

A History
of Northumberland.





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A

HISTORY

OF

NORTHUMBERLAND

ISSUED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

THE NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY HISTORY

COMMITTEE

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY ANDREW REID & COMPANY, LIMITED

LONDON

SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, HAMILTON, KENT, & COMPANY LIMITED

1897



— P. 100 PHOTO

HELFELDEN
Supposed site of Saint Oswald's Battle

A
HISTORY OF NORTHUMBERLAND

VOLUME IV

HEXHAMSHIRE: PART II

(HEXHAM, WHITLEY CHAPEL, ALLENDALE, AND ST. JOHN LEE)

AND

THE PARISH OF CHOLLERTON

THE CHAPELRY OF KIRKHEATON

THE PARISH OF THOCKRINGTON

BY JOHN CRAWFORD HODGSON

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY ANDREW REID & COMPANY, LIMITED

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NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE
ANDREW REID & COMPANY, LIMITED, PRINTING COURT BUILDINGS

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PREFACE.

The formation of the Northumberland County History Committee and its object have been so fully explained in the prefaces to preceding volumes that it is only necessary to state here why the parishes dealt with in the following pages were selected for treatment, and to discharge the grateful duty of recording the names of those without whose help it would have been impossible to accomplish what has been done.

The preceding volume, edited by Mr. A. B. Hinds, in addition to an account of the origin and general history of the regality, contained a detailed history of the priory, the church, and the town of Hexham. The present volume relates the history of the rural townships of Hexham and of the chapelries which are component parts of Hexhamshire. Their position in relation to one another and to the town of Hexham will be best understood by a reference to the accompanying map. To this wide district has been added the parish of Chollerton, whose rectory was one of the most valuable possessions of the prior and convent; the chapelry of Kirkheaton, another possession of the convent; and the parish of Thockrington, whose ecclesiastical status as a prebend in the church of York made it desirable that it should be associated with the archbishop of York's peculiar jurisdiction of Hexhamshire.

By the death of the Rev. James Raine the Committee have lost one of their most valued members. Had it not been for the two volumes on Hexham priory edited by him for the Surtees Society, it would not have been possible, without much additional labour, to have given a full account of the convent of Hexham and of its numerous estates. With the greatest generosity Dr. Raine freely placed at the disposal of the Committee numerous notes, abstracts, and transcripts of documents, including a large series of wills, the result of many years research amongst the records at York.

The Editor has to acknowledge the assistance he has received in every way from the Rev. William Greenwell and Mr. Cadwallader J. Bates. To the former is due the description of the battle of Hefenfelth, and to the latter the elucidation of the tangled history of the early Swinburnes at Chollerton, West Swinburn, and East Swinburn. Mr. Bates has also written the account of the tower of Ninebanks, and has rewritten what he said in *Border Holds* of the family of De Insula of Chipchase.

The section dealing with the Roman Wall is by Dr. Thomas Hodgkin, and that on Watling Street by Mr. R. Oliver Heslop.

The Committee have again to express their obligation to Mr. Edmund Garwood, who has described the geological features of the parishes of Chollerton, Kirkheaton, and Thockrington. They are indebted to Mr. Sheriton Holmes for a revision and extension of what he had originally written in *Archæologia Eliana* upon the Roman bridge at Chollerford. To Mr. W. H. Knowles they are under peculiar obligations, for not only has he written the architectural descriptions of Cocklaw tower, Chipchase castle, and Chollerton and Thockrington churches, but he has expended much labour in the preparation of the excellent drawings by which he has illustrated the details of these buildings. Mr. Arthur Plummer has also given the ground plan of Birtley church, and particulars of the building as it existed before it was restored by him.

The Committee are indebted to Mr. G. G. Baker Cresswell for transcripts of the Subsidy Rolls of 1296 and 1336, from the originals in the Record Office.

Of the numerous plates contained in the volume, some have been presented by the owners of the places represented, and some by others. The Committee desire to express their thanks to Miss Allgood for the plate of the old chapel of St. John Lee, reproduced from a drawing made by her mother, the late Mrs. Allgood; to Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont, lord of the manor of Hexham, for a contribution towards the cost of illustrating the work; to Captain Cuthbert for the plate of Beaufront; to Mr. J. C.

Straker for the plate of Stagshaw chapel; to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Taylor for the plates and blocks which accompany the account of Chipchase; to Messrs. T. & G. Allan of Newcastle for the use of the copper plates from which blocks of Chollerton and Kirkheaton churches have been prepared, and to Messrs. Andrew Reid & Co., Ltd., for Carmichael's view of the old house at Beaufront. They are indebted to the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle and to Professor Lebour for some blocks, and to Mr. Scott Bertram for some drawings. The photogravure engravings and other illustrations have been prepared from photographs taken by Mr. J. P. Gibson, whose help the Committee desire to acknowledge in the fullest manner.

The following landowners have permitted very free use to be made of their muniments of title: The Duke of Northumberland, the Dean and Chapter of Durham, Sir Edward Blackett, Sir John Haggerston, Captain Atkinson, Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont, Mr. A. J. Blackett-Ord, Mr. Harold Cuthbert, Mr. J. B. Clayton, Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett, Miss Hedley, Mr. H. T. Morton, Miss Murray, Mr. J. G. Riddell, Mr. Thomas Sample, Mr. J. C. Straker, Mr. Jos. H. Straker, and Mr. Thomas Taylor.

The Clerk of the Peace for Northumberland, Messrs. Clayton & Gibson as representing the trustees of the Errington estates, Messrs. Dees & Thompson and Messrs. R. & W. & J. Gibson representing Mr. Beaumont, Messrs. Leadbitter & Harvey, Messrs. Stanton & Atkinson, Mr. Robt. G. Bolam of Berwick, Mr. W. Bolam of Newcastle, Mr. T. J. Armstrong, Messrs. Cooper & Goodger, Mr. Thomas Rowell, and Mr. L. C. Lockhart, have given access to documents, surveys, and deeds in their possession.

To Mr. L. C. Lockhart, Mr. Thos. Bosworth, Mr. Wm. Brown of Arncliffe, Mr. Thomas Taylor, Dr. Arnison, Mr. Geo. Dickinson, Mr. J. P. Gibson, and Mr. R. C. Hedley, who have read either the whole or some part of the proofs, the Editor desires to express his personal obligation, not only for the detection of clerical errors, but for the many valuable emendations and notes they have supplied.

The following clergy, incumbents of benefices, etc., have permitted free access to the registers and parochial records in their official custody: the Rev. H. A. Betteson of Kirkheaton, the late Rev. C. Bird of Chollerton, the Rev. P. T. Lee of Birtley, the Rev. R. E. Mason of Allendale, the Rev. R. Nenci of Great Swinburn, the Rev. F. Pickup of Ninebanks, the Rev. F. Richardson of Corbridge, the Rev. W. Sisson of Slaley, and the Rev. C. P. Sherman of St. John Lee.

For full and ready help rendered in constructing the pedigrees, the Editor is indebted to Mr. H. F. Burke (*Somerset Herald*), the Rev. E. H. Adamson, the Rev. Cuthbert Adamson, Mr. H. A. Adamson, Mr. Lawrence Adamson, the Rev. Johnson Baily, the Rev. Matthew Forster, Mr. J. T. Howe of the Probate Court in Durham, Mr. Jos. A. Philipson, Mr. J. G. Riddell, Mrs. George Dalston Shafto, and Mr. Carrick Watson.

V.4

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
PREFACE	v
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS	xi
ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA	xii
LISTS OF COMMITTEE, GUARANTORS, DONORS, AND SUBSCRIBERS	xiii

HEXHAM PARISH.

EAST AND WEST COMMONS AND HEXHAM TOWNSHIP	1
THE WEST QUARTER	8
WHITLEY CHAPEL	25
THE LOW QUARTER	31
THE MIDDLE QUARTER	48
THE HIGH QUARTER	64
HEXHAM AND ALLENDALE COMMONS	71

ALLENDALE PARISH.

ALLENDALE PARISH	74
ALLENDALE CHURCH	77
ALLENDALE TOWN GRIEVESHIP	88
CATTON AND BROADSIDE GRIEVESHIP	93
KEENLEY GRIEVESHIP	96
THE PARK GRIEVESHIP	98
HIGH AND LOW FOREST GRIEVESHIPS	98
WEST ALLENDALE	109
NINEBANKS TOWER	111
WEST ALLEN GRIEVESHIP	115

THE PARISH OF ST. JOHN LEE.

THE PARISH OF ST. JOHN LEE	125
THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN LEE	127
ACOMB TOWNSHIP	135
ANICK AND ANICK GRANGE TOWNSHIPS	149
FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP	155
THE ROMAN WALL... ..	160
WALL TOWNSHIP	160
THE ROMAN BRIDGE	164
COCKLAW TOWNSHIP	175
THE BATTLE OF HEFENFELTH	176
COCKLAW TOWER	180
SANDHOE TOWNSHIP	198
PORTGATE TOWNSHIP... ..	211

	PAGE.
WATLING STREET	214
BINGFIELD TOWNSHIP	220
HALLINGTON TOWNSHIP	238

CHOLLERTON PARISH.

CHOLLERTON PARISH	245
GEOLOGY OF CHOLLERTON, KIRKHEATON AND THOCKRINGTON PARISHES ...	246
CHOLLERTON TOWNSHIP	253
CHOLLERTON CHURCH	261
SWINBURN AND COLWELL TOWNSHIP	272
WEST (OR GREAT) SWINBURN	272
SWINBURN CASTLE	279
COLWELL	280
TONE AND COWDEN	296
WHITESIDE LAW TOWNSHIP	301
EAST (OR LITTLE) SWINBURN TOWNSHIP	302
LITTLE SWINBURN TOWER	302
BARRASFORD TOWNSHIP	310
GUNNERTON TOWNSHIP... .. .	318
CHIPCHASE TOWNSHIP	329
CHIPCHASE TOWER	333
BIRTLEY TOWNSHIP	351
BIRTLEY CHURCH	357
BUTELAND AND BROOMHOPE TOWNSHIPS	363

KIRKHEATON CHAPELRY.

KIRKHEATON CHAPELRY	376
KIRKHEATON CHAPEL	384

THOCKRINGTON PARISH.

THOCKRINGTON PARISH	387
THOCKRINGTON TOWNSHIP	387
THOCKRINGTON CHURCH	390
CARRYCOATS TOWNSHIP	403
SWEETHOPE TOWNSHIP	408
LITTLE BAVINGTON TOWNSHIP	411

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX I.	426
APPENDIX II.	427
INDEX	431

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

	PAGE.
Hefenfelth	<i>frontispiece</i>
Map	I
East Window of Whitley Chapel	25
Linnels Bridge	32
Inscribed Stone of Linnels Bridge	33
Windows at Dotland Park	40
The Queen's Cave at Dipton	48
The Old Chapel of Allendale	78
Ninebanks Tower in 1826	112
Ninebanks Tower	114
The Old Chapel of St. John Lee	130
Grave Cover at St. John Lee	130
Socket of Sanctuary Cross	135
The 'Written Rock'	155
Vallum near Portgate	161
Centurial Stone... .. .	164
Abutment of Roman Bridge	165
Plan of Roman Bridge	166
Details of Roman Bridge	168
Ancient Grave at Chollerford	169
View of Cocklaw Tower	181
Entrance Passage in Cocklaw Tower	182
Ground Plan and Elevation of Cocklaw Tower... .. .	182
Interior of Cocklaw Tower, showing coloured plaster work	184
Beaufront (<i>circa</i> 1826)	198
Beaufront (1897)	206
Stagshaw Chapel	208
Geological Section at Great Bavington	249
" " Gunnerton Crag	250
" " Course of North Tyne at Chipchase	251
" " " " Wark	252
Ground Plan of Chollerlerton Church	262
Fonts at Chollerlerton	263, 264
Interior of Chollerlerton Church	264
Grave Covers at Chollerlerton	265
View of Chollerlerton Church in 1826	268
Swinburn Standing Stone	273
Seventeenth and eighteenth-century buildings at Swinburn Castle	282, 283
Remains of Colwell Chapel	290
Little Swinburn Tower in 1828	302

	PAGE.
Swinburne Seals	306, 308
Plan of British Village or Gunner Peak	312
Hut Circle on Gunner Peak	314
The 'Head-house' of Barrasford	316
Chipchase, East Front	330
Chipchase Tower	332
Elevation, Section, and Ground Plans of Chipchase Tower	334
Porch at Chipchase Castle	336
Mantelpiece at Chipchase Castle	338
Querns found near Birtley	352
Cup-marked Stones found near Birtley	353
Ground Plan of Birtley Church	357
Chancel Arch of Birtley Church	358
Pre-Conquest Stone at Birtley	359
Sketch of Birtley Tower	361
View of Kirkheaton Chapel in 1828	385
Manor (or Parsonage) House at Kirkheaton	386
View of Thockrington Church	391
Ground Plan of Thockrington Church... ..	392
Chancel Arch at Thockrington Church	393
Grave Covers at Thockrington	394

ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

- Page 176, line 19, *for* 'HEFENFELD' *read* 'HEFENFELTH.'
- Page 193, line 25, *for* 'the Fernor family' *read* 'the Fermor and Smyth families.'
- Page 229, Capper pedigree, *for* 'Horatio,' daughter and co-heiress of James Slade, *read* 'Horatia.'
- Page 251, line 30, *for* 'tropozoidal' *read* 'trapezoidal.'
- Page 303, line 12, *for* 'jam' *read* 'jamb.'
- Page 369. Since the pedigree of Widdrington of Buteland was printed off evidence has been discovered to prove that Henry Widdrington (whose name stands at the top of the table) was son of Benjamin and grandson of Sir Ephraim Widdrington.
- Page 419, SHAFTO PEDIGREE :
- (a) *For* 'William Henry Shafto of Little Bavington, son and heir, succeeded to estate on death of his uncle, Charles Cuthbert Shafto,' etc., *read* 'William Henry Shafto of Little Bavington, living in 1897, succeeded to estate on the death of his father in 1876; married in 1856 Anne Lee, daughter of Francis Valentine Lee of Boraston, Salop.'
- (b) *For* 'Evelyne Shafto' *read* 'Mary Evelyn Shafto.'
- (c) *For* 'Sylvester James Green' *read* 'Reginald George Grene, second son of George Grene of Powerstown, Clonmel, married 14th November, 1879.'

HISTORY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

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D.

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Q.

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R.

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 Shotley Bridge Book Club, Shotley Bridge.

- Sidney, M. W., Blyth.
Signet Library, Edinburgh.
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Skelly, George, Market Place, Alnwick.
Slater, Rev. Henry, Goathland, Bournemouth.
Smythe, W. F., 14, Side, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Smith, Eustace, Benton House.
Smith, George, Gosforth.
Smith, H. Crawford, High Cross House, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Smith, Honourable W. T. D., 3, Grosvenor Place, London.
Smith, Launcelot C., 22, St. Mary's Place, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Smith, Mark, Alnwick.
Smith, Thos. Taylor, Broadwood Park, Durham.
Smith, Wm., Barrasford.
Sneyd-Kynnersley, H. F., 7, Grosvenor Villas, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Snowball, F. J., Seaton Burn House.
Snowdon, W. F., 32, Side, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society, Taunton Castle.
Sothoran, H., & Co., 140, Strand, London, W.C.
Southern, J. T., Jesmond Gardens, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Spalding, J. T., 22, Villa Road, Nottingham.
Spence, C. J., South Preston Lodge, North Shields.
Spencer, John, Whorlton Hall.
Spencer, Ralph, Walbottle Hall.
Spencer, T. W., Newbiggin House, Kenton.
Squire, Edward, Arnside House, Grosvenor Road, Jesmond.
Stechert, G. E., 2, Star Yard, Carey Street, London.
Steel, Thomas, Kensington Esplanade, Sunderland.
Stephenson, N., 8, Ivy Road, Gosforth.
Stevenson, A. S., Oatlands Mere, Weybridge, Surrey.
Stobart, W. Culley, Spillow Hills, Leeds.
Storey, Ralph Storey, Beanley.
Straker, Joseph, Dipton House, Riding Mill.
Straker, J. C., The Leazes, Hexham.
Straker, J. H., Howden Dene, Corbridge.
Straker, Mrs., Stagshaw House.
Straughan, Thomas, Rennington House, Alnwick.
Sunderland Free Library, Sunderland.

Sunderland Literary Society, Sunderland.
 Sutherland, Charles J., M.D., Dacre House, Laygate Lane, South Shields.
 Sutton, Wm., Eskbank, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 Swan, H. F., North Jesmond, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 Swan, Robert, 7, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London.
 Swinburne, Sir John, Bart., Capheaton.

T.

Tate, George, Brotherwick.
 Tate, John, Oaklands, Alnwick.
 Tate, Robert M., 5, Percy Gardens, Tynemouth.
 Tate, Thomas, Allerburn, Alnwick.
 Taylor, Hugh, Finchley Church End, London.
 Taylor, Mrs. Hugh, Finchley Church End, London.
 Taylor, Reverend E. J., St. Cuthbert's, Durham.
 Taylor, Reverend W., Whittingham
 Taylor, Thomas, Chipchase Castle.
 Tempest, Mrs., Broughton Hall, Skipton-in-Craven, Yorkshire.
 Thew, A. H., Belvedere, Alnwick.
 Thew, Edward, Birling House, Warkworth.
 Thorburn, Henry William, Craddock Villa, Bishop Auckland.
 Thorne, T., Blackett Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 Thornton, T., Cornhills, Kirkwelpington.
 Thorp, Reverend Charles F., Beadnell Vicarage.
 Thorp, W. T., Charlton Hall, Chathill.
 Thorp, Mrs., Dene Head House, Ryton.
 Tidswell, T. H., North Woodlands, Benton.
 Thompson, Arthur, Warkworth.
 Thompson, Executors of the late John, Simonside Lodge, South Shields.
 Thompson, G. H., Baileygate, Alnwick.
 Thompson, Joseph, North Dene, Gateshead.
 Thompson, Joseph, Jun., 6, Eslington Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 Thompson, Mrs. A., Hollyhurst, Winlaton-on-Tyne.
 Thompson, Mrs., Walworth Hall, Darlington.
 Todd, J. Stanley, 39, Percy Park, Tynemouth.
 Tomlinson, W. W., 6, Bristol Terrace, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 Toronto Public Library, Toronto, Canada.
 Trevelyan, T. R., Netherwitton.
 Tristram, Reverend Canon H. B., The College, Durham.
 Tully, H. R., Piper's Close, Corbridge.
 Turnbull, Charles, 41, Bondgate, Alnwick.
 Turnbull, William, 12, Regent Terrace, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 Tweddell, M. R., Meophan Court, Gravesend.
 Tweddell, W., Chapel House, Walbottle.
 Tynemouth Free Library, North Shields.

U.

Urwin, R., Sherburn Villa, Fernwood Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Ushaw College Library, County Durham.

V.

Verulam, Earl of, Gorhambury, St. Albans.
Vick, R. W., Strathmore House, West Hartlepool.
Vaughan, Reverend A. C., Ingram Rectory.

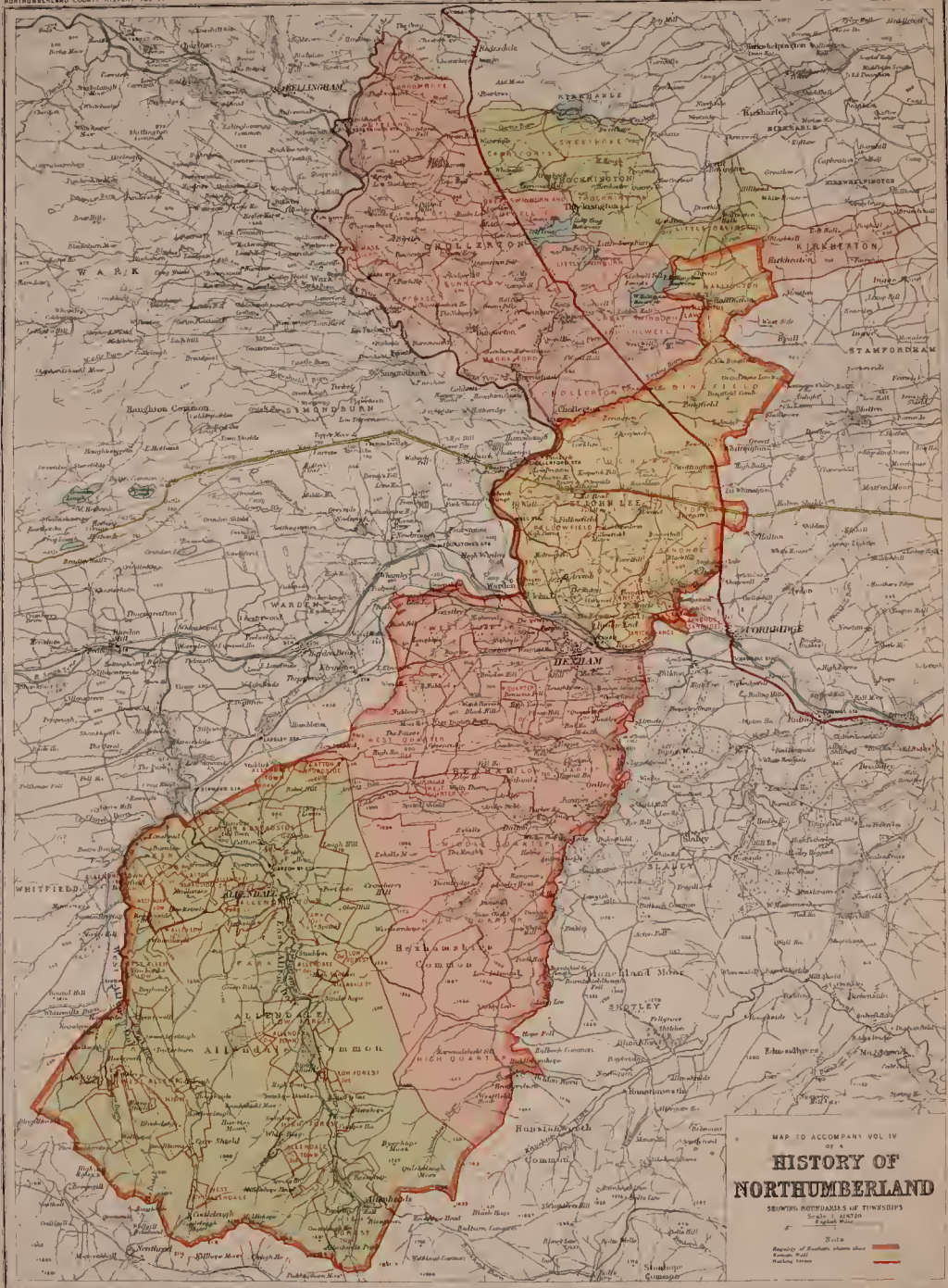
W.

Waddington, T. W., Eslington Villa, Saltwell, Gateshead.
Walker, J. D., 109, Osborne Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Walker, Reverend Canon John, Whalton Rectory.
Wallace, Johnstone, Parkholme, Beech Grove Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Wallis, Owen C., Crackhill Lodge, Kilsby, Rugby.
Walton, J. G., 100, Malcolm Street, Heaton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Walton-Wilson, J. W., Shotley Hall, Shotley Bridge.
Warde-Aldam, W., Healey Hall.
Ware, Harold, Threeewood Hall.
Waterford, Marquis of, Ford Castle.
Watson, Dr. Robert Spence, Bensham Grove, Gateshead-upon-Tyne.
Watson, Joseph S., Kensington Terrace, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Watson, Thomas Carrick, Glenbrae, Jesmond Park West, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Watson-Armstrong, W. A., Cragside.
Watts, F. Shadforth, 25, Ashley Place, Victoria Street, London.
Webb, William, 23, Newgate Street, Morpeth.
Weddell, Henry Herbert, Bank, Morpeth.
Weir, Robert S., 31, Linskill Terrace, North Shields.
Welford, Richard, Thornfield Villa, Gosforth.
Westmacott, P., Benwell.
Wharton, John L., Dryburn, County Durham.
Wheler, E. G., Swansfield House, Alnwick.
Whitfield, Robert, 5, Bloomfield Terrace, Gateshead-upon-Tyne.
Widdrington, S. F., Newton Hall, Felton.
Wightman, Mrs., Lovaine Row, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Wightman, T. W., Deaham Green, Trinity, Edinburgh.
Wilkinson, A., M.D., Tynemouth.
Wilkinson, Anthony, 25, Princes Gardens, London.
Wilkinson, W. B., 5, Ellison Place, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Williams, Reverend E., Rennington Vicarage.
Williamson, Sir H., Bart., Whitburn.
Williamson, John Arnot, Tynemouth.
Willoby, E., 24, Ravensdowne, Berwick-upon-Tweed.
Willyams, H. J., Barndale, Alnwick.
Wilson, G., 47, Old Elvet, Durham.

Wilson, Mrs. E. G. C., 9, The Oaks, Sunderland.
Wilson, William, 6, Osborne Terrace, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Wilson, William, 40, Hide Hill, Berwick.
Wilson-Todd, Mrs. W. H., Halnaby Hall, Croft, County Durham.
Wright, Nicholas I., Beechfield, Morpeth.
Wood, C. L., Freelands, Forgandenny, Perthshire.
Wood, Sir Lindsay, Bart., The Hermitage, Chester-le-Street.
Woodman, The Executors of William, East Riding, Morpeth.
Woods, James E., Low Gosforth.
Woods, William G., North Grimston, York.
Wooler Mechanics' Institute, Wooler.
Worcester Public Free Library, Worcester, Mass., U.S.A.
Wyllie, D., & Co., 247, Union Street, Aberdeen.

Y.

Yale University Library, New Haven, U.S.A.
York, Dean and Chapter of, York.
Young, Hugh W., 27, Lauder Road, Edinburgh.
Young, W., St. Leonard's, Berwick.
Younger, Mrs. Robert, Elmire House, Heaton Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.



A

HISTORY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

HEXHAM PARISH.

EAST AND WEST COMMONS.

THOUGH the limits of the regality of Hexham¹ have already been laid down in the previous volume,² a brief recapitulation may fitly preface the present chapter. Its constituent parts are as follows: the present parish of Hexham, as distinguished from the ancient and larger one, comprising the borough and township of Hexham, with the West Quarter; the parochial chapelry of Whitley, containing the Low, the Middle, and the High Quarters of Hexhamshire; the parochial chapelry or parish of Allendale, with its seven grieveships of Allendale Town, Catton and Broadside, Forest (High and Low), Keenley, Park, and West Allen; and the parochial chapelry or parish of St. John Lee, with its ten townships of Acomb, Anick, Anick Grange, Bingfield, Cocklaw, Fallowfield, Hallington, Portgate, Sandhoe, and Wall.

The last volume was devoted to the general history of the regality, to the priory, and to the town. The present volume will contain the history of those rural districts which retain to some extent their ancient dependence upon the mother church, though some of them are formed into separate parishes.

¹ In the regality and manor of Hexham, which includes the whole parish, there are many who hold their estates by copy of Court Roll, called copyholders; as often as these are transferred by mortgage or sale, the seller, in whose possession they are, delivers them to the lord of the manor, or his steward, by kissing a white rod; after that the bailiff re-delivers them to the buyer or mortgagee by the same ceremony, paying a small acknowledgment to the lord, Sir Walter Blackett; but turbary, quarries, and wood are independent of him. *Gentleman's Mag.* 1755. pp. 295, 296. ² Vol. iii. p. 1.

The township of Hexham has an area of 5,135 acres, of which, until 1755, four-fifths remained open and unenclosed. Its northern boundary marches 'along the wandering ways of Tyne,' but is so narrowly hemmed in by that detached portion of the West Quarter, named Coastley, that only a narrow strip runs up to the junction of the waters of the North and South Tyne. Some of the farms of the hamlets and farm houses are ancient holdings, but the greater number are the result of the joining together of allotments made when the commons were divided. The principal residential estates are the Beacon, Duke's-house, High Leazes, Okerland, and Sunnyside, and there are also several residences which stand within their own grounds in the vicinity of the town.

The East Common and the West Common were divided under an Act of Parliament,¹ obtained in 1752, whose preamble recites that Sir Walter Blackett was lord of the manor, and that the commissioners of Greenwich hospital held the estates of Langhope, Hackford, Bagraw, and Coastley. For the purpose of carrying out the Act, the following were appointed commissioners: Edward Collingwood of Chirton, George Shafto Delaval of Bavington, William Boutflower of Apperley, Michael Pearson of Newcastle, esquires; John Ord of Newcastle, Samuel Marriot of Morpeth, Hugh Boag of Ravensworth, William Robson of Wallington, and John Brown of Whitridge, gentlemen. The commissioners were ordered to make a survey of the commons; to allot in one plot contiguous to Yarridge, a full sixteenth part to the lord of the manor for his consent to the division, and to divide the remainder amongst the owners of free and copyhold lands and houses, according to a schedule of their true rental and value, for the year ending 31st December, 1752, that is to say:

As to such persons as are intitled to lands only, or to lands and a house or houses usually farmed or occupied therewith as a farm house or farm houses, then in proportion to the whole real yearly value or rent of every such farm consisting of land only or land and a farm house thereunto belonging, and constituting one farm; and as to such persons as are intitled to a house or houses, or a cottage or cottages only, without any lands thereunto belonging, then in proportion to one-half of the real yearly value or rent of such house or houses, cottage or cottages respectively; and to such persons as are intitled both to land and a house or houses, cottage or cottages, now farmed, held, or occupied therewith, but which hath been either heretofore held or occupied separately and distinctly from such land at separate and distinct rents, or are or is not taken or deemed to be a farm house or farm houses, then in proportion to the whole real yearly value or rent of such land, and in proportion to a moiety of the real yearly value or rent of such house or houses, cottage or cottages respectively, as the same were in the said year ending 31st December, 1752.

¹ An Act for enclosing and dividing certain wastes and commons in the manor of Hexham, in the county of Northumberland. 26 Geo. 11.

The award when made and executed was to be enrolled by the clerk of the peace for Northumberland, and deposited in the office of the Manor Court of Hexham, the clerk of the manor being bound to furnish a copy after the rate of twopence a sheet of seventy-two words. Two parcels of common at Kingshaw Green and Lamb Shield Lane were to be sold to defray a debt which had been incurred by the commoners about the year 1740 in defending their right of common. The Tyne Green and Miln Islands were excepted from the division, and were to be used and enjoyed as heretofore.

The two commons were found to contain 4,150 acres, and the award, made 3rd May, 1755, gave 20.4 acres to the lord for his one-sixteenth; set off various public and occupation roads; appropriated six parcels, containing together about 14 acres, for public quarries, viz., Tom Todd's, Oxenrods, Hackford bank, Lough Brow, Highford, and Glendue quarries; two public brickyards at Gallowsbank and Hackford bank; and, then, divided the residue in the manner prescribed by the Act, the total rental upon which the division was based being found to be £3,416 9s. 5d.

A mile from the East Gate at the top of the steep Gallowsbank, is situated Duke's-house in the midst of extensive plantations of oak, beech, and pine. It was built about 1873 by the late Edward Backhouse, a member of the well-known family of bankers of Darlington. Mr. Backhouse was one of the chief citizens of Sunderland, an enthusiastic naturalist, and a leading minister in the Society of Friends. He was author of a work on *Early Church History*, which was published after his death, with some additions by Mr. Charles Tylor of Brighton. Duke's-house is now the property and residence of his widow. It retains in the name its association with the duke of Portland, the heir of the countess of Oxford¹ and of the Ogles. Through the woods is the public footpath to the romantic Swallowship on the Devil's Water. A notice of this place is reserved for the history of Corbridge parish, of which it is a remote, almost a detached, portion.

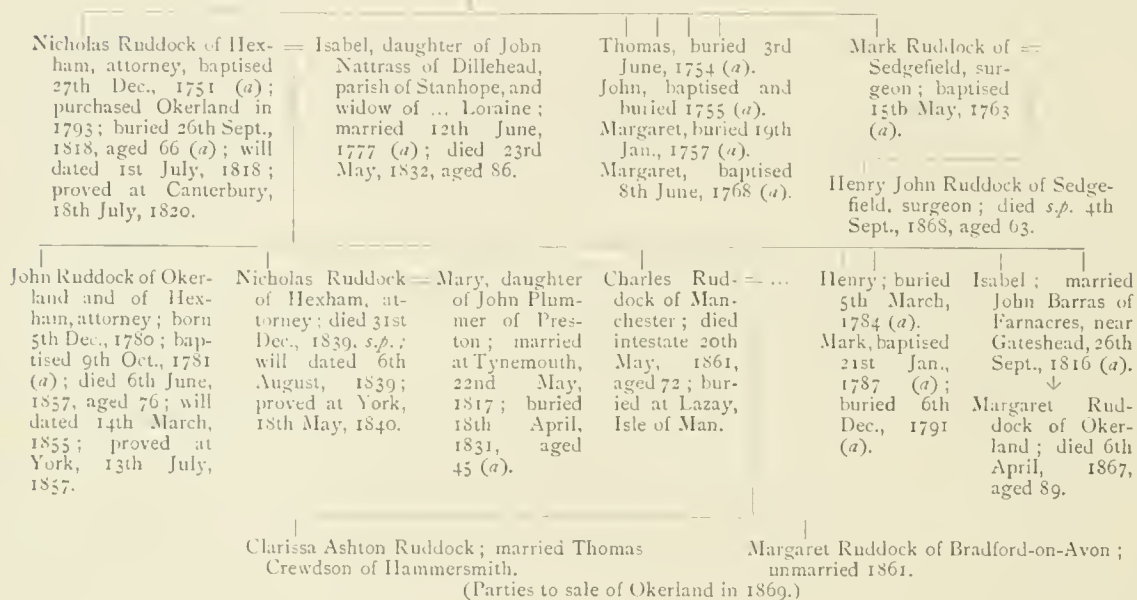
On the southern slope of the hill, between the Duke's-house woods

¹ In 1752 the countess of Oxford received in allotments of common, 241 acres, proportioned to her rental which was returned at £98 17s. 'In the duke of Portland's woods called the East Common, near Hexham, grows the upright, deciduous leaved whortle-berry or great bilberry-bush: the round, glossy, farinaceous, bluish-black fruit is esculent and well tasted. In the same wood is the round leaved sun dew, *Ros solis folio rotundo* [the *Drosera rotundifolia* of Linnæus]. Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. i. pp. 147, 221.

and the Devil's Water, is the beautiful estate of Sunnyside,¹ belonging to Miss Hedley, whose house is placed among park-like fields, enriched with fine oaks and hollies. To the west is the pleasantly situated house of Okerland, the land belonging to which has been made up by allotments of common acquired by the Quaker family of Marriot of Morpeth, who, after making it their home until 1793, sold the estate to Nicholas Ruddock.

RUDDOCK OF OKERLAND AND HEXHAM.

HENRY RUDDOCK of Hexham; — Margaret, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Lambton of Hardwick; married 12th Dec., 1750 (*a*); buried 4th Feb., 1788 (*a*).



(*a*) *Hexham Register*.

(*b*) *Sharp MSS. Pedigrees*, vol. ii. p. 87.

At the death of the last representative of the family, Okerland (which does not derive its name from the oak tree, but from the ochre found here, and used by the Hexham glovers) was sold in 1869 to the late Admiral Waddilove of the Beacon.

Adjoining Okerland is the Beacon, formerly known as the Beacon-house,² now called Beacon-grange. It was purchased from the Gibsons of

¹ Sunnyside is built up of allotments of common awarded in 1755 to Joseph Toppin of Hexham, sadler; Joseph Lazonby of Hexham, gent.; George Gibson of Westwood, gent.; Mary, widow of Anthony Sharp of Hexham, cordwainer; Robert Salmon of Hexham, dyer; and George Pickering of Nunwick. After changing hands more than once Sunnyside was purchased in 1848 by Mr. George Hedley, the father of the present owner.

² Armstrong's map, 1769.

Stonecroft by the Carrs of Eshott, and afterwards sold by them to the late Rev. W. J. D. Waddilove.¹ The High Shield was in 1700,² and for long after, the residence of a respectable family named Bell. In 1752 William Bell was rated at £16 for the Wester High Shield, and at £9 for the Easter High Shield, and received in respect thereof an allotment of common. The house is noted in Armstrong's map of 1769 as the residence of 'Mr. Bell.' An inferior kind of fuller's earth was worked here, and was exported to Newcastle to be used by skimmers and glovers in dressing and colouring leather.³ The High Shield now belongs to Mr. Thomas Welford. Below is a close, Maiden Cross, of which, in 1729, Joseph Tate died seised, and for which, in 1755, the churchwardens and overseers claimed an allotment of common. Other homesteads are East and West Peterel-field, the Watch Currock, and, at the extreme west of the township, Glendue. The latter, which belongs to Mr. Kirsopp of the Spital, still retains its very ancient name, which has the same meaning as Blackdene, Blaydon, and Blagdon.⁴ It occurs in a decision on the 21st March, 1535, in a suit depending between John Ridley of Coastley and the township of Hexham, touching certain grounds which 'went to the sike called the Glendowe.'⁵ At Hudshaw bank and Causey hill are lands belonging to the governors of the grammar school, and at Delicate-hall⁶ is a small holding belonging to the incumbent of Hexham.⁷

The names of the persons who for their free or copyhold tenements in Hexham township received allotments in the East and West Commons will be of interest. Where the place of abode is not attached to the allottee's name, Hexham must be understood; fractions of an acre are omitted, and in those cases in which the plot of ground awarded was less than an acre, an asterisk is affixed to the name.

Joseph Adderton, Penrith, tobacconist; * John Aiston, weaver; * Mary Aken, widow, 2; Barbara Allgood, Newcastle, widow, 11; Lancelot Allgood, Nunwick, esquire, 56; Robert Andrews, gentleman,

¹ An account of the Waddilove family is reserved for the parish of Woodhorn, where their principal estate is situated.

² Nov. 4, 1700. Inventory of Robert Bell the elder, of High Sheel, glover, deceased. His apparrell and purse, £5; household goods, £5; two kine, £4; three . . . £4; a parcel of hay, £3; debts owing to the deceased, £40; total, £61. The funeral expenses were £10. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

³ Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. i. p. 42.

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 400.

⁵ *Greenwich Hospital Deeds*, Coastley, No. 4.

⁶ Wallis, writing in 1769, notices that on the moor edge, near Delicate-hall, there was a plentiful growth of the procumbent, perennial-leaved whortleberry, *Urtica uliginosum*, 'whose bitter leaves used in the form of tea are accounted good against rheums and distillations of the head.' *Northumberland*, vol. i. p. 147.

⁷ Vol. iii. p. 258.

15; Thomas Andrews, clerk, 10; Francis Armstrong, yeoman, 4; William Armstrong, butcher, 7; William Armstrong, merchant, 3; Elizabeth his wife, for a moiety of freehold, late the property of William Ord, gentleman, deceased; * Joseph Atkinson, miller, 12; George Atkinson, miller, 9; Henry Atkinson, Haydon Bridge, husbandman, 1; William Atkinson, miller, 8; John Aynsley of Threepwood, esq., 62.

John Bates, Aydon White house, 1; Mary his wife, 17; Anthony Baxter, Lowless hill, feltmaker, 3; Thomas Baxter, hatter, 20; Christopher Bell, tanner, 31; Cuthbert Bell, tanner, 3; Elizabeth, widow of John Bell, butcher, 3; George Bell, yeoman, 5; John Bell, butcher, 2; John, son of William Bell, glover, deceased; * John, son of John Bell, tanner, deceased, 1; Joseph Bell, Ebchester, barber; * Robert Bell, skinner and glover, 4; Ann, his wife, for Woodley-field, 1; William Bell, High Shield, gentleman, 24; Joseph Bewick, weaver; * Stephen Bewick, weaver, 6; Sir Walter Blackett, bart., for all his lands and exclusive of his allotment as lord of the manor, 432; David and Thomas Brown, Dilston, husbandmen, 15; Richard Brown, Newcastle, cooper, 2; John Brown the younger, skinner and glover, 4; Jane Brough, Newcastle, widow; * Martha Burrell the younger, Broom Park, spinster, 1.

Ann Carr, Newcastle, widow, 4; Henry Carr, shoemaker; * John Carr, Knaresbrough, gent., 1; Matthew Carr, shoemaker, 44; Matthew Carr, joiner, 8; William Carter, wheelwright; * Edward Charlton, Reedsmouth, esquire, 7; Edward Charlton, mercer, 18; Hugh Charlton, yeoman, 5; Isabel Charlton, Whitfield, spinster, 4; John Chisholm, cooper, 2; Jane Clark, widow, 1; James Clark, Newcastle, merchant, 3; John Clavering, London, esquire, for Wester Hole-house, 5; John Cook, shoemaker, 15; John Cook, mason, 1; Joseph Cook, skinner, 2; Jane Cotesworth, Hermitage, widow, 15; John Craigg, Haydon, gent., for Summerrods, 7; Mary Craig, Corbridge, widow, 1; James Craswell, barber, 3; Cuthbert Crozier, butcher, 1; William Crozier, butcher, 4; George Cuthbertson the elder, Newcastle, esquire, 75.

John Davison, thatcher, 7; James Dinning, carpenter, 3; Bartholomew Dixon, Winton hall, Westmoreland, gent., 33; Walter Dixon, butcher, 5; John Dobson, surgeon, 1; Robert Dodd, barber, 16; Thomas Dodd, shoemaker, 1; William Dodd, shoemaker, 3; Shafto Downs, gent., 20; Thomas Dowson, hatter, 3; John, son of John Dryden, skinner and glover, deceased, 1.

Richard Ellis, gent., 30; Ann Elliot, widow, 2; William Elliot, yeoman; * John English, currier, 14; John Errington, skinner and glover, 1; Peter Errington, skinner and glover, 7; James Ewart, linen-draper, 30.

George Fairlamb, Hairlaw, yeoman; * Matthew Fairlamb the younger, skinner and glover, 4; William Fairweather, weaver, 1; John Fenwick, London, tanner, 3; John Fenwick, son of William Fenwick, deceased, tanner, 77; William Fenwick, tanner, 17; Henry Fenwick, linendraper, 2; John Forbes, merchant, 9; Martha, wife of William Forest, maltster, 16.

Thomas Garland, gardener, 11; George Gibson of Westwood, husbandman, 46; James Gibson of Great Whittington, gent., 32; Joseph Gibson, mason; * Joshua Gibson, shoemaker, 2; Richard Gibson, currier, 1; Thomas Gibson, Stonecroft, gent., 12; William Graham, clerk, 11; Greenwich hospital commissioners, for Coastley, Langhope, Baggraw, and Hackford, 276; John Grey, wheelwright, 2; Hannah his wife, 2.

Michael Harbottle, Anick Grange, husbandman, 10; Margaret, wife of Ralph Heppell, glazier; * Ann Heron, widow, 1; Isabella Heron, Gateshead, widow, 34; Jane, daughter and heiress of Robert Heron, Newcastle, merchant, deceased, for her lands at Summerrods, 'the Snape,' 94; Jane Heslop, Morpeth, widow, 3; governors of Hexham grammar school for Hudshaw 2 a. 1 r. 6 p., for almhouse 2 r. 32 p., for free school house 1 a. 3 r. 1 p.; Hexham curacy for lands at Delicate-hall and Smelting Sike, 6; Hexham lectureship; * Hexham churchwardens and overseers, 1; Hexham poor-house, 1; William Hewson, surgeon, 24; Margaret Hope, widow, 2; George Hubbuck, mason, 1; Jane and Elizabeth Hubbuck, spinsters, 3; Thomas Hubbuck the elder, hatter, 6; Thomas Hubbuck the younger, hatter, 3; Thomas Hudson, merchant, 2; Richard Hunter, Chollerton, 16; Elizabeth Hutchinson, widow, 1.

Robert Ilderton, gent., 12.

John Jackson, weaver; * Thomas Jackson, mason, 5; Elizabeth Jaques, London, spinster, 9; Robert Jefferson, shoemaker, 5; Thomas Jefferson the elder, tanner, for High Barns, etc., 58; Thomas

Jefferson, surgeon, 27; John Joblin, Broxbushes, husbandman, 12; Ann Johnson, widow 52; Edmund Johnson, tanner, 15; Edward Johnson, skinner and glover, 1; John Johnson, tanner, 53; Sarah Johnson, London, spinster, 2; Mary Johnson, widow, 26.

Edward Kell, 2; Thomas Kirkley, mason, 3; Dorothy and Isabel Kirsopp, spinsters, 7; John Kirsopp, merchant, 8; Matthew Kirsopp, tanner, 44; Wilkinson Kirsopp, tanner, 74; William Kirsopp, gent., 96.

Matthew Leadbitter of Warden, gent., 2; Joseph Lazonby, gent., 17; and for moiety of freehold, late Wm. Ord, deceased, 3; Jane, wife of George Leadbitter, tanner, 3; John Leadbitter, sadler, 7; John Leadbitter, Wharmley, husbandman, 4; Joseph Leadbitter, shoemaker, 3; Nicholas Leadbitter, the Bush, husbandman, 2; William Leadbitter, Houtley, husbandman, 14; Ann Ledgard, Newcastle, spinster, 5; Ann Lee, widow, 3; Anthony Lee, Newcastle, tidewaiter, 3; Jane Lee, widow, 3; James Lee, Newbrough, husbandman, 2; Margery Lee, widow, 4; Nicholas Lee, surgeon, 10; Thomas Lee, joiner, 15; George Lee, butcher, 5; William Lee the younger, Acomb, husbandman, 2; Lancelot Liddell, skinner and glover, 18; do. for allotment made to, and purchased from, Elizabeth Leadbitter, 3; Richard Lishman, joiner, 3; Robert Lowes, gent., 81.

Sarah, wife of Thomas March, 1; George Marshall, Wall Town, esquire, 17; Thomas Marshall, joiner, 2; John Mason, weaver, 16; Joseph Mason, weaver;* Thomas Mason, weaver, 1; John Maughan, skinner and glover, 29; Simon Mewburn, Acomb, gent., 7; Elizabeth Midford, widow, 2; Sir Ralph Milbank, Halnaby, for his lands at the Bush, 255; Mary, wife of Ambrose Miller, Shinkley, co. Durham, gent., 12.

Elizabeth Newton, widow, 4; William Newton, for the Birks, 1; Thomas Nicholson, Barrasford, husbandman, 2; William Nixon, shopkeeper, 3.

Margery, wife of William Olivant the younger, butcher;* Jane Oliver, widow, 13; William Oliver, butcher, 1; Thomas Ord, surgeon, 3; Henrietta Cavendish Holles, countess dowager of Oxford and Mortimer, 241; Henry Oxley, husbandman.*

Thomas Parker, Whitesmocks, yeoman, 10; Jane, wife of William Parker, the Shaw, 2; Matthew Carr, Abraham Bunting, John Bell, and William Lee for tenement in the possession of the Rev. Benjamin Peile, 7; Thomas Patison, Caton, Lancashire, yeoman;* Katherine Philipson, widow, 1; George Pickering, Nunwick, gent., 4; James Porteus, gardener, 2; Dorothy Puncheon, widow, 4.

Margaret, wife of William Raven, tanner (25 + 5 =) 30; John Ramshaw, barber, 4; Reginald Redchester, butcher;* James Renwick, gardener;* Robert Renwick, gardener, 5; John Rewcastle, 1; Edward Ridley of Burnhouse, husbandman, 1; Ralph Ridley, Newcastle, merchant, 2; William Ridley, barber, 5; Nicholas Roberts, Hexham abbey, esquire, 14; Ann, widow of Robert Robson, butcher, 6; Hector Robson, tailor;* Matthew Robson, dyer, 1; Matthew Robson, tanner;* Robert Robson, butcher, 3; Thomas Robson, mason, 17; William Robson, shoemaker, 2; William Robson, mercer, 14; John Rowell, Matfin Moorhouses, husbandman, 3; Philip Rowell, weaver, 2; William Rowland, hatter, 2.

Robert Salmon, dyer, 85; George Scott, carpenter;* William, son and heir of Joseph Scott, gardener, deceased;* Mary Sharp, widow, 5; Thomas Sharp;* George Shaw, Ingleton, feltmaker;* Edward Sleigh, Harper Town, yeoman;* John Soulsby, Newcastle, merchant, 2; William Spoor, butcher, 7; John Stall, shoemaker;* William Stawpert, Howshill, husbandman, 13; Peter Story, gardener, 11; Margery Stokoe, Humshaugh, widow, 4; Michael Stokoe, skinner and glover;* Thomas Stokoe, merchant, 3; William Stokoe, skinner and glover, 1; Sarah Stokeld, widow, 5; Catherine, daughter of William Stubbs, shoemaker, deceased, 5; Barbara Studholme, widow, 2; Cuthbert Swinburn the elder, tailor, 6; John Swinburn, clockmaker, 6.

John Tate, tanner, 1; William Tate, Morpeth, shoemaker, 2; Edward Taylor, staymaker, 1; John Taylor, whitesmith, 15; Samuel Teasdale, dyer, 13; George Thompson, Langley castle, husbandman, 4; Ralph Thompson, butcher, 1; William Todd (Land ends), husbandman, 16; Joseph Toppin, sadler, 22; Dorothy, wife of Robert Trueman, barber, 1; Henry Tulip, Fallowfield, gent., 20; John Turnbull, blacksmith, 2; Margaret, wife of John Turner, yeoman, 2; Joshua Turner, innkeeper, 8; Isabel, his wife, 10; Ann Tweddell, widow, 16; John Tweddell, hatter, 2.

William Usher, Delicate-hall, yeoman, 7.

Robert Vazie, gent. ;² William Vazie, gent., 5.

Judith, wife of John Wailes, Eachwick, yeoman, 2; Thomas Wailes, 2; Richard Wallas, tanner, 2; Edward Wilson, shoemaker, 3; Robert Wilson, shoemaker, 1; Ann Winship, widow, 19; William Wood, shoemaker, 3; Bridget Woodell, widow, for Orchard Gap, 1; for the Seven Roods, 4; Henry Wooler, wheelwright, 5; Mary Wray, widow, 1.

Clare Younger, widow ;³ Robert Younger, shoemaker ;³ Thomas Younger, shoemaker, 1.

THE WEST QUARTER.

The restricted use of the term Hexhamshire to the four townships of High, Middle, Low, and West Quarter does not seem to date from an earlier period than that of James I., previous to which the district was known as Newlands¹ and Rowley ward, while the wider term was used as co-extensive with the regality or liberty. The Rowley burn, which traverses and drains the district, may account for the second part of the designation, but no hamlet called Newlands is within its borders.

The survey of 1608 retains both the old and the modern designation, but does not recognise the present division into 'Quarters.' If the latter owe their origin to the operation of the Poors Law Act of Charles II., the statute must have been adopted and put in force at once, for we find in the Rate Book of 1663 the entries arranged under the four Quarters.²

The West Quarter, which was separated from the other three townships in 1764, when they were formed into a separate chapelry, has had, during this century, a population³ varying from 121 in 1801 to 311 in 1841. It ranges from 500 to 800 feet above sea-level, and has a rateable value of £3,357. The whole area contains 4,483 acres, but nearly one-half is cut off in four detached portions, viz., Coastley, 1,772 acres; Summerrods, 15 acres; Yarridge, 350 acres; and Hall Shield, 15 acres.

¹ From 'the forest of Newlands,' the following were the persons appointed to go to Berwick 'in the tyme of necessite when they be cald upon': George Hurde or his father, John Hurde of the Hones, Henry Stocoo, Hob. Grene, Rollande Redeshawe, Sande Armstrang, Thom. Armstrang, Thom. Robson or his son, Richard Swaldale, Willm. Whitehede, Gyb Erington or a man for hym, Thomas Rollande or his broder, Thomas Erington or a man for hym. *State Papers*, Henry VIII. vol. v. 681.

² No order of the justices has been found, but the following case which occurs much later may be analogous: The parish of Bywell St. Peter having so great a number of poor that it was not possible for two churchwardens and two overseers to do the business of the parish, obtained an order of the justices at the Midsummer Quarter Sessions of 1719 to divide the parish into four wards, viz., Bywell ward, Newton ward, New Ridley grieveship, and the Far Quarter, each of which divisions was to return one churchwarden and one overseer, and to maintain the poor within its own bounds. *Sessions Records*.

The parish of Ryton in the county of Durham was administered in Quarters in and before 1593, each division electing one churchwarden.

³ The Census Returns are: 1801, 121; 1811, 267; 1821, 243; 1831, 248; 1841, 311; 1851, 262; 1861, 257; 1871, 235; 1881, 209; 1891, 196.

The most important place within the West Quarter is the sub-manor of Coastley, which has Langhope, Bagraw, and Hackford for dependencies. The hamlet lies below the Langhope dene, on the left bank of the West Darden burn,¹ which, after flowing through Coastley dene, enters the Tyne a little above West Boat. Coastley possessed three fords over the river, whose importance is shown in the Order of the Watch in 1552. 'Every ward shall watch the three fords² under Cosely their course, one month from time to time changing at the month's end'; they shall 'be watched nightly by three men of the inhabitants of Hencottes ward and Cosely, the Westwood-house, and the Spittell.' Amongst the setters and searchers was John Ridley of Coastley.³

The earliest mention of Coastley is in a charter by which Geoffrey Plantagenet, archbishop of York,⁴ granted it to Robert Bertram, to be held in right hereditary, paying for rent 35s. yearly, and rendering the accustomed services.⁵ Soon afterwards, in 1236, the prior and convent of Hexham granted to Adam Bertram, son of Robert Bertram, and his heirs, the right to have a mill at Coastley or Langhope, together with the right of moult on his lands there as well as from the new land which he had obtained by grant from Archbishop Gray. For this he was to pay a yearly rent of 4 marks of silver to the priory, and one pound of pepper, or 8d. in lieu thereof.⁶

Of the Bertram family who thus came into possession of Coastley, nothing is known. It is not, however, improbable that Roger Bertram, mentioned in the *inspeximus* of 1298 as having given to the priory two fisheries in the Tyne and a place for drying nets at Dripintell⁷ and Foul, may have been connected with them. The Subsidy Roll of 1295 for the regality does not contain the name of any member of the Bertram family, but there is mention made of Roger de Coceley, who contributed the sum

¹ In 1552 Darnburneyes was ordered to be watched nightly with two men of the inhabitants of Coseley, etc. Nicolson, *Border Laws*, p. 172.

² Two centuries later it was said of the Hexham fords, 'the floods after rains and sudden thaws of snow sometimes come down so hastily, that they surprize and drown the passenger in an instant, or else, which sometimes happens, force him to take refuge on an islet, where he is at leisure to lament his situation, till the danger is over.' Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 93. The suspension bridge at the hamlet of West Boat replaces the ancient manorial ferry, and makes the fords no longer necessary: it was erected in 1826 under the direction of Captain Samuel Brown, R.N.

³ Nicolson, *Border Laws*, pp. 172, 173. Cf. in the night watches at the fords of the river of Tyne. *Border Survey*, 1541. 'At a forde called Crosseley (*sic*) burne fote ij, at a forde nere thereunto called the Rakes ij, at the forde called the ov³ Warden forde ij, at the forde called nether Warden forde ij.' Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 240. ⁴ He was archbishop from August 18, 1191, to December 18, 1212.

⁵ *Greenwich Hospital MSS.* Coastley, A. No. 3.

⁶ *Ibid.* No. 4. The same grant conveys lands in Grotenden and Todderig which Robert the father and Varedus the grandfather of Adam had held. ⁷ Query, Dripenstell. Vol. iii. p. 141.

of 11s.¹ The family had apparently been settled at Coastley only a short time previous to this date, though it is possible they were Bertrams who had assumed the name of their estate. In 1289 there is mention of Robert, son and heir of Elena de Cosceley. Though the Coastley family evidently took its name from the place, they cannot, at least under that name, have been in possession of the manor for more than 100 years, and during this period references to them are few. In 1324, Archbishop Melton wrote to his bailiff saying that John de Cosselay owed him 116s. 8d. annual rent for the land he held in Hexhamshire. The debtor pleaded, however, that he had been in ward during his minority, and had nothing with which to meet his liabilities. He therefore asked that he might be allowed to sub-let his land to various tenants, who would build upon, and cultivate it, so that he might gradually repay the archbishop out of the rents he would thus receive. The request was granted.²

The scheme devised by John of Coastley for relieving himself of his liabilities was not perfectly successful, and in 1331 he was again in difficulties. Upon this occasion the archbishop remitted to him his arrears of the ferm, amounting to £10 8d., as a concession to his necessities.³ On the 22nd of April, 1337, John of Coastley was succeeded by his son, of the same name.⁴ The new tenant in 1347 was engaged in a quarrel with the prior of Hexham about some cattle which he alleged the latter had taken from him. The bailiff of the regality was ultimately empowered to settle the dispute,⁵ but no record of his judgment or of the details of the case has been found. Soon after, at the beginning of the year 1350, the second John of Coastley died. The inquisition states that on the day of his death John of Coastley and Cecily his wife were seised of the manor of Coastley and its appurtenances,

¹ Vol. iii. p. 33.

