 0
Unknown	Do	To poor housekeepers—Unknown -	Mr. Holland	-	-	-	-	0 3 8
HYDE.								
Thos. Leese	1722—Will	{ For apprenticing poor children in Hyde } { Godly, Haughton, and Denton—Money }	Unknown - - -	40	0	0	2	0 0
D. Heginbottom	1730—Will	To the poor—Land - - -	James Lee, Mary Scoffield, John Hodson }	-	-	-	-	0 10 0
KETTLESHULME.								
Thos. Ouffe	1629—Deed	To poor housekeepers—Land - - -	Rob. Longdon	-	-	-	-	1 3 4 ^f
Francis Gaskell	1718—Will	To the poor—Rent-charge - - -	John Gaskell	-	-	-	-	0 10 0
LYME HANDLEY.								
Mr. Holland	Will	{ To poor housekeepers not receiving parish relief—Rent-charge - - - }	Thos. Holland	-	-	-	-	0 5 0
Edw. Lowe	Deed	Do Land - - -	Peter Lowe	-	-	-	-	1 0 0
Francis Gaskell	1718—Will	Do Rent-charge - - -	John Gaskell	-	-	-	-	0 10 0
Francis Gaskell	1718—Will	Do Do - - -	John Gaskell	-	-	-	-	0 10 0

^e Laid out in houses.

^f Thos. Ouffe left all his estate by will, lying in Kettleshulme, to six townships, Fernleye in Derbyshire, Taxall, Kettleshulme, Disley, Prestbury, and Macclesfield, in Cheshire, to every township an equal share of the profits; and the trustee now pays to every one of the aforesaid townships 12. 3s. 4d. yearly: And having made an inquiry, the estate is now let at 12l. or 14l. a year, and the trustee, Rob. Longden, gives no account for the remaining part, but says he pays it to a school in his own township.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
MACCLESFIELD						
John Thornicroft	1775—Will	{ To poor housekeepers not receiving parish relief—Bonds - - - }	Jos. Wood and Mary } Houghton - }	944 8 9	24 8 3	—
Rob. Clowes	1722—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Churchwardens -	50 0 0	2 10 0	—
Wm. Bagnall	1726—Will	To the poor of Sutton—Land - - -	Corporation -	20 0 0	-	1 0 0
Wm. Mottershed	1744—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Corporation -	50 0 0	2 10 0	—
Isaac Bollington	1733—Will	To the poor—Land - - -	Do - - -	20 0 0	-	1 0 0
Roger Snclson	1649—Will	For bread to the poor—Money - - -	Do - - -	52 0 0	2 12 0	—
James Pickford	1665—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Do (Qu?) - - -	-	5 8 0	—
Thomas Hough	1679—Will	Do Do - - -	Churchwardens (Qu?) -	50 0 0	1 3 4	—
Edward Johnson	Will	Do Do - - -	Drapers Company (Qu?) -	26 0 0	5 0 0	—
James Bailey	Will	Do Do - - -	- - -	-	2 10 0	(g)
Joseph Morris	Will	Do Land - - -	Churchwardens -	-	-	9 0 0
Joseph Pickford	Will	Do Money - - -	Jos. Pickford's heirs -	-	4 0 0	(h)
CHRIST CHURCH.						
Mat. Wainwright	1782—Will	Do Do - - -	Rowland Gould -	12 2 0	0 12 0	—
MACCLESFIELD FOREST - - - None. - - -						
MARPLE.						
George Barns	Will	For apprenticing poor boys—Land - - -	Lancelot Bealey -	-	-	8 0 0
Mary Peel	Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Joseph Lowe -	20 0 0	1 0 0	—
John Sidebotham	Will	Do Do - - -	Do - - -	34 0 0	1 14 0	—
MARTON - - - None. - - -						
MOTTRAM IN LONGENDALE -						
Eliz. Booth	1619—Will	{ To the poor attending Divine Service, } morning, in penny loaves—Money - }	Aldermen of Chester	50 0 0	2 10 0	—
John Bretland, } Thorncliffe }	1654—Will	To the poor, in meal and money—Rent-charge	Thomas Egerton -	-	-	2 10 0 ⁱ
Rob. Hyde	1684—Will	To the poor—Rent-charge - - -	Rev. Ralph Nicholson	-	-	2 0 0
Margaret Booth	1737—Will	To the poor attending divine service—Rent-ch.	Mary & Agnes Wagstaff	-	-	2 12 0
Several persons }	Differ ^t times } Will & Deed }	{ To the poor—Land - - - }	Churchwardens -	-	-	6 10 0
John Hadfield	1760—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Thomas Howard	20 0 0	-	0 18 0
John Booth	1763—Will	Do Do - - -	{ John Whitworth, James Ridgway, Benjamin Marshall, Joshua Wrigley. }	40 0 0	1 16 0	—
MOTTRAM ST. ANDREW -						
Mottram Hall	-	- - -	- - -	45 0 0	—	—
Mottes Sheads	-	- - -	- - -	5 0 0	—	—
Thomas Lowe	-	- - -	- - -	5 0 0	—	—
Mr. Minshull	-	- - -	- - -	3 4 6	—	—
Mary Booth	-	- - -	- - -	5 0 0	—	—
Wm. Broadhurst	-	- - -	- - -	0 10 0	—	—
George Massey	-	- - -	- - -	2 10 0	—	—
Hugh Mottram	-	- - -	- - -	2 10 0	—	—
Thomas Venables	-	- - -	- - -	10 0 0	—	—
George Hulme	-	- - -	- - -	2 0 0	—	—
Clark Holland	-	To the poor—Rent-charge - - -	- - -	-	-	0 10 0
John Day	-	Do Do - - -	- - -	-	-	1 0 0
NORBURY - - - None. - - -						
NORTHENDEN.						
Unknown	Unknown	{ To the poor of Etehells, in this parish, } on St. Thomas's Day, yearly—Land }	Overseers - - -	40 0 0	-	2 0 0
Sir Wm. Meredith	1738	To the poor—Money - - -	Wm. Shelmerdine -	20 0 0	0 16 0	—
Thomas Leigh	1777—Will	{ To the poor on St. Thomas's Day, yearly } Money - }	Overseers - - -	5 0 0	0 4 0	—
John Gatley	1773—Will	{ To be distributed in penny wheat loaves every } Lord's Day, after morning service, to the } poor: two thirds to the poor of Etehells, and } one third to the poor of Northen—Money - }	{ Samuel Cheers, The Rector of Northen, John Sumner, and Robert Moreton. }	100 0 0	4 0 0	—
Rev. Dr. Peploe	1782—Will	{ For clothing such poor person, resident in the } parish, as constantly attend Divine Service, } and not receiving parish relief—Money - }	Wm. Egerton and the } rev. Thos. Porter }	200 0 0	10 10 0	(k)
OFFERTON						
Samuel Dodge	Ab ^t 1720—Mon.	For apprenticing poor children—Money -	Henry Offley Wright	8 0 0	0 8 0	—
Robert Dodge	About 1765—Money.	{ For teaching poor children, whose parents are } not burthensome to the parish to which they } belong—Land - }	Samuel Dodge -	-	-	0 10 0

g No further information can be given.
i But if no heir resident, 5L per annum.

h No further information can be given.
k Three per Cent. Consols.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
POYNTON.						
Roger Holland	1694—Money	{ To the poor, to be raised yearly from his } estate in Mottram Andrew—Rent-charge }	- - -	- - -	- - -	0 5 0
WORTH.						
Roger Holland	1694—Do	{ To the poor, from the same fund as } above—Rent-charge }	1 - -	- - -	- - -	0 5 0
Edw. Downes	1694—Do	{ Part by } { To the poor—Money - - - }	Peter Downes	- 36 13 4	1 6 0	—
Eleanor Downes & John Downes	{ Will					
Eliz. Downes	1767—Will	Do Do - - -	Do - - -	- 10 0 0	0 8 0	—
POTTSHRIGLEY.						
John Barlow -	1684—Will	For teaching ten poor children—Land -	Unknown -	- - -	- - -	6 0 0 ^m
John Barlow -	1684—Will	{ For apprenticing one of the said children } every third year—Rent-charge - }	- - -	- - -	- - -	2 0 0
William Lunt	1688—Will	For teaching two poor children—Land -	John Buck -	- - -	- - -	1 0 0
Peter Gaskell	1718—Will	To the poor—Land - - -	Mr. Hodgson -	- - -	- - -	1 5 0
Roger Holland	1696—Will	To the poor—Rent-charge - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	0 5 0 ⁿ
Edw. Downes	1747—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Peter Downes -	- - -	1 0 0	(o)
Rev. Mr. Thornley	1764—Will	To poor housekeepers, to buy a Bible—Money	Joseph Yates -	- - -	1 0 0	(p)
Eliz. Downes	1774—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Peter Downes -	20 0 0	0 16 0	—
John Downes & Eleanor Downes	}	To the poor, pensioners excepted—Money	Peter Downes -	40 0 0	1 12 0	—
PRESTBURY.						
T. Venables, sen.	1749—Will	To the poor - Do - Do -	James Holland -	20 0 0	1 0 0	—
T. Venables, jun.	1760—Will	To the poor - - - Do -	Do - - -	20 0 0	1 0 0	—
Ann Wittacres	1717—Will	To the poor - Do - Do -	Do - - -	20 0 0	1 0 0	—
Thomas Ouffe	1629—Deed	To the poor—Land - - -	Robert Longdan -	- - -	- - -	1 3 4
Mary Bunnel	1772—Will	For bread to the poor—Money - -	The Parish -	20 0 0	1 0 0	—
John Oldham	1712	Do - Do - - -	Not answered -	8 0 0	{ Not answered }	—
Roger Holland	1696—Will	To the poor, pensioners excepted—Rent-charge	Mr. Holland -	- - -		- - -
Johannah Leigh	1701—Will	For bread to the poor—Money -	Mrs. Leigh -	50 0 0	2 10 0	—
John Day -	1729—Will	Money to the poor on St. Thomas's Day—Money	Hannah Wright -	20 0 0	1 0 0	—
Lady Meredith	1727	For bread to the poor—Money - -	Parishioners -	20 0 0	{ Not answered }	—
Ann Wittacres	1717	- Do - Do - - -	Do - - -	5 0 0		Do - - -
Philip Hyde	1700	To the poor - Do - - -	Do - - -	5 0 0	Do - - -	
Mary Booth	1696	Do - Do - - -	Do - - -	5 0 0	Do - - -	
Ann Wittacres	1720	{ To a schoolmaster, for teaching 10 of the } { poorest children in the township—Money }	{ Upon the Buxton } { turnpike - }	100 0 0	4 10 0	—
— Foxlow	-	{ To poor widows who have only been once } { married—Money - - - }	- - -	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
RAINOW.						
Daniel Nixon	Will	For teaching six poor children—Land -	John Chapman -	- - -	- - -	2 0 0
Thomas Shrigley	-	- - - - -	Charles Clark -	- - -	- - -	1 6 8
Mr. Porter	Will	For teaching three poor children—Land -	{ Thomas Turner, } { Francis Berwick, }	- - -	- - -	1 0 0
Mr. Gaskell	-	For teaching one child—Money -	John Janny -	- - -	- - -	}
John Lowe	-	{ For bread or cloth to poor housekeepers } { not receiving parish-relief—Money }	Mr. Hulley -	10 0 0	0 10 0	
Mr. Clarke	1613—Deed	To the poor—Land - - -	John Gaskell -	30 0 0	1 5 0	—
			Thomas Smith -	- - -	- - -	1 6 8
NORTH RODE.						
Roger Holland	1718—Will	To poor housekeepers—Money -	John Hall -	- - -	0 5 0	—
SIDDINGTON.						
E. of Macclesfield	1702—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Davies Davenport -	16 13 4	}	3 6 8
Matthew Wilton	1711—Will	Do Do - - -	Do - - -	10 0 0		
Mary Stubbs	1727—Will	Do Do - - -	Do - - -	40 0 0		
John Foden	1709—Will	Do Rent-charge - - -	Rev. Thomas Gatley -	- - -	- - -	1 0 0
Roger Holland	1718—Will	Do Do - - -	S. Holland -	- - -	- - -	0 5 0 ^t

¹ Being informed by John Hall, that Ralph Veronn, of Shrewsbury, is the present trustee, but that he pays the said sum to Samuel Holland, of Warford, who distributes it to the 23 townships in the parish of Prestbury, in their respective proportions.

^m Mr. Barlow's donation was not left to the poor of Pott Shrigley, but to his relations, that lived in the township of Pott Shrigley.

ⁿ No further information can be given.

^o Ditto.

^p Ditto.

^q The several sums left by John Oldham, Lady Meredith, Ann Whitacres, Philip Hyde, and Mary Booth, cannot be found out with certainty, either the annual produce of each sum, or the names of the trustees; but it is imagined the sums left are vested in the parish.

^r Upon a turnpike between Sanden in Staffordshire, and Bullock Smithy, in Cheshire.

^s The whole of the money here set down, and the produce thereof (except the money left by Mr. Lowe in the hands of Mr. Gaskell, and the produce thereof) was given for the support of a school and schoolmaster in the township of Rainow.

^t Roger Holland charged his estate with the yearly sum of 6*l.* to be divided in different portions among 23 different townships; Siddington portion is 5*s.* yearly

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				£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
SOMERFORD BOOTH.												
John Broomfield	1742—Will	{ To poor housekeepers not receiving parish relief—Rent-charge - - }	John Jennings -	10	0	0	0	9	0	(u)		
SNELSON	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
STOCKPORT.												
Wm. Hulme	- Will	To the poor—Land - - -	Thos. Sheppard -	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Mary Haywood	1690—Will	Do Money - - -	The Churchwardens	20	0	0	0	16	0	-	-	-
Dor. Wilkinson	1759—Will	Do Do - - -	Do -	30	0	0	1	4	0	-	-	-
John Sydebotham	1736—Will	Do Do - - -	Do -	10	0	0	0	8	0	-	-	-
Henry Arden	1738—Will	{ To the poor of Stockport or Bredbury, not receiving relief—Money - }	John Arden -	300	0	0	12	0	0	-	-	-
Humph. Warren	1744—Will	{ To the curate 20s.; to the clerk 10s.; to 6 almshouses, 5s.; and to the poor of Stockport, 40s.—Money - }	John Arden - } Wm. Davenport - }	100	0	0	5	0	0	-	-	-
Eliz. Stead	- 1751—Gift	{ For apprenticing poor children in Stockport—Money - }	John Arden -	100	0	0	5	0	0	-	-	-
Frances Arden	1759—Will	{ Do - - Do in Stockport or Bredbury—Money - }	Mary Arden -	150	0	0	6	0	0	-	-	-
Margaret Arden	1764—Will	{ For apprenticing poor children in Stockport or Bredbury—Money - }	Mary Arden -	200	0	0	8	0	0	-	-	-
Wm. Wright	- 1770—Will	{ For apprenticing 4 poor children yearly—Money - }	Rector & Churchwards.	600	0	0	27	0	0	-	-	-
Elias Agecroft	1771—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	John Collier -	500	0	0	-	-	-	(x)		
Thos. Thornely	1775—Deed	To the poor frequenting the church—Land	Churchwardens -	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	10	0
James Priestnall	1727—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	John Harrison -	30	0	0	1	10	0	-	-	-
ST. PETER'S	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUTTON.												
Daniel Hulme	- Will	{ For shirts and shifts on St. Thomas's day—Money - }	Charles Clowes	90	0	0	4	10	0	-	-	-
Roger Snelson	1647—Will	For bread or money to the poor—Money -	John Stonehewer	30	0	0	5	0	0	-	-	-
Catherine Nixon	1689—Will	{ Coals for poor housekeepers, and teaching children to read—Money - }	Do -	60	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Upton	- Unknown	Poor children's school Do - - -	Do -	100	0	0	4	0	0	-	-	-
TITHERINGTON.												
John Oldham	1736—Will	For buying three coats for the poor—Money	William Brooksbank	30	0	0	1	10	0	-	-	-
Richard Calrow	1765—Will	{ For buying one coat for one poor householder—Money - }	Do -	10	0	0	0	10	0	-	-	-
UPTON.	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WARFORD MAGNA.	-	- - Nonc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WILDBOARCLOUGH	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LOWER WITHINGTON.												
John Tiden	1709—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Rev. Mr. Gatley	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0y
Roger Holland	1718—Will	Do Rent-charge - - -	Mr. Holland	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	0
WILMSLOW.												
John Leigh	1720—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Churchwardens and Overseers }	50	0	0	-	-	-	2	5	0z
John Leigh	1720—Will	To the poor of Pownal Fee—Money -	Do -	100	0	0	-	-	-	4	10	0a
Rev. John Dodd	1729—Will	For bread to the poor Do -	Churchwardens	12	0	0	0	10	9	-	-	-
Lady Booth	- Unknown	For bread to the poor Do -	Do -	50	0	0	2	10	0	-	-	-
John Kelsal	1756—Will	To the poor of Pownal Fee Do -	Churchwardens and Overseers }	5	0	0	0	4	6	-	-	-
John Eccles	1761—Will	Do - - Do -	Do -	90	0	0	4	1	0	-	-	-
John Eccles	1761—Will	To the poor inhabitants of Fulshaw—Money	Do -	45	0	0	2	0	6	-	-	-
Sundry persons	- Unknown	{ To poor housekeepers not receiving parish relief—Money - - }	The Minister, Churchwardens, & Overseers }	84	15	0	3	16	3	-	-	-

^u J. Jennings having failed about five years ago, no interest has been received since.

^x No further information can be given than that the Testator bequeathed such to charitable and pious uses; but cannot positively find the real sum bequeathed, nor (as the Trustees themselves say) are not liable to produce their accounts to any one; but say that the money is more than 500.

^y Laid out in lands.

^z To be laid out in lands or rent-charge.

^a To be laid out in lands or rent-charge.

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				£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
The Lords of the Manors of the respective townships, with the freeholders -	1772 and 1775—Deed	To the poor—Land - - -	The hon. Booth Grey The hon. John Grey, Mr. Fallows, Samuel Taylor, Thomas Cash, jun. Hugh Wortbington, Thomas Pownall, John Wadkin, Jeffrey Alecock, John Simpson, John Cash, Hugh Pownall, Roger Boulton, James Clarke, Ralph Bayley, Sir John T. Stanley, Mr. Crewe, George Leycester, Henry Barlow, Ralph Bower, George Ward, jun. Samuel Finney, Thomas Page, Isaac Barlow, Catherine Hall	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	3	2
		Supposed by some of the family of the Davenports of Chorley		Unknown	For bread to the poor—Money - - -	-	-	-	0	10	0	(0)
WINCLE.	-	- - - None.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
YEARDSLEY-CUM-WHALEY												
Thomas Ouffe	1629—Deed	{ To parish housekeepers not receiving parish relief—Land - - - -	Robert Longden	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	8	
Frances Jodrell	1665—Will	Do - - - Do - - -	John Bower Jodrell	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0	
John Legh	1692—Will	Do - - - Do - - -	Peter Legh	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	4	
Wm. Bradbury	1702—Will	To the poor—Land - - -	Mr. Jodrell and Mr. Nixon	} 40	0	0	1	16	0	-	-	
Francis Gaskell	1718—Will	To poor housekeepers—Land - - -	John Gaskell									-
TAXAL.												
Thomas Ouffe	1629—Deed	To the poor—Land - - - -	Robert Longden	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	8	
Frances Jodrell	1665—Will	Do - - - Do - - -	John Bower Jodrell	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0	
Francis Dixon	1665—Will	Do - - - Do - - -	Edward Dixon	-	-	-	-	-	0	12	0	
John Legh	1692—Will	Do - - - Do - - -	Peter Legh	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	8	
Judith Wood	1693—Will	Do - - - Money - - -	J. Dickenson and James Wilson	} 20	0	0	0	16	0	-	-	
Wm. Bradbury	1702—Will	Do - - - Do - - -	Edward Dixon and John Bennet									5
Fras. Gaskell	1718—Will	Do - - - Land - - -	John Gaskell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	0

0 10s. per ann. given by the late Mrs. Davenport, and is continued at present by Mrs. Hall, daughter of the said Mrs. Davenport: is a voluntary act, subject to the control of no person, and may be withdrawn whenever she pleases; and we are the rather confirmed in this, as the 10s. a year, hath within a few years been increased to 12s.

The MISE

OF

THE HUNDREDS CONTAINED IN THIS VOLUME.

NORTHWICH HUNDRED.

Collectores ibidem. HUGO VENABLES DE KINDERTON. ROBERTE GROSVENORE. THOMAS KYNSVE.

Pro Allastock d'nus p. tert. xvij. vjd.
 Arlyde vs. ivd.
 Ayton d'nus p. ij. p'tibus vs. xd.
 Byrches xivd.
 Bustock d'nus p. tert. xiijs. ijd.
 Bileigh viijs.
 Bradwell xixs. ijd.
 Brearton d'nus p. quarta xxxixs. ijd.
 Buglawton d'nus p. tert. xxiijs. ijd.
 Clive viijs.
 Congleton d'nus p. tert. xls.

Cotton d'nus p. tert. vjs.
 Cranage d'nus p. tert. xijs. ixd.
 Churche Lawton, xvij. ixd.
 Choroche Holme d'nus p. tert. viijs. ixd.
 Croxton d'nus p. tert. viijs.
 Davenham d'nus p. tert. vijs. ijd.
 Davenporte d'nus p. ij. p'tibus ixs. vjd.
 Elton d'nus p. quarta xiijs. vjd.
 Gosetre et Barneshaw d'nus p. di' xxiijs. xd.
 Houleme et Walfeld viijs.
 Holes d'nus p. quarta vijs. ijd.

Kerthingham d'nus p. tert. viijs. ixd.
 Lache Denys vs. ijd.
 Leighes vis. ixd.
 Leftwiche d'nus p. tert. xijs.
 Lostoeke Gralam d'nus p. quarta xvjs.
 Kinderton cum Hulme d'nus p. tert. xixs. ijd.
 Mediowico xxxvijs. vd.
 Minshull Vernon d'nus p. tert. xxvijs.
 Moulton in man p'cenar' vs. vjd.
 Moresharrow cum Parme ivs.
 Moretone d'nus p. quarta xiijs. vd.

Mostone d'nus p. quarta xijs.
 Newbold Astbury d'nus p. tert. xxvijs. xl.
 Newton d'nus p. quarta viijs. ixd.
 Northewico xxxijs. viid.
 Newball ijs. xl.
 Occlestone viijs.
 Peevere Nether, pro medietate de, d'nus p. tert.
 ixs. vijd.
 Ravenscrofte xiis.
 Rode d'nus p. tert. xxvijs.

Rudbeathe xlijs. viijd.
 Shebbrooke, d'nus p. tert. xijs.
 Sborlache et Bradforde d'nus p. quarta viijs.
 Smallwoode d'nus p. tertia xxxvijs. vijd.
 Somerforde et Radnor d'nus p. tertia xijs. vijd.
 Sondbache d'nus p. tert. xxxs. vd.
 Smethewicke d'nus p. tert. viis. iid.
 Sprostone d'nus p. tert. viijs. ixd.
 Stantborne xs. vd.
 Stubbes et Lache vs. ijd.

Swethenham d'nus p. quarta ixs. vijd.
 Twemlowe d'nus p. tert. vjs. xl.
 Tettone d'nus p. quarta xijs. vijd.
 Waretone d'nus p. quarta xijs. ijd.
 Warmingham d'nus p. tert. xijs. vijd.
 Whelocke d'nus p. tert. vis. vd.
 Witcrofte d'nus p. tert. vis. vd.
 Witton et Twembrooke d'nus p. tert. xijs. iid.
 Winboldesley d'nus p. quarta viijs. ixd.
 Somme £xliij. vis.

NANTWICH HUNDRED.

Collectores. JOH'ES MANWERING, Ch'r.
 JOH'ES DE ROPE.

RIC. HASSALLE de Hankilowe.
 JOH'ES MASTERSONE.

Pro Acton d'nus p. dimid. xijs.
 Adeleme d'nus p. terc. xxxijs. ivd.
 Alsacher d'nus p. quarta xvjs. viijd.
 Alvestone d'nus p. tertia vs.
 Aston juxta Mondrem d'nus p. quar. xijs. ivd.
 Alstanston d'nus p. tertia xs.
 Badileighe d'nus p. dim. xs.
 Bathynnton d'nus p. tertia xxvjs. viijd.
 Barksford d'nus p. tertia vis. viijd.
 Bartherton d'nus p. ij. p'tibus iijjs. viijd.
 Bartumleigh d'nus p. ij. tertia xxxijs. ivd.
 Bechetone d'nus p. quarta xxxijs. ivd.
 Blackenhall d'nus p. quarta xxvijs. ivd.
 Briddesmeyre d'nus p. dim. xxxijs. vid.
 Bromhall d'nus p. tertia xijs. ivd.
 Brundeleighe d'nus p. quarta xvjs.
 Bureton d'nus p. tertia xxxijs. ivd.
 Burlande d'nus p. quarta xs.
 Chackyleigh cu' Wrinbille d'nus p. terc.
 xijs. iid.
 Cholmondeston d'nus p. dim. xijs. ivd.
 Chorleigh d'nus p. tertia xijs. ijd.

Chorleton d'nus p. dim. xs.
 Chorebe Copenball d'nus p. tertia xijs. ivd.
 Cborche Minsbulle d'nus p. quinta xxvjs. viijd.
 Coule usque Pilaten Holbroke d'nus p. tertia
 xijs. ivd.
 Crewe d'nus p. tertia xxvijs. iijd.
 Dodcote cu' d'nio abb'is d'nus p. tertia £lij.
 vjs. viijd.
 Edlaston d'nus p. ij. p'tibus vjs. viijd.
 Fadeleighe d'nus p. quarta xvjs. vid.
 Hankylowe d'nus p. dimid. xijs. iijd.
 Haslyngton d'nus p. tertia xxxijs. ivd.
 Hassalle d'nus p. tertia xjs. ivd.
 Hathertone d'nus p. tertia xxvjs. viijd.
 Henhull d'nus p. ij. p'tibus vjs. viijd.
 Hougbe d'nus p. tertia xs.
 Hunsterson d'nus p. tertia xxvjs. viijd.
 Hurleston d'nus p. tertia xxvijs. viijd.
 Lee d'nus p. dim. vjs. viijd.
 Leighton d'nus p. tertia xjs.
 Marbury d'nus p. quarta xxvijs. viijd.
 Monke Copenhall d'nus p. tertia xjs. ivd.

Newball d'nus p. dim. xxxjs. viijd.
 Norbury d'nus p. tertia xs.
 Pooles d'nus p. quarta xijs. ivd.
 Roop d'nus p. tertia xis. ivd.
 Sbvayngton d'nus p. tertia xxvjs. ivd.
 Sound d'nus p. quarta xs.
 Stapleigh d'nus p. tertia xvjs. viijd.
 Stoke d'nus p. dim. xjs. ijd.
 Tyttenleigh d'nus p. ij. partibus vis. viijd.
 Walgherton d'nus p. tertia xijs. iijd.
 Westone d'nus p. quarta xxvijs. iijd.
 Wico Malbano d'nus p. tertia £lij. xis. vid.
 Wibonbury d'nus p. dim. xvjs. viijd.
 Wirswalle d'nus p. tertia xs.
 Wistanestone d'nus p. tertia xijs. ivd.
 Wollastone d'nus p. tertia vis. viijd.
 Wolstanwood d'nus p. dim. vs.
 Woodeye d'nus p. tertia xxd.
 Worleston d'nus p. tertia xis. viijd.
 Wrenburghie d'nus p. tertia xxs.
 Somme £lv. vjs. xjd.

MACCLESFIELD HUNDRED.

Collectores ibidem. LAWRENCIUS FYTTON, Ch'r.
 JOHANNES DE HONDFORD, Ch'r.

JOHANNES SAVAGE, Arm'.
 ROBERTUS LEIGHE de Adlington.

RENALDUS SHRIGLEV.
 JOHANNES DE SUTTON.

Pro Adlinton d'nus p. iijta xls.
 Alderleigh (Nether) d'nus p. iijta xxvijs.
 Alderleigh (Over) d'nus p. iijta xlijs. vd.
 Byrthelles d'nus p. iijta iijs.
 Bolyne d'nus p. iijta xxxs. vd.
 Bollynton d'nus p. iijta xvjs. ijd.
 Boseleigh d'nus p. iijta xxxs. vd.
 Butteleighe d'nus p. iijta xxiijs. iid.
 Bredburye d'nus p. iijta xxvijs.
 Brunynton d'nus p. iijta viijs.
 Bromalle d'nus p. iijta xxvijs. ijd.
 Capesthorne d'nus p. iijta vjs. ijd.
 Chelford d'nus p. iijta xlijs. ixd.
 Chedle d'nus p. iijta £liij.
 Chorleigh d'nus p. vta xxs.
 Downes d'nus p. vta ijs.
 Disteleigh et Stanleigh ixs. ixd.
 Dokenfield d'nus p. iijta xijs. iijd.
 Ecebeles d'nus p. iijta lvs. ijd.
 Fallybrome d'nus p. iijta ijs. vid.
 Gosworthe xxxijs.

Godleigh d'nus p. iijta vs. vijd.
 Hatresleigh d'nus p. iijta ixs. vijd.
 Holenworthe d'nus p. iijta viijs. ixd.
 Hurdesfield vjs.
 Huyde d'nus p. iijta ixs. vijd.
 Ketelesboulme vjs.
 Macclesfelde xxxvijs. iijd.
 Marton d'nus p. iijta xxiijs.
 Merpull d'nus p. iijta xxixs. ivd.
 Matleigh d'nus p. iijta vs. vijd.
 Mottram in Longdendale p. iijta xijs. ixd.
 Mottram Andrew d'nus p. iijta xxvijs. ijd.
 Newton d'nus p. iijta vjs. iid.
 Northerden d'nus p. iijta xvjs. vd.
 Norbury d'nus p. iijta xs. id.
 Offerton d'nus p. iijta vjs. iid.
 Pexhull d'nus p. iijta xs.
 Ponyntone d'nus p. iijta xlis. vijd.
 Pownall d'nus p. iijta xliijs.
 Prestbury d'nus p. iijta xijs. iijd.

Ranenow xijs. vd.
 Rode d'nus p. iijta xxiijs.
 Romyleigh d'nus p. iijta xijs. ixd.
 Sbrycleigh vjs. viijd.
 Som'forde d'nus p. iijta xvjs. id.
 Sutton xxxis. ixd.
 Staveleigh d'nus p. iijta xvjs. vijd.
 Stockeport d'nus p. vta xxxijs. ixd.
 Sydynton d'nus p. iijta xvjs.
 Taxall d'nus p. iijta vjs. iid.
 Torkynton d'nus p. iijta ixs. vijd.
 Tyderenton d'nus p. vta xvjs. iid.
 Tyngetwisell d'nus p. iijta xxvijs. vd.
 Upton viijs.
 Urdesleigh et Wayleigh xijs. vd.
 Werford d'nus p. iijta xvjs. vijd.
 Wbernithe d'nus p. iijta xijs.
 Withenton d'nus p. iijta xvjs. ixd.
 Yaton d'nus p. iijta xvjs. ixd.
 Somme £lv. xs. iijd.

The whole Somc of all the viij Hundreds dothe contayne for the halphe myse* of this Shire is as followethe :

H. de Edsburye is	-	-	-	£35	11	7
Broxon is	-	-	-	53	1	0
Wyrehall is	-	-	-	44	9	11
Northwiche is	-	-	-	43	6	0
Bucklowe is	-	-	-	46	13	2
Nantewiche is	-	-	-	55	6	11
Macclesfelde is	-	-	-	55	10	3
Somme is				£333	18	10

* Viz. "halphe" of a mise gathered only in the proportion of a third, or a sixth of a full mise, as appears by the general title of the Mise of the County, Harl. MSS. 280, which is as follows :

In libro collec'o'is mise d'no regi ad crea'c'o'em principis infra com. pala'n' co. Cestr' debit' p' lib'tatib's cujuslibet villati bamleti et hond' inf' com' p'dic' levand'. Anno D'ni R R Hen. 6 vicesim' primo, continetur ut seq.

Coll'c'o'es p'partis m^{ll} marcar' cujusd' subsidii, m m m marc', &c.

The MISES of EDISBURY, WIRRAL, and BROXTON, will be found in vol. II. p. 469; and that of Bucklow in vol. I. p. 310. An account of the Mise itself and its origin, as given by sir John Dier, knt. chief justice of the Common Pleas, will be found in vol. I. p. 101.

In the preceding table, Sutton in Northwich Hundred, Doddington in Nantwich, and Snelson in Macclesfield, are omitted, which are severally rated at iis. viid.—vis. viiid.—and iis. in the modern Mise-book, published by John Jolley of Buglawton, in 1726. Woodeye also, in Nantwich Hundred, appears to be an error for Woodcote, as the sum coincides with the mise of that township (which is otherwise omitted), and Woodhey is included in Faddley.

Appendix.

No. I.

GENERAL RETURN OF THE POPULATION OF THE COUNTY,

Extracted from the Parliamentary Census of 1811.

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.	Total.
Broxton.....	2399	2641	15	45	1809	399	433	6632	7019	13651
Bucklow.....	5929	6306	42	105	3034	2562	710	15930	16473	32403
Edisbury.....	3725	4101	13	78	2524	813	764	10347	10414	20761
Macclesfield.....	12520	13415	84	479	2653	10057	705	33775	36848	70623
Nantwich.....	3480	3912	2	85	2382	1207	323	9568	10000	19568
Northwich.....	5160	5389	33	171	1885	2774	73	12815	13726	26541
Wirral.....	2160	2265	23	66	1468	477	320	5672	5907	11579
Chester.....	3296	3745	15	161	397	2296	1052	7007	9133	16140
Macclesfield Town.....	2518	2728	23	49	244	2458	26	5629	6670	12299
Local Militia (*).....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3466	—	3466
	41187	44502	250	1239	16396	23043	5063	110841	116190	227031

* The Chester, or first Regiment of (Cheshire) Local Militia, was assembled for fourteen days exercise on the 15th of May 1811, to the number of 1332, officers included. The Stockport regiment was assembled 20th May, to the number of 1011. The Macclesfield regiment on the 27th May, to the number of 1023.

No. II.

CHARITIES OF EDISBURY, WIRRAL, AND BROXTON,

OMITTED IN VOL. II.

* * * The Charities of the greater part of the Second Volume containing the Hundreds of Edisbury, Wirral, and Broxton, had been inserted from the best local information that could be procured, before the Parliamentary Return of charitable benefactions was printed. It is therefore thought proper to add in this Appendix from that return what relates to these Hundreds for the sake of uniformity, as well as from a sense of the intrinsic value and use of this document, and it is reprinted literatim, with the original notes, manifest errors in names only being corrected.

EDISBURY HUNDRED.

FIRST DIVISION.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
BUDWORTH.						
Isabella Dodd	1720—Will	To 6 poor old men, and 6 poor old women, in an almshouse to be erected in Budworth; and also to 4 poor old men, and 4 poor old women, in the parish of Ellesborough—Money	Rev. Crewe Arden, Rev. Edm. Lally, Thos. Walker, John Houlbrook, Wm. Kirkham,	2500 0 0	-	90 0 0 ^a
-	1736—Will	To the poor—Land	Jon. Houlbrook, John Knight			
Frances Minshull	1635—Will	To the poor—Money	-	2 0 0	}	(b)
Ralph Dodd	1655—Will	Do Do	-	3 0 0		
Randle Dodd	1659—Will	Do Do	-	30 0 0		
Thos. Taylor	1680—Will	Do Do	-	3 0 0		
-	1682—Will	Do Do	-	2 0 0		
Elean. Courtney	-	Do Do	-	2 0 0		
Randle Dodd	1672—Will	Do Do	-	1 0 0		
Thos.	1690—Will	Do Do	-	5 0 0		
BUNBURY.						
Mr. Aldersey	1575—Deed	Do Charge on the Tythes	Impropiator	-	-	10 0 0
Lady M. Calveley	1705—Will	To the poor Communicants—Money	-	100 0 0	-	-
Sir T. Bunbury	Unknown	To the poor Do	-	48 10 0	-	-
Several Persons	Unknown	Do Do	-	67 0 0	-	-
Sir T. Wilbraham	1690—Will	Do Do	-	58 0 0	-	8 10 0 ^c
M. H. Brindley	1705—Will	Do Do	-	20 0 0	-	-
Sir John Crewe	1712—Will	Do Do	-	10 0 0	-	-
John Burton	1710—Will	Do Do	-	5 0 0	-	-
Rich. Hughson	1720—Will	Do Do	-	14 0 0	-	-
John Millington	1624—Will	Do Do	-	30 0 0	-	-
Sir H. Beeston	1626—Will	Do Do	-	200 0 0	-	(d)
Rich. Davenport	1771—Will	Do Do	-	5 0 0	-	(e)
N.B.—There is at this time in the hands of the Wardens waiting an opportunity for realizing:				18 5 0	-	(f)
Donations to particular townships:						
R. Williamson } T. Vernon, and } Rowland }	1700—Will	To the poor of Peckforton—Money	Overseers	60 0 0	3 0 0	-
Mr. Comberbach	1700—Will	To the poor of Haughton township—Money	Unknown	10 0 0	-	-
Thos. Ince	1700—Will	To the poor of Bunbury Do	Do	20 0 0	-	-
Isaac Basnett	1680	- Spurstow Rent-charge	Mr. Aldersey	10 0 0	}	1 5 0
Mary Basnett	1690	- Do Do	Do	5 0 0		
Mrs. Aldersey	1710—Will	- Do Do	Do	10 0 0		
Thos. Stanley	1686	{ To the poor of 6 townships in the parish } - Land - - - - - }	Minister and Wardens	-	-	3 0 0
Mr. Simkin	1710—Will	{ To Bunbury £5, and £2. 10s. to Alpraham poor—Money }	Unknown	7 10 0	} Unkn.	(g)
Mrs. Craven	1712—Will	To the poor—Do	Do	5 0 0		
Mary Povall	1712—Will	Do Do	Do	10 0 0		

^a 45*l.* was laid out in land, whereon the almshouse is erected; and 2050*l.* was laid out in the purchase of an estate for the poor: how the remainder of the money was expended does not appear.

^b Lost.

^d Lost.

^c Laid out in land; at an average per annum 8*l.* 10*s.* The rest are probably lost.

^e Not yet recovered. It is apprehended, if it could be obtained, that it is to be immediately distributed; and that Mr. Mainwaring, of Whitmore, Staffordshire, as executor, should order payment to be made.

^f The whole of charities annually disposed of in this parish to the poor, whether arising from land-rents, rent charges, interest of money, &c. It amounts pretty nearly to 23*l.* 10*s.* allowance being made for small variation in the taxes. Mr. Garner's charity is not mentioned in this sum.

^g Whether they were distributed, put out on bad security and lost, or consolidated with other monies in the purchase of lands, know not.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, and for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Moneys.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Mr. Shallcross	1771—Will	{ For bread to poor communicants— Rent-charge - - - }	Unknown -	-	-	1 2 0
Mr. Garner -	1700	{ For teaching poor children throughout the parish, Bunbury excepted—Money }	Trustees: Minister and Churchwardens, Wm. Fenna, Edw. Jones, Jos. Richardson, Rich. Craven, Rob. Cotgreave, Thos. Sutton, and Wm. Williams, clk. the present Curate.	200 0 0	8 10 0	—
-	-	To buy books for poor children—Rent-charge	-	-	-	0 12 0
OVER.						
F. Cholmondeley	1713—Will	{ To orphans, widows, and fatherless chil- dren, of Over and Whitegate—Books }	Thos. Cholmondeley -	240 0 0	12 0 0	—
John Oulton	Unknown	To the poor—Money	-	16 0 0	Unkn.	—
Wm. Nixon -	Do	Do Do - - -	-	-	-	2 0 0
Marg. Nixon	Do	Do Du - - -	-	10 0 0	-	—
Seth Ratcliffe	Do	Do Do - - -	-	9 0 0	-	—
Andrew Barton	Do	Do Do - - -	-	2 0 0	-	—
C. Withingham	Do	Do Du - - -	Unknown -	5 0 0	-	—
Randle Lightfoot	Do	Do Do - - -	-	20 0 0	-	—
Thos. Maddock	Do	Do Do - - -	-	2 0 0	-	—
Ralph Thorp	Do	Do Do - - -	-	10 0 0	-	—
John Nixon -	Do	Do Do - - -	-	5 0 0	-	—
John Norbury	1744—Will	Do Do - - -	-	10 0 0	-	—
TARPORLEY.						
Jane Done -	1668--Deed	{ For apprenticing poor children in Utkin- ton and Tarporley—Rent-charge - }	Rector & Churchwardens	200 0 0	-	12 0 0
Mary Crewe	1685--Deed	{ For apprenticing poor children in Eaton and Rushton, Alpraham, Clotton and Kelsal—Rent-charge - - }	Do - - -	-	-	5 4 0
Lady M. Crewe	1704--Deed	{ To four poor women at Utkington and Torporley—Rent-charge - - }	Do - - -	-	-	6 0 0
Rev. T. Garner	1741—Will	{ For teaching poor children at Utkington, Eaton, and Rushton—Lands - - }	Do - - -	100 0 0	-	4 0 0
Purchased with Money arising from several Be- nefactions -	-	To the poor—Money	Do - - -	507 12 0	-	31 0 0
WETTENHALL.						
Unknown -	Unknown	Do Do - - -	Churchwardens of Over	16 0 0	0 7 0	—
WHITEGATE.						
Philip Johnson ⁱ	1692--Deed	Do Do - - -	-	2 10 0	0 2 6	—
F. Cholmondeley	1713—Will	{ To be distributed annually amongst widows, orphans, and fatherless children, in the pa- rishes of Whitegate and Over—Books }	Thos. Cholmondeley	-	-	—
N. B. This entered above in the pa- rish of Over.						
F. Cholmondeley	Gift	To the poor—Money	-	5 0 0	-	—
John Hughson	1739—Will	{ For teaching 10 boys in Swanlow and Marton—Land - - - }	Thos. Bloor	-	-	2 10 0
John Norbury ⁱ	1744—Will	To the poor—Money	-	10 0 0	0 10 0	—
E. Harefinch	1778—Gift	For bread to the poor of Marton—Money	Wm. Sandbatch	10 0 0	0 8 0	—
Several Persons	Unknown	To the poor—Money	-	35 16 8	-	—
R. Warburton	Do	Do Do - - -	-	5 0 0	-	—
W. Cholmondeley	Do	Do Do - - -	-	5 0 0	-	—
Chas. Povey	Do	Do Do - - -	-	10 0 0	-	—
Margaret Povey	Do	Do Do - - -	-	10 0 0	-	—
M. Harrison	Do	Do Do - - -	-	10 0 0	-	—
John Ollier -	Do	Do Do - - -	No Trustees	5 0 0	-	—
Wm. Whalley	Do	Do Do - - -	-	3 0 0	3 7 9	(*)
John Dodd -	Do	Do Do - - -	-	2 0 0	-	—
Ralph Massey	Do	Do Do - - -	-	2 10 0	-	—
Matthew Nixon	Do	Do Do - - -	-	5 0 0	-	—
Mrs. Brightman	Do	Do Do - - -	-	10 0 0	-	—
Tim. Billington	Do	Do Do - - -	-	5 0 0	-	—
Peter Frodsham	Do	Do Do - - -	-	10 0 0	-	—

^h It is probable that the said 16l. has some time since been placed at some stipulated rate of interest in the hands of the overseer, and the town-ship of Over thereby rendered accountable for it.

ⁱ Philip Johnson's donation, as well as John Norbury's, constitutes part of the sum of 67l. 15s. mentioned in the observations returned the 11th September, 1786, and which produces the annual interest of 3l. 7s. 9d.

^k The Vicar pays the 3l. 7s. 9d. annually on St. Thomas's day.

SECOND DIVISION.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
BARROW.						
Dr. Forster	-	To the poor—Money	-	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
John Brereton	-	Do Land	-	-	-	1 0 0
Wm. Brereton	-	Do Money	-	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
Mrs. Savage	-	Do Do	-	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
Ralph Cookson	-	Do Do	-	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
	1711			10 0 0	-	-
Alice Sherwood	-	Do Do	In the Parish at large	-	1 0 0	-
Morgan Jones	-	Do Do	-	1 10 0	0 1 6	-
John Bellis	-	Do Do	-	5 0 0	0 5 0	-
Wm. Joynes	-	Do Do	-	20 0 0	1 0 0	-
Jeffery Cheers	-	Do Do	-	5 0 0	0 5 0	-
Catherine Frior	-	Do Do	-	20 0 0	1 0 0	-
Mary Wright	1725	Do Do	-	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
FRODSHAM.						
Miss Hyde	Will	{ To distressed housekeepers not receiving relief from the town—Money or Land (doubtful)	Fras. Ashley	30 0 0	1 4 0	-
Mary Cheshire	1752--Deed	{ To poor widows, inhabitants of Frods- ham and Stockham—Land	Rev. Mr. Webster	-	-	5 5 0
John Bushell	-	{ 1s. 3d. to the school; 2s. 3d. to the poor of Frods- ham town and lordship, one house- keeper in each—Money	Mr. Ashley's Executor, or Mr. Barry	100 0 0	4 10 0	-
Mr. Trafford	-	To the poor—Rent-charge	Mr. Aldersey	-	-	1 0 0
	-	{ For bread to the poor, 1st Sunday in the month; to which the master of the free school is obliged to pay 10s. and the parish gives the rest	-	-	-	0 10 0
Mrs. Gastrell	1774--Deed	{ Gave an estate in Frods- ham charged with 10 l. annually, to be paid to the Clergy Meeting at Warrington, for the relief of widows and orphans of the poor Clergy of the Archdea- conry of Chester, and the remainder to the Vicar of Frods- ham—Rent-charge	Sir Rich. Brooke, bart.	-	-	10 0 0
INCE.						
Unknown	Unknown	To poor housekeepers—Money	Rich. Hill Waring	52 0 0	2 6 9	-
TARVIN.						
Robt. Alcroft	Will	To the poor Do	Churchwardens	20 0 0	-	-
Mr. Pickering	Will	Do Do	Do	10 0 0	-	-
M. Hixson's Grandchildren	Will	Do Do	Do	5 0 0	-	-
Joha Gallamore	Will	Do Do	-	5 0 0	-	-
John Brereton	Will	To ten poor widows yearly—Money	-	0 10 0	-	-
Tho. Bratherton	Will	To the poor of Clotton Hoofield—Money	-	20 0 0	-	-
Robt. Davies	Will	To the poor—Money	-	10 0 0	-	-
Elizabeth Clayton	Will	Do Do	-	5 0 0	-	-
Ralph Wright	Will	Do Do	-	10 0 0	-	-
Eliz. Wright	Will	Do Do	-	5 0 0	-	-
Mr. Whittingham	Will	Do Do	-	20 0 0	-	-
E. Taylor, Hoof- field	Will	To the poor of Clotton Hoofield—Money	-	10 0 0	-	-
Tho. Davies	Will	For bread to the poor every Sabbath-day	Do	100 0 0	5 0 0	-
R. Wilbraham	Will	To the poor—Money	-	5 0 0	-	-
Sabbath Clarke	Will	Do Do	-	4 0 0	-	-
Clarke's Widow	Will	Do Do	-	1 0 0	-	-
Robert Blease	Will	To the poor of Foulk Stapleford—Money	-	50 0 0	-	-
Do Blease	Will	To the poor—Money	-	30 0 0	-	-
Daniel Rogers	Will	Do Do	-	5 0 0	-	-
Mr. Barker	Will	For bread to the poor every Sabbath-day	Do	-	-	5 0 0
M. Whittingham	Will	To the poor of Tarvin and Ashton—Money	-	10 0 0	-	-
Alice Gartsyde	Will	To the poor of Mouldsworth Do	-	10 0 0	-	-
Do Gartsyde	Will	To the poor—Money	-	10 0 0	-	-
Sir John Crewe	Will	Do Do	-	10 0 0	-	-
Robt. Wright	Will	Do Do	-	10 0 0	-	-
Eliza. relict of R. Wright	Will	Do Do	-	10 0 0	-	-
Robt. Neild	Will	To poor housekeepers—Money	{ Minister and Church- wardens	10 0 0	-	-
Ralph Barker	Will	To the poor—Money	Churchwardens	5 0 0	-	-
John Thomason	Will	To the poor of Hargreave—Money	-	12 0 0	-	-
Sarah Dunnecliff	Will	To the poor Do	-	10 0 0	-	-

¹ Whole annual produce is 6l. 6s.—Last year the parishioners, having reason to think that the interest was often improperly distributed amongst the poor, have agreed to apply the same towards establishing a charity school for the use of the poor children of this parish.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
H. Hixon, Clotton	Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Churchwardens -	10 0 0	0 10 0	—
Joseph Wright	Will	Do Do - - -	- - -	5 0 0	—	—
Peter Ravencroft	1754—Will	To the poor of Hargreave—Money -	{ Minister and Church-wardens }	25 0 0	—	—
Peter Ravencroft	1754—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Do - - -	50 0 0	—	—
John Hardware	Unknown	To the poor of Mouldsworth—Land -	Ralph Jackson -	-	-	4 10 0
Wm. Raphson	1747—Will	{ To poor housekeepers in Kelsall, annually—Land - - - }	Overseers of Kelsall -	-	-	1 0 0
Wm. Raphson	1747—Will	{ To poor housekeepers in Ashton annually—Land - - - }	Overseers of Ashton -	-	-	1 0 0
THORNTON.						
Margt. Wright	Unknown	For no particular purpose—Money -	Unknown -	10 0 0	} 7 0 0	(m)
Ann Taylor -	Do	- - -	Do - - -	2 0 0		
John Smith -	Do	- - -	Do - - -	1 0 0		
The Parishioners	Do	- - -	Do - - -	12 0 0		
Amy Wright -	Do	- - -	Do - - -	8 0 0		
John Finchy	Do	- - -	Do - - -	168 0 0		
Wm. Hinde	Do	- - -	Do - - -	20 0 0		
Robt. Denlith	Do	- - -	Do - - -	1 0 0		
Robert Oldfield	Do	- - -	Do - - -	5 0 0		
George Crewe	Do	- - -	Do - - -	20 0 0		
P. Cottingham	Do	- - -	Do - - -	50 0 0		
Jane Cottingham	Do	- - -	Do - - -	10 0 0		
WEAVERHAM.						
Mary Barker -	Do	For apprenticing poor boys and girls—Money -	- - -	100 0 0	6 5 0	—
By several Persons	Do	To the poor—Money - - -	- - -	80 0 0	5 0 0	—
Mr. Farrar -	Do	Do Do - - -	- - -	50 0 0	3 2 6	—
Mr. Harefinch's } legacy - }	Do	For bread to the poor—Money - - -	Vicar - - -	30 0 0	1 7 0	—
Thos. Billington	Do	To the poor—Money - - -	- - -	20 0 0	0 16 0	—
Jos. Billington	Do	To the poor of Acton—Money - - -	- - -	10 0 0	0 10 0	—
-	Do	{ To poor labourers not burthensome to the township of Acton—Money - }	- - -	25 0 0	1 1 0	—
Daniel Milner	Do	To the poor of Acton—Rent-charge -	- - -	-	-	2 0 0
Mr. Mobberley	Do	{ For apprenticing children of the township of Crowton—Rent-charge - }	Vicar - - -	-	-	3 12 0
The Township } of Crownton }	Do	To the poor—Land - - -	- - -	-	-	—
Rich. Donbavand	Do	- - -	- - -	32 0 0	—	—
Unknown -	Do	- - -	- - -	20 0 0	0 18 0	—

WIRRAL HUNDRED.