² Willelmus, etc., Thome de Fetherstah' ballivo nostro de Hext' salutem, gratiam et benedictionem. Quia Johannes de Cosselay tenetur nobis in annuo reddito cxvjs. et octo denariorum ut creditur, pro terris quas de nobis tenet infra libertatem nostram de Hext', idemque Johannes se asserit fuisse in custodia hucusque ratione minoris etatis sue, propter quod nichil habet, ut dicit, unde ad presens dictum redditum cum arreragiis nobis solveret ut tenetur, et ideo nobis supplicavit quatinus velimus ipsum permittere tenentes recipere ut in dictis terris suis edificare valeant ac etiam habitare, ita videlicet quod quicquid colligi poterit de dictis terris et tenentibus nobis in partem dicti redditus persolvatur. Nos vero precibus suis favorabiliter annuentes volumus et tibi injungimus quatinus petitioni predictæ visis presentibus condescendas: ita tamen quod quicquid preveniat de tenentibus et terris predictis cum pertinenciis earum nobis pro dicto reddito persolvatur, et quod arreragia computentur et de eisdem nobis plenius satisfiat. Vale. Datum apud Thorp prope Eboracum iij Nonas Decembris, anno gratiæ m^o ecc^{mo} xxiiij et pontificatus nostri octavo [2 Dec., 1324]. *York Registers*, Melton, f. 419 a. ³ *Ibid.* f. 29 a.

⁴ *Ibid.* 439 a. '22 Apr. anno pont 20. A breve clausum de morte antecessoris addressed to the bailiff of Hexham, John, son of John de Coceleye, to show before Masters Thomas de Lelhom, Adam and John de Corbrig, and others, that his father at the day of his death was seised of a messuage in Hexham, and that the said John is his next heir. Approbatum.' ⁵ *Ibid.* Zouche, f. 295 a.

together with the mill there, to which Hackford and Langhope owed suit. The manor was held of the archbishop of York, at a rent of 38s. 5½d., and the tenant was bound to appear at the archbishop's court at Hexham every three weeks. The manor was worth 100s. per annum. They were also seised of five burgages in Hexham, which they held of the archbishop at a rent of 16d. a year, and which were worth 2s. yearly. John of Coastley, father of the John lately dead, and Johanna, his wife, had been enfeoffed of the manor of Hackford by Robert de Hacforth, and they held it of the archbishop of York at a rent of £4 a year, but it was then hardly worth so much.¹

The second John of Coastley left no son, and was succeeded by his daughter, Johanna. Provision was made immediately after for John's widow, Cecily, who was a daughter of Ralph Surtees. She was not satisfied with the portion assigned to her, and on the 23rd of July, 1350, the bailiff was directed to require her to give up all documents connected with the manor, and £20 of the goods and chattels of her late husband, which she refused to surrender. On the 19th of August of the same year² the bailiff ordered her to give up to John, prior of Hexham, 4 marks rent in Hexham and Greenridge, of which she had unlawfully dispossessed Thomas de Appleton, late prior of Hexham.³

The ultimate fate of Cecily de Coastley⁴ and her daughter, Johanna, is unknown, but it would seem that after their deaths the manor of Coastley reverted to the archbishop. A grant was made on the 26th of August, 1385, by Archbishop Nevil to John de Clavinging of all the lands and tenements of Coastley, Langhope, Hackford, and Bagraw, including Coastley-rawe⁵ in Hexham, being the possessions of the late John of Coastley. The lands and tenements were to be held during the archbishop's life, and the tenant was to give a rose every year as his rent.⁶

¹ *York Registers*, Zouche, f. 296 b. ² *Ibid.* f. 296 b.

³ Thomas de Appleton died in 1345. It is curious that this grievance should have been revived so long after his death.

⁴ 20th May, 1360. William de Kerdale, the prior, and the convent of Hexham demise to Cecily, who had been the wife of John de Coceley, all the multure of a certain tenement of Langhope and Costeley of all manner of grain growing there for her life: the rent for the three first years to be 6s. 8d., and 13s. 4d. yearly afterwards. *Greenwich Hospital Deeds*, Coastley.

⁵ The street in Hexham now called Fore Street.

⁶ 'Alexander permissione divina archiep. Ebor., etc., noveritis nos dedisse Johanni de Clavinging militi et haeredibus suis, omnia terras et tenementa nostra de Coscele, Langhope, Hackeford, et Bagrawe cum omnibus illis terris et tenementis cum pert. in Hextildeshame vocatis Coscelerawe infra libertatem manerii de Hextildesham. Quae quidem tenementa aliquando fuerint Johannis de Coscele, et quae quidem terrae et tenementa in manus nostras devenierint: habenda ad terminum vitae nostrae. reddendo inde annuatim unam rosam. Apud Novum Castrum super Tinam, die sabbati proximo post festum Assumpcionis B.M. 1385 (26 Aug.). Confirmata per Capit. Ebor., Sep. xxº, 1388.' *Reg. Test. Dec. et Capit. Ebor.* f. 92 b.

When mention of Coastley next occurs in 1397, it is in the hands of Richard de Scolacliffe¹ and Alice his wife, the daughter of Ralph Surtees. It seems certain that the Ralph Surtees who is here mentioned is the same Ralph Surtees who is named in the inquisition of 1350 as the father of Cecily, widow to John of Coastley, and that Cecily and Alice de Scolacliffe were sisters.

The new owners of Coastley did not long remain in possession of the manor. Richard de Scolacliffe seems to have died between 1406 and 1410, for a charter dated 24th May, 1406, is the last that bears his name in conjunction with that of his wife Alice,² and in the charter of June 16th, 1410, referred to subsequently, Alice de Scolacliffe acts alone. The only issue of this marriage, a son John, was away from home, and apparently his family had long been without news of him, so that they despaired of ever seeing him again. Consideration of these facts induced Alice de Scolacliffe to make over all her property to her cousin Nicholas de Ridley of Willimoteswyke in the parish of Haltwhistle on the 16th of June, 1410. Ridley was to pay his cousin an annuity of 7 marks of silver, and there was a provision that if at any time his kinsman John should return from the distant parts to which he had gone, the whole of the property was to be at once handed over to him.³ This agreement had been made without the knowledge or

¹ *Greenwich Hospital Deeds*, Coastley, A. No. 1. The family was connected with the place of the same name in the county of Durham. ² *Ibid.* E. No. 1.

³ Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Alicia de Scolacliff filia Radulfi Surtes dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea indentata confirmaui Nicholao de Reddeley de Wyllimoteswyk consanguineo meo manerium de Cosley, Hakford, et Langhope cum pert. in Hexhamschyre, necnon sex denarios redditus exeuntes de burgagio quod Simon Proktor tenet de me in villa de Hextildesham, sex solidos octo denarios redditus exeuntes de vno burgagio quod Thomas Vlquam tenet de me ibidem, tres solidos iij denarios redditus exeuntes de vno burgagio quod Wills. Fox tenet de me ibidem, sex solidos redditus exeuntes de vno burgagio quod Joh. Vlquam tenet de me ibidem, quinque solidos redditus exeuntes de vno burgagio quod Joh. Robinson tenet de me ibidem, necnon quinque solidos redditus exeuntes de vno burgagio quod Joh. Acum tenet de me in eadem villa. Habend. et tenend. predictum manerium, terras et tenementa cum pert., necnon predictis redditus exeuntes de burgagiis predictis cum pert. suis predicto Nicholao heredibus et assignatis suis de capitalibus dominis feodi illius, per servicium inde debitum et de iure consuetum imperpetuum. Et reddendum inde annuatim michi prefatae Alicie durante tota vita mea vnum annualem redditum septem marcarum argenti ad festa Sancti Martini in yeme et Pentecostes per equales porciones. Et si contingat predictum annualem redditum septem marcarum retro esse in parte vel in toto post aliquem terminum quo solui debeat per quadraginta dies non solutum, tunc bene liceat predictae Alicie in predicto manerio terris et tenementis cum suis pert., necnon in predictis redditibus exeuntibus de burgagiis predictis cum suis pert. reintrare illa quod pacifice habere et gaudere vt in primo suo statu sine calumpnia seu perturbatione dicti Nicholai heredum vel assignatorum suorum sive aliorum ipsorum nomine quorumcumque, dict. donac. et feoffament. inde fact. in feodo predicto Nicholao vt predictum est in aliquo non obstante. Insuper predictus Nicholaus vult et concedit quod si Johannes filius et heres dicte Alicie viuerit et incolumis redierit de partibus remotis quod bene liceat eidem Johanni vel heredibus suis in predicto manerio et redditibus cum pert. reintrare et habere, non obstante carta predictae Alicie et scisima inde liberata. Et ego vero predicta Alicia et heredes mei predict. manerium terras et tenementa cum pert. necnon redditibus predictis exeuntibus de burgagiis predictis cum pert. predicto Nicholao heredibus et assignatis suis ut predictum est contra omnes gentes warantabimus acquietabimus et imperpetuum defendemus.

consent of the archbishop of York, but on the 13th of June, 1411, Ridley received a pardon from Archbishop Bowett for his transgression, together with a confirmation of his title to the estate.¹ John de Scolacliffe never returned to claim his inheritance, and the Ridleys were left in undisputed possession of Coastley.

The time during which the Ridleys owned Coastley was uneventful. In April, 1434, Patrick Laverock and Juliana his wife released to John Ridley, son of Nicholas Ridley of Willimoteswick, all claims they had or might have upon the manor of Coastley, Hackford, and Langhope. Juliana was evidently more concerned in the transaction than her husband, but it is not clear whether she was acknowledging the repayment of a mortgage, or whether she had some claim on the estate as the heir of the missing John de Scolacliffe.²

That there was a considerable population in Coastley at this time is shown by the muster roll of 1538. Five men, including John and Thomas Ridley, are there set down as able with both horse and harness; sixteen men are able but with neither horse nor harness, and two men are unable, making a total of twenty-three men in all. These figures will be better appreciated when it is stated that the same muster roll contains only thirty-three names under Acomb, and twenty-four under Wall.

COSLE MUSTER ROLL, 1538.³

John Ridle, Thomas Stonson, John Barber, Gerrard Prodin, Thomas Ridlee, able with hors and harnes. John Stonson, Roland Stokell, Edmund Robson, Anton Deconson, Willm. Stokell, John Colson, John Nowbyll, Lawrence Redle, Umfray Stokell, Georg Sperk, Georg Sperk, Thomas Welson, John Welson, Matho Witfeld, Anton Ferrauler, Laure Wilkynson, naither hors nor harnes. Herre Bredword, Here Stokell, unable.

The inquisition *post mortem* of the fourth John Ridley of Coastley in 1579 shows that the property had been increased since the time of John of Coastley in 1350. In addition to Coastley, Hackford, and Coastley mill with five burgages in Coastley-rawe, Hexham, John Ridley owned Coastleyhope, divers tenements in Langhope, Bagraw, the Snape, a pasture called the Fenns near Dotland, two more burgages in Coastley-rawe, a burgage in

In cuius rei testimonium sigilla nostra partibus istarum cartarum indentatarum alternatim sunt appensa. Hiis testibus, Joh. de Eryngton, Alexandro de Federstanhalgh, Ricardo de Riddeschawe, Thoma Hunter, Willelmo de Riddeschawe, seniore, Thoma Crane, Thoma Forster, jun., Willelmo Dikson, et alijs. Datum sextodecimo die mensis Junij, anno Regis Henrici quarti, post conquestum vndecimo.³ *Greenwich Hospital Deeds*, Coastley, A. No. 9.

¹ *Ibid.* A. No. 12.

² *Ibid.* A. No. 13.

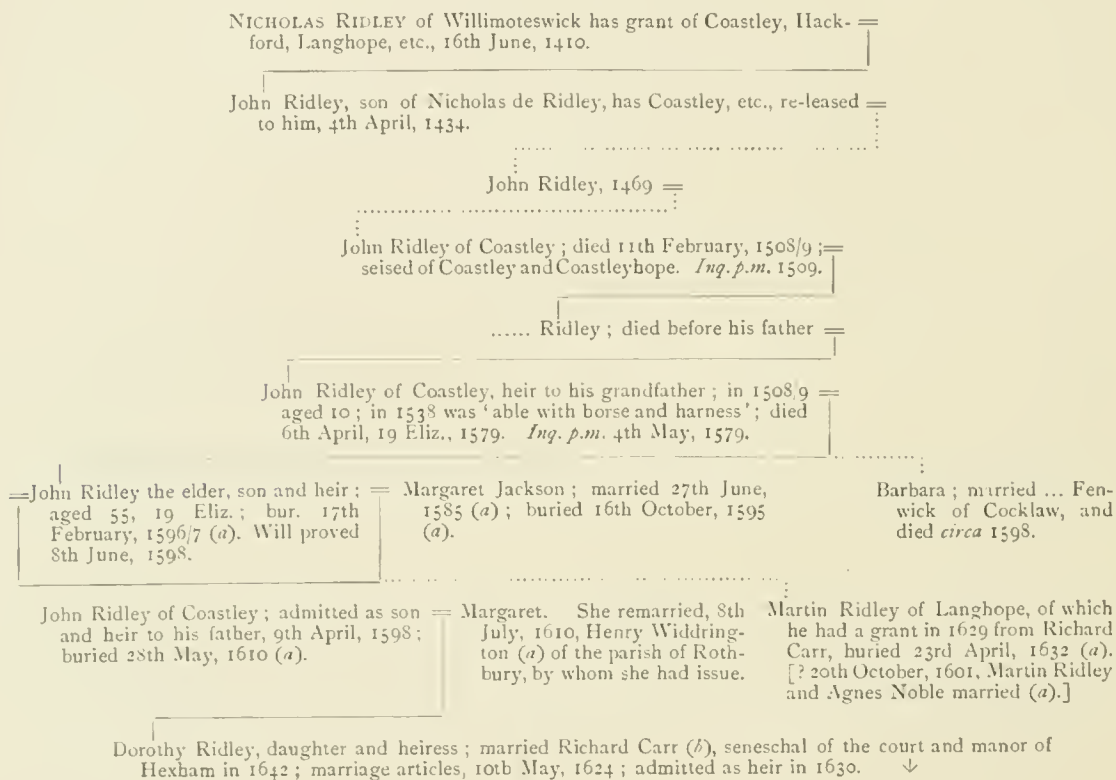
³ *Arch. Acl.* 4to series, iv. p. 190.

St. Mary's Chare, and another in Priestpople, a parcel of land called Botestile Leases, $10\frac{1}{2}$ acres of arable land in Priestpople fields, and half an acre of land at the Quicksand ford¹ near the town of Hexham.²

¹ Now known as Whitstone bridge.

² *Greenwich Hospital Papers*, Coastley, A. No. 16.

RIDLEY OF COASTLEY.



EVIDENCES TO PEDIGREE OF RIDLEY OF COASTLEY.

16th Dec., 1532. Indenture made at Hexham whereby Edward, the prior, and the convent of Hexham, and John Ridley of Coastley, gent., agreed to an exchange of lands. Ridley granted to the convent a place in Coastleyhope called 'Nobbok,' and obtained in lieu thereof a place in Coslerawe, with $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land in Hexham fields, 7 acres in the east-field of Prestpofle, called Wyndmylnstob, the corn tithes of Coastley and Coastleyhope,¹ etc.

In 1568 John Ridley held Costley, Hagkeforth, Bagrawe, Snape, Holehouse, Longeuppe, Vicerfeld, with lands in Hexham.²

8th June, 1598. John Ridley of Coastley, gent., renounced executorship of the will of Barbara Fenwick (once called Barbara Ridley). He shows a deed of gift of her goods.³

10th May, 1624. Articles of agreement between Henry Widdrington of Coastley, esq., on behalf of Dorothy Ridley, his daughter-in-law, daughter and sole beiress of John Ridley, late of Coastley, gent., and Richard Carr of Hexham, gent., being articles of settlement before marriage, of Richard Carr and Dorothy Ridley, whereby the

(a) *Hexham Register*.

(b) See vol. iii. p. 301.

¹ *Greenwich Hospital Papers*, Coastley, Nos. A. 15-18.

² *Feodary's Book*, lxvi.

³ Raine, *Testamenta Ebor*.

manor, capital messuage, and demesne lands of Coastley, and the water corn mill, then occupied by the said Henry Widdrington, and Margaret, his wife, mother of said Dorothy, the hamlet and lands of Costley hope, 'Langupp or Langehope,' Hackford, 'Baggereye,' the 'Snappe,' and lands in Hexham called Ridley's lands, were brought into settlement in such way that Margaret, wife of Henry Widdrington, should retain in lieu of her dower or widow-right a moiety of the demesne lands and of the mansion of Costley, with 'house-boot, hedge-boot, hay-boot, wayne-boot, plough-boot, and fier-boot,' together with the whole of the Snappe.¹

October, 1629, Coastley. Ad banc curiam compertum est per homagium quod ante hanc curiam quidam Johannes Ridleye de Coastleye generosus tenuit de dicto domino rege et fuit seisisus sibi et heredibus suis secundum consuetudinem hujus manerii de et in manerio de Coastleye predicto jacente infra libertates de Hexham cum omnibus et singulis suis juribus, membris et pertinentiis dicto manerio de Coastleye, aliquo modo spectantibus sive pertinentibus. Ac de et in diversis parcellis terræ eidem manerio spectantibus vocatis et communiter cognitis per nomina de Greenshawe-banke, Ellerbac-banke, Hawton-bill, Glendue, Glendue-banke, Greenshele, Abbey-hagge, Coastleye-hagge, Little hoalle pieth. Ac de et in uno molendino aquatico vocato Coastley-millne. Ac de et in uno tenemento vocato Coastley-hoope cum omnibus et singulis suis juribus, membris, et pertinentiis ut parcellis manerii de Coastleye predicto aliquo modo spectantibus sive pertinentibus. Ac de et in uno tenemento vocato Hackfourd jacente infra libertatem de Hexham cum omnibus, etc. Ac de et in diversis tenementis jacentibus in Langhoope cum omnibus, etc. Ac de et in uno tenemento vocato Baggareye jacente, etc. Ac de et in uno tenemento vocato le Snape jacente, etc. Ac de et in quadam pastura vocata Le Fenns jacente prope Dottland infra, etc. Ac de et in septem burgagiis sive tenementis jacentibus infra villam de Hexham in quodam vico ibidem vocato Coastley-rawe cum singulis, etc. Ac de et in uno alio burgagio cum pert. jacente infra villam de Hexham in quodam vico ibidem vocato St. Marye-chare. Ac de et in alio burgagio cum pert, jac., etc., in vico vocato Prestpopple. Ac de et in quadam parcella terræ cum pert. jacente infra campis de Hexham vocata Bobtestile-leeses. Ac de et in quadam clausura terræ arrabilis jacente infra Le Halliwelle-deane in campis de Prestpopple continente per æstimationem 2 acras terræ sive plus sive minus. Ac de et in $\frac{1}{2}$ ac. terræ jacente apud le Quicksande forde prope le dictam villam de Hexham. Ac quod Dorothis Carr jam uxor Ric. Carr de Coastley generosi est filia et proxima heres prefati Joh. Ridley quæ presens hic in curia petit admitti ad præmissum cui dictus dominus rex per senescallum suum concessit inde seisinam. Habendum, etc., Dorothis Carr, etc., in perpetuum secundum consuetudinem manerii. Reddendo inde annuatim dicto domino regi, etc., vi^{li} j^d ob., etc.²

¹ *Greenwich Hospital Papers*, Coastley, A. Nos. 15-18.

² *Hexham Manor Rolls*.

The long line of Ridleys came to an end with Dorothy, only child of the sixth John Ridley of Coastley, who died about 1624. Some time afterwards John Ridley's widow married Henry Widdrington, and Dorothy Ridley was married to Richard Carr,¹ who subsequently became bailiff of the manor in 1642. The Ridley property was settled upon Richard Carr and his wife with reservations in favour of Dorothy's mother Margaret,² and in 1630, they entered upon possession of Coastley and its appurtenances, which they almost immediately afterwards sold to Sir Francis Radcliffe.³

The manor of Coastley was one of the estates of Sir Edward, son of Sir Francis Radcliffe, which were sequestered; it was discharged on the 28th September, 1650, and 12th January, 1654.⁴ In 1663 Sir Edward Radcliffe was rated at £240 for his lands in Coastley, Westwood, Langupp, part of

¹ 11th February, 1629. An award between Edward Griol and others, tenants of Hexham manor, and Richard Carr, touching the right of common on Greenshaw bank; the right was awarded to the tenants.

² *Greenwich Hospital Papers*, Coastley, A. No. 18.

³ 11th December, 1630. Conveyance from Richard Carr and Dorothy his wife, and Margaret Widdrington, widow, formerly wife of John Ridley, to Sir Francis Radcliffe, of Coastley, etc. *Ibid.* A. No. 24.

⁴ *Royalist Composition Papers*, Calendar, part iv. vol. G. 18, pp. 892, 923.

Hackford, and Baggorap. It has since followed the fortunes of the Radcliffe estate, and was purchased from the Greenwich hospital commissioners¹ by the late Mr. John Straker.

Though the history of Hackford,² Bagraw,³ Langhope, and the Snape⁴ is intimately bound up with that of Coastley, Langhope has, to a certain extent, a history of its own. By a charter executed between the years 1215 and 1226, Sampson, son of Sampson, released to the archbishop of York all the rights in Langhope, which he had previously received in exchange from Archbishop Geoffrey Plantagenet.⁵ Some time later, about 1240, Adam, son of Adam Bertram, granted Langhope to Robert de Keneley, together with the right of grinding corn freely at Coastley mill. This grant was confirmed by Archbishop Gray.⁶ In 1303 Archbishop Corbridge granted Adam Ruskebasket of Hexham the land of Langhope and Jackley, paying 50s. rent yearly for the same.⁷ Archbishop Corbridge died the same year, but his successor, Archbishop Greenfield, confirmed the grant and reduced the rent to 2s., with a payment of 40s. for entry to the lands. The grant was made for the joint lives of Adam and his son.⁸ Their enjoyment of the property must soon have ceased, for in 1307 John of Coastley was summoned to do homage to the archbishop for Langhope, which contained 200 acres of land, and for which he was to pay £4 yearly. He appeared, but his homage was deferred because he was only newly enfeoffed, and the tenor of his charter was not known.⁹ From this time the history of Langhope is identical with that of Coastley.

The forest of Westwood is enumerated amongst the possessions of the priory in 1547,¹⁰ and in 1568 the queen held lands there.¹¹ It is named in the

¹ In 1805 the commissioners received rents from this portion of their estates as follows: Coastley, 412 acres, let for £261; High Wood, 181 acres, £115; High Side, 77 acres, £36; Langhope, 247 acres, £80; Bagraw, 137 acres, £50; Hackford, 113 acres, £61. There were also at Coastley 34 acres of woodland, and in Langhope 31 acres. ² There is a place of this name in the High Quarter, of which later.

³ There voted for freehold lands in Bagraw, in 1722, John Reid of Ulgham, and Stephen Coxon of Great Tosson, and in 1734 Robert Brown of Bagraw, and Thomas Ord of Davy Shield, but probably this place was near Rothbury.

⁴ John Tate was rated in 1663 for his lands at the Snape at £12; in 1702 it was held by John Tate a tradesman in Hexham, who also possessed a house in Dumfries (mentioned in his will made in 1697), as also a share in the lease of the Tyne mills. His son Joseph Tate was bailiff of Hexham, and died in 1725 possessed of the Tombshouse in Allendale, and was succeeded by his son a second Joseph Tate; the latter died in 1730. There voted for lands at the Snape, in 1734, John Robson of Boothill mill; in 1748, Thomas Reid of Walwick Low hall, and Robert Heron of Newcastle; in 1774, John Daglish of Hexham, Thomas Helmsley of West Acomb, and Ralph Spark of Hexham. The latter in 1769 held lands here *jure uxoris*, which in 1829 belonged to the heirs of Isaac Spark. The present owner is Mr. J. C. Straker.

⁵ *Archbishop Gray's Register*, Raine, pp. 275, 276, Surt. Soc. No. 50.

⁶ *Ibid.* p. 265.

⁷ *York Registers*, Corbridge, f. 94 a.

⁸ *Ibid.* Greenfield, i. f. 33.

⁹ *Ibid.* ii. f. 224 a.

¹⁰ Vol. iii. p. 84.

¹¹ *Fodary's Book*, lxi.

Crown grant of 1632 to Sir John Fenwick, and forty years later belonged to Sir Edward Radcliffe;¹ since that time it has always been the property of the owners of Coastley. The parish register contains numerous entries in the seventeenth century of the family of Ridley of Westwood.² In 1805 it is described as a farm of 151 acres let at a rent of £210, and there were also 13 acres of woodland.³

Summerrods, upon the Hextol burn, the second detached portion of the West Quarter, lies in a dene to which it gives its name. It contains 15 acres, and is only divided by a couple of fields from a part of Coastley. Sommerroodes was held in 1568 by Robert Lighton,⁴ and in 1631 by George Stokoe,⁵ and in 1663 George Algood and George Stokoe were rated at the large sum of £6 13s. 4d. for Summer Roads. Since then it has frequently changed hands. At the beginning of the eighteenth century Summerrods was held or occupied by Roger Craig, who in 1716⁶ devised his farmhold at Haydon to his nephew, John Craig of Summerrods, and mentioned another nephew of the same name, son of his late brother, Richard Craig of Dean Raw. The first named John Craig, also of Summerrods, died in 1721, and devised his lands in the barony of Langley, held under lease from Sir Edward Radcliffe, his lands at Light Brikes (*sic*) and the Leazes, and his messuage at Haydon, to his son John. In 1774 William Oliver of Chipchase voted for it, and John Nicholson appears in the Court Rolls of 1816, and voted for his freehold there in 1832. The present owners are Messrs. Henry and George H. Bell, who purchased it and some adjoining lands from the Rev. T. H. Stokoe, D.D., who was heir at law of John Stokoe.

The sharp ridge on which Yarridge stands, and from which it takes its name,⁷ divides the valley of the West Dipton burn from that of the Tyne. The homestead of High Yarridge, sheltered from the east and west by small plantations of sycamore, elm, and ash, has in view to the south the moors of Dotland and Blanchland, and to the north it overlooks the town of Hexham and the valley of the North Tyne. It is the third of the detached portions of the West Quarter, and was one of the earliest possessions of Hexham

¹ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 315.

² 23rd October, 8 Elizabeth. William Ridley obtained a grant from the Crown of 'Totum messuagium et tenementum in bosca vocat Westwood in Hexham shier ac herbagium ejusdem bosci. redd. vij^{li} vj^s viij^d.' *Add. MS. B.M. 5510, f. 37.* He also held Readswood, Hening-rigge, Tarret, and the Peels. *Survey of the Debateable and Borderlands taken in 1604*, pp. 54, iv. Edited by R. P. Sanderson, 1891.

³ *Report of Greenwich Hospital Commissioners, 1805.*

⁴ *Feodary's Book*, lxvi.

⁵ *Hexham Court Rolls.*

⁶ *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

⁷ See vol. iii. p. 18.

priory, to which it was given by Archbishop Thomas II. in 1113. In the Black Book of Hexham the prior and convent are said to hold six husband-lands at Yarridge, both of arable land and pasture.¹ Though it sent its complement of men to the muster of 1538, none of them was properly accounted.

YARATH MUSTER ROLL, 1538.

Cuthbert Stokoll, George Kell, Willm. Willsen, Edwerd Robson, Davet Robson, Ric. Herryngton, Thomas Forster, James Forster, Nicolles Little, naither hors nor harnes.²

In 1663, lands in Yarrage were rated to Mrs. Mary Fenwick at £10; but the value of the holding of the other freeholder, James Hasty, is not inserted. In 1713 it was held under lease, from Sir William Blackett, by William Bell, and it now belongs to Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont.

The fourth, and most remote detached portion of the West Quarter, is the Hall Shield, near the head of Ham burn, and situated on the Greenrigg Moor; it has an area of only 15 acres.

Nubbock, about a mile and a half due south of Langhope, stands on the summit of the ridge which forms the backbone of the West Quarter, and lies on the north side of the high road between Hexham and Allendale Town. Its ancient name was Jakele or Yokesley, and it is referred to in the great survey of 1608 as Yokesley or Nubbock. In early times it was associated with Langhope, and in 1303 it was granted, together with Langhope, to Adam de Ruskebasket. It is uncertain what became of Nubbock after this date. It is not mentioned as being in the hands of the Coastley family in the inquisition of 1350. It was ultimately acquired by the Ridley family, who parted with it to the priory of Hexham in 1532 under the following circumstances: the prior and convent granted to John Ridley a place in Coastley-rawe, with $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land in the fields of Hexham, 7 acres of land in Priestpopple fields, 1 acre near the same, and a yearly rent of 2s. They also granted him all his own tithe corn and the sheaves of Coastley and Coastleyhope, with the tithe of the mill there (which tithes he had received by grant from King Henry VIII., dated 18th April, 1531) for eighty years at a rent of 21s. In exchange, John Ridley granted the priory 'a place in Coastley hope called Nobbok,' and agreed to discharge them of the free rent thereof.³ At the dissolution, Nubbock came into the hands of Sir Reginald Carnaby, the grantee of the priory lands.

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, ii. p. 11, Surt. Soc. No. 46.

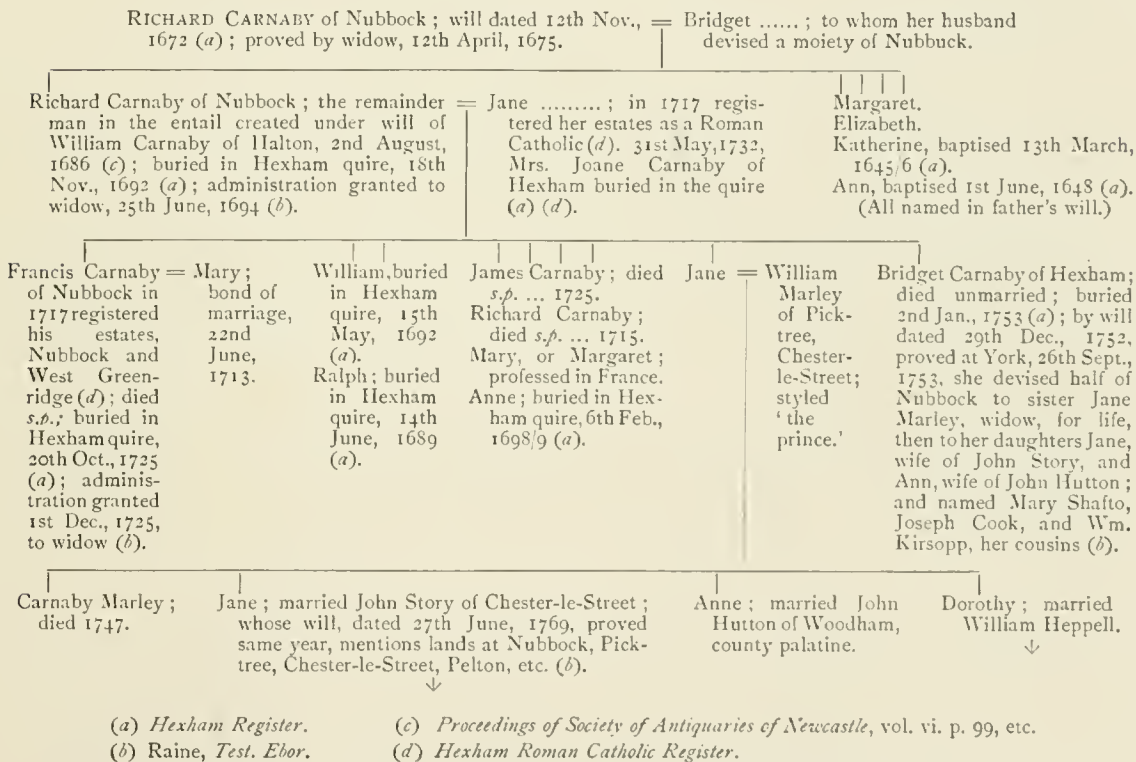
² *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, iv. p. 190.

³ *Greenwich Hospital Deeds*, Coastley, A. No. 15.

In the survey of 1547 it is mentioned as 'one close with wood called Yokesley,' at a rent of 20s. a year, and was in the tenure of Cuthbert Carnaby and Lady Carnaby, executors of Sir Reynold Carnaby.

In the Feodary's Book, in 1568, Nobbigge is entered as belonging to Cuthbert Carnaby of Halton; but in 1663 Nubbuck was owned by Sir William Fenwick of Wallington, under whom it was held as leasehold by a cadet line of its former owners, the Carnabys. There is no evidence to show the exact connection of either of the families whose descent is given below with the main line, but that the kinship was not a remote one is shown by the will of William Carnaby of Halton, who, in 1686, entailed his estate upon his brother, with remainder to his uncle, Ralph Carnaby of Chollerton, and then upon Richard Carnaby of Nubbock. It is possible that the Nubbock family was identical with that of Langley, the unexpired lease of which was sold or parted with in 1619. The present owner of Nubbock is Mr. J. C. Straker.

CARNABY OF NUBBOCK.*

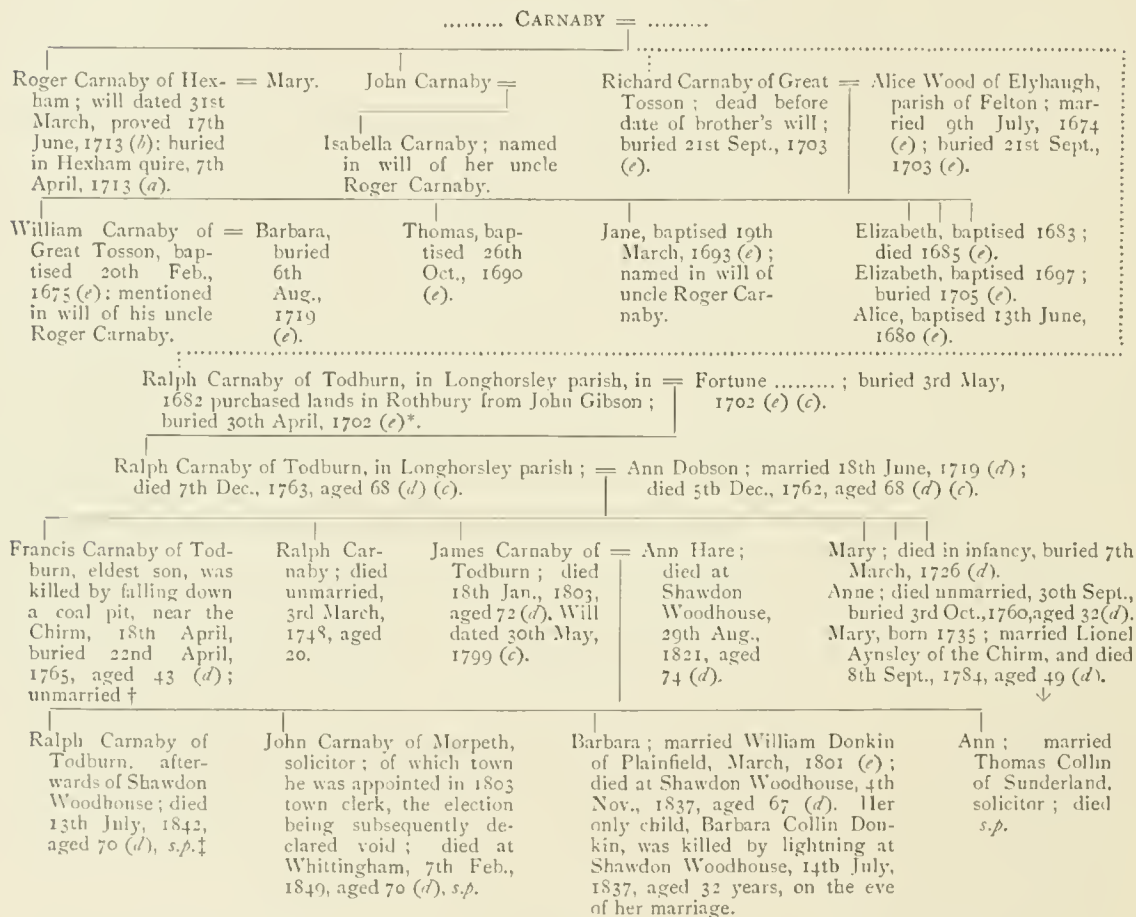


* This pedigree is based on one in the *Sharp MSS.* in the Cathedral Library at Durham.

'5th Feb., 1604/5, Thomas Usher, jun., and Barbara Carnaby of Nubuck, spinster, married. 29th Feb., 1651/2, Margaret Carnaby of Nubuck buried in church. 28th Jan., 1657/8, Frances Carnaby of Nubuck buried.' *Hexham Register*.

'12th Nov., 1672. Richard Carnaby of Nubbocke, parish of Hexham, gentleman. To my sonn Richard Carnaby the moyetie of my lands and tenements, called Yoakesley, *alias* Nubbocke, to him and bis heires, paying to Margaret and Elizabeth Carnabye, my daughters, 20*l.* each. To my sonn Richard 64*l.*, which he hath received, or shall receive, for wood which he sould to Mr. George Bacon toward the payment of 100*l.* to Mr. William Errington of Wallick Grainge. To my deare wife Bridgett the other moiety of Yoakesley, *alias* Nubbocke, with all the wood growing upon it. To my daughters Katherine and Ann Carnaby, each 20*l.*, to be paid after the decease of my wife. To my daughter Margaret Carnaby 50*s.* per annum, to be paid by my sonn Richard. The rest to my wife Bridgitt. She executrix. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

CARNABY OF HEXHAM.

(a) *Hexham Register*.(c) *Bell Collection*.(e) *Rothbury Register*.(b) Raine, *Test. Ebor.*(d) *Longhorsley Register* and M.I.

* 4th October, 1682, Ralph Carnaby of the parish of Horsley, presented for not coming to his parish church. At the sessions 29th April, 1685, Ralph Carnaby of Todburn, yeoman, presented as a papist or non-juror. *Sessions Records*.

† 'On April 19th, as a farmer and his son were riding from Netherwitton to Long Framlington, they unfortunately missed their way, and the son rode into an old coal pit, where he and his horse perished.' *Newcastle Courant*, April, 1765.

‡ Ralph Carnaby of Todburn was a man of so great stature and bulk that his boot is said to have contained a measure of corn. *Ex. inf.* Mr. M. H. Dand.

The following will of Roger Carnaby of Hexham, gentleman, dated 31st March, 1713, proves the connection of the family of Carnaby of Great Tosson in Rothbury and Todburn in Longhorsley with Hexham, though evidence to affiliate them to the older stem has not been discovered: '31st March, 1713. Roger Carnaby of Hexham, gentleman. To my deare wife Mary, £300, £20 of which is due to me by bond from Mr. Francis Carnaby and Mr. Richard Carnaby, both of Hexham; also my mortgage on a house called Green Harbour Court, nigh New Gate, in London, etc. To my nephew William Carnaby of Tossen, and Barbary his wife, £100. To my niece Isabell Carnaby, daughter of my brother John Carnaby, 100*l.* To my sister Mary Carnaby the interest of 100*l.* due to me on lands belonging to John Carnaby of Carlisle, plumber, for her life, and then 30*l.* of it to the said John Carnabye's children, 20*l.* to my niece Mary Carnaby, and 20*l.* to my niece Jane Carnaby, daughter of my brother Richard Carnaby deceased. To my sister in law Frances, wife of Thomas Liddell of Hexham, glover, 30*l.*, and 10*l.* to Francis Beadland, son of Thomas Beadland of Haggerston; and 10*l.* to my black boy Wandoe, my present man servant. The money due to me upon a South Sea bill to the children of my cousin Jane Carnaby of Hexham widow, my cousin Elizabeth Lisle, my cousin Mary Winsellow, daughter of my nephew James Winsellow, and my cousin Barbara Ord, spinster. The rest to my wife. She executrix.' Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

The adjoining hamlet, called the Paise, is situated between East Greenridge and Nubbock; and the Stubblick Sike there becomes the West Dipton burn. Though it contributed eight fully equipped men to the muster of 1538, it, together with the Hole-house, only furnished two men to that of 1580.¹

PAYS MUSTER ROLL, 1538.²

Robert Stokall, Edwerd Bleklok, Nicoles Bleklok, Nicoles Stokell, Thomas Raw, Thomas Bleklok, Willm. Bleklok, Christofer Daveson, able with hors and harness.

In 1596 John Ward had by letters patent a lease of the Paise for twenty-one years at the rent of 10*s.*, and conveyed it in moieties to John Stokoe and Edward Armstrong, who were the tenants in 1608. Though the Paise was rated to Ann Rowell, widow, at £11 in 1663, the farm-hold of High Shield Rigge, commonly called the Peas, was sold 29th August, 1670, by John Fenwick of Wallington to John Heron of the Peas,³ who answered at the Manor Court of 1673. He was buried in Hexham church, 30th June, 1699. Numerous entries occur in the parish register during the seventeenth century relating to the Herons of this place, but there is not sufficient material from which to compile a pedigree.

The will of John Heron of the Paise, yeoman, dated 4th June, 1699: 'To my wife, Elizabeth, £6 10*s.* per annum to be paid by my son, John Heron, out of my farmhold called the Payes, in lieu of her thirds and widow right; to my said wife all my household goods and utensils of household stuff; to my daughters, Ann Heron, Bridget Heron, Mary Heron, and Jane Heron, each £30. Residue to son, John Heron, he sole executor.

Inventory taken 19th July, 1699.		£	s.	d.
His apparel and purse, valued and apprizd att	... ..	6	13	4
In ye fore house: one cupboard, one press cupboard, one table, one forme, two old chaires, one stoole, one bedstead, with a feather bed and furniture, valued...	... ..	3	6	8
In ye little roome: one bedstead, with a feather bed and furniture, and an old chest, valued at	... ..	1	10	0

¹ *Border Papers*, Bain, vol. i. p. 22.

² *Arch. Acl.* 410 series, vol. iv. p. 190.

³ Documents with Mr. L. C. Lockhart.

In ye room above ye little roome : One table, one armed chair, one forme, one livery cupboard	...	...	...	...	...	£	s.	d.
In ye utter roome : two old bedsteads, with chaffe beds, happins, and two old chests, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	0	13	4
Pewter, brass, and iron gear, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	1	10	0
Wood vessells and other wooden goods, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
Linnen and woollen, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	3	0	0
Husbandry gear, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	5	0	0
Four oxen and two stears, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	17	0	0
Ten cowes and one calfe, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	23	0	0
One bull and four heffers, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	7	10	0
Seaven stirkes, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	6	0	0
Four draught horses and mares, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	11	0	0
Fifty ewes and thirty-four lambs, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	14	10	0
Fifty other sheep, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	14	10	0
Corn sowen and in ye stack garth, valued att	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0
Debts oweing to ye deceased, being desperate	...	...	...	...	...	15	0	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	138	15	0
Funeral expenses	...	...	...	...	...	10	0	0
Rests	...	...	...	...	...	£128	15	0

John Heron was succeeded by his son of the same name, whose wife, Margaret, was buried in Hexham church on the 27th June, 1705, and John Heron of Hexham in 1739 conveyed the same place in mortgage to John Reed of Chipchase (in trust for Matthew Leadbitter of Nether Warden, whose was the £800 advanced).¹ It is assumed that they were the parents of Elizabeth (daughter of John Heron of the Paise), who became the wife of Matthew Leadbitter of Warden.² Certain commons belonging to Nubbock and the Paise were divided under articles of agreement made 2nd May, 1781, between Sir Thomas Blackett, bart., the lord of the manor of Hexham, William Cuthbert of Newcastle, the owner of Nubbock, and Nicholas Leadbitter of Warden, owner of the Paise.³ The present owner is Mr. Thomas F. Leadbitter of London.

Greenridge is situated on the West Dipton burn, about a mile south of Nubbock. Like Coastley, it was once a place of considerable importance, for in the survey of 1547 it is called a township, and has a separate heading like the greater divisions of the shire. The same survey records the fact that it was burnt by the Scots in the time of Archbishop Bowet, and states that the property had belonged to the priory of Hexham, and had passed at the dissolution into the hands of Sir Reginald Carnaby.

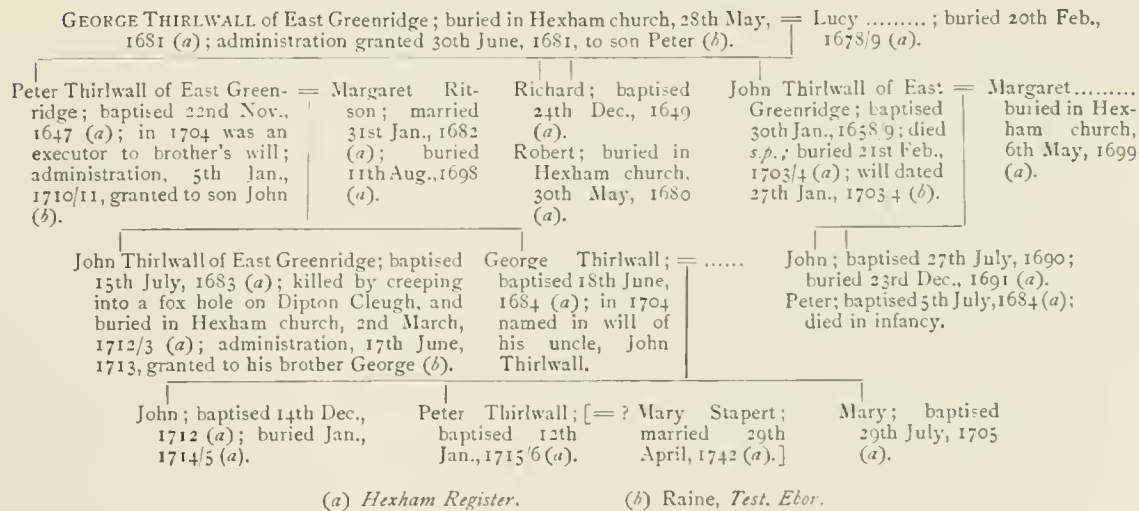
¹ Documents with Mr. L. C. Lockhart.

² Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 410.

³ Documents with Mr. L. C. Lockhart.

In spite of the evident importance of the place in the middle of the sixteenth century, only one earlier reference to Greenridge has yet been found. On the 7th of February, 1348, Archbishop Zouche granted a writ to his justices to try a suit between John, prior of Hexham, and John of Coastley about 4 marks rent in Hexham and Greenridge.¹ After the dissolution its importance declined, and it is referred to as a tenement in the survey of 1608. At this time also it was divided into two parts, known respectively as the Easter and Wester Greenridge. East Greenridge came into the hands of the Thirlwall family soon after the dissolution, and in 1591 Richard Thirlwall paid his fine to enter upon Greenridge, late in the tenure of John Thirlwall.² The estate in 1663 belonged to John Thirlwall of Newbiggin, who was rated for the same at £13 6s. 8d. It was occupied by a humbler line of Thirlwalls, probably farmers, four generations of whom are shown in the following pedigree. One of them met his death in a peculiar way, thus recorded in the parish register: '1712/3, 2nd March, John Thirlwall of East Greenridge, killed by creeping into a fox hole on Dipton Cleugh, buried.'

THIRLWALL OF EAST GREENRIDGE.

(a) *Hexham Register.*(b) *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

The will of John Thirlwall of East Greenridge, who died in 1704, and the inventory which follows, are interesting, as showing the extent of the effects of the yeoman farmers of his time :

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 2 n.² *Hexham Manor Rolis.*

In the name of God, Amen. I, John Thirlwall the elder, of Ester Greenridge in the county of Northumberland, yeoman, this twenty-seventh day of January, 1703, being sick in body, but of sound and perfect remembrance, praise be therefore to Almighty God, do make, ordaine this my last will and testament in manner and forme followinge: that is to say, first, I will that all my debts and funerall expences shall be payd and discharged by my executor hereafter named. Item, I give unto Christopher Thirlwall twenty shillings. Item, I give unto Margaret Witherington one ewe. Item, I give unto Elizabeth Carr, one cow, one cubert, one cowell¹ with all the other vessells standing thereupon, one kirne, one woollen wheele, one lint wheele, one standing bedd, one chaire, one chest and that which is in it, and all the bedding except two blancketts, two happings, one bolster, and curtains. I give her one rideing seat. Item, I give unto John Thirlwall, my brother's son, one maire, with the rest of my household goods, and my wearing cloathes. Item, I give unto Peter Thirlwall, my brother, one waine, with y^e rest of my husbandry geer, whom I make my executor. Lastly, my will and pleasure is that my oxen and sheep and kine shall be equally divided among these four, that is to say, my brother Peter and his two sons, John and George, and Elizabeth Carr, the cropp answering the rent, etc.

A true and perfect inventory of all the goods and chattells of John Thirlewall, late deceased, which he dyed seised and possessed of, now by us apprizd:

Item, horse, purse, and apparell	...	...	...	...	03	00	0
Item, brass and pewther	...	...	...	...	00	08	0
Item, pott, crooke, and tongs	...	...	...	...	00	03	0
Item, cupboard, bedd, & other wooden vessell	...	...	...	...	01	02	6
Item, wheeles and waine	...	...	...	...	01	10	6
Item, four kine, one oxe, one steare, one heffer	...	...	...	...	08	10	0
Item, fifty-six sheep	...	...	...	...	08	12	0
Item, bigg and oates	...	...	...	...	00	12	0
					23	18	0
Debts, funerall expences, and servants' wages	...	...	...	...	06	11	0 ²

Easter Greenridge, Cooks-house, and Whinnetly mill were surrendered on the 20th February, 1752, by Matthew Swinburn and Eleanor, his wife, to William Charlton of Reedsmouth.³ At the next court Mary Thirlwall, Mrs. Swinburn's sister, surrendered any interest she might have. The consideration money was £1,558.⁴ At the division of the Hexham and Allendale common in 1800, Edward Charlton was awarded 167 acres of copyhold land and 37 stints in respect of his estate of East Greenridge. It now belongs to Sir John Haggerston.

West Greenridge belonged in 1663 to Sir William Fenwick of Wallington, who was rated for it and for Nubbock at £40. In 1717 it belonged to Francis Carnaby of Nubbock, whose mother, as a Roman Catholic,⁵ in that year registered an annuity derived therefrom. On the 15th September,

¹ 'Cowl,' coul, a tub or similar large vessel, etc. *New English Dict.*

² Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

³ Enrolments with clerk of the peace for Northumberland.

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. 148.

⁵ Acts to oblige papists to register their names and real estates, 1 George I., cap. 55 and 3 George I., cap. 18. These Acts were repealed 31 George III., cap. 32. These registers were filed in the office of the clerk of the peace in duplicate, in parchment rolls and paper copies of the same; the latter bear the original signatures of the parties.

1742, William Brown of Greenridge, gentleman, devised his farmholds there to his son Gilbert. The latter voted for the same in 1748 and 1774. In 1800 Gilbert Brown of West Greenridge received an allotment of 215 acres of freehold land and 33 stints in satisfaction of his common rights on the Hexham and Allendale common. Unlike East Greenridge, which is bare of wood, West Greenridge is well sheltered with trees; it now belongs to Mr. J. C. Straker.¹

The history of the Spital and of the coal mines of Stublick, which are the only two remaining places of importance in the West Quarter, has been dealt with in the preceding volume.

WHITLEY CHAPEL.

The chapelry of Whitley comprises the three townships of the Low, the Middle, and the High Quarters of Hexham. Its present ecclesiastical status dates from 1764, when, through the action of John Sharp, the energetic archdeacon of Northumberland, it was severed from the mother church. These three townships, with that of the West Quarter, are co-extensive with the district formerly known as Newlands and Rowley ward.

A chapel, dedicated to St. Helen, is placed on a gently swelling piece of ground on the tongue of land above the confluence of the Rowley burn and Devil's Water. It is a rectangular building, with a three-light east window, pronounced by competent authorities to be of more ancient workmanship than the chapel itself. The earliest mention of the name of Whitley is in a charter of Archbishop Zouche, dated 28th May, 1350,² and it occurs there in relation to the mill. No chapel is mentioned in the list of such places of the date 1310,³ in the time of Archbishop Greenfield; nor do the Ministers' Accounts of the estates of the dissolved priory for the year ending



¹ Mr. Straker's Greenridge estate (which includes the farms of Nubbock, the Snape, and Stublick) was purchased in 1871 from the late Mr. William Cuthbert of Beaufront.

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, ii. p. 139.

³ *History of Northumberland*, vol. iii. 202 n.

Michaelmas, 1536, make any mention of Whitley, though they enumerate the curates of Hexham, Allendale, St. John Lee, St. Oswald, and Bingfield, as those to whom the prior had been used to pay stipends.¹

In his account of the charities of Tynedale, Ritschell states that :

There had been in old time a little chapel by the highway side which leads from the head of the shire to Hexham, where a branch of it turns off to the east to the Steel and Duxfield mills, dedicated to St. Helen, commonly called Whitley chapel,² which had been entirely ruin'd and was rebuilt by subscriptions sometime before the Restauration, to teach school ; and the neighbourhood to meet in upon occasion ; as is set forth, in the preamble to the said subscriptions, which having no date, the precise time cannot now be remembered.

To the repairing of the chapel Sir Edward Radcliffe gave three trees, and Sir John Fenwick six trees, out of certain timber in Dotland ; and George Bacon of Broadwood-hall, in Allendale, gave a wain load of squared timber out of the wood at Steel-hall. Sir William Fenwick, on the 18th June, 1662, promised to give to the schoolmaster³ of Whitley chapel three pounds a year out of the intack rents, or acre money, of the Middle and High Quarters.⁴ The building so repaired was used as a school-house, but not for divine service ; for, in 1694, 'the Quakers from distant parts meeting at the said Chapel hill, and great numbers out of curiosity resorting to them, the said chapel was made fit and appropriated to divine service . . . but . . . being very mean and not sufficient to contain half the people who resorted thither . . . in the year following, 1695, there was an augmentation made then by subscriptions.'⁵ In 1704, Ritschell writes: 'The curate of Slealy at present preaches there every 14 night, but ye people are so very poor y^t their contributions raise little above £9 *per annum*, and thoa (*sic*) that part of this shire be above 9 northern miles in length, and there were above 700 souls on that syde, A° 95.' Ritschell died in 1724 (?) and devised 40s. a year to the curate of Whitley. Possibly, as in the case of some other chapels in the district (as will be shown later), the schoolmaster may have acted as 'reader' until 1742, when the curate-incumbent of Hexham, on the inhabitants agreeing to find £10 a year towards his stipend, appointed Thomas

History of Northumberland, vol. iii. p. 202 n.

¹ In 1568 George Crawhawe held lands in Whit-chepell, Blackehalle, and Whemplee, and John Bassenwhet in Blackehall, Whitechepell, and Whetlee. *Feodary's Book*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. lxviii. Though places, bearing similar names, may be found in the immediate neighbourhood, this reference may be more justly applied to Whitechapel near Haydon Bridge.

² 10th August, 1699. William Rumney, schoolmaster, and Mary Gerard, spinster, married. 6th March, 1701. Sarah, daughter of William Rumney of Whitley chapel, schoolmaster, baptised. *Hexham Register*.

⁴ Ritschell, *Tynedale Charities*.

⁵ *Ibid.*

Hudson, master of the grammar school, to be sub-curate with charge of Whitley chapel. The promise of pecuniary support was but indifferently kept, for, in 1746, Archdeacon Thomas Sharp reports to the archbishop:

Whitley chappel in ye parish of Hexham had been for several years converted into a school, but was rebuilt by subscription among the inhabitants about 4 years ago. There is a stipend of 50s. left by will, and since the rebuilding of ye chappel the inhabitants subscribed £10 a year for ye maintenance of a curate to officiate there every Sunday in ye morning. Yet Mr. Hudson, the present curate, tells me that these contributions are so ill paid that he gets not above one 3d. of them at this time. I wish this be not in some measure his own fault, for I find the people there do not like him, and one of ye principal among them gave me to understand that if they had a minister to their mind to live among them (for Mr. Hudson is schoolmaster at Hexham), and might further have the privilege of burying their dead there and of having other occasional offices perform'd there, instead of being obliged to go to Hexham on all these occasions, he did make no doubt but they would provide a competent maintenance for such a minister among themselves. This, indeed, is worth considering, for they are said to be a large congregation. It was suggested, indeed, that ye chappel and chappel yard were never consecrated, for as it had been used times out of mind as a school-house, where ye curates of Hexham used to perform divine service once a fortnight in the afternoon, they suppose it to have been originally no more than a school. But I take this to be their mistake, and apprehend it to have been an ancient chappel to Hexham. And so I think Mr. Ritschell's paper represents it. I have only to add that Mr. Calverley Blacket has given a bell to this chappel, but the inhabitants have not as yet hung it up for use.

In 1752 the four churchwardens of Hexhamshire obtained a grant from the lady of the manor of a piece of common or waste ground, 100 yards long by 80 yards wide, and in 1759 a petition was addressed to the archbishop of York that he would consecrate it with the chapel, 'where divine service is preached every Sunday, which is a great convenience to us, we being a great distance from Hexham, our parish church, . . . some of us being twelve miles from Hexham, which is very hard upon us, especially in the winter season, when the days are short, and the roads is bad, we have to come home in the night, sometime at eleven or twelve o'clock.'¹

Another petition, made in 1763, informs the archbishop that the chapel was rebuilt 'by subscription about twenty years ago . . . when it was entirely taken down and rebuilt,' and that it had an endowment of £2 9s. a year, charged on two small estates in the neighbourhood, by the wills of the Rev. George Ritschell and Robert Dixon of Stonehouse.²

The archbishop demurred to consecrate the chapel, but on the 6th of July, 1764, he consecrated the new graveyard. Through the exertions and personal influence of the archdeacon, subscriptions were raised, Sir Walter Blackett giving £500. These subscriptions were increased by a grant from

¹ *Archbishop of York's Papers.*

² The 40s. a year devised by Ritschell is charged on South Nunbush, in the parish of Warden; the 9s. a year devised by Dixon on a house in Hencoats.

Queen Anne's bounty, until the amount reached the sum of £1,200, out of which £1,170 was invested in the purchase of an estate at Mollersteads, to provide a permanent endowment for the minister, to whom the incumbent of Hexham relinquished the surplice fees. The presentation was vested in the lord of the manor.

CURATES OF WHITLEY CHAPEL.

1618. Richard Parker occurs as curate of Hexhamshire, one of his children being buried at Hexham.

1743, Sept. 26th. Thomas Hudson licensed by the archbishop of York. Ordained deacon the day before. Licensed again June 9th, 1745. Also curate of Blanchland, and master of the grammar school, Hexham.

1748. Abraham Brown appears at the visitation. He was only licensed by the archbishop on 26th August, 1765, on the nomination of Sir Walter Blackett; was minister of the chapel for sixty years, and master of the grammar school, Hexham. He married at Chollerton on the 23rd June, 1747, Alice Dixon, by whom he left no issue. The will of Abraham Brown of Mollersteads, clerk, dated 16th June, 1812, desires his body to be buried at Whitley chapel, and devises to 'my nephew James Walker, my five godsons Abraham Bolam of Weardale, lead miner, Mr. Forster of Newcastle, sadler, William Elliot, son of the late Rev. Henry Elliot of Bamburgh, John, son of John Cook, and William, son of Thomas Armstrong of Hexham, glover, £5 a piece. To poor of Whitley chapelry interest on £100, to schoolmaster of Whitley chapel interest on £120, my niece Margaret Williamson, widow, my nephew Abraham Walker, and my late nephew Wm. Walker.' *Whitley Chapel Register*.

1813, April. John Hewetson licensed by the archbishop on the death of Brown, on the nomination of John Waite, vicar of Isell, in Cumberland, the patron. He had Richard Close for his sub-curate, and held the curacy of Birness, in Elsdon.¹

1841. William Sisson of University college, Durham. The present incumbent, also vicar of Slaley.

INSCRIPTIONS.

Here rests all that is mortal of the Rev. Abraham Brown upwards of 60 years minister of Whitley chapel and its first perpetual curate, who died Nov. 8, 1812, aged 92 years. Also of Alice, his wife, who died Jan. 4, 1780, aged 79 years.

In memory of Thomasine, wife of John Carr of Dotland park, who died January 15, 1793, aged 37 years. Mary, wife of George Davison of Marley Coatwalls, died April 25, 1795, aged 67 years.

In memory of John Carr of Dotland park, who died 9 July, 1831, aged 87. And of Thomasine, his wife, who died 15 January, 1793, aged 36. Also John and George, their sons. John died 20 Oct., 1844, aged 58. George died 20 June, 1868, aged 84. They all died at Dotland park.

In Memory of John Carr of Dotland, who died January 2, 1789, aged 57 years. Also Mary, his wife, died January 25, 1809, aged 77 years.

The burial place of Thomas and Ann Carr of Dotland. Hannah, their daughter, died May 8, 1829, aged 21.

In memory of George, son of Thomas Carr of Dotland, who died May 26, 1805, aged 5 years. Also Hannah, daughter of Thomas Carr, who died June 15, 1806, aged 2 years.

The burial place of William Curry of Lilswood. Annbell, his daughter, died December 12, 1812, aged 33 years. The above William Curry departed this life June 10, 1814, aged 62 years. Also Margaret, his wife, who died April 25, 1837, aged 85 years. Also Robert, their son, who died at Long-lee, July 5, 1851, aged 54 years. Also Mildred Dodd, their daughter, who died at High Staples, Feb. 4, 1847, aged 55 years. Also James Dodd, her husband, died 25 February, 1870, aged 80.

In memory of Michael Dodd, Black-hall, who died May 3, 1859, aged 73 years. Also Mary, his wife, who died at Morton-grange, January 31, 1873, aged 77 years. Also Margaret, their daughter, who died

¹ Hewetson never ministered at Whitley chapel except on the day of his reading in. *Ex. inf.* the Rev. W. Sisson, 1896.

February 11, 1848, aged 28 years. Also Eleanor, wife of William Dodd of Black-hall, who died April 26, 1861, aged 33 years. Also the above William Dodd of East Benton, who died September 1, 1890 aged 66 years.

The burial place of John Featherstone of Black-hall in this county, who died 4 October, 1808, aged 70 years. Also Barbara, relict of the above, died 3 July, 1821, aged 71 years. And of their children, Margaret, Wharton, Thomas, who died at different periods of time.

John Johnson of White-hall departed this life June 28, 1780, aged 82 years.

The family burial place of John and Mary Johnson of Hamburn-hall, William, their youngest and last surviving son, born 20 April, 1790 (*sic*).

Sacred to the memory of John Johnson of Hamburn-hall, who died 20 April, 1834, aged 83 years. And of Mary, his wife, who died 20 April, 1810, aged 56 years.

Sacred to the memory of Thomas Johnson of White-hall, who died June 16, 1828, aged 70 years. Mary, his wife, died Sept. 11, 1830, aged 74 years. Thomas, their son, died Nov. 5, 1791, aged 5 years. Hannah, their daughter, died July 20, 1814, aged 29 years. Samuel, their son, died Feb. 22, 1826, aged 37 years. John, their son, died at Berwick-on-Tweed, Oct. 7, 1830, aged 47 years.

In memory of Thomas Johnson, grocer, who died at Hexham, March 11, 1862, aged 68 years. And of Hannah, his wife, who died Aug. 11, 1885, aged 77 years.

In memory of William Johnson of Newcastle-on-Tyne, who died Nov. 12, 1875, aged 86 years.

The stained east window is inscribed: To the glory of God given with £400 in trust for the poor in memory of Samuel and Thomasina Johnson, natives of this chapelry, by their son Thomas, who died at Sea House, Scremerston, Jan. 18, 1894, aged 74 years.¹

Sacred to the memory of Robert Stoker of Chapel-house, who died 6th September, 1832, aged 63 years.

My anvil and hammers lies declin'd,

My bellows have quite lost their wind,

My fire's extinct, my forge decay'd,

My vices are in the dust all laid,

My coals are spent, my iron gone,

My nails are drove, my work is done,

My mortal part rests nigh this stone,

My soul to heaven I hope is gone.

In memory of the Rev. W. J. D. Waddilove, M.A., of Beacon-grange, who died October 28, 1859, aged 74 years. Also of Elizabeth Anne, his wife, who entered into rest March 7, 1874, aged 86 years. Also in memory of John Alexander, infant son of Admiral and Mrs. C. Waddilove, born Dec. 13, 1883, died Dec. 25, 1883. Also of Mary Elizabeth, wife of Admiral Waddilove, died at Admiralty house, Sheerness, Jan. 10, 1888, aged 43.

REGISTER, CHARITIES, ETC.

The register begins in 1764, the year of severance; the earlier portion is in the beautiful handwriting of Abraham Brown.

1765, May 15th. Thomas Wear of parish of Brinkburn and Ann Angus of this chapelry married.

1766, August and September. Mr. Cuthbert Teasdale of parish of Hexham, and Miss Anne West of this chapelry, banns published, married at Hexham.

1769, June 1st. Mr. Joseph Clark of parish of Heddon-on-the-Wall and Miss Hannah Angus of this chapelry married.

1770, June 2nd. William Angus and Catherine Angus, both of this chapelry.

1774, November. Mr. Henry Angus of this chapelry and Miss Mary Teasdale of the parish of Hexham, banns published, married at Hexham.

1777, December 21st. Mr. John Johnson and Miss Mary Bell, both of this chapelry, married.

1782, February 8th. Mr. Thomas Adamson of Spital Shield buried.

1799, April 23rd. Emma, daughter of Mr. William Walker, Quayside, parish of All Saints, Newcastle, buried.

The charities of Robert Farbridge, Anthony Farbridge, Henry Dixon, Robert Walton, and Robert Forster have already been given.²

¹ 20th April, 1818, Samuel Johnson and Thomasine Carr married. *Hexham Register*.

² Vol. iii. p. 176.

By his will dated 20th April, 1715, Robert Dixon directed that £20 should be placed at interest for the poor of the High and Middle Quarters, and that £10 should be paid to the minister of Whitley chapel. If there was no minister there, the money was to be given to the poor.

By his will dated September 29th, 1726, William Dixon left £40, the interest of which was to be given yearly to the poor in the High Quarter at Christmas and Easter.

The money derived from the above charities has been invested in a house at Hexham, which in 1830 was let at a yearly rent of £11.

Abraham Brown's legacy was invested by the trustees on a mortgage on Oakpool and Hole Haugh in Keenley and Catton, which were surrendered on the 12th October, 1825, by John Blair, to the use of Richard Angus and John Ord, subject to redemption, with interest at 5 per cent. Interest was paid at the rate of 4½ per cent. in 1830, and one moiety of it is paid to the schoolmaster, who teaches five children selected by the trustees gratis. The remaining moiety is annually divided among the poor of the three Quarters which form the chapelry.¹

Before attempting any account of the descent of the landed estates, or of their former owners, it may be desirable to describe certain features characteristic of and common to the district. The uncultivated heather-clad uplands, which have never been under the plough, and are generally grazed as stinted pastures, are designated fells,² a word chiefly used in the western and south-western parts of the county, and probably introduced from the Scandinavian settlements of Cumberland and Liddesdale. These fells are drained, and divided from one another, by numerous sikes,³ water courses, and burns. In the beautiful glens and valleys through which these streams flow, are situated most of the ancient hamlets and estates held in severalty. The higher fells, generally uninhabited, have here and there a small home-stead, to whose place-name the word *shield* is frequently attached. Originally, no doubt, they were huts of turf and wood, and occupied only during the summer by shepherds pasturing flocks of black-faced sheep. In the Iter of Wark, they are designated 'scalinga,' and in the Great Survey of the Borders, in 1542, it is said, 'About the begenyege of Aprill they take the moste parte of there cattell, and goo with them upe into highe landes, and there buylde them lodges and sheeles, untill the moneth of August . . . and the maner of there goinge furthe to pasture they calle someringe or shelling.' With the *sheel*, there was a fold for cattle or sheep, as at Sandhoe in 1479, where was a 'schep-cott quæ vocatus Horne-scheles.' The best known instances of the use of the word are the townes of North and South

¹ *Further Report of the Charity Commissioners, 1830.*

² 'Fell,' *sb.* [from Old Norse *fjall* (Swedish *fjäll*, Danish *fjeld*), mountain, perhaps: O. Teutonic* *felzo* *m.* related by ablaut to* *faliso*, O. H. G. *felis*, mod. G. *fels*, rock.] 1. A hill, mountain. 2. A wild elevated stretch of waste or pasture land; a moorland ridge, down. Dr. Murray, *New English Dictionary, sub voce.*

³ 'Sike,' a small rill, the feeder of a burn. R. O. Heslop, *Northumberland Words.*

Shields at the mouth of the Tyne, once the huts or *sheels* of fishermen. The homesteads throughout the district are invariably built of the native stone, originally covered with heavy, so-called grey, 'sandstone slates,' or dark heather thatch, now yielding to blue slates. The farm houses, facing southward, generally built of two stories with a to-fall,¹ have almost always plantations to protect them from the west wind, and though these plantations have sometimes sycamores in them, they are more usually composed of ash trees, a custom which may have its origin in the fact that the ash was extensively used for the construction of carts and agricultural implements when iron was scarcer than it is now.² For this reason, the ash was grown in the hedgerows or about the precincts of the homesteads in other parts of the county.

THE LOW QUARTER.

The Low Quarter, the northernmost of the three divisions of Whitley chapelry, lies, roughly speaking, between the West Dipton burn and the Ham burn. The country between these two streams is almost entirely given up to pasture, and along the West Dipton burn and the Devil's Water, which forms the eastern boundary of the district, are many scenes of great beauty. The bed of the West Dipton burn is for the most part broad and shallow, and it is thickly overhung by trees and bushes, but the Devil's Water has in many places worked its way through the rock, forming deep ravines, where the precipitous banks which overhang the stream are richly clothed with foliage.

The area of the township is 3,651 acres, and its present rateable value amounts to £2,560. Although the smallest of the three Quarters forming the chapelry, it contains half the total population of the three, and the same proportion has been maintained throughout the century.³ There is not so much discrepancy, however, in the rateable value.

¹ 'To-fall' or 'tee-fall,' a mode of building in the pent-house form. Cf. R. O. Heslop, *Northumberland Words*.

² Ashes made from ash timber were used in domestic bleaching. On the Scottish side of the Border ash trees were especially valued as providing the six ells long shafts for spears and pikes, and tree planting about homesteads was ordered by Acts of the Parliament of Scotland. Cf. Godscroft, *History of House of Douglas*.

³ The Census Returns are: 1801, 404; 1811, 428; 1821, 446; 1831, 544; 1841, 479; 1851, 488; 1861, 454; 1871, 422; 1881, 367; 1891, 342.

The majority of the estates of the Low Quarter lie along the streams which form its boundaries.

In the north-eastern corner are situated the Linnels mill, Lamb-shield, Hole-house,¹ Birks,² Houtley,³ Fogget,⁴ and Dipton mill. The Linnels mill and Lamb-shield are intimately associated with Newbiggin; indeed the Linnels mill is identical with Newbiggin mill, for, in 1623, Richard Thirlwall surrenders Newbiggin alias Linnels mill to Francis Radcliffe, son of the late Sir Francis Radcliffe, bart.⁵

The Linnels bridge,⁶ on the line of the *ratione tenuræ*⁷ road from Hexham to Slaley and Blanchland, spans the Devil's Water with a single arch. Enshrined in beautiful scenery, and overhung and surrounded by foliage, it has replaced a bridge of earlier construction. A stone slab, of Renaissance character, built into the parapet, gives the exact date of the earlier structure. The stone had once an inscription on either side; that on the outside only is now legible, and reads :

GOD PRESARVE WMFOIRA ERENGTON,⁸
 BELLEDETE THIS BREGE OF LYME AND STONE,
 1581.

The figure 8 has become so abraded that it resembles and may be read as 3. That 1581 is the correct date is supported by the character of the mouldings of the slab, as interpreted by architectural experts. The present

¹ The Hole-house, in 1663, owned by Henry Simpson, has become connected with Newbiggin, and is now owned by Capt. Atkinson.

² The Birks, which in 1653 was, with Lamb-shield, surrendered to John Thirlwall, is now owned by the representatives of the late Admiral Waddilove.

³ Houtley, which in 1765 belonged to Samuel Marriot of Okerland and Morpeth, was in 1793 sold by his son, Samuel Marriot of Newcastle, for £3,850 to Jasper Gibson, and now belongs to the representatives of the late Admiral Waddilove.

⁴ Fogget is owned by the daughters of the late Sir Henry Clavering. ⁵ *Hexham Manor Rolls*.

⁶ Inquisition taken at Lynnell bridge in the Liberty of Hexham, 21 April, 1582, before Cuthbert Carnaby, esq., Thomas Baytes, surveyor of Northumberland, and others. The jury say that there are various coal mines and stone quarries on the waste or common of Hexham between the following boundaries : from the paling of Dilston park on the east to Nubbock Dykes on the west, abutting on the fields of Hexham on the north, and on Devil's Water, Newbiggin fields and Dipton boorne on the south : and that the said mines and quarries may conveniently be acquired without damage to surrounding inhabitants : and that a lease of the mines is worth 5s. per annum, and of the quarries 12d. beyond the stones necessary for buildings for the inhabitants from ancient times taken to their use. *Exchequer Special Commissions*, 24 Eliz. Northumberland, No. 1740.

⁷ At common law the parish is *prima facie* bound to repair all highways lying in it, unless by prescription it can throw the onus on particular persons by reason of their tenure ; but when this is the case it is by way of exception to the general rule. 1 *Revised Reports*, 443. The burden of repair *ratione tenuræ* has generally arisen from unauthorised inclosures. 'If a man incloses his land in a common field *ex utraque parte* of an highway he shall be bound to repair by reason of the encroachment tho' he was not liable before.' Comyns, *Digest Tit. Chimen*.

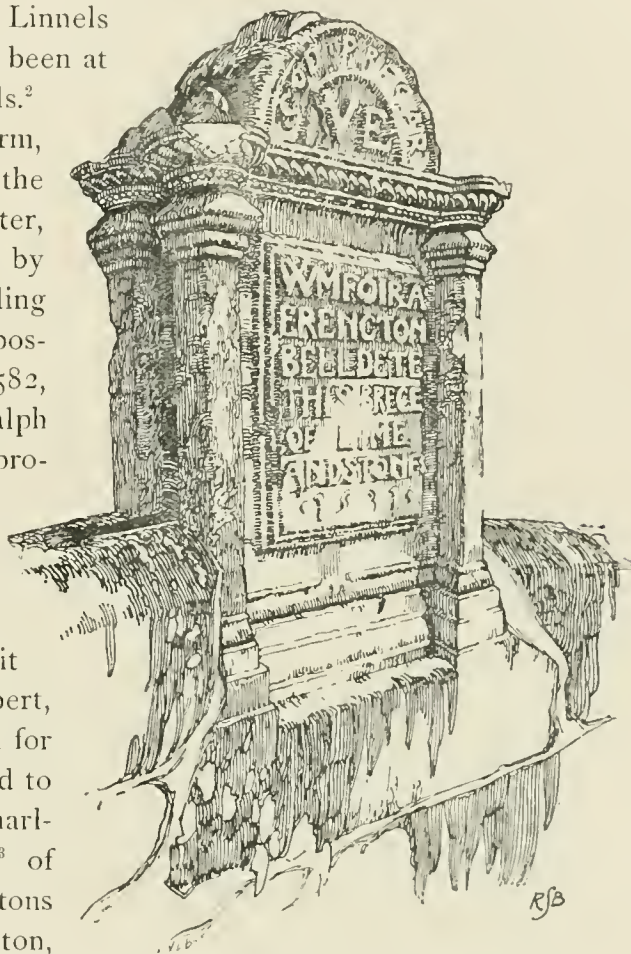
⁸ Humphrey Errington occurs in 1582 as supervisor to the will of John Errington of the Linnels. Raine, *Test. Dunelm*.



THE LINNELS BRIDGE.

structure may perhaps date from 1698, in which year, at the Midsummer Sessions held at Hexham, Benedict Errington,¹ of the Linnels, and John Heron, of Todburn (?) Steel, the then owners of the Linnels, were presented by the grand jury, for having suffered the Linnels bridge to go out of repair, it having been at first built by the owner of the Linnels.²

The Lamb-shield consists of a farm, the homestead of which stands on the bank overhanging the Devil's Water, and communicates with Newbiggin by the Peth, and of the old walk or fulling mill on that stream. It was in the possession of Lancelot Thirlwall in 1582, and in 1653 was surrendered by Ralph Widdrington of Colwell (who was probably a trustee) to John Thirlwall of Newbiggin, with whose descendants it remained until the middle of last century; when, at the dispersal of the Thirlwall estates, it was sold for £1,400 to Joseph Lambert, who also purchased the Linnels mill for £350. From the Lamberts it passed to their descendants and heirs, the Charltons of Reedsmouth, by the last³ of whom it was devised to the Haggerstons of Ellingham. Sir John Haggerston, the present owner of the Lamb-shield, has sold off the Walk mill house, the Linnels mill, and a few acres of land.



The beautifully-wooded domain of Newbiggin fills the corner formed by the junction of the West Dipton burn, whose banks the mansion overhangs, and the Devil's Water. Its woods have long been noted, and Bailey

¹ 28th March, 1680, Bennet Errington was presented by the parish of Corbridge for non-payment of church cess, and was excommunicated. At the Michaelmas Sessions, 1684, he and his wife, Margery, were presented as papists. *Sessions Records.* ² *Ibid.* Bell Collection.

³ The Newcastle papers advertised to be sold in July, 1843, the Lamb-shield and fulling mill, the Linnels bridge corn mill, High Ardley, Cook's-house, East Greenridge, and the Hall Shield parcel of the estates of Edward Charlton, deceased.

and Culley, writing at the end of last century, commend the management of the then owner of the estate, Anthony Surtees, who 'takes his [wood] away in *patches*; and as the older trees interfere with the younger springs, and where a thriving healthy oak is in a convenient situation, he lets it stand for timber; by this means the young spring is sheltered, and an annual produce of upwards of £100 is obtained from sixty acres of woodland.'¹

The road which runs past Newbiggin is flanked by what are perhaps the finest quick-thorn hedges in the county, their unbroken walls attaining the height of 16 feet.

The earliest mention of the place is in a charter, dated May 8th, 1355, by which Archbishop Thoresby granted to Richard de Ask, bailiff, and Sir Henry de Barton, auditor of Hexham manor, the right to let to ferm the parks of Allendale Town and Westwood, and the lordship of the townships of Newbiggin and Thockerington.² It is noteworthy that in this document Newbiggin ranks as a township, and is classed with Thockerington; it is, however, seldom mentioned in mediæval times. Its value was much increased by the possession of a mill, which was owned by the canons of Hexham, and for this privilege, and for another mill at Ham-burn, the prior and convent were bound to pay the archbishop of York a rent of ten marks yearly.³ In the survey of 1547 the tenement was in the hands of Sir Reginald Carnaby, who seems to have appropriated everything that had any connection with the lately-dissolved priory; but later on it passed out of the possession of his family. In 1582, according to the will of Lancelot Thirlwall, Newbiggin was in the possession of his family,⁴ the Thirlwalls of Thirlwall, to which Richard Thirlwall, mentioned in 1608, must therefore have belonged. In the survey of 1608 it appears, like Greenridge, as divided into two parts, known as East and West Newbiggin, and was then in the hands of Edward Errington⁵ and Richard Thirlwall. Richard Thirlwall was in possession of Newbiggin mill, and he probably held the more important part of the property. His family remained on the estate until the earlier part of the eighteenth century.

¹ Bailey and Culley, *Agricultural Survey of Northumberland*, 1797, p. 108.

² *York Registers*, Thoresby, f. 300 a.

³ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, ii. pp. 11, 140.

⁴ *Durham Wills and Inventories*, Raine, p. 76, Surt. Soc. i.

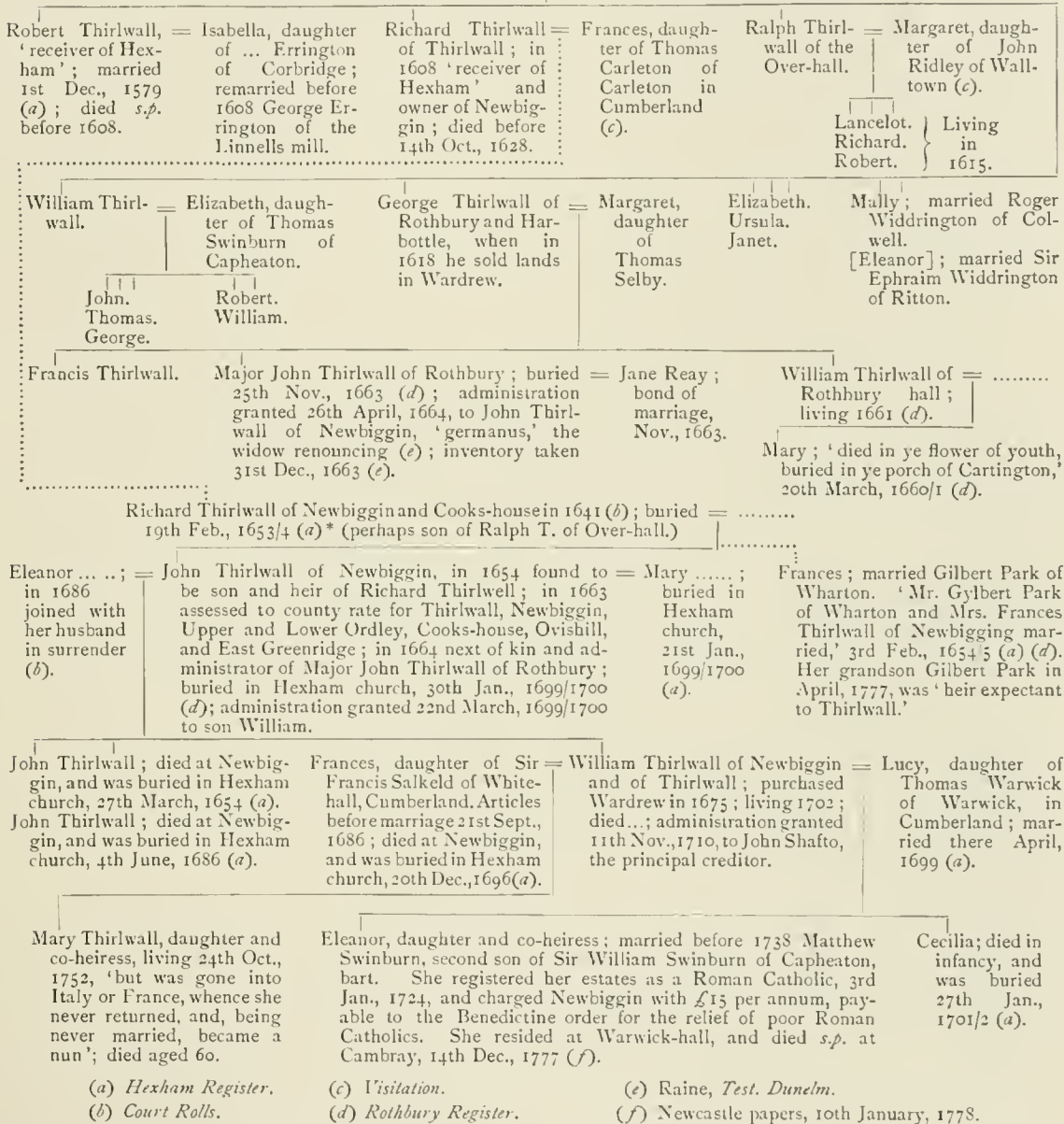
⁵ 31 Aug., 1697. Will of Ralph Errington of Newbegin, gent. To be decently buried at the discrecion of my loving wife, Mary Errington. To my dear and loving wife all my gold and plate and my household goods. My manners, lands, etc., in Northumberland (an annuity of £72 granted to me by Leonard Thompson of Yorke, goldsmith, and Cuthbert Ogle of Kirkeley, gent., out of the manor of Kirkeley and their lands

THIRLWALL OF THIRLWALL AND NEWBIGGIN.

(For earlier generations see Hodgson, *Northumberland*. pt. ii. vol. iiii. p. 145.)

ARMS: *Quarterly*. 1 and 4, *sable*; a *chevron argent* between three hoars' heads erased or. 2 and 3, *argent*: two bars *gules*; on chief three cinque-foils *sable*; a *mullet* for difference (Errington).

LANCELOT THIRLWALL of Thirlwall and Newbiggin; = Thomasine, daughter of Sir George Heron of Chipchase (c).
will dated 27th Dec., 1582; proved 1583.

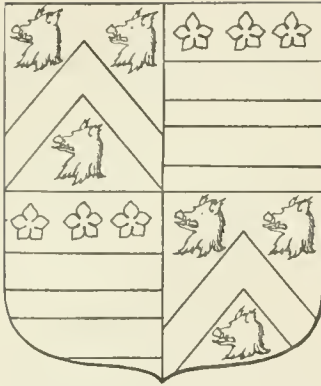


(a) *Hexham Register*.
(b) *Court Rolls*.

(c) *Visitation*.
(d) *Rothbury Register*.

(e) *Raine, Test. Dunelm*.
(f) *Newcastle papers*, 10th January, 1778.

* But Oct., 1653, John Thirlwall of Newbiggin, son of Philip Thirlwall of Hexham, surrendered Cooks-house, Newbiggin, and East Greenridge, to John Thirlwall, jun., his son and heir. It is also uncertain whether Richard Thirlwall, who died in 1654, was the son of Richard Thirlwall, who died in 1628, or whether he was identical with Richard, second son of Ralph Thirlwall.



EVIDENCES TO THE PEDIGREE OF THIRLWALL.

1606. George Errington of Linnell mill, and Isable his wife, late wife of Robert Thirlwall, esq.: the said Robert held two parts of Newbiggin and the Birks, Hole-house, East Greenridge, and a whole tenement in Lillswood called Cooks-house.¹

June, 1686. Mr. John Thirlwall of Newbiggin, is shot with a pistol in Hexham-lane near Gaoler's stile, by Mr. Richard Hayles, with whom he is fighting. Mr. Thirlwall was greatly to blame.²

21st September, 1686. John Thirlwall of Newbiggin, esq., and Eleanor, his wife, surrendered two tenements called Easter and Wester Newbiggin, a village called Easter Greenridge, a tenement called Upper Ardley and Cooks-house, to Ralph Clavering of Callaly, esq., and Edward Charlton of Hesleyside, esq., in trust (and in 1724, Edward Charlton of Hesleyside was found to have died seised of the said premises, William Charlton of Hesleyside, esq., being his son and heir).¹

1747. To be sold several copyhold estates in Hexham-shire, Newbiggin, Lamb-shield, Linnell mill, Hunterley, house, Hole-house, and Throsling-hall, Easter Greenridge, Hall-sheel, Whinnetly, Cooks-house, and Upper Ardley. With good conveniences on each farm, and a good quantity of oak, ash, and birch wood. Enquire of Mr. Edward Smith of Capheaton, or Mr. Richard Ellis of Hexham.³

Matthew Swinburn sold Greenridge to William Charlton, esq., for £1,558; Newbiggin to Cuthbert Surtees, esq., for £1,780; Lamb-shield to Mr. Joseph Lambert for £1,400; and Linnell mill for £350; total, £5,088. From a note, dated 6th March, 1752, and signed by Matthew Swinburn and Richard Ellis.¹

1749, 16th May, 23 George II. Matthew Swinburn, and Eleanor his wife, being in need of money, and having already mortgaged their estate to William Waters of Wallsend, gent., for £2,500, borrow a further sum of £815 from Sarah Ogle of Newcastle, widow. Matthew Swinburn is described as a younger brother of Sir John Swinburn of Capheaton, bart., deceased, and his wife as one of the daughters and co-heirs of William Thirlwall of Newbiggin, esq., deceased, who was eldest son and heir of John Thirlwall, theretofore of Newbiggin, esq. The deed recites an agreement made 24th June, 1716, between Mary Thirlwall, spinster, eldest daughter and one of the co-heirs of the said William Thirlwall, by Frances his first wife, John Warwick of Warwick-hall, esq., Lucy Thirlwall the second wife and widow of William Thirlwall, and Eleanor Swinburn, by the then name Eleanor Thirlwall, the other daughter and co-heiress of said William Thirlwall. The purport of the agreement is to convey the interest in certain estates of Mary Thirlwall, the eldest daughter to Eleanor, the younger daughter in consideration of a gross payment of £800, and an annuity of £20 per annum.⁵

1752, 20th Feb. Matthew Swinburn and Eleanor his wife, surrender Easter Greenridge and Cooks-house, and Whinnetly mill, to William Charlton of Reedsmonth; and a pew in Hexham church to Cuthbert Surtees of Ebchester, gent.⁵

1752, 24th October. May Thirlwall, spinster, one of the daughters and co-heiress of William Thirlwall, surrenders her reversionary interest in Easter Greenridge to Edward Charlton of Reedsmonth, in the Lamb-shield, the Linnell mill, etc., to Joseph Lambert of Gateshead, mercer, in Newbiggin to Cuthbert Surtees of Ebchester, in Howtly the Hole-house, Throsling-hall, Easter and Wester Birks, to William Newton of Burnopfield-head, gent.⁵

¹ *Hexham Manor Rolls.*

² *York Castle Depositions*, Raine, p. 188 n. Surt. Soc.

³ *Newcastle Courant*, 18th April, 1747.

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 148.

⁵ *Enrolments* with the clerk of the peace.

in Kirkeley, Bendrige, Millburne, Dodington and Brinkeley excepted) to my trusted and well-beloved friends. Nicholas Thornton of Netherwitton, esq., Robert Dollman of Pocklington, esq., Michael Anne of Burghwallis, esq., and Benony Carr of Hexham, gent., on trust, to pay to my wife £100 per ann.; if she marry before my daughter, Jane Errington, be 21, to have £60 per ann. To my daughter, Mary Errington, £100. To my nephew, John Heron of Ingoe, gent., £100. To my niece, Mary Heron, one of the sisters of the said John, £200. To my nieces, Elizabeth and Anne Heron, sisters of the said John Heron, each £100. The rest of my estate to be disposed towards the use of my said daughter, Jane Errington, when 21; but if she marry before then without the good liking and consent of my wife and the major part of my trustees, they shall only pay her £1,500. They shall also pay to my loving sister, Katherine Heron, wife of George Heron of Ingoe, £20 per ann. for life. If my daughter, Jane, die before she be of age or be married, then all to go to my said nephew, John Heron. My trustees executors. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

1697, 6th Sept. Ralph Errington of Newbiggin, gent., papist, buried at St. John Lee. *Hexham Register.*

Though there were many branches who carried on the family, the main line ended in an heiress, Eleanor, daughter of William Thirlwall, by his second wife, Lucy Warwick. She appears to have lived at Warwick-hall, in Cumberland, the home of her mother's family, and was residing there unmarried, when, in 1724, as a Roman Catholic, she registered her landed estates in Northumberland. In addition to Thirlwall castle and its dependencies, she registered the estates of Newbiggin, the Lamb-shield, the Linnels mill, the Birks, the Hole-house, Whinnetley-house, Greenridge, Cooks-house, Upper Ardley, and Sipton Shield, all in the regality of Hexham. She married Matthew Swinburne, second son of Sir William Swinburne of Capheaton, but had no issue, and before 1752 she and her husband had sold all her Northumbrian estates in parcels.

The accompanying pedigree of this very ancient house, which is not however complete, is intended to supplement that compiled by the Rev. John Hodgson, so far as Newbiggin is concerned.

Cuthbert Surtees, the purchaser of Newbiggin, was a member of the widespread family of that name, who from an early period was settled in the valley of the Derwent, in the county of Durham; dying in 1759, he left an only son, Anthony, who had attained his majority in 1765, when Cuthbert Surtees of Medomsley, his late father's brother, surrendered to his use Newbiggin and lands in Dotland common. As an officer in the Northumberland militia he distinguished himself in the suppression of the Gordon riots in London in 1780.¹ He died unmarried, when his estates devolved upon the issue of his only sister, and are now possessed by her descendant, Captain Atkinson.

Lying to the south-west of Newbiggin are two of the most considerable farms in the Quarter, Dotland park and Dotland. The latter, which belongs to Mrs. H. A. Campbell and her two sisters, the Miss Claverings, has a well-built, grey-slated homestead, with a house built more squarely than is usual in the district, and is sheltered on the west by a plantation of ash and sycamore. It stands between the seven and eight hundred feet contour-line, forms a prominent feature in the landscape, and from its elevation commands a view on the north as far as the Cheviot hills.² Some of the pasture fields have high curved ridges, due to the old system of ploughing by

¹ *Gentleman's Mag.* and *Annual Register* for 1780.

² Dowly Dotland stands on the hill,
Hungry Vaeesh looks at it still,

| Barker-house 's a little below,
| There's mokes i' the cairn at Hamburn ho'.
Heslop, *Northumberland Words*, sub voce 'Dowly.'

WILSON AND ATKINSON OF KINGSWOOD AND NEWBIGGIN.

MATTHEW WILSON of Keptown, Lanarkshire; purchased Kingswood 11th March, 1709 (e).

William Wilson of Chapel-house; had conveyance of Kingswood 12th June, 1712, and voted for same in 1722; buried 2nd Oct., 1748 (b); will dated 18th April, 1746; proved 8th March, 1749 (e). = Jane; died at Kingswood; buried October, 1730 (b)? [1st June, 1696, William Wilson of Oakpool and Jane Vicars of Hindley married (b)].

Leonard Wilson of Kingswood, son and heir; buried 28th Feb., 1769 (b); will dated 28th Jan., 1769; proved 2nd Mar., 1770 (e).	= Elizabeth Craigy; married 13th May, 1724 (e); living 21st Mar., 1772 (e).	William (c). Thomas (c). Anne; married George Thompson (c). Mary; married William Whar-ton (c).	Cuthbert Surtees of Newbiggin, son of Anthony Surtees of Milkwellburn; buried 10th Dec., 1759, aged 52 (a); will dated 1st Dec., 1759; proved at York (d).*	= Dorothy, daughter of Walker Surtees of Stocksfield hall; buried 15th Jan., 1757, aged 49 (a).
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Daniel; buried 11th Sept., 1750 (b).
Adah; married Thomas Harle of Newcastle (c).
Elizabeth; married George Gibson of Westwood (c).
Ann.
Mary; married George Pearson.

William Wilson, son and heir; in 1762 of Haydon Bridge; afterwards of Kingswood, for which he voted in 1774 and which he sold 23rd Sept., 1790; articles before marriage 11th and 12th June, 1762 (c).

Elizabeth, sister and heiress; will dated 7th Sept., 1808; proved 6th May, 1809 (c).

Anthony Surtees of Newbiggin, son and heir, a major in Northumberland militia; died unmarried 20th July, 1803, aged 60 (a); will dated 18th Feb., 1803.

Leonard Wilson of Newbiggin and of Newcastle, son and heir; buried 7th Dec., 1839; aged 70 (a) (e).

Elizabeth; died 12th July, 1803; aged 36 (a).
Jane; died 23rd June, 1826; aged 57 (a); will dated 14th June, 1825; proved 31st March, 1827 (e).

Dorothy; buried 9th Sept., 1840; aged 78 (a).

= John Atkinson of Garden house, Newcastle; died at Netherwitton 28th Dec., 1844; aged 75; buried at Hexham; will dated 3rd March, 1842; proved 17th May, 1845 (c) (e).

Joseph Atkinson, born 15th June, 1797; died 3rd May, 1821; buried at St. Andrew's, Newcastle (e).
William Atkinson of Newcastle, born 23rd Nov., 1799; died April, 1832; buried at St. Andrew's, Newcastle (e).

John Atkinson of Newbiggin, born 19th Aug., 1801 (e); heir to uncle Leonard Wilson; died 27th June, 1863; aged 62 (e); buried in Hexham cemetery (e); will dated 1st Jan., 1859; proved 17th Jan., 1864 (e).

= Anne, daughter of Francis Snowball of Netherwitton; died 28th Feb., 1863, aged 64 (e); buried in Hexham cemetery (c).

Elizabeth Lucy, born 15th Aug., 1803; married ... 1830, at St. Andrew's, Newcastle, George Hare Philipson of Newcastle; died ... 1881, and was buried at Jesmond cemetery (c).
↓
Mary Atkinson, born 21st Aug., 1807; married 12th April, 1842, at St. John's, Newcastle, Joseph Snowball of Seaton Burn (c). ↓

Leonard Wilson Atkinson of Newbiggin, son and heir, born 24th June, 1836 (e); captain, King's Dragoon Guards.

Francis Atkinson, born 20th May, 1838 (e); died 28th Feb., 1873 (c).

John Atkinson of Bedford, born August, 1841 (e).

= Maud, daughter of ... Buckle of Richmond, Yorkshire (c).

Joseph Surtees Atkinson, born 22nd July, 1849 (e); died s.p., 28th Feb., 1873 (c).

Jane Dorothy. Anne. Elizabeth Mary. Emma, died in infancy.

Edward Atkinson. Two other children.

(a) Hexham Register and M.I.

(c) Ex. inf. Mr. Jos. A. Philipson.

(e) Matthew Forster's obituary.

(b) Allendale Register.

(d) Raine, Test. Ebor.

* On the south front of the house at Newbiggin is a sun-dial with the inscription :

S.
C. D.
1756.

oxen. In a field to the south-east of the house are traces of extensive foundations marking the site of the ancient hamlet. The present farm has absorbed several smaller farms, including Dotland Fell-house, whose onstead¹ was burnt down some thirty years ago, and the Wagtail, of which only a wall is standing. The land has formerly been more wooded than it is at present.²

Both estates are held as of the manor of Anick Grange, and were part of the endowment of Hexham priory from very ancient times, the township of Dotland having been given to the canons by Archbishop Thurstan.³ The property thus acquired was afterwards largely increased by Archbishop Gray. In 1226 the archbishop gave the priory 90 acres of land above, and 10 acres below Dotland, but reserved all essarts,⁴ or land newly brought into cultivation within Dotland. For these grants he received in exchange the forest of Akewood, on the north side of the Tyne. He also gave to the priory a mill on the stream between Dotland and Rowley (? the Ham burn), with moulter from the men of Eskinseles (? Eshells), and from all the men remaining on the archbishop's essarts. On the same day (August 4th) Archbishop Gray granted to the priory 64 acres of land between Dotland park and the essarts of Tirsterl (? the Steel); and on the 31st August, 1229, he gave the priory 60 acres of land between Dotland and Torneley essarts, to buy the ferm of the mill of Dotland, and also 34 acres of land, for which they were to pay 11s. 4d. a year, or at the rate of 4d. an acre.⁵

On the 9th of April, 1287, Archbishop Romaine granted the priory 35 acres and 1 rood of land in Dotland and 2 acres of waste, at a total rent of 12s. 5d. He also gave them 15 acres 3 roods of waste adjoining the grange of Dotland, in exchange for 15 acres 3 roods of arable land given by preceding archbishops. The priory at the same time received licence to enclose the new property.⁶ The object of Archbishops Gray and Romaine in these transactions seems to have been to encourage cultivation in these remote and waste districts through the agency of the priory. The scheme appears to have been successful, and at the dissolution, six tenants are recorded as holding land at Dotland, paying a total rent of 66s. 8d.⁷

¹ 'Onstead,' a steading or group of farm buildings consisting of stables, hovels, byres, granary, barn, milk house, etc. Cf. R. O. Heslop, *Northumberland Words*.

² The *Newcastle Journal* of 25th February, 1749, advertises to be sold 2,400 oak trees in Dotland.

³ *Prior Richard*, bk. ii. cap. xi. See vol. iii. pp. 130, 139.

⁴ 'Assart,' *sb.*, a piece of forest land converted into arable, by grubbing up the trees and brushwood; a clearing in a forest. *New Eng. Dict.*

⁵ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, ii. pp. 91-5.

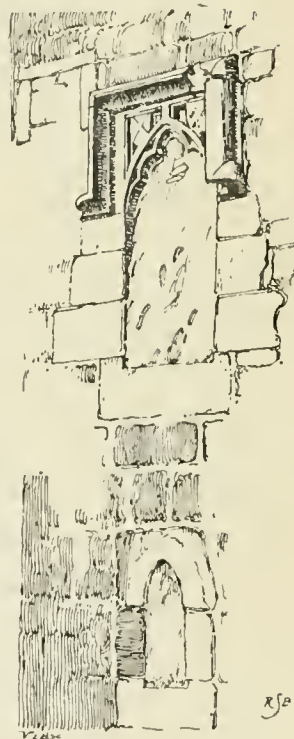
⁶ *Ibid.* pp. 104-6.

⁷ *Ibid.* p. 162.

Dotland park occupied a peculiar position in respect to the priory. It seems to have been formed about 1355, when Archbishop Thoresby granted a licence to the prior and convent to enclose their wood called Dotland park with a higher wall, and make it into a park.¹



In 1547 the park was in the possession of the heirs of Sir Reginald Carnaby. It was probably a hunting lodge of the prior and canons of Hexham.² The present farm buildings contain some remains of the older establishment. The most interesting are three windows of fifteenth-century work, all of them blocked up apparently long since. Two of these windows are to be seen on the outside and one is to be seen only from the inside of the house. One of the former, a single light, is square-headed, with shields in the angles at the top bearing the saltire of Hexham priory; the other is a small pointed



light. In the spandrels of the window of two lights, seen from the inside, is the monogram of Prior Smithson as it appears on the rood screen in the priory church. The present tenants state that when a garden was recently formed at the back of the house large quantities of bones were dug up, but it is not known whether they were human or animal.

DOTLAND MUSTER ROLL, 1538.³

Edmund Gren, John Ledall, George Robson, Ric. Cokman, Hew Don, Allexander Rowll, Thomas Homyll, Ric. Don, 'able with hors and harnes.' At the muster of 1580 the eight tenants of Dotland professed themselves 'unable' by reason of their small holdings.⁴

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, ii. p. 140. It contained only 27 acres 1 rood. Cf. *ibid.* p. 10.

² Besides their enclosed parks the canons of Hexham had, by an early grant of Edward I., free warren on several of their estates. The visitation of their house show that they were only too ready to join in the chase. Cf. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. pp. xix. xxxviii; and vol. ii. pp. xxii. 103, 104.

³ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 90.

⁴ *Border Papers*, Bain, vol. i. p. 22.

At the death of Sir John Forster in 1602, Dotland house and park descended to his grandson, Sir John Fenwick. William Rowland, Henry Johnson of Hamburn-hall, James Dodd, John Sanderson, gentleman, and William Thirlwall, answered for Dotland, at the Manor Court in 1659; whilst four years later the owners were :

						Rated at,		
						£	s.	d.
Dotland park ¹ ...	...	...	Mrs. Mary Fenwick ...	...	...	13	6	8
Dotland town ...	...	...	Mr. William Rowland ...	...	...	29	0	0
Dotland town head and foot...			Isabel Rowland ...	...	...	5	0	0
			Mr. William Sanderson of Healey...	...	...	5	0	0
The Hill ...	...	...	James Dodd and Barbara Fairbridge, each	50s	...	5	0	0
			William Thirlwall of Dotland ...	...	...	4	0	0
Dotland, etc. ...	...	...	Thomas Humble at ye Hill...	...	...	5	6	8
			Albany Wade...	...	...	3	0	0
			Mr. Thomas Swinburn ...	...	...	10	10	4
			Francis Errington ye town foot ...	...	...	5	0	0
			Ann Thirlwall ...	...	...	4	0	0
						£89 3 8		

A numerous and well-to-do family called Rowland were for many years owners, but there is not sufficient material to construct a pedigree. Thomas Rowland of Dotland married at Hexham, 30th March, 1626, Margaret Baxter of Greenridge. William Rowland, postmaster of Hexham, married Eleanor, daughter of John Taylor, and making his will on the 28th November, 1666, devised to his son John (baptised 16th February, 1657/8) two farms in Dotland, and another farm at the same place to his son Thomas. The Rowlands continued to hold their lands until the beginning of last century, for John Ord of Newcastle, making his will on the 30th March, 1726, devised, *inter alia*, to his son James, 'my lands in Dotland, the Hill, Fogget, Smelting Sike, Wagtail, and Fenhouse, all in the parish of Hexham, lately purchased of John Rowland, senior and junior, and William Dodd.'² The present owners of Dotland are Mrs. H. A. Campbell and her two sisters, the Miss Claverings.

South of Dotland lie the Smelting Sike, Tenter-house, and Cockerletch. The Black-hall, the hamlets of Lee,³ Juniper, and Fine-chambers are clustered together on the banks of the Rowley burn. Below the Dye-house bridge are the two water corn mills of Black-hall and Fine-chambers, still

¹ Dotland park was long tenanted by an offshoot of the Carrs of Slaley : George Carr of Dotland park, farmer, made his will 22nd May, 1769, and was buried at Slaley on the 9th August following ; besides three daughters, Sarah Ord of Dalton, Mary, wife of John Forster at Hartington-hall, and Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Kirsop of the Cowgate, near Newcastle, he left two sons, George Carr and John Carr, both of Dotland park ; the latter died at the age of 87, on the 12th July, 1831.

² Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

³ At the Lee are four small farms.

used for 'batching';¹ and at the meeting of the waters of the Rowley burn and Devil's Water are some cottages called Pethfoot. Many of these names seem to owe their origin to an industry once carried on here, but now decayed; there was also a fulling mill.

The Black-hall, in 1663, was, together with the mill and Steel-hall, rated at £30 to Thomas Sanderson of Healey, in the parish of Bywell St. Peter. A family of Swinburn had been previously settled there, and in 1601 administration of the estate of John Swinburn of the Black-hall, was granted to Gawin Swinburn, the next of kin; and on the 17th February, 1685, John Swinburn of the Black-hall was buried in Hexham church. Probate of his will and tuition of William and Barbara, two of his children under age, were granted in the same year to Ann Swinburn, his widow. Ten years later she was buried beside her husband, and on the 23rd May, 1697, John Swinburn (probably her father-in-law) was also buried at the patriarchal age of 96. William Swinburn (perhaps son of John, who died in 1685) married at Shotley, on the 8th May, 1698, Sarah Richardson of the Crooked Oak in that parish, and by her had two daughters, Ann and Hannah. The Black-hall soon after passed to the Featherstone family, whose history is sketched in the pedigree on the opposite page.

The Black-hall, a pretty tree-sheltered place, stands high above the Dye-house, and belongs to and is occupied by Mr. Simon Stobbs.

The hamlet of Juniper, or Ginifer, is subdivided into the Low, the Middle, and the High Juniper. At Low Juniper is a grass field and a red brick-fronted house (an unusual sight in this district of stone buildings) belonging to the vicarage of Slaley. With this hamlet was connected the Tyneside family of Angus.²

Will of Titus Angus of Juniper-house, dated 13th January, 1706/7: Whereas at the head court of the manor of Hexham on 1st October, 1706, I surrendered my messuage called Juniper-house, with the lands on the north side thereof, containing, by estimation, 4 acres; also a messuage called Lee Moor-house, with the lands and appurtenances thereto belonging, containing about 3 acres; also the water corn mill called the Black-hall corn mill, with a kiln for drying oats and the close belonging thereto; also two fulling mills at Black-hall, aforesaid, parcel of the capital messuage called Black-hall; also lands called the Birkfield, etc., etc., to John Angus of Rawhouse, etc., in trust. To my daughters Mary and Hannah, £30 a piece, and the household goods I got with my first wife; to my daughter Sarah, £30; my son William, £40; residue of estate to son Joseph,³ he allowing my wife Isabel the full third part thereof, she executrix.⁴

¹ 'Batching,' grinding in batches as they are sent in by the neighbouring farmers or hinds.

² See Welford, *Men of Mark*, vol. i. p. 81.

³ Joseph Angus of Juniper-house voted for lands there in 1722. *Poll Book*.

⁴ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

FEATHERSTON OF BLACK-HALL.

JOHN FEATHERSTON of Dukesfield voted for Black-hall in 1722; will dated 18th Dec., 1727; proved 1728 (c); buried at Slaley, 25th Dec., 1727. = Ann, sister of 'Jonathan Smith, esq., of London'; executrix to husband's will, under which she took a life interest in Black-hall and its lands; will dated 24th May, 1732; proved 1733 (c).

Jonathan Featherston of Black-hall and of Hexham; voted for Black-hall in 1748; will dated 22nd Feb., 1745/6; proved 1752 (c). = 'Mrs. Featherston buried 7th Nov., 1740' (a). Margaret; married John Hodgson of Durham, and had £10 per annum under her father's will. Her children, Thomas, Anne, and Mathilda, are named in her mother's will.

John Featherston of Black-hall, heir and sole devisee of father, baptised 4th June, 1737 (a); voted for Black-hall in 1774; buried 7th Oct., 1808 (b). = Barbara, daughter and heiress of Thomas Jefferson of Black-hall; married 6th June, 1764 (a); died at Westgate, Newcastle, and was buried 5th July, 1821, aged 71 (b). Jonathan, baptised 26th July, and buried 1st Dec., 1738 (a).

Thomas Featherston of Black-hall; baptised 26th October, 1775 (a); buried 27th Jan., 1814, aged 40 (b). = Jonathan Featherston, baptised 10th Aug., 1778 (b); in 1818 of Newbiggin, surgeon; in 1826 voted for Black-hall, was then of Hexham. = Janet Dunbar Nicholson. John; buried 9th Aug., 1784 (b). Wharton; buried 24th Aug., 1787 (b). Emma, baptised 3rd April, 1766 (b). Margaret, baptised 1768; buried 1780 (b). Barbara, baptised 20th Sept., 1770 (b). Ann, baptised 22nd April, 1773 (b). Hannah, baptised 8th April, 1782. Margaret; buried 10th Sept., 1789 (b). Lydia; buried 11th July, 1793 (b).

Maria; buried 21st Feb., 1810 (b). Barbara Frazer, baptised 14th Sept., 1818 (b).

(a) *Hexham Register.*(b) *Whitley Chapel Register.*(c) *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

'To be sold, the copyhold estate of Black-hall, of 168 acres, with mansion, commonright on large common. Yearly value, £51. Enquire of Mr. Featherston of Hexham, attorney.' *Newcastle Courant*, 29th July, 1732.

The Dye-house is a hamlet of half a dozen houses and a nonconformist chapel, concerning which there is at York a petition, dated 25th April, 1749, from David Fernie, William Shemeld, William Jackson, and Robert Campion, for the licensing and registration of a dwelling house called Juniper Dye-house, then belonging to William Angus, as a place of religious worship for Anabaptists.¹ At Fine-chambers bank-top is a newly-built Methodist chapel.

The hamlet of Ordley, standing on a terrace above the Ordley scars and Rowley burn, and described in 1663 as 'a large towne,' has dwindled to a couple of small grey-slated farm houses and a few cottages. There is also a small school-house, kept up by subscription; the teacher's cottage which adjoins the school has a moulded doorway, as if it had formerly been a portion of a more important building. A row of lime trees, some orchards and closes, in which foundations can be traced, are all the indications that remain of its better days.

¹ *York Faculty Books.*

In 1517, John Stokoe of Nunbush sought sanctuary at Durham, he having at that place, on the day of the Invention of the Cross, killed Robert Ordeley.¹ In 1547 Ordley-hall is called Urde-hall, and belonged to Thomas Armstrong, whose descendants William, George, and Charles Armstrong held it in 1626 in conjunction with Peter Ridley. The Ridley share was owned in 1637 and 1641 by Matthew Ridley, who died in 1643, leaving William Ridley of Softley, in Knaresdale, his heir. Matthew Ridley of Ordley (probably son of William) died in 1668, and Margaret Ridley, his sister, was his heiress, then aged 15. She married John Carr, who died in 1702, leaving an only daughter and heiress Ann Carr.

The other moiety of Ordley-hall was held between 1653 and 1692 by William Yare, in right of his wife, who may have been an Armstrong. His son, Richard, died in 1721. His will is interesting as it mentions heirlooms at Ordley, such as might be found in many an old house in Hexhamshire. They were 'two tables, one great pannell chest, one bedstead, one desk with writings, and two pairs of barrs.' Richard Yare left two children, a son and daughter. James the son lived at Ordley until 1769, when he left his property by will to his nephew (a son of his sister Mary) John, son of Henry Richardson of Stephen's Lolly, county Durham, yeoman.

11th June, 1702. The inventory of the goods of Elizabeth Heron of Oardley, widow:²

	£	s.	d.
Her apparell, purse and money in ye house	10	0	0
In the fore house: one bedstead with bedding and other furniture, two presses, two chairs, two long stools, three kettles, three pans, five pewder dishes, two candlesticks, and a parcell of wooden vessells	1	10	0
In ye easter roome: one bedstead and other furniture, one table, one chair, one chist, one forme, two great chests	0	15	0
Two coves, one quy, and a calfe	4	0	0
A small crop of rye, oats, and wheat	3	0	0
Corne and hay in ye barne and garth	1	10	0
Debts owing to ye deceased	30	0	0
Total	50	15	0
Funeral expences	£4	0	0
Rent owing by the deceased	2	13	9
	6	13	9
	£44	2	3

¹ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 395.

² 5th June, 1702. Elizabeth Heron of Ourdly, widow, papist, buried. *Hexham Register*

In 1832, William Brisco of Simonside and John Brisco of South Shields voted for lands at Ordley. Ordley now belongs to Capt. L. W. Atkinson of Newbiggin, who is also owner of Nunsbrough, of which Hutchinson, writing in 1776, speaks thus :

Nunsbrough, where lays the most picturesque, though confined landskip, the whole county of Northumberland exhibits. We ascended to the brink of the precipice, near 200 feet high, from whence we looked down upon a sequestered vale, almost insulated by the brook, consisting of a fine level plot of corn land, of about eight acres, in the exact form of a horse-shoe; the brook passing over a rugged rocky bottom, under the shadow of lofty hills, in various broken streams was seen on each hand, foaming from fall to fall, which gave a beautiful contrast to the deep hue of the groves. From the brook, the hills to the left arise precipitous, clothed with a fine hanging wood, then glowing with a full sunshine; to the right the steeps laying from the sun, and in the deep shade, were broken, and scattered over in wild irregularity with brushwood, and here and there a grotesque and knotty tree presented itself impending from the precipice; in front, a fine eminence of brown rock lifted its rugged brow and closed the circle, dividing the waters with a promontory a few yards wide. In the clefts, and on the little levels of the rock, some shrubs grow; on its crown stood ripened corn, margined with hedge-row trees, through which a cottage was discovered; and by its foot, a winding road soon escaped the eye in intercepting woods, the rays of light fell happily upon the cliffs, and brightened their colouring. To the right and left, the more distant brook shewed itself in deep and rocky dells, embowered by lofty oaks. To the left hand, the hill which surmounts the wood, is topped with a plain of grass ground, on whose brink stands a farmhold, accessible by a narrow path winding up the steep, from whence the woods make a beautiful curvature: the distant back-ground is composed of heath lands. On the left, woodlands were seen on the circus winding on the mazy channel of the brook, here and there intercepted by heathy eminences; the back-ground very distant, and tinged with a misty azure. . . . This is the finest natural theatre I ever saw; the circle is almost geometrically just.¹

In the fork between the Rowley burn and the Devil's Water is the Steel. After the battle of Heavenfield, in 634, King Cadwalla was killed at a place called Denisesburn.² This stream for long was identified with the Erring burn, and the place of Cadwalla's death was located near the chapel of St. Oswald's; but the discovery³ of a charter made between Thomas de Whittington and Archbishop Gray, on the 23rd November, 1233, settles the long disputed matter, and fixes the place of Cadwalla's death at a point up the Devil's Water.