HIGHER DIVISION.

BACKFORD.						
Richard Carter	1700—Will	To the poor—Land - - -	{ Minister, Churchwardens, and Overseers }	-	-	6 0 0
John Welsbey	1718—Will	Do Money - - -	{ Churchwardens, and Overseers }	10 0 0	8 0 0	—
John Birkenhead	Will	Do Do - - -	{ Executors of John Birkenhead, Frances Glegg, and Deborah Crosbie }	50 0 0	2 10 0	—
-	-	{ For the support of a school at Whitchurch, in Shropshire—Tenement }	- - -	-	-	100 0 0
Unknown -	Unknown	To the poor—Money - - -	S. Glegg -	26 0 0	0 17 0	—
BROMBORROW.						
John Hardware	1721—Will	To the poor (consisting of two townships, viz. Brimsborrow and Brimstage)—Rent-charge }	- - -	150 0 0	-	4 10 0
Thomas Prenton	1739—Will	To the poor—Money - - -	Overseers - - -	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Eliz. Bagnall	Unknown	Do Do - - -	Do - - -	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Unknown -	Unknown	Do Do - - -	Do - - -	30 0 0	1 10 0	—
Do -	Do -	To the poor of Brimstage—Money	Do of Brimstage	6 0 0	—	(n)

^m Great part of this money being lost; 7l. per annum only having been realized with the remainder of it.

ⁿ Lent to Elizabeth Duke, widow, many years ago, on a note of hand now subsisting, but no interest has been paid thereon for 14 or 15 years.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Unknown -	Unknown	To the poor of Brimstage—Money	Overseers of Brimstage	3 3 0	—	(^o)
Unknown -	Do	Do - - - Do	Do - - -	6 6 0	—	(^p)
BURTON.						
Nath. Wilson	Do	To the poor—Rent-charge	Trustees - -	10 0 0	-	10 0 ^q
John Moors	Will	To the poor of Puddington—Money	Overseers - -	5 0 0	5 0 0	—
Wm. Wilson	Will	To the poor—Money	Two-thirds vested in the Overseers of Burton town, the other third in the Overseers of Puddington town, but is now lost	20 0 0	0 13 4	(^r)
Wm. Trigg	Will	To the poor—Money	Overseers - -	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
John Gregory	-	Do - - -	Do - - -	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Jane Leader	1745—Will	To five poor widows—Money	Do - - -	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Elea. Lightfoot	1747—Will	To five poor people - - -	Do - - -	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
EASTHAM.						
Henry Marsh	1690—Deed (supposed)	To the schoolmaster of the parish of Stoke—Land To the schoolmaster of the free-school at Childer Thornton—Land To the poor—Land	Rev. G. Travis, vicar, William Currey, William White, Thomas Whitehead	-	-	1 0 0 1 0 0 6 0 0
Tho. Halwood	Will	To the poor—Money	Churchwardens	8 0 0	8 0 0	—
Unknown -	Unknown	Do - - -	Do - - -	29 0 0	—	(^s)
NESTON.						
Tho. Wilcocke	1634—Will	For bread to the poor—Land	Do - - -	-	-	7 5 0
Wm. Forshall	1721—Will	To the poor - - - 40 0 0	-	-	-	-
Mary Erlington	1746—Will	Do - - - 20 0 0	-	-	-	-
John Edge	1775—Will	Do - - - 20 0 0	-	-	-	-
Mrs. Vary	Will	Do - - - 10 0 0	-	-	-	-
H. Wolstenholme	Will	Do of Great Neston and Ness 10 0 0	-	-	-	-
Mr. Tomasin	Will	Do of Little Neston - - - 12 0 0	-	-	-	-
Tho. Johnson	Will	Do of Great Neston, Leighton, Thornton, and Raby - - - 12 0 0	-	-	-	-
Donors unknown	Will	- - - 32 6 0	-	-	-	-
		156 6 0	Rent-charge			
Tho. Hayes, M.D.	Will	To poor housekeepers—Money	The Representatives of Dr. Hayes and the Vicar of Neston	500 0 0	20 0 0	(^t)
Timothy Fowler	1765—Deed	To the poor—Money	Churchwardens	10 0 0	0 10 0	—
SHOTWICK.						
John Larton	1738—Will	{ For bread to the poor of Capenhurst, Shotwick, and Woodbank—Money	Richard Denston and Eliz. Briscoe	34 0 0	1 14 0	—
Do -	Do	To the poor of Capenhurst—Money	Do - - -	136 0 0	5 8 10	—
Mary Penkett	1756—Will	{ For bread to the poor of Saughall Magna—Money	John Nevitt Bennett	26 0 0	1 6 0	—
Nath. Wilson	1762—Will	To the poor of Saughall Magna—Rent-charge	Silvester Warrington	10 0 0	-	0 10 0
Ann Coxon	1782—Will	{ For bread to the poor of Saughall Magna—Money	John Nevitt Bennett	20 0 0	1 0 0	—
Unknown -	Deed	To the poor—Money	Silvester Warrington	14 0 0	0 14 0	—
STOKE.						
Rich. Pilkinton	1667—Supposed Will	Do Do - - -	- - -	20 0 0	-	-
Mrs. E. Bunbury	1669—Do	Do Do - - -	- - -	5 0 0	-	-
Sir Tho. Bunbury	1682—Do	Do Do - - -	- - -	334 0 0	-	-
Mrs. M. Bunbury	1681—Do	Do Do - - -	- - -	100 0 0	16 16 0	(^u)
Henry Bunbury	- Do	Do Do - - -	- - -	100 0 0	-	-
Sam. Swinlowe	1738—Do	Do Do - - -	- - -	3 0 0	-	-
Thomas Lewis	1724—Do	Do Do - - -	- - -	7 0 0	-	-

^o Lent to Wm. Adams, of Brimstage, on a like security as above, and no interest paid thereon for the like term of 14 or 15 years.

^p Lent on a bond, many years ago, to Thomas Webster, now deceased, but no interest has been paid thereon for 30 or 40 years.

^q No further information can be given.

^r Lost.

^s Lent to the late Mr. Robert Hayes, of Chester, whose representatives have not paid any interest since the death of Mr. Hayes, about five or six years ago.

^t No further information can be given.

^u There is now a bond in Mr. Brown's hands, of Whitby, given to the parish by the late sir William Bunbury, for 420*l.* at 4 per cent. which is all the money remaining, the rest being lost.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

LOWER DIVISION.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of land, after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
OVERCHURCH -	-	- - None -	-	-	-	-
BEBBINGTON.						
Thos. Gleave	1641—Supposed, Will	For bread to the poor—Money	Minister and Church-wardens	50 0 0	-	2 16 0 ^x
Wm. Porter	1653—Do	To the poor—Money	Unknown	2 10 0	} Un-known	-
John Smith	1667—Do	Do - Do	Do	10 0 0		-
Wm. Glover	1692—Do	Do - Do	Do	1 0 0		-
John Eccles	1693—Do	For bread to the poor—Money	-	40 0 0	2 0 0	-
Edward Green	1694—Do	To the poor—Money	The Chief Lord of Lower Bebbington	10 0 0	0 12 0	-
Richard Carter	1698—Do	Do Do	Geo. Ley	20 0 0	1 0 0	-
John Green	1711—Do	Do Do	The Chief Lord of Lower Bebbington	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
Richard Gockson	1728—Do	To the poor of Tranmore—Money	Thomas Ley	100 0 0	4 0 0	-
Mrs. Heatley	About 1754 Do	To poor housekeepers not receiving parish relief—Money	George Ley	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
Rev. Tho. Green	1747—Do	To the poor of Bebbington and Poulton—Money	The Chief Lord of Lower Bebbington	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
BIDSTON.						
Thomas Cleave	1646—Do	For bread to the poor—Money	John Godwin, Thomas Wbarton, William Maddock, Peter Maddock, Thomas Meadows, John Pendleton, Peter Dawson, Henry Godwin, Randle Newby, John Peacock, Richard Harrison, John Youds, Thomas Maddock.	50 0 0	-	2 16 0 ^y
Rob. Robinson	1652—Will	To the poor—Money	} Richard Harrison and Randle Newby	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
Rob. Wilson	Uncertain	Do Do		5 0 0	0 5 0	-
Math. Wilson	Will	Do Do		5 0 0	0 5 0	-
Mr. Pemberton	Will	Do Do		11 0 0	0 11 0	-
Rob. Harrison	1782—Will	Do Do		5 0 0	0 5 0	-
Uncertain	Uncertain	Do Do		9 0 0	0 9 0	-
Mr. Brasley	Uncertain	To the poor of Moreton	-	20 0 0	-	(^z)
BIRKENHEAD.						
	-	- - None.	-	-	-	-
HESWALL.						
Francis Smith	} Uncertain Will	To the poor—Money	-	2 10 0	-	-
John Edwards		Do Do	-	5 0 0	-	-
Edward Glegg		Do Do	-	2 0 0	-	-
Thomas Cleane	1641—Will	Do Do	-	50 0 0	-	-
Byseizure of Irish cattle, under an Act of Parliament	1667	Do Do	-	30 0 0	-	-
Isabel Hatton	1685—Will	Do Do	-	5 0 0	-	-
Mary Tollant	1685—Will	Do Do	-	2 0 0	-	-
Wm. Glegg	1758—Will	To the poor of Gayton—Money	John Glegg	100 0 0	4 0 0	-
THURSTASTON.						
Mary Ainsworth	1723—Will	For bread to the poor—Money	Minister and Church-wardens	5 0 0	0 5 0	-
Doro. Whitmore	1733—Will	To the poor—Money	Do	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
Unknown	Unknown	To purchase cows for the poor—Money.	Do	6 15 6	0 6 9	-
WALLAZEY.						
Thomas Cleave	1676	For bread to the poor—Money	James Mainwaring, James Smith, John Hill, Jonathan Deane, Robinson Deane, John Holford Hobron, Joseph Jackson, Thomas Wilson, Gerard Stanley, Thomas Mullineux	50 0 0	-	2 16 0 ^c
Henry Robinson	1729	To eight poor people—Money	Do	7 0 0	0 7 0	-
				82 0 0	4 0 0	-

^x Now a rent-charge.

^y Now a rent-charge.

^z Some other donations have been given to the poor of this parish, but when, or by whom, cannot learn, as they are not mentioned in the table of benefactions. 20*l.* was lost by the insolvency of William Penkett, to whom the trustees lent it; and the sum of 95*l.* is now remaining, vested in their hands, which amounts to 9*l.* more than can be accounted for by the table of benefactions. ^a Lost.

^b The money given to the poor amounted to 150*l.* in 1722. The parishioners agreed that the township of Heswall should have 80*l.* and Gayton the remaining 70*l.* no interest having been paid for seven or eight years last past; which was so divided.

^c Now a rent-charge.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

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				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
WESTKIRKBY. Tho. Gleaves	1641--Deed	For bread to the poor—Money - -	- - -	50 0 0	-	2 16 0 ^d
Tho. Bennet	1676—Will	{ To the free-school annually—Money - To purchase 24 coats or gowns, annually, for the poor—Land - To cash every Good Friday—Land -	{ George Day, Thomas Stanford, Richard Hall, John Peacock, John Crofts, William Littler, Josiah Day, Thomas Brown, Thomas Washington,	- - -	- - -	30 0 0 24 0 0 106 0 0 ^e
Tho. Urmson	1710--Deed	For bread to the poor—Money	Churchwardens	60 0 0	2 12 0	—
John Oliver	1732	{ To the poor; interest to be given as becomes due—Money - -	{ Minister and Churchwardens	10 0 0	0 10 0	—
John Matthews	1733	D ^o D ^o - -	Minister, and heir of that family	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
Peter Relsal	Unknown	{ To the poor, interest to be given every Easter Tuesday—Money - -	{ Minister and Churchwardens	30 0 0	1 10 0	—
Rob. Whitlow	1744—Will	For bread to the poor—Money	Churchwardens	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
William Pick	1746—Deed	D ^o - D ^o - -	Churchwardens	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
William Pick	1754—Will	D ^o - D ^o - -	Churchwardens	5 0 0	0 5 0	—
WOODCHURCH.						
James Goodyker	1525—Will	{ To buy cows for the poor. Every parishioner, who had a cow or cows, paying yearly for each cow, to the overseers of the said cows, 2s. 8d.; which said hire of the cows was henceforward as a stock for the benefit of the poor—Money	{ Overseers and governors of the cows	13 6 8	6 18 4	(f)
Francis Smith	1628—Will	To the poor—Money - -	- - -	2 0 0	—	(g)
Thomas Cleave	1646—Will	For bread to the poor—Land - -	{ Rector and Churchwardens	50 0 0	-	2 15 0 ^(h)
Richard Sherlock, D.D.	1670—Deed	For bread to the poor—Money - -	- - -	50 0 0	—	(i)
Rich. Sherlock	1679—Deed	To be laid out in cows—Money - -	{ Governors of the said cows	50 0 0	1 5 0	(k)
Rich. Leonard	1681—Will	To the poor of Irby—Money - -	Mr. Ball and his heirs	10 0 0	0 10 0	—
Henry Hayes	{ Believed by Will	{ To the poor—Money - -	The Rector	10 0 0	} - 3 13 4 ^l	—
Thomas Gill	1733—Will	D ^o D ^o - -	The Rector	5 0 0		
Rev. Tho. Green	1746—Will	For bread to the poor—Money - -	The Rector	50 0 0		
Mrs. Duke	1779—Will	To the poor—Money - -	Mrs. Smith	10 0 0	9 10 0	—
Rich. Sherlock, of Bebbington	1779	{ Interest to be applied to augment the stock of cows belonging to the township of Oxton	{ William Williams and William Johnson	20 0 0	1 0 0	—

BROXTON HUNDRED.

HIGHER DIVISION.

ALDFORD.						
Alice Dennis	1639—Deed	To the poor—Money	- - -	40 0 0	—	—
Thomas Palin	1682—Will	D ^o D ^o - -	- - -	5 0 0	—	—
John Palin	1699--Deed	D ^o D ^o - -	- - -	5 0 0	—	—
Mary Calvely	1701—Will	D ^o D ^o - -	- - -	5 0 0	—	—
John Evans	1705--Deed	D ^o D ^o - -	- - -	5 0 0	—	—
Fytton Earl of Macclesfield	1709—Will	D ^o D ^o - -	- - -	16 13 4	—	—
Thomas Clubbe	1718—Will	D ^o D ^o - -	- - -	10 0 0	—	—
Wm. Haddock	1723—Will	D ^o D ^o - -	- - -	5 0 0	—	—
John Evans	1728—Will	D ^o D ^o - -	- - -	15 0 0	—	—
Sir R. Grosvenor, bart.	1732—Will	D ^o D ^o - -	- - -	20 0 0	—	—
				126 13 4	—	—
			Rev. Geo. Taylor	113 0 0	5 13 0	-
				13 13 4	—	(m)

^d Now a rent-charge. No further information can be given.

^e The trustees for this donation are thirteen, when full; renewable, when reduced to seven.

^f Fifty cows.

^g Not known to what purpose applied, unless to augment the stock of cows.

^h Laid out in land.

ⁱ Not known to what purpose applied, unless to augment the stock of cows.

^k Ten cows.

^l These three last donations, together with 11*l.* arising from the hire of the cows, were laid out in purchasing the Ditch Field, in the parish of Overchurch.

^m 13*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* being lost long since, the sum total of the Donⁿations is reduced to 113*l.*

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				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
BURWARDSLEY.						
Rich. Whitfield	Will	To the poor—Land	{ In the Occupier of the Land	-	-	6 14 0
T. Bebbington	Will	Do Do		-	-	1 0 0
CODDINGTON.						
The Parishioners	1620	Do Money	-	1 10 0	-	-
R. Williamson	1639	Do Do	-	10 0 0	-	-
Will. Sheene	1640	Do Do	-	0 10 0	-	-
H. Williamson	1643	Do Do	-	2 0 0	-	-
Rich. Smith	1670	Do Do	-	2 0 0	-	-
T. Thomason	1702—Will	{ To the poor of the township of Chowley } —Money	-	5 0 0	-	-
Mary Massie	1707	To the poor—Money	-	5 0 0	-	-
Peter Moulson	1709—Will	Do Do	-	5 0 0	-	-
Wm. Haddock	1721—Will	To the poor of Aldersey—Money	-	10 0 0	-	-
John Carter	1727—Will	To the poor—Money	{ Mr. Massie, Attorney at Chester	10 0 0	-	-
			Lost	51 0 0	-	-
			Remains	10 0 0	-	-
				41 0 0	2 0 0	-
FARNDON.						
By different Persons unknown	-	Do Do	{ Minister and Churchwardens	150 0 0	7 10 0	-
John Holford	1712--Deed	{ To poor housekeepers of the township of Clutton not receiving parish relief--Land	Overseer of Clutton	-	-	4 0 0
Supposed by different Persons	1721	To the poor—Money	{ Minister and Churchwardens	92 0 0	-	6 1 0 ⁿ
Fras. Fletcher	1782—Will	Do Do	Do	20 0 0	1 0 0	-
Eliz. Hewitt	1785—Will	Do Do	Do	20 0 0	1 0 0	(^o)
HANDLEY.						
Marg. Frogg	1618	Do Do	Mr. Hall, at Chester	10 0 0	} £.4 (P)	
Rob. Chareson	1621	Do Do	Do	3 0 0		
John Smith	1659	Do Do	Do	1 0 0		
John Edge	1666	Do Do	Do	1 10 0		
Thomas Bell	1671	Do Do	Do	2 10 0		
Thos. Hamnet	1672	Do Do	Do	2 0 0		
Mary Bird	1673	Do Do	Do	5 0 0		
Cath. Worrall	1681	Do Do	Do	5 0 0		
Wm. Ireland	1699	Do Do	Do	1 0 0		
J. Thomason, of Huxley	1699	Do Do	Do	2 10 0		
T. Thomason, of Chowley	1701	Do Do	Do	5 0 0		
Dame M. Calveley	1703	Do Do	Do	10 0 0		
By several Persons	-	Do Do	Do	6 0 0		
Jos. Higginson	1707	Do Do	Do	20 0 0		
Eliz. Paylin	1718	Do Do	Do	3 18 3		
John Hampton	1718	Do Do	Do	1 1 9		
HARTHILL.						
T. Bebbington	Will	Do Land	G. Tonna	-	-	1 0 0
Rich. Whitfield	1711—Will	Do Do	{ John Gardner, now of Birmingham, late of Tattenhall	-	-	6 0 0
Person or Persons unknown	-	Do Do	{ Sam. Johnson and Jane Pratchett	-	-	0 16 4
Mary Calveley	1705—Will	To the poor frequenting church—Money	{ Minister & Churchwardens	10 0 0	0 10 0	-
Stockton and Thickness	-	{ Probably for the same purpose as Mary Calveley's—Money	-	10 0 0	-	(^o)
MALPAS.						
William Farral	Will	To poor housekeepers—Rent-charge	-	-	-	1 14 0
Wm. Webster	1601—Will	- Do - Do	-	-	-	1 10 0
Randle Manning	1611—Will	- Do - Money	{ In the heirs of Willm. Wright, and Thomas Manning of the Oak.	10 0 0	-	14 19 0 ^r

ⁿ Laid out in land.

^o A note at the bottom of this return is as follows:—N. B. There are, belonging to the church, two cards, on which are mentioned charitable donations by several persons; the one dated 1679, the other 1734. We suppose such legacies to be included in different parts of this account, as we know nothing further of the use made of the money.

^p Sum made up 80l. by the parish.

^q It is said this 10l. which is deficient, is intended to be made good by assessment.

^r N. B. This is the produce of land purchased by the parish with this and some of the following donations.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

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				£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Richard Parker	1641—Will	To the poor—Money	- - -	15	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Robert Rowe	1663—Will	Do Do	- - -	10	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Daniel Coster	1663--Deed	Do Do	- - -	10	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Daniel Coster	Will	Do Do	Dod and Bastwick	10	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eliz. Sparrow	1670—Will	Do Do	- - -	15	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wm. Jennings	1676—Will	Do Do	- - -	50	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Alport	Do	Do Do	- - -	100	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rich. Nettles	1680—Will	Do Do	- - -	10	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nath. Beverley	1681--Deed	Do Rent-charge	Churchwardens	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	0	0
Ed.Cholmondeley	1682--Will	Do Money	- - -	5	0	0	-	-	-	(s)	-	-
Edw. Bromley	1683--Will	Do Rent-charge	Ashton Curzon	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
Joseph Crewe	1703--Will	Do Do	Churchwardens	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	1
Mary Sadler	1707--Will	Do Money	Churchwardens	10	0	0	-	-	-	(t)	-	-
Eliz. Merrill	1710--Will	Do Do	Do	30	0	0	-	-	-	(u)	-	-
Robert Sadler	1711--Will	Do Do	Do	10	0	0	-	-	-	(x)	-	-
Henry Calley	1720--Will	Do Do	Do	50	0	0	-	-	-	(y)	-	-
Sarah Clutton	1724--Will	Do Do	John Fletcher	50	0	0	1	15	0	-	-	-
Thos. Clutton	1729--Will	Do Rent-charge	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	10	0
Eliz. Tayler	1748--Will	For clothing to poor housekeepers—Money	Rectors of Malpas	500	0	0	27	0	0	(z)	-	-
Mary Dutton	1766--Deed	Do Do	Peter Gregory, Attorney	20	0	0	0	16	0	-	-	-
Sir T. Brereton	1636	{ Distributed in weekly doles of bread and money to 12 poor persons, five of them of the almshouse—Rent-charge	{ Earl of Cholmondeley for the Almshouse; } { J.H. Dod for the rest }	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	9	0
Robert Nevill	1782--Deed	To the poor—Money	Rectors	100	0	0	5	0	4	(a)	-	-
John Bostock	1709	Do Rent-charge	His Heirs	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
Edw. Churchton	Very lately	To 50 poor persons—Do	Wm. Price	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	0
SHOCKLACH.												
V. Broughton	1603--Will	To the poor—Rent-charge	Corporation of Chester	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Unknown	-	Do	{ Mrs. Anne Bennion, } { of the Hitchings }	Unknown	0	14	0	-	-	(b)	-	-
Joan Roden	-	To the poor—Money	John Pate	3	0	0	-	-	-	(c)	-	-
-	-	To the poor of Caldecot	Mr. Lardine ^d	-	-	-	1	0	0	-	-	-
TILSTON.												
Mr. Bradshaw	Deed	For instructing poor children—Rent-charge	{ Heir in possession, } { and Minister }	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	0	0
Mr. Fitton	Will	To the poor - - Do	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	0	0
Mr. Wright	1679--Deed	{ For bread to the poor of Malpas, and this parish—Rent-charge	{ Minister & Church- } { wardens }	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	14	8
Several legacies by Persons unkn.	-	To the poor—Money	{ Churchwardens, and } { Overseers }	156	0	0	7	16	0	-	-	-
LOWER DIVISION.												
BRUERA.												
Lady Calveley	1705--Will	To the poor of Saughton—Money	Parish security	5	0	0	0	5	0	-	-	-
CHRISTLETON.												
Wm. Maddocks	-	To the poor—Money	- - -	2	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Edwards	-	Do Do	- - -	10	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Edw. Soales	-	Do Do	- - -	2	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rich. Cratchley	-	Do Do	- - -	2	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Golborn	-	Do Do	- - -	2	0	0	-	-	-	2	6	0
Marg. Bruen	-	Do Do	- - -	2	0	0	-	-	-	(e)	-	-
John Smith	-	Do Do	- - -	2	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ralph Hignett	-	Do Do	- - -	5	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rev. T. Clopton	-	Do Do	- - -	20	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dr. Egerton	-	Do Do	- - -	30	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Sellers	1779--Deed	{ For instructing poor children belonging to, or inhabiting the townships of Christleton or Littleton; or, if there be no such children, for putting out poor children, belonging to the said townships, apprentices; or for such other charitable purposes as the trustees shall think proper; and for the building a school and school house—Land	{ Richard Lord Grosvenor, } { Rev. Thos. Mostyn, } { Rob. Townsend, } { John Glegg, } { Jas. Croxton, } { Thos. Ince, } { Gerrard Townsend, } { John Hignet, } { J. Cheers, of Boughton, } { John Sellers, }	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	0

^a This and other legacies were laid out in land. ^t Do. ^u Do. ^x Do. ^y Do.

^z In Old South Sea Annuities.

^a In Old South Sea Annuities.

^b Mrs. Bennion has refused payment for the last two years, unless the right of demand is proved, which the officers have attempted, but in vain.

^c In the hands of a substantial farmer for security, who is willing to give it up, but will pay no interest; supposed 30 or 40 years.

^d Mr. Lardine, having examined his papers, says he is possessed of no document to establish this benefaction: He considers it as a voluntary donation.

^e Of this money, being 77*l.* there remains only 46*l.* which was, on the 6th day of July, 1760, lent by Hugh Deane and Thomas Payne, churchwardens, to the trustees of the road between Chester and Whitechurch.

^f Subject to taxes and repairs.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.			Annual Produce of the Money.			Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.		
				£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
DODDLESTON.												
Thomas Dakin	1650—Will	To the poor—Money	{ The Owners of an estate in Chorley, in Flintshire	2	0	0	0	2	0			(g)
John Madocks	1702—Will	To the poor of the two Kinnertons—Money	Geo. Hope	0	10	0	10	0	0			(h)
Thos. Thornton	1705—Will	Do - - - Rent-charge	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0
Wm. Crompton	1709—Will	To the poor—Land	Mr. Morgan	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	7	6
John Dunnat	1709—Will	To the poor—Money	{ Trustees of Tarvin Turnpike	17	10	0	0	17	6			
-	-	-	Churchwarden	5	0	0	0	5	0			
Timothy Dean	1731—Will	Do Money	{ Trustees of Tarvin Turnpike	30	0	0	1	10	0			
Sir R. Grosvenor, bart.	1732—Will	Do Do	Do	20	0	0	1	0	0			
ECCLESTON.												
Dame S. Grosvenor	Will	To the poor—Money	- - -	10	0	0						
Thos. Beard	Will	Do Do	- - -	7	0	0						
Geo. Huxley, sen	Will	Do Do	- - -	5	0	0						
John Huxley	Will	Do Do	- - -	10	0	0						
The rev. Mr. Aubrey	Deed	Do Do	- - -	10	0	0						
Hugh Pigot	Will	Do Do	- - -	10	0	0						
Sir R. Grosvenor	Will	Do Do	- - -	20	0	0	9	17	0			(i)
Rob. Pigot	Will	Do Do	- - -	10	0	0						
Sir Thos. Grosvenor, Bart.	Will	Do Do	- - -	52	0	0						
Sir Rob. Grosvenor, Bart.	Will	Do Do	- - -	48	0	0						
Roger Ormes	1748—Deed	Do Do	- - -	10	0	0						
Rev. Mr. Aubrey	Will	Do Do	- - -	20	0	0						
Roger Ormes	Will	Do Do	- - -	10	0	0						
GUILDEN SUTTON.												
Unknown	Unknown	Do Do	In the parish	6	0	0	0	6	0			
PLEMSTALL.												
Sir T. Bunbury	Will	Do Do	- - -	68	0	0	3	8	0			(k)
Mr. Pilkington	Will	Do Do	- - -	53	0	0	2	13	0			
Anne Calkin	1727	Do Do	- - -	6	0	0	0	6	0			
Chas Hurleston	1734	- - -	- - -	50	0	0	2	10	0			
Rev. Dean Fogg	1718	- - -	- - -	50	0	0	2	10	0			
Mrs. Trafford	Unkn. -	{ To Mickle Trafford school, for teaching 4 poor children	- - -	10	0	0	0	10	0			
John Mason	1739	- - -	- - -	20	0	0	1	0	0			
PULFORD.												
Sir R. Grosvenor	1732	{ To the poor not receiving parish relief—Money	{ The heirs of the late John Hesketh of Common Wood	10	0	0	0	8	0			
Ann Clubb	1736	{ To the poor not receiving parish relief—Money	Do	10	0	0	0	8	0			
TATTENHALL.												
Pierce Ryder	1610	To poor householders—Money	- - -	10	0	0						
Peter Tylstone	1613	To the poor—Money	- - -	5	0	0						
Jane Ryder	1625	Do Do	- - -	5	0	0						
Thos. Larden	1635	To poor householders—Money	- - -	2	10	0						
Robt. Bostock	1636	To the poor—Money	- - -	10	0	0						
Ralph Astle	1638	Do Do	{ The Rector, Churchwarden, and John Larden, senr.	2	10	0						(l)
Thos. Hall	1639	Do Do	- - -	2	10	0						
Dorothy Astle	1640	Do Do	- - -	2	10	0						
Joane Kearfoot	1668	Do Do	- - -	2	10	0						
Rich. Holland	1675	Do Do	- - -	5	0	0						
Marg. Bostock	1675	Do Do	- - -	10	0	0						
Geo. Larden	1690	Do Do	- - -	0	10	0						
Hugh Dodd	1699	Do Do	- - -	2	0	0						

g Not paid for several years.

h Not paid for several years.

i The parishioners pay annually 2l. 2s. interest for part of the poor's money, formerly expended for the repairs of the church, which is supposed to have been the sum of - - - - - 42 2 2 0
 In possession of lord Grosvenor - - - - - 70 2 16 0
 In possession of the rev. Mr. Mytton, rector - - - - - 110 4 19 0

£.222 £.9 17 0 Interest.

k 68l. 50l. 20l. 53l. = 191l. part of the money in this parish was in the hands of a person from whose son and executor the same has not yet been recovered, he refusing to pay it.—No part of the principal or interest of 191l. hath been paid since the 26th March, 1780: Vide return from Plemstall; there being but 3l. 12s. now paid yearly to the poor of Plemstall.

l See observations in note ° p. 438.

Abstract of Returns of CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787—1788.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of Land after deducting Rents.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Thos. Fluit -	1707	To the poor—Money	- - -	3 0 0	} Unknown	(m)
Sir John Crew	1711	Do Do	- - -	10 0 0		
Rich. Broster -	1717	Do Do	- - -	5 0 0		
Thos. Larden	1714	{ For clothing and educating } £140. Money	- - -	100 0 0		
John Crowfoot	1729	Do - - - £100. Money	- - -	100 0 0		
By accumulation on one part of the above-mentioned legacies						
Mrs. Sherrard	1722	To the poor—Money	} The Rector, Churchwardens, and John Larden, senr.	20 0 0		
John Manley	1723	Do Do		2 10 0		
John Handley	1724	Do Do		10 0 0		
Rich. Bruce -	1727	Do Do		3 0 0 ⁿ		
Hugh Sands -	1767	Do Do		5 0 0		
Rev. Dr. Peploe	1769—Gift	{ For clothing and educating poor chil- } dren—Money	- - -	10 0 0		
Do	1780—Do	For educating poor children—Money	- - -	45 0 0		
Thos. Griffith	1780—Will	To the poor - - - Do	- - -	5 0 0	2 5 0	12 0 0
By increase in 1768, as appears by the parish book					11 0 0	
Robt. Farrall	1641—Will	To the poor—Land	Benj. Wright	-	-	0 10 0
Rich. Whitfield	1711—Do	Do Do	James Price	-	-	12 0 0
Do	Do	Do Do	Jane Pratchett	-	-	0 16 4
Rev. Sam. Davie	1742—Gift	{ For apprenticing poor boys to farmers— } Money	John Larden, jun.	60 0 0	3 0 0	-
John Handley	1724—Will	{ To the poor of Newton juxta Tattenhall } Money	Geo. Peck	10 0 0	} 0 10 4	-
By accumulation of interest for the said sum				Geo. Peck		
Rev. Dr. Peploe	Gift	{ For clothing one person alternately in } Golbourn Below, and Newton—Money	John Larden, jun.	9 10 0	0 9 6	-
Rev. Dr. Peploe	1781—Will	{ To the poor frequenting the church, and } not receiving alms—Money	{ The Bishop and the } Dean and Chapter } of Chester	200 0 0	10 0 10	(p)
Hugh Dodd -	1652	- - - - -	Unknown	-	0 8 0	-
WAVERTON.				10 10 0	-	(q)
Mr. Wright -	1629	To the poor—Unknown	- - -	6 0 0	-	-
Robert Farrer	1638—Will	{ To the poor of Huxley 10s.; and the poor } of Waverton 10s.—Land	Benjamin Wright	-	-	1 0 0
Peter Barns -	1638	To the poor	- - -	10 0 0	-	-
Wm. Catheral	1649	Do Do	- - -	3 0 0	-	-
John Tilston -	1654	Do Do	- - -	20 0 0	-	-
William Pue -	1654	Do Do	- - -	5 0 0	-	-
John Barker -	1662	Do Do	- - -	2 10 0	-	-
Tilston Bruen	1661	Do Do	- - -	5 0 0	-	-
Richard Moulton	1665—Will	Do Do	- - -	10 0 0	-	-
Peter Moulson	1674	Do Do	- - -	20 0 0	-	-
Richard Mort	1702	To the poor of Waverton and Hatton—Money	- - -	10 0 0	-	-
Eliz. Dutton -	1702	To the poor—Money	- - -	30 0 0	-	-
Rich. Ralphson	1706—Will	For bread to the poor—Money	Thos. Faulkner	5 0 0	-	(r)
Peter Moulson	1713	To the poor	- - -	5 0 0	-	-
Robert Rollison	1723—Will	For bread to the poor—Land	Ralph Rollison	-	-	0 12 0
-	-	{ For timber sold off poor's land, and } added to the poor stock	Thos. Salmon and } John Bebbington	4 0 0	1 9 0	1 14 0 ^s
				135 10 0		

^m Of Larden and Crowfoot's donations, 60*l.* was lost.

ⁿ No interest having been paid for some years, which amounted to 3*l.* it is added to the principal.

^o These, with the preceding legacies in p. 437, are sunk in the purchase of an estate of 300*l.* except 45*l.* which the parish pays interest for after the rate of 5*l.* per cent. The estate is vested in trustees nominated in the deed. The estate about 11*l.* or 12*l.* What arises from the estate and interest of money is expended in clothing and educating poor children, interest of 4*l.*

^p Consol. annuities.

^q Arising from accumulations.

^r Thomas Faulkner has not paid the interest since his father's death in 1767.

^s Part of the money in this parish laid out in land; small part lost.

No. III.

Original Certificate of the Sheriff, &c. of Cheshire, respecting the Bells and Plate in the Churches of that County, anno 1548, communicated from the Records of the Augmentation Office, by John Caley, esq. F. S. A.

Com. Cestr.

The certifiat of us the shereff and just's of peaxe in the said countie, cu'nyssion's by the kynge highnes, w^t th'advyce & conscent of my lorde p'tecto's grace, and others his ma't's moost hon'able counsaill appoynted for and eone'nyng inventories to be taken of all man'e' of ornaments, plate, jewells, and bells, belongyng to ev'y churche or chapell wⁱⁿ the said countie, w^t ferther of his ma'te moost royall pleasure and dradd com'aundeme't by us the said com'yssion's to be obs'ved and accomplested as by the l'res of the said lorde p'tecto's grace and counsaill dated at Westm'r the xvth of February, a'o 1548, to us lately directed, it may appere. Wherapon we, the said com'yssion's, assemblyng o'selves togethers undclandly, and takyng order for o' devyision into such sev'all places and hundrethes wⁱⁿ the said shyre, for the spedye executyng of o' most bounden dute that waies, have accordyng to o' allotments called before us the p'sones and vycares (beyng resydent), and in theyre abscons theyre curats, w^t the churche wardens, and other of the most honest and subst^uncyalle men of ev'y of the said p'oches, and made true and p'factt inventories of all the p'mysses belongyng to ev'y churche or chapell wⁱⁿ o' severall p'cyncts, and have left in ev'y of the said p'oches oone inventory, subscribet bothe w^t th'ands of us the said com'yssion's, and w^t th'ands of the said p'sons, vicar or curat, churche wardens and honest men. And also one other lyke inventory, subscribet lykewyse, we have delyv'ed to the keypyng of eustos rotulor. of this shyre. And ferther we have geven in charge, on his ma'te behalf, to the said p'sones, vicares, and others, before named, that they presume not to alyen, sell, or otherwayes putt awaye, or geve theyre assents to any suche sale, alyenae'on, or puttyng awaye of any of the p'mysses, but that the same be safely kept and p's'ved as they wolle answare for the contrary at their uttermost p'ells. And for anye jewells, plate, ornaments, bells, or leade to have ben alyenated contrary to his highnes' said com'aundement at anye tyme wⁱⁿ a yere before the date of the said l'res in this behalf to us directted, we knowe of non, but suche as have ben solde by a co'myn assent of the p'oche, for and to th'only use of the nedefull reparae'ons of theyre churches, and for and to the relefe of indigent people dwellyng wⁱⁿ the same, otherwayes than in the abbridgement hereafter it may appere. And fynally we have herewt certified a short extracte (only) of the plate and bells of ev'y p'oche churche wⁱⁿ the holle shyre, accordyng to his highnes' moost royall pleasure in that behalf.

John Saugae.	Wylyam Moreton.	Richard Hassall.
John Donne, k.	Thomas Venables, k.	Wyll'm Brereton, vic.
Edward Warre', k.	Edmund Saugae, k.	Laurens Smyth, k.
Philippe Egg'ton, k.	Hugh Starky.	Thomas Aston.
Richard Eggerton, k.	Uryan Brereton, k.	John Caryngton.
Joh. Masse, k.	Thomas Gravenar.	Will. Mer.
Rolond Stanley.	Rondall Maynwaring, k.	Robert Tatton.

HUNDREDE OF NORTHWVYCHE.

PARISSHE CHURCHES.	PLATES.	BELLES.
Northewyche	ij chales, and one other in the hands of sir John Deyne, preste.	iiij belles.
Midlestwyche	one chales.	iiij bells.
Daneham	ij ehales.	iiij bells.
Gostre	one chales.	ij bells.
Netherpever	one chales, gylt	ij belles.
Warmyncham	one chales.	ij belles.
Church Lauton.	one chales, and one other that lythe ingage for xxs.	iiij bells.
The Higher Chapel.	one chales.	ij bells.
of Congleton		
The Lower Chapel.	one chales.	one bell.
of Congleton.		
Asbury	ij chales.	iiij bells.
Brereton	one chales.	ij bells.
	It'm, one bell broken lyenge in the churche, w'ch is solde for the necessary rep'aicion of the churche, that is to say to by leade to cover the yle and to glase wyndowes, & to deck the churche walls w ^t storyes.	
Sandebaeh	one chales.	iiij bells.
Holms Chapel	one chales.	iiij bells.
Swetnam	one chales.	ij bells.
Commissioners—	JOHN SAUAQE.	THOMAS VENABLES, K.
	WYLLYAM BRERETON, VIC.	WYLLYAM MORETON.

MAKELESFELD HUNDRETHE.

P'OCH E CHURCHES.	PLATE.	BELLES.
Mottrum Longdendale	Chaleses whyte ij.	A ryng of ij.
Stokeport	Chaleses whyte j	A ryng of iiij.
Northerden	Chaleses whyte j	A ryng of v.
Chedyll	Cbaleses whyte ij.	A ryng of ij.
Wilmeslowe	Chaleses gilt j	} A ryng of iiij.
	Chaleses whyte ij.	
Alderleighe	Chaleses whyte j	A ryng of iiij.
Taxall	} Chaleses whyte j	} A ryng of ij.
Gowseworthe	Chaleses whyte j	A ryng of ij.
Presteburye	Chaleses white j	A ryng of ij.
Makelesfeld	Chaleses white j	A ryng of ij.
Pott Chapell	null. null.	A ryng of ij.
	One Chales receyved hertofore by the surveyo's to the king's matie use.	

Dysley chapel. Chaleses white j A ringe of iiij.
 The Chalese and bells claymed by s'r Piers Leigh, knight, to be his own.
 Marton chapell Chaleses, null. A small ringe of iiij.
 Oone chales receyved ut supra.
 Chelford chapell Chaleses, null. j.
 Newton chapell Chales, null. ij.
 To^{lis} of the plate—Chaleses xv.
 Pyxes j.
 xlviij bells.
 Co'mysson's—EDMUNO WARREN, K.
 EDMUNO SAUAOE, K.
 ROBERT TATTON.

BUCKLOWE HUNDRETHE.

PAROCHE CHURCHES.	PLATE.	BELLES.
Werberton	Chalese with paten white, one.	A ringe of ij.
Mobberley	Chalese witle paten white, one.	A ringe of ij.
Over Pever	Chales with paten white, one.	A ringe of ij.
Rousthorne	Chales with paten white, one.	A ringe of v.
Asheton	Chales with paten white, onc.	A ringe of ij.
Bowdon	Chales with paten white, two.	A ringe of iiij.
Dersbury	Chales with paten white, one.	A ringe of ij.
Gropenhall	Chales with paten white, one.	A ringe of iiij.
Ruacorne	Chales with paten white, one.	A ringe of iiij.
Budworthe	Chales with paten white, one.	A ringe of iiij.
Lym	Chales with paten white, one.	A ringe of iiij.
Knothyford	Chales with paten white, one.	A ringe of iiij.
Tabley chappell	Chales with paten white, one.	A ringe of one.
Com'ission's—	URYAN BRERETON, K.	JOHN CARYNGTON.
	THOM'S ASTON.	WYLL'M MEYRE.

DE HUNDR' WICI MALBERNI'.

P'ISSHE CHURCHES.	CHALICES.	JEWELS.	BELLS.
Namptwiche	iiij chalice's, wherof iiij. on' crosse of	five	on' litle auton' bells, and
	are gilt and the fourthe wood plated on' litle auton' ungilt.	w th silv'.	bell.
Wibunbury	on' chalice.		fourre bells, and on' litle seint's bell.
Bartomley	on' chalice.		thre bells and a saking bell.
	There is a chappel of ease in this p'isshe of Barto'ley, called Haslyngton chappell, in the which is on' litle chalice, and on' litle bell, all belongyng to Robert Vernon, esquere, as to us it is p'sented, &c.		

Acton on' chalice foure bells.
 Aldelem two chalice p'cell gilt .. two cruets of. foure bells and
 silv', on' paxe a seint's bell.
 of silver.
 Mynshull on' chalice gilt on' bell, and a
 little seint's bell.
 Rondoll Mynshull, of Holgreve in this coun' of Cestr', about the
 feast of the nativetye of Seint John Bapt'e last, toke on' bell,
 price five pounds, from this church of Mynshull, w'tout the consent
 of the p'isshe, and the same bell hathe broken, and bestowed to
 his own private use, and the whiche to restor agayn, or the value
 therof, he utterly refusith, notw'tanding the same of hym
 hathe byn required according to our comission, &c.
 Coppenhall on' chalice two bells.
 Westaston on' chalice thre bells.
 Marbury on' chalice thre bells.
 Baddeley on' chalice on' bell.
 Wrenbury on' chalice gilt foure bells, and
 on' seints bell.

By us the Comysson's for this hundred appoynted,

LAURENCE SMYTH, K.
 RONOUILL MAYNWARING, K.
 RICHARD HASSALL.

THE HUNDRED OF BROXON.

P'ISSE CHURCHES.	CHALISES AND PLATE.	RYNGIS OF BELLS.
Ekliston churche.....	Chalis and patten j.....	A ring of bells iij.
Aldford chorebe	Chalis and patten p'cel ..	A ring of bells iij. gild j
Hanle chorche	Chalis and patten j.....	A ring of bells iij.
Pulford churche.....	Chalis and patten j.....	A ring of bells iij.
Dodlaston churche	Chalis and patten j.....	A ring of bells iij.
Fornton churche	Chalis and patten j.....	A ring of bells iij.
Plemston churche.....	Chalis and patten j.....	A ring of bells iij.
Warton churche	Chalis and patten j.....	A ringe of bells ij.
Malpas churche	Chalis and patten j.....	A ring of bells v. a pice of a broken crosse sylv'd.
Tatnall churche	Chalis and patten j.....	A ring of bells iij.
Shokle churche	Chalis and patten j.....	A ringe of bells ij.
Crystylton churche.....	Chalis and patten j.....	A ring of bells iij.
Tylston churche	Chalis and patten j.....	A ring of bells iij, one not payde for.

Md. Churcheton chappell hathe one chalice and ij belles.

Codynton churche Chalis and patten j..... A ring of bells ij.

Md. yt there ys one chalis p'teynyng to the church of Malpas,
 ou' and besyds those above wrytten, wyche the clerke duuthe
 detene and kepe in his hands for want of payment of his wag's,
 wyche wag's wasse p'sented by the curate and the p'isheners iijli.

Md. yt one Edward Jonis, alias Edward Madoke, the xxvijth daye of
 Februarij dyde take from the Malpas churche one chalice, one
 vestment, w't the hole sute of clothes for the pryst to saye masse

in, and beyng wylled to bryng the same agayne by us refasithe
 so to doue.

Md. yt one Kat'yn Dode, of Egge in the sayde p'roche of Malpas,
 bathe one chalice p'sented by the curate and revis, w't other of
 the tou'shippe, and hit beyng required at hir, she douthe refuse to
 delyv' the same.

Commissioners—THOMAS GRAYENAR.

PHILIPPE EGG'TON, K.
 RICHARD EGGERTON, K.

THE HUNDRED OF EDDISBURIE.