'Omnibus: Thomas de Whittington, salutem. Noveritis me concessisse Waltero Ebor. archiepiscopo, tertiam partem de Hoggesty, quam tenui de dono Ranulphi de Porchet, de qua cartham suam habui. Pro hac concessione dedit mihi dictus archiepiscopus, in escambium, xx acras terræ de vasto suo in Ruleystal, inter istas divisas, videlicet, inter Deniseburn et Divilis, incipiendo ex parte orientali super Divilis, et ascendendo ad magnam viam quæ ducit usque ad forestam de Lilleswude. Reddendo inde annuatim eidem domino archiepiscopo et successoribus suis xl denarios. Hiis testibus, B. priore de Extold,' etc.⁴

¹ Hutchinson, *Northumberland*, vol. i. p. 172.

² 'Infandus Brittonum dux . . . interemptus est, in loco qui lingua Anglorum Denisesburna, id est rivus Denisi vocatur.' Beda, *Hist. Eccl.* lib. iii. cap. i.

³ See address by the Rev. W. Greenwell, *Trans. Tyneside Nat. Club*, 1863-64, vol. v. pp. 13, 14.

⁴ *Lansdowne MSS.* 402, 19. British Museum.

Ruleystal is now the Steel, Lilleswude is Lillswood, and a reference to the map will show that Denisesburn can be no other than Rowley burn. In the time of Henry III., Gilbert de Slaley granted to the priory of Hexham pasturage in the Steel for 260 sheep. In 1479 the house of Hexham had a sheepfold in 'Le Stele,' one acre in extent, and pasturage for 300 sheep. In 1547 the Steel was held with the Heigh and the Black-hall by John Swinburn at a rent of 8s. per annum. John Mowbray of the Steel, gentleman, made his will 15th June, 1605, and devised to his executor his mortgage 'on the lands I live on, called Easter and Wester Steeles, in Hexham shire,' his lands in Slaley, and his messuages in Wolsingham, to be sold to pay debts and legacies.¹ No other place was assessed in 1663 than Steel-hall, which, with the Black-hall, was rated to Thomas Sanderson of Healey. The Steel is now a hamlet of four grey-slated or heather-thatched farm houses; it has long been, and is now, held by the lord of the manor.

At the bottom of the valley of the West Dipton burn, above Newbiggin, is the Hole-house, belonging to Capt. Atkinson, and above it, approached from Dotland by the Guards Lane, is the West Dipton mill, standing on the high road between Hexham and Whitley, one of the numerous ancient mills of the regality. In 1583 Eleanor, wife of John Errington and daughter of John Thirlwall, paid a fine on her admittance by the lord of the manor as tenant on the Court Rolls of the mill. It is uncertain who owned the place immediately after this date. In 1699 George Douglas, who may only have been a tenant, was charged with taking unlawful moulters at Dipton mill, 'he having taken half a peck out of a bowl of oats after they were dried, which, according to the goodness of the corn, would be sometime ye $\frac{1}{10}$ th or $\frac{1}{12}$ th part of the whole, whereas by custom he ought to have but the $\frac{1}{18}$ th part.'²

The inn here has been recently rebuilt out of the stones of the adjacent and now demolished onstead of Nicholas-hall: both places belong to Mr. Tucker of Gateshead.

A little further up the stream was another mill, and on the height above may be seen the ruined tower of a windmill; both were on the estate of Shield Green, which now belongs to Messrs. Henry and George H. Bell. On the fell beyond is Oxenrods and Loadman.³

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

² *Sessions Records.*

³ Loadman was sold in 1793 by Samuel Marriot of Newcastle to James Johnson for £1,135.

Higher up the West Dipton burn is a cave, known as the Queen's cave, associated by local tradition with Margaret of Anjou, the queen of Henry VI. As usually narrated, the story runs that after the battle of Hexham,¹ Queen Margaret and her son, Edward, fell into the hands of a band of Yorkists, but while they were disputing over her jewels and other treasure, she succeeded in persuading an esquire to aid her escape, and the three rode away unperceived by their captors, who were still engrossed in their quarrel over the booty. Hard by the scene of this adventure was a wood which was the resort of freebooters, who were the terror of the surrounding district. The queen and prince had not proceeded far when they were confronted by a member of the band. The situation was a critical one, but it was saved by the courage and presence of mind of Queen Margaret. Calling the man to her, she told him that he had been born in a fortunate hour. A chance was given to him of redeeming by a single act a life of vice and crime. The son of his king was at his feet for him to save. The unhappy queen besought him to protect his prince, and endeavour to convey him to a place of safety. Overcome by Margaret's entreaties and prayers, the bandit agreed to become the protector of the fugitives, swore he would suffer a thousand torments ere he would abandon the prince, implored the queen's pardon for his misdeeds, and vowed he would devote the remainder of his life to acts of mercy. Convinced of his fidelity, the queen left her son in the hands of the robber, while she went in search of her husband.² The cave on the West Dipton burn is said to be the place where Margaret and Prince Edward were temporarily lodged by their protector. It is 31 feet long and 14 feet broad, but scarcely high enough to allow of a person standing upright. In the middle is a massive pillar of rude masonry which is said to mark the line of a wall which formerly divided the cave into two parts.³ The chief authority is Chastellain, who says that he had it from the queen herself, and gives a very circumstantial account of the affair. In the face of such testimony it is difficult to question the substantial truth of the incident.

Chastellain tells the story immediately after relating a disgraceful retreat from 'Rel.' Based on the identification of this place with Mount Ryall, now called Rye hill, on the right bank of the Devil's Water, it has

¹ The 'songe made in Edward the Fourthe hys tyme of ye Battele of Hexhamme anno 1414,' and printed at Newcastle by M. A. Richardson in 1848 is spurious.

² Chastellain, *Chroniques des derniers Ducs de Bourgoyne* in *Panthéon Litteraire*, iv. pp. 230-2. See Bates, *Border Holds*, i. pp. 439-443.

³ Wright, *Hist. of Hexham*, pp. 193, 194.

been held that there were two battles of Hexham, one fought in 1463, and the other on the 4th May, 1464. It has been sufficiently established that, owing to the movements in the North of the earl of Warwick, Queen Margaret¹ left the country before the latter battle, and that she was abroad at that time. On the other hand, it is curious that the *inquisitio post mortem* of the duke of Somerset states that he died on April 3rd, 1463, suggesting the idea that the clerk had confused the dates of two battles fought about the same time near the same place.² There is also a local tradition that the Lancastrians were encamped on the left bank of the Devil's Water, now called the Royal banks.³

THE MIDDLE QUARTER.

The Middle Quarter occupies a place midway between the High and Low Quarters, in regard to area, population, wealth, as well as geographical position. Its area is 4,203 acres with a rateable value of £2,423 at the present time. The population⁴ at the last census was 198.

The most populous part of the Middle Quarter is the flat land lying east of the Rowley burn, and between that stream and the Devil's Water. Here is situated Whitley mill and Mollerstead. Whitley chapel is close by, with Woodside and Staples to the east of it, and south of these are clustered Aydon Shields, Mire-house, Rawgreen, and Salmon-field, with other tenements.

Whitley mill was at one time the principal mill in the shire, and a valuable possession of its lord. The Black Book enumerates it amongst the possessions of the priory in the following words: 'Item est ibidem j campus sub Dotland versus orientem cont. in se lx acras terræ scaccarii arabilis et prati, quem tenent pro emendatione molendini de Whitley.'

On the 19th October, 1534, George Ogle paid his fine to the archbishop, and was admitted to the water corn mill called Qwhetle mill, in Newlands, and a parcel of ground called the 'Miln-dam-hawgh,' between the mill and the mill dam, to hold at the annual rent of 26s. 8d. George Ogle died thirteen years after; and in October, 1547, his son, Henry Ogle, was

¹ Near the Queen's cave is the Queen's lech, in which, as the local tradition has it, her horse stumbled.

² Bates, *Border Holds*, pp. 438-444. Bates, *History of Northumberland*, p. 198.

³ *Ex. inf.* Captain Atkinson of Newbiggin (1890).

⁴ The Census Returns are: 1801, 345; 1811, 339; 1821, 351; 1831, 311; 1841, 251; 1851, 313; 1861, 255; 1871, 243; 1881, 263; 1891, 198.



THE QUEEN'S CAVE.

admitted to Whitlemyln, his mother's dower excepted. Henry Ogle, in 1591, surrendered to John Ogle 4 acres in Hexham town haugh, in a place called 'Botesten Leases, 2 acres at the Garthhead, 2 acres near the mill way-side, 1 acre near the Common garth, 2 half acres near the Westgate, 2 acres of meadow called Stotfield-hils, 1 acre in the Dailes and a water corn mill, called Whytlee mill, and 2 acres between the mill fleym and the mill, held at a rent of 46s. 8d.' In 1598 John Ogle surrendered to Frances, his wife, the mill and 'two closes between the miln fleem and the water called Rowle burn,' and in 1620 he sold the same to Sir Ralph and Sir John Delaval.¹

The tenants, who by their services were bound to grind at the lord's mill, had for long been in the habit of grinding elsewhere on more favourable terms. On the 25th January, 1542, Sir Reginald Carnaby writes to the tenants in the shire :

To my well beloved all the king's tenants of Nubbock, Yarridge, Dotland, Greenridge, the Hill, and the Hole-house, and the Pais, and to every of them.

In the king's name, I command you, and every of you that, concerning the use of mills within this shire of Hexham, that ye and every of you as ye have done in times past, make suit, and go to either the mylnes called Tyne mylnes at Hexham, or else to my lord archbishop's mylne of Whitley ; and that if ye go to any other mylnes but one of these two, so oft as ye or any of yours so doth, to incur in such danger and loss as hath been accustomed, and also to stand to such order as was set at the last head court, holden at Hexham, this 20th day last past.

R. CARNABIE.

The names of these that have gone from the said mylnes: William Carnabie of Nubbock, gent., Edmund Robson of Gryndridge, Rowland Lowe of the Pais, yeoman, Edward Armstrong of the same, John Bellingham of the same.²

In 1621, Sir Ralph Delaval and Sir John Delaval, then owners of Whitley mill, brought an action against Robert Thirlwall for having a mill on his estate at Black-hall, and receiving corn to grind to the prejudice of their rights. It then appeared in evidence that though Whitley was still the chief mill of the regality, the inhabitants of the shire claimed full liberty with regard to grinding their corn, and frequently went out of the district to Blanchland mill, Eastwood mill, and Allendale mill. One of the witnesses went so far as to say that the copyholders of the liberty might grind where they would.³ Sir Ralph and Sir John Delaval appear to have lost their action, for Black-hall mill continued to exist, and no restrictions seem to have been placed upon the building of mills in other parts of the regality, so that the ancient feudal custom of moulter gradually disappeared. In 1630 Sir

¹ *Greenwich Hospital Papers*, Whitley Mill, A. Nos. 1-5. ² Dobson, *Contributions to Local History*, p. 72.

³ *Exchequer Depositions by Commission*, Hilary Term, 19 Jas. I. No. 11.

John Delaval surrendered Whitley mill to the use of Sir Edward Radcliffe, and it remained the property of the Radcliffe family until the Derwentwater estates escheated to the Crown, and were granted to the Greenwich hospital commissioners. In 1805, Whitley mill¹ farm consisted of 32 acres of land, with 'a dwelling house very much out of repair, a water corn mill, two pairs of stones, and a kiln for drying oatmeal.' It was let under lease at £30 per annum.² It is a pleasant place, in a hollow between Dalton and Mollersteads, and now belongs to the Rev. J. F. Johnson. The village of Whitley consists of a substantially-built school-house and cottage for the teacher, close by the chapel; a public house, locally known as 'Click 'em in'; and a couple of cottages.

East of Whitley mill is Mollersteads, which, at the time of the survey of 1547, held in thirds by John Swinburn, who possessed two tenements, paying a rent of 8s. 10½d., and Richard Werdell, who held one tenement at a rent of 4s. 5½d. In 1608, 'John Hucheson held certain lande, beinge the one thirde parte of the Maller Steedes,' at the yearly rent of 4s., it being worth £1 6s. 8d. over and above the rent. In 1663 the town was rated at £12 5s. 6d., and was held in proportions, not stated, by Peter Thirlwall, John Thirlwall, Robert Fairbridge, Robert Dixon, Ann Hutchinson, and Elizabeth Hutchinson. It may be inferred that the two Hutchinsons held the same third which Wardell held in 1647, that Fairbridge and Dixon held another, and the two Thirlwalls the remaining one of the two thirds which had once belonged to John Swinburn. Robert Dixon, in 1668, and Edward Dixon, in 1702, held the lands which now belong to their descendant, Mr. Robert Dixon.³

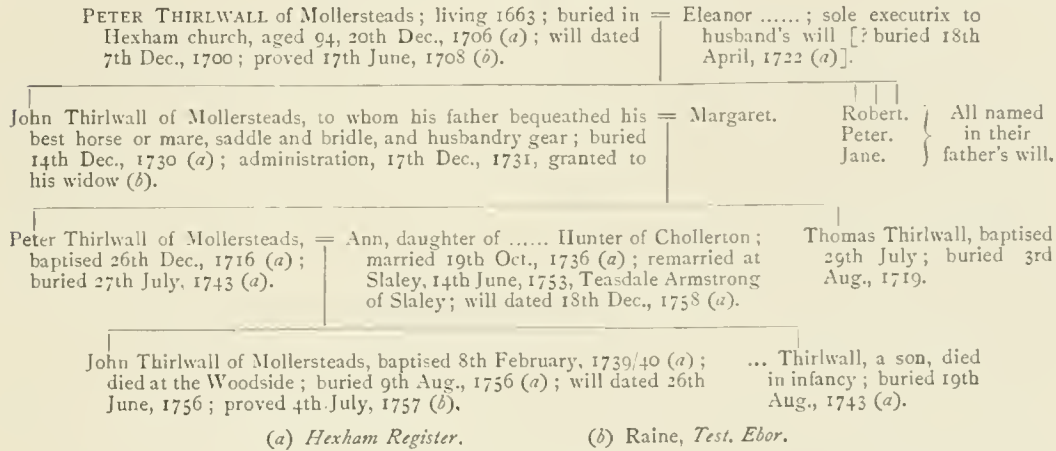
The first Thirlwall at Mollersteads was Peter, who made his will in 1700, leaving half his lands there to his wife, who was to allow his son, John, 'to fell, cut down, stack, perk, and carry away all the wood and bark.'⁴ John Thirlwall died in 1730, leaving a son, Peter, who died in 1743. With Peter's son, John Thirlwall of Woodside, the male representation of the family died out. He made his will in 1756, being then only seventeen

¹ At the division of the common in 1800 there was allotted to Greenwich hospital for Whitley mill 24 acres of freehold land and 9½ stints; to John Johnson for Whitley mill hill 2 acres of freehold and 3 stints on the stinted pastures. ² *Report of Greenwich Hospital Estates*, 1805, p. 111.

³ To Edward Dixon was awarded in 1800, in respect of his estate at Mollersteads and Earthly Mires, 21 acres of copyhold land and 12¾ stints. At the division of the common in 1800 there was awarded to the Rev. Abraham Brown, in respect of Mollersteads, 26 acres of copyhold land and 17¾ stints on the stinted pastures. He also obtained an allotment of half an acre of freehold land in respect of a smith's shop. ⁴ *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

years old,¹ but weak and sick, and left his property in trust for his mother, Ann, and then to his cousins, Cuthbert and Ann Teasdale, the children of his aunt, Elizabeth Teasdale of Dalton. Teasdale Armstrong and his wife died within a few months of each other in 1758, and six years later the heirs sold their share of Mollersteads (one-third) for £1,070, as an augmentation of the living of Whitley.

THIRLWALL OF MOLLERSTEADS.



Lying to the south of Whitley are the High and Low Staples. The latter stands on a terrace above the Devil's Water, and in 1547 was held by Thomas Rowland as the Nether Stapple, and in 1663 by Percival Dixon, who was rated for it at £2 17s. 6d. In 1805 the Greenwich hospital commissioners² owned two small farms here, which together contained 58 acres of ancient lands and 51 acres allotted on the division of Hexham common:

¹ 26th June, 1756. Will of John Thirlwall of Woodside, in Hexhamshire, son of Peter Thirlwall of Mollersteads, gent., deceased, of the age of 17, and weak and sick. All to my friends James Yare of Oardley, gent., and Anthony Hunter of Chollerton, gent., to take care of it during the lives of Teasdale Armstrong of Woodside, gent., and my dear mother Anne, his wife, formerly Thirlwall, for my mother's use, and then to my cousins, Cuthbert and Ann Teasdale, children of my aunt Elizabeth Teasdale of Dalton, in Northumberland. Proved at York, 4th July, 1757. Raine, Test. Ebor.

This will would only pass the personal estate which, before 1837, infants above the age of 14 years might dispose of by will: this anomaly was done away by Act of Parliament, 1 Vic. c. 26. s. 7.

² 18th December, 1758. Will of Ann Armstrong of Hexhamshire, widow. To be privately buried in the church of Hexham. To the daughters of my sister, Margaret Hunter, a guinea each. Residue to my brother, Anthony Hunter, in trust to pay my sister, Elizabeth Teasdale, the interest for life, and then to pay to my nephews, Cuthbert and Richard Teasdale, her sons, £5 each, and to her daughters, Ann and Elizabeth Teasdale, the same. My brother sole executor. Proved 5th December, 1759. Raine, Test. Ebor.

² At the division of the common, in 1800, there was awarded to Thomas Richard and Diana Beaumont, in respect of their lands in Low Staples, 16 acres of copyhold and 5½ stints. To the Greenwich hospital commissioners for their farm of North Staples and Low Staples, 28 acres and 12 stints, and 22 acres and 7½ stints respectively.

they produced a rent of £70 a year.¹ Both High and Low Staples now belong to Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont.

Further up the valley are the Moss-house, the Mire-house, and Rawgreen, and on the higher ground High and Low Holmes, Aydon Shield, and Salmon-field.

The Mire-house in the sixteenth century belonged to a family of Hurde or Ord, and in 1608 John Ogle held the tenement of Nether Mire-house of the annual value of 15s. 4d. The Upper Mire-house² of 46 acres of ancient enclosure in 1800 received an allotment of 45 acres on the division of the Hexham and Allendale common. It had been let twelve years before under lease for £54 per annum, and is described as of better quality than is generally found on the Hexhamshire estate.³ It is entitled to 16 stints on the stinted pastures, and now belongs to Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont.

The Rawgreen or Rowgreen in 1547, like the Mire-house and Woodside, belonged to George Hurde or Ord. The Nether Rawgreen in 1608 was worth £3 5s. 4d. a year, and was held by Robert Ward; in 1663, as the Nether Rowgreen, it was rated at £7 8s., Matthew Dinning being tenant. He is mentioned in the will of his brother William in 1676. It is watered by the Raw burn and the Devil's Water, and is divided into three small hamlets, the Rawgreen, the Low Rawgreen, and the High Rawgreen. The Low Rawgreen, a copyhold farm of 34 acres, to which was allotted in 1800 32 acres of common and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ stints on the stinted pastures, was with the wood, containing 33 acres, mostly of natural oak, purchased for £1,936 by the Greenwich hospital commissioners in 1791.⁴ The East and West Rawgreen farms, also belonging to the commissioners, are freehold, and together contained 113 acres of ancient enclosure, augmented in 1800 by an allotment of 129 acres from the common lands. They are also entitled to 26 stints on the stinted pastures.

As there is a place of the same name in Catton grieveship, the Holmes may not be the Holme from which a rent charge was purchased by Prior William in 1209.⁵ It is not mentioned in the Black Book in 1479; but, in 1608, a tenement at the Holmes in Hexhamshire, with the appurtenances, of

¹ *Report of Greenwich Hospital Commissioners*, 1805, pp. 111, 112.

² James Forster was awarded 13 acres of freehold and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ stints for Low Mire-house, and Thomas Stokoe had an allotment of 5 acres to be held by copy, with 3 $\frac{2}{3}$ stints also in respect of holding at Mire-house.

³ *Report of Greenwich Hospital Commissioners*, 1805, p. 111.

⁴ *Ibid.* pp. 112, 113.

⁵ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. preface clviii.

the yearly value of £2 5s. 4d., was held by James Dixon. The Rate Book of 1663 mentions the Holmes mill and the Nether Holmes, but gives neither owner nor rateable value. From 1653 it seems to have been held by the Ords of Ardley, and to have passed, in 1779, under the will of Elizabeth Armstrong, the last of the family, to William Scott of Stamfordham. The High Holmes now belongs to Mr. Dixon Pratt.

The Low Holmes belonged to Greenwich hospital, and in 1800 had an allotment out of Hexham common of 7 acres, and is entitled to $3\frac{1}{2}$ stints in the undivided commons. It is now owned by Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont.

In conjunction with Rowley, Aydon Shield is regarded as a mesne manor within the regality.¹ In 1547 Aydon Shield was held by George Ogle at the considerable rent of £4 19s. 8d., and was entered as a freehold in 1608, being then owned by Edward Radcliffe. Under the alternative name of Aydon hills it was, in 1663, rated to Sir Edward Radcliffe at the incomprehensible rent of £97 3s. 8d., which exceeds by £4 the rent it brought to the Greenwich hospital commissioners in 1789. In the latter year the estate contained 149 acres of land of good quality; and in 1800 it obtained an allotment of 82 acres of the common lands and $33\frac{2}{3}$ stints on the stinted pastures. It now belongs to Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont.

Though Salmon-field was stated in 1805 to be a farm of 122 acres of ancient lands, with an additional 101 acres allotted to it on the enclosure of Hexham commons, it does not appear by that name in any of the older records. It was reported to the commissioners that some part of it was good land, but that of the addition only a very small part had been improved. It was let at £78 per annum.²

On the ridge between the Ham burn and the clear, but peat-stained, Rowley burn stands Dalton, which now consists of a farm house, surrounded by fine sycamores, and a few cottages. Low Dalton is a little to the east, and is a still smaller hamlet. In 1547 John Swinburn of Barker-house held a tenement in Dalton³ for which he paid a rent of 4s. a year. It subsequently came to the Erringtons, and its further connection with that family will be seen in the pedigree given under Ardley. Both High and Low Dalton now belong to Mr. Edward Stobbs.

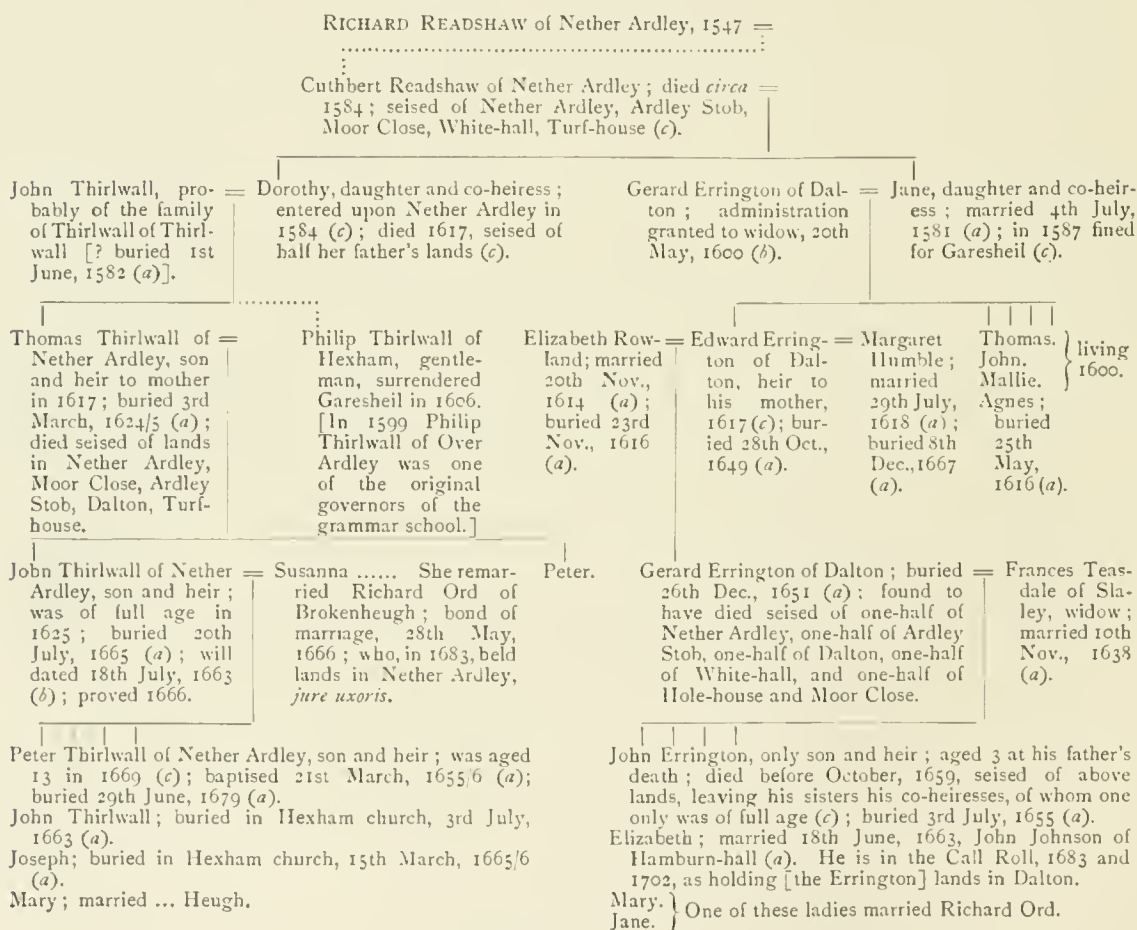
¹ *Report of Greenwich Hospital Commissioners, 1805, pp. 106. 115.*

² *Ibid.* p. 107. It has also $29\frac{2}{3}$ stints on the stinted pastures.

³ The Dalton so frequently mentioned in the Black Book is the place of that name near Dissington, in the parish of Newburn.

North of the Ham burn are grouped the five homesteads of Upper Ardley, Nether Ardley, Ardley Stob, Cooks-house, and Wally Thorn. In the farm house of Low Ardley is a large and long window, originally of three lights, but now of two, having a label over it. The Stob has a decaying homestead, with steep heather-thatched roofs. In 1547 Richard Readshaw held by copy of Court Roll all the lands of [Nether] Ardley, a moiety of Turf-house and of White-hall, at a rent of 22s., whilst Robert Thurbottell held a tenement called Over Ardley at a rent of 17s. 1d. The subsequent descent of Nether Ardley is shown in the following pedigree of Errington and Thirlwall and the evidences appended :

ERRINGTON AND THIRLWALL OF NETHER ARDLEY AND DALTON.

(a) *Hexham Register.*(b) *Raine, Test. Ebor.*(c) *Hexham Manor Rolls.*

EVIDENCES TO ERRINGTON AND THIRLWALL PEDIGREE.

1568. Thomas Errington of Walwick Grange surrenders Nether Ardley to John Thirlwall, and 22nd September, 1600, Thomas Errington of Walwick Grange was found to have died seised of a tenement in Ardley, one-third of Easter Greenridge, three-fourth parts of the Linnels mill, to which Edward Errington, his son and heir, was admitted. *Court Rolls*.

In 1608, Jane Errington held a moiety of certain lands in Nether Ardley which was worth £2 13s. 10d. a year; and John Thirlwall, in right of his wife, held the other moiety; Edward Errington held the third part of Over Ardley, with lands in East Greenridge, Newbiggin, etc. Vol. iii. p. 91.

1617. Dorothy Errington, daughter and co-heiress of Cuthbert Readshaw, deceased, was found to have died seised of lands in Ardley Stob, and Thomas Thirlwall of Nether Ardley was her son and heir, and of full age. 1625. John Thirlwall of Nether Ardley was found to have died seised of lands in Nether Ardley, Ardley Stob, etc. John Thirlwall, his son and heir, was of full age. 1646. Edward Errington of Walwick Grange surrendered one-third of Nether Ardley to William Charlton and William Ridley. 1653. Gerard Errington was found to have died seised of Ardley, etc., leaving John Errington his son and heir, then three years of age. 1659. John, son of Gerard Errington, is found to have died seised of lands in Nether Ardley and half of Ardley Stob: Elizabeth, Mary, and Jane were his sisters and co-heiresses, only one of whom was of full age. *Court Rolls*.

In 1663 Nether Ordley (*sic*) was rated to Mr. John Thirlwall at £6 16s., and Over Ordley to John Thirlwall, esq., at £12 9s. *Book of Rates*.

1664. John Thirlwall surrenders Nether Ardley to his own use. 1669. John Thirlwall of Nether Ardley is found to have died seised of moieties of Nether Ardley and Ardley Stob; Peter Thirlwall, then aged 13 years, is his son and heir.

1682. John Thirlwall surrenders a moiety of Nether Ardley and Ardley Stob to John Johnson of Hamburn-hall. 1685. John Thirlwall surrenders half of Nether Ardley and Ardley Stob to Richard Ord. 1686. John Thirlwall surrenders Upper Ardley to Ralph Clavering and . . . Charlton. *Court Rolls*.

Low Ardley, Ardley Stob, and Wally Thorn now belong to the Rev. J. F. Johnson. For High Ardley and Cooks-house, Edward Charlton, in 1800, obtained an allotment of common of 117 acres of copyhold land and 25 $\frac{4}{5}$ stints on the stinted pastures. High Ardley now belongs to Sir John Haggerston.

The Barker-house stands on a bank overhanging Ardley dene and the Ham burn, with three or four fine ash trees near the old grey-slatted house. It was held in 1547 by John Swinburn, at a rent of 8s., and, with Litterage, Lillswood, and other places, belonged in the seventeenth century to the family of that Richard Ord, a person of marked and interesting character, who was the leading member in the Baptist congregation at Hexham when Mr. Tilham was the pastor. Richard Ord was a son of John Ord¹ of Brokenheugh, in the chapelry of Haydon Bridge, and Litterage descended to him from a long line of ancestors. He made his will in 1676, when his life must have been in peril, commending his soul in the following pathetic terms to 'Almighty God my Maker, and to Jesus Christ my Redeemer, upon whose meritorious passion and mercy I do onely relye for a healing medicine for all

¹ Barker-house was purchased 16th March, 1639, from Thomas Waide of Upper Ardley by John Ord of 'Swingshecles.' and by him 1st January, 1650, was given to his second son, John Ord. *Éx. inf.* Mr. L. C. Lockhart.

my sores, leaving my motherlesse (and about to be fatherlesse) children unto the keeping of the Lord.' He confirms a deed of gift, which he had made in 1662, to his father, John Ord, and other trustees, of all his personal estate to provide for his six children, Thomas, Richard, Margaret, Barbara, Phœbe, and Dorcas, of whom Thomas and Margaret were, at the time when his will was made, dead. He mentions his second wife Susanna, to whom he leaves an annuity of £8, making her and his daughter Barbara his executors, and his brother John Ord, and trusty friend John Swinburne, the overseers of his will.

The testator did not die then, as he expected. On the 28th of December, 1696, when he was lying apparently *in extremis*, the bystanders urged him to make his will. The sick man replied: 'I have made my will severall years agoe, and it's lying in my parchment coloured book, signed and sealed.' The document was brought to the dying man, who said, when he saw it, 'This is it; and this is all the will I will make.'

Under the will of Richard Ord's great-nephew, Thomas Ord, a surgeon in Hexham, Barker-house was given to his wife for life with remainder to John Ord of Hamburn-hall, son of John Ord, in fee. John Ord in 1817 sold it to his father-in-law, James Pigg of Langhope, who, by will dated 4th September, 1839, gave it and all his real estate to his son, Matthew Pigg, for life, with remainder to his (the testator's) grandson, James Ord. The latter, who succeeded in 1850, and resided on his leasehold estate at Chester-wood, near Haydon Bridge, in October, 1859, contracted to sell Barker-house, and about the same time to purchase a leasehold estate adjoining Chester-wood. On the 12th May, 1860, he conveyed Barker-house and received the purchase money, and the 15th was fixed for the completion of his purchase at Chester-wood. On the evening of the 14th he was seized with an apoplectic fit, and without recovering consciousness died on the following day. He had made his will in March, 1859, in effect giving his Chester-wood property to his only son, and leaving Barker-house as a provision for his three daughters. The sale and purchase above mentioned threw these provisions into confusion, and his sudden death left them so. Litigation followed, in which it was sought unsuccessfully to secure the property purchased at Chester-wood with the Barker-house proceeds for the testator's daughters.¹ The Barker-house now belongs to Mr. John Potts. The Ord pedigree is attempted in the following table :

¹ *Ex. inf.* Mr. L. C. Lockhart; *cf. Law Reports* 12 ch. div. 22, *re* Ord, *Dickinson v. Dickinson*.

ORD OF ARDLEY AND BARKER-HOUSE.

GEORGE ORD, held lands in Litterage, Stonehouse, = Margaret Dixon of Hunstanworth ;
and White-hall in 1608. married 8th July, 1589 (a).

William Ord, held Litterage in 1628 =

John Ord of the Barker-house and Litterage, held Litterage from 1637 = Barbara.
to 1665 ; party to son's deed of gift in 1662 ; will dated 2nd July,
1664 (b).

... Errington, =
sister and co-
heiress of
John Erring-
ton of Nether
Ardley.

Richard Ord of Brokenheugh =
in 1666 and of Ardley ;
buried 1st Jan., 1696/7 (a) ;
will dated 24th August,
1676 ; proved 4th Feb.,
1696/7 (b). By *ing. p.m.*
was found to have died
seised of half of Lills-
wood, Litterage, and the
Holmes.

Susanna,
widow of
John Thirl-
wall of
Nether
Ardley ;
bond of
marriage
28th Mar.,
1666.

John Ord of Barker-house, which he had by deed of =
gift from his father 1st Jan., 1650 ; second son.*

Mar- = John Ord of Dal- = Mary ; to whom
garet ton and Barker- her husband gave
..... ; house ; buried his lands in Dal-
buried at Haydon, a ton called the
2nd dissenter, 25th Stillhouse during
Mar., March, 1719 (a) ; the minorities of
1701/2 will dated 19th his daughters Mar-
(a). March, 1718/9 ; garet, Rebecca,
proved 1719 (b).* and Mary.

John Ord of =
Barker-house ;
named in
father's will ;
will dated 20th
Dec., 1730 ;
proved 1732
(b).

Sarah, daughter
of John John-
son of Ham-
burn-hall ;
married 25th
April, 1700
(a).

Abraham Ord, =
to whom his
father devised
the Hole-
house, dyer ;
buried 17th
Mar., 1756 (a).

Elizabeth Walker ; mar-
ried at Haydon
chapel, 16th June,
1698 ; both were
minors (a) ; buried
5th Jan., 1699/1700
(a).

Eleanor ; mar-
ried 7th Aug.,
1707, Thomas
Ridley of the
Motehill, Si-
mondburn (a).
Margaret.
Rebecca.
Mary.

Thomas Ord
of Barker-
house ; mar-
ried in Scot-
land, 7th
Feb., 1697,
Mary
Thompson.

John ; buried 9th Feb.,
1698/9 (a).

Thomas Ord of Barker-house, surgeon ; =
will dated 17th Jan., 1798 ; proved
at York, 21st Feb., 1798 (b) ; *s.p.* ;
huried 22nd Jan., 1798 (a).

Mary ;
executrix to
husband's
will.

John, baptised
18th March,
1701 (a).

Elizabeth, baptised 7th July, 1706 (a) ;
married William Denning and was
living 1730. ↓
Margaret, baptised 30th Sept., 1708 (a).

Thomas Ord ; living
1662 ; dead before
1676.

Richard Ord of Ardley ; was living 1662, =
and in 1701 was found to be son and
heir to his father ; buried 19th Sept.,
1743 (a) ; will dated 5th Aug., 1738
(b) ; he was then residing in Hexham ;
proved 24th Oct., 1750.

Margaret ; married ... Hedley ; living
1662 ; dead before 1676. ↓
Barbara ; living 1662.
Phæbe ; living 1662.
Dorcas ; living 1662.

Richard Ord of =
Hexham, solici-
tor ; buried 1st
Dec., 1732 (a) ;
will dated 10th
Oct., 1730 (b) ;
s.p.

Frances ... , widow
of Dr. Dawson ;
married 14th
April, 1721 (a) ;
executrix to hus-
band's will.

John ; buried 27th May, 1711 (a).
Mary ; married 6th Dec., 1722,
Abraham Teesdale of Dalton (a).
Phæbe ; died in infancy ; buried
25th Feb., 1698/9 (a).
Phæbe, born 21st Dec., 1702 ;
buried in Hexham church, 18th
March, 1719/20 (a).
Barbara ; married Patrick Kelly
of Corbridge.
Sarah ; buried 25th Feb., 1698/9 (a).

Elizabeth, execu- =
trix and resid-
uary legatee of
father ; died
s.p. ; will dated
3rd April, 1770 ;
proved 1779
(b).

William Arm-
strong of
Hexham ;
administration
granted to
widow, 22nd
March, 1759
(b).

Richard Ord Armstrong ; buried 13th Jan., 1745/6 (a).

Mary ; buried 19th Jan., 1745/6 (a).

(a) Hexham Register.

(b) Raine, Test. Ebor.

* Query, whether these two John Ords were or were not identical?

EVIDENCES TO ORD PEDIGREE.

Will, dated 24th August, 1676, of Richard Ord of Nether Ardley, in the liberty of Hexham: 'Leaving my motherlesse (and about to be fatherlesse) children into ye keeping of ye Lord, and for my worldly estate that He hath intrusted me with here, I do order as followeth: Know ye then that it is not my purpose to abrogate or make null, but that I do hereby ratifie and confirme that deed of guift made in ye year of God (as I remember) 1662, to my father John Ord, and my trusty friends William Weldon ye elder of Adon Sheels, Alexander Forster, then of Over Eshells, and Richard Walton of Peacock-house, and now in ye custody and possession of ye said William Weldon, of all my personal estate for ye raising and providing of portions to my six children, Thomas, Richard, Margaret, Barbary, Phœbe, and Dorcas.' My son Thomas being now dead, his share to be divided amongst ye rest; my daughter Margaret being dead, her share shall be given to her son Anthony Hedley; my son Richard Ord shall pay out of my real estate unto my dear wife Susanna, £8 a year for life. Wife and daughter Barbary, executors; friends John Swinburn and brother John Ord, supervisors.¹

A memorandum, dated 19th January, 1696, is endorsed on the will, by which Christopher Dodd of Mill hill, yeoman; Titus Angus of Juniper-house, and others, testify that on 28th December before, Mr. Richard Ord had, in their presence, confirmed his will, saying, 'This is it; and this is all the will I will make.' Proved 4th February, 1696/7.¹

Will, dated 5th August, 1738, of Richard Ord of Hexham, gent.: My daughter Elizabeth, wife of William Armstrong, executor and residuary legatee; my daughter-in-law Frances Ord of Hexham, widow, £10 per annum; my daughter Barbara, wife of Patrick Kelley of Corbridge, £12 per annum.¹

Will, dated 10th October, 1730, of Richard Ord of Hexham, gent.: My wife Frances, my dwelling house in Hexham for life; then to my sister Teasdale, my sister Elizabeth Ord, my nephew Joseph Lazonby, and my nephew Richard Spain. To my brother Hope, a mourning ring, that I bought in memory of his mother-in-law, my aunt Davidson. My father Ord. Residue to wife, she executrix. Proved 22nd September, 1733.¹

Will, dated 3rd April, 1770, of Elizabeth Armstrong of Hexham, widow: My lands at Ardley, Ardley Stobs, the Holmes, etc., and house at Hexham, to Benjamin Peile of Newcastle, gent., and John Bell of Hexham, gent., in trust to pay to John Scott of Stannerton, surgeon and apothecary, an annuity of £12. The persons who shall be entitled to the said lands to take the name of Ord, and my trustees to pay for the Act of Parliament to enable them to do so; settlement upon Thomas Scott, son of the said John Scott, and his sons; then William Scott, second son of John Scott; then Philip, the third son, etc. To Robert Errington of Upper Ardley, £100; the children of Richard Errington, deceased, his brother, £100; John Errington, son of John Errington of Crooks-house, deceased, £50, etc. Proved July, 1779.¹

William Ord of Nether Ardley, and son of John Scott, late of Stamfordham, surgeon, was seised of Nether Ardley and Ardley Stobs in 1792 and 1801.²

Will, dated 24th December, 1824, of William Ord (formerly Scott) of North Shields, in which he gave his copyhold lands in the manor of Hexham to his wife Elizabeth for life, with remainder to his two nieces Barbara Poole and Elizabeth Poole. The testator outlived his wife, and died 5th November, 1832.

Barbara and Elizabeth Poole, at a Manor Court held 20th June, 1835, sought to be admitted, but their right was opposed by Richard Errington who claimed that the devise by Ord to his nieces could not operate, and that he was the right heir of Elizabeth Armstrong.³

1824. To be sold, the reversion (expectant on the death of a gentleman aged 80) of the copyhold estates of Nether Ardley, Ardley Stob, Walley Thorn, and the Holmes.⁴

1836, 17th November. Richard Errington of Nether Ardley was admitted (as heir of Elizabeth Armstrong) under *mandamus* from the Court of King's Bench to a tenement at Nether Ardley, the Holmes, and parcels of ground at Ardley Stob, etc.²

1845. To be sold, the desirable country mansion-house of Nether Ardley, late the residence of William Ord, esq., with 54 acres of land; the farm called the Holmes, of 88 acres; the farm of Walley Thorn, 98 acres; the farm of Ardley Stob, 140 acres.⁵

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.* ² *Hexham Manor Rolls.* ³ *Law Reports*, 1836, Adolphus and Ellis, p. 559

⁴ *Newcastle Courant*, 18th August, 1824. ⁵ Newcastle papers, 15th April, 1845.

Hamburn-hall lies immediately below Ardley, in a wooded hollow on the south side of the Ham burn. It is an ancient tenement, and is mentioned in a charter of Archbishop Gray, dated February 14th, 1229. The archbishop granted to Richard, son of Alexander, 20 acres of land on the Ham burn, which Uudwanus had surrendered to the archbishop in the presence of W. Brito, W. de Widindon, and G. de Bokland, his justiciars, together with 14 acres in Stukilhop on Smithicruce, and 6 acres of land in Alribarne, at an annual rent of 16s.¹ The grantee in this case was no doubt the Richard, son of Alexander, who was bailiff of the manor in 1236.² The grant appears to have been renewed on August 31st of the same year, with some alterations, namely, 28 acres on the Ham burn and 30 acres at Alribarne, the annual rent being 24s.³ On August 23rd, 1235, the grant was further renewed and enlarged by the archbishop, and comprises Wdewanus's 28 acres on the Ham burn, with 20 acres on the south side of the Ham burn, and 17 acres upon Smaleleyes, and 7 acres in Bradescroft, together with 3 acres which had been held by Richard Wittewrith, at a rent of 17s.⁴ In 1298 in an *inspeximus* of Edward I. it is said :

Tenent etiam duo molendina aquatica, cum suis pertinentiis in Hamburne et Neubiging, et quaterviginti acras terræ in eisdem villis : cum secta omnium terrarum novarum et assartandarum ad illa duo molendina prædicta, ex dono domini Walteri le Gray quondam Eboracensis archiepiscopi.⁵

In 1307 Hamburn was held as a fief by Roger Blunt and Robert de Heton, and was a tenement of 105 acres. The tenants owed suit and service, and paid a rent of 20s. a year.⁶ The mills also occur in a rental about 1328 :

Estre ce nous tenoms les molins de Hamburn et de Neubigyng, oue la seute que a eux apertiegnent par feaute et les services de x marcs par an pur touz services : lez queux molins ne valent nul, an communement xxxs.⁷

The priory paid a rent of 10 marks yearly to the archbishop for Hamburn and Newbiggin mills. In an undated roll of the fifteenth century

¹ 'Omnibus, etc., salutem, noveritis nos concessisse, etc., Ricardo filio Alexandri illas viginti acras terræ super Hamburne quas Uudwanus coram W. Britone, W. de Widindon, et G. de Bokland justiciariis nostris apud Hextoldesham in manibus nostris resignavit ; et xiiij acras in Stukilhop super Smithicruce, et sex acras in Alribarne, reddendo inde annuatim sexdecim solidos, etc. Data apud Torp, xix kal. Februarii, anno terciodecimo.' *York Registers, Gray ; Rot. Mag. No. 27.*

² Vol. iii. p. 64.

³ *York Registers, Gray ; Rot. Mag. No. 47.*

⁴ 'Omnibus, etc., salutem, noveritis nos concessisse, etc., Ricardo filio Alexandri illas xxvij acras terræ super Hamburne quas Wdewanus coram justiciariis nostris resignavit et xx acras terræ ex australi parte ejusdem Hamburne, et xvij acras super Smaleleyes et vij acras in Bradescroft, cum iij acris quas Ricardus Wittewrith tenuit, reddendo inde annuatim xvij^s, etc. Data apud Otteley, x kal. Sept., anno xx.' *Ibid. No. 86.*

⁵ *Hexham Priory, Raine, vol. ii. p. 109.*

York Registers, Greenfield, pt. ii. f. 224 a.

⁷ *Hexham Priory, vol. ii. pp. 134, 140.*

William Grene held Hamburn-hall.¹ In 1547 Thomas Cranmere held Hambrig-hall at a rent of 3s. a year; and in 1663 it was rated to Henry Johnson at £7 6s. 8d.; and with his descendant, the Rev. J. F. Johnson,² it now remains. The estate was enlarged in 1800 by an allotment from the common of 92 acres of freehold land, and it has 16½ stints in the stinted pastures. As it has been found impossible to obtain any information from Mr. Johnson, a pedigree, such as his family is entitled to from length of ownership, cannot be given, but the following wills are given from the York registry, etc.:

1668, 26th November. Will of Henry Johnson of Hamburn-hall, yeoman: My daughter, Margaret Charleton; my daughter, Jane Armstrong; my grandchildren, Mary and Henry Johnson. Residue to son, John Johnson, he executor. Proved at York, 26th January, 1669/70.³

1702, 4th July. Will of James Johnson of Hexham, chapman: To be buried in churchyard, near my former wife and three children. Wife Isabel, £6 per annum; daughter Mary, wife of Simon Ingleby, grocer, of Shincliffe, £350 for her children; daughter Jane, wife of Joseph Tate of Hexham, gent., £350 for her only child now alive or them she shall have. Codicil, 15th September, 1712: To John Tate, son of Joseph Tate, and my daughter Mary, the rectory and tithes of Corsenside. Passed the seal at York, 24th November, 1712.³

1712, 4th October. Will of John Johnson of Hamburn-hall, yeoman: To my wife Elizabeth, all my estate in Hamburn-hall, Rattenraw, New Close, Miln-house, *alias* Whitley Miln-house, Moore Close, and Dalton Town foot, for life; remainder to my son Samuel Johnson, now living at White-hall, for life; remainder to his son John Johnson; my grandchildren, children of my daughter Sara Ord, deceased, John, Margaret, and Elizabeth, £15; my daughter Mary Carr's children; my sister Mary Teasdale; John Johnson, my brother's son, living in Allendale. Residue to wife. Proved at York, 17th June, 1713.³

1718/9, 19th February. Will of Elizabeth Johnson of Hamburn-hall: My son Samuel Johnson, now living at White-hall; my sister, Mary Teasdale; my daughter, Mary Carr; my daughter Sarah's children, John and Elizabeth. Residue to my son Samuel, he executor. Proved at York, 25th September, 1719.³

1721, 5th September. George Johnson, chapman, dissenter, buried in the church.⁴

1721, 24th August. Will of George Johnston of Hexham, mercer: My wife, the use of household goods, etc., whilst unmarried; then to my five daughters, Margaret, Rebecca, Mary, Alice, and Hannah; son Richard Johnson (a minor), £450; daughters Margaret, Rebecca, and Mary, each £200; to Mr. William Errington of Apperley, a guinea for a mourning ring. Residue to brother Alexander Johnson of Newcastle, gent., and Thomas Carr, Richard Heron, and David Johnson of Hexham, gentlemen, in trust for my eldest son David Johnson. Proved 7th July, 1722.³

1724/5, 6th February. Will of William Johnson of Hexham, merchant: wife Jane, son Robert Johnson, 1s.; son Alexander Johnson, my house in Market Street and £600; son John Johnson, an annuity of £6 13s. 4d.; son Herbert Johnson, £600; daughter Jane Parker; brother Alexander Johnson. To the poor at the church door when I am buried, £5. Residue to my son David Johnson. Proved 26th July, 1725.³

1728, 22nd July. Mr. David Johnson buried in church.⁴

¹ See also *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 105, 106, 109, 134, 140.

² The Rev. John Fairbairn Johnson of University college, Durham, some time vicar of Ab-Kettleby Leicestershire, and afterwards rector of Wasing, near Reading; in 1875 was returned as owner of 106 acres of land in Northumberland, of the estimated rental of £90. His father, Mr. William Johnson of Newcastle, was at the same time returned as owner of 474 acres, with an estimated rental of £290 *Parliamentary Return of Owners of Land*, 1893.

³ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

⁴ *Hexham Register.*

1728, 17th July. Will of David Johnson, sen., of Hexham, mercer: Lands, etc., under Sir William Blackett, in Wall, etc.; to Mary, my wife, my moiety of the tythe corn of Acombe; my own mother Jane Johnson, 50 guineas; wife, £100 and household goods; brothers Alexander and Herbert Johnson, and sister Jane Dawson, each £20; late father William Johnson, brother John Johnson, my cousin Joseph Tate, daughters Mary and Jane Johnson, my tenement called Shipton Shield, etc.; mother-in-law Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Lancelot Allgood, bailiff of Hexham, supervisor. Passed seal at York, 1st October, 1728.¹

1735. . . . Alexander Johnston, mercer, buried.²

1735, 16th September. Will of Alexander Johnson: To Mary my wife, and my cozen Edward Winshipp of Corbridge, gent., all my personal estate, in trust; son Thomas Johnson (a minor), daughter Elizabeth Johnson, brother John Johnson. Passed seal at York, 30th December, 1735.¹

1735/6, 27th January. Mrs. Johnson, widow of Mr. David, buried.²

1735, 26th December. Will of Mary Johnson: All, to Rev. Charles Stoddart, parson, of Chollerton; Forster Charlton of Leehall, gent.; and Thomas Stokoe of Hexham, tailor, in trust for George, Thomas, Elizabeth, Mary, and Rebecca Johnson, my children. Late husband, David Johnson. Passed seal at York, 14th April, 1736.¹

1736, 15th December. Mr. Herbert Johnson, buried.²

1736, 26th November. Will of Herbert Johnson of Hexham, gent.: Uncle Edward Tate of Hexham, tanner, all in trust for my nephew David Johnson, son of my brother John Johnson, deceased. Passed seal at York, 24th March, 1736/7.¹

Spital Shield stands on a bleak, exposed site, in the extreme west of the Middle Quarter, near the head of the Ham burn. In 1663 it had the alternative name of Spittle-field, and in 1677 was in the possession of Robert Winter. He mentions in his will three William Winters, his father, his brother (to whom he gives half of his lands at Spittle-field), and his son, to whom he gives the other half, and also his wife's lands at Ryton. In 1681 William Winter, the father, took out a grant of tuition to the infant heir, and made his own will in 1688, by which he gave to his wife, Margaret, for life, the 'Easter part of Spittle Sheel, as it is now divided between me and my grandson, William Winter,' with remainder to his son William Winter of Upper Ardley, yeoman; he names his two younger sons, John and George, and his daughter Margaret. The family continued to hold the estate until after the death of Abraham Winter, whose will was proved in 1762. In 1785 it was in the possession of John Johnson and William Adamson, the former of whom was, in 1800, awarded 24 acres of freehold, with 6 $\frac{2}{3}$ stints, and the latter 103 acres and 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ stints in satisfaction of their common rights. Spital Shield³ now belongs to Mrs. Stephenson.

South-west of Hamburn-hall stand the High and Low Eshells, both owned by Mrs. Henry A. Campbell and her two sisters, the Misses Clavering; and below are Winter-house, the Heigh, and Burntridge. High Eshells

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

² *Hexham Register.*

³ In 1826 Thomas Adamson, and in 1832 Thomas and William Adamson of Spital Shield, voted for freehold lands there. *Poll Book.*

has a grey and green slated farm house, sheltered in the customary way with a clump of ash trees. A pasture field near by has the old oxen-ploughed ridges. The substantial farm house of Low Eshells stands among well-cared-for grass fields, and is sheltered from the north and west by neatly 'rigged' heather-thatched barns and shed. In 1547 a tenement at the Esshe Shells was held by Thomas Gibson at the yearly rent of 12s. 6d.; and in 1608 George Ogle held a tenement here and another at Winter-house, worth £6 2s. 6d. by the year, whilst Rinyon Forster, Thomas Rowland, and Matthew Forster held another tenement at the Over Eisbeeles, which was worth £1 15s. a year.

In 1663 Thomas Ogle of Nether-hishills was rated for that place and Winter-house at £22 17s. 6d., Sir William Fenwick being rated at £18 2s. 4d. for Overishells and the Heigh.

There is no evidence to connect the family of Forster so long associated with this place with the Forsters of Bamburghshire, though the same Christian names occur, and it is curious that after leaving Hexhamshire this line has become settled in Islandshire, near Bamburgh. Matthew Forster answered at the court in 1626, and William Forster in 1665; the latter was buried on the 9th January, 1671.¹

By the award on the division of Hexham common in 1800, Charles John Clavering was allotted 153 acres of freehold land and 30 stints for High Eshells, and 116 acres of copyhold land and 27 $\frac{4}{5}$ stints for Low Eshells.

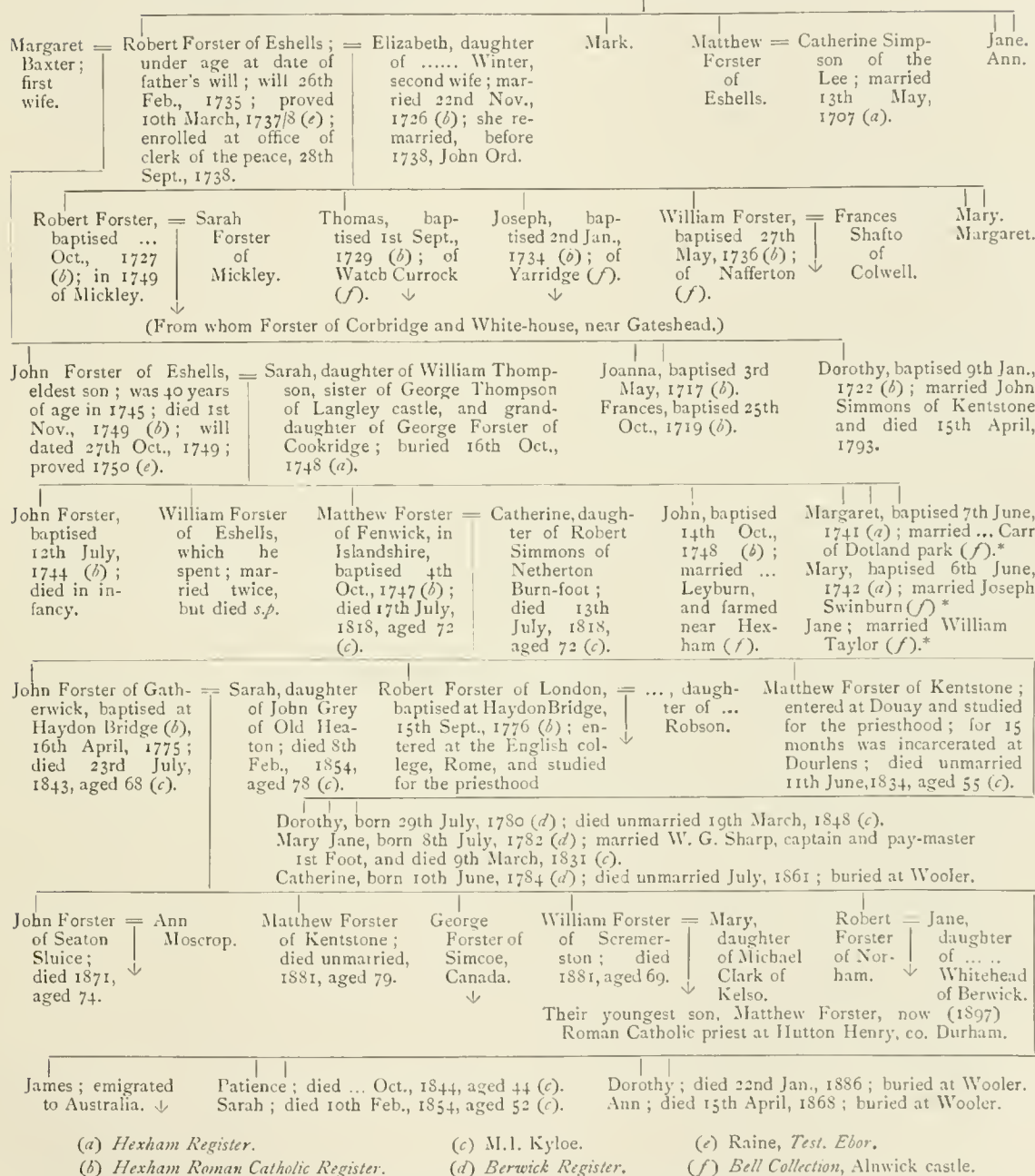
The Winter-house is a thatched homestead overlooking the Rowley burn, whose banks are here clothed with well-grown hardwood trees. The Heigh (pronounced 'Hythe') is also heather-thatched; it was in 1547 held with lands in Black-hall and Steel by John Swinburn. It was granted as part of the estate of Sir John Swinburn, by letters patent,² dated 6th April, 1604, to Sir Henry Lindley of Hadden, in Kent, knight, and to John Starkey of the same place, gentleman, his servant, both extensive grantees of monastic and other lands in the county. It was sold by them on the 26th February, 1605, to Sir John Fenwick of Wallington, and in 1663, as has been already mentioned, it belonged to Sir William Fenwick. In 1722 Hercules

¹ Thomas Lawes of the Eshells, 'a reputed papist,' was carried before a justice of the peace, on the charge of having been concerned in the late rebellion; but having the reputation of an honest, quiet, and peaceable man, he was discharged, and obtained a certificate, dated 23rd October, 1716. *Sessions Records*. In the following year, he, as a Roman Catholic, registered his estate, which consisted of a messuage in Hexham, which he held in right of his wife.

² *Land Revenue Record Office Auditor's Enrolments*, vol. xviii. p. 20.

FORSTER OF UPPER ESHHELLS AND KENTSTONE.

ROBERT FORSTER of Eshells; will dated 14th July, 1684; = Jane; sole executrix to proved at York, 7th Aug., 1685. husband's will.



(a) Hexham Register.

(b) Hexham Roman Catholic Register.

(c) M.I. Klyoe.

(d) Berwick Register.

(e) Raine, Test. Ebor.

(f) Bell Collection, Alnwick castle.

* It is somewhat doubtful whether it was not the aunts of these ladies bearing identical names which made these marriages, for William Taylor and Jane Forster were married 7th January, 1752. Hexham Roman Catholic Registers.

Burleigh of Le Heigh voted for lands there. With Heathery haugh, which lies in the hollow on the right bank of the Rowley burn, it belonged, in 1800, to Sir Thomas John Clavering, bart., of Axwell, who was awarded in satisfaction of his common rights appurtenant to both places, 62 acres of copyhold land and 19 stints on the stinted pastures. It is now owned by Mrs. Henry A. Campbell and her two sisters, the Misses Clavering.

Between the Whapweasel and the Rowley burns is Burntrig, protected by a fine belt of pine trees.

THE HIGH QUARTER.

The High Quarter, with an area of 6,539 acres, is the largest division of Hexhamshire, but it is the poorest, most barren, and least populated of the four, and its present rateable value is only £2,104. At the last census the population was 125.¹ The holdings mostly lie in a narrow strip of country running north and south along the Devil's Water, and are backed by bleak fells on the west. It is quite possible that Lillswood, which from a high elevation (the moor attached to it being 1,467 feet above sea-level) commands an extensive and noble view down the valley of the Devil's Water, is the wood of Lilla, the thane of Eadwin, king of Northumbria, who saved his master's life at the expense of his own. A thirteenth-century charter, previously quoted, speaks of the high road leading to the 'forest of Lilleswude'; and, in 1256, William, son of Ralph de Lillswood, was done to death by one William de Eslington. On the 11th January, 1304, William, son of Katherine, obtained from Archbishop Corbridge a grant of 60 acres of land in Lilleswode, on the Devil's Water, 'ad reducendum in culturam,' at a rent of 30s. a year.² In 1547, Henry Ord and George Armstrong were the owners; and, in 1608, Gawen Swinburn held one moiety, the annual value of which was £2 6s.; Edward Armstrong of the Turf-house held a tenement of the same value, and Elizabeth Liddell held Lillswood park, which was also worth £2 6s. a year. Gawen Swinburn may have been of the same family as that which owned the Black-hall. John Swinburn is the only person rated for Litsewood or Lislewood in 1663, and either by him or by his descendant a share of Lillswood was, in 1696, sold to John Hill of

¹ The Census Returns are: 1801, 268; 1811, 303; 1821, 279; 1831, 273; 1841, 206; 1851, 243; 1861, 243; 1871, 206; 1881, 156; 1891, 125.

² *York Registers*, Corbridge, f. 97 b.; cf. vol. iii. p. 25 n.

Chester-hall, in the county of Durham. Armstrong's portion may have passed to John Ord of Barker-house, whose name appears in the Call Roll of 1665 for half of Lillswood. In 1800 there were two freehold and three copyhold tenants in Lillswood, who obtained allotments in lieu of their common rights. There were then awarded to Cuthbert Ord, 16 acres of freehold and $5\frac{3}{5}$ stints; to Thomas Ord, 14 acres of freehold and $6\frac{2}{5}$ stints; to William Curry, 15 acres of copyhold land and $5\frac{2}{5}$ stints; to John Natrass, 15 acres of copyhold and $4\frac{1}{5}$ stints; and to Isaac Harrison, 14 acres of copyhold land. The present owners are Mr. Joseph Charlton of Capheaton, Mr. Peter Dixon, and Miss Dodd of Benton.

The place is provided with a Methodist chapel, and has a public elementary school, with a small endowment, built on a plot of ground surrendered at the Manor Court in 1828, and enrolled in Chancery, 19th November, 1830.¹

Stotsfold, under the name of Stobfolde, belonged in 1547 to Cuthbert Hurd or Ord, no doubt an ancestor of the John Ord who held Scottfouldes in 1608, at which time it was worth £3 3s. 4d. a year. In 1637, George Gibson answered for Stotsfold, and in 1663 Richard Gibson was rated for the same at £14. It remained with their descendants until the beginning of this century, when it was sold by the trustees of Jasper Gibson² to John Robson of Allenheads mill; and his daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Lynn, is the present owner. It has considerable plantations of larch and spruce.

Turf-house, Litterage, Peacock-house, White-hall, and Hackford, are all between Stotsfold and the Devil's Water. Turf-house, in 1547, was held by Richard West at the annual rent of 8d., and in 1608 Edward Armstrong had a holding there worth 3s. 8d. a year. In 1663 Sir Edward Radcliffe was the only person rated, and that at £2 17s. 4d.; and in respect of these lands, the Greenwich hospital commissioners were, in 1800, awarded 21 acres of freehold and 8 stints. But there must have been other owners, for to John Dixon was awarded 13 acres of copyhold and $5\frac{2}{5}$ stints, which, with his ancient lands, he sold for £1,000 to the commissioners.³

Litterage, in the sixteenth century written Litterigem, and in the beginning of the seventeenth Litteredge, was, under the form of Little Ragg, in 1663, rated to John Ord of the Barker-house at £6 11s. 6d. Ord's descend-

¹ *Churchwardens' Books*, Whitley chapel.

² To Jasper Gibson, in 1800, was awarded for Stotsfold 148 acres of freehold land and $24\frac{1}{2}$ stints on the stinted pasture in lieu of common right. For pedigree of Gibson of Stone-croft and Hexham, see Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. pp. 393-395. ³ *Report of Greenwich Hospital Commissioners*, 1805.

ants parted with it about the beginning of last century, and after passing through the hands of the family of Rowell, it was acquired by William Martin, who, in 1800, received an allotment, in lieu of his common rights, of 31 acres of copyhold and $5\frac{2}{3}$ stints. It now belongs to Mr. Thomas Taylor of Slaley.

Peacock-house, a farm of 72 acres of ancient lands, received an allotment in 1800 of 70 acres of freehold and $17\frac{2}{3}$ stints.¹ It was sold by the Greenwich hospital commissioners to Mr. Beaumont.

The White-hall, in the middle of the sixteenth century, was held by Richard West and Richard Readshaw of Ardley; sixty years after, George Ord held a tenement here worth £3 10s. 6d. a year. In 1663 it was rated at £7 10s. 10d. to John Ord, Margaret Errington, and Margaret Eggleston of the White-hall; their respective interests are not stated. It has been already noticed, under Hamburn-hall, that the Johnson family was connected with White-hall during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. In 1800 Thomas Johnson and Thomas Johnson the younger were respectively awarded for common rights appurtenant to their lands here, 47 acres and $8\frac{1}{3}$ stints, and 50 acres of copyhold land and 9 stints on the stinted pastures. It now belongs to the Rev. J. F. Johnson.² A Methodist chapel, built in 1871, stands by the wayside.

Hackford, on the slope of the Devil's Water and on the left bank of the Lillswold burn, probably takes its name from the hackwood or birdcherry, which in March and April, with its white bloom, profusely adorns the banks of these moorland streams. It seems to have been known as Woodside in the sixteenth century, when, with the Mill-house and Raw Green, it was held by the family of Ord. Edward Ord, the tenant in 1608, must have died immediately after, for an inquisition was taken in 1612 on the death of John Ord of Wooley, when the jury found that he had died seised of a tenement called Woodside *alias* Hackford, and that John Ord was his cousin and heir.³ Six years later it was surrendered to Thomas Fairbridge, whose

¹ *Report of Greenwich Hospital Commissioners, 1805.*

² In 1748 and 1774, John Johnson of White-hall voted for Hamburn-hall; in 1826, John Johnson of Dalton, for Hamburn-hall; in 1832, Thomas Johnson of White-hall and Thomas Johnson of Hexham, both voted for White-hall; John Johnson of Dalton voted for Hamburn-hall.

³ October 20th, 1612. Ad hanc curiam compertum est per homagium quod ante hanc curiam Joh. Ourd nuper de Wolley defunctus qui de domino tenuit sibi et heredibus suis in perpetuum secundum consuetudinem hujus manerii, tenementum cum pert. jacens infra Newlande cum Rowley ward. vulgo vocatum Woodsyde *alias* Hackford obiit inde seisisus, et quod Joh. Ourd de Wolley predicto est consanguineus et proximus heres predicti Joh. Ourd. Et est plene etatis. Qui hic in curia petit admitti ad premissa, cui dictus dominus rex per senescallum suum concessit ei inde seisinam, etc., reddendo inde annuatim dicto domino regi, etc., ix. s. d. at festa consueta, etc. *Anick Grange Court Rolls.*

successor Robert Fairbridge, in 1651 obtained other lands in Hackford, by surrender from Edward Ward (? Ord) of Evensham, in Oxfordshire, son and heir of John Ward of Woolylee. Robert Fairbridge only was rated for Hackford in 1663 at £11 9s. 10d. He died in 1678, and by his will desired 'To be buried in Hexham church, and devised to his wife Jane all his insight gear, except two arkes; he mentions his son Thomas, his son-in-law Cuthbert Teasdale, his daughter Joanna Shield and Nicholas her son; his brother Anthony Fairbridge. He gives to the poor of the Middle and High Quarters £10, the use to be paid at Whitley chapel, at All Saints' day, for ever. Residue to son Robert, the sole executor.'¹ The will of Thomas Fairbridge of Hackford, yeoman, dated 6th April, 1718, after mentioning a numerous family, charges his estate at Stobby Lee with an annuity. His eldest son Robert was admitted in 1720 to a tenement called Woodside or Hackford and five dargs or days' works of meadow in Lillswood. A copyhold estate at Hackford, worth £46 a year, was advertised for sale in 1744,² and George Blenkinsop's name appears in the rolls for 1763. In 1800 Anthony Leaton was awarded for Stone-house 81 acres, and for Hackford and Hackford mill 2 acres of copyhold land, with 33 $\frac{2}{3}$ stints on the stinted pastures. Hackford now belongs to the Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering of Axwell.

East and south of Lillswood are the Park-house, Eadsbush, the Hesleywell, the Hill-house, Longlee Steel, and Stobby Lee.

Park-house in 1626 was held by John Armstrong in right of his wife: he was succeeded by his son William Armstrong, whose holding, in 1663, was rated at £2 14s. a year: he died in 1670, leaving his only son John in charge of his brother Dominic Armstrong.³ John Armstrong died in 1731, leaving a son William, and two grandsons William and John. In 1769 administration was granted to the estate of William Armstrong of Park-house to his widow Elizabeth. To John Armstrong, in 1800, was awarded 33 acres of copyhold land and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ stints in lieu of his common rights. In 1829 the holding was in the hands of William Crawhall, whose descendants still hold it.

Eadsbush or Eddy's bush may be identified with Edesmedowe held in 1547 by Cuthbert Ogle at a rent of 4s. 10d. In 1663 Bush-house or Eadsbush was rated to George Armstrong at £3; it subsequently belonged to

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

² *Newcastle Journal*, 7th January, 1744.

³ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

the Greenwich hospital commissioners, to whom, in 1788, it yielded a rental of £18. It received an allotment of common in 1800 of 8 acres of freehold land and 5 stints in the stinted pastures. The present owner is Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont.

Hesley-well in the sixteenth century belonged to a family of Swinburn, possibly the same which owned a moiety of Lillswold; in 1626 and in 1663, its owner was George Simpson. In 1800 John Forster obtained an allotment from the common of 44 acres of freehold land with $10\frac{2}{3}$ stints; and in 1826 and 1832 John Bolam of Grousey-house voted for lands in Hesley-well. It was sold by the devisees of John Bolam to Mr. Wm. Angus of Raw Green, recently deceased.

The Hill-house, in 1626 and in 1637, was possessed by George Dixon, and though other surnames intervene, the name of Peter Dixon of Aydon Shield appears as owner in the Poll Book of 1826. It still remains in his family.

Long Lee, Langlee, or Langley, was held by the Ords in 1547 and 1608, in which latter year William Ord of Langley was buried in Hexham church. William Armstrong acquired at least part of the estate in 1637, and his descendants remained until 1683, when they were succeeded by a branch of the Carr family, who made this place their home for two or three generations. The following wills are from the registry at York:¹

1710, 27th December. Will of John Carr of Langlee, yeoman: To my son Henry my lands at the Intack-house; to my son George Carr the crops, etc., on my estate at Longlee, my daughters, Mary and Ann, and my wife Mary.

1719, 15th April. Will of George Carr of Longlee, yeoman: The fourth part of Longlee to Samuel Teasdale of Steel, gentleman, to sell, etc., and pay my sister Elizabeth Carr £40. Residue to my nephew John Carr; my mother Mary executrix.

1744/5, 27th February. Will of George Carr of the Lee, yeoman: I have surrendered half of a tenement or village called the Lea in Newlands and Rowley ward to the use of Jane, my wife, for her life; then to my eldest son George Carr and his heirs; my sons Robert and Thomas Carr; my daughter Mary, wife of John Golightly; my daughter Jane, wife of James Yare. Residue to my wife and my son Robert.

In 1781 Thomas Fairbridge of the Hagg, in Allendale, devised his lands at Langlee to his son Joseph, and mentions his kinsman Thomas Fairbridge of the same place. In 1800 there was awarded to Joseph Fairbridge 33 acres of copyhold land and $11\frac{3}{5}$ stints; and to Elizabeth Carr 41 acres of copyhold with $10\frac{1}{2}$ stints in satisfaction of common rights appurtenant to their lands in Long Lee.

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

References to the Steel are too indefinite to decide whether they should be applied to this place or to the places of the same name in the Middle Quarter and Slaley parish. It was also known as Growfey-field, and belonged to a family called Jowsey, who sold it to Mr. Robt. Little of Harwood Shield, to whose son, Mr. George D. Little, it now belongs.¹

Though Stobby Lee in 1547 was held by sundry tenants, it was in 1608 held by Edward Dixon, who had succeeded his father, Bartholomew Dixon. In 1626 it was owned by William Dixon of the Hill-house, and, as Stobley, was rated in 1663 to Richard Dixon at £6 1s. 4d. Part of it was acquired by Robert Surtees before 1774, and in 1800 he received an allotment of 74 acres of freehold with 11 stints in satisfaction of his common rights. The other owner, John Curry, was awarded 41 acres of freehold and 5½ stints. Stobby Lee is now owned by the Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering of Axwell.

The fell above Harwood Shield has an elevation of over 1,250 feet above sea-level, and near the Hally-well moss is the source of the Devil's Water. In 1586 Nicholas Ridley of Willimoteswick died seised of lands in Harwood Shield, leaving William Ridley his brother and heir. The latter died in 1599, and was succeeded by his son of the same name, whose lands in Harwood Shield in 1608 were worth £3 12s. a year. At the same period Ralph Errington held here a tenement worth £2 2s., late in the occupation of Lancelot Armstrong, which may perhaps be the Harsudle-house held by William Armstrong in 1547. Sir John Fenwick held lands here in 1626, and in 1663 Philip Jefferson and Jane Armstrong were rated for the same at £7 8s. Under order of the Court of Chancery the freehold estate of Harwood Shield and the Heigh, late belonging to William Burleigh, gentleman, deceased, were advertised to be sold in 1762: they were then let for £90 a year, and were to be sold subject to the dower of Mary Burleigh, widow.² The substantial stone-built homestead stands on the Devil's Water, here quite a narrow burn, from which the heather-clad moors rise on both sides. The estate now belongs to the Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering of Axwell.

The old mansion house of Riddlehamhope is on the southern slope of the lofty fell, and overhangs the Beldon burn, an affluent of the Derwent.

¹ *Ex. inf.* Mr. L. C. Lockhart.

² *Newcastle Courant*, 13th February, 1762. The will of Hercules Burleigh of Allendale Town, dated 29th July, 1743, was proved at York the same year by Catherine Burleigh, his widow, and executrix. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

On the 21st September, 1338, Edmund Howard, warden of the hospital of St. Giles of Kepyner, near Durham, did homage to the archbishop for South Ridlam in the liberty of Hexham, paying 40s. a year.¹ The place is very remote, however, and the tenants were probably unruly and independent. On November 8th, 1333, the archbishop ordered his bailiff to arrest Richard Tully and Gilbert Cambe, tenants at Redelem, who had been excommunicated and were contumacious.²

Its connection with Kepyner is also recorded in the survey of 1547, when it is described as 'South Shield *alias* Ridelamehoppe.' In 1663 it was in the hands of Robert Bowman, and was rated at £7 per annum. It now belongs to the Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering, and has for some years been rented by Major Fisher, who here practises and enjoys the gentle art of falconry.

Gairshield, Cockersfield, Rowley head, and Westburnhope are grouped together in the north-west of the Quarter. Gairshield, which must be distinguished from a place of the same name in Allendale, was one of the estates of Cuthbert Readshaw, and was divided between his two daughters, who married into the families of Errington and Thirlwall. In 1587 Jane, wife of Gerard Errington, fined for half of Gairshield. In 1606 Philip Thirlwall of Hexham, who must have acquired the other moiety from the Erringtons, surrendered the property to Edward, son and heir of Francis Radcliffe of Dilston. In 1663 Garry Sheilds or Gairshield was rated to Sir Edward Radcliffe at £2 17s. 4d.: its subsequent history is that of the rest of the Radcliffe estates. In 1800 it was awarded 48 acres of freehold land and 11½ stints on the stinted pastures in satisfaction of the common rights. It stands in a cold, bleak, comfortless situation. The present owner is Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont.

Cockersfield in 1547 was held by Richard West at the rent of 12d. a year, and under the name of Cooksheele was rated in 1663 to John Bartram at £3 19s. In 1782 it was devised by the will of James Wood of Byker to his son Robert; and to the heirs of James Wood 53 acres of freehold land and 8½ stints on the stinted pastures were awarded in 1800. John Dixon of Broad Oak voted for lands here in 1832, and his descendant, Mr. Robert Dixon of Ebchester, is the present owner.

In connection with Rowley head, it is noteworthy that there was anciently a place called Rowley in this part of the regality, which, until

¹ *York Registers*, Melton, f. 595 a.

² *Ibid.* f. 434 a.

lately, was known as the Newlands and Rowley ward. On the 12th December, 1332, Archbishop Melton issued a commission to Richard de Tang, Adam de Corbrigg, and Thomas de Horsleye, to hear and judge a plea between Roger de Errington, plaintiff, and Henry de Denum, defendant, concerning the manor of Rowley, which Roger de Errington claimed as his inheritance, and which Robert de Errington, brother of the said Roger, was said to have leased for a term of years to John de Denum.¹ The result of the suit is not recorded, but the fact that there was once a manor called Rowley is interesting. The later history is the same as that of Gairshield. It consisted of 132 acres of ancient enclosure, and was augmented in 1800 by 67 acres of freehold land, and 26 $\frac{2}{3}$ stints on the stinted pastures, in lieu of common rights. In 1805 it was described as of indifferent quality, and was then let for £76 per annum.²

The Westburnhope mentioned in the *inquisitio post mortem* of Sir John Forster in 1602, may be the place of that name in this quarter, for which, in 1663, Robert Pearson was assessed at £5 a year. In 1800, to Thomas Richard and Diana Beaumont were awarded 72 acres of freehold land and 13 stints, in satisfaction of their common rights appurtenant to Westburn-hope. The present owner, Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont, is their descendant.

The other small farmsteads in the High Quarter are Grouse-house,³ near the source of the Lillswood burn; Hally-well, on the highest part of the fell, 1,500 feet above sea-level; Heathery burn⁴ (on an affluent of the Beldon burn), which gives its name to the most remote of the three stinted pastures of the shire; Westburnhope, in the Black Cleugh near the Rowley burn (which in that region is called the Linn burn); and Broadwell-house, by the roadside, where resides the master of Lillswood school.

HEXHAMSHIRE AND ALLENDALE COMMONS.

The fells and moors (a tract of 42,230 acres), which stretched southward of Nubbock, mile after mile, almost to the banks of the Derwent, lay, up to the end of last century, open and unenclosed, though here and there,

¹ *York Registers*, Melton, f. 422 b.

² *Greenwich Hospital Commissioners' Report*, 1805.

³ Archibald Bolam of Gateshead voted in 1832 for freehold land at Grouse-house.

⁴ For Wester-meadows, West Field-nook, and Heathery burn, Lord Crewe's trustees in 1800 received an allotment of freehold lands and 19 $\frac{2}{3}$ stints on the stinted pastures.

sparsely scattered, were homesteads and arable fields of free or copyhold land held in severalty. The grazing rights belonged, by prescription, to the tenants of Allendale, the Middle Quarter, the High Quarter, and to the tenants of West Greenridge and East Greenridge in the West Quarter. The discontent caused by the inconveniences of the system, manifold and manifest as they were, found public expression in a meeting held at Allendale Town in October, 1791,¹ at which resolutions were passed, which led to the appointment of John Fryer of Newcastle, land surveyor, William Bates of Clarewood, and Thomas Bates of Halton, as agents to procure an Act of Parliament for the enclosing and division of the common. The Act was obtained in 1792,² and the three persons above named were appointed commissioners to carry it into execution. Their first movement was to cause the boundaries to be perambulated; their second, to require those who had right of common to send in their claims in writing; and their third step, to receive objections to claims.³

It was not until 31st December, 1800, that the General Award was formally signed and executed; it was enrolled at the Easter Sessions held at Morpeth on the 16th April, 1801. The original award, with five plans on vellum, showing the several allotments, is deposited at the office of the bailiff of the manor of Hexham; and an enrolled copy is in the office of the clerk of the peace for Northumberland at the Moot hall.

Some idea may be formed of the arduous duties of the commissioners, when it is realised that they satisfied over 280 claims with above 650 allotments, and set off public and occupation roads, watering places, and public quarries. The creation of these numerous small holdings changed the face of the district; but there still remained large tracts wholly unsuitable for dividing in such a manner, which the commissioners reserved, and established as stinted pastures, on which stints were allotted to owners of lands in Allendale, and the West, Middle, and High Quarters of Hexhamshire.⁴ The number of stints to which each estate is entitled, is set out in the schedule attached to the award, and the nature of a stint is defined, thus,

¹ *Bell Collection.*

² An Act for dividing and enclosing certain parts of the commons, moor, or tracts of waste land, called Hexhamshire and Allendale common, etc. 32 Geo. III. c. 110.

³ *Newcastle Chronicle*, 3rd August, 21st September, 14th December, 1793. Newcastle papers, December, 1800. *Bell Collection.*

⁴ The stints being allotted to individual owners do not necessarily appertain to these Quarters.

a two-year-old horned beast is one stint ; a two-year-old mare or gelding is two stints ; five one-year-old sheep are equal to one stint ; eight lambs, under one year, are equal to one stint ; one colt or filly, under one year old, is one stint ; a young beast, under two years' old, is half a stint.

Provision was made for the appointment of a herd, and for the proper regulation of the stinted pastures. The pastures belonging to Hexhamshire are three in number, and though not contained within them are common to the West, the Middle, and the High Quarter. They are :

The Eshells Moor, of 2,355 acres, watered by the Coalcoats burn, the Whapweazel¹ burn, the Lambsrigg Sike, the Sandy Sike, the Langrigg Sike, and the Shortridge Sike.

The Lillswood Moor of 2,103 acres, with a general elevation of over 1,250 feet, watered by the Embley Sike, the Linn burn, and the Black Sike ; its surface is broken by numerous fissures, such as the Knights cleugh, the Backstone cleugh, the Blaeberry cleugh, the Cross cleugh, and the Rowantree cleugh.

The Heathery burn Moor of 450 acres, at the extreme south of the shire, with an elevation of 1,250 feet ; with the Green cleugh, the Heathery burn, and the Beldon burn, an affluent of the river Derwent.

The total number of stints is 935.

¹ In 1552, the Wepewassel-ford at the High-field-head was to be watched with two men nightly of the inhabitants, between the Chapel and the Peacock-house. Nicolson, *Border Laws*, p. 172.

ALLENDALE PARISH.

The parish of Allendale is, strictly speaking, a parochial chapelry of the ancient parish of Hexham, and is only divided from it by a series of artificial lines drawn through the old Hexham and Allendale common. It is bounded on the south by the counties of Durham and Cumberland, and on the west and north by the parish of Whitfield and the chapelry of Haydon Bridge. Its fells and moors, high, bleak, and bare, but rich in minerals, are broken by many water-worn hollows, the local cleughs, and by two great parallel valleys, through which flow the two rivers of East and West Allen. Both of these streams take their rise on the confines of Northumberland and Durham in the same watershed, whence the Wear and the South Tyne have their origin. In their course they form many 'beautiful bays and peninsulas, bounded by rocks and hanging woods, affording a multitude of little solemn and secluded retreats through which the waters murmur.'¹ After receiving numerous smaller streams, such as Acton burn, Crockton burn, Knockshield burn, Mohope burn, Oakey-dean burn, Steel burn, Sinderhope burn, Swinhope burn, and Whitewalls burn, they unite below Hindly Wrae and form the Allen, which has cut its way through narrow and precipitous gorges near Staward, and enters the Tyne at Ridley-hall. From these two streams is derived the distinctive name of the district, the termination of the name being common to Tynedale, and many other parts of Northumberland. The population which, owing to the failure of the lead trade, has rapidly declined,² has always been gathered together in the two valleys. It was so large in the sixteenth century that East Allendale alone sent to the muster of 1538 sixty-four men,³ of whom twenty-seven were 'able with horse and harness.'

¹ Hutchinson, *Northumberland*, vol. i. p. 111.

² The Census Returns are : 1801, 3,519; 1811, 3,884; 1821, 4,629; 1831, 5,540; 1841, 5,729; 1851, 6,383; 1861, 6,401; 1871, 5,397; 1881, 4,030; 1891, 3,009.

³ But the persons, all of East Allendale, appointed to go to Berwick in time of necessity in the time of Henry VIII. were 24 only. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. p. cviii. preface.

EST ALWENT MUSTER ROLL, 1538.¹

Hew Schell, Thomas Bee, John Schell, Cutbert Schell, Renne Schell, Hewe Schell, Edwerd Schell, Anton Schell, Herre Schell, Willm Schell, Edwerd Schell, John Schell, Bertilmay Shell, Matho Schell, Willm Schell, Robert Schell, Lenard Schell, Herre Schell, Herre Schell, Herre Dawson, Mo. Richertson, Georg Awden, Thomas Burdus, Nicolles Westwod, John Armstrong, Willm Armstrong, Roland Dawson, able with hors and harnes. John Proda, Phelop Dawson, Herre Phelopson, Nicoles Bee, Willm Bee, John Pateson, Mo. Davison, Bertillmou Pawton, Mo. Pateson, Thomas Bee, Christoser Awden, naither hors nor harnes. Clemet Robson, John Robynson, Willm Ferals, Huchen Ferals, John West, Christofer Rodam, Robert Rodam, Cudbert Huchenson, Thomas Huchenson, John Robinson, Cutbert Robinson, Robert Ferrallen, naither hors nor harnes. John Stokyll, Thomas Armstrong, John Hayll, Willm Elwald, Thomas Pateson, John Armstrong, Robert Bitelstayn, Roland Smythe, John Knag, Ric. Hull, Ric. Hayll, Sande Jonson, Roburt Hurd, John Stuert, naither hors nor harnes.

The remarks which have already been made on the status and number of the tenants in Whitley chapelry apply equally to those in the parish of Allendale, and the surveys of 1547 and 1608, printed in the preceding volume, disclose the nature and value of their holdings.

At a muster of the Middle Marches, taken in 1580, forty men of the regality of Hexham and Hexhamshire² attended. The warden complained that six score copyholders, mostly in East and West Allendale, the queen's tenants, were unfurnished, though bound by their 'copies' to find horse and armour, and that they 'tavern there land and give it by will as though they were freeholders.'³ The steward and officers not being able to remedy the evil without a special commission, the lord treasurer was prayed to issue the same.⁴ Fifteen years later, twenty-seven of the tenants of 'East Allendale and the Forest of Allendale' appeared at the muster taken at Stagshaw bank, but their horses were disallowed, and twenty tenants were returned as absent.⁵ The native population in the seventeenth century was increased by an immigration of lead miners from Derbyshire. Under the date of 7th February, 1664/5, the following entry occurs in the parish register: 'Hercules Hill, a smelter, and Elizabeth Blande, ye daughter of Thomas Blande, who all of them came out of Darbyshire, was married.' The Bacons, who subsequently attained name and position in the county, also came from that part of England.

¹ *Arch. Acl.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 189.

² The district was constantly raided by the Scots. On the 17th February, 1596/7, the commissioners wrote to Burghley that the people under Buccleuch's charge, Ellotts, Armstrongs, Nicksons, etc., 'have of late years murdered above fifty of the queen's good subjects. many in their own houses, or on their lawful business in daytime, as six honest Allendale men going to Hexham market cut in pieces. For each of the last ten years they have spoiled the West and Middle Marches of £5,000. In short, they are intolerable.'⁷ *Calendar of Border Papers*, Bain, ii. p. 260.

³ *Cf.* vol. iii. p. 55.

⁴ *Calendar of Border Papers*, Bain, vol. i. p. 22.

⁵ *Ibid.* vol. ii. p. 73.

At this time the parishioners of Allendale were seized with the witch panic, and in 1673 called in the professional services of Ann Armstrong, of Birch-nook, the notorious witch-finder.¹ A woman called Isabel Johnson was suspected and brought before her, 'and shee, breathing upon the said Anne, immediately the said Anne did fall downe in a "sound," and laid three quarters of an houre; and after her recovery she said, if there were any witches in England, Isabel Johnson was one.' The result of the investigation does not appear.

One of the most important duties of the commissioners appointed by the Act for the division of Hexham and Allendale commons was to define and set out the boundaries of the parishes of Hexham and Allendale, the result of which definition is that the latter parish contains 37,468 acres. Of this large area, over 18,000 acres, being unsuitable for cultivation, remain unenclosed, and are grazed as stinted pastures, common to the seven grieveships mentioned below, according to the number of stints awarded to each proprietor, the total number of stints being 2,500. The commissioners awarded 1,094 acres, being one-sixteenth, to the lord of the manor for his consent to the scheme, and made 503 allotments to the 245 proprietors of 306 estates. The parish being thus constituted of so many small holdings, it is obvious that the account of Allendale cannot be given in as much detail as has been done in some other parishes,² nor does it seem necessary to do more than give a brief account of the grieveships, and to relate the history of one or two of the statesmen³ families as typical of the others.

The grieveships, which are now seven in number, are in almost all respects similar to the townships of other parishes. They were originally four, viz., East Allen, Catton, Keenley, and West Allen, but between 1547 and 1608 'Allenton' or Allendale Town had been divided from East Allen, and before 1663 the Park and the Forest took the place of East Allen grieveship.⁴ These six divisions of Allendale Town, viz., the Park, the

¹ *York Castle Depositions*, Raine, p. 197, Surt. Soc. Publ.

² The reader who desires to work out the detailed history of any hamlet or homestead may obtain much information from the following records: The Survey of 1545; the Survey of 1608; the Rate Book of 1663 (Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i.); the Poll Books of 1722, 1734, 1748, 1774, and 1826; and the schedule appended to the award made in 1800 under the Act for the division of Hexham and Allendale commons. The latter, with plans, etc., is deposited at the manor office at Hexham; a copy of the award and schedule is deposited with the clerk of the peace for Northumberland at the Moot hall, Newcastle.

³ The numerous small freehold and copyhold proprietors, such as are called in Cumberland, statesmen, had holdings which are still to be identified with the names of present estates.

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 310.

Forest, Catton, Keenley, and West Allen, up to the year 1711, were jointly rated for the poor rate, which was paid to three churchwardens, one warden collecting the cess from two grieveships. In that year the 'four-and-twenty,' or select vestry of the parish, obtained an order from the justices that thenceforth each grieveship should support its own poor. This pressed hardly upon the inhabitants of the Forest, who unsuccessfully appealed to Quarter Sessions to have the order quashed.¹ The Commons Enclosure commissioners recognised seven grieveships, Broadside being divided from Catton; the Ordnance survey has reunited the two, and divides the Forest into two parts, which it calls the High Forest and the Low Forest. The West Allen grieveship is divided in like manner, the two parts having the designations of West Allen High and West Allen Low.

ALLENDALE CHURCH.

The church of Allendale is beautifully situated on the top of the precipitous right bank of the East Allen river, and is placed on one side of the square around which the houses of Allendale Town are grouped.

Though it is probable that a chapel was built at Allendale soon after the arrival of the Austin canons at Hexham, it is not definitely mentioned until 1174, when, in the agreement made between the archbishop of York and the bishop of Durham, in regard to their respective rights in the regality, it was covenanted that the chapel and graveyard at Allendale should be vested in the prior of Hexham, and that the bishop might not prevent, nor the archbishop compel, burial to be made there. In 1294 Archbishop Romaine cited the prior and convent to show cause why vicars were not regularly instituted in their livings of Hexham and Allendale.² From the survey of 1547 we learn that the chapel of Allendale, like the chapel at Bingfield and the church at Hexham, was dedicated to St. Mary. At the dissolution, the tithes of the chapel of Alwentdaill were set down at £15. The prior had been used to pay £4 a year to the curate, but this stipend was doubled by the reservation made in Queen Elizabeth's grant of the spiritualities of Hexham priory to Sir Christopher Hatton. At the time of the Oliverian survey, in 1650, this stipend of £8 was still the only endowment. In 1704, Ritschell writes :

¹ Vol. iii. p. 11.

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 106.

Allendale, a large and populous parish, containing ye south west part of this county, has two chapples called East and West Allen chapple, both in repair. The curate of Allendale doth service there once a month; he has a salary of £8 per annum, and reserved out of ye said fee farm rents, and some tyths, etc., the whole is now between £20 and £25 per annum, and the present curate is very poor. *The Archbishop of York's Papers.*

The view of the old chapel of Allendale, here reproduced from a drawing¹ fortunately preserved, shows almost all that is known of its architectural features. Apparently a building of the fourteenth century, it may have been built after the visitation ordered by Archbishop Greenfield in



ALLENDALE CHURCH.

1310,² which directed that the chapels in the regality should be repaired. It comprised a chancel, which, from the number of burials recorded to have taken place within it, must have been a spacious one, a nave and south aisle of equal height, the former being lighted by three well-proportioned Decorated windows on its north side, and its roof covered with lead; on the

¹ The drawing, which is by T. H. Hair, has been obtained from Dr. Arnison, who says that the flat shown at the back of the old church has gradually slipped away, and the boundary wall has been brought further into the churchyard, leaving outside some old trees which properly belong to it.

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 123 n.

western gable was a double belfry, which contained two small bells. If the south aisle was added in 1670 after the influx of miners in the middle of the seventeenth century, it would explain an entry in the register under date 4th August, 1680, 'John Stephenson of Acton buried in the *old* church.' The nave was reached by a flight of six or eight steps, which descended from the graveyard, and it was separated from the aisle by arches and stone pillars.¹ This chapel was taken down in 1807, to be replaced by a building for which, in 1873, the present church was substituted.² In the vestry is preserved an old oil painting of the sacrifice of Isaac, which formerly hung at one side of the chancel.

Two peculiar customs, apparently survivals of an earlier day in the ecclesiastical state of Allendale, may be mentioned. One related to the lay officers, and the other to the minister of the chapel. When the chapel was repaired in 1670, at a cost of £6 11s. 2d., the assessment to raise that sum was 'made by four neighbours, viz., William Dawson, Thomas Burdas, W. Currey, and J. Bradwood, dwelling in the Forest, commonly called proctors, which hath usually been the custom, time out of mind, for the repair of the said chapel.'³ These proctors were doubtless the officers of the four original grieveships. The other use is still more interesting. At the Manor Court in 1662 the 'Allenton Park and Forest jury' were directed to enquire :

Whether there hath not beene heretofore, and ought now to be, procters for collecting the reader's wages within the chappellrie of East Allendaile, and whether they should not see the chapell amended, it being now in great decay, at the costs and charges of the circuit of the chapell.

The jury find : There should be four procters to gathering the reader's wages, and seeing the chapel in repair.

Again, in 1664, the charge to the jury was : You are to enquire how the reader of East Allen chappell ought to be paid, and by whom, and at what time, and what duty the said reader doth owe to them yt pays him his chappell wages, and whether he ought not, as well as the reader at Wardaile [Weardale] chappell and other readers, to deliver his bookes, etc., to the procters ; and whether John Heatherington,⁴ now supposed reader of ye said chappell, hath not denied parte of his [?duty] which he ought to have done, in denieing to teach any man's children ; and whether he be not very unfitt to teach the schollars by reason yt he is not a good scholar himselfe, and is supposed to be very churlish.

The jury say : We find by a former verdict that their ought to be chosen every yeare for repairing the Easter [Allendale] chapell four prockters, and that the said prockters with the officer may distrain for the reader's waidges.

¹ *Ex. inf.* Dr. Arnison, 1896. Cf. Dickinson, *Allendale and Whitfield*, page 61. But the aisle may have been added at a later date, for Randal says, and Wallis repeats, 'the church is small, consisting of one aisle.'

² The present church retains the tower erected in 1807, and is dedicated to St. Cuthbert.

³ Randal, *State of the Churches*.

⁴ 12th April, 1674. John Hedrington, ye reader at Easter-head chappell, was buried in ye church. *Allendale Register*.

By an order issued by Archbishop Parker in 1559, laymen were with the sanction of the bishop to be admitted in destitute churches to read prayers, the litany and a homily, but not to preach¹ or minister otherwise.² These readers were also found on the other side of the Border, and there is a curious passage in Southey's *Colloquies* which says such cases survived in the northern counties 'till the middle of George II.'s reign, when the bishops came to a resolution that no one should officiate who was not in orders; but as there would have been some injustice and some hardship in ejecting the existing incumbents, they were admitted to deacon's orders without undergoing any examination.'³

PERPETUAL CURATES OF ALLENDALE.

1649. Abraham Dobson of Allendale, clerk, married at Hexham, 3rd July, 1649, Catherine Barker, widow.⁴

1662. John Dickeson of Allenton, clerk, was sued by John Coatsforth of Holling close, for detaineing one dictionary to his damage of 21s. Non suit.⁵

1665. Henry Dacres,⁶ married 25th May, 1665, Mary, daughter of Cuthbert Hawdon of Studdon.⁷

1690. Thomas Wise.⁸

1701, R. Cogin, and 1702, James Macubine, who occur in the register, etc., may have been stipendiary curates.

1706. Robert Patten. He had previously been curate of Penrith. When the rebellion of 1715 broke out he set out from Allendale with a party of keelmen to join the insurgents. While crossing Rothbury common he fell in with a number of Scots on the same errand as himself. These he persuaded to accompany him. He came up with the rebel forces at Wooler, and was warmly welcomed by General Forster and Lord Derwentwater, the former appointing him his chaplain on the spot.⁹ From Wooler the Jacobites proceeded to Kelso, where Patten preached, by order of Lord Kenmure, in the great church, from Deut. xxi. 17, 'the right of the firstborn is his.' On advancing to Penrith, Patten, owing to his knowledge of the district, was told off with a company of men to intercept the bishop of Carlisle returning to his seat at Rose castle. This order was subsequently countermanded by Forster, and Patten was sent to apprehend Johnson, collector of the salt tax, instead. In this he was unsuccessful, but he succeeded in capturing several men of the sheriff's *posse comitatus*. On the march from Penrith to Appleby Patten narrowly escaped apprehension by the sheriff of the county. During the march of the insurgents upon

¹ In 1574 and 1578 there were readers of the parish of Stichel, near Kelso. *Hist. of Berwickshire Nat. Club*, vol. xv. p. 23.

² This explanation of the institution found at Allendale has been pointed out by the Rev. R. W. Dixon, who examines the subject in his *History of the Church of England*, vol. v. cap. xxxii.

³ Southey, *Colloquies on the Progress and Prospects of Society*, ii. p. 66. The Oliverian survey mentions reading ministers at Beltingham chapel and at Lambley, but this may mean no more than a lack of licences to preach. *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, iii. pp. 6, 7. ⁴ *Hexham Register*.

⁵ *Hexham Manor Rolls*, 1662.

⁶ Randal, *State of the Churches*.

⁷ *Allendale Register*.

⁸ His will dated 2nd December, 1700, is at York: 'My body to be buried in the parish church of Allendale; to the poor of the grieveships of Allendale Town and Catton, £10; the interest whereof to be distributed yearly to five poor widows of Catton and five poor widows of Allendale Town; my sons, George and Thomas; to my niece, Jane, wife of Richard Lambert of Catton Lee, my black mare; to my godson, Matthew Ridley, son of George Ridley of Beltingham, my bible and book of 'homileyes'; to my clerk, William Hewitson, 10s.; residue to my wife, Ann Wise, she executor; my friend, John Robson of Nine Banks, supervisor. If the projected school be set up in Allendale within three years it shall have the £10 devised to the poor. Raine, *Test. Ebor.* Wise was born at Thornhill in Yorkshire. Mackenzie, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 303.

Preston, Patten read prayers to the Protestant members of the army at the various halting places, the resident clergy being unwilling to commit themselves. At the siege of Preston, Patten was employed by Lord Derwentwater to bring him information of the progress of the attack, which he did until his horse was shot under him. After the surrender, he saved Forster's life by striking up a pistol which Murray (one of the Jacobites who protested against the surrender) levelled at him. Patten was among the prisoners, but, in his own words, 'he saved his life by being an evidence for the king.' Shortly afterwards he published *The History of the late Rebellion, with Original Papers and the Characters of the Principal Noblemen and Gentlemen Concern'd in it, by the Reverend Mr. Robert Patten, formerly Chaplain to Mr. Forster.* The first two editions were published in 1717, and two more editions were issued in 1745. Patten figures as 'Creeping Bob' in Besant's novel of *Dorothy Forster.*

1720. Nicholas Lowes¹ voted in 1722 for lands in Allendale.²

1725. James Laing.

1734. John Toppin, ordered priest at Durham castle by William, bishop of Durham, 27th September, 1727; vicar of Alston, 14th February, 1728.³ Licensed by archbishop of York, and admitted to be curate of Allendale on 4th February, 1734.⁴ Voted for lands in Allendale in 1748.⁵ Married at Whitfield, 20th April, 1749, Mrs. Eleanor Lowthian of that parish; buried in churchyard at east end of church 21st March, 1756.⁶ There is in the church a monument (one of Lough's earlier efforts) to the memory of his daughter, Ann, wife of Peter Stephenson of Hexham, surgeon.⁷

1757. Thomas Coulthard appeared at the visitation, but had no licence.⁸ He voted in 1774 for the perpetual curacy of Allendale.⁹ Buried 17th September, 1779.¹⁰

1780. Hugh Stokoe previously curate of Allenheads presented on the death of Coulthard.¹¹ Was buried 6th June, 1783.¹²

1783. Joseph Carr, B.D., preferred to the livings of Allendale Town and Allenheads.¹³ In 1773 he published a translation of the *Dialogus of Lucian.*¹⁴

1806. Christopher Bird, B.A., matriculated at St. Alban's hall, Oxon., 9th June, 1803, aged 24, afterwards vicar of Chollerton.

1822. Thomas Scurr; in 1826 as of Broadwood-hall, voted for lands in Allendale.¹⁵ Sometime curate of Thockrington and master of Hexham school, died 26th January, 1836.¹⁶ Owned and taught a boarding school for boys at Broadwood-hall.

1836. Joseph Jacques, M.A.; in 1843 preferred to be vicar of Bywell St. Andrew.

1844. John Rawes.

1853. Titus Emerson, licentiate in theology of Durham university, ordered deacon 1851, sometime curate of Shildon, was incumbent for twenty years, and died at Hertford, 17th January, 1873.¹⁷

1873. Richard Evans Mason of Trinity college, Dublin, B.A. 1852, M.A. 1859, LL.D. 1869. Previously perpetual curate of Earsdon. The present incumbent.

¹ Randal, *State of the Churches.* ² *Poll Book.* ³ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 38.

⁴ Canon Raine, *Notes from York Faculty Books*, etc. ⁵ *Poll Book.* ⁶ *Allendale Register.*

⁷ Mackenzie, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 304. ⁸ Canon Raine, *Notes from York Faculty Books*, etc.

⁹ *Poll Book.* ¹⁰ *Allendale Register.* ¹¹ *Newcastle Courant*, 12th February, 1780.

¹² *Allendale Register.* ¹³ *Gentleman's Magazine*, September, 1783.

¹⁴ At Allenheads, county of Northumberland, in his 60th year, the Rev. Joseph Carr, B.D., a clergyman whose unwearied application to his studies was never suffered to interfere with the duties of his profession. Obscure in his situation in the church, his conduct was uniformly through life unassuming and unambitious. Of his various learning, that which chiefly distinguished him was to be derived from the Old and New Testament. To understand these books in their original language he had long and diligently laboured, and not without success, having left in the possession of his widow a work (nearly finished) on sacred geography; which the writer of this article would willingly undertake to revise and publish, if he could presume to believe himself competent to the task. *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1806.

¹⁵ *Poll Book.* ¹⁶ M.I. Allendale. ¹⁷ *Ibid.*

VISITATIONS, ETC.

There remains at York the record of a curious marriage suit, *William Wilkinson v. Jenet Hutchinson alias Pearson*, which was heard before the Ecclesiastical Court in 1563.

1563, April 23rd. John Wylsonne, parish Allendale, husbandman, says that he was presente with the partyes articulate in a felde of Cuthbert Heslop of the Froste hall, within the parishe of Allendale, which feilde is distant frome the sayd Frostes hall where the sayd Janet dwelte abowt iiij hundreth fete upon Sancte Bartholomew day in harvest last paste abowt viij of the clock before none, when the sayd William Wilkinson desyred Mathew Whytfelde to handefest theme together. He sayd that he wolde yf they were boyth contente; and they boyth awnsering sayd, willingly they were contente, and then he willed theme to joyne their handes together, and so they dyd; and then the sayd William at the recitation of the sayd Mathew did say, 'I William taykes the Janet to my wedded wyf frome this day forwarde for better for worse, for richer for porer untill death us two departe, and forsaking all other, tayking me onely unto the so long as we boyth shall lye, and thereto I plight the my trouthe,' and then drue handes and lyved together. [Matthew Whytfeld of Allendale, husbandman, *at.* 66, confirms this.]

John Stott of Allendale, husbandman, says that he was present with Thomas Pereson and Janet Hutchenson upon a Sondag abowt a fourtnight affore Sancte James day laste paste in Allenton towne at the easte ende of Hughe Rewles house abowt xj or xij of the clocke, where he did here the sayd Thomas say 'Janye, how sayest thou, hayst thou mayd any promes or covenaut of matrimony to any other man.' And she awnsering sayd 'Nay': and then he further did aske hir yf she coulde be content to love hime better then any other man, and to forsake all other men for hime and lede hir lyf with hime: and she awnsering sayd 'Yea by my trouthe I canne fynde in my harte to love you better then any other man and to forsake al men for you,' and therupon she gave the sayd Thomas hir hande and sayd 'Here I give you my hande and my fayth and trouthe that I will mary you to be my husbunde and will never mary other man to my husbunde while we two live onles yt belong of you and not of me.' And he having hir by the hande sayd 'And here I give yo my hande, my fayth and trouth that I will mary you to my wyf and I will never mary other woman but you whyle you ar lyvinge'; and then drue handes; and the sayd Thomas gave to the sayd Janet a ring and a silke lace which she tooke thankfully. He was presente in the churche of Byrteley upon Saterdag next after the latter Ladye day in harveste laste paste abowt x or xj of the clock before none, where and when he dyd here and se the sayd William and Janett solemnyse matrimony and did here and se Sir John Dickson, curate of Byrteley. marye them, etc., and dyd here and se the commynon or commemoracion and all other service accustomed to be done and sayd at solemnyzacions of mariages then and ther done and sayd. [Confirmed by others.]

This letter is appended.

Pleas yt your worshupe to be advertysede that Janet Hocheson, now wyf to Thomas Person, hathe comede to me in wepyng maner, and by hir wordes and sorofull contynauce much lamentynge hir owen doynges for that she had be for your worshupe falsly sworne and said yt muche groged hir consyens; and be sowght me for Godes love for my counsell; and sundry tymes to me said that hir nysbehavior was so great that she dowtyed the marcye of God. And so fyndyng hir so woue of speret I dyd gyve hir my counsell in as godly and gentyll exortacion as God gyve me grace so to do at that tyme. And after my counsell so geven I dyd examyne hir the cause whye she so ungodly dyd, and she answered me and said she knew not what an othe was and was tysed by Jhon Stout, who promysed hir a par of slevs of red sylke; and Georg Persone promyse hir a band of lynte; and William Person dyd promyse hir a brod red kyrtell of the best sorte at the end of Hew Roules house at Allenton to swer that thar was a contract mayd be twyxe Thomas Person and the said Janett and thus dyd she consent to. On the Thursday after she was sytyd to the chapiter to Hexam at the sute of William Wylkynson, and upon the heryng of the matter I remytted yt over to your worshupe for that the matter his be for yow dependynge. I thought I could no lese do bod to certefye the hoill truthe under the seale of the office. From Hexam the last of Septembre, 1563.

Your worshupes to command,

Nycolles Hyrst, clark.

To his right worshupfull master doctor Rouhbye, doctor of the lawe, chanceler to the most reverende father in God Thomas archebysshope of Yorke, and one of the quen's maties counsell established in the North parties gyve this. [Seal defaced and broken.] 1563, February 26th. Suit in favour of Wilkinson and Hutchinson.

1579, 11th April. Grant from the Crown to Sir Christopher Hatton and others of the tithes of Alwindale *alias* Allendale.

Allendale chantry lands appear in the enumeration of Sir John Forster's possessions in the *ing. post mort.* January, 1602,¹ and in the survey of 1608, the chantry lands were held by copy of Court Roll by Anthony Shield and Margaret Pattison.²

Mary, daughter and coheirs of Sir John Forster of Adderston, married Henry Stapleton and had from her father the rectory (*i.e.*, the great tithes) of East and West Allen, which they sold to Sir John Fenwick, 1st April, 1616.³

1621. Whereas we find divers imperfection and drifting delayes have bene maid by some collectors that have gathered up the countries mony, and delayeth the pament of the same; we therefor lay, on paine, that Cuthbert Rowell, one of the collectors for the fortnyth fair shal pay in the said forthnicht fair mony upon the tabell in Allenton church upon the Sunday next after publication of this verdict unto the hands of the xxiiij, or to whome they shall appoynte, upon paine of xxs for everie xx dayes.⁴

1639. The chapel house in East Allendale; Thomas Wilson and three others, the vicars, churchwardens of Allen mentioned.⁵

1670. A note of charges for the repairs of the chapel of East Allendale. John Brooks, for slating, £2; John Mowbere, for timber, £2 10s.; Thomas Green, for caridg, 6s.; for nales and lat-prods, 9s. 6½d.; for slat pins, 1s. 9d.; for lats and caridg, 7s. 8d.; and the carpenter's wadge, 7s.; more for caridg of slats, one hors, 5s. 9d.; for two bowls of lime, 2s.; more for getting of foog, 1s. 6d. Some £6 11s. 2½d.⁶

1689, 28th September. Sir John Fenwick of Wallington conveyed to Sir Wm. Blackett of Newcastle *inter alia* the rectory of East Allendale and West Allendale.⁷

In 1711 no fewer than twenty-one Quakers of Allendale were convicted for non-payment of tythes, amounting in all to £12 os. 9d., and had to pay for costs £2 2s. 6d. more. Amongst the persons so convicted were Joseph Watson, Joshua Watson, and Hugh Watson.⁸

1723. Office against Jane Shield for offering violence in the church, and thereby disturbing the congregation.⁹

1725. Office against James Laing *alias* Lang, clerk, curate of Allendale, for officiating without a licence, and for his contempt on refusing to exhibit his orders, and likewise for clandestine marrying of Robert Trueman and Margaret Oliver. (He does not appear.)¹⁰

1739. Office against Alice Featherstone of the parish of Allendale and Mary Dickenson, for making a disturbance in the church in the time of divine service. (Quakers.) Featherstone pleaded she did not speak till J. Toppin had done. But it being sacrament day he could not for her speaking proceed to that office. (The admonitions given were little regarded.)¹¹

1748. A true terrier and account of all ye glebe lands, houses, edifices, orchards, gardens, tythes, pensions, salaries, stipendiary payments, offerings, oblations, and all other ecclesiastical dues belonging to the church of Allendale, within the peculiar jurisdiction of Hexham and Hexhamshire and diocese of York, made by the minister, churchwardens, and other principal inhabitants of the parish of Allendale as followeth:

A parsonage dwelling house, with a stable and barn; also a dwelling house, or room above stairs, with a cow house under ye same, given by William Bacon, esq., to the church of Allendale for ever; a garden with a little field called parsonage croft adjoining to ye same glebe. Tyth of blade, stalk, seeds, and corn, yearly growing within the division or constabulary of Allendale Town; ye tythe hay, of ye Low Mill tenement; of the far and near Hope tenement; of Mr. Joseph Newton's tenement; of Mr. Ralph Soulsby's tenement, consisting of several fields, viz., ye town-field, ye croft, ye field adjoining to ye town-field, ye Knotts and ye pasture; also ye tythe hay of a field called ye Modes Dargue; of a field called Score-bank field; ye tythe hay of Mr. Joseph Adamson's croft; also the tythe of stalk, blade, seeds, and corn of Catton division or constabulary within ye said parish of Allendale. £3 6s. 8d. payable in two half-yearly paiments, viz., at Michaelmas and Easter in every year, by ye lay rector, Walter Blackett, esq., or

¹ Cf. vol. iii. p. 57.

² *Ibid.* 88.

³ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 256.

⁴ *Hexham Manor Rolls*.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Hunter MSS.* Durham Cathedral Library.

⁷ Document with Mr. L. C. Lockhart.

⁸ *Sessions Records*.

⁹ Canon Raine, *Extracts from Faculty Books*, etc., at York.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.*

his worship's lessees ; one pound of lawful money of Great Britain, payable yearly by ye warden of ye Cooks' company of London ; ye accustomed fee of a marriage, solemnized by virtue of a licence, 11s. ; by publication (if one of the parties live in a different parish), 4s. ; by publication (if both parties live in ye parish), 2s. If a marriage be solemnized at East Allen chapel [illegible] clandestinely, 11s. ; ye accustomed fee at ye churching of a woman and registering a baptised child, when ye churching office is performed at ye church, 1s. ; when at East or West Allen chapels, 2s. ; and 6d. higher up ye dale ; the burial fee when ye grave is in the churchyard, 6d. ; when in ye church, 2s. 2d. ; when at East Allen chapel, 1s. 6d. The fixing a tombstone in ye graveyard, 10s. ; examining ye register and giving a copy thereof, 6d.