P'ISSE CHURCHES.	CHALIS AND PLAT.	RYNGIS OF BELLS.
Budworthe churche in....	Chalis and patten j....	A ryng of bells j. the frythe.
Tarvin churche, and....	Chalis and patten iij....	A ryng of bells iij, and at Saynt Mi- cael's chappell ij.
Whitegate churche	Chalis and patten j....	A ryng of bells j.
Ou' churche	Chalis and patten j....	A ryng of bells iij.
Buoburi churche	Chalis and patten ij....	A ryng of bells v.
Ince churcöe.....	Chalis and patten j....	A ryng of bells iij.
Thornton churche	Chalis and patten j....	A ryng of bells iij.
Weverham churche	Chalis and patten on'..	A ryng of bells iij. gyl j
Ffrodsum churche.....	Chalis and patten j....	A ryng of bells ij.
Barrow churche.....	Chalis and patten....	A ryng of bells j. p'cell gyl j
Torplee churche.....	Chalis and patten j....	A ryng of bells iij.

Commissioners—JOHN DONNE.

HUGH STARKY.

PHILIPPE EGG'TON, K.

HUNDR' DE WIRRALL.

P'OCHE CHURCHE.	PLATE.	BELLS.
Kyrkebywalley	ij Chales	A ryng of iij helles.
Burton	one Chales	ij belles.
Stoke	one Chales	ij belles.
Bakfort	ij Chales	ij belles.
Shotwycke	one Chales	ij belles.
Brombroghe.....	one Chales	ij belles.
Wodechurche	ij Chales	ij belles.
Neston.....	one Chales w't a patten.....	ij belles.
Heswall	one Chales	ij belles.
Bebhynton	ij Chales	ij belles.
Ou' Churche	one Chales	ij belles.
Thursterton	one Chales	ij belles.
Moreton Chapel.....	one Chales	j bell.
West Kyrkby.....	ij Chales	ij belles.
Esth'am	ij Chales	ij belles.
Byddestou	one Chales	ij belles.

Commissioners—JOHN MASSY, K.

RAWLAND STANLEY, Esquier.

No. IV.

Additions and Corrections.

PREFACE, p. XIII. Another notice of Mr. Scipio Squire, or Squyer, will be found in the life of Dugdale, prefixed to the late edition of his History of St. Paul's, p. XII. He is there mentioned as the person through whom Dugdale obtained access to the Domesday book, Fines, Plea Rulls, &c. in the Exchequer, of which he was a vice-chamberlain.

The reader who is desirous of a further illustration of Dr. Charles Leigh's History, noticed in p. X, may turn to another singular extract from his work in Dr. Whitaker's Whalley, 3d edit. p. 26, accompanied with a most severe but well merited censure.

P. XIV. The names of the MARQUIS OF CHOLMONDELEY, and HENRY HENRY POTTS, esq. proprietors of the two volumes of Inquisitions, which the author was obligingly allowed to retain after the decease of the dean of Chester, should have been mentioned, and the author takes this opportunity of acknowledging the loan of them.

P. XXV, note m. SWORD OF EDW. V. read "the entire length is 5 feet 10½ inches, that of the blade 4 feet 7½ inches." On a further examination of Catherall's rude drawing of the sword ascribed to earl Randle, this appears also to have converged at the point, but the general slope is more regular and rapid throughout than in the other as mentioned.

P. XXXVIII. COL. JOHN BOOTH. There is considerable difficulty in identifying the relatives of sir George Booth engaged in the civil wars; and col. John Booth in some of the old pamphlets is called his nephew as mentioned in note e. In others he is called his uncle, and it would seem

from comparing dates correctly so. Col. John Booth, then, who completed the blockade of Chester, and was afterwards governor of Chester for the king during sir George Booth's occupation of it (Merc. Polit. 524, p. 700), appears to be the first John Booth of Woodford, knighted in 1660, being probably one of those selected by his nephew in consequence of the permission granted by Charles II. Lieut. John Booth (one of the royalists taken at Winnington), was col. John Booth's younger son (Merc. Pol. 1659, p. 629), and Nathaniel Booth, also taken there, was the founder of the Mottram branch, and sir George Booth's brother.

P. 26. SEAL OF RANDLE II. note **. In Harl. MSS. 2071, 7. is a very rude drawing of the seal of this earl (given in p. 20) as affixed to the grant of the profits of Chester fair to the monks of St. Werburgh's, with a counter seal, probably an antique gem, representing two naked figures in a close struggle. One has fallen on his back, and appears to be raising his arm to ward a blow from the other, who is on his knees. The whole is too rude to be engraved. The inscription, probably erroneously transcribed, com. (s'c'm?) sigillum com. de Cestre.

P. 45. EARLS OF CHESTER. The distinction appears to be too nicely drawn between the use of a title, and the actual possession of the feudal rights of a palatine earldom, by which sir Peter Leycester, contrary to Vincent (Discoverie of Errors, p. 102), excludes Edw. I. from the list of the earls of Chester. He admits his possession on the ground of the Macclesfield charter, and the barons' charter, and to this may be added

the depositions of the contemporary compiler of the *Annales Cestrienses*, or *Chronicle of St. Werburgh* (vol. I. p. 194, col. 1), as to prince Edward receiving the homage of the military tenants, and of Simon de Montfort's receiving similar homage after the prince's temporary resignation; and it will be observed that this Chronicler (apparently either Simon de Whitechurch abbot of St. Werburgh, or a person writing under his direction) expressly styles the prince "d'nus Edwardus, comes." This document does not however appear to have been known to the great Cheshire antiquary. From the quotation from Matthew Paris in the Introduction, p. xxxi. it appears also, not only that prince Edward resided in the earldom and commanded its forces, but that it still continued to be considered a distinct military establishment, as may be inferred from the king's reply to his petition for assistance, *Quid ad me? terra tua est ex dono meo, &c.*

S. Lee, Brooke, and Bp. Godwin, make Edward VI. earl of Chester, but improperly. See Vincent, 116.

P. 47. PEDIGREE OF EARLS. *Cecilia, daughter of William Meschines, and wife of Robert de Romeli.* So Dogdale, Bar. I. p. 33 and 89, who states her to have had issue Ranulph and Matthew who died without issue, and Alice, wife of William Fitz-Duncan. Other authorities however say that Cecilia was daughter of Robert de Romeli, and wife of William Meschines, and mother of Alice by him, which is also stated by Dogdale himself in the latter part of the narrative above quoted. The first account is followed by Messrs. Lysons in their *Cumberland*, and the latter by Dr. Whitaker in his *Craven*. All authorities however agree in the issue of Cecilia de Romeli, whose grandson was the unfortunate "hoy of Egremont," commemorated by the tradition connected with the "Strid" in Craven. See Whitaker, 2nd edit. p. 368.

P. 48. BARONS. The following brief notice relating to the Cheshire Barons, Harl. MSS. 2149, 178 b, in the hand-writing of one of the Randle Holmes, is not uninteresting. The coats of the barons in italics yet remain near the west end of the south aisle of the nave.

"In the abby of Westminster standeth the arms and names of some of the barons of Cheshier, which did, among other noble men, build and repayre som part of the sayd monastrey, and the 2 iles on the north and south side. The're fayrly paynted, on the south side standeth first *Rogerus de Mountalt, Rogerus de Venables de Kynderton baro, Gul'm' Malbanck baro de Nantwich*; and in the north ile standeth the cotes and names of Warrinus de Vernon, and Gull'm' de Malpas."

P. 53. MONTALT, line 3, read *Lee* near *Chester*; the *Lee* of Domesday here alluded to was afterwards called *Overleigh*, and the interest of the Montalts in *Lea*, near *Aldford*, was a subsequent acquisition.

P. 54. A particular account of the remains of the earthworks connected with the castle of Mold, or Montalt, is given in Pennant's *Wales*, 4to edit. vol. I. p. 423, and an account of their castle of *Hawarden* is given at p. 94, *ibid.*

P. 60. LIST OF JUDGES. Add,

Aug. 1817. John Leach, esq. and William Draper Best, serjeant at law.

March, 1818. William Draper Best and Samuel Marshall, serjeants at law.

April, 1819. John Singleton Copley and Samuel Marshall, serjeants at law.

Sept. 1819. Charles Warren, esq. and Samuel Marshall, serjeant at law.

The following list of early chief justices of Chester is extracted from the notices of their appointments in the *Annales Cestrienses*, and differs materially from the list given by sir Peter Leycester. The justices to whose name a star is affixed, occur in the enrolments in the Cheshire Domesday roll, in which document sir John Gobaud and sir Simon de Norwich once occur as joint justices with sir Richard de Draycot.

* Philip de Orreby.

*1229. William de Vernon. Res. of Philip de Orreby.

*1233. Richard de Phitun.

*1237. Richard de Draycot.

* John le Strange.

1245. John de Guy. Removal of John le Strange.

1251. Alan le Zuche.

1255. Gilbert Talebot. Res. of Alan le Zuche.

1257. Roger de Montalt. Removal of Gilb. Talebot.

1260. Fulco de Orreby. Death of Roger de Montalt.

*1261. Thomas de Orreby. Death of Fulco de Orreby.

1262. William la Zuche. Res. of Tho. de Orreby.

1264. Lucas de Taney. Imprisonment of William la Zuche.

*1265. James de Audley. Imprisonment of Lucas de Taney.

*1267. Thomas de Boulton. Res. of James de Audley.

*1270. Reginald de Grey. Res. of Thomas de Boulton.

*174. Guncelin de Badlesmere. Res. of Reginald de Grey.

P. 65. SHERIFFS. Add to sir Peter Leycester's list, 1536. Sir Piers Dutton of Hatton. See vol. I. p. 502, note

1798. read *Robert Hibbert*, esq.

1801. Mr. Rigby was appointed in council and publicly announced as sheriff, but by a later nomination John Scott Waring, of Ince, esq. was appointed in his room, and served the office.

1818. Henry Charles Aston, of Aston, esq.

1819. John Smith Barry, of Marbury, esq.

P. 67. LORD LIEUTENANTS. On the breaking out of the Civil War, the earl of Derby was deprived of his lieutenantancies of Cheshire and North Wales, and the military commissions issued by the king and the parliament to lord Capel and sir William Brereton, appear to have invested them severally with powers in which those of the lords lieutenant merged for the time.

The epitaph of THOMAS EARL RIVERS, given in the account of Macclesfield church, supplies the chasm between the death of lord Delamere and the appointment of lord Cholmondeley.

The late lord lieutenant died at his seat of Dunham Massey, May 16, 1819, and on June 15 following, the Gazette announced that the Prince Regent in the name of his majesty, had, on the day preceding, directed letters patent to be passed under the great seal appointing George Harry, earl of Stamford and Warrington, to be his majesty's lieutenant of the county of Chester in the room of his father, the late earl, deceased.

Pp. 68, 69. COUNTY MEMBERS. For 12 read 4 Jac. II. and dele 1795 the same.

Add, 1818. Wilbraham Egerton, of Tatton, esq.

Davies Davenport, of Capesthurn, esq.

P. 70, col. 2, last line. Higden's date, 947, is an obvious error, Edmund being then deceased. He probably intended 942, the date given by Simon of Durham. See Introduction, p. xxvii.

P. 75. BISHOPS. Note on COTES, line 2, for B. D. read B. A.

P. 76. Note, LLOYD, line 2, for *Bangor* read *Chester*.

P. 77. Note on Walton, for *Wilkins* married, read *Walton*.

P. 82, col. 2, § 2, line 7, in Mr. Ward's communication, for eight deaneries read twelve.

P. 88. The following account of the revenues of the ancient ARCHDEACONRY of CHESTER, extracted from the Gen. Eccl. Survey, 26 Hen. VIII. First Fruits office, was communicated by John Caley, esq.

Archidiaconatus Cestrien' in manibus Willielmi Knyght, archidiaconi ibidem.

Cestr.

Lancastr.

Valet in procuracionibus et sinodalibus communibus annis lv. Pensionibus et indemnitatibus vj. xs. Probat' onibus testamentorum co'ib' s' annis xij. l. vjs. vij. Inductionibus beneficiorum com. annis xxvjs. vij. In mortuarijs beneficiatis com. annis xxvjs. vij. In toto per annum lxxvij. l. xs.

P. 89. ARCHD. TRAVIS. Read, monument in the broad aisle of the nave of the cathedral.

P. 92. AUTHORS of the Treatises in the VALE ROYAL.

For more particulars of WILLIAM SMITH, see Chnrton's *Founders of Brasenose College*, p. 4, and add to the list of his existing MS. productions, a beautiful enlarged copy of the *Lancashire Visitation of 1567*. Harl. MSS. No. 6159.

A biographical notice of SAMUEL LEE will be found in the *Athenæ Oxon.* II. 822, original edit. Besides the *Chronicon Cestrense*, he was author of numerous works in divinity, and some historical ones, among which was a treatise on the antiquity of the university of Oxford. He was only son of Samuel Lee, a haberdasher on Fish-street-hill, London (but supposed by Wood to be descended from "the antient and genteel family of Lee in Cheshire"), and having been educated elsewhere entered a commoner of Magdalen hall, Oxford, in 1647, in expectation of a fellowship from the parliamentary visitors then about to sit in Oxford, under pretence of reforming the university. On April 14, 1648, he was actually created M. A., and was recommended by the Committee sitting at Westminster for the reformation of the university to the said visitors for a fellowship at All Souls, but those being filled up he was elected to one at Wadham, and was admitted proctor of the university in 1651. During the usurpation he officiated successively as minister of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, and lecturer of Great St. Helena's in London; and after the restoration retired to an estate of his own near Bicestor, "where he sometimes kept conventicles." From this place Lee removed in 1678 to Newington green, and from thence, in 1686, went with his family to New England, "where dwelling for the most part in New Bristol, he carried on his profession without trouble or controul." At length, on the receipt of a call, "this learned non-conformist, returning with his family to Old England, they were, with the ship wherein they were harboured, taken by a French privateer in the month of Nov. 1691, so that they being all conveyed to St. Maloes, a seaport town in Upper Breitaign in France, our author, Lee, was so much overwhelmed with grief for his captivity, and loss of his money and goods, that he died in a manner heart-broken; whereupon being denied Christian burial, because he refused to die in the faith of the Roman see, was obscurely buried about Christmas following in a poor piece of ground joyning to a river's side near that city, where we shall leave him to expect the last trump, unless any of his relations will hereafter remove his body to his native country of England."

P. 175. CITY ARMS. The following account of the successive seals of the City will probably not be uninteresting; and it will clearly appear, that Flower's patent, in 1520, was (exclusive of crest and supporters) only a confirmation of an armorial bearing which had been used at least more than two centuries preceding, as indeed the patent obscurely insinuates.

(Harl. MSS. 2074, 227.) By deed, dated at Chester, Saturday after

the feast of St. James the Apostle, 28 Edw. III. William Joly, citizen and merchant, of Chester, entered into a recognizance, binding himself, under the statute of Acton Burnell, with Henry de Motlowe and John Davenport de Weltrogh, to the amount of £.100 of silver. Affixed to it are drawings of the seals of William Joly, and the seal affixed to recognizances under the Statutes Marchant, with its reverse. The



drawing of the obverse agrees precisely, with the annexed representation of the Seal itself, taken from the silver matrix (now or late in possession of Mr. Broster, of Chester), which is here subjoined. The original of the reverse is lost; but it may, from this authentication of the obverse, be depended upon; and it is curious, inasmuch as it proves the arms allowed by Flower, temp. Eliz. to have been borne temp. Ed-

ward III. the only perfect part representing a shield of arms, composed of the dexter half of England and the sinister half of Blundeville, conjoined.

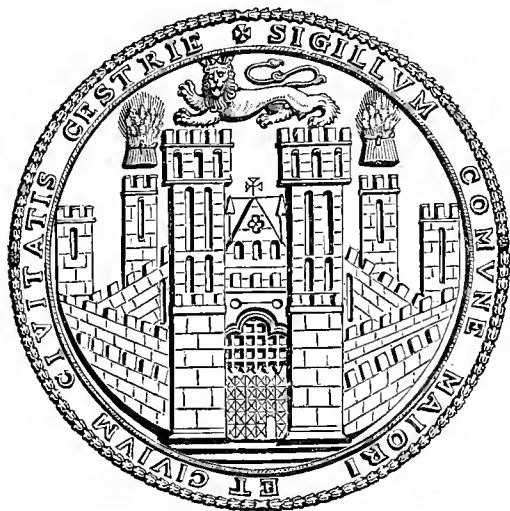
On this Randle Holme makes the following note:—"Most authors make the armes to be given to the City by Rich. II. for the love he bore to it, but this proves the City longe before had it; and, I rather think, given by Hen. III. when he did assume the earldom, and the City sealed with it when they had maiors: the other is in silver, to this day, in the Treasury, a print of which I have. It was made by Edward III. when we had the first statute marchant given to Chester.

The next seal is also from an impression, taken from a silver matrix in possession of Mr. Broster, and is certainly of much later date than the preceding; but, from the mixture of letters of different ages, appears to be a copy of an older seal. It is not improbable that the arms upon it were used by the city, when Flower's patent was resorted to, to restore the original coat, and to garnish it with crest and supporters.



In addition to the true coat before mentioned, the city officers use also the arms of Randle Blundeville, surmounted by a sword of state erect in pale, Or, but by what authority does not appear.

The present Seal of the City is subjoined, from an impression obligingly communicated by the Clerk of the Peace for the County of the City, John Finchett, esq.



The Seal of the Exchequer of the County Palatine is in no way curious, and appears to be the same with that which occurs in Randle Holmes' copies of Cheshire deeds, temp. Eliz. It has the same regal equestrian female figure on one side, and on the other the Arms of the Palatinate; namely, those of Randle Blundeville, surmounted by an antique coronet, without crest: supporters, two wiverns, each grasping in the elevated claw, a single ostrich feather; no colours expressed.

P. 185. To the list of MAYORS and SHERIFFS add:

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1817. Henry Bowers | { | John Mellor. |
| | | Thomas Whittell. |
| 1818. Thomas Bradford. | { | Charles Dutton. |
| | | John Dod. |

1819. John Williamson. { George Wildig.
William Sefton.

P. 187. CITY MEMBERS, 52 Geo. III.

Richard, viscount Belgrave.
Thomas Grosvenor, esq.

P. 191. CHESHIRE TOKENS. The following additional tokens are in the possession of Mr. David Browne, of Macclesfield.

Samuel Leah. R. of Macclesfield, S. L. 1. (No date).

John Towerton. R. Macclesfield, I. T. (No date).

Ralph and Elizabeth Nicholson. R. of Stockport, 1667, their halfe peny.

Jonah Bowyer. R. of Sandbach, 1667, his halfe peny.

..... Macclesfield (the rest defaced).

P. 198, col. 1, l. 9, read, persecution of the Irish protestants.

P. 215. CHESTER ABBEY. EXCOMMUNICATION OF ABBOT SALGHALL.

The author was misled by an incorrect reference to Wilkins, in the Cowper MSS. at a time when he could not examine the original. The excommunication was in 1425, and consequently relates to YERDESLEY, Salghall's predecessor. His offence was contumacy with respect to a charge brought against him before a chapter of Black Monks in 1422 (according to Wilkins), for the reformation of abuses. Many of the abbots were accused, inter alia, of neglecting to maintain a scholar at Oxford or Cambridge, secundum tenorem constitutionum Benedictinarum. "Abbas de Cestria," it is added, "scholarem in Universitate non habuit quasi per duodecim annos. Eo gravius puniendus, quo negligentiam continuans tempore tam longo."

To the account of his MONASTERY may be added the names of four learned monks; ROGER CESTRIENSIS, author of the *Polycratica Temporum*; RANULPH HIGDEN, or HIGNET, author of the *Polychronicon*, completed 1357, a work either pirated from the preceding, or compiled from the same materials with it (a part of the original of which was published by Gale in 1691; and a translation of the whole, by John de Trevisa, by Caxton, in 1482; another and earlier RANULPH, said to be author of the Chester Mysteries; and HENRY BRANSHA, author of the Life of St. Werburgh, and of a treatise de Antiquitate et Magnificentia urbis Cestriae. For the two first writers the Reader is referred to Dibdin's *Typographical Antiquities*, vol. I. p. 138; and for the third to p. 298 of this volume. In Mr. Dibdin's work before referred to, vol. II. p. 491, will be found a copious analysis of the Life of St. Werburgh, with some interesting extracts, which certainly place Bradsha in the foremost rank of the poets of his time. Copies of this work, which was printed by Pynson in 1521, are in the possession of Mr. Heber and Mr. Hibbert; but the book is so scarce, that Dr. Gower doubted its ever having been published entire, and disbelieved its present existence in any shape. See his prospectus, p. 19, and his subsequent note upon it. After these must be mentioned, the anonymous compiler of the Chronicle of St. Werburgh (or the *Annales Cestrienses*), which commences with the arrival of St. Augustine in England, 594, and ends with an account of the death of SIMON DE ALBO MONASTERIO, abbot of Chester in 1294,—to which is added, "1295, III idus Decembris obiit Rogerus Epus Cestriensis." It was probably either composed by the active abbot last mentioned, or under his direction, and these notices might have been subsequently added, though the general chronicle was not continued. It relates almost exclusively to transactions connected with Chester or the abbey (the greatest part of which are embodied with the account of the monastery); and some entire extracts, which may serve for specimens of the style, are given in vol. I. p. 194. The supposed author (or director) will be found mentioned among the abbots of his house, and was a zealous supporter of Simon de Montfort, whom the Chronicle also decidedly favours. It must be left to conjecture, whether he derives his name from Oswestry (Album Monasterium) as a place of nativity, or whether he was a cadet of the family "de Albo Monasterio," or Blanchminster, who were at this time connected with Cheshire. See vol. II. p. 365.

Many extracts from this chronicle are given in Kennett's MS Ditycha, Brit. Mus. who refers to it as then existing in the Mostyn library (See Ellis's *Dugdale's Monasticon*, under Chester Abbey), and describes it by the title of *Annales Cestrienses*. This copy, which was formerly at Gloddaeth, is supposed to be lost; but the author has identified with these Annals (by collating with the extracts) the "MS Chronicon incerti Auctoris," appended to Gastrell's *Notitia*, and generally quoted in this work as the Chronicle of St. Werburgh, a transcript of which is in his possession.

The description of the "*Annales Cestrienses*," mentioned in Dr. Gower's prospectus as a "remarkable MS." consisting of annals from the birth of Christ to 1255, and reciting the renowned acts of earl Blundeville, appears to be taken from Smith's Catalogue of the Cotton MSS. Otho, b. III. with which it coincides. This MS. if it ever existed, was obviously a different work from the *Annales*; but it was one of the MSS. which were nearly destroyed by fire, and the burnt fragments which remain in the case referred to, are part of a copy of an abridgment of Fordun, incidentally noticing the connection of the earls of Chester with the royal family of Scotland, in the person of the last earl.

It is to be hoped that the anticipated ruin of the CATHEDRAL with which the account of it was closed in December 1817, has been for many years, at least, averted by the subsequent exertions of the bishop of the diocese. The following circular letter was issued in 1818. Subscriptions to a large

amount, but as yet incomplete, have been received, and the whole fabric is now (1819) undergoing a general repair.

“REVEREND Sir.—With the full approbation and concurrence of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and behalf of His Majesty, I issue this Circular to my Clergy; and request you to preach a sermon in your church, and to make a personal application through your parish, in order to provide the means, so much wanted, for the repair of our cathedral. It may perhaps be unnecessary for me to apprise you, that the funds of the Capitular Body are unequal even to the annual expenses of the cathedral, much more to the repair of it. From this cause, and from an anxious wish on the part of the Dean and Chapter to leave nothing undone which they could accomplish, they have become involved in a considerable degree of debt. An accurate survey and estimate have been made by Mr. Harrison, the architect; and from these it appears, that at least £.7000 are required for the decent repair of our ancient and venerable fabric. Unless something be done, and done soon, the building must inevitably fall into a state of disgraceful dilapidation. Such a circumstance would undoubtedly excite a strong feeling of regret in the mind of every friend to our Ecclesiastical Establishment: it would, I am sure, be more peculiarly painful to them, who are locally interested in the welfare and credit of our Cathedral Church. With confidence, then, I make this appeal to the clergy and laity of my diocese; humbly but earnestly requesting, that their wonted liberality may be exercised on an occasion every way so worthy of it. They cannot, I trust, be indifferent to the success of a measure connected, as this is, with the best interests and character of the diocese of Chester. I would recommend that the sermon he preached in the course of the present or the following month. The donations which you may receive, as also the amount of your parochial collection, will be published in the papers, and may be transmitted to the Committee at William Ward’s, esq. Registry Office, Chester. I am, Rev. Sir, your friend and brother,

“Palace, Chester, July 1st, 1818.