N.B.—'Tis alleged and believed yt 40s. or thereabouts was payd yearly sometime ago out of lands in ye Forest division or Quarter to ye minister of Allendale, as an endowment belonging to East Allen chapel, and also 40s. or thereabouts was payd yearly out of lands in West Allen division to the minister of Allendale, as an endowment belonging to West Allen chapel ; there being two chapels of ease, and having yearly ye sacrament of ye Lord's Supper immemorially administered in 'em in passion week by ye minister of Allendale. John Toppin, minister ; Mathew Renwick, Francis Shiele, Thomas Fairless, George Green, churchwardens.¹

1754. 4th March. Will of John Toppin of Allendale Town, clerk : My lands in Allendale Town will go to my heir-at-law ; my copyhold lands at Easter and Wester Garrets and Ousley, Easter Stone-house, and my close in parish of Ainstable in Cumberland, to my daughter Ann Toppin ; my brother Joseph Toppin of London, £100 ; my brother Jonathan Toppin of Rossgill, £100 ; my sister Ann Toppin of Cliburn, £50 ; my nephew Joseph Toppin of Allendale Town, £100 ; to Mr. Thomas Lancaster my black gown and cassock, if he's my curate at my death ; to the ministers of Allendale and Alston, each £20, to buy books of practical and usefull divinity for the use and instruction of the people of each parish, in their Christian duties ; and my humble request is, to the reverend and good Archdeacon Sharp,² that he will direct the said ministers in the purchasing ; hoping that each parish will provide a vestry, proper chest or convenience for the preservation of the said books, to be lent out and taken in again by the ministers, among such of the people of each parish as are poor, and such as are most remiss and negligent in performing their bounden dutys to their great God, whom too often to the great sorrow of my heart they have forgot days out of number. To the trustees of Allendale free school, £20 ; the yearly interest to be applied for the augmentation of the English master. Also £20 to the minister of Allendale, the heir of Ninebanks and the churchwardens of West Allen, the interest to the minister of Ninebanks chapel to teach a school at the said chapel, hoping some charitable and more able persons will add to this first benefaction. To my parish clerk Jacob Robinson, a guinea and one hood cap. Residue to my wife Eleanor Toppin, she executrix. Proved at York 18th August, 1756.³

1762. Office against Jacob Robison the elder, the parish clerk of Allendale, for presuming to perform the funeral office over the corps of Jane Emmerson, otherwise Brown, on the 7th December, 1760. (He is dead.)⁴

1762. Office against Jacob Robison the younger, of Allendale Town, carpenter, for following his trade occupation as a carpenter, in the parish church of Allendale, for some days after being discharged by the minister and churchwardens. (He submits and is dismissed.)⁵

1763. Office against John Newton of Allendale Town, for cutting down a tree in the churchyard.⁶

1764. Sir Walter Blackett, bart., now owner of the rest of the tithes within the parish of Allendale pays the curate the sum of £3 6s. 8d. only, because it is said there was an agreement made between some former owner of these tithes and the then curate that the curate should have the tithes of some part of the parish of Allendale in lieu of the remaining part of the sum of eight pounds a year, which was received by indenture made the 12th day of April, in the 21st year of the reign of the late Queen Elizabeth [1579], purporting a grant of these tithes, among others, to Sir Christopher Hatton, kt., but how or when the above-mentioned agreement was made with the curate does not appear.⁷

¹ *Allendale Register.*

² *Cf.* vol. i. p. 70.

³ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

⁴ Canon Raine, *Notes from Faculty Books*, etc., at York.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Report of the commission of the archbishop of York, dated 20th November, 1764. *Archbishop of York's Papers.*

1777. Office against John Robinson of Oustley, and William Robinson of Allendale, miner, for setting up a tombstone in the churchyard of Allendale for their father, and refusing to pay the fee of ten shillings for it, as specified in the terrier. Others of the same place presented for neglecting to pay their christening and churching fees.¹

1778. The Rev. Thomas Coulthard was presented for pulling down part of the vicarage house and not rebuilding it. (The presentment, a malicious one, dismissed.)²

1779, 29th March. Petition from Jeremiah Green, William Green, Jacob Robinson, John, Margery, and Elizabeth Wigham, for a house newly built in Allendale to be set apart for Protestant dissenters.³

1793. Office against John Lattimer of Walk mill, parish of Allendale, dyer, for getting drunk, fighting, and playing at football at different times in and about the market place in Allendale Town upon Sundays.⁴

1841. It was resolved to pull down the old parsonage house and to throw its site into the graveyard.⁵

1842. The benefice of Allendale was included in the rural deanery of Hexham.

1866. The perpetual curacy of Allendale was declared to be a rectory.⁶

In a terrier taken in 1891, the property of the curacy is stated as follows :

The rectory house.						£	s.	d.
One field containing	1¼	acres, rented at ...	...	...	...	4	10	0
Two fields containing	6.205	acres „	...	...	...	22	0	0
„	4.937	„ „	...	...	...	10	0	0
„	4.464	„ „	...	...	...	5	10	0
Land at Acomb, about	13	„ „	...	...	...	23	10	0
House and garden at Acomb		„ „	...	...	...	3	0	0
Stints on Allendale common,	3½	„ „	...	...	...	1	1	0
Payments by the Ecclesiastical commissioners			...	...	...	117	0	0
Queen Anne's bounty		...	...	...	...	6	11	6
Tithe rent charge net, Allendale		...	...	...	...	43	19	11
„		Hexham	...	...	...	26	13	10

From the register, which begins in 1662, the following entries are taken :

1662, November 13th. Thomas Bee of Taylorburne, buried.

1664, August 9th. Thomas Bee, son of Matthew Bee of Taylorburne, buried.

1665, May 25th. Henry Dacres, curate of Allendale, and Mary, daughter of Cuthbert Hawdon of Studdon, married.

1665, September 24th. Robert Pearson, son of Robert Pearson of Bishopfield, baptised.

1665/6, March 15th. William Dacres, son of Henry Dacres, minister of Allendale, baptised.

1669, August 26th. John Hawdon of Allendale Town, and Barbary, daughter of Thomas Bee of Wager-house, married.

1670, March 29th. Christopher Pearson, son of Robert Pearson of Bishopfield, baptised.

1670, April 11th. John Hodgson, son of John Hodgson, schoolmaster of Burmtongues, baptised.

1670, September 23rd. George Bacon of Broadwood-hall, buried in the quire.

1672, November 23rd. William Mills' son, who was killed 'in ye Heads groves,' buried.

1672, February 23rd. Henry Bland of Newcastle, merchant, and Johanna, daughter of Joseph Bacon of Broadwood-hall, married.

1672/3, January 15th. Thomas Bee of Broadwood-hall, died at Wocy-hall, buried in the quire.

1673, May 26th. Margery, wife of William Swinburn of the Poddy-bank, buried in the church.

1673, July 16th. William Swinburn of Pods-bank, buried in the church.

1674, October 15th. Joseph Bacon of Broadwood-hall, buried in the quire.

1675, March 10th. George Pearson, son of William Pearson of the Spital, died at Coldcotes, and was buried in the quire.

¹ Canon Raine, *Notes from Faculty Books*, etc., at York.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Churchwardens' Books.*

⁶ *London Gazette*, 27th Nov., 1866. Cf. p. 129 n.

- 1675/6, March 23rd. Mary, wife of Mr. Henry Dacres, curate of Allendale, buried in the church.
- 1677, January 6th. Jane Pearson, wife of William Pearson of the Spital, near Hexham, buried in the quire.
- 1677, March 24th. Mary Pearson, daughter of Robert Pearson of Bishopsfield, baptised.
- 1677, June 11th. Edward Stout, a grover in Easterheads, who was killed in a grove, buried in the church.
- 1677, June 11th. Margery, daughter of John Swinburn of the Pod-banke, baptised.
- 1677, July 13th. William Pearson of Caldcotes, and Ann Maugham, married.
- 1678, November 7th. Robert Swinburn of the Pods-bank, and Grace Younger married.
- 1679/80, January. Elizabeth, daughter of John Bacon of New Staward, baptised.
- 1680, January 2nd. Henry Dacres, curate, and Mrs. Ann (?) Bee of Broadwood-hall, married.
- 1681, June 24th. William Pearson, who died at the Spital, Hexham, was brought, and buried in quire.
- 1681, October 14th. Francis Bee of Broadwood-hall, and Margaret Whitfield of Kingswood, married.
- 1681, November 1st. Francis Bee of Broadwood-hall, buried in the quire.
- 1692, April 1st. Mrs. Ann Dacres of the Broadwood-hall, buried in the chancel.
- 1693, September 2nd. Mr. Richard Mowbray, steward to Sir William Blackett in East Allendale, buried in the church.
- 1694, December 28th. George Lowes, parish of Haltwhistle, and Ann Hawdon of Broadwood-hall, married.
- 1696, September 7th. John Roddam and Barbara Shield, both of Swinup, married.
- 1696, November 23rd. William Pearson of the Bishopfield, buried in the church.¹
- 1696, July 10th. Matthew Bee, a poor man in West Allen, was buried in the chancel.
- 1696/7, February 19th. Francis, son of Mr. John Bacon of Staward, buried in the chancel.
- 1698/9, January 6th. Naomi, daughter of Alexander Williamson of Hayrake, was buried in the Quaker burial place.
- 1702, May 26th. Mr. Christopher Richmond of Hindly Wrae, gent., buried in the chancel.
- 1705, January 7th. Tailor Thirkeld, son of Tailor Thirkeld of Wooly Burn-foot, baptised.
- 1708, November 24th. Thomas Muncaster and Mary Robson, married.
- 1710, May 4th. George Fewster of Bywell St. Peter, and Mary Wilson of Chapel-house, married.
- 1711, August 16th. William Whitfield of Allendale Town, buried in the church.
- 1711/2, February 22nd. Mr. Geo. Ornsby, curate to the miners at Allenheads, M.A. St. Mary Magdalen college, Cambridge, buried in the quire.
- 1712, May 13th. Mr. Arthur Head, schoolmaster of the Head free school, buried in the quire.
- 1724, November 23rd. Jane, daughter of Mr. Edmund Baxter of Colecleugh, buried in the Low chapel yard.
- 1724/5, January 17th. Mr. John Armstrong of Ninebanks, buried in Allendale churchyard.

There is a silver communion cup made in 1738 by Isaac Cookson of Newcastle, silversmith.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

Erected by their children, in memory of William Campbell Arnison, who was upwards of 50 years surgeon in this and the adjoining parishes. Born July 11th, 1797; died May 10th, 1883. And of Jane Arnison, 52 years his wife, born May 24th, 1793; died April 20th, 1878. Also of Christopher Arnison, their first born son, born July 10th, 1828; died January 30th, 1835.

Near the communion table, before the church was rebuilt in 1807, was a flat sepulchral stone inscribed: Here lyeth interred the body of George Bacon of Broadwood-hall, who was born at Clay Lorine, in Derbyshire: husband of Cessilly Bacon. He departed this life at Grasse Grooves, the 21st September, and was buried here the 23rd of the said September, anno domini, 1670.²

¹ The Pearson entries prove and elucidate the pedigree of Pearson of Spital. Vol. iii. p. 313.

² Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 374.

To the memory of the Rev. Joseph Carr, B.D., who was upwards of 20 years minister of this parish. During that period he discharged the duties of his profession with such propriety, and applied himself to clerical studies, especially to that of the Hebrew language, with such assiduity and success, that as a respectable scholar and as an useful parish minister, few, perhaps none, left an example more worthy of imitation. He died April 20th, 1806.

In memory of Margaret Dawson, late the wife of Jacob Dawson of Allenheads, who died the 11th April, 1821, aged 62 years. The above named Jacob Dawson died 24th July, 1827, aged 69 years. This monument was erected by Abraham Dawson of Newcastle, solicitor, as a token of regard for his parents.

Erected to the memory of the beloved children of Abraham and Lilley (*sic*) Dawson of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Marcus Thompson, Margaret Lilley, Jane Ann, Elizabeth Isabella, and the last surviving daughter, Mary Maria Dawson, who died on the 26th of March, 1845, aged 19 years 11 months and 23 days.

In memory of the Rev. Titus Emerson, for 20 years incumbent of this parish, who died January 17th, 1873.

Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Thomas Scurr, who died January 26th, 1836, aged 68 years.

CHARITIES.

John Shield of London, citizen and cook, by indenture, dated 5th June, 1617, for £500 purchased an annuity of £28 from the Clothworkers' company of London. This he made over in trust to the Cooks' company, on condition that they should pay or cause to be paid:

(1) 20 shillings to such parson as shall be appointed usual reader in the parish church of East Allendale (where John Shield was born) and his successors, for two sermons yearly, that is, every half year, to be made in the parish church of East Allendale for ever.

(2) 10 pounds to the churchwardens and six of the principal inhabitants of the parish of Allendale to be yearly chosen, to distribute the said 10 pounds among the poor of the parish.

20 shillings to be equally divided among the churchwardens and six principal inhabitants for their care and pains therein.

If the churchwardens and principal inhabitants do not distribute the said ten pounds within convenient time after they have received it, the money shall cease to be paid them, and the masters and governors of the Cooks' company, London, shall pay the said ten pounds yearly to the churchwardens and six principal inhabitants of Alston Moor, to be distributed by them to the poor of the parish of Alston Moor.

In 1720, Ann Wilson left 10s. a year out of the Burntongues to the poor of Keenley grieveship.¹

The sum of £112 10s. being the aggregate of many smaller sums was, in 1887, paid over by the churchwardens to the 'Official Trustees of Charitable Trusts,' and produces £3 0s. 4d. per year.²

The sum of £200 left by the will of Miss Jane Blackett, dated 18th June, 1831, to the poor of Allendale Town and Park grieveships. This sum, with £120 accumulated arrears of interest was, in 1887, paid over by the churchwardens to the 'Official Trustees of Charitable Trusts,' and now produces £8 12s. 4d. a year.

¹ *Royal Commission on Charities*, 1830.

² This sum is all that remains of the following numerous charities recorded by Ritschell, *Tynedale Charities*: £20 left by Leonard Shield of Bridge Eale, the yearly use thereof to the poor of Allenton and Catton grieveships. £20 left by Nicholas Shield of the Pyatroone, the yearly use thereof to the poor of Allenton and Catton grieveships. £20 left by Cuthbert Stout of the Old Town, the yearly use thereof to the poor of Allenton and Catton grieveships. £20 left by Nicholas Wilkinson of the West side, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the whole parish. £20 left by William Currey of Eilersoppe, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the Park and Forest grieveships. 20 marks left by John Ridley of Hollin green, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the whole parish. 20 marks left by Hugh Hutchinson of Durham, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the whole parish. £10 left by James Broadwood of Hindley hill, the yearly use thereof to the poor of Keenley grieveship. £10 left by Leonard Wilson of the Oakepool, the yearly use thereof to the poor of Keenley grieveship. £10 left time out of mind, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the whole parish. £10 left time out of mind, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the whole parish. £7 left time out of mind, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the whole parish. £3 left time out of mind, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the whole parish. £20 left by Henry Stephenson of the Hagg, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the Park and Forest grieveships. £10 left

ALLENDALE TOWN GRIEVESHIP.

'The capital town of Allendale, called Allendale Town, is situated on the banks of East Allen on an eminence and overlooked by others on both sides of that rapid¹ stream. That it was occupied by man in early pre-historic times is shown by the various flint and other stone implements and weapons found on the fell which rises above the town. Amongst them are an axe of fine-grained stone, polished and ground to a sharp edge, some barbed and triangular flint arrow points, scrapers and other flint tools.² At the end of last century it was described as 'a neat little town, almost every other building of which is a public house for the miners,'³ at which period the Friday's market was so frequented 'for the supply of the mining district to the west-ward,' that 'corn, butchers' meat, and considerable quantities of potatoes and garden stuff'⁴ were taken there from Hexham.

The closing of the lead mines has had an adverse effect on the prosperity of the town, though the two half-yearly fairs are still held, the one on the Friday before May 13th, and the other on the Friday after the 29th October.

Allendale Town is, however, rising in favour as a summer resort,⁵ and is much appreciated for its pure moorland air. Besides the parish church, the town has two chapels belonging to the Methodist societies. It was visited more than once by John Wesley, who, on the 29th August, 1748, wrote in his *Journal*:

At noon I went to the cross in Allendale Town, where Mr. Topping, with a company of the better sort, waited for us. I soon found it was but a vain attempt to dispute or reason with him. He skipped so from one point to another that it was not possible to keep up with him. So, after a few minutes, I removed about an hundred yards and preached in peace to a very large congregation, it being the general pay day, which is but once in six months.

And again on the 26th May, 1752, he wrote :

In the evening we came to Allendale and found the poor society well nigh shattered to pieces. Slackness and offence had eaten them up.

by William Hutchinson of the Greendike, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the whole parish. £10 left by John Nevin of Sipton-sheele, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the Park and Forest grieveships. £28 more left and likely to be lost. £20 left by John Richardson of the Parkside, the yearly use thereof to the poor of the whole parish. £5 left by Hugh Wilson of the Burntongues, for the use of Keenley. Margaret Fairless, £10; Hugh Roddam, £20; Edward Robson, £10; William Fairless, £10; William Chester, £10; Jane Robson, £20; Elizabeth Roddam, £10; William Hutchinson, £20; Robert Armstrong, £10. Ritschell, *Tynedale Charities*. Cf. Dickinson, *Allendale and Whitfield*, pp. 7, 8.

¹ Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 35.

² *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Newc.* v. p. 228.

³ Swinburne, *Courts of Europe*, vol. ii. p. 105.

⁴ Bailey and Culley, *Agricultural Survey of Northumberland*, p. 154.

⁵ Wallis, writing in 1769, says, that 'on the brow of the hill at Allendale Town is a chalybeate spring; the *terra martialis* or ochreous residuum copious upon the herbage by it.' *Northumberland*, vol. i. p. 16.

The influence of the revival which followed lasted until after Wesley's third and final visit in June, 1761. A chapel was built by the society and registered in 1775,¹ and there were in 1884, in the Allendale circuit, eleven chapels of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, and also eleven chapels belonging to the Primitive Methodists.²

The single-arch stone bridge which spans the river between the foot of the Peth and the hamlet of Bridge-end, was built at the expense of the county in 1825,³ on the site of an old bridge known as the Bow-bridge.

At Wooley burn foot, on the opposite side of the river, is the meeting house of the Society of Friends, erected in 1868. It replaces an earlier structure built on a plot of ground⁴ surrendered for that purpose by Ralph Featherstone in 1688. Quakers were at that time numerous in Allendale, and at the same period they built another meeting house at Limestone Brae, on the West Allen, which, at the end of last century, was turned into a dwelling house and the graveyard into a garden.

At Brides hill are the buildings of the endowed and free school of East Allendale, which owes its origin to the desire felt for a better system of education and to the efforts made by several benevolent men to remedy the existing neglect at the end of the seventeenth century. Its principal, indeed its real founder, was Christopher Wilkinson of Chapel-house, whose will, dated 27th February, 1700, runs as follows :

Whereas I am deeply sensible of the great want, prejudice, and inconvenience incident to several children of many poor inhabitants within the parish of Allendale, by neglect of education, partly happening by their parents', tutors', or own inability to hire schoolmasters, or pay for their children's maintenance and learning abroad, and being moved with pity and charitable affection to the inhabitants of the said parish of Allendale, and in hopes that others will be induced to follow my example and promote so charitable a work ; I give to trustees £250 to purchase lands in the manor of Hexham, to the use, advantage, and benefit of a free grammar school for the education of youth, to be set up and settled in such proper and convenient place on the west side of East Allen Water as my trustees shall approve. I give £10 to be employed towards the erecting and building a bridge over the East Allen Water, at a place called Oak pool, provided the same be built and finished within three years after my decease.⁵

Other benefactors were : William Hutchinson of Portgate, who, in 1692, devised a house and garth called Tinker-house (subject to the life

¹ 1775, 22nd July. Petition from William Barker, Thomas Waugh, William Bell, John Parker, David Eveins, Robert Emperington, for a meeting for Methodists in a house built for that purpose in the parish of Allendale. *York Faculty Books.*

² Dickinson, *Allendale and Whitfield*, pp. 85, 89, 93.

³ *Newcastle Courant*, 26th March, 1825.

⁴ Thomas Jackson of Hunter Gap, in Keenly, in the parish of Allendale, by will dated 15th January, 1695, desires his body to be buried in ye burying place beside ye meeting place att ye Burnfoot in East Allendale, and gives to his 'poor friends in ye truth, who go under ye name of Quakers in ye parish of Allendale, £5.' Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

interest of his wife) for a free school ; Cecilia Bacon of Catton Lee, widow, who, in 1696, devised £50 for the like purpose ; and Thomas Wise, curate of Allendale, who, in 1702, gave by will, £10 to the same good object.

The sums accruing from these benefactions were, in 1704, laid out on the erection of a school-house and the purchase of a copyhold estate at Dryside in Broadside. After serving the needs of the district for one hundred and seventy years, the provisions of Wilkinson's foundation were deemed inadequate, and a school-board was formed in 1877, which took over existing schools at Ninebanks, Carrshield, Keenly, Sinderhope, and Allenheads, and built new ones at Allendale Town, Catton, and St. Peter's in the Forest. The Brides hill school is now disused, and the appropriation of its endowment is still under the consideration of its trustees, a body partly elective and partly co-optative.¹

Near Brides hill are Thornley gate, where five roads meet and diverge, Pods-bank, an ancient holding of a family of Swinburn,² and the Allen smelt mill.³

The Allen smelt mill contained, in 1825, two roasting furnaces, five ore hearths, two refining furnaces, and one reducing furnace. Two flues were subsequently constructed to carry off from the mill the soot and smoke which had previously proved so detrimental to the health of the workmen and to the surrounding vegetation. Two tall chimneys had been erected for this purpose near the mill, but they did not meet the requirements of the case. The first flue originally had its outlet at Cleugh-head, but on the construction of the second flue both outlets were taken to their present position on the moor, about three miles west of Allendale Town.⁴

Amongst the more influential families of East Allendale was that of Shield, which occupied or owned the two chief mills, the King's mill in Catton, and the New mill in Allendale. Hugh Shield, who was bailiff or griever of East Allendale in 1547,⁵ held a water corn mill there at the rent of 66s. 8d.⁶ In 1608 Hugh Shield of Wooley held at the same rent the

¹ It is now regulated by a 'scheme' formulated by the Charity Commissioners in 1887. 'In the matter of the Foundations for Schools in the parish of Allendale, etc., founded under the wills of William Hutchinson and Christopher Wilkinson respectively, afterwards administered as one school.' *Ex. inf.* Mr. L. C. Lockhart.

² 27th April, 1699. Will of Robert Swinburne of Podspanke, parish of Allendale, yeoman. To my uncle, James Braidwood's children, Thomas and Hannah, £20. Uncle William Hawdon's children, William and Mary, £5. Uncle William Coatsforth's children, William, Thomas, Robert, Hannah Walton, and Mary, each 20s. Aunt Elizabeth Younger, aunt Margaret Coatsworth, uncle John Swinburne, 5s. Uncle James Braidwood sole executor. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

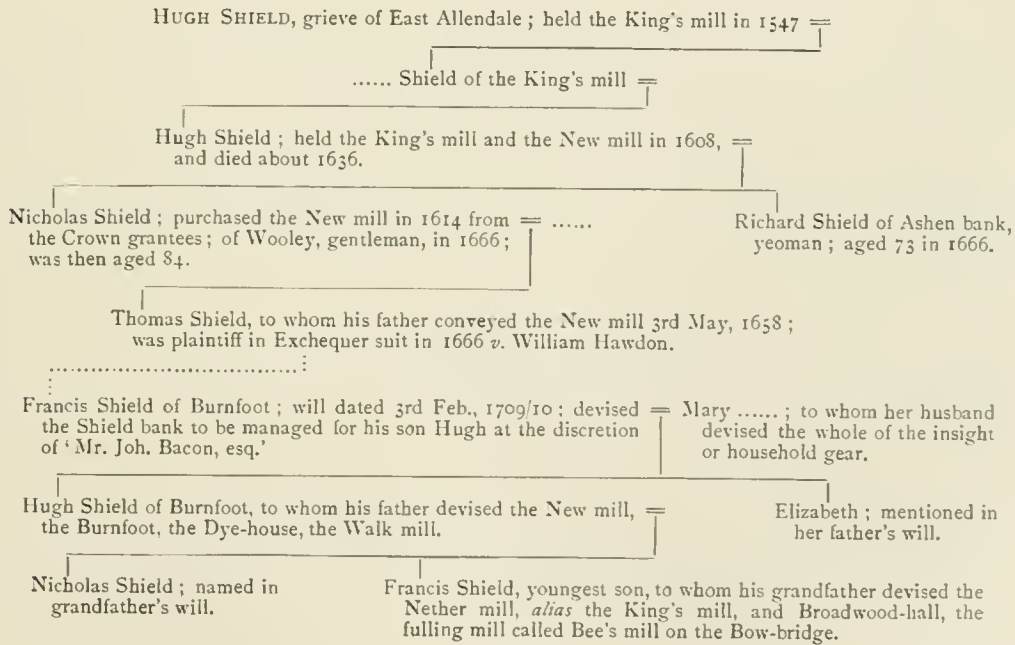
³ The grieveship also contains the following homesteads : Broadwood-hall, Bulls hill, Coeshole, Frawler meadows (named after an ancient family of Frawler), Haining, Hope-house, Housty, Keller lands, Langley, Low mill, Moor-houses, Parkside, Portgate, Stonehall, Riding, Roper-house, Scotch-hall, Spital, Tombs-house, Wager-house, Wester-house.

⁴ Dickinson, *Allendale and Whitfield*, p. 39, abridged.

⁵ Vol. iii. p. 71.

⁶ *Ibid.* p. 73.

same mill, more specifically described as the King's mill, which was worth £13 6s. 8d.¹ He also held another 'water come mill, latelie erected, called the New mill, of xxxii yeeres standing or thereaboutes,' at a rent of 5s.² Jealous of his neighbours, he had turned aside the water course which drove Catton mill, and so made it useless. The monopoly bred discontent, and in 1664, William Hawdon built a mill at Burn Tongues, and by keeping 'sometimes one horse and sometimes two horses, which he uses to fetch the corn from the inhabitants and carry it back when ground, and thereby he withdraws suit and socken' from the New mill. In an action brought in the Court of Exchequer in 1666, by Thomas Shield,³ it was alleged that all the inhabitants of East Allendale grieveship, and all or most of those of Keenly grieveship, were used to grind at the New mill, and for doing so paid toll or multure 'for every load, or two bowls, of hard corn, a peck, and a peck for every three bowls of oats, and grist or unsheeld.' The following sketch pedigree, drawn up from the depositions and extended from wills remaining at York, presents some account of the family :



¹ Vol. iii. p. 95.

² *Ibid.* p. 103.

³ *Exchequer Deposition by Commission*, 18 Chas. II. Easter Term, No. 11.

EVIDENCES OF THE SHIELD PEDIGREE.

1577. Hugh, son of William Shield, who was seised of a tenement, called Nether Huntrods, was outlawed for felony, and the same was granted by the queen to Hugh Shield of Wooie.¹

1584. *Inq. post mortem* of William Shield of Huntrods. Hugh Shield was found to be his son and heir.¹

1595, 11th August. Probate of will of Henry Shield of Broadwood, granted to Elizabeth, his widow, and Elizabeth Rowll, his daughter, the executors.²

1598, 22nd December. Probate of will of Thomas Shield of Over Huntrods granted to Leonard Shield his father and executor.²

1664. Francis Shield of Burnfoot, for not going to the bell-house, had taken from him two bibles, one Practice of Piety, one pair of stockings, two axes, one adz, and four pieces of pewter, by John Richardson, called churchwarden, who said he was ordered so to do by one Ridley of Willimontswike, called justice, who soon after committed him to Morpeth gaol, where he was prisoner nine weeks; the goods worth £1 12s.

In 1666, Cuthbert Dawson of Studdon, yeoman, aged one hundred years and upwards, deposed 'that he had known for more than ninety years the water corn mill, which, though known by the name of the New mill, was reputed to be ancient; he knew Hugh Shield, the plaintiff's grandfather, and he was in possession of the mill more than eighty years ago, that the inhabitants in the town of East Allenton and several places about have ground their corn at the New mill during all the time of his knowledge, paying a peck in every load for toll, they have no cause to complain, and have been very readily served at the said milne at such times when other mills could not have gone.'³

Nicholas Shield of Wooley, gentleman, aged about eighty-four years, deposed 'that he had known the New mill from his infancy, and Hugh Shield, his father, enjoyed it, or part thereof, until his death, which happened about thirty years ago. He has seen several writings in the name of his great grandfather, which mention that the said mill was a goeing mill in the time of Henry VIII., when the exchange was made between Henry VIII. and the archbishop of York. That James I., in right of the Crown, was seised of the New mill, and as he has heard and believes, granted it, by Letters Patent, to Edward Ferrers and Francis Phillips, under the fee farm rent of 5s. yearly; they conveyed it to Mr. Francis Whitfield, of whom this deponent bought it.'³

1674, 14th November. Nicholas Shield of Wooley, who died at Hackford, was buried in the quire under the communion table.⁴

1674/5, February 2nd. Nicholas, son of Nicholas Shield, who died at Hackford, was baptised at Hackford.⁴

1675, 8th September. Administration of Nicholas Shield of Wooley granted to Joan, the widow.²

1692, October 10th. *Inq. post mortem*, John Shield of Hunt-roddes who was found to have died seised of moiety of Over Huntrodds, and moiety of Acton, the Higher Stone house, Leonard Shield, his son and heir, was of full age. Leonard Shield surrendered all, except Over Huntrodds, to the use of his brother, John Shield of Huntrodds. The latter died 1699, leaving Leonard, his brother and heir.¹

1697, May 8th. Inventory of Frances Shield of the Huntrods, widow. Her purse and apparell, £3; two whyes and calves, £5; three coves, £5; five sheep, £1 5s.; household goods, £5; debts owing to deceased, £52 17s. 2d.; total, £72 2s. 2d. Debts owing by ye deceased to Leonard Wilson, £1; to William Fairless, 14s.; her funerall charges and mortuary, £5 10s. od.; total, £7 4s. od. Legacies left: to her son, Leonard, one sheep; to John, her son, one sheep.

1722. Nicholas Shield of Allendale Town voted for freehold at Beasmill.

1725, 19th April. Will of Leonard Shield of the Huntrods. To son William £30, when 21; to son Joseph £30, when 21. My daughter Sarah, my son John, my wife Elizabeth executor. Proved 20th February, 1726/7, by Elizabeth Shield *alias* Watson, the widow, and sole executor.²

1731. *Inq. post mortem*, Leonard Shield of Over Huntrodds. John Shield of the same was found to be son and heir.¹

1732, 6th April. William Shield of High Staward, carpenter, on 4th October, 1710, surrendered Middle Steall, in East Allendale, and closes called Girsgarth, Cleugh, etc., to the uses of his will; and by will dated 13th June, 1730, he gave same to his *nepos* John Shield, son of his brother John Shield, who is now admitted.¹

1741. John Shield of Huntrodds, yeoman, and Jane his wife, surrender a moiety of Swinhope Shield to use of said John and Jane for life, remainder to Cuthbert Shield, their eldest son.¹

1745, 29th August. Francis Shield of Riding hill, yeoman, eldest son and heir of Hugh Shield of Burnfoot, surrendered Middle Steal, Girsgarth, etc., to use of John Shield of the Steel, yeoman, nephew of William Steel, late of High Staward, yeoman, deceased, according to his will.¹

¹ *Hexham Manor Rolls.*

² *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

³ *Exchequer Depositions by Commission*, 18 Charles II. Easter Term, No. 11.

⁴ *Allendale Register.*

1746/7, 23rd February. Will of Hugh Shield of Allendale Town, yeoman. My outer fields of the yearly rent of nine pence and two bodwells. My wife Sarah sole executor; my brother-in-law, Joseph Roddam of Woolley; Margaret Hopper of Sunderland, widow; and Jane Loraine, her sister. Proved 2nd July, 1750.¹

1775, 3rd July. Will of John Shield of Nether Wooley, or Wooley, gentleman. Lands under the regality of Hexham, at Wooly, the Steel, Allendale Town. The Steel, in East Allen, to my brother Hugh Shield for life, then to kinsmen John Beck of Carlisle, and Jacob Redshaw of Wolsingham, paying £100 to my kinsman Edward Jackson. Lands at Wooley and Allendale Town to my nieces Osith and Jane Blackett of Durham, spinsters. My sister Elizabeth Blackett, widow, £30 per annum for life. My niece Isabel Draper, widow, £8 per annum; niece Sarah Stephenson, £100; nieces Mary Farmer and Jane Trivett, each £100; residue to nieces Osith and Jane Blackett: they executors. Proved 10th December, 1776.¹

1775, 21st September. Nicholas Shield of Broadwood-hall, yeoman, deceased, did, on 18th April, 1749, surrender messuages at Broadwood-hall, ground called the Snabb, and the fulling mill called Beer mill, to use of John Ridley, formerly of Westside, and late of Wager-house, in East Allendale, to secure £100.²

1780, 21st December. At a court, 8th December, 1768, John Shield, late of the Steel and then of Wooley, gentleman, nephew of William Shield late of High Staward, yeoman, deceased, surrendered Middle Steel and three closes, Girsgarth, and the Cleugh, and the Loaning, to uses of his will. He is dead; and by will dated 3rd July, 1775, and proved at York, he gave the Steel to his brother Hugh for life, and he is admitted.²

1789, 21st September. Will of Hugh Shield of Middle Steel, near Allendale Town, organ builder. I give Middle Steel to my daughter Mary Carey, apart from Charles Carey her husband. Proved 5th March, 1790, by Hannah Watson, widow, the sole executrix.¹

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

² *Hexham Manor Rolls.*

CATTON AND BROADSIDE GRIEVESHIP.

That part of the Catton and Broadside grieveship which lies on the left bank or west side of the East Allen had for a short time a separate existence under the designation of Broadside. The conjoined districts, with an area of 2,285 acres, have a sweep gradually up from the river to the eastern fell, where, at an elevation of 1,700 feet above sea-level, is Catton beacon.¹ At the foot of the fell is a long straggling street of stone-built houses, which form the village of Catton; it has two nonconformist chapels and a public elementary school, but shows no evidence of antiquity. 'Catteden' was one of the three divisions which contributed to the subsidy of 1295, the other two being Ninebanks and 'Alwentona'; its quota of 7s. 7½d. was raised from seven tenants. The priory of Hexham acquired a parcel of land in 'Cattenden' before 1279, on which a barn was subsequently built.² The town was raided on the 24th October, 1589, thirty kine and oxen, four horses and mares, and seventeen persons being carried off, by a band led by

¹ Upon the moor is a hillock of stones whereon about fourteen years ago stood an upright piece of timber or pole called Catton beacon, to which was affixed a vessel with fire in it to alarm the country on any public danger. The alarm was communicated from it to another beacon on Whitfield fell, visible both from it and from the mount of Stony Law. Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 34.

² Vol. iii. pp. 139, 150.

William Elliot the elder, *alias* Will of the Steile (?Steel); the prisoners were ransomed at sums ranging from 13s. 4d. to £5 each; the horses at 40s. to £5 each; a 'slewe dog' for £10 (*sic*) and a sword and a spear for 20s.¹

The Catton grieveship, with the King's mill and the Black bank mill, was held in 1663 by Robert Coatsworth, George Pearson, William Pearson, Nicholas Fairlamb, Thomas Wilson, and twenty-three other tenants, who were rated at £145 per annum. Until 1800 the town fields of Catton lay open and unenclosed; they contained 140 acres, and were divided into thirty-five allotments, among twelve proprietors. Catton Lee was held in 1547 by Cuthbert Hawdon, who in 1586 surrendered Catton water corn mill and a meadow to his son, Cuthbert, and his son-in-law, John Farbridge, and Whitehill and Catton Lee, to his son, Richard Hawdon. The latter died before 1598, when his brother and heir, Cuthbert Hawdon, fined to enter upon Catton Lee. He was in possession in 1608, but in 1637 the name of Hugh Wilson appears as owner upon the Call Rolls. At the end of the seventeenth century it belonged to the Bacons of Staward, and in 1764 was purchased as an endowment for the parish of St. John Lee.

The most interesting place in the division is Old Town, which is situated partly on an eminence, partly on a slope, 'the house next the moor is called Stony Law, from a little craggy mount composed of earth and large masses of coarse ragstone, streaked with red and white.'² Concerning the reputed Roman origin of Old Town there has been much controversy.

It has been identified with the *Alio* of the *Notitia*, and was credited by Warburton with the possession of a camp, whose portway was seven yards broad, and with traces of Roman roads in the vicinity.³ The other opinion is, that the existing mound and ditch are not older than the Middle Ages,⁴ when a camp was thrown up as a defence against incursions, to which the district was so much exposed; such as that of 1515, when the Ewalds of Thorlieshope, in raiding Allendale, burnt the Old Town and carried off much cattle and plunder.⁵

¹ *Border Papers*, Bain, i. p. 347.

² Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 34.

³ Cf. Warburton to Gale, 21st November, 1717. *Stukeley's Diaries*, Lukis, p. 79. Surtees Soc. Publ. vol. 80, p. 79.

⁴ In connection with this disputed subject, it may be noted that in the fragment that remains of Staward-le-Pele, situated about two miles from Old Town, are a number of stones of Roman workmanship, including an altar.

⁵ Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 48.

The Bridge Eale,¹ Pyetroon, and Ouseley, were old possessions of a family of Shield,² originally of the same stock as the family of that name at Huntrods, in the Forest grieveship.

In 1605 Leonard Shield of Huntrods surrendered lands at Usley and a tenement at Catton to his son, Hugh Shield.³

In 1626 Leonard Shield answers for Bridge Eal and Pyetroon.⁴

In 1668 the Bridge Eale belonged to Leonard Shield, who, in 1683, surrendered lands in Catton Field to the use of Leonard Wilson of Cooperhaugh.⁵

1667, 4th May. Will of Nicholas Shield of Pyatt Rune ; to be buried in the queere at Allenton church ; to brother Leonard a great arke at Pyat Rune, and to each of his five children 20s., to his three sons £20 ; to poor of Allenton and Catton grieveship £20 ; to Nicholas Shield of Catton 20s. ; my brother Cuthbert's four children ; residue to brothers Hugh and Cuthbert, they executors. Proved June, 1668, by Hugh and Cuthbert Shield, his sons brothers-in-law (*sic*).⁶

1695, May 23rd. John Shield of Bridge Eele, and Grace Armstrong of the Hawksteel, married.⁷

1699, November 26th. Leonard Shield of Brigg Eeles buried in the chancel.⁸

1698/9, 4th January. Will of Leonard Shield of the Bridge Eale, to be buried in the church or churchyard of Allendale. I give my holy bible to Leonard Shield of ye Pyatrune, and all the rest of my goods to Ann, my wife, she executrix. Proved 4th April, 1700. 1699, 16th December, Inventory: His horse, purse, and apparell, £12 ; five kine, £8 ; his corne and hay, £3 ; his household goods, £5 ; one large bible, £1. Rents owing to the deceased, Leonard Shield, sen., of Huntrods, £4 10s. ; William Viccars, jun., of ye parsonage of Whitfield, for a parcel of land called Pryfield, 19s. 6d. ; debt owing by William Cultherd of Over Bishopside, 7s. 9d. ; total, £34 17s. 3d. Funeral expenses, £7 1s. 2d.⁹

1707, December 9th. Ann Shield of Bridge Eeles, aged 105, buried in the church.¹⁰

John Shield of the Piatrone in the parish of Allendale, gentleman, possessed of copyhold estate of the value of near £50 a year, and of great personal estate, but of a 'base, sordid, and narrow temper,' was charged by his only son and heir, Leonard Shield, at the Hexham Quarter Sessions, 1719, with suffering him to go 'naked and uncovered for want of cloaths, even worse than any beggar child in ye neighbourhood,' and was by the court peremptorily ordered to pay 2s. 6d. a week for the son's maintenance.¹¹

Coldcotes is probably the Oldcotes of 1547, at which period it was in the tenure of William Jolliforth, at a rent of 6s. 10d. This surname may be a form of Coatsworth, for in 1626 John Coatsworth was tenant of Coldcotes, and persons of that name occur as owners in 1652 and 1702.¹²

Bishopfield, held in 1547 and in 1608 by the Bees of Ninebanks, subsequently came into the hands of the Pearsons, whose pedigree has been printed under Hexham Spital. The other farms of Dryside (belonging to the trustees of Brides hill school) Juniper, Kilburn, Leeshall, Mount Pleasant, Round Meadows, and Stone Stile, are either modern places or unimportant.

¹ Bridge Eale and Pietroon now belong to Mr. C. W. Harrison, and Ouseley to his brother Mr. J. H. Harrison.

² The well-known John Shield of Broomhaugh was, and his nephew, Mr. Hugh Shield, Q.C., sometime M.P. for Cambridge, is, probably descended from this family.

³ *Hexham Manor Rolls.* ⁴ *Ibid.* ⁵ *Ibid.* ⁶ *Raine, Test. Ebor.* ⁷ *Allendale Register.* ⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Raine, Test. Ebor.* ¹⁰ *Allendale Register.* ¹¹ *Sessions Records.* ¹² *Hexham Manor Rolls.*

KEENLEY GRIEVESHIP.

The Keenley grieveship occupies the tract between the East and West Allen from their confluence southward to the Crockton burn; its present area is 1,835 acres. Though associated with the East Allen grieveship by the surveys of 1547 and 1608, it was sometimes connected with West Allendale, and in 1679 one jury sat for both divisions. As 'Kenley' grieveship it was, in 1663, rated at £136.

In 1552 it was ordered that the watch at the water-meetings¹ was to be kept with four men of the grieveship of Keenley. Matthew Whitfield and Thomas Wilson were appointed to be setters and searchers.² Situated on the fork above where the two rivers meet, is Hindly Wrae, long the possession of a family of Wilson, which also owned Hindly hill, Holly bush, Hayleazes, Keenley peth, and Oak pool. To the south-west of Hindly Wrae is Burnlaw which, in 1608, belonged to Thomas Spark, whose initials, with the date 1662, are on a door-head of the present house.³ The following is the will of a descendant :

In the name of God, Amen, the 22nd day of July, 1704, according to ye computation of ye church of England, I, Barbary Sparke of Burnlaw, in the parish of Alindale, and county of Northumberland, spinster, being of perfect memory and remembrance, praised be God, doe make and ordaine this my last will and testament, in manner and forme following, vizt. : First, I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God, my maker, hoping that through the meritorious death and passion of Jesus Christ, my onelie Saviour and Redeemer, to receive free pardon and forgiveness of all my sins; and as for my body, to be buried in Christian buriall at ye discretion of my executor hereafter mentioned. Imprimis, I give unto my brother Matthew Spark, one shilling. Item, I give unto my brother Hugh Shield, one shilling. Item, I give unto my brother Edward Coen, one shilling. Item, I give unto Hannah Coen, wife to Edward Coen, one shilling. Item, I give unto Francis Shield, one shilling. Item, I give unto Joshua Shield, one shilling. Item, I give unto Rebecca Shield, one manty and one petty-coat. Item, I give unto Mary Shield, one manty and one petty-coat. Item, I give unto Edward Coen's four children, four pounds equally to be divided amongst them. I leave five pounds to ye meeting of Alindaile, for ye use of it, to release poor Friends. Item, I give one pound to the building of ye free school at the Rideing hill in Alindale. Item, all the rest of my personall estate, moveable and unmoveable, I give unto my brother Jonathan Sparke, upon condition that he shall pay all my debts and legacyes, and make him sole executor of this my last will and testament, etc.⁴

An account of Allendale would be incomplete without a notice of one of its most eminent sons, Dr. Thomas Sparke, of the Order of St. Benedict

¹ On the western side of the united streams, but in the parish of Whitfield, is the site of the once important smelt mills of the London Lead Company. The mills have been so long disused that nothing remains but some traces of scoriæ. The name of the cupola mills (so styled from the form of the reverberatory furnace) is perpetuated in the Cupola bridge, which here crosses the river, the Cupola banks, etc. Cf. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 110. Westgarth Forster, *Treatise on Section of the Strata*, etc.

² Nicolson, *Border Laws*, p. 167.

³ *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Newc.* vol. vii. p. 270.

⁴ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

and suffragan bishop of Berwick. He took his degree of B.D. at Oxford in 1529, and in the year following was appointed prior of Holy Island. After the dissolution of the house of Holy Island, he was in 1537 consecrated bishop, and subsequently became a prebendary of Durham, master of Greatham, and rector of Wolsingham. He died in 1571, and was buried in front of the holy table in the chapel of Greatham hospital. By will, he left trinkets and objects of greater value to his colleagues and friends, and sums of money to the poor of the parishes with which he had in his lifetime been connected; amongst the legacies was one 'to the poor in Allendale parish.'¹

In the great bank, covered with wood, opposite to Whitfield hall, nestles a small homestead which bears the peculiar name of Monk, without doubt the 'Menke,' which was held in 1547 by John Falaker, at the rent of 12s. 6d. In 1552 the watch at Monkford was ordered to be kept nightly by two men, John Ferroler being one of the setters and searchers.² It subsequently became part of the estate of the Bees, and in 1669 was held in moieties by John Eden and William Swinburn; from them it passed (it is said as a christening gift) to one of the Whitfields of Whitfield. In 1685 Ulrich Whitfield requested his eldest son, Matthew, to surrender to the use of his (testator's) younger son, William, for his filial and child's portion, Hawkup Lee, eight days' work of meadow in Liggfield, and the Monk bank on West Allen, or in lieu thereof to pay him £800. In satisfaction of this provision the brothers, in 1699, agreed that William Whitfield should accept of his meat, drink, lodging, and washing, at Whitfield hall, and table there, that he should have a boy to serve him, grass in summer and hay in winter for three horses, and should have, in addition, a certain annuity. Matthew Whitfield sold the Monk wood in 1747 to Mrs. Mary Fairless, who, with the consent of her third husband, Thomas Armstrong, resold it in 1755 to William Ord of Whitfield.³ It is now the property of Mr. A. J. Blackett-Ord.⁴

¹ Cf. Raine, *North Durham*, pp. 127 n, 128 n, 130 n; Welford, *Men of Mark*; also, see notices of Sparke's life in *Lansdowne MSS.* British Museum, 981, 57, f. 97, and 983, 112, f. 283.

² Nicolson, *Border Laws*, p. 167.

³ Mr. A. J. Blackett-Ord's *Title Deeds*.

⁴ Amongst the other hamlets and farmholds are Burntongues, Chapel-house, Cleugh bank, Cooks-house, Gill-house, Hollin green, Hunter gap, Hawksteel, Harlow bower, Winter Eale.

THE PARK GRIEVESHIP.

Allenton park is mentioned as early as 1486, apparently in the same sense as the Forest;¹ but the Park grieveship seems to have been the remaining part of that of East Allen after the Forest grieveship had been cut off from it. One jury was called in the Manor Court for both.² It was rated in 1663 to twenty-one proprietors at £136 13s. 4d.: the two principal proprietors being William Wallis, whose lands were rated at £13 13s. 4d., and Thomas Shield, who was taxed upon £12 13s. 4d. a year. The Shield family have already been noticed under the New mill. At the Holmes³ was an old Quaker burial ground. The grieveship has an area of 2,552 acres, including 45 acres in detached portions.⁴

THE HIGH AND THE LOW FOREST GRIEVESHIPS.

The High and the Low Forest though now regarded as two, were, up to 1800, one grieveship. A reference to the map will show how very narrow was the long strip, and the need or advantage for making transverse lines of division. The High Forest contains 3,150 acres, of which half is in detached pieces; the Low Forest has 1,597 acres, of which 65 acres are detached. Their designation retains the memory of the forest of Allendale,⁵ which in the fourteenth century was applied to the whole district.⁶ At the time of the survey of 1608, the value of the holdings of the grieveships of East Allendale and the Forest of East Allendale, approached that of Hexhamshire, and was £154 12s. 3d. per annum.⁷ The grieveships had their own fulling, or walk mill; but their corn mill, held by Cuthbert Hawdon, was 'naught worth, by reason the water is turned from yt by Hughe Sheele out of the ould race.' In 1663 the Forest constabulary was rated at £184.

¹ Vol. iii. p. 43. ² *Ibid.* p. 27.

³ To be sold two farms of land in Allendale, one of them called Hindlew-wree, with good and large mansion house, and the other called the Holmes with good housing. Common right belonging to each farm; a good spring of oak, ash, alder, and birch wood. The Holmes is of the yearly value of £24, and has twenty cattle-gates upon Rookhope fell in Weardale. John Bacon, esq., of Staward, and Mrs. Elizabeth Richmond of Crossgate, near Durham, will treat with purchasers. *Newcastle Courant*, 12th October, 1723, and 6th August, 1726.

⁴ Amongst the farmholds are Crowberry hall, the Hagg, the Holly Close, Low Green, Nettle hill, Peck Riding, Studdon, Steel, Wooley.

⁵ The application of the word forest as in the forest of Cheviot, Rothbury forest, and Earsdon forest was not a great wood, but had the same meaning as is expressed when a deer forest is spoken of.

Vol. iii. pp. 37, 72, 73, 74.

⁷ *Ibid.* pp. 95, 103.

There are two chapels within the division, that of Allenheads and that of St. Peter's in the Forest; the latter being now the parish church of the ecclesiastical district.

St. Peter's, which stands on the tongue of land formed by the junction of the Swinhope burn and the East Allen, though not mentioned by Randal, was built before 1724,¹ in which year a burial is recorded to have taken place in the graveyard attached to it. Up to the year 1765,² it was known as the Low chapel, to distinguish it from the chapel of Allenheads, at the head of the dale. It is noticed as St. Peter's chapel in Armstrong's map in 1769, and was rebuilt in 1826. It has one of the old bells from Allendale church. Though the register begins in 1807, it was not until 1818 that a district comprising the Forest divisions was assigned to it. The benefice of St. Peter's in the Forest is in the gift of the incumbent of Allendale.

That a chapel existed at Allenheads in the latter part of the seventeenth century is proved by entries in the parish register of Allendale; such as 21st April, 1670, John Hill and Jane Robinson married 'at ye Easter-heads chappell.' Here Nathaniel Burnand, the silenced vicar of Brampton, in Cumberland, found a refuge, and 'by the favour of Sir William Blackett, was appointed minister of the chapel which has been built for the conveniency of the miners, with a salary of £30 per annum, the mines then prosperous and rich.'³ He was, says Calamy, a son of Nathaniel Burnand, the chief minister in Durham in the time of the Civil Wars, and bred in Cambridge. Ejected from the vicarage of Brampton⁴ by the Act of Uniformity he retired

to the desert places in Austin more, and there took a farm and manag'd it carefully in order to a subsistence for his family. At length, Providence favouring Sir William Blacket in his lead mines he fix'd him there to preach to his miners, with an allowance of £30 per annum. He had great success among those ignorant creatures and did much good. But when the mines fail'd, poor Mr. Burnand was again at a loss; came up to London, and spent some time with a congregation at Harwich. But age coming upon him, he at length came to London again, and subsisted upon the charity of well disposed Christians till death gave him his *quietus*.⁵

¹ 23rd November, 1724, Jane, daughter of Mr. Edmund Baxter of Colecleugh, was buried in the Low chapel yard. *Allendale Register*.

² The last entry of a burial at the 'Low chapel' is on the 15th February, 1765, the first at St. Peter's chapel on the 25th March in the same year. *Ibid.*

³ Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 36.

⁴ At Allenheads, Burnand would be beyond the limits of The Five Mile Act, 'perhaps the meanest and most spiteful of all the persecuting edicts that ever received the sanction of an English sovereign.' Cf. T. Hodgkin, *George Fox*, 1896, p. 172.

⁵ Calamy, *Account*, vol. ii. p. 158; but Benjamin Burnand of Broadwood-hall was buried in the church 21st May, 1709. *Allendale Register*.

The chapel was rebuilt in 1701 by the stewards and workmen of the lead mines, Sir William Blackett giving the timber and providing a house for the minister, whose accustomed duty at that time was to read prayers at Allenheads every morning at six o'clock, before the miners began their day's work, to preach on the first Sunday of the month in a chapel at Caldclough, also built by the miners in 1704, to preach on the other Sundays and to administer the sacraments at Allenheads. His stipend was provided from 'half a day's wage of every workman every month, which, in the time of peace, when those lead mines did flourish, amounted to between £70 and £80 a year.¹ The chapel was again rebuilt in 1826,² a few yards to the west of its former site. The present building preserves an old and massive doorway, with heavy mouldings and the Blackett arms, with the date 1701 over it. It is a donative in the gift of the lord of the manor. It has a silver paten made in Newcastle about 1705, and a silver cup presented in 1719; each bears the following inscription: 'D.D.G.L. In usum capellæ de Allenheads in comitatæ (*sic*) Northumbriæ et diocese Eboraci 1719.'³

CURATES OF ALLENHEADS AND OF ST. PETER'S IN THE FOREST.

- 1664-1674. John Hedrington, 'reader,' buried 12th April, 1674.⁴
 Nathaniel Burnand, previously vicar of Alston.
Circa 1711. George Ornsby, M.A., St. Mary Magdalen college, Cambridge, 'curate to the miners at Allenheads, was buried in the quire' of Allendale, 22nd February, 1711/2.⁵
 1712. Rickerby, clerk, minister of Allenheads chapel, and Johnson of Allenheads, widow, were married at Hexham, 27th April, 1714.⁶
 1722. Francis Grindle of Allenheads, clerk, voted in 1722 for Kirkhaugh rectory.⁷
 Hugh Stokoe was in 1780 presented to Allendale.
 1783-1806. Joseph Carr, B.D., held Allenheads with Allendale.
 1827. William Walton was curate of St. Peter's, and chaplain at Allenheads.⁸
 1851. Constantine O'Donel, B.A., Trinity college, Dublin, sometime minister of Kirkheaton.
 1879. James Maxfield Lister, M.A., Durham, afterwards curate of Bingfield, during whose incumbency the parsonage house was built.⁹
 1887. William Williams, B.A., previously curate of Carleton, near Selby.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS AT ST. PETER'S.

The burial place of John Crawhall of Peas meadows, who died July 29th, 1771, aged 71 years. Hannah, his wife, died August 18th, 1762, aged 54 years. George, their son, died July 17th, 1794, aged 52 years.

¹ Ritschell, *Tynedale Charities*, p. 17. ² Parsons and White, *Durham and Northumberland*.

³ *Proc. of Newcastle Soc. of Antiq.* vol. iv. p. 282. ⁴ *Allendale Register*. ⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Hexham Register*. ⁷ *Poll Book*. ⁸ Parsons and White, *Durham and Northumberland*.

⁹ The benefice was in 1879 endowed out of the Common Fund by the Ecclesiastical commissioners with £163 per annum, and a grant of £1,500 for a parsonage. *London Gazette*, 14th November, 1879.

Thomas, their son, agent at Allenheads, died August 8th, 1812, aged 64 years. Ann, wife of Thomas Crawhall, died September 18th, 1822, aged 72 years. Ann, daughter of Thomas and Ann Crawhall, died November 9th, 1847, aged 65 years.

In memory of John Crawhall of Craig house, who died September 14th, 1832, aged 58 years. Also of Dorothy, his wife, who died January 30th, 1806, aged 32 years. Also of Albany, their son, who died February 26th, 1831, aged 33 years. Also of Thomas, their son, who died April 19th, 1831, aged 30 years. Also of Ann, their daughter, who died August 19th, 1832, aged 33 years. Also of Joseph Crawhall, who died at Craig house, December 27th, 1843, aged 23 years.

In memory of Thomas Crawhall of Benwell tower, who died September 16th, 1833, aged 54 years.

George Crawhall, third son of Thomas Crawhall of Allenheads, died 6th July, 1852, at White house, Stanhope, in the county of Durham, in the 72nd year of his age. Joseph Crawhall, sixth son of Thomas Crawhall, died 27th April, 1853, at Stagshaw Close house, in this county, in the 60th year of his age. This tablet is erected to the memory of his brothers by Isaac Crawhall of Nun Munckton hall, Yorkshire.

Sacred to the memory of William Crawhall of Stagshaw Close house, in this county, fourth son of Thomas and Ann Crawhall, who died March 29th, 1849, aged 65 years. He was for thirty-three years chief lead mining agent at Allenheads. Also of Ann Crawhall, sister of the above, who died at Stagshaw Close house, November 3rd, 1847, aged 65 years.

Allenheads, the chief place in the grieveship, though 1,400 feet above sea-level, lies deep in a hollow. Since Hutchinson described its surroundings as 'barren and mountainous, inhabited only by miners and shepherds; the scene on every hand is dark and deplorable, the mines only inducing inhabitants to this desolate spot,'¹ a great change has taken place in the hamlet, which now contains, besides the now disused buildings for washing and dressing the lead ore, substantially built offices, cottages, and schools. Extensive plantations of spruce have been made, both on the hill sides and in the valley. On the site of the Craig house, as the chief agent's residence was called, a shooting box was built by Mr. Beaumont in 1845. Near the village are the entrances to the lead mines² which have been mentioned in the previous volume.³ During the years from 1845 to 1865 they produced from 8,000 to 10,000 tons per annum, and the value of their daily output of lead and silver approximated to £500.⁴ The produce of the Allenheads mines, until 1826, used to be carried over the hills by pack-horses or 'carrier galloways' to the smelt mills on the Devil's Water at Dukesfield, in the parish of Slaley.

These pack-horses were kept by farmers in the neighbourhood, often to the number of twenty or thirty. Mules were also sometimes used. The animals were provided with a sort of angular wooden saddle which

¹ Hutchinson, *Northumberland*, vol. i. p. 113.

² 'Among the lead mines at Allenheads is a medical spring, used with success for scorbutic fæculencies and the gravel. It is of an atramentous taste, owing to an alkaline cretaceous earth.' Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. i. p. 17.

³ Vol. iii. pp. 9, 13, 97.

⁴ Richardson, *Memoir of Thomas Sopwith*, p. 303.

had raised pieces of wood affixed back and front, with holes in them through which chains were passed, in order to secure the timber when it was being conveyed to the mines. They also wore leather muzzles to prevent them from stopping to crop the herbage by the wayside. The driver of the string of galloways frequently bestrode a donkey kept for that purpose. The same galloway always led the way, and was called the 'raker.'¹

It was the custom for the miners to contract or bargain to raise ore at so much per ton; they were paid 'lent' or subsistence money every month; seventy years ago it was only a pound a month, though ultimately it was raised to three. The balances due to the miners were calculated up to the end of each half-year and paid at the end of the next, at what were called the 'pays.'² The trade is now ruined,³ and the busy prosperity of the place has vanished.

The early gun-firing experiments of the world-famous Armstrong guns were conducted in this district. On the 25th July, 1856, Thomas Sopwith writes in his diary :⁴

I returned to Allenheads, and found the gun experiments in full activity, under the immediate and most energetic direction of William George Armstrong. Five out of seven of the shells passed through the target at a thousand yards, and three successive balls passed through very nearly in a vertical line, and not many yards apart. The arrangements by which the shell is exploded are entirely new contrivances of Mr. Armstrong's, and appear to me to be most ingenious and effective. Of the latter result we had abundant demonstration.⁵

A little to the east of Allenheads, at Shorngate, is the traditional route⁶ of the precipitous retreat of the Scots from Stanhope park in 1327.⁷

Before the excellent road⁸ which traverses the whole length of the dale was constructed, the inhabitants were obliged to depend for fuel upon the products of the district. The moors supplied peats and the mountain sides an inferior kind of coal called crow coal.

'Cat fires' were at one time very prevalent in the neighbourhood of Allenheads and Coalcleugh. 'Cats' consisted of clay previously trodden into the proper consistency and then mixed with crow coal and shaped into balls by the hands, about the size of a large orange. The fires were lighted in the evening by means of peats placed at the bottom of the grate, the 'cats' being piled up above, and on the following morning the whole mass was in a glow and emitted considerable heat.⁹

¹ Dickinson, *Allendale and Whitfield*, p. 34.

² *Ibid.* p. 36. Cf. Mackenzie, *Northumberland*, vol. i. pp. 206-7.

³ See vol. iii. p. 13.

⁴ Richardson, *Memoir of Thomas Sopwith*, p. 297.

⁵ *Ibid.* p. 244.

⁶ Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 36.

⁷ The retreat is said to have been conducted by the address of the Lord Douglas who, in a dark night, led the Scottish army over a morass two miles broad, formerly impassable, by the help of flakes made of branches cut from the wood in the neighbourhood of their last encampment, and which casting before them into the broken parts of the bog as they advanced through it, they led their horses over these parts. Ridpath, *Border History*, p. 284.

⁸ An Act for constructing a turnpike from Alston through Catton, Allendale Town, and Allenheads to Cowshill in Weardale. 7 Geo. IV. ⁹ Dickinson, *Allendale and Whitfield*, p. 7.

The Hayrake, in 1547, was held by Thomas Williamson; and as his descendants long continued to hold that estate, and were well known in the district, their history has been thrown into the following notes:

1601, 4th May. Administration to Thomas Williamson of Tedholme, granted to Margaret, his widow, to her own use, and that of Thomas, Isabel, and Elizabeth, his children.¹

1608. Thomas Williamson owned the Hayrake, Blackcleugh, Whiterig, Scotshall, and Tedham.²

1662. Thomas Williamson, junior, being called to a court in Allendale and standing up to answer with his hat on, the constable was called to have him in the stocks, and William Fenwick of Wallington, called justice, bade fine him five marks, and afterwards caused his *multimus* to be written and sent him to Morpeth gaol, where he lay three months for not finding surety for his good behaviour, though he had not broken laws nor done violence to any man.³

1663. Thomas Williamson was rated at £4 for lands in West Allen.⁴

1676. Grace Gest, an honest servant to Thomas Williamson of Hayrake, was buried at the Hayrake in his burying place, ye 3rd day of 2nd month, 1676. She came to dwell with the said Thomas in 1674, at Whitsontide, after the stormy winter,⁵

1686. Alexander Williamson of the Hayrake, in Allendale, husbandman, was had to prison at Midsummer Sessions in the year 1686 by a writ of *excommunicate capiendo*, for non-payment of tithes, though they took their pleasure of his goods. And after he was in prison one Mathew Dod took his hat from him, and Robert Tod took his shoes from him for 'garnish' as they call it, and the same would needs have taken his coat also of him, but some of the rest of the prisoners rose up against them to restrain them; and they kept his hat several days, but one of the prisoners pitied him and sent him an old hat to put on; else he must have gone bare head. And they kept his shoes near twenty-four hours, and he was made to go in his stocking feet most part of the time. And having no friends nor acquaintance thereabouts, nor none to look to him, he had neither bedding nor clothes but the bare board to lie on, nor had no liberty to get anything, either meat or drink, but once a day he and others were driven to the water side to fill a runlet with water, but some of the rest of the prisoners pitied him when he was likely to starve and gave him some victuals. All this was allowed by the gaoler because he would not go to his bed which divers pays ten shillings each week or more for.⁶

There was a stone in a field at the Hayrake, which bore the following inscription: 'Here lyeth the body of Thomas Williamston, who suffered 10 years' imprisonment on truth's account and the non-payment of tythe, and departed this life 18th day of June, anno domini, 1690.'⁷

1699, 31st May. Will of Alexander Williamson of Hayrake. To my four daughters, Ruth, Mary, Sarah, and Hannah, the sum of £20, to be paid out of my real estate by my son Thomas Williamson when he comes to the age of 21 years. To my dear wife, Ann Williamson, and my said four daughters, all my personal estate, except such heirlooms as did anciently belong to the house. Wife to have tuition of children; failing her, I give their tuition to my trusty friends, John Hutchinson of Greendicke, and Hugh Watson of Studdon. Wife executrix. The will was proved by the widow, 7th December, 1699, who exhibited the following inventory of testator's effects: His horse and apparel, £5; fifteen kine and a bull, £24; five heffers, £6; thirty-one wethers, £8; forty-four hogs and young sheep, £8; one old lame mair, 10s.; a swine or grice, 5s.; household goods and utensils for husbandry necessaryes, £5;

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

² Vol. iii. p. 96.

³ *Records of Soc. of Friends.* Dickinson, *Allendale and Whitfield*, pp. 75, 79, 80.

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 311.

⁵ *Records of Soc. of Friends.* Dickinson, *Allendale and Whitfield*, pp. 75, 79, 80.

⁶ *Ibid.* ⁷ *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Newc.* vol. v. pp. 148, 149.

total, £56 15s. od. His funeral expenses, £5. Debts owing by the deceased to Cuthbert Hutchinson, £5; to Michael Nevin, £2 10s.; servants' wages, £5 5s. 6d.; owing Thomas Hodshon, 5s.; to Peter Ritson and Hugh Hutchinson and others, 3s.¹

1724, 29th April. Probate of the will of Joseph Williamson of Hayrake granted to Margaret Mowbray, widow, and to John Heron, the executors.²

At the beginning of the present century Hayrake was owned by John Liddell, whose daughter, Rebecca Forster, held the property in 1827, and it is still owned by her descendants, Mrs. Mary Ann Walton and Mrs. Rebecca Jane Turner.³

As amongst the statesmen of Cumberland, so amongst the similar small freehold and copyhold proprietors scattered through Allendale, the Society of Friends has from its commencement to the present day had a large number of adherents.

The rise of that religious body in Allendale dates from 1653, when George Fox visited Hexham. In his diary for that year he speaks of 'glorious meetings' held by him in Northumberland, and proceeds :

Then we passed on to Hexham, where we had a great meeting at the top of a hill. The priest threatened that he would come and oppose us. but he came not; so that all was quiet, and the everlasting day, and the renowned truth of the everliving God, was sounded over those dark countries, and his Son exalted over all. . . . We passed away from Hexham peaceably, and came into Gilsland, a country noted for thieving.

The family of Watson⁴ has been selected as a typical example of an Allendale statesman family, partly because the carefully kept records of the Society of Friends afford the necessary information about it, and partly for the opportunity it offers of giving in the evidences appended many curious details connected with that Society, which, moreover, do much to illustrate the social life of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

² *Ibid.*

³ Amongst the other homesteads in the High and Low Forest are Acton, Broadgates, Coating hill, Crowberry, Doves pool, Elpha green, Fawside, Garrets hill, Green pits, Huntrods, Huntwell, Hammer Shield, Know-lawe, Knock Shield, New-fold, Peas-meadows, Pry, Rise green, Ropehaugh, Sipton Shield, Scotch meadows, Stobbs green, Sinderhope. Snipehouse, Sparty lee, Swinhope Shield, Tedham, and Whiteridge.

⁴ It would not have been possible to give such a full account of the Watson family had not Mr. Thomas Carrick Watson placed at the service of the committee, not only his extracts from the records of the Society of Friends but his own family papers.

WATSON OF HUNTWELL, RIDING, STUDDEN, TEDHAM, AND NEWCASTLE.

HUGH WATSON of the Holmes; = Jane; buried at the Holmes,
will dated 23rd May, 1674 (b). 20th Nov., 1675 (a).

William = Jane Spark; married at Wooley, 20th April, 1660 (a).	Anthony Watson = Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Nevin; married at the Steel, 29th Dec., 1663; buried at the Holmes, 7th Aug, 1679 (a).	Robert Watson; living 1674.	Cuthbert Watson; living 1674.	... Watson; married Richard Stokoe.
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Hugh Watson, born 12th Jan., 1670 (a); died 25th Nov., 1692 (a); buried at the Holmes.	Joshua Watson of Huntwell, born 10th July, 1672; died 14th June, 1757; buried at Burnfoot (a).	= Ann Rutter; married 16th Oct., 1697 (a); died 14th Nov., 1726/7; buried at Burnfoot (a).	Joseph Watson, born 12th Sept., 1678 (a); died 25th April, 1724 (a).	Jane, born 17th July, 1663 (a). Elizabeth, born ... Feb., 1665; married 8th March, 1687, George Hopper (a). Ann, born 1666; died 1675 (a). Sarah, born 9th Nov., 1675 (a).
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Hugh Watson of Raby; born 23rd Oct., 1702 (a); living 1761; 22nd June, 1767, administration of Hugh Watson of Staindrop granted to Hannah, the widow and sole executrix (b).	= Hannah, daughter of Michael Coats, and widow of Jon. Dixon; died 25th May, 1785; buried at Staindrop.	Joshua, born and died 1704. Joshua Watson of Langleydale, born 10th April, 1708 (a). Robert, born 12th Sept., 1710 (a).	Joseph Watson of Huntwell, born 28th July, 1720; died at the Riding, 14th April, 1794; buried at Wooley burn foot; will proved 1st May, 1794, by Joseph Watson, the son (b).	= Esther, daughter of ... Moor; married at Alston, 14th Sept., 1745; died at the Riding, 15th June, 1789, aged 71 (a).
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Jacob Watson, born 20th Feb., 1724 (a).	= Sarah, dau. of George and Elizabeth Hopper; married her first cousin.	Elizabeth, born 9th Nov., 1698 (a); married 29th April, 1720, Philip Harrop of Fore Shield (a). Mary, born 23rd Feb., 1700 (a); married 16th April, 1725, Appleby Bowman (a). Sarah, born 4th Aug., 1701 (a). Ann, born 1714 (a).	Hannah, born 26th March, 1706 (a); married, 18th April, 1729, Robert Watson. Phœbe, born 20th July, 1712; married, 28th March, 1734, George Goundry of Smelthouse. Ann, born 18th Feb., 1716 (a); married Joseph Allison of Cotherstone. Deborah, born 9th Nov., 1717; married, 27th April, 1745, John Applegarth of Staindrop (a).	ANTHONY = WATSON, of Tedham, 1737.
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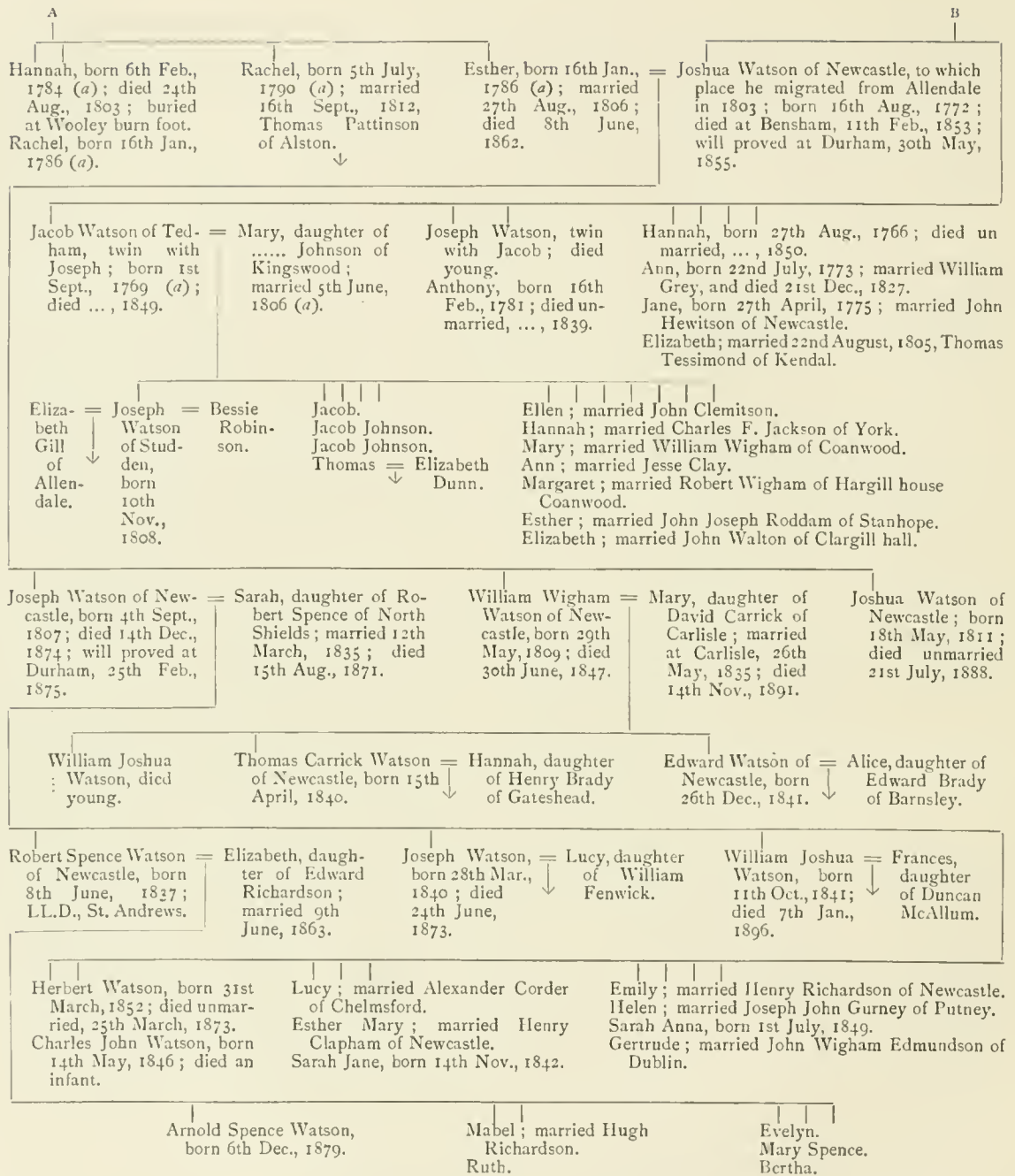
Joshua Watson = Lydia, daughter of the Riding, born 12th Aug., 1746 (a); afterwards of Wooley burn foot; died 11th Nov., 1805, aged 59 (a).	= Jacob Watson, born 10th Nov., 1748 (a).	Hannah, daughter of ... Alsop; married 21st Dec., 1753. Hannah, daughter of ... Alsop; married circa May, 1776.	Joseph = Rachel, dau. of William Wigham of Coanwood; married 3rd July, 1782; died 20th June, 1794.	Jacob Watson = Hannah, daughter of David Bell of the Close, Carlisle; notice of marriage, July, 1765; died at Tynemouth; buried at Newcastle, 13th Sept., 1808, aged 70 (a).
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William Watson of Studden, born 25th Jan., 1788 (a); died 27th May, 1856.	= Elizabeth, daughter of John Richardson of Coanwood; notice of marriage, ... Oct., 1812; died 24th Dec., 1859.	Joseph Watson of Studden-park, born 26th Oct., 1792 (a).	Mary, daughter of Joseph Walker of Smaithwaite.
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Robert Richardson Watson, born 13th Feb., 1813 (a); now of Gosforth.	John, born 26th Jan., 1815; died 22nd Sept., 1866.	William, born 14th Sept., 1819 (a); died 19th May, 1889.	Joseph, born ... , 1825; died ... , 1840.	Hannah. Mary. Elizabeth. Rachel.
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(a) Register of Society of Friends at Allendale.

(b) Raine, Test. Ebor.



(a) Register of Society of Friends at Allendale.

EVIDENCES TO WATSON PEDIGREE.

In 1538 Nicholas Watson of West Allendale was one of the men 'able with horse and harness,' who assembled at the muster taken by Sir Reginald Carnaby.¹

In 1637 Hugh Watson held the Sparty Lee.²

1641. Hugh Watson held a moiety of Coatenhill, Whiterig, and Sinderhope.²

1660. Thomas Spark, Thomas Williamson, Anthony Watson, Robert Watson [and nineteen others], all of Allendale, were taken by William Errington, papist justice, and other papists, and by them carried to Hexham, and put into a stinking dungeon, and by the gaoler, there kept several days, who would scarce suffer anything to come to them; but walled up the window, where several of them were kept several weeks; and then carried to Morpeth gaol, and there continued prisoners till the king's proclamation. They were taken at a meeting at New Shield, being there met together to worship God, and committed to gaol for no other cause.³

1663 and 1665. Thomas Watson held Sparty Lee; Anthony Watson held a moiety of Coatenhill, and Hugh Watson held Huntwell and lands in Whiterig.²

1674, 23rd May. Will of Hugh Watson, the elder, of the Holmes, yeoman. My sons' children and my daughters' children, except my grandson, Hugh Watson of Hindley Wray, a ewe and a lamb; my wife, Jane; my son, Robert Watson, £10 to put his son Benjamin Watson *alias* Thirlwall, apprentice; my grandson, Michael Stokoe; residue to five children, Anthony, William, Robert, and Cuthbert Watson and Elizabeth Stokoe; my son-in-law, Richard Stokoe, and my son, Cuthbert Watson, executors. Proved by son, Cuthbert, 28th February, 1675/6.⁴

1679. The tithe farmers took from Anthony Watson a calf which was his daughters, and they left but one, for he had but two. All this was done without course of law. 1686. They took from his barn at Huntwell six fleeces of wool, worth 8s.³

1682. Robert Watson of Studden, yeoman, for himself and wife being at meetings, was fined 30s., for which was taken from him, the 25th of eighth month, 1682, two oxen worth £6.³

1682. Anthony Watson of Huntwell, yeoman, was fined 5s., for himself, being at a meeting at ye house of Francis Shield of Burnfoot, ye 29th of seventh month, 1682, and fined 15s. for ye supposed poverty of another Friend, for being at two meetings, ye one of which meetings, ye said Anthony Watson was not at. For which fines was taken ye 26th of ye eighth month, 1682, a heifer worth £1 10s.³

1682/3, 7th March. Administration of the goods of Cuthbert Watson of the Heigh, granted to Margaret, his widow.⁴

1683. Anthony Watson held Huntwell and lands in Middlehope Green.²

1685, 7th August. Tuition of Elizabeth, daughter of Hugh Watson of the Holmes, granted to Elizabeth, wife of Roger Stokoe.⁴

1694. Anthony Watson of Huntwell, Cuthbert Featherston of Taylor-bourn, John Walton of Furnace house, and Thomas Williamson of Hesleywell, 'were comit to prison ye 1st day of ye third month, 1694, and soe continues prisoners upon an *excommunicate capiend* writt for ye nonpay^{mt} of tythes; prosecuted by Thomas Allgood and John Carr of Hexham, and John Cook of Newcastle, tyth farmers under William Blacket, baronet, of Newcastle. They continued prisoners about a year and six months, till freed at the assizes, upon pleading the statute called the Act of Grace after the death of Queen Mary.'³

1703, 29th of fifth month. Quarterly meeting. Anthony Watson and Archibald Gillespie were desired to provide a room in Hexham, against the next quarterly meeting for public worship and for the women's meeting.³

1705, 5th April. Administration of Anthony Watson of Swinhope Shiel granted to Joseph Watson the son.⁴

Inventory of goods of Anthony Watson of Swinhope Sheel, in the parish of Allendale, 8th February, 1704/5. His horse, purse, and apparrell apprized to £10; the household goods, £10; four kine and three heffers, £14; a cow and a heffer, £3; four maires, £8; sixty and eight English sheep, £15; thirty and four hoggs, £6; sixty and six Scotch sheep, £13 4s.; the husbandry geer, £1 10s.; the hay, £6; the apprizall amounts to £86 14s.; owing to deceased by Thomas Watson and others £16 13s. 6d.; total, £103 7s. 6d. The funeral expenses, £7 5s.⁴

¹ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. i. p. 189.

² *Hexham Manor Rolls.*

³ *Records of Society of Friends at Allendale Meeting.*

⁴ *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

1717. Eight sheep were taken from Joshua Watson of Huntwell, 'and they took forcibly out of his pocket in money 5s. 6d.'³

1717. Joshua Watson of Huntwell, James Broadwood of Hindley bill, and Charles Alsopp of Broadwood-hall, were each fined 13s. 4d. for refusing to take the oath as jurymen at a head court, and some of their pewter was taken to satisfy the demand.³

1718. Hugh Watson of Studden was made a trustee of the Friends' meeting house at Limestone Brae in West Allendale, and also for the meeting house at Wooley burn foot.³

1718, 3rd April. Will of William Watson of Taylor-burne, parish of Allendale. My daughters, Ann Baxter, Jane Whitfield, Elizabeth Taylor, and Sarah Tomson. My sister, Elizabeth Stoker. Residue to my son, Hugh Watson, he executor. Proved 3rd October, 1718.⁴

1733. Abraham Watson was made one of the trustees for a yard in Alnwick for a burying place for Friends; and also for a meeting house, stable, and burial ground at Embleton.³

1757, 29th June. Will of Hugh Watson of Taylor-burn, proved by Hannah, wife of Joseph Maughan, late Watson, his daughter, and sole executor.⁴

1757. Lately died at his house at Huntwell Mr. Joshua Watson, one of the people called Quakers, who lived to see children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, to the number of ninety-seven, many of whom attended his funeral. And though he had arrived at a good old age, being that of 85 years, his death is greatly regretted, for he was, and had long been, a very useful man in his neighbourhood, being well skilled both in classical learning and the laws of his country, which, added to good natural parts, great probity, and a candid disposition, made him frequently be chosen referee, and often umpire, on matters of difference and disputes among his neighbours. He was from his youth a great lover and encourager of planting, the fruits of which accompanied him even to his grave, for his corpse was buried in a coffin made out of a tree of his own raising.⁵

1759, 2nd month. Abraham Watson, having married a woman of different religious society, was disowned though 'he seems sorry for his offence.' In 1770 he applied to be reinstated.³

1761, 7th month. Hugh Watson of Raby subscribed a guinea to the new meeting house at Coanwood.³

1776, 5th month. Jacob Watson and Hannah Alsopp having been married by a priest were disowned; she was readmitted in 1782.³

1776, 6th month. Anthony Watson and Joseph Watson report that they waited on Thomas Clavering, and obtained his consent to have a piece of land on which to build a meeting house at Winnishill.³

1815, 29th April. Will of Joshua Watson of Blanchland. My brother, Joseph Watson; to Ackworth school, £100; to the intended school near Wigton, £100; residue to my nephews and nieces, viz., Cuthbert Crozier Watson, Joseph Watson, Thomas Watson, Ann Watson, Barbara Watson, as long as they shall continue Quakers. Jacob Watson near Old Town, William Watson of Shedden, and Thomas Wigbam of Worrigill house, Haltwhistle, trustees and executors. Proved at York 13th June, 1815.

1832. Jacob Watson of Allendale Town voted for annuity out of freehold lands at Tedham; William Watson of Claremont Place, Gateshead, voted for copyhold lands at Studden; Joseph Watson of Bensham voted for annuity out of freehold lands at Tedham; Joseph Watson of the Riding voted for copyhold lands at Riding.⁶

³ *Records of Society of Friends at Allendale Meeting.*

⁴ *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

⁵ *Newcastle Journal*, 2nd July, 1757.

⁶ *Poll Book.*

WEST ALLENDALE.

The road across the moors from Allendale Town, after passing by the two tall chimneys to which the smoke of the Allendale smelt mills was conducted by flues, extending a distance of three miles, descends a long steep bank called the Leadgate bank, and enters the little hamlet of Ninebanks, which stands on a terrace on the right bank of the West Allen.

The grieveship of West Allen or Ninebanks, in area the largest of the divisions of Allendale, having an acreage of 4,986 acres, is separated from the other grieveships by the Hartley, Longwell, Acton, and Dryburn Moors, which, taken together, form a large proportion of the great Allendale stinted pasture. The latter contains over 18,000 acres, and is common to all the townships, according to the number of stints awarded to each holding at the division of the common in 1800. The Rev. John Hodgson noted in 1826 that 'above Nine banks there is very little haugh land, but the steep banks of the river, especially on the east side of the stream, are divided into small enclosures and very small farms of rich grass land, which are let to the miners at great rents, though many were occupied by the proprietors. The Allen, very rapid and full of stones, is in winter time a mad mountain torrent.'

Under the designation of 'Nine bankes'¹ the grieveship appears in the Subsidy Roll of 1295, the levy of 29s. 0½d. being paid by seventeen tenants, among whom were William the grieve, Stephen the forester, and Thomas de Thirlwall. About the same time the priory of Hexham obtained, either from Archbishop Gray or Archbishop Gifford, a grant of one rood of land in 'Nine benk,' which, in 1479, yielded the rent of 4d. West Alwent sent forty-five armed horsemen to the muster made by Sir Reynold Carnaby.²

WEST ALWENT MUSTER ROLL, 1538.

Steyn Patenson, Herre Pateson, John Tesdeyll, Robert Bowmen, John Stowt, Cudbert Jonson, Robert Stowt, Robert Jackson, able with hors and harnes. Willam Brown, Christofer Lee, Herre Patenson, John Hudles, Willm Deconsen, Edwerd Richerdson, Willom Batytson, Ric. Filopson, Christofer Bee, Ric. Bowman, Anton Robynson, Rauf Stobys, Willam Robynson, Robert Wynter, Willam Radam, Matho Woding, John Stowt, John Mowr, John Bowman, Nicoll Watson, Robert Hewll, Willm Wodmus, Clamet Nicolson, Herre Deconson, John Pateson, Herre Wilynson, Edwerd Withell, Christofer Bee, Thomas Bee, John Huchenson, Antone Welkeyson, Willm Hucheson, Willm Horslye, Thomas Richartson, John Huchenson, John Huchenson, John Huchenson, able with hors and harnes.

¹ There were trials for homicide and robbery at Ninebanks at the Assizes of 1280 and 1293. At the latter, William Brown of Bellingham, Roger Fot, Peter of Roxburgh and William, his brother, William the hunter of Bellingham, John the flesshewere, were found guilty. Gilbert of Keenley and David, son of Bernard, had made off and were outlawed. *Assize Roll*, 1280. *Ibid.*, 1293. *Iter of Wark*.

² *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 188.

About the same time it furnished a contingent of twenty men 'to go to Berwick in the tyme of necessite.' They were: 'Peter Bee, Thomas Ogle, Wille Huchonson, Rynzen (Ninian) Whitfelde, John Huchonson, Heugh Huchonson, Henry Bradewode, Hob. Richardson, Henry Falaller, Robyn Falaller, Clement Nycolson, Thomas Wylkynson, Roger Wilkynson, Matho Colyngson, John Bateson (Matho's son), Robyn Dod, Heugh Winter or his fader, Wylle Burn, John Jakson, Robert Bowman or his broder.'¹

Fourteen years later the 'two Allendailes' were associated with the 'bounds of Hexhamshire' in the commission for enclosures in the Middle Marches.²

In 1547 Christopher Bee, the grieve, accounted for £17 7s. 4d. rent of 'Nine-binkes cum West Allan,' of which the copyhold lands in 1608 yielded to the lord £16 2s. 2d., and were worth, over and above the old rent, £84 17s. 8d. The Rate Book of 1663 includes with the grieveship the rectory (viz., the great tithe) and petty tithes of East and West Allen. Of the twenty-three proprietors the chief were: Sir William Fenwick, the impropiator, who was rated at £4 per annum; Sir Matthew Whitfield at £24; John Eden, esq., at £100; and Mr. William Swinburn at £80. The total rateable value was £296.

There is no mention of a chapel in any of the existing lists of churches anterior to the reference made by Ritschell in 1713 to 'the two chapels, the one in East and the other in West Allen, both in repair.'³ The curate of Allendale could only do occasional duty, but was used to administer the communion at Ninebanks on the Wednesday before Easter. There was no stipend or gratuity save the surplice fees, which amounted to about 40s. a year.⁴ There was no burial ground attached to the chapel;⁵ but marriages certainly took place,⁶ and probably baptisms were administered there. When Archdeacon John Sharp, in 1763, exerted himself to secure a resident minister for the grieveship, a new chapel was built half a mile south of the

¹ *State Papers*, Henry VIII. vol. v. 681.

² Nicolson, *Border Laws*, p. 224.

³ Ritschell, *Tynedale Charities*.

⁴ *Archbishop of York's Papers*.

⁵ In 1826 the Rev. John Hodgson saw in a field, called the chapel field, on the north-east side of Hawkhope-lee farm house, some traces of a building with a grass-grown yard, which he was informed was the old chapel; but the local tradition is that it stood on the north bank of Dryburn on Whamlands farm, about three-quarters of a mile north of the hamlet of Ninebanks, and that the stones of the walls were carted away to build the farm house of Whamlands. *Ex. inf.* Mr. George Dickinson.

⁶ *Allendale Register*.

hamlet on land surrendered for that purpose, and for a graveyard, by the two landowners, Sir John Eden and John Heron. The new building, dedicated to St. Mark, was consecrated by the archbishop of York in July, 1764.¹ The grieveship of West Allen was assigned to it as a district, and an independent curacy was founded and endowed. The benefice is in the gift of the lord of the manor, and the stipend is stated to be £245 per annum.² The chapel was rebuilt in 1813, and again in 1871.

CURATES OF NINEBANKS.

1764. William Laidman.
 1769. Thomas Kirkby.
 1772. Nicholas Richardson⁴ voted in 1774 for Ninebanks curacy.⁵
 1813. Robert Messenger, in 1826, voted for freehold land at Ninebanks;⁵ also, perpetual curate of Horton.
 1843. Jonathan Scurr, St. Bees college, died 23rd October, 1889; had been previously sub-curate to Messenger.
 1889. Henderson Baldwin Mason, B.A., Trinity college, Dublin, died 14th January, 1893.
 1893. Frederick Pickup, M.A., scholar of Hatfield hall, Durham, B.A. 1878.

There is a silver cup for the communion, made in 1769 by James Crawford of Newcastle. The register begins in 1764.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

Here lieth interred the body of Matthew Fairless of Ninebanks, who died 24th July, 1793, aged 57 years. Also, the body of Catherine Fairless, his wife, who died 13th April, 1777, aged 38 years. Also, here lieth interred the bodies of Elizabeth and Mary Fairless, their daughters; Elizabeth died 11th April, 1783, and Mary died 11th March, 1777, aged 11 months. Also, Matthew Fairless, only son of the above Matthew and Catherine Fairless, who died 24th April, 1839, aged 65 years; also Mary, his widow, and daughter of John Goodchild, esq., of Pallion hall, Sunderland, who died 21st November, 1860, aged 91 years.

In memory of Mary Goodchild, eldest daughter of the above named Matthew and Mary Fairless, who died at her residence in Jesmond Road, Newcastle, 26th April, 1887, aged 82 years. Also, Elizabeth Catherine Fairless, youngest daughter of the above, who died at the same place 26th January, 1891, aged 82 years.

The village of Ninebanks now consists of two or three farm houses and cottages. The only object of interest is

NINEBANKS TOWER.

The very picturesque, though very diminutive, tower of Ninebanks is a mere fragment left standing between two considerable buildings that formerly stretched to the west and north. A pair of excellent water-colour drawings of the whole group, sketched from the east and south, are fortunately in the

¹ *Newcastle Courant*, 3rd July, 1764. ² The benefice of West Allen was endowed by the Ecclesiastical commissioners with £67 a year out of the Common Fund. *London Gazette*, 3rd May, 1844.

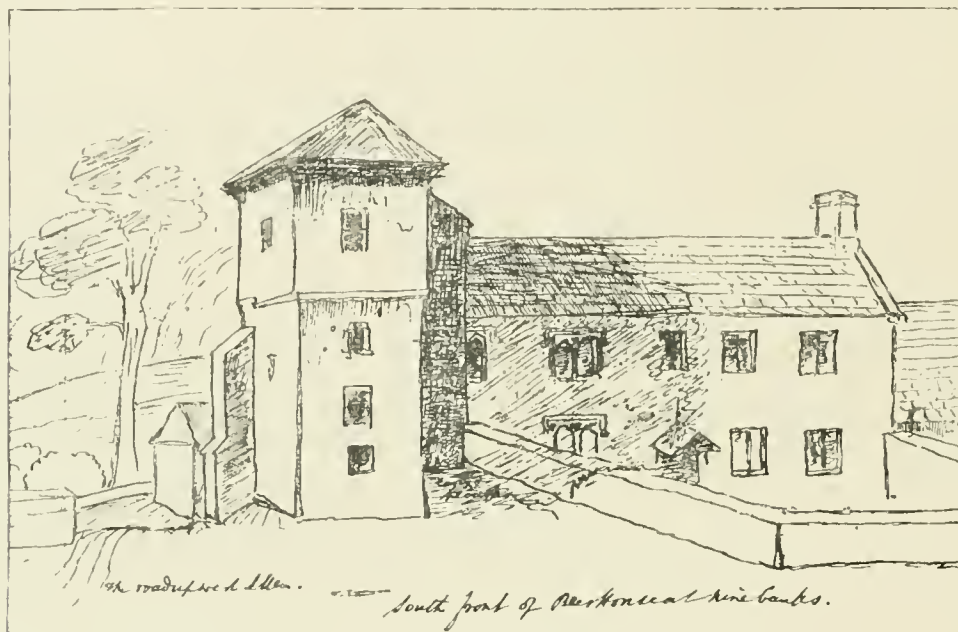
³ *York Faculty Books*.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Poll Book*.

possession of Miss Ridley, close at hand. Roughly speaking, the little tower seems originally to have been a sort of fore-building attached to a larger tower or strong house to the west of it, with an upper story added at the same time as the wheel-stair at its north-west corner.

The east front, facing the road from Whitfield to Nenthead, is only 13 feet 2 inches wide at the external base. It represents four stories, but the ground has been so raised that the original slit of the basement is now nearly level with the road; a square hole for shovelling in coals has been cut



through the wall above this. On the line of the present first floor a two-light window, possibly of the early part of the sixteenth century, has been built up, and the room on this floor is now lit by a little oblong window, the head of which exhibits two small shields turned upside down. Happily, the Rev. John Hodgson made a sketch of the arms upon them on his visit to Ninebanks, 4th September, 1826.¹ From this it appears, that when in their natural position, the shield on the left was charged with three escallops, and that on the right with a chevron between three bees. Sufficient traces of the arms are left to corroborate this sketch, but the shears or other emblems

¹ He at the same time made a pen and ink sketch of the tower and the house attached to it, from which the above illustration has been reproduced.

to be seen on the right cheek of the window in Hodgson's time have now disappeared, owing to the wasting nature of the stone. As it held the place of honour to the left, the escallop coat was, there can be little doubt, that of Sir Thomas Dacre, the ruler of Hexhamshire, 1515-1526, while the other seems to have been the conventional one of Bee, *azure, a chevron between three bees volant or*; a Bee very possibly holding the office of grieve of West Allen, under Dacre. The fact of the shields being reversed is, of course, evidence of the stone not being in its original position.

Externally, the altered character of this miniature tower is further shown by the plain string-course above being set out as is usually the case immediately below the battlements. This string-course rises in a step on approaching the south-west corner of the tower, from which it may be inferred that there was always a higher building to the west. The east window of the superadded story is now filled with pigeons' nests. The tower finishes in an elaborately moulded cornice, from which two gurgoyles¹ project on the south side. With its high-hipped roof it has a singularly foreign look, much resembling the *colombaio* of a Lombard farm.

The original entrance to the basement seems to have been on the north side. A small segment of the arch of the doorway is now all that is to be seen of it, the ground having risen considerably, as has been said before, and the turret containing the wheel-stair having been built up against the tower at about 9 feet from its north-east angle, so as to cover the greater portion of the arch. A recess, 8 feet 5 inches wide, is left in front of the stair-turret, between the tower and the modern house that has supplanted the old one to the north. The door of this latter, with the inscription above it, has been preserved, and now faces the tower.

The dark and uninviting basement of the tower is now entered by a breach made at the south end of the west wall, and contains no feature of interest. A passage, evidently cut through the wall, leads off the wheel-stair on to the present first floor, a room measuring 9 feet 9 inches west to east, 8 feet 10 inches north to south. On entering, an early Tudor doorway, only 4 feet high in the centre and 2 feet wide, is at once visible in the west wall at the level of the original second floor; an iron crook and hole for the bar still remain to show that it was secured from the west side. A

¹ There were until recently two other gurgoyles on the east side of the tower. *Ex. inf.* Mr. Geo. Dickinson.

small window of the same date to the right of it also looks out into the room, thus clearly proving that the present tower is an addition to the structure of which these formed part.

The passage and doorway of the uppermost floor are original, and of the same date as the wheel-stair. There is a fire-place, which has a mantel with two plain corbels, apparently Jacobean, at the east end of the north wall. The lower part of the wheel-stair has been blocked up, and access to it is gained by a hen-ladder. At the first and second floors there remain pairs of doorways that opened off the stair, right and left, into rooms that have disappeared. From the water-colour drawing previously mentioned, we see that the house to the west had a gable at its south end rising from the cornice of the tower and terminating in a high chimney.

Taking everything into consideration, it seems safe to conclude that a larger tower than the present was built at Ninebanks early in the sixteenth century, and was entered by a small door in its east wall at a considerable height above the ground; that the ladder or external stair leading to this was replaced by some sort of internal stair, to contain which the lower stories of the existing tower were built; and that subsequently, perhaps at the end of Elizabeth's reign, the wheel-stair and uppermost stories were added, and the internal arrangements of the lower story considerably changed. A very little excavation would probably explain this, and though it is but a small and altered fragment, the tower is so quaint as to deserve careful repair and jealous protection.

In 1570 action was taken by the Crown, in which the manor of Hexham was then vested, to resist certain encroachments which had been made upon the feudal rights of the archbishop of York by Mathew Bee, who had, in West Allendale, opened out a lead mine to the prejudice of the lord.¹ Four years later a commission was issued to enquire under what right Mathew Bee enjoyed a lease of the tithes of Allendale chapel, it being alleged on behalf of the Crown that the lease, he pretended from the prior of the dissolved priory of Hexham, was forged. Ralph Ord of the Holmes stated :

Upon a Munday, beinge the market daye of Hexham abowte fowre yeres nowe past, one Mathewe Bee came to this examinat, and cauld him vnto him, and sayed Davyd Carnaby would speake with him, 'and thowe must go over to him this present night, and looke, whatsoever he shall promise the, I assure the, I will see the same fulfilld.' Wherevpon, the morrowe after, this examinat went to Davyd Carnabye, to his owne howse, beinge syttinge by him self sayed, 'thow art welcome, for I must have sent for yowe,

¹ Vol. iii. p. 10.



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PELLE TOWER NINE-BANKS

11-113-031 Per ITI

for this ys the matter, my lorde warden, ys like to overthrowe the prockters of Allondell, and thowe and I must make him help; and Marcame, Sir George Ratclifs man, and I declared vnto Mathewe Bee that youe were owinge to my lorde warden, for John Swinborn's debt, a foother of leade, and I feared youe durst doo nothinge for that leade; who answered me, that youe should not styck for a foother of lead or more.' Wherypon the examinat, declared to Davyd Carnabye, that he was owinge Mathewe Bee, a foother, and John Swyneborne another; vnto whome Davyd sayed, 'never care youe, I will see all that discharged'; and then said Davyd Carnabye 'saye youe as I saye, that ys, that the said lease was showed at Delston, in the garden, before Sir Cuthbert Ratclif, then chauncellor, and Sir Reginald Carnaby, knight, then head steward; and that the same lease was allowed then to have beine a good lease.' And that this examinat should have sayed he was with his owne father then at Delstone, with his father's writings, for business there to be doon; and there should have seine the same lease showed.¹

There were proceedings in the Ecclesiastical court at York, in which Sir John Forster obtained a decision in his favour on 2nd March, 1576/7.

Sir John Foster, knight, *v.* Anthony Baxter.

William Heron of Hexham, gen., *at. circa* xxxvi. He is servant unto Sir John Foster, and beleveth that the said Sir John is fermor of all the tythes and other ecclesiasticall rightes within the cheppelry of Allondale, by reason of the demyse of oure soveraigne the quene's mat^{ie}, by her lettres patentes to him thereof graunted. He hard say that it was ordered that the said Sir John should sue out a *nisi prius* (betwene the quene's majestie and Mathew Bee and others, and prosecute the same with effecte at the next assises to be houlden in the countye of Northumberlande, that the injunction whereby the saide Matthew Bee and others ar enjoyned from the possession of the tythes in Allendale, *alias* Allenton, should be dissolved and voyde). Sir John at the last assyses at Newcastle dyd effectualle prosequite the said *nisi prius*, and procured witnesses to be sworne and examyned before the said justyces and a jurie impanelled, Sir Cuthbert Collingwood beinge the forman. Afterwardes motion beinge maid for an arbytrament, he dyd here say, that by consent of both parties the said suyte was put to the arbytrament of W^m Lawson and Rowland, for Sir John Foster, Cutlberte and David Carnabye for Mathewe Bee and others, and Justice Harper to be the umpere. In Mychaelmas terme last past was two yeres, an injunction to remove Mathewe Bee, Jenet Sheild, and Thomas Bee from possession of the tythes and other, the premisses articulate was directed to the sheryfe of Northumbreland and to put in possession the said Sir John Foster. Accordinge to the which injunction of this examine sight and knowledge, Nycholas Rydley, then undersheryfe of Northumbreland, toke upon him the execution of the said injunction, and rode to Allondall unto the personage, and thir examine and dyvers other wth him, and because the doores were mayd fast, he caused a stantion in a windowe to be cutt downe, and so one went into the said house and opened the doores, and the doores beinge opened, the said undersheryfe went into the house and then and ther delivered possession unto one Raufe Whytfeild, Sir John Foster's attornay for that purpose. He this examine, and Roberte Burnham after the possession so taken, upon a Sondaie or hollydaie shortlie after, were presente in the chappell or parishe church of Allendall, wher and when the said Roberte havinge in his hand the said injunction dyd openlie rede the same to the parishioners ther presente, and willed them not to pay any tythes to the said Mathew Bee, etc., but onelie to Sir John Foster, as they would answer the contrarie at ther perills, by reason whereof he sayeth that the said Anthonie Baxter beinge an inhabytant ther must nedes here of the premisses.

The undersheriff, Nicholas Ridley of Willemontswick, gen., *at. circa* 25, says the same.

As there is not sufficient material to construct a pedigree of this almost forgotten family, the following entries upon the manor rolls, wills, etc., at York are given as a substitute:

¹ *Exchequer Depositions*, 16 and 17 Eliz. Mich. Term. Northumberland, No. 12.

1516, May 5th. Matthew Bee, heir of Matthew Bee his uncle (compoter), fines to enter upon the lands, of which the latter died seised, viz., Ninebanks and its appurtenances, Dryburn, Leckefield, Crosshouse, Ridingfield, Whitestone, Karkenpeth, Harshaw, Whamlands, Eshes, Graystone, Spartywell, Bateshill, Readborneshield, Rakeshield, Smithlands, Farneyshield, Wolfcleugh, Bradley, Appletreeshield, Brigley, Keenleyside gate, Waterhaugh, Cooks-house, and West Monk.¹

1547. Christopher Bee was reeve, or grievé, of Keenley and of Ninebanks.²

1547. Thomas Bee held lands and tenements in Netherswenopshell and Pawpert-nowse.³

1547. Matthew Bee held lands and tenements at the Yeatehouse, Whamlands, Midlescoote, Karkenpathe, Driburne, Esshes, Nynnebinkes, Harebanke, Spertewell, Bals-hille, Fernesyde, Mouphedd, Grastead, Nynebynks myll, Whoofe and Cliffehill, Overwhitell Shelde, Garesheld, Smelbouris, Ferneshell, Hayplesley, Medley, Heslewell, Tresshell cottage in Allenton, Readburn Shell, and Bishopfeld.²

1565. Matthew Bee of Ninebanks opened out lead mines near that place.⁴

1595, 13th October. Administration of Mary Bee of Ninebanks granted to Matthew and William Bee, her sons : reservation to Margaret Elrington, Janet Pattison, and Agnes Ridley, her daughters, and by the consent of her sons, to Janet Errington, daughter of John Errington of Hirst.⁵

1596, 19th October. Tution of Matthew, Ann, and Jane Bee, daughters of Matthew Bee of Ninebanks, granted to Margaret Bee, their mother, and Nicholas Whitfield, esq.⁵

1596, 8th June. Will of Matthew Bee of Ninebanks, proved by Margaret, his widow, the sole executrix. Nicholas Whitefield, esq., and Barth. Bee, gen., witnesses.⁵

1597, 31st March. Will of Peter Bee of Esshes, parish of Allendale, proved by Barbara Bee, the widow.⁵

1597, 13th June. Administration of Clement Bee of the parish of Allendale, granted to William Thirlwall.⁵

1599. Ad hanc curiam compertum est per homagium quod Matt. Bee nuper de Nynebencks infra manerium istud die quo obiit tenuit de dicta domina regina sibi et heredibus suis, secundum consuetudinem hujus manerii, unum capitale messuagium sive tenementum cum pertinentiis vocatum Neinyneck. Ac unum molendinum aquaticum cum pert. vocatum Nynebyneck mill. Ac tres acras terræ cum pert. eidem molendino spectantes. Ac unum aliud tenementum cum suis pertinentiis vocatum Leckefield. Ac unum aliud tenementum cum pert. vocatum le Crosschowse in Leckefield predicto. Ac unum tenementum cum pert. vocatum Ridingfeild in Leckefield predicto. Ac unum tenementum cum suis pert. vocatum le Eshes. Ac unum aliud tenementum cum pert. vocatum Spartewell. Ac unum aliud tenementum cum pert. vocatum Whamland. Ac unum aliud tenementum cum pert. vocatum Wyndshill. Ac unum aliud tenementum cum pert. vocatum Keynliesydyate. Ac unam parcelam terræ cum pert. vocatam Le Waterhaughe. Ac unum aliud tenementum cum pert. vocatum le Grawston. Ac unum aliud tenementum cum pert. vocatum le Byrkenpeth. Ac unum aliud tenementum cum pert. vocatum Driebornfeild. Ac unum aliud tenementum cum pert. vocatum Hayrbanke. Ac 1 tenementum vocatum le Butshill. Ac 1 tenementum voc. Farnsyd. Ac 1 ten. voc. Gyrecotes. Ac 1 ten. voc. le Wolfeclawghe. Ac 1 ten. voc. tertiam partem 1 tenementi voc. Whitleysheile. Ac 1 ten. voc. Whitleysheillgreane. Ac 1 ten. voc. Carrsheill. Ac 1 ten. voc. Smeilebornes. Ac 1 ten. voc. Farniesheile. Ac 1 ten. voc. Harseley. Ac 2 tenementa voc. le Broadley quorum unum tenementum. in occupatione Wm. Lee et alterum in occupatione Rob. Philipsoun. Ac 1 ten. voc. le Appeltrysheile. Ac 1 ten. voc. Heisleywell et Hartehaughe. Ac 1 ten. voc. Uppernolloppe. Ac 1 ten. etc. voc. le Whitestone. Ac 1 ten. voc. Busshoppfeild. Ac 1 ten. voc. le Cakehowses. Quatuor le Dawarkes terræ voc. le Dales. Ac 1 burgagium jacens in Allenton voc. le Tinckelers howse et 3 rodas terræ dicto burgagio pertinentes. Ac 1 ten. cum pert. voc. Readbornsheile. Ac 1 ten. voc. le Raikeshele provet mete eunt. Ac 1 parcelam terræ herbagii voc. le Westmonke. Ac 1 ten. voc. Harshawe jacens in le deanes. Ac 1 ten. voc. Smithelaunde. Ac 1 ten. voc. le Nether Ridengfeild. Ac 1 burgagium jacens in Hencott, et unam le butt terræ jacens prope le Tyngren. Ac 1 clausum prati continentem 2 acras prati in campis de Prestpople voc. Beies close. Ac 1 ten. sive

¹ *Swinburn Papers*. Rev. John Hodgson's Collection.

² Vol. iii. pp. 72, 73, 75, 76, 79, 85.

³ *Ibid.* pp. 73, 86.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 10.

⁵ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

burgagium jacens infra villam de Hexham in quodam vico de Gelligate, et 1 burgagium voc. a Smithie prope le Bowebrigge medio villæ de Hexham, et obit nec non duas le Dales prati continentis 8 acras et 4 acras bosci jacentes in Westallendale. Quodque dictus Mattheus obiit de terris et tenementis predictis sic inde seisitus citra ultimam curiam, et quod Matt. Bee generosus etatis trium annorum est suus filius et heres propinquior ad habendum tenementa et terras predicta cum pert. secundum consuetudinem predictam. Quiquidem Matt. Bee filius hic in ista eadem curia examinatus venit in propria persona sua et per Joh. Emmerson gener. tutorem et gardianum suum petit admitti ad premissos. Cui quidem Matheo dicta domina regina, etc. Redd. inde annuatim eidem dominæ reginæ, etc., vii li., xii s., ii d., etc.¹

1608. Matthew Bee held a house in Allwenton and a great number of tenements, Burshopsfld, Cookeshowses, Hunteroake, Redburnshell, Rakkeshell, and Owsledalles, for which he paid £9 16s. 4d. per annum, they were worth £51 os. 8d. over and above.²

1614, 12th October. *Inq. post mortem.* Matthew Bee was found to have died seised of Ninebanks, Ninebanks mill, Leckfield, etc. He was son of Matthew Bee. Anne, wife of Robert Eden, and Jane, wife of Clement Colmore, are his sisters and heirs.³

1626, 28th November. Robert Eden and Dorothy, his wife, surrendered the messuage and tenements called Nynebencks with Nynebencks mill, with three acres of land, tenements called Leckfield, etc.³

1626, 17th October. Ann, wife of Robert Eden, and Jane, wife of William Swinburn, as heirs of Matthew Bee, answer for Ninebanks, etc. From 1637 to 1653 Robert Eden and William Swinburn *jure uxoris* answer.³

1626, 17th October. Thomas Bee, sen., of Broadwood-hall, answers for lands in Allen.

1626, 17th October. Thomas Bee, jun., of Broadwood-hall, answers for lands at Steel in East Allen.³

1626-1653. Thomas Bee answers for moiety of Taylor-burn and moiety of Woodmas Walls in West Allen.³

1626-1653. Thomas Bee of Broadwood-hall answers for lands there.³

1638, 2nd October. Christopher Byerley and Jane, his wife, surrendered the chief messuage at Ninebanks, etc., with mill.³

1653. *Inq. post mortem.* Jane, wife of William Swinburn of Capheaton, was found to have died seised of a moiety of Ninebanks, etc.³

1659, October. Thomas Bee of Langley castle surrendered Broadwood-hall to George Bacon for twenty-one years. Thomas Bee of Turners-house surrendered Turners-house to Francis Ellerington of Ellerington. Barbary Lee surrendered her dower, or widow right, in Broadwood-hall to Mary Bee, her daughter.³

1663, October. *Inq. post mortem.* Robert Eden was found to have died seised of a moiety of Ninebanks, etc., and John Eden is his son and heir.³

1682, 10th July. Administration of Francis Bee of Broadwood-hall granted to Barbara, wife of John Howdon, his sister.⁴

1716, 17th November. Will of Matthew Bee of Heslewell, yeoman. My eldest son, Matthew Bee, £20; my sons, Robert, Thomas, and Charles Bee, each £40; my father-in-law, Robert Park, and brother, Thomas Bee, trustees. Residue to wife Margaret; she executrix. Proved 1st April, 1718.¹

1734, 24th May. Will of Thomas Bee of Heslywell. My mother, Margaret Nixon, £3 per annum; my nephew, Thomas Nixon of Grass hill; my nephew, Matthew Bee, and my niece, Mary Bee. Residue to my brothers, Matthew and Robert Bee. Proved by Matthew and Robert Bee the brothers, 27th January, 1734/5.⁴

1741, 16th May. Administration of Matthew Bee of Gateshead granted to Elizabeth, wife of John Robinson, his mother.⁴

At some time after 1516, the Bees, apparently by licence, built a water corn mill at Ninebanks, which was the only one in West Allendale. The last

¹ *Hexham Manor Rolls*, 8th May, 1599.

² Vol. iii. pp. 87-89, 96-98.

³ *Hexham Manor Rolls*.

⁴ *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

male heir of the Bee family, who, like his fathers, bore the name of Matthew, was only three years old at his father's death in 1599; and died unmarried at the age of seventeen. The estates, thereupon, devolved upon his two sisters, Anne, wife of Robert Eden of West Auckland; and Jane, who married, first, Clement Colmore, third son of Clement Colmore, chancellor of the diocese of Durham, by whom she had no issue; and, secondly, as her second husband, William Swinburn of Capheaton. As Swinburn's estates were sequestered for recusancy, his son, also named William, on the 29th August, 1645, petitioned the commissioners and stated that the lands at Ninebanks were 'in noe way belonginge to his father, but only and properly to your petitioner, who is now in his minority and lame of his limbs.' Enquiry was made, and as the petitioner was found to be heir at law to his mother, his prayer was granted.¹ He was living at Holliwell,² in the county of Durham, when, in 1678, he conveyed his moiety of Ninebanks to Edward Robson.

The Eden family, baronets of Bishop Auckland, whose history is too well known to need recapitulation, retained the core of their moiety until the end of the eighteenth century, when, on the 23rd November, 1770, Sir John Eden surrendered to the use of John Heron of Ninebanks, 'all that ancient building called the tower, with its appurtenances, being part of the moiety of a messuage, or manor house, at Ninebanks, together with about 5 yards of ground in breadth, and 15 yards in length, more or less, adjoining and belonging to the said ancient building, and as the same were then in the possession of Edward Fairless, as tenant thereof,' etc.

Edward Robson, the purchaser of Swinburn's part of the estate, built himself a house, adjoining the old tower; which, in latter days, was used as an inn, and was taken down and rebuilt a few years ago. A door-head built into the new house has the following inscription:

R

16. E · D. 82.

They are the initial letters of the names of Edward and Dorothy Robson. The history of the Robsons and of the kindred family of Fairless is related in the following pedigree and evidences:

¹ *Swinburn Papers*, vol. ii. p. 26. The Rev. John Hodgson's collection.

² William Swinburn died about 1681.

ROBSON AND FAIRLESS OF NINEBANKS.

EDWARD ROBSON, to whom Wm. Swinburn in 1678 mortgaged = Dorothy; residuary legatee under
his moiety of Ninebanks; will dated 28th Feb., 1699 (a); | husband's will; will dated 8th March,
buried in Allendale quire, 28th April, 1700 (b). | 1708,9 (a); proved 23rd April, 1711.

Leonard Wilson of Dryside, = Edith Winter; = surgeon, first husband; | living in married 31st Oct., 1698 (b); | 1734. buried Oct., 1699 (b); will | dated 17th Oct., 1699 (a). |	George Robson of Ninebanks, | Robert Rob- | John Robson; men- second husband; married | son; men- | tioned in mother's 21st August, 1701 (b); will | tioned in | will, but not in dated 13th May, 1728; | father's | that of father; proved 1730 (a); buried | will. | buried 30th Jan., 21st Nov., 1729 (b). |	
Ann Wilson of Ninebanks, daughter and | heirress; baptised 22nd Dec., 1699 (b); | died unmarried; will dated 10th March, | 1721 (a); proved 16th May, 1721. |	Ann; married William Carr of Hexham. ↓ Elizabeth; married Cuthbert Lambert. ↓ Susanna; married John Wills of Durham. ↓	Cecilia; married George Bacon of Broadwood-hall, and devised a legacy to Brideshill school (c).