G. H. CHESTER.”

See, for further particulars relating to the abbey, the additions to p. 298.

P. 253. The collegiate seal undoubtedly represents the figure of the patron saint, St. John the Baptist, in his garment of camel’s hair, holding the book of the Gospels.

P. 261 and 262. In the head-lines of Incumbents of ST. PETER’S and ST. MARY’S, for *Vicars* read *Rectors*. The later clergy of ST. OLAVE’S have been licensed as perpetual curates only, and are for that reason omitted. This rule has only been departed from in Harthill, where the series occurs among the inscriptions; in Macclesfield, where the chapel is of more importance than many parish-churches; and in St. Michael’s, where a list was communicated by the present curate, to whom the author is indebted for various acts of kind assistance, in the course of his work.

P. 291, note b. This extract, as appears by other notices in Domesday, relates to a *third* of Radeclive, a *moiety* of Bruge, and a *moiety* of Lee, which comprized both Netherlegh and Overlegh. The other two thirds of Radeclive were held by the bishop.

The moiety of the baron of Montalt, in Lee, as appears by the tenures in p. 291, consisted of Overlegh: Netherlegh, or the other moiety of Lee, as there stated, belonged to the baron of Halton, and is described as follows, in Domesday.

“Isdem Willielmus tenet Lee, Erne tenuit. Ibi una virgata geldabilis: terra est dimidia caruca; ibi est cum iii villanis; valebat v solidos, modo viii solidos.”

The carucate in Handbridge, which forms the exception abovementioned, to the exclusive possession of the baron of Montalt, follows this notice. “Isdem Willielmus tenet unam carucam terræ in Bruge geldabilem. Erne tenuit pro manerio; ibi sunt iii bordarii habentes dimidiam carucam. Valebat x solidos, modo iv solidos.”

Roman Antiquities, VII. The stone representing the Retarius is stated, in Cower’s Chester MSS. (l. p. 5), where a particular account of it is given, to have been found in *Newgate-street*, the street running parallel and near to the eastern line of walls. After this follows a description of the *original* finding of the Centurial inscription (No. VI.) which has not been previously known. “On the 25th of May, 1748, as labourers were digging very deep, in a garden not far from where the Retarius was found, they raised a stone of the Chester grit (described as in p. 295). More pieces of the same stone, and apparently belonging to the other, were dug up at the same time, but not enough to inform us what the whole was intended for.” Qu. Was this a portion of the foundations of the original Roman southern wall, which, as mentioned in p. 295, col. 1, probably crossed from the eastern to the western ramparts, near the bottom of Newgate-street?

P. 298. CHESTER MYSTERIES. Archdeacon ROGERS, as appears from the list of rectors of Gawsorth, died 1595. His son, therefore, who arranged his Chester Collections, would probably be employed on them in 1600, the time which Pennant and others have appeared to have erroneously fixed for a revived performance; and it is impossible to believe he would have omitted to notice such a circumstance, if it had really happened.

The following notice of JOHN ARNEWAY, in whose mayoralty the Chester Mysteries are said to have been first performed, may be added to the account of him given in Crabwall, vol. II. p. 317. 1278. Obit Johannes Arnewey, civis Cestrensis, qui etiam dedit Deo, et S. Werburgæ,

et monachis ibidem servientibus ad sustentationem duorum capellanorum, quod patet per epitaphium super tumbam ipsius ante altare S. Leonardi, in Australi parte ecclesie. MS. Annal. Cest. penes auctorem.

“Sir HENRY FRANCIS,” the monk of Chester abbey, who obtained from pope Clement the licence for exhibiting the Chester Mysteries, has occurred in two several agreements between the abbot and convent of St. Werburgh and the rectors of Taxall and Gawsorth, mentioned in vol. III. p. 331. These are severally dated 1377 and 1382, and the pope alluded to must have been Clement VI. This confirmation of an important part of the tradition, added to the previous confirmations respecting the existence and time of sir John Arnewey, will to most minds go far towards establishing the entire story relative to the high antiquity of these performances. Persons are mentioned in it, of whom the narrator apparently knew nothing beyond what the tradition told—and when deeds and chronicles are recovered, relative to the time mentioned, we find these very persons acting in the offices, time, and place, which the tradition asserted.

The contracting parties, on the part of the convent, in this document, are given literally from both agreements, and preserve the names and number of the monks and the respective officers of the abbey.

1377. “Int’ Rev’endu’ e’ religiosu’ virum f’rem Thom’ d’c’i monasterii tunc abbatem, e’ ejusd’ m loci conventu’, videl’t, Bene’d’c’ m Grys priorem, Will’ m de Merton sup’orem, Henr’ Fraunceys, Will’ m de Aston, Joh’ em Sonky, Joh’ em de Stoke, Joh’ em de Salghton, Joh’ em de Rodeburne, Ricardu’ de Leycester’, Hogone’ de Normenton, Will’ m Bagot, Rob’tum de Preston, Steph’ m de Asshe, Ricardu’ de Kyrkby, Ric’ em de Playlegh, Joh’ em Forton, Thoma’ Colle, Walteru’ de Lilleshull, Alexandru’ de Ledesham, et Hogone’ de Ilderton, conventum d’c’i monasterii facientes.”

1382. “Int’, &c. Thomam d’c’i monasterii tunc abb’em et ejusdem loci convent’, videl’t, Bened’ m Grys priorem, Will’ um de Merton precentorem, Henr’ Fraunceys, Will’ uoi de Aston sup’iorem, Joh’ em de Sonky, Will’ um de Heppewas infirmariu’, Ric’ um de Shrosbury elemosinariu’, Henr’ de Sutton celerar’, Joh’ em de Salghton, Thom’ de Sutton cam’ariu’, Joh’ em de Rodeburne coquinariu’, Ric’ om de Leycester, Hugone’ de Normenton, Will’ um Bagot, Rob’ tum de Preston, Steph’ um de Asshe, Ric’ om de Kyrkeby, Ric’ um de Playlegh, Joh’ em de Forton, Thom’ Colle, Walterum de Lilleshulle, Alex’ m de Ledesham, Will’ um le Younge, et Will’ um Hulme, convent’ d’c’i monasterii facientes.”

BUCKLOW HUNDRED.

P. 315. Mr. WHITAKER’S remarks on the station of Veratinum.

The following passage relative to these occurs in Mr. Pennant’s Tour from Downing to Alston, pp. 10, 11. The first sentences are a strong confirmation of the remarks. In the latter he is certainly incorrect in attempting to strengthen them by supposing the Lancashire works to be other than *Norman*; they were most probably part of the baronial castle of Warrington (see note, vol. I. p. 447), under the protection of which the adjacent church would be likely to be erected, as was usually the case in similar instances in Cheshire; and it is not impossible that the works of Mr. Lyon might have been thrown up on a basis which the historian of Manchester would be competent to judge of, and which might have escaped a modern proprietor, though the raised site suggested the conversion of a camp to the purposes of a sheepfold.

“I say nothing of the Roman antiquity of this place—the proofs rest on the probability of there having been a station at the head of Latchford, the usual passage at low water into the town before the building of the bridge, a place no longer fordable. It is said also that vestiges of Roman roads have been seen in digging near the west end of the town; and of late the conjecture has been strengthened by the discovery of many hundred of brass coins in a pot at Statham near Thelwall, many of them of Claudius; so that it is possible here might have been a station, and from the similarity of sound that station might have been the Veratinus of the Ravenna chorographer. I must reject the learned Whitaker’s proof of a Roman road passing over the river at Latchford, drawn from a rampart flung up, as he says, by the Romans on the Warrington side, the said rampart having been thrown up by my honest friend Matthew Lyon, to form an elevated retreat for sheep in time of high floods, as his worthy son John Lyon, esq. is ready to aver upon oath if any doubts exist. But a little north-west of the church is a much stronger evidence—a mound of a circular form, with a considerable area in the middle, and a ditch round the base, which probably had on it a castellum to protect the road.”

P. 334. The following notice of a chantry in the church of Moberley, was communicated by John Caley, esq. F.S.A. from the Gen. Eccl. Val. 26 Hen. VIII. in the First Fruits office:

Decanatus de Maresfield.

Cantaria in eec’ia de Moberley, Rad’us Cliff capellanus ib’ m.
Valet in grosso videl’t in clarijs denarijs per annum iiii. l. xiijs. iij. d.
X^{ma} inde xxs.

P. 342. MASSEY PEDIGREE. Note, line 4, read Martha, widow of Tho. Ravald, &c.

P. 343. ROSTHORNE INCUMBENTS. 1492, 25 Mai. John Giglis, LL. B. collated to Rostborne by Richard [Fox] bishop of Bath, &c. Giglis is an uncommon name, and I suspect this was John Giglis who

was made bishop of Worcester in 1497. I think he was an Italian, and that they styled him "a liliis." He had been the pope's collector in England before 1501, when he is mentioned in bishop Smith's Visitation as having granted a licence to Fitzhugh dean of Lincoln, to be ordained priest in his 23d year. Reg. Smith, f. 140, &c. ("nuper collector summi pontificis in regno Anglie.") He was succeeded in his see 1498, by his nephew Silvester Gilgis, who has a monument at St. Michael's in Lucca, "Silvestro Gilio, &c." Wright's Travels, p. 389.

I think from the coincidence of the name and time, quitting his living soon, and being presented to it by the great statesman Fox, then bishop of Bath, afterwards of Winchester, it is highly probable that this rector of Rosthorpe was the then future bishop of Worcester. Communication of archdeacon Churton.

P. 348. EGERTON PEDIGREE. In the note on the chancellor's arms, after "bordure" add "engrailed." The entry alluded to may be found in Glover, J. D. 14 Coll. Arm.

P. 351. GLEYVE FAMILY. The arms of the antient family of Gleyve of High Legh, Sable, three crescents Argent, are among the few Cheshire coats entered in the Visitation of 1533, Harl. MSS. 2076, and were allowed in subsequent Visitations.

P. 355. HIGH LEGH. WEST HALL. Last line but one, and in following pedigree, for Abercrombie read Abercromby.

P. 383. LEGH OF BOOTH'S PEDIGREE. *Anne Wade*, coheirress.

P. 404. SIR GEORGE BOOTH. A very ample additional account of his rising in favour of Car. II. will be found in the general introduction. To his earlier achievements in favour of the parliament, may be added his command of Nantwich against the king's forces; and it appears also that the blockade of Chester was completed by the troops from Lathom arriving at Dodleston under the command of his uncle John Booth. See vol. I. p. 439, and vol. III. p. 227, 440.

The following notice of his grandfather (the elder sir George Booth) among the parliamentarians appears in Riecraft's Worthies, 1647, p. 76, and affords an interesting illustration of lord Clarendon's observations cited in vol. I. p. 404, note r.

"And the next to this religious and faithful Lesly is SIR GEORGE BOOTH, the elder, of Cheshire, who, when the troubles first began, stood up for his country, exciting his tenants so to do, promising them that had leases of their lands from him, that if any such did suffer in person or goods he would make them recompense, *and if any had lease by life, and should be staine, the life of his wife, childe, or friend, should be put in his stead* (a brave religious resolution), if all the gentry that had adhered to the parliament had done the like, the warres could never have lasted so long. But this religious brave Booth thought it not enough so to doe, but took a place of command himself, and was very active and couragious for the preservation of his countrey, did many gallant exploits, which I hope hereafter to mention at large, and at present give him this character, *free, grave, godly, brave Booth, the flower of Cheshire.*"

P. 413. MESNE MANOR OF TIMPERLEY. The Bulkeleyes, as appears by existing verdicts of juries, held a court baron for this as late as 1733, and paid a quit-rent of 1s. to the barony of Dunham Massey, which after the sale of their lands in parcels, was charged on land purchased by Jonathan Holt. After this sale the courts for the mesne manor were disused as mentioned. Information of Mr. Pass of Altrincham.

P. 441. LYMME CHURCH. Add, Val. Eccl. one moiety with Warburton 11l. 0s. 7½d. the other moiety 11l. 0s. 5d. both moieties in the Tax. P. N. are valued at 4l. 13s. 4d.

SOUTH CHANCEL. The appropriation of this chancel to the patron, should have been described as a supposed former appropriation. He retains an antient oak chair or stall at the east end of it, but a portion of the pews in it are the property of William Fox, esq. one of which passed to him with Bradley hall, the former seat of the Greggs (from which this is now called Gregg chancel), another was conveyed to him by William Holt, and another passed with Statham lodge in Lymme parish. Other pews belong to different owners. Qu. however whether these were not all originally attached to lands which were parcel of the estate obtained by the Leighs with the advowson?

RECTORS. Add, William Boydell of Dodleston (brother of Hugh and Alan), temp. Ric. II. see p. 432; and in note l, line 1, after 29, read years.

P. 447. LACHEFORD. To the documents relative to the ferry, add the following abstract of a plea to a quo warranto temp. Hen. VII. Somerford MSS.

Henry Byrom and Constance his wife, and James Holte and Isabella his wife, claim for themselves and their heirs, in right of the said Constance and Isabella, to have "chimum de Lacheforde et heys de Lacheforde usque ad aquam juxta Warrington," and claim also "passa-

gium ultra aquam de Mersey, Runcorn, et Thelwall," and in right of this passage claim from every man and his horse passing the said water from Runcorn up to Thelwall, a farthing, and for every laden horse a farthing, for every laden wain, or cart drawn by two horses, 4d., for 20 beasts of burthen 4d., for 100 heifers or sheep 4d., and for 20 unbroken horses or mares 4d., and for a smaller number according to the same rate. The said tolls claimed by prescription.

P. 453. VICARS OF GREAT BUDWORTH. Richard Eaton was preceded, though not immediately, by another Richard Eaton, who does not occur in the Chester institution books. The following notice of him and other Cheshire clergymen of the name, who have been elsewhere mentioned, was communicated by the rev. Joseph Eaton, M.A. F.S.A.

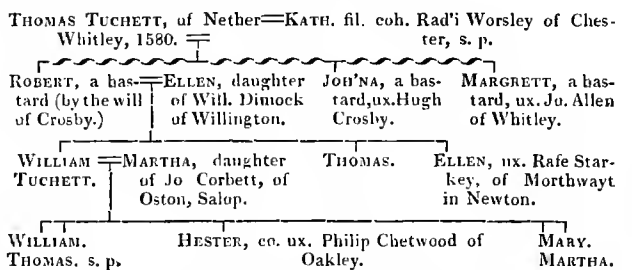
The first Richard Eaton (the one omitted) was buried Jan. 7, 1600. He left several children. Theophilus, a son, was a London merchant, trading to Denmark and the East Country; in 1630 he left England for America, and afterwards was the "renowned governor of Newhaven" in New England. He died in Dublin before 1678, at which time his son John and his executors sold the Pole to Mr. George Eaton, direct ancestor of the present possessor. Samuel, another son, was a nonconformist minister, whose memoirs are given in Calamy. Richard Eaton, B.D. prebendary of Lichfield, the second vicar, among other children, had a son, Nathaniel, born in 1609, who was the first master of the college at New Cambridge in New England, he afterwards died in the king's bench. At this period there was another family of Eatons (clergymen) in this county, the first of whom was rector of Moberley and Groppenhall, and his mother was a daughter of William Port of Ilam, brother of sir John Port, his father too was Robert Eaton, of Barrow-lane in the lordship of Over Whitley. From this rector of Groppenhall and Moberley descended another Samuel Eaton rector of Groppenball, father of Dr. Byrom Eaton, head of Gloucester college, Oxon, and a grandson, Ralph Eaton of Brasenose, rector of Darfield, co. York.

P. 455. BRADLEY IN APPLETON. Add,

After Mr. Wilson's purchase of Bradley hall, he purchased from Mr. Egerton of Oulton (now sir J. G. Egerton) the manor of Bradley, which passed with the Hall estate to Mr. Fox as mentioned, who lately purchased an estate within the manor which belonged to Domville C. H. Poole, esq. the only property within the manor Mr. Fox was not previously possessed of. The house, and the greater part of the manor is in Appleton, and the other part in Lymme. A game deputation has been regularly given, but no other manerial right exercised.

P. 474. STARRIE OF BARNTON. The author is informed that the descent indicated by dotted lines has been subsequently confirmed by other charters found at Huntroide.

P. 489. TOUCHET. The following extract from Harl. MSS. 2040, p. 230, relative to the chasm in the Touchet pedigree is given literatim. The Thomas Touchet with whom it commences, is the one who died 1594, and must be the same with Thomas Touchet whom sir Peter Leycester mentions as rebuilder of Nether Whitley chapel about 1606, viz. "about sixty years ago" when writing in 1666, but writing apparently from a general recollection, he fell into a trifling error.



P. 491. STARKEY OF STRETTON PEDIGREE. The tinctures of the crest are variously given. In the Chesh. MSS. Brit. Mus. Harl. MSS. 1535; et alib. they are Argent and Sable; in the Visitation of 1663-4, Argent and Gules. Ibid. after David Starkey Coppock, read died an infant, interred &c. Sept. 30, 1753; and in the two next descents, read John Baillie, and Thomas Starkey Renwick.

P. 500. Read VICARS OF RUNCORN.

P. 502. ARMS OF NORTON ABBEY. Leland in his Collectanea gives this coat within a bordure semee of mitres. Perhaps both might be borne, but the coat here engraved is given in W. Smith's ordinary and by sir Peter Leycester, and was carved by the abbots themselves on the church of Great Budworth.

P. 525. HALTON CASTLE was taken by sir William Brereton on the part of the parliament, July 22, 1644. The date is given in Riecraft's Champions, p. 42.

VOL. II.

EDISBURY HUNDRED.

P. 1, col. 1. The second division of Edisbury comprehends also Thornton (Torintune), an insulated part of Dudestan hundred.

P. 3, col. 2, line 20 from bottom, for Hugo de *Mara* read Hugo *Fitz-Osbern*.

P. 13. INCE. The church was appropriated for the use of the almoner of Chester abbey. See vol. II. p. 242, col. 2.

P. 17. THORNTON. List of Incumbents. Add, before Samuel Fisher, George Lloyd, D. D. bishop of Chester. See vol. I. p. 76; and after Fisher, James Arderne, dean of Chester. For Robert Booth (1691) see pedigree in Dunham Massey.

P. 19, line 3, for *Mary* read *Henry*.

P. 23. FRODSHAM PEDIGREE. Correct these errors of the printer: bring the line over George Hodson, and dele — over his wife and daughter in law, and after his daughter Elizabeth, now living, for *ob. s. p.* read *s. p.*

P. 25. WIMBALD'S TRAFFORD. See additions to Gerard pedigree.

P. 30. TRAFFORD PEDIGREE. After verbal blazon, for 1663, read 1613; and after Richard Savage, for *s. p.* read had one son who died *s. p.*

P. 33. FRODSHAM. Add to vicars, Randle Eccleshall, 4 Hen. VI. See Crowton, vol. II. p. 60, col. 2, line 8.

P. 34. In notice of Charles Sawkins, for *vice-chancellor's* prize, read chancellor's.

P. 35, col. 2, line 4. dele *barrister*, and line 12, dele *also*.

Ibid. HELLESBY PEDIGREE. Alan (whose parentage is left uncertain) by a deed in vol. I. p. 545, is proved to be son of *Richard* de Hellesby, who is called son of sir John Hellesby in *ped. Coll. Arm.* This sir John was probably eldest son of Josceramus de Hellesby; and Adam de Hellesby, 26 Hen. III. and his issue must have been a collateral line.

P. 40. DEAN ARDERNE. Add to his preferments Thornton le Moors, and qu. ? whether Wood exactly means that he entered as a gentleman commoner, by the word fellow commoner, which he makes use of. Add also, as a reference to the will, Poole's Tracts, called the Hist. of Cheshire, vol. II. p. 992.

P. 42. ARDERNE PEDIGREE. 9th descent in this page, for *William* Hyde of Denton, read *Robert*. 16th descent, *ibid.* for *John* Ingleby, read sir *William*; and in p. 43, 2nd descent, for R. Wilbraham, read R. Wilbraham Bootle.

P. 45. KINGSLEY. Col. 2, line 5 from bottom, for *eldest* son, read *grandson*. See this corrected and Inqs. given more fully, pp. 300-1.

P. 47. PEELE HALL. In the communication of Mr. Whitley, col. 1, line 3 from bottom, for *du.* and *heirss* read niece, and join the date 1767 to the sentence which follows it.

P. 50. DELAMERE. Line 12, for *from* read *for*. In the Lansdowne MS. vol. LV. No. 2, is "Mr. Holcroft's memorial for preservation of the game in y^e forest of Delamere, 1587-8."

P. 58. EDWARD MAINWARING. An imperfectly erased reference to Weverham register was mistaken by the printer for his burial date. His monumental inscription is given vol. I. p. 248, No. 9, and his preferments are enumerated, vol. I. p. 223.

P. 61. CROWTON. Line 10. "The right to the manor of Crowton was tried at Chester about the year 1790, and was proved to belong three-fourths to lord Crews, and one-fourth to Mr. Leycester." Information of R. Leycester, esq. communicated by the rev. P. Leigh. This agrees precisely with the proportions of the two shares specified from Mr. Wilbraham's conveyance in p. 63.

Ibid. GERARD PEDIGREE. The descent exemplified in Done's claim in *eyre* gives a third *William* in the commencement, which would agree better with dates, but the usual pedigrees have been followed here, which give only two.

In the bottom line of the pedigree the printer erroneously supplied the name of *Gerard* after Thomas (Norris).

Since this pedigree was printed the author has discovered a pedigree of the Gerards of Wimholds Trafford in Harl. MSS. 2119, which appears with greater correctness to identify their ancestor Richard Gerard, with Richard, son of Richard Gerard of Crew-wood, by his second wife, Elizabeth Dutton, which Richard is mentioned in the pedigree, p. 62. He was father of James Gerrard, whose epitaph is given in p. 19, col. 1, whose son James was father of James Gerrard and other children, with whom the pedigree in Harl. MSS. 2119, concludes.

P. 65. WILDRAHAM PEDIGREE. 8th descent, after Henry Wilbraham, read Shelford in *Berkshire*.

P. 66. WALLERSCOTE. It is singular that Wallerscote is not mentioned in the valuation of the estates of Chester nunnery at the dissolution; but it certainly belonged to the nuns, and one of their leases is extant in Harl. MSS. 2074, 206 b.

P. 66, line 7 from bottom, for *heirss* read *coheirss*. The other sister was wife of Mr. Jervis of Bradwall.

P. 68. An error in the original patent granting the arms of EGERTON-WARBURTON is corrected in vol. I. p. 430.

P. 70. VALE ROYAL. Col. 1, line 15 from bottom. The pedigrees of

the barons of Manchester are very contradictory on the subject of this John, and it might be better to say "of the family of the barons of Manchester."

Ibid. col. 2. In some small paper copies, *Chazmpneys* is printed *Chamneys*.

P. 72, col. 2. Some further particulars relative to the surrender are noticed in vol. I. p. 502, and in Introduction, p. xxxiii.

P. 76. For references in text x, d, d, read z, a, b.

P. 77. The author is informed by the principal of Brasenose, that DEAN CHOLMONDELEY's fellowship was vacated by his acceptance of Chester deanery, and that it was held for a short time with Barrow.

Since this memoir was written, a mural monument, executed by Chantry, has been erected in memory of the subject of it, within the antechapel of Brasenose college by the principal and fellows.

P. 87, line 1, for *Valle Regali* read *Dernhall*.

P. 92, read *Thomas Sharp* in last line.

P. 94, last line but one, *constabulario*. The concluding words of the charter, "pro hoc, ante concessum et confirmationem," are undoubtedly a corruption of "pro hac autem concessione et confirmatione."

P. 97. Will'o de Bellocampo com. Warren, read *Warrev*.

P. 98. DERNHALL. *Passim*, read *Corbett*; and in col. 2, line 12 from bottom, read of *Dernhall* only, *Wincham* having been then settled on a younger line.

P. 100. BOOTH OF WOODFORD. The short notice of this family was copied from an imperfect pedigree by Le Neve, and the following additions are made from an ample account of this branch of the Booth family in Kimber's Baronetage, I. pp. (28), (29), (30).

I. Sir John Booth of Woodford had issue, besides George and St. John Booth (called *sir John* by Le Neve), seven younger children who appear to have died without issue; 3. John, 4. Thomas, executed (according to Kimber) on a pretended charge of murder in 1687, originating in the hatred borne by James II. against his kinsman lord Delamere; and five daughters.

II. George, son and heir of sir John, had four sons, who died without male issue, and three daughters, Mary, wife of Breholt, who died in childhood (and the two other daughters mentioned), 2. Catherine, wife of James Howard, and 3. Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Tyndall, mentioned in the account of Woodford. The sons were George, who died an infant; 2. John, who married, 1st, Elizabeth Progers, and had issue Elizabeth, wife of Edmund Maskalyne, and 2ndly, by whom he had Mary, wife of Wilding; 3. George, and 4. Robert, both *s. p.*

III. Catherine Howard, whose coheirs suld Woodford, married to her first husband Edward Hudson, who died *s. p.* Her younger daughter, Martha, married as mentioned in the account of Woodford; the elder was Catherine, and married Narcissus Charles Proby, esq.

The reader is referred to Kimber as above for numerous dates from registers, and to the account of St. Oswald's in Chester, vol. I. p. 249, for the monuments of the family. See also p. 439 preceding, respecting sir John Booth's share in the civil wars.

P. 102. OULTON LOWE. From documents subsequently examined, it appears that this Nigell was not the baron of Halton, but Nigell de Burceio, whose name occurs in deeds relating to Greaseby in Wirral.

P. 106. WETTENHALL. Richard Wilbraham (44 Eliz.) was of Woodhey, and the moiety which he obtained from sir John Savage has descended to the earl of Dysart, now (1817) joint lord with Mr. Tomkinson. In the preceding page, col. 2, near the bottom, for *Henry*, read *James Tomkinson*.

P. 107. CASTLE NORTHWICH. The author is informed by Mr. Barker of Northwich, that a small part of the manor and township of Northwich extends across the Weever, but this exception to the Weever's constituting the general boundary of Edisbury and Northwich hundreds, is almost too trifling to notice.

P. 111. WINNINGTON. Col. 1, line 2, for *John* read *Robert*. Col. 2, line 24, for *Martha* read *Susanna*.

Among the brothers and sisters of gen. Warburton only generally noticed, should be specified his elder brother Thomas, who left the mansion house at Winnington, with the estate, to his widow for her life. She lived to a very great age, and left the mansion in the dilapidated state from which gen. Warburton is noticed as having restored it previous to the later alterations by lord Penrhyn. Information of R. Leycester, esq. communicated by the rev. P. Leigh.

In the account of Croxton in Northwich hundred will be found much information, subsequently collected, bearing on the early descent of the parent house of Winnington.

P. 113, col. 1. WEEVER. The first of these notices from Domesday is appended to an account of a part of Weever possessed by the earl, "de una virgata geldabilis," which occurs in a joint survey of lands in six townships, and which probably merged afterwards in Bigot's share.

P. 115. LITTLE BUDWORTH. Col. 2, remove the reference d, to the end of the first paragraph.

P. 116. First descent of pedigree, for 1160-81, read 1153-60. In this page the references in notes are one letter in advance of those in the text.

P. 118. OULTON PARK. The house has lately undergone very great improvements under the direction of Mr. Lewis Wyatt, which are yet (1819) very far from finished. Information of sir J. G. Egerton, bart.

P. 119. EGERTON PEDIGREE. For *James Dopré read Josias*.

Ibid. col. 2, line 3, read altar tomb of *stone inlaid with brass*.

121. TARPORLEY. Line 9, for *the read their*.

P. 125, col. 2, last paragraph but one, *Fawsley* is thrice written for *Tachbrook*.

P. 127. RECTORS. Archdeacon Churton supposes Eustachius Barnard to be the same with E. B. rector of Theaford, com. North'ton in 1452, (Dr. Yates's Book, Brasenose Coll. from the Linc. Episc. Reg.) which E. B. had quitted it, how not said, before 1467-8. Bridges, vol. 1. p. 206.

P. 128, line 8, read "who was natural son of sir *John Savage, K. G.*" and place this in (). See *Savage pedigree* vol. 1. p. 527, col. 2.

P. 132. DONE OF UTRINTON. An early bearer of this name, William Done, occurs as a witness to a charter of William Venables (f. 337), with others of the Venables family in 1188, and strengthens thereby the probability of the conjecture as to the early connection between the houses of Venables and Done.

P. 139. To the RECTORS OF BUNBURY must probably be added "Rand. sacerdos de Bunbury," (p. 115, col. 1), living 1153-60.

P. 145. BEESTON PEDIGREE. Since this pedigree was arranged from the best evidences which could then be procured, a contemporary entry in Harl. MSS. 2153, has occurred, and supplies the following corrections.

Hugh Beeston, husband of Margaret Aston, was the same person with Hugh, eldest son of sir George Beeston by Alice Davenport, mentioned in the pedigree. Margaret Aston was his second wife, *widow* of John Aston of Aston; she was daughter of Thomas Ireland, of Hutt, co. Lanc. He had also two other wives, 1st, Thomasine, daughter of John Coplestone, of *Eyford*, co. Devon, by whom George and John, who died s. p.; and 3dly, Margaret, daughter of James Chetwode, relict of Dorington.

The same MS. in opposition to an extract from the Bunbury register sent to the author, states the husband of Dorothy Beeston (daughter of sir George Beeston) to be John *Copleston*, of *Edgford*, co. Devon.

It further states the last sir George to have married Elianora, daughter of sir Thomas Cave, and transfers his wife, Prudence, daughter of sir Brian Bulmer, to his uncle John Beeston, mentioned above, who died without issue. The same Eleanor, according to Kimber's Baronetage, after the death of sir George Beeston, married sir Thomas Roe, of Bullwich, co. Northampton, chancellor of the order of the Garter, and ambassador to Ferdinand III.

The following note in this pedigree explains the premature death of this last sir George Beeston, noticed on the monument in p. 143. "He brok his neck by fall of a horse on hnting with king James, and was brought to Beston. He and his wife had 200*l.* yearly for their lives by gift of king James."

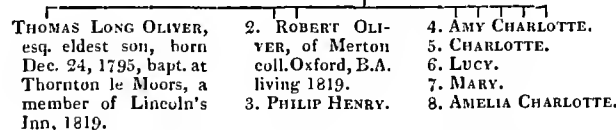
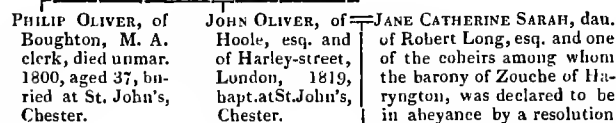
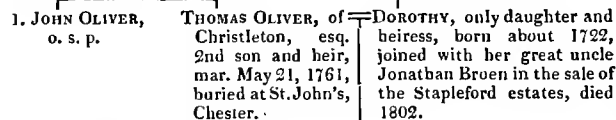
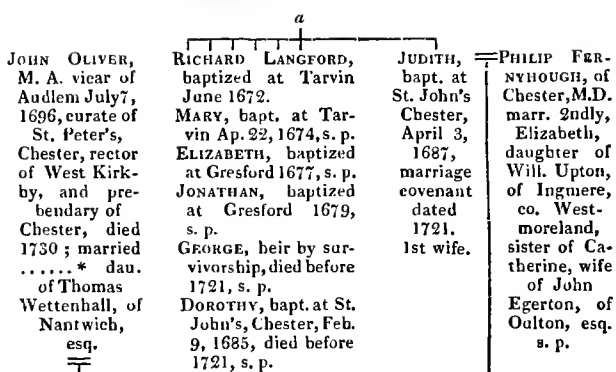
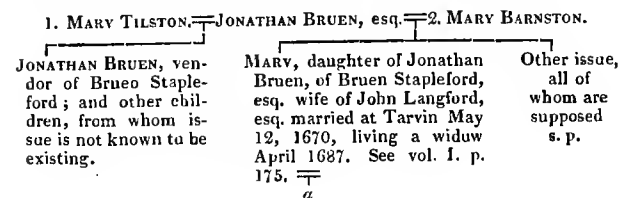
P. 153, sect. 3, line 1. CALVELEY. Add, "*of William Davenport Bromley, son*" of John Bromley, &c.; and in the following pedigree add, after *jure uxoris*, "*whose son*." Mr. Richard Davenport, left his estate to Mr. William Davenport Bromley and his male issue, with remainder to Mr. Davenport (the present possessor, as mentioned) who succeeded on Mr. W. D. Bromley's death about 1810. Mr. W. D. Bromley, and his sisters Bridget and Mary, died unmarried. Another sister, Lucy, married Cromwell Price, esq. but had no children, and is now living a widow, and in possession of the Baginton estate. Information of Davies Davenport, esq. M. P.

P. 154. WANDLE. Line 1, read Hugh Fitz-Osborn.

P. 161. RIDLEV. Col 2, for seventeenth read *eighteenth*.

P. 175. BRUEN PEDIGREE. John, son of Tilston Bruen, married in 1692, Honour, daughter of sir Francis Winnington, of Stanford court, co. Worcester. Deeds of Mr. Wilbraham of Rode. The Mary buried at Tarvin 1697, must consequently have been the wife of some collateral of the name.

To the account of this family it may be added, that the representation of the Bruens in the female line appears to have vested in the Langfords of Trevallyn, whose conoexion with the Bruens has been already given in the pedigree at 175. Four children of John Langford by Mary Bruen, have been there inserted from the Gresford registers, and the others have been subsequently found in those of St. John's at Chester, which include Judith, wife of Philip Fernyhough, M.D. finally heiress to her brothers, from whom the descent is continued below to her present representative John Oliver, esq.



P. 176, col. 1, line 14. CLOTTON, dau. of *Richard de Rullos*. See correction in note p. 429.

P. 179. WERDEN PEDIGREE. A pedigree connecting the Werdens of Burton and Chester, with the Wardens of Leyland in Lancashire, is preserved in Harl. MSS. 2040, 296, with arms and crest granted by sir R. St. George in the Visitation of 1613.

P. 182. ASHTON. Col. 1, line 4 from bottom. This is correctly copied from the Vill. Cest.; but the sale must have been by sir C. Hatton's representative. See *Crewe*, vol. III. p. 166, note n.

P. 184. WILLINGTON. Col. 2. The rent-charge for which this share was exchanged, was allotted on a subsequent division to John Latham of Bradwall, M. D.

P. 186. BARROW RECTORS. The institution of Bridgeman is given as supplied by the late dean of Chester, not being to be found in the institution books, but qu. whether not 1635? his predecessor Forster dying Feb. 23, 1634-5.

WIRRAL HUNDRED.

P. 197. BACKFORD. On full consideration of the Domesday notice of Upton, p. 443, it appears most probable that *Backford*, and other contiguous vills, were included among the lands held by various proprietors from it. Among these *Hamo* (most probably *Hamo de Masci*) is mentioned by name; *Lea* was long afterwards considered a dependency of it, and this *Lea*, as mentioned in p. 197, appears to have been formed out of the eight bovates which, at the time of his grant to Chester abbey, *Hamo de Masci* considered to be included in his manor of Backford.

P. 203, col. 2, line 3, for *Another* read A.

Ibid. CHORLTON. In col. 1, for *Hellesley and Turshaw*, read *Hellesley and Forshaw*; and in col. 2, line 12, for *by* read from.

The Abbey interest in this township has been referred to the grants of Masey of Tatton and Arderne, the first of whom probably inherited from *Hamo de Masey*, in whose vill of "*Bacforde*," Chorlton (or a considerable part of it) as mentioned in the notes, appears to have been originally included. Arderne comprehends in his grant lands in Hellesby, and it is probable therefore that his lands in Chorlton were derived from the lords of that place (possibly as a subinfeudation under the Mascies) the Hellesbies having held lands in Chorlton at a very early period. "Roger, son of Joceramus de Hellesby, gave to William Lesvie of Chorlton *iiii* bovates of land there, paying yearly to William, son of Henry de Hellesby, *ivs. ijd.* and to himself and his heirs a halfpenny. Roger de Gray, just. Cest." Williamson's Fines.

The following document relative to the *freehold interest* has also occurred in Williamson's Fines.

"23 Edw. I. Jo. de le Gole and Agnes his wife, and Henry, son to the said Agnes, obtained from Adam de (Stanley?), one messuage, with 4 bovates of land cum pert. in Chorlton in Wyrall, on condition that if

* One of the four sisters of Thomas Wettenhall, mentioned in the pedigree, vol. III. p. 252.

BROXTON HUNDRED.

P. 320, sect. 3, last line, for *wood* read *road*.

P. 331, col. 1, sect. 2, for Edw. VI. read IV.

Ibid. col. 2, sect. 3, line 2, supply *Hen.*; and line 5, for *of fyanelles* read *or*.

P. 341. MALPAS RECTORS. l. 13, for born 1718, read 1728.

P. 342. After "nephew," leave out "of John Dod, archdeacon of Richmond, and elder brother of."

Ibid. col. 1, l. 14 from bottom, for 1786 read 1686.

P. 347. ISCOYD CHAPEL. The account of this chapel, which is beyond the limits of this county, was communicated by the rev. archdeacon Churton.

P. 349. EGERTON CHAPEL. This ancient domestic chapel, or oratory, was erected in consequence of a licence, granted, in 1398, to Phillip de Egerton and his wife Matilda. The uses to which it was appropriated, when the author saw it in 1814, are correctly stated; but he has been informed by sir John Egerton, through the medium of the rev. R. E. Warburton (1817), that the tenant was enjoined not to make any use of it whatsoever; and subsequently (1819) that "the chapel has been put into good repair, and surrounded by a plantation, by the proprietor." It is supposed by the family not to have been used for religious purposes since the reformation.

P. 353, col. 2, l. 23, *best ladie*, a typographical error for the well-known epithet of "the *bold ladie* of Cheshire."

P. 354, col. 1, l. 29 from bottom, for 1607, read 1707.

Ibid. col. 2. Cholmondeley Hall, as rebuilt, was of brick, ornamented with *stone* at the windows, angles, &c. Its description, as "cased with stone," was an error, founded on its appearance in the drawings of it.

"Some time ago, in digging in a peat-bog, below Cholmondeley castle, in this county, a boat of very antique form was found a considerable depth from the surface. The situation, there is no doubt, was once a mere, and this curious relic must have lain there for many ages. It is about 11 feet long, and 30 inches in breadth, formed of the trunk of a tree, excavated, and in shape not much unlike an Indian canoe. It is now in the grounds near the castle."—Chester Chron. June 11, 1819.

P. 366. CHORLTON. "The week before last some workmen employed in a field of Mr. Wicksted's, in Chorlton, near Malpas, to sink for marl, found, at about a yard's distance from the surface, a number of Roman coins of the emperors Valerian and Posthumus. The pot in which the money had been deposited was mouldered into dust."—Chester Chron. March 27, 1818.

P. 367, col. 2. OLDCASTLE. For *Clevey* read *Cloverley*.

P. 368. OVERTON. A pedigree of Alport, of Overton, has subsequently occurred in Harl. MSS. 2153, p. 28, which supplies the following additions and one correction.

Robert Alport, stated to be son of John, on the authority of a communication, purporting to be drawn from original evidences, was his brother and heir.

The additions are as follows:

I. Richard Alport, of Overton, with whom the pedigree begins, was son of Alport, of Southley, co. Salop, and married Ellen, daughter of Ralph Povey, of Shocklach, who re-married Robert Cauley.

II. Elizabeth, daughter of John Best, of Westminster, wife of Richard Alport, son of the preceding Richard, was mother of his issue, as mentioned in the pedigree; but he had two former wives: 1st, Joyse, daughter and coheir to John Rawlinson, of Whichurch, doctor in divinity and p'son of Whichurch, by Dorothy his wife, coheir to Thomas Aubrey, co. Glost." She had Catherine, who died young. The said Richard married, secondly, Susan, daughter of sir Edmund Verney, knt. marshal of Ireland. She had two sons and a daughter, who died young, and died herself in childbed.

III. The issue of Richard and Elizabeth were, 1. John, mentioned in the pedigree, who died May 12, 1679. 2. Robert, heir to his brother, who married as in the pedigree. 1. Katherine: and, 3. Anne, married as in the pedigree; and Elizabeth, wife of William Dod, rector of Malpas.

IV. Robert and Anne Mainwaring had issue as in the pedigree.

Arms, as in the pedigree; and, for crest, a cubit arm Gules, turned down Argent, differenced with a crescent Sable, hand grasping a pear, slipped and leaved, all proper.

One of these additions affects the Dod pedigree (of Edge), in which it will be found that Elizabeth, wife of William Dod, who died in 1700, is stated to be daughter of Entwisle, of Foxholes. She was *certainly the mother of the issue*, and the author was informed by Mr. Dod, that his grandmother was an Entwisle of that family.

If it were possible to suppose a mistake in a tradition respecting so near a relation, it would seem probable that Elizabeth Alport was the person buried in 1700, and . . . Entwisle was a second wife, particularly as the entry stands thus in the Entwisle pedigree: *Dorothy*, daughter of John Entwisle, wife of Dod, esq. remarried to . . . Case, esq. of Red Hazles. The marriage of Elizabeth Alport is confirmed by a charity trust in p. 347, vol. II. in which the three husbands of the three miss Alports appear as trustees of their nephew, Richard Alport.

P. 371. BIRD PEDIGREE. The lowest line was arranged from the

apparent purport of the monuments at Harthill and Tattenhall, but the discovery of a contemporary pedigree in Harl. MSS. supplies the following correction.—Elizabeth, who was living 1702, married Hugh Hamnett, of Handley, and is not stated to have had any issue. Martha, who appears to have died before 1702 (see Tattenhall Monuments) was the wife of William Glegg, of Whitty, father of William Glegg, of Broxton, who erected the monument at Harthill, and succeeded to the estate.

P. 372. TARLETON PEDIGREE. Correct the following typographical errors. Third descent after Thomas Tarleton, read, aged 51; and, in the sixth descent, place 3 before J. E. Tarleton, D. C. L. After Henry Tarleton, read born 1787.

P. 378. Dod pedigree. Thomasine, *first* wife, as appears by the dates, which are correct.

P. 380, col. 2, last line but one, for 1642, read 1682.

P. 386, col. 2. JUDGE WARBURTON. His appointment, in 1601, on referring to Dugdale, Orig. Jurid. p. 100, was to be one of the *Justiciarii de Banco*, by which the *Common Pleas*, not the King's Bench, were intended.

P. 398. MASSIE, OF CODDINGTON. Col. 2, line 9 from bottom, supply the words in Italics. "Some of the pedigrees making him a younger son of sir John Massie, of Tatton, *supposed to have been slain at Shrewsbury*, whose *eldest son* died 8 Hen. V. and others of *Hamon, son of sir John Massey, of Puddington, who also fell at the battle of Shrewsbury, &c.* See Massey, of Puddington, ped. II. 309, and Massey, of Tatton, ped. I. 345. The difficulty in dates, in the deduction from Puddington alluded to, consists in supposing William, who purchased lands 12 Hen. VI. *son of a younger brother of Thomas*, who died 7th Hen. VII. as by Inq.

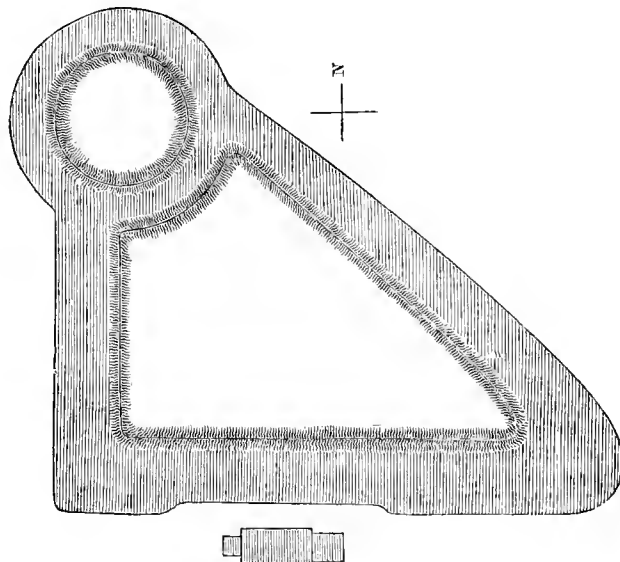
The following abstract of the entire series of the military services of General Massey, up to 1646, may probably be acceptable. The detail is given in Riecraft's Survey of England's Champions, 1646, republished by Leycester under the title of "The Civil Warres of England, 1649,"

"Served under the earl of Essex at Worcester, Sept. 12, 1642—at Edgehill, Oct. 22, 1642—appointed governor of Gloucester—defeated lord Herbert's forces, March 30, 1643—relieved (after the defence of Gloucester) by Essex, Sept. 5, 1643—defeated the king's army near Tewksbury, Oct. 16, 1643—defeated col. Vavasor, from Tewksbury, Dec. 6, 1643—defeated sir John Winter, from Newnham, and dismantled the garrison at Wotton, Dec. 4, 1643—defeated scattered forces from Gloucester, March 20, 1643—defeated sir John Winter, and took the town of Little Dean, May 7, 1644—stormed Beverstone Castle, May 27, 1644—took Malmesbury, May 30, 1644, and subsequently Chippenham—defeated and killed general Myne, near Kidmally, Aug. 12, 1644—took Monmouth castle, Sept. 26, 1644—gained a victory at Betsly Sconce, in Dean Forest, Sept. 30, 1644—defeated sir John Winter, near Beechly shortly afterwards—secured the frontier garrisons in the district under his command—again defeated sir John Winter, Feb. 26, 1644—routed prince Maurice, coming from Bristol, March 24, 1644—stormed Evesham, May 27, 1645, and subsequently "led brave Fairfax the way into the west; witness the daily skirmishes he was in for five or six weeks together, beating the enemy to retreats at least 120 miles, taking and killing many, notwithstanding the enemy was four to one." Pp. 49-54.

Vicars, in a work of equal rarity, "England's Worthies, &c. 1649," adds to these achievements the defeat of sir Henry Talbot, in his own quarters at Chepstow (1643-4)—the capture of Tewksbury (1644)—a second defeat of Bristol royalists—"the first conquering blow at that brave fight and famous victory at Langport"—and "the most furious and successful onset at Tiverton, in Cornwall."

P. 412, col. 2. The descent of Aldford, through the Stanleys to the Fittons, is given more fully and correctly from evidences subsequently obtained in vol. III. p. 301, in Nether Alderley.

The annexed cut will explain the description of the remaining earth-works of Aldford Castle.



- P. 401. BECHIN, for Whitty read Whitley.
- P. 405. ALDERSEY PEDIGREE, first descent, for Samuel Aldersey, *esq.* who died 1802, read *clerk*.
- P. 406, col. 2, last word, read *appropriated*.
- P. 410. KING'S MARSH. This place was first granted out by the crown to the Stanleys, together with the manor of Northwich. See p. 91, vol. III.
- P. 411, line 13, read *Nether Alderley*.
- P. 414, col. 1, line 4. Shippen, *dele was brother, before of*.
- P. 421. DAVENPORT PEDIGREE. *Dele the line printed between Ralph Davenport and William Hand.*
- P. 426. RECTORS OF CHRISTLETON. William Mostyn, rector of Christleton and archdeacon of Bangor, is commemorated by a monument engraved in Pennant's Whiteford and Holywell.
- P. 427. Thomas Weston was founder of a mathematical lectureship in Brasenose College, Oxford.
- P. 428. COTTON PEDIGREE. There is a variation between the Cheshire and Staffordshire Collections, as to the connection between the Cottons and Ridwares, the latter of which give it thus, and apparently correctly. See Shaw's Staff, vol. 1.
- EDMUND COTTON, of Cotton, 16 Edw. III. son — CATHERINE (omitted in William and Isabella. Cheshire pedigree.)
- WILLIAM COTTON, of Cotton, 50 Hen. IV. (omitted in Cheshire pedigree.) — AGNES, daughter and heiress of Walter de Ridware, of Hamstall Ridware. (Johanna, and wife of Edmund, in Cheshire pedigrees.)
- JOHN COTTON, of Cotton and Ridware, &c. as in Cheshire pedigree. — wife of James Staremore, 1347, grandson and heir of sir Roger de Staremore knt. of Staremore, in Rowley Regis, co. Staff. Had issue.

NORTHWICH HUNDRED.

P. 4. Note a, correct what relates to Hulme Walfield, by referring to p. 41, note a.

P. 18. EGERTON MONT. After "plena annorum," add *xxvii^o die Mart. anno verbi incarnati, 1599*. This is supplied by Dugdale's copy of the Mont. Vis. 1663-4; but it must be observed, that his copies of Cheshire Monts are very unfaithful, and were taken by Ashmole, or his attendants, whilst he was entering pedigrees. In the present case, his copier saw the error in the inscription, and has interpolated "filius" and "matri" for the actual, but erroneous terms "maritus" and "uxori."

P. 29. Add to the issue of the rev. W. Moreton Moreton, Edward, second son, born March 1, 1819, baptized at Westerham.

There is a considerable intricacy with respect to the *crest* and *arms* of this ancient family. The copies of the Visitations, 1580 and 1613, Coll. Arm. give a very rude outline-sketch, of a *wolf's head*; but in another copy (Harl. MSS. 1535, apparently by Thomas Chaloner, dep. to Norroy) is a fair delineation of a *greyhound's head*, as in the cut; and a greyhound was allowed by Dugdale to the Congleton branch of Moreton, and appears also in ancient painted glass at Moreton Hall. In the same copies of Visitations, the arms are, a greyhound *current*; but sir Peter Leycester (Tabley MSS. lib. C.), refers this coat (apparently with propriety) to the Holfords, *female* descendants of the Lostocks, who differentiated it occasionally with a collar Gules; and there does not appear any reason why the Moretons, *male* descendants of Lostock, should vary from the coat of their Norman ancestors, a greyhound passant (according to the figure engraved by sir Peter Leycester from Randle Holmes' drawing) or stantant (according to his own verbal blazon in the margin). The former of these was also used occasionally by the Holfords, as appears by the seal of sir George Holford, in sir Peter Leycester's copy of Booth's pedigrees, and by Dugdale's confirmation to the Holfords of Davenham, and we have evidence of its being used by the Moretons, temp. Ric. II. from a drawing of the seal of Richard de Moreton, Harl. MSS. 1535, 37^e. The Greyhound Sable, *current*, undifferentiated, was the coat of another Norman family, descended from one Hugon, and included in lord Vernon's quarterings.

These are, however, merely antiquarian scruples. The heralds confirmed it as above, and the family follow their confirmation.

The devices at the end of the long gallery will be found in the "Castle of Knowledge," printed by Reynolde Wolfe, 1556. See Dibdin's Ames, 4, 22.

P. 32. SOMERFORD CUM RADNOR. The following extract from Burn's Hist. of Westmoreland (p. 628) gives the termination of the pedigree of *Oldfield of Somerford*.

Mary, the elder daughter of sir George Middleton, was married to Somerford Oldfield, *esq.* who had issue George Middleton Oldfield, *esq.* who came to live at Leighton, and left two daughters, coheirresses. The elder was married to Albert Hodgson, *esq.* and the younger to one of the Fletchers of Hatton Hall, in Cumberland, and died without issue. The said Albert Hodgson engaged in the rebellion in 1715, and his estate was confiscated.

P. 438. PLEMONDSTOW. The following extracts, relative to the name of this place, are not uninteresting. Fuller's Ch. Hist. b. ii. p. 121.

"Plegmund an Eremite, in the Isle of Chester, now called Plegmundsham, tutour to k. Alfred, was by him preferred to be Archbishop of Canterbury, then a miserable place, as hardly recovered from the late sacking of the Danes. By the king's command, he called the Clergy of England together, and made a collection of almes to be sent to Rome and Jerusalem; and Athelm, archbishop of York, was employed in the journey, going personally to the foresaid places to see the contribution there faithfully delivered and equally distributed.

Ibid. p. 124. Plegmund, stated to have consecrated seven bishops in one day, viz. of Sherburne, Dorchester, Selsey, Wells, Crediton, and St. Petrock's, in Cornwall.

Several coins of this prelate will be found in Mr. Ruding's work on the British Coinage.

P. 443. UYTON. Seventh line from bottom, for Barford, read Backford; and see additions to p. 197.

Ibid. The references have been disarranged by the printer; b and c in Moston refer to notes placed in 444.

P. 461. PULFORD. Sect. 3, for *John*, read Thomas, son of John.

Ibid. col. 2, sect. 4, read, Pulford, descended regularly, with the Arley estates, to sir Peter Warburton, bart. and was sold by him to the late, &c.

For some very curious circumstances, connected with the succession of the Grosvenors to Pulford, see Allstock, in Northwich Hundred.

Ibid. Respecting the possibility of this place being *Pontone, in War-mundestrou hundred*, which appears to have been placed there by an error of the compilers of Domesday, see vol. III. pp. 150, 261.

VOL. III.

P. 47. X. SIR WILLIAM BRERETON. Chandler's Life of Bishop Wainfleet supplies several additional particulars relative to this sir William, who, through his daughter Margery, noticed in the pedigree, was grandfather of the founder of Magdalen College. He is stated, in p. 4, to have obtained by his valour the honour of knighthood in the French wars, to have been governor of Caen, and to have routed, under the auspices of lord Seales, a numerous army of the French, near Mount St. Michael, and returned home with glory and increase of fortune. In p. 104, Chandler attributes to the relationship between Wayne-flete and sir William Brereton, the acquaintance of the former with the brave and munificent sir John Fastolfe and the lord Crumwell, the former of whom had shared with Brereton in the dangers under lord Seales, and been promoted to the same post in Normandy. In p. 239 he adds, that sir William Brereton, in June, 1474, jointly with Robert Brereton, rector of Brereton, made over to the bishop and dean of Winchester, and to their heirs and assigns for ever, all his possessions in Lincolnshire.

Dr. Chandler observes, "he must then have attained to an extreme old age," being ignorant that this sir William had been then dead *fifty years*. The grantor was his grandson, first cousin to the bishop of Winchester. Dr. Chandler, however, in p. 239, refers, correctly, to the elder sir William the achievements under lord Seales at the battle at Pontorson, in which Holinshed mentions "sir William Brearton, bailiffe of Caen." This battle was fought in 4 Hen. VI. 1425; and in this year the grandfather died, his son having long previously died at Harfleur 3 Henry V. 1415: the grandfather therefore probably died of honourable wounds; for his grandson cannot be intended by Holinshed, he being a minor as late as 15 Hen. VI.

P. 49, sect. 5, line 2, read sir *John* Brereton for sir *William*, a clerical error transferred from the continuation of the pedigree; and two lines lower, for *died* read *dated*.

Lord Brereton is stated in Noble's Lives of the Regicides, vol. 1. p. 118, to have petitioned the parliament, in 1644, to "exchange him for sir John Northest, which they refused, alledging as their reason for denying his suit, that he must first give satisfaction for having killed several of their friends in cold blood at Nantwich. But in the following year they accepted sir John Harcourt, one of their members, for him."

P. 56, col. 2. SANDBACH. Supply the chasm in col. 2, with *about twenty five miles south-east of, &c.*

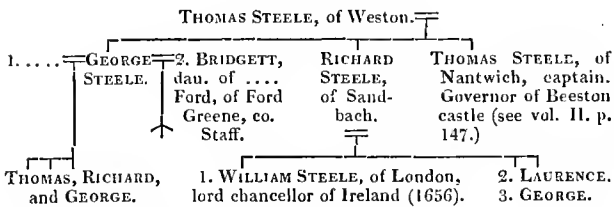
The fesse in the arms of Sandbach is given "Or," on the authority of ancient painted glass at Witton, and Glover's copy of the Lancashire Visitation of 1567 (Harl. MSS. 2086), under Radclyffe of Ordesball. In the Cheshire collections it is usually *Gules*, which being colour on colour is false blazon.

An extensive pedigree of Raven of Elworth in this township will be found in Harl. MSS. 2040, 184.

In the same MS. p. 240, will be found the following pedigree of Steele of (Giddy hall in ?) Sandbach, which includes two names of note. Giddy hall, the seat of the Steeles, and most probably of this branch, was a moated house within the verge of the present Abbeyfield estate, near a lane which still borrows its name from the mansion.

ARMS, as given in the MS. Argent, a fesse componè Ermine and Azure, between two lion's heads erased Gules, on a chevron Azure three billets Or.

CREST. On a wreath a lion's head erased Gules, charged with three billets Or.



P. 66. BRADWALL. Col. 2, read John Jervis, son and heir of John, son and heir of the said John.

P. 73—7. CRANAGE AND TWEMLOWE. QU. whether these two villi were not described under Cræneche in Hamestan hundred, as the latter joined to Cranage would bring that township in contact with Hamestan hundred, from which it is now separated. Robert Fitz-Hugh of Malpas would be likely to alienate so distant a part of his possessions, but it is not improbable that the Croxtons obtained these towns (if we suppose them to be Cræneche) by some kind of acknowledgment of hereditary right, from the singular connection between them and Godric the Saxon proprietor, which is noticed in the account of Marton, vol. III. p. 358. Robertus tenet de comite Cræneche; Godric tenuit, et liber homo fuit; ibi una hida geldabilis; terra est una caruca et dimidium; ibi unus radman et unus villanus habent dimidium carucam. Ibi silva dimidiæ leuæ longitudine et xl. perticarum latitudine, et ibi una haia. Wasta fuit; modo valet iii solidos.

P. 87. GROSVENOR PEDIGREE. 9th descent. The compositor ought to have drawn the line of descent from sir Robert Grosvenor's second wife Juan Pulford.

P. 94. HULSE. Supply the chasm with "of Bremer, co. Hants."

P. 99. WOOD PEDIGREE. Last descent but one, dele Ap. 21, 1766 (repeated from above by a clerical error), and read Isaac Wood, married, Aug. 27, 1793, Annabella, &c.

P. 112. SUTTON. A second notice of Sutton contained in a survey of three of these townships, which Bigot shared with the earl, was overlooked.

Isdem Bigot tenet Sudtone. Alestan et Bilam pro ii maneriis tenuerunt, et liberi homines fuerunt. Ibi iii virgate et xvi acra terræ geldabiles. Terra est una caruca et dimidia. In dominio est dimidia caruca, et ii bovarii et ii villani habent dimidium carucam. Tempore R. valebat iv solidos, modo iii solidos. Wasta fuit.

NANTWICH HUNDRED.

P. 158. HASSAL. Henry de Betley appears from his seal to have used also the local name of "de Heteshale."

P. 170. CREWE. A school was founded at Crewe by Thomas Leadbeater of that place, who by will dated Sept. 5, 1729, bequeathed 30*l.* to build the school-house, and 120*l.* to maintain a schoolmaster, to teach English and writing, to be vested in land as soon as an opportunity offered. The said master to be elected by trustees, and to be removable at the pleasure of the majority of them. The money for building the school-house was paid to Charles Crewe, esq. Aug. 12, 1755; the other sum remains in the hands of John Ford, esq. the only known surviving heir of any of the three original trustees, Hugh Forde, Joseph Lea, and John Coulton, all of Crewe. By him the schoolmaster is appointed and the salary paid. Deeds and information of John Ford, esq. 1817.

P. 198. SIR RICHARD WILBRAHAM. See p. 223, for an account of this Richard Wilbraham and others being made prisoners by the king at Chester, in Sept. 1642: for what cause does not appear. In the Easter following he died a prisoner at Shrewsbury. Ibid. col. 2.

P. 232, col. 2. CHURCH FAMILY. Read *William Church*, principal of Brasenose hall in 1450, and Thomas Church, author of, &c. &c. were probably, &c.

Ibid. last line, read in *Wirswall township*, adjacent to Marbury chapelry.

P. 233. WICKSTED PEDIGREE, 7th descent. Charles Fletcher, who was of Whitechurch (as mentioned), settled there after the sequestration of the paternal estate of Morley in this county. His father, Richard Fletcher, a colonel in the royal service, married Frances Cotton, of Combermere (see vol. III. p. 212), and was fined by the parliament together with his father John Fletcher, in the sum of 318*l.*

P. 238. NANTWICH HOSPITAL. The author has in his possession a singularly curious oak chest which he purchased at Erdswick hall. It had been bought by the tenant at a sale at Hulgreve hall (an estate of the Astons, who participated in the division of the religious spoil at the reformation) and it was traditionally said to have come from *this hospital*. It appears to have been one of the chests used to keep vestments and chalices, &c. in, and is about two feet broad, by five in length, and two feet nine inches in height; at each end are two compartments, and in front five, all of which except the central one are sumptuously carved in imitation of rich

gothic windows, with canopies, crockets, finials, buttresses, and shrine-work. The centre represents the coronation of Henry VI. and the *single rose* occurs over the fleur de lis in the ornaments.

From this circumstance, as well as the style of architecture, the chest cannot be referred to the time of Henry VII. and is not likely to have been carved during the ascendancy of the Yorkists intervening between Henry the Sixth's death in 1461, and the accession of Henry VII. The *English* coronation of Henry VI. took place Nov. 6, 1429, but the date may probably be fixed (from the insertion of the *rose*) between the breaking out of the civil war in 1455, and the year 1461 before mentioned.

In 1455 *William lord Lovel* died, and was succeeded by *John lord Lovel*, who for his services to Henry VI. received a grant of the forest of Whichwood and other favours, and to him, from a singular coincidence, the author is inclined to attribute the donation of the chest to St. Nicholas's hospital. A chest, of a description precisely corresponding with it, was recently offered for sale at Liverpool with the Brereton painted glass, and was described as having been formerly the church chest at Ashton under-lyne. The great lordship of Longdendale abuts on the parish of Ashton, and in the lord Lovell above-mentioned this lordship hereditarily vested, together with the greatest share of the barony of Nantwich, and the patronage of the hospital in question.

P. 244. On the doubtful point of Marbury being considered a parish church or a parochial chapelry, the author was favoured by archdeacon Churton with the subjoined information as to the style of rector being anciently used by the minister. An instance of the incumbent of Whitechurch being called rector of both churches, is given in a note in p. 245.

"Marbury is usually considered as a chapelry belonging to Whitechurch, but Edward Brumley, esq. of Hampton, having in 1683, settled 10*l.* per ann. out of his estate, to be given quarterly to 40 poor persons of the parish of Malpas, and 10 of the parish of Marbury, to be nominated by the owner and possessor of the estate in Hampton, and in default of such nomination to be nominated by the *rectors of Malpas*; the catalogue of benefactors in Marbury church agrees, mutatis mutandis, and says the poor persons in Marbury are in default to be nominated by the *rector of Marbury*."

"And in Marbury church, under the communion rails, is this epitaph in capitals:

"Cherlas Jonas, *rector of Marburie*, who died the 18 of Desem. anno 1647."

"Of which I presume we may admit the fact though not the spelling."

P. 255. Read VICARS of Wybunbury.

MACCLESFIELD HUNDRED.

P. 279, note 1. Goostrey and Twemlowe both serve to connect Cranage with Hamestan hundred, and both were the property of the Croxtons, but Goostrey is noticed in Domesday. See preceding column for a further explanation of this subject.

P. 301. ARDERNE PEDIGREE, 2nd descent, read *heiress*; and 5th descent, read *remarried* to sir W. Norriss, &c.

P. 321. CHEDLE. One of the chantry priests at the dissolution is mentioned in a note at this page; the name of the other and the value of his preferment is given in the following extract from the general Eccl. Val. 26 Hen. VIII. but it does not appear to which of the two chantries the notice relates.

Cantaria in Chedill.

Jacobus Waythman capellanus ih'm.

Valet in grosso, viz. in denarijs eidem sol. per annum clare cs.

Xma inde xs.

P. 326. SIR WILLIAM BRERETON. The following series of his achievements, recounted in Rieraft's England's Champions, may be an acceptable addition to the memoir of this celebrated parliamentary general, and to the details of many of his battles interspersed with the parochial topography.

Defeat of sir Thomas Aston at Nantwich, Jan. 28, 1643—of the earl of Northampton at Hopton heath March 26, 1644.—Successive captures of Stafford, Wolverhampton, Whitechurch, and Eccleshall castle.—Capture of Houghton (Halton) castle July 22, 1644.—Defeat of lord Capel near Nantwich.—Capture of Holt castle Nov. 21, 1644—of Hawarden castle—of Rippon Dec. 3, 1644.—Raising the siege of Nantwich and rout of sir John Byron Feb. 14, 1644.—Defeat of prince Rupert at Tarvin Aug. 18, 1645.—Siege and capture of Chester Jan. 29, 1645.—Capture of Lichfield March 6, 1645—of Dudley castle May 12, 1646. pp. 41-44.

To these achievements Vicars (in his England's Worthies, 1649) adds The battle of Middlewich.—The defeat of the earl of Derby at Stockton heath, and of sir Vincent Corbet at Drayton—of lord Capel at Lappington and at Leigh Bridge.—The capture of Wrexham and Gusanna house.—A victory at Welshpool, and another over sir Marmaduke Langdale at Malpas 1644.—A victory over sir Thomas Middleton in Montgomery castle.—The successive captures of Liverpool and Shrewsbury, a victory at Denbigh, and the reduction of Tutbury. pp. 71-76.

A very characteristic but rude print of Brereton is given in the latter work, that in the former has been already noticed.

P. 326, note f. SIR JOHN STANLEY. In Harl. MSS. 2086 (Glover's copy of Visitat. Lancast. 1567) is a note on the Halsall pedigree, which, if correct, clears up the difficulty respecting the marriage with Harrington, and proves, as surmised, the John Stanleys, husbands of Harrington and

Handford, to be distinct persons. *John Stanley, husband of the first lady*, is there called *not* base son of the bishop, but of "*John Stanley brother to the first erle of Derby*," viz. of John Stanley of Alderley; and instead of the coat borne by John Stanley of Hunford (who was certainly the bishop's son, and with whom the Beaumont pedigree appears to have improperly confounded this John Stanley of Melling) it appears that the latter bore the ordinary coat of Stanley, debruised by a baton sinister Gules.

P. 365. MACCLESFIELD. Col. 1, line 12, in speaking of the charter read 45 *Hen. III.* Some further particulars relating to the local jurisdiction, p. 385.

To the account of the parochial chapel it may be added, that the steeple is ornamented with various armorial shields of the neighbouring families, but not exclusively of those within the chapelry, and these families are supposed to have been benefactors to the building.

The annexed list of *CUARATES*, compiled by Mr. Browne and Mr. Heapy, was promised in p. 367, and will be acceptable to most readers, though the lists have in other instances been limited to endowed vicarages and the higher benefices.

- 1572. Thomas Sherle.
- 1609. Robert Cryer, p. m. Tho. Sherle.
- 1613. Philip Holland, p. m. Robert Cryer.
- 1648. Edmund Hardie, p. m. Ph. Holland.
- 1657. James Bradshaw.
- 1662. Robert Barlow, on Bradshaw being ejected from his cure.
- 1666. Robert Hunter, p. m. Robert Barlow.
- 1671. Bradley Haghurst, resign. Robert Hunter.
- 1682. John Ashworth, p. m. Bradley Haghurst.
- 1689. Samuel Hulme, p. m. John Ashworth.
- 1710. Samuel Taylor, p. m. Samuel Hulme.
- 1718. Jonathan Hanson, p. m. Sam. Taylor.
- 1725. Thomas Gilbert, A.M. res. Jon. Hanson.
- 1732. John Robinson, A. B. p. m. Tho. Gilbert.
- 1756. James Roe, A. M. p. m. John Robinson.
- 1765. John Burscoe, A. M. p. m. Jas. Roe.
- 1773. Thomas Hewson, p. m. Jo. Burscoe.
- 1778. David Simpson, A. M. p. m. Tho. Hewson.
- John Lingard, res. D. Simpson.
- 1800. Lawrence Heapy, A. M. p. m. Jo. Lingard.

Macclesfield appears to have had originally three principal gates in its walled fence or "*haia*" noticed in p. 364; the Chester-gate, on the road leading to that city, the Jordan-gate, and Wall-gate. The second of these (which was called after Jordan de Macclesfield, see p. 417, vol. III.) is described in some old law proceedings as "*portam Jordani de Macclesfield ducentem de Cockshute*," which exactly describes the street in its present state, as it leads to a field and lane called Cockshute-lane. The Wall-gate, now called Church-Wall-gate, leads out of the higher to the lower part of the town. Information of Mr. Browne. This last gate

probably had a postern near the extremity of the Back-Wall-gate, and both possibly derive their name from the ancient town-well (peall, Sax. well, pronounced broad in composition of Cl eshire names, as Brad-wall, Thingwall, &c.) which has been noticed in p. 365, note o.

P. 374. LEIGH OF RIDGE. To the account of this family, as drawn from deeds by sir Peter Leycester, may be added, on the authority of Collins (*Peerage*, edit. 1768, under Leigh lord Leigh), John Leigh, ancestor of the Leighs of Stockwell, and third son of John Legh (first of Ridge) by Alice Alcocke. Richard Legh, second son of the same, (living 36 *Hen. VI.*) was progenitor of the Leighs of Rushall, Longborow, and Addestrop, the Leighs lords Leigh of Stoneley, and the Leighs of Newham Regis, raised to the earldom of Chichester.

P. 392. STOCKPORT. In reference for *Charities* to parliamentary return, add,

The free school of Stockport was founded in 1487, by the will of sir Edmund Shaa, or Shaw, brother of Dr. Shaa, (who preached at Paul's cross respecting the illegitimacy of the children of Edw. IV.) and supposed to be a native of Stockport. He directed the sum of 14*l. 6s. 8d.* to be paid to two priests yearly for ever, the first (who had 4*l. 6s. 8d.*) to officiate in the chapel of Woudhead (see vol. III. p. 419); and the second (who was to receive 10*l.*) to officiate as a chantry priest in the parish church, and to teach grammar to the children of Stockport, and the adjacent district. He was also further directed on Wednesdays and Fridays weekly to chaunt the psalm of *De Profundis* over the graves of the founder's father and mother in Stockport church, attended by all his scholars, and he was also then to pray for the souls of the founder, his parents, and all Christian people. The Goldsmiths' company to have the nomination of and power of removing the master of the school for ever. An extract from sir Edmund Shaa's will is given in *Lysons's Magna Britannia*, and has been reprinted in Carlisle's account of public schools.

The master's salary has been increased by a sum paid from inclosed lands, and by the interest of money given by various benefactors.

The following monumental inscription, put up since the rebuilding of the church, has been communicated by the erector of the monument, Mr. Isherwood of Marple.

Sacred to the memories of

Thomas Isherwood, esquire, of Marple hall in this parish, who departed this life on the 2nd day of March, 1788. Aged 73 years.

Margaret Isherwood his daughter, who departed this life May the 26th, 1793. Aged 20 years.

Mary Ann Isherwood, his daughter, who departed this life August 1, 1793. Aged 22 years.

Mary Isherwood, his widow, and daughter of the late Thomas Orrel, esquire, of Moberly, departed this life May the 18th, 1797. Aged 57 years.

Hannah Isherwood, his daughter, who departed this life February 14, 1798. Aged 29 years.

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS RELATING TO THE VERBAL BLAZONS.

WITH REFERENCES FOR BLAZONS OF COATS WHICH HAVE BEEN REPEATED WITHOUT VERBAL DESCRIPTION.

VOL. I.

- P. 344. Add blazon of Massey, quarterly Gules and Or, a label Azure.
- P. 345. For blazon of Stanley see vol. II. p. 230.
- P. 346. Add blazon of Brereton, Argent, two bars Sable.
- P. 352. For Lymme and Leigh, see pp. 356, 436, following.
- P. 365. For Daniel, see 540 following.
- P. 414. Vawdrey, add, a plain cross Sable, between, &c. &c. of the last.
- P. 415. Baggiley. Crest, a ram's head Or, charged Azure.
- P. 424. Massey. Bull's head erased Argent.
- P. 495. Cholmondeley. For blazon, see vol. II. p. 78.

VOL. II.

- P. 28. Troutbeck crest. Add, within a wreath of trouts fretted proper.
- P. 112. Winnington. For *in anesoccheon*, read *an inesoccheon*.
- P. 150. Alpraham. Eaglets of the second.
- P. 308. Massey crest. Add Argent.
- P. 385. Leche. Chief Gules, coronets Or.

VOL. III.

- P. 13. Venahles. Add, colours *unknown*, supposed Azure, charged Argent, as Venables of Kinderton.
- P. 133, 171. Vernon. For fesse *Vert*, read Azure.

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