George Robson of Nine- = Mary Peart of the = Matthew Fairless of banks, son and heir, parish of Stan- Ninebanks, second first husband; devisee hope; she mar- husband; will of sister Ann Wilson; ried, thirdly, dated 20th July, baptised 20th Feb., Thomas Arm- 1745; proved 1703/4; married 3rd strong of Cald- same year; mar- Jan., 1726/7 (b); buried cleugh; articles ried 9th Dec., 1735 3rd Feb., 1733/4 (b); before mar- (b); buried 24th will dated 28th Jan., riage, 8th Sept., July, 1745 (b). 1734; proved 31st 1750; was liv- Aug., 1734 (a). ing 1762.	William Robson, Elizabeth, baptised baptised 16th 26th April, 1716 May, 1707 (b); (b); buried 20th was living 1734. Jan., 1730/1 (b). Edward, baptised Dorothy, baptised 27th June, 1702 16th May, 1707 (b); (b); buried 12th married 28th April, May, 1726 (b). 1726, John Far- bridge (b); was living 1734.
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Edward Robson of Nine- = Elizabeth Robson, sister = John Heron of Birtley and banks, only son and heir; and heirress of Edward Shield-hall; <i>jure uxoris</i> baptised 17th Nov., 1727 Robson; baptised 1st of Ninebanks; was resid- (b); died unmarried and February, 1730/1 (b); ing in Hexham, in 1789; intestate; buried 6th Dec., articles before marriage, will dated 26th Aug., 1736 (b). 7th Nov., 1748 (d). 1805 (d). ↓ Heron of Birtley.	Mary, baptised 5th Nov., 1732 (b); buried 18th July, 1737 (b).
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Edward Fairless of = Mary [Har- = Matthew Fairless the elder, of = Catherine Bishop Auckland, rison]; was Ninebanks; baptised 1st Lee; mar- afterwards of party to sur- July, 1739 (b); died 24th ried 9th Ninebanks; son render, 12th July, 1793, aged 57 (e); May, 1771 and heir of Sept., 1771; will dated 16th July, 1791 (g); died Mary Fairless; buried 22nd (a); purchased a moiety of 13th Apr., baptised 11th April, 1780 Ninebanks, 11th Nov., 1789, 1777, aged April, 1738 (b); (g). from John and Elizabeth 38 years buried 11th Jan., Heron, and mortgaged same (e). 1782 (g); will dated to the Rev. John Thompson per annum.; proved 1st of Netherwarden.	Joseph Fairless, Margaret, baptised a posthumous 8th Aug., 1736 son; baptised (b); married ... 15th Oct., Goodwill. ↓ 1745 (b); to Mary, baptised whom his 2nd May, 1741 brother Mat- (b); married ... thew left £6 Winter. ↓ per annum. Ann, baptised 24th April, 1743 (b).
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Matthew Fairless the younger, of Nookton and = Dorothy, daughter of ... Rochester of Ninebanks; baptised 30th Oct., 1757 (b); of the Linolds in the parish of son and heir of Edward Fairless; died in- Corbridge; married at Corbridge, testate; administration granted 9th Dec., 6th Feb., 1792; buried 16th Jan., 1824, to son William. 1799 (g).	Elizabeth, baptised 30th Nov., 1752 (b); buried 19th Aug., 1753 (b). Margaret, baptised 1st Jan., 1755 (b).
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William Fairless of Bishopfield, son and = , sister of = John Fairless. heir; baptised at Hunstanworth, 26th William Taylor Mary; married Daniel Bell. Jan., 1793; was admitted to lands at of Ninebanks; Ann; married ... Pickering. Ninebanks, 24th Feb., 1825, and sold died circa 1853. Elizabeth. same to William Lee. Sarah.
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(a) Raine, *Test. Ebor.*(b) *Allendale Register.*(c) Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 374.(d) *Shield-hall Deeds.*

(e) M.I. Ninebanks.

(g) *Ninebanks Register.*

Matthew Fairless of Bishopwearmouth, coal-fitter, etc., and of Ninebanks; only son; baptised 21st Nov., 1773 (g); in 1834 was residing in Newcastle; died 24th April, 1839, aged 65 years (e).	Mary, daughter of John Goodchild of Pallion; born 12th Dec., 1768 (f); by post-nuptial settlement, 25th Aug., 1802, her portion of £3,000 was settled in consideration of marriage recently solemnized; died 21st Nov., 1860, aged 91 (e).	Elizabeth; baptised 27th April, 1772 (g); died 11th April, 1783 (g). Mary; died 11th March, 1777, aged 11 months (e) (g).
Mary Goodchild Fairless of Jesmond, where she died, 26th April, 1887, aged 82 (e). (e) M.I. Ninebanks.	Jane; married John Easton of Pelaw house, mining engineer; died <i>s.p.</i> (f) Surtees, <i>Durham</i> , II. vol. i. p. 240.	Elizabeth Catherine Fairless of Jesmond, where she died, 26th Jan., 1891, aged 82 years (e); the last survivor. (g) <i>Ninebanks Register</i> .

EVIDENCES TO ROBSON AND FAIRLESS PEDIGREE.

1698/9, 28th February. Will of Edward Robson of Ninebanks. To my son, Robert Robson, 40s., in full of all his interest and claim to any of my personal estate; son, George Robson, £120, to be paid him at the age of 27 years; in trust for my daughter, Ann, wife of William Carr of Hexham, £50; my daughter, Elizabeth Robson, £100; my daughter, Susanna, wife of John Wills of Durham, £5; to my cousin, Elizabeth, wife of John Atkinson of Harwood, and to her son, John Cooper, 20s. apiece; to my cousins, John and George Reed, sons of Grace Reed of Catton Lee, 20s. apiece; residue, to my dear and loving wife, Dorothy Robson, she executrix. Proved at York 1st June, 1700, by Dorothy the widow. Inventory taken 4th May, 1700. Imp.: His horse and apparell, £10. Item, his money, £9 4s. Item, one pair of oxen, £8. Item, ten cows, £25. Item, two heifers, £3. Item, three stirks, £3. Item, one mare, £1 10s. Item, fifty ewes, with their lambs, £16 13s. 4d. Item, sixteen wethers and two rams, £5 8s. Item, twenty-five hogs, £5 12s. 6d. Item, household goods, £30. Item, debts owing upon personal and land security, £821 2s. 10d. More debts, for which no security in writing, £14 5s. Total, £952 15s. 8d. The debts that the said Edward Robson at time of his death did owe and the expenses of his funeral amount to £383 1s. 6d., [leaving] £569 14s. 2d. In desperate debts, £11 11s.¹

1699, 17th October. Will of Leonard Wilson of Dryside. To my mother, Ann Wilson, 20s.; to my brothers, Matthew and William, my wearing apparel; to my brother, William Wilson, my horse, my cane, and sword; to my two brothers-in-law, Joseph and William Winter, 20s. apiece; to Margaret Goulin, 5s.; residue to my dear and well beloved wife; if she die without issue to me, then my part of the lead mines at Wanlocke-head, in Scotland, shall go to my brother, William Wilson. Wife executrix. Inventory taken 28th February, 1699/1700. Imp.: His horse, purse, and apparel, £20. Item, his household stuff, £5. Debts owing upon bond, imp.: William Winter, £300. Item, John Robson, £14. Item, Leonard Wilson, senior, £100. Item, Nicholas Whitfield of Churchstile, and Joseph Wilkinson, £10. £400. [Deduct] Desperate debts, imp.: John Bell of Windy side, £2 3s. Item, Rowland Smith of Ordely, 15s. Item, more small debts, amounting to £3. Item, funeral expenses, £12. Total, £421 2s. Will proved at York, 4th April, 1700, by Edith Wilson, the widow and sole executrix.¹

1720/1, 10th March. Will of Ann Wilson of Ninebanks, spinster. My tenement, called Burntongues, and my water corn mill at Ridley green, to the use of my mother, Edith, wife of George Robson of Ninebanks, gent., for life, and then to my brother, George Robson, the younger, of Ninebanks, paying £150 each to my sisters, Dorothy and Elizabeth Robson of Ninebanks, and seven guineas to my brother, William Robson; my cousin, Frances Lambert of Hexham, spinster, five guineas. Dr. Cuthbert Lambert, a guinea; to the poor of Keenly grieveship, 10s. per annum for ever. Residue to father, George Robson. Proved at York, 16th May, 1721, by Geo. Robson, gent., sole executor.¹

1733/4, 28th January. Will of George Robson of Ninebanks, gent. My moiety of Ninebanks, Sparty-well close, eight dargues or days' work in Leckfield, etc., to John Bacon of Newbrough, gent., and my brother-in-law, Joseph Peart of Newhouse, gent., in trust, to raise £200 for my daughter, Elizabeth Robson, when 21, or married, and £100 for my daughter, Mary; the rest to go to my son, Edward Robson. My share of the groves and lead mines, called Grasshill and Greenhill; my brother, William Robson; my mother, Edith Robson; my sister, Dorothy, wife of John Fairbridge, gent. Residue to my wife, Mary Robson, she executrix. Proved at York, 31st August, 1734.¹

1745, 20th July. Will of Matthew Fairless of Ninebanks, gent. Lands in parish of Allendale to eldest son, Edward; my daughters, Margaret, Mary, and Anne; my second son, Matthew, my lands in parish of Eastwood and Pritwell. Proved 10th September, 1745.¹

1752, 11th June. Elizabeth, wife of John Heron of Ninebanks, was admitted to moiety of Ninebanks, a moiety of Ninebanks water corn mill, also to '8 dargues or days' work in Leakfield,' as sister and heir of Edward Robson, who was only son of George Robson of Ninebanks.²

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*² Mr. A. J. Blckett-Ord's *Title Deeds of Ninebanks*.

1770. To be sold the copyhold farms of Ninebanks domain and High Ashes, 147 acres ; Low Ashes and Whemlands, 71 acres ; Dryburn, 6 acres ; Birkin Path and Grey Stone, 32 acres ; Under Birk Holt, 14 acres ; Upper Birk Holt, 11 acres ; the smithy, 11 acres ; Mope Head and Nether Mope, 30 acres ; Appletree Shield, 19 acres ; North Hezley Well, 35 acres ; South Hezley Well, 22 acres ; Chare Heads, 17 acres ; Bates Hill, 10 acres ; Guire Coats, 17 acres ; Farney Side, 12 acres ; The Nook, 12 acres ; Farney Shield, 10 acres ; Wolf Cleugh, 17 acres ; Whitlyshield Green, 12 acres ; Carr Shield, 21 acres ; Small Burns, 31 acres.¹

Probate of the will of Edward Fairless of Ninebanks was granted 1st April, 1783, to Matthew Fairless, the son and sole executor.²

1789, 10th December. John Heron, late of Ninebanks, but then of Hexham, and Elizabeth, his wife, surrendered to the Rev. John Thompson of Nether Warden a moiety of Ninebanks, etc. There was a proviso for redemption on the payment by Matthew Fairless of Ninebanks of £800 and interest.³

In 1800 the commissioners awarded 161 acres and 44½ stints to Matthew Fairless in respect of his estate of Ninebanks, and to Matthew Fairless 112 acres and 24½ stints in respect of his estate of Ninebanks and Dryburn.⁴

¹ *Newcastle Courant*, 24th March, 1770. ² Raine, *Test. Ebor.* ³ Mr. A. J. Blackett-Ord's *Title Deeds of Ninebanks*.

⁴ *Schedule annexed to Award of Commissioners for Division of Hexhamshire and Allendale Commons.*

In 1816, the assignees of the firm of Goodchilds, Jackson, and Co. of Sunderland, to whom Matthew Fairless had conveyed his lands, advertised his part of Ninebanks for sale.¹ Both parts were eventually purchased by William Lee, and in 1858 were sold by his son, Mr. Parkin Lee (who subsequently emigrated to Australia) to Mr. William Ord of Whitfield, from whom they have descended to Mr. Andrew J. Blackett-Ord of Whitfield.

Besides the Bee family, some other yeomen held lands in West Allen grieveship, among whom William Bateson, in 1547, held Greenley Cleugh at a rent of 12d. His descendant, Christopher Bateson, was the owner of the same place in 1608, and Marmaduke Bateson, who possessed Woodmas Walls, was probably another descendant. The family remained in possession of the latter place for several generations, and the name occurs on the Court Rolls up to the eighteenth century.

The will of John Battenon of Woodmas Walls, in the parish of West Allendale, dated 8th December, 1694. To my eldest son, William Battenon, a standing bedd that stands in ye loft. To my son, Mathew Battenon, a standing bedd that stands in the nooke in ye forehouse. To my eldest daughter, Ann, wife of John Kinlside, the sume of two shillings and sixpence. All the rest of my goods to my wife, Jane Battenon, she executrix. My house to my son, William, after my wife's death. Inventory, 9th June, 1698. Imp.: his horse and apparrell and household goods, £3. Item, seaven kine, £8 15s. Item, tenn ewes and lambs, £2 10s. Item, two dimmens,² 7s. In all, £14 12s. Item, his funeral expenses, £4.³

The present owner of Woodmas Walls and Greenley Cleugh is Mr. Thomas Harrison.

Redheugh belongs to the benefice of Horton. 'Overlynestane braye' was held, in 1547, by Thomas Woodmas, and 'Netherlynestane braye' by Hugh Philipson ; and, in 1608, William Stout owned the Over 'Limstonbrey,' and George Philipson 'Neather Limstonbrey.' In 1665 both tenements were held by Ralph Featherstone. There is said to have been an old lead mine at

¹ *Newcastle Courant*, 22nd June, 1816. ² 'Dinmonts': sheep over one year old. ³ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

the place, and in a field a little to the west of the road at Limestone-brae there still remains a massive socketed base of a wayside cross, roughly tooled.¹ The present owners of Limestone-brae are Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont and Mr. John Swindle.

'Kenlefilde,' in 1547, was held by Roger Keenlyside at the rent of 6s., and 'Kindelfyldehil' by Michael Keenlyside at the rent of 7s. 4d. As William Keenlyside held Kinleyside hill in 1608, at the rent of 13s. 8d., it may be inferred that he was possessed of both tenements, which were then worth £4 over and above the rent. In 1663 William Keenlyside was rated for lands in West Allen grieveship at £8 a year.

William Keenlyside of Keenlyside hill, on the 14th October, 1701, surrendered Keenlyside Low hall, the High Shield, and the Pingle to the use of himself for life, and then to the use of his daughter Mary. Her great-grandson, John Clark of Allendale Town, gentleman, in 1830 sold his share of the land to Mr. Ord of Whitfield.

1685, 7th August. Will of Robert Keenlyside of Hawkup proved by Elizabeth, his widow and sole executrix; to whom also was granted tuition of his children, William, Joseph, Robert, Mary, Elizabeth, and Sarah.²

1699/1700, 19th January. Will of Gerard Keenlyside of Corry hill. When my son, John Keenlyside, shall arrive at the age of 21, he shall pay to his brother, William, £30; to my wife, Ann, and son, William, all personal estate, they executors. Proved 3rd October, 1700. Inventory: Horse, purse, and apparell, £3; six cows and one bull, £14; three heffers, £4 10s.; one and twenty sheep, £5 14s.; household goods, £3 10s. Total, £30 4s. [from which deduct] the testator's funerall expenses, £3 10s.: £26 14s.²

1715 6, 19th February. Will of Thomas Keenlyside of Woodheads. John Keenlyside of Chairheads, and his brother, William Keenlyside of Swaledale, in Yorkshire; Jane, their sister; my nephews, Joke and Edward Keenlyside of Middlescott; Ann Keenlyside, widow of my brother, John; Mary Dixon, their daughter, and Ann and Elizabeth, their daughters; John, son of my brother, Ger. Keenlyside, deceased, and William, his brother. My nephew, John Dawson of Woodhead, executor. Proved 25th September, 1719.²

1717, 25th April. Nuncupative will of John Keenlyside of Wolfcleugh. My wife; my son, Joshua; my daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, and Sarah. Proved 16th October, 1718, by Mary Keenlyside, the widow, to whom was granted tuition of Joshua, Elizabeth, Mary, and Sarah, his children.²

1720, 25th June. Will of Ann Keenlyside of Wooley *alias* Wooly, widow. My son, Matthew Keenlyside, late deceased; my nephew, Thomas Hutchinson, executor. Proved 16th May, 1721.²

1726 7, 20th February. Administration of the personal estate of Thomas Keenlyside of Furnace-house granted to Jane, the widow.²

1746 7, 11th February. Will of Edward Keenlyside of Millscott, yeoman. To my daughters, Jane and Mary Keenlyside, £20 each; my daughter, Ann, wife of Robert Hall; my son-in-law, Matthew Rowell; residue to my son, Edward Keenlyside. Proved 22nd March, 1759, by Robt. Hall and Mary Keenlyside, the executors.²

1757, 27th October. Administration of the personal estate of Robert Keenlyside of the parish of Allendale granted to Margaret, his widow.²

¹ *Proc. of Newcastle Soc. of Antiq.* vol. iv. p. 282.

² *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

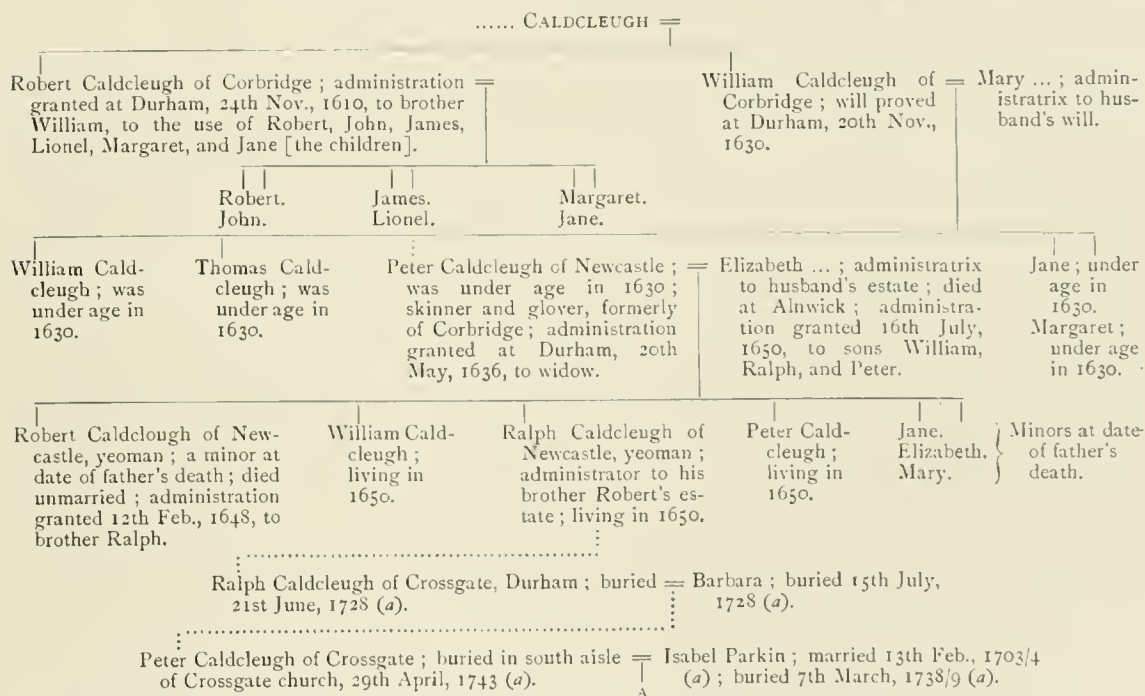
1759, 25th June. Probate of the will of William Keenlyside of Fostersteads granted to William Keenlyside, the sole executor.¹

1765, 28th September. Administration of the personal estate of Reginald Keenlyside of Graswell granted to Ann, his widow.¹

1767, 23rd April. Will of William Keenlyside of Keenlyside, yeoman; my sons, Joseph and William Keenlyside of Graswell. Proved 11th August, 1767, by George and John Green, the executors.¹

Caldcleugh,² as its name imports, is a cleugh or ravine near the source of the West Allen.³ It is about three miles south-west of Allenheads, and stands at the remarkable elevation of 1,600 to 1,700 feet above sea-level.⁴ A chapel was built here in 1704,⁵ to be 'nigh the lead mines,' but was turned into a school-house, when a new chapel-of-ease was built at Carr Shield in 1822. The benefice, though distinct from Ninebanks ecclesiastically, is now held by the incumbent of that parish.⁶

CALDCLEUGH OF CALDCLEUGH AND DURHAM.*



* This pedigree is constructed from documents in the possession of Mr. John Caldcleugh of Durham, and upon a table drawn up, in 1877, by Mr. E. A. White from the parish register of St. Margaret, Crossgate, Durham.

(a) *Crossgate Register.*

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

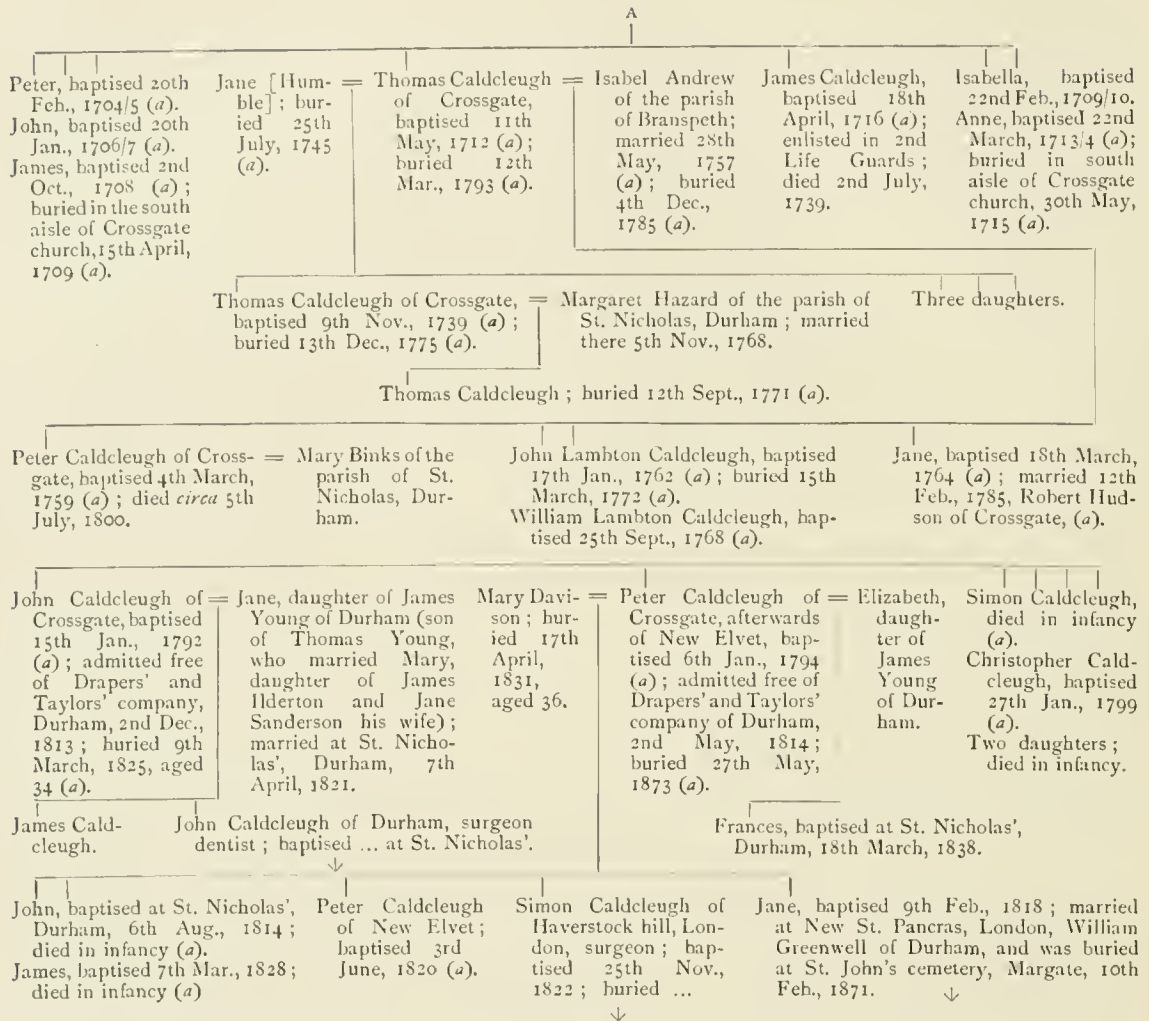
² Often spelled Coldcleugh and Coalcleugh.

³ Amongst the other homesteads are Appletree Shield, Blackcleugh, Bateshill, Broadlee, Chareheads, Corryhill, Dryburn, Farneyshield, Hesleywell, High Green, Mohopehead, Spartywell, Turnersfield, Taylor burn, Wall nook, Whamlands, Whitleyshield, and Wolfcleugh.

⁴ *Nat. Hist. Trans.* (new series) vol. 2, p. 94.

⁵ Ritschell, *Tynedale Charities.*

⁶ *Ex. inf.* Rev. F. Pickup, Nov., 1896.



John Coldcleugh of West Allen; administration granted at Durham, 3rd March, 1609, to Margaret, the widow, to her own use and that of John, Thomas, William, Margaret, and Elizabeth, the children.

William Caldcleugh of Coalcleugh, yeoman; will dated 13th May, 1614; proved at Durham, and administration granted to Elizabeth, the widow, to the use of George, John, Thomas, William, Jane, Mary, Agnes, and Elizabeth [the children].

James Cartclough (*sic*) of West Allen; administration granted at Durham, 3rd April, 1616, to Alice, the widow, to her own use and that of William, Thomas, Charles, Margaret, and Elizabeth [the children].

Thomas Caldcleugh of Coalcleugh; will dated 16th Aug., 1617; proved at Durham and administration granted to Elizabeth, the widow, to her own use and that of George, William, Thomas, James, John, and Margaret, the children.

William Caldcleugh of Keenley; will dated 20th March, 1623, administration granted at Durham, to his brother John to the use of William, Ralph, Richard, Thomas, John, Peter, and Mary [the children].

Peter Caldclough of Coalcleugh; administration granted at Durham, 12th July, 1624, to Margaret, his widow, to her own use and that of Peter, John, William, Thomas, and Jane [the children].

THE PARISH OF ST. JOHN LEE.

The parish includes the townships of West Acomb, Anick, Anick Grange, Bingfield, Cocklaw, Fallowfield, Hallington, Portgate, Sandhoe, and Wall: of this group, Hallington forms a projecting portion to the north-east. The eastern boundary skirts the town fields of Corbridge, following the line of Watling Street, and crosses the pasture lands northward without any apparent line of demarcation; but on the other sides the limit of the parish is marked by conspicuous natural features, which extend along the Erring burn from near its source to the junction of the stream with the North Tyne, and from thence follows the course of that river to its junction with the South Tyne, and so eastwards along the north bank of the united rivers back again to the township of Corbridge. The three streams, which form the northern, western, and southern boundaries of the parish respectively, enclose what may be described as a great headland, possessing very distinctive and notable characteristics. The river margins usually present a breadth of rich alluvial haughs, those which face to the south lying within the hundred feet of the Ordnance contour-line. From these flat haughlands the ground rises with more or less abruptness, at one place having a terrace-like slope, and at another a bold escarpment, rising to a height of about five hundred feet. Above this the upland ground extends over an area of about nine square miles, rising at the highest point to more than eight hundred feet above sea level. This great shoulder is unbroken by any depression or valley, except where on its south-western face the village of Acomb is situated. At its highest part it is intersected by the lines of the Roman Wall and the 'vallum,' which at one place cross it at a height of eight hundred and sixty feet above the sea. Just beyond this, the church of St. Oswald, associated with the battle of Hefenfield, stands out upon the verge of the abrupt western descent.

On the tract of ground, between the moorland at Stagshaw bank and the fell at Fallowfield, are placed a succession of isolated farmsteads, where patches of tillage and wide expanses of bleak pastures alternate with straggling plantations of wind-blown pines and silver birches, whilst on the broken ground between, the heather and whin assert themselves as the natural habitants of the soil. The wildest aspect is realised on Fallowfield fell, where from an escarpment of which the 'written rock' forms the face,

extends a wide expanse of heather, suggesting a sense of remoteness, which the call of the lapwing and the cry of the curlew intensify and enhance. In few places are we surrounded by such objects of interest as are here to be seen in camp and fosse and inscription, where Briton and Roman and Angle are all represented, and successive phases of our country's history are vividly set before us. The natural features of the scene are on every side remarkable. Northward are the eminences of Moot Law and Grundstone Law, beyond which appear the more distant and sharply-defined hills of Simonside, while the great chain of Cheviot closes the view. To the west the ground north of the Wall dips precipitously to the Erring burn, across which the Watling Street runs in a straight line. At the foot of the descent lies the tower of Cocklaw, whilst beyond are Swinburne castle and the Gunnar-peak, with the tower of Chipchase rising beyond in the valley of the North Tyne. Westward and south-westward are the ridges of the Great Whin Sill, and, far away, in the adjoining county of Cumberland, the spurs and summit of the Pennine range of Cross Fell. Southward, again, range upon range of moorland stretch in succession from Kilhope to Consett. The transition from the wild uplands to the rich valleys beneath is like the passage from a high latitude to the luxuriance of a more temperate clime. Thus, on the western side, where the village of Wall is backed by a rocky steep, a descent into the valley of the North Tyne abruptly reveals a view of the scene below, where Walwick Chesters and the domain lands about it present a striking contrast to the moorland above. The southern face of the parish looks towards the Tyne, now become a wide river by the union of its two branches. On the crest at the upper end is seen the spire of the parish church, piercing through the foliage around it, whilst the chapel at Stagshaw indicates its eastward extent. Between these points the scenery is most characteristic of this northern river. The valley here extends to a width of about three miles from side to side, and on its right bank lie the picturesquely-situated town of Hexham and the ruins of Dilston castle. The parish of St. John Lee occupies the left bank, and presents an alternation of richly wooded slopes, sunny pastures, and bleak uplands. Numerous remains of terraced lands suggest that the southern aspect of the bank has attracted the cultivator from remote times, and its present appearance justifies the impression of its fertility. The mansion houses of Stagshaw, Sandhoe, Beaufront, the Hermitage, and the Riding, which stud its face, are all surrounded by extensive woodlands, in which many

fine specimens of various trees are to be found, whilst scattered farmsteads and the clustering village of Anick add interest to the scene.

Though the church of St. John Lee gives its name to a parochial chapelry or parish of 16,129 acres, it does not give one to either hamlet or township, and is itself situated in the township of Acomb.

The church, which, in a straight line, is about a mile due north of Hexham priory, is remarkable more for the beauty of its site and for its traditional connection with St. John of Beverley than for the structure of the building. It stands on the crest of a steep hill, its graveyard extending to the very verge of the wooded bank, which breaks off abruptly, falling away to the grass fields below. Its most striking feature is the spire which, rising above the trees in which its base is hidden, is seen for miles and gives the church its chief importance. It seems very probable that this is the spot, described at different times as the Eagle's Nest, 'mons aquilæ,' and Herushou, where stood the hermitage, surrounded by a brushwood hedge and a ditch, the chosen resort of St. John of Beverley at the seasons when he was minded to withdraw from Hexham priory for more undisturbed opportunity of meditation and prayer.¹

Here or at Warden was probably the scene of the cure of the dumb and unhealthy youth whom St. John of Beverley received and kept for a week within the precincts of Erneshow, and then in a single day taught him first to say the word 'Yes,' then the letters of the alphabet, syllables, words, and sentences, and by the help of his physician cured him of his bodily infirmity.² On account of this and other miracles people, both hale and sick, were used in after years to resort to the place on the eve and day of St. John Baptist.³ In the Acts of King Stephen it is related that when King David of Scotland was quartered at Corbridge in 1138, two of his soldiers attempted to break in the door of the oratory or yard of St. Michael, and suffered the penalty of their insolence, for both went mad: the one dashed his brains out against a stone, and the other drowned himself.⁴

¹ The Venerable Bede, taking down the description from the lips of Berethun, who had been St. John's deacon, gives a description of the place: 'Est mansio quaedam secretior, nemore raro et vallo circumdata, non longe ab Hagustaldensi ecclesia, id est, unius ferme milliarii et dimidii spatio inter fluente Tino amne separata, habens cœmeterium Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, in qua vir Dei sæpius, ubi opportunitas adridebat temporis, et maxime in Quadragesima, manere cum paucis, atque orationibus ac lectione quietus operam dare consueverat.' Bede, *Hist. Eccl.* lib. v. cap. 2. Warden also claims to possess the hermitage of St. John, and her advocates identify 'mons aquilæ' with Warden hill, and the 'cœmeterium' of St. Michael with Warden church, which is dedicated to the saint. See Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 404 n.

² Bede, *Hist. Eccl.* lib. v. cap. 2.

³ Prior Richard's *Chronicle*, vol. i. p. 17. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i.

⁴ *Ibid.* pp. 17, 18, 79, 80.

A story recorded in the Patent Rolls tells how Thomas Elliott of Keepwick, a convicted felon, was hanged at Hexham in 1310, but as his name was enrolled among the brethren of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, his body was cared for by the Order, and carried to the graveyard of St. John 'de Leye' for burial, where, to the awe of the bystanders, the dead man revived and lived to receive the royal pardon.¹

The place was described in 1310 as 'Capella beati Johannis de Lega.'² This has been held to prove its dedication to St. John of Beverley, but the following document, taken from the *Certificates of the English Parentage and Birth of Certain Persons who have been charged with being Scots*, shows clearly that the dedication of the church was to St. John Baptist :³

For asmych as it is right meretorie as medeful to witenesse ye trewth, be it knawen to all maner of men to whom this present wrytyng commys, that Robert Elwalde, ye son of John Elwalde, is a trewe Ynglish man gottyn of his fadre afsaid, and born of his modre with in the paryssh of Saynt John Baptist within Hexhamshire, whose godfadre was John Elwalde of the said parysh, and John Robson of the Langlee, Janet Elwalde, godmodre, of Hakefurth, within the said shire, and was christynt in the founte of the said parish of Saynt John Baptist ; wherefore we, the prior of Hexham, Sir Thomas Laveroke, chaplan and parish prest of the said parich, and William Smyth, parish clerke of the same, Thomlyn of Eryngton of Falefelde, Gerarde of Eryngton of Walwyk graunge, Alex. Armstrang of Croslee, Thomlyn Armstrang of Bewfrount, Robert of Eryngton of Whittyngton, Robert of Chester, gentilmen [and others], besekes you by the way of charitic to repute and halde the said Robert Elwalde as for a trwe Ynglish man, as it afore-rehersed, and as for the more trewe certificate to be made to you, we the forsaid prior, gentilmen, and yeomen afore rehersed hath setto our scales. Gevyn at Hexham the 27th day of August the yere of the reigne of Kyng Edward the IV. the 19th (1479).⁴

With wise forethought, Archbishop Greenfield sought to establish endowed vicarages in the chapelries of Hexhamshire, but he found the

¹ Rex omnibus ballivis et fidelibus suis ad quos, etc., salutem. Sciatis quod cum Thomas Elliot de Kepewyk juxta Hextildesham nuper coram Johanne de Vaus et sociis suis justiciariis ad gaolam de Hextildesham infra libertatem Archiep. Ebor. de Hextildesham deliberandam assignatis pro quibusdam felonis inde coram eisdem justiciariis convictus fuit suspensus et post suspensionem illam a furca tanquam mortuus depositus extitisset et corpus ejus ad cimiterium ecclesie Sancti Johannis de Leye pro eo quod nomen ipsius Johannis in rotulo fratrum hospitalis Sancti Johannis Jerusalem in Anglia inventum fuit, juxta privilegium eisdem fratribus concessum ad sepeliendum delatum, idemque Thomas ibidem vivus repertus fuisset et post modum ea occasione regnum Anglie abjurasset sicut ex testimonio accepimus fidedigno. Nos caritatis intuitu et ob specialem devocionem quam ad beatum Thomam gloriosum Christi martirem cujus translacionis die inde sumus requisiti pro eodem gerimus et habemus, volentes praefato Thomae gratiam facere specialem, pardonavimus ei abjuracionem predictam et quicquid ad nos ulterius pertinet in hac parte et firmam pacem nostram ei inde concedimus. In cujus rei testimonium, etc. Datum ut supra (Westm. viii die Julii) per ipsum regem.' *Rot. Pat.* 4 Edw. II. p. 1, m. 26.

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 123.

³ St. John Baptist was always a popular saint in the north of England, possibly because his day and its eve coincided with Midsummer day, and absorbed some of the traditions of the older religion.

⁴ At Midsummer after sunset the lads and lasses resorted to the woods to beat each other with branches of rowan tree. From the use of the rowan the custom must have been of northern origin; the Scandinavians believe this tree to have magical power, and in their ships have a stick of it. On the eve of Midsummer day, fires were lighted in every township In the end of last and beginning of this century all the country was in a blaze.' W. Woodman, 'Old Social Customs of Morpeth.' *Hist. of Berw. Nat. Club*, vol. xiv. p. 129. ¹ *English Miscellanies*, Raine, p. 37; Surt. Soc. vol. 85.

grip of the prior and convent too strong to be relaxed. They replied to his requisition by producing a bull from Pope Alexander IV. sanctioning the then existing state of things.¹ All that could be done the archbishop did, and that was to order the keeper of the spiritualities of Hexham to visit the chapels of St. John Lee, St. Oswald, and Bingfield, with that at Allendale and the church of St. Mary at Hexham, and to compel the parishioners to amend and supply the roofs, books, vestments, and ornaments which were defective or wanting.²

The full consequences of the selfish policy of the canons became apparent at the dissolution, when it was found that the curate of St. John Lee had no beneficial interest in the tithes, but only a stipend of £4 from the prior. This annual payment at the time of Queen Elizabeth's grant of the tithes in 1579 to Sir Christopher Hatton, was increased to £6 13s. 4d.³ At the time of the Oliverian survey the stipend was £14 13s. 4d.,⁴ and upon this pittance the curate depended until an augmentation was obtained in 1750⁵ from Queen Anne's bounty.⁶

The benefice is in the gift of Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont, the lord of the manor, and is stated to be of the gross value of £325 per annum.⁷

¹ Archbishop Greenfield's Register. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 121, 123. ² *Ibid.* p. 123 n

³ *Exch. Min. Acct.* 27-28 Hen. VIII. No. 101, m. 5. *Aug. Off. Misc. Bks.* vol. 281; Bailiff's Accounts, p. 156. ⁴ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iii. p. 8. ⁵ *Archbishop of York's Papers.*

⁶ The late Rev. Mr. Stokoe purchased for the church of St. John Lee by means of Queen Anne's bounty an estate at Catton-lee, near Allendale, for which he gave £600, and was esteemed so great a purchase that before he wrote to the trustees of that bounty he was offered £200 for his bargain which he generously refused, and treated the proposal with contempt. The estate now lets for forty guineas per annum, and by his other improvements has increased the living to £100 a year, which was only £30 when he got in. *Newcastle Courant*, 1st March, 1766.

⁷ In 1866 the benefice was declared a rectory. *London Gazette*, 20th November, 1866. In the District Church Tithes Act, 1865 (28 and 29 Vic. c. 42), which was an Act passed to extend the then existing powers of annexing tithes to district churches, there occurs the following enactment (sec. 9): 'Where tithes of any kind or amount belong to or shall to the satisfaction of the Ecclesiastical commissioners be transferred to the incumbent of the church of any parish, chapelry, or district, provided such tithes arise within such parish, chapelry, or district, or where any annuity shall be granted by the Ecclesiastical commissioners to any incumbent in consideration of tithes arising within the limits of his district, and now or at any time in the possession of the said Ecclesiastical commissioners, it shall be lawful for the said Ecclesiastical commissioners, by instrument under their common seal, to declare that such church shall be and be deemed to be either a rectory or vicarage as they may, under the circumstances of each case, think proper, and such instrument shall be published in the *London Gazette*, and take effect from the time of publication.'

Under the provisions of the section just quoted, many churches were declared to be 'rectories,' and the incumbents are styled 'rectors.' Instances of this have been noted in the cases of Allendale and Hexham.

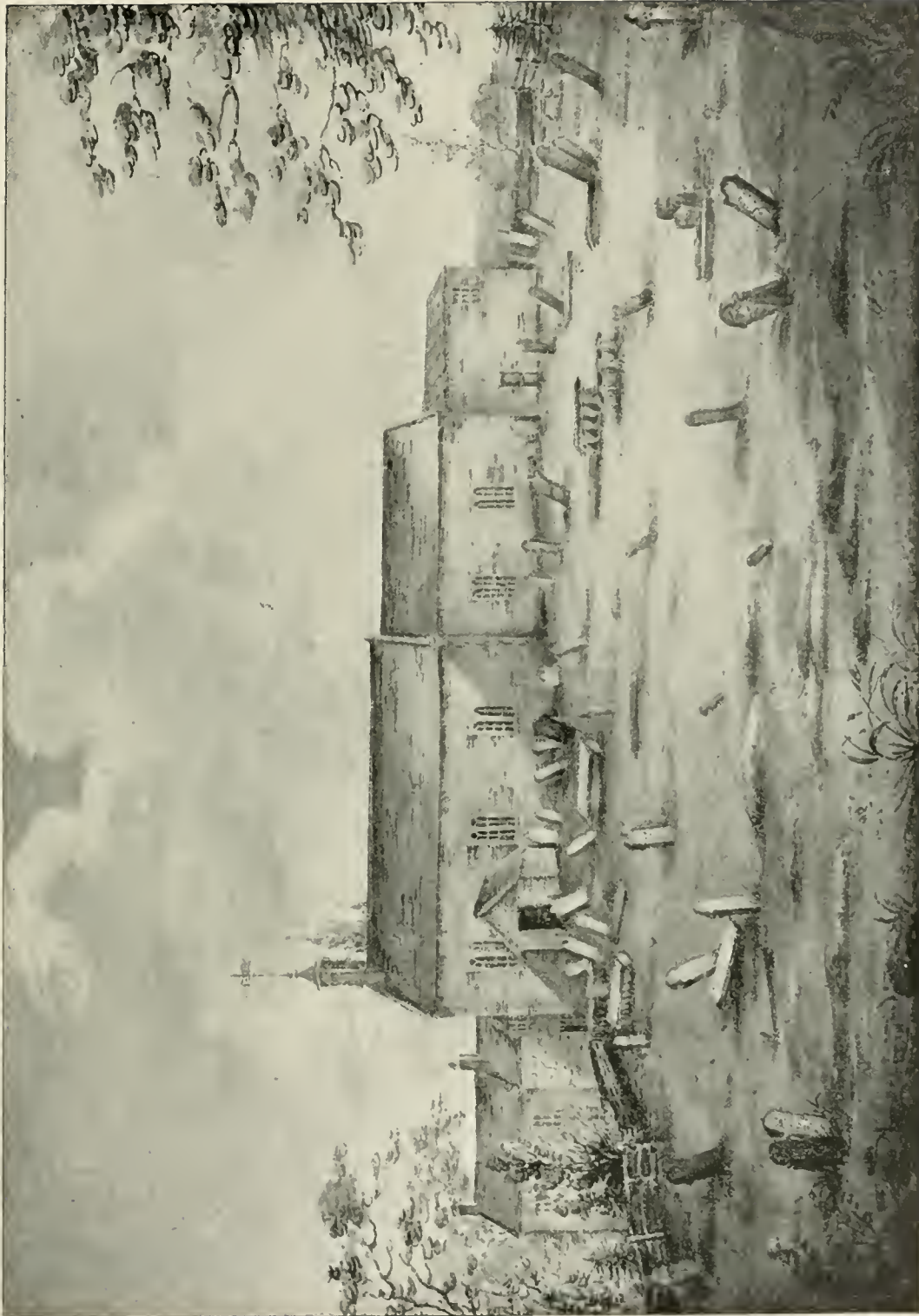
Three years later, however, the 31st and 32nd Vic. c. 117, intituled 'An Act to amend the District Church Tithes Act, 1865, and to secure uniformity of designation amongst incumbents in certain cases,' was passed. It is a short Act of two sections, the first of which simply repeals section 9 of the Act of 1865 above quoted, and the second enacts that the incumbents of certain parishes who are *not rectors* shall be styled *vicars*. This later Act is intended to put an end to the confusion created by the repealed section, under which incumbents could be styled rectors, although they were *not rectors*.

A plan,¹ drawn to scale in 1788, of the allocation of the prescriptive seats shows the chapel to have had a total length of 88 feet, of which exactly one-half in length had a width of 24 feet, and the other half $17\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The eastern part of the narrower portion, 20 feet in length, is marked 'chancel,' and seems to have been entered through a narrow opening; it has also a south door. The nave had a south entrance porch. The part called on the plan the 'chancel' appears to have been added to the older chancel, and the latter being pewed to provide additional sitting accommodation, or it may have been an Early Norman church, with an arrangement which sometimes occurs, having a sort of ante-chancel divided from the part eastward by an arch. The present church was practically rebuilt in 1886, though its most striking feature, the spire, was left untouched.



The most interesting ancient object connected with the church is a grave cover, 7 feet 6 inches in length and 3 feet 8 inches in breadth, with matrices which may once have contained brasses. It bears the following inscription: 'Hic jacet dominus Johannes de Eryngtonne et Elena uxor ipsius orate pro eis.' It may be compared with a similar one at Thockington, which is evidently from the same chisel. In the porch are some fragments of other grave covers, one of which bears a cross and sword rudely cut, and near the parsonage house is a stone pronounced by some to be a Roman altar, and by others to be the support of a seventeenth-century sun-dial; the inscription is too much worn to be deciphered.

¹ In the possession of Miss Allgood, 1897, who contributes the illustration of the old church.



THE OLD CHURCH OF ST. JOHN LEE.

“ Reared on the summit of the bill,
A simple Church, devoid of skill,
Whose humble Pile in nought was vain,
Except a brightly gilded Fane
Which glittered in the sunny beam,
A star amid the embow’ring green ;

And many a humble Tomb was there,
And many a Maid, I ween, as fair
Her plighted troth had given,
As when in city’s courtly pride
The gorgeous fair one glittering hied
To pledge her vows to Heaven.”

CURATES OF ST. JOHN LEE.

1311. John del Clay, presbyter, vicar of the chapel of the blessed John de Lega,¹ perhaps a kinsman of William del Clay, prior of Hexham (1282).

1479 (before). Dominus Peter de Gunnerton; he held the kyrkland or glebe of Saint John Lee, which contained 8 acres, and for his stipend had 13s. 4d.²

1479. Sir Thomas Laveroke, chaplain and parish priest.

1496. Sir Robert Whitgum, chaplain and parish priest.³

1593 (before). Edward Dixon, curate of St. John Lee, was buried 24th November, 1593.⁴

1603. John Maughan appointed.⁵ In 1608 the curate of St. John Lee was a customary tenant in Acomb, and paid yearly 4s.

1633. George Forest.⁶

1650. William Lister. His wife was Agnes, only daughter and heiress of Cuthbert Leadbitter of Warden, and widow of Robert Wynn of Hexham. William and Agnes Lister sold lands in Warden in 1625 to Nicholas Leadbitter.⁷ 'Note yt Mr. William Lister, minister of St. John Lees, in these distracted times did both marry and baptize all that made their application to him, for which he was sometimes threated by souldiers, and had once a cockt pistoll held to his breast, etc., so yt its no wonder yt ye registers for these times are so imperfect, and, besides, they are extreemly confused.' *Hexham Register, circa 1653.*

1679 (before). George Todd, pastor of this parish, buried in the church 5th March, 1679/80.⁸

1680 (*circa*). Leonard Bentham, who died 25th May, 1720, after having been minister over forty years.⁹

1720. Edward Tweedale was ordered deacon at Rosecastle, 30th May, 1718, by William, bishop of Carlisle.

1734 (*circa*). Alexander Stokoe,¹⁰ licensed and admitted curate, 4th February, 1734; was also master of Hexham grammar school; he died at an advanced age,¹¹ and was buried 22nd February, 1766.^{12 13}

1766. Bryan Leek,¹⁴ M.A., 46 years curate¹⁵ of this parish, buried 21st August, 1812, aged 76.¹⁶

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 124. ² *Ibid.* p. 6. ³ *English Misc.* Raine, p. 48. Surtees Soc.

⁴ *Hexham Register.* ⁵ *Auditors' Enrolments Land Revenue*, vol. xiii. p. 162, Record Office.

⁶ Randal, *State of the Churches.* ⁷ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 409. ⁸ *St. John Lee Register.*

⁹ 1720, 2nd May. Will of Leonard Bentham of St. John Lees, clerk: my eldest son, Cornelius, I have done so much for him, I leave him to the consideration of his mother; to my daughter, Isabel Bentham, £50; to my younger son, William, £30, and my books; my daughter, Anne; my wife, Anne, executrix. Proved at York, 6th July, 1720. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

1770, 8th June. Will of Cornelius Bentham of Chester-le-Street, gent. My lands at Chester-le-Street to my wife, Phillis, for life, then to my nephew, William Bentham, son of my brother, William Bentham of Blackburn, in Lancashire; remainder to my nephew, Cornelius Dobson of Acomb, son of my late sister, Ann Dobson, deceased; remainder to his brother, John; remainder to Cornelius Farbridge, son of my sister, Isabel Farbridge; remainder to my niece, Anne, wife of Thomas Hall of Acomb. My lands at Acomb to Benjamin March of Durham, tallow chandler, and George Charlton of Gateshead, merchant, in trust for my brother, William Bentham, for life, then to my nephew, William Bentham. To my brother, William Bentham, £1,000; to my niece, Phillis Harbottle, £400; to her brother, William, and sister, Barbara Harbottle, £20 a piece. To my nephew, William Dobson of Acomb, butcher, son of my sister, Anne, £100; to my nephew, Cornelius Farbridge of Durham, hatter, £250; to my nephew, Cornelius Dobson, £500; his brothers, John and Leonard Dobson. To my brother, William Bentham, my horse, silver spurs, watch, and instruments of surgery. Proved at York, 19th March, 1772. *Ibid.*

1773, 2nd November. Will of William Bentham of Acomb, gent. My lands at Crookend, near Kendal, and Cowbrand (?) near Blackburn, in Lancaster, to my cousin, William Robson of Hexham, mercer, in trust for my son, William Bentham, he executor. Proved at York, December, 1774. *Ibid.*

¹⁰ Randal, *State of the Churches.*

¹¹ *Newcastle Courant*, 22nd February, 1766.

¹² *St. John Lee Register.*

¹³ He married at St. John's church, Newcastle, June, 1756, 'Mrs. Wilkinson of this town, a widow lady with a fortune of £2,000.' *Newcastle Courant*, 6th June, 1756.

¹⁴ Randal, *State of the Churches.*

¹⁵ Anthony Hedley was sub-curate 1806-1809.

¹⁶ *St. John Lee Register.*

1815. Charles Lee,¹ M.A., was curate for 47 years, and for 37 years lecturer of Hexham, died 13th March, 1862, aged 72.

1862. William Postlethwaite Rigge, B.A., afterwards vicar of Flookburgh, Cumberland, died 4th December, 1896, aged 75.

1875. Thomas Faulkener of King's college, London, incumbent 14 years, died 4th August, 1890, aged 67.

1890. Christian Paul Sherman, formerly chaplain at Damascus.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

In memory of ... Elizabeth, wife of Robert Launcelot Allgood of Nunwick, esq. [who died] September 7th, 1864. Also of Ann, wife of Stamp Brooksbank [who died] January 15th, 1853, daughters of John Hunter of the Hermitage and Medomsley, esq.

Subtus conduntur reliquiae viri reverendi Leonardi Bentham hujusce ecclesiae per annos plusquam quadraginta pastoris. Obiit anno MDCCXX, Mai die XXV. Accessit Gulielmus Bentham Leonardi filius natu minor. Anno MDCCCLXXIV et aetatis suae LXXII.

Mary Cuthbert, born January 15th, 1821, died April 24th, 1894.

In hoc tumulo conduntur cineres Johannis Cotesworth de Hermitage, armigeri, et Janae uxoris ejus. Illa obiit 12^{mo} die Julii, 1703. Ille ex hac vita decessit 20^{mo} die Januarii, 1725. Memoriae sacrum Annae Cotesworth, Edwardi Heslop Cotesworth de Hermitage, generosi, dilectissimae conjugis, foeminae praestantissimae, egregiis animi et corporis dotibus instructae et ornatae, quae vitae hujus finem implevit 22^{to} die Martii, 1738, 9.

Here lieth the body of Robert Dawson of Wall, gent., who died the 27th of March, 1729, and also his wife, Mary, who died the 12th of April, 1754 (?). Also his son, Robert, who died November the 24th, 1728. And also John Dawson, esq., another son of the above Robert Dawson, who departed this life the 12th April, 1769, aged 42 years, who died lamented by all who knew him. Also Frances, wife of John Dawson, esq., who died on the 8th day of May, 1806, aged 41 years. Also John Dawson, esq., husband to the above Frances, who died on the 15th day of March, 1807, aged 51 years, and was the last of the Dawsons of Brunton.

In memory of John Donkin of Sandhoe, who departed this life on the 20th January, 1800, aged 73 years. In memory of Jane, wife of John Donkin of Sandhoe, who departed this life on the 17th of November, 1792, aged 57 years. Here lieth the body of William Donkin of Sandhoe, who died 7th of March, 1844, aged 86. Also of Catherine, his wife, who died 14th August, 1822, aged 67 years.

In memory of Ann, Jane, and Mary Donkin, daughters of the late John and Jane Donkin; they were natives of Sandhoe in this parish, where they lived and died greatly beloved and respected. Jane departed this life April 10th, 1849, aged 83 years; Mary died September 23rd, 1854, aged 83 years; Ann died June 20th, 1858, aged 94 years.

Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Thomas Faulkener, rector of this parish for 14 years, who departed this life August 4th, 1890, aged 67.

In memoria Richardi filii Gaspar et Franciscæ Gibson de Riding, qui tenerrima aetate diem obiit 3^o nonae Maii, 1811. Et Georgii et Annae ejusdem Gaspari et Franciscæ liberorum, qui etiam acerbo funere correpti vita funeti sunt mense Novembris anno domini 1816. Necnon ipsius Gaspari Gibson, horum omnium patris, qui mortuus est in calendis Martis A.D. 1818, aetatis 51.²

Sacred to the memory of William Harbottle of Anick Grange, who died on the 6th day of August, 1809, aged 78 years, and was interred within this church. And of Ann, wife of the above named William Harbottle, who died on the 30th day of April, 1811, aged 68 years. In memory of John Harbottle of Anick Grange, who died March 16th, 1853, aged 71 years. Also of Mary Harbottle, relict of the above, who died at Hudshaw house, Hexham, October 6th, 1872, aged 84 years.

¹ Charles Lee (born 12th June, 1789) was son of Richard Lee of Leeds, merchant, and married in 1825 Mary Louisa, daughter of Thomas Ikin of Leventhorpe-house. He owed his preferment to St. John Lee to the marriage of his brother, William Lee, with Sophia Wentworth, one of the natural daughters of Sir Thomas (Wentworth) Blackett of Bretton. There is a pedigree of the family in Dr. Hunter's *Familiae Minorum Gentium*.

² This inscription is somewhat illegible.

In memory of Ann, daughter of Brian Leeke, master of arts, perpetual curate of the parish. She departed this life the 16th day of February, 1801, aged near 21. The Rev. Brian Leeke died August 18th, 1812, aged 76 years, 46 of which he was curate of this parish. Ann, his wife, died April 5th, 1827, aged 84 years. Mary, their eldest daughter, died November 14th, 1857, aged 79 years. Frances died June 3rd, 1870, aged 88 years.

In memory of the Rev. Charles Lee, M.A., during 47 years perpetual curate of this parish and 37 years lecturer of Hexham church, who died March 13th, 1862, aged 72.

Sacred to the memory of Simon Mewburn, esq., of Acomb, who departed this life September 17th, 1834, aged 86 years. Also Elizabeth, his wife, who died June 22nd, 1801, aged 28 years.

To the memory of Simon Mewburn, who died 5th October, 1872, aged 73, and Margaret, his wife, who died 31st July, 1867, aged 64; also Simon Mewburn, their eldest son, who died 27th February, 1852, aged 19.

To the memory of Robert Stokoe of Hexham, who died 29th June, 1882, aged 85; Priscilla, his wife, who died 13th September, 1868, aged 67; John Stokoe, who died 16th February, 1889, aged 84; and Juliana, his wife, who died 15th January, 1864, aged 49.

M.S. Henry Tulip of Fallowfield, *ob.* 19th November, 1744, *act.* 79, leaving issue, Thomas, Henry, William, John, and Mary. Thomas Tulip, his son, *ob.* 8th August, 1746, *act.* 24. Isabel Tulip, relict of H. Tulip, *ob.* 17th September, 1769, *act.* 73, and were interred in this church.

M.S. William Tulip of Fallowfield, *ob.* 3rd June, 1779, *act.* 53, at Bristol Hot Wells; and was interred in Clifton church. Elizabeth Tulip, his daughter, *ob.* 26th November, 1786, *act.* 31. Anne Tulip, relict of W. Tulip, *ob.* 3rd May, 1794, *act.* 70, and were interred near this place.

Sarah, daughter of Edward Tweddle of St. John Lee, clerk, buried 5th April, 1726.

Here lieth the body of Jane, the beloved wife of George M. D. Waddilove of Woodhorn, in this county, esq., she died at Brunton house, 23rd January, 1865, aged 31 years. Also Helen Elizabeth Waddilove, daughter of the above, who died at Beacon-grange, on the 6th September, 1866, aged 1 year 8 months.

In loving memory of George Marmaduke Darley Waddilove of Woodhorn, in this county, late major in the Bengal army, who died at Brunton house, 6th March, 1887, aged 63 years.

The following notices are selected from the parish register, which begins in 1664:

- 1666, 8th July. Francis Oliver of Woodhead house, and Elizabeth Errington of Beerfront (*sic*), married.
 1669, 13th April. Henry Cresswell and Ann Holmes, married.
 1671, June 24th. John Whitfield of Whitfield, and Ellinor Lookup of Wall, married.
 1672/3, 19th March. William, son of Mr. Thomas Sanderson, buried.
 1673, 8th May. Ralph Lampton and Mary Hill of Fallowfield, married.
 1676, 15th June. John Blackoe of Lead works, and Ann Congleton of Cockley, married.
 1676, 30th March. Nicholas Blackett of Fallowfield, buried.
 1676/7, 9th January. William, son of John Blackett, gent., of Fallowfield hall, baptised.
 1679, 3rd July. Ralph Haggerston of Fallowfield, buried.
 1679, 10th July. John Hawdon of parish of Haltwhistle, and Mary Fenwick of parish of Whelpington, married.
 1681, 2nd August. Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Samuel Wilson of Bingfield, baptised.
 1681, 13th September. Robert Soulby of Anick Grange, and Martha Weakliffe of Middleton, married.
 1688, December. Grace Todd, widow of George Todd, senior, formerly pastor of this parish, buried.
 1689, 10th October. Mary, daughter of Thomas Mayor of Fallowfield hall, buried in the church.
 1706, 11th November. John Dagleas and Margaret Sureties of Acomb, married.
 1709/10, 20th February. Frances, daughter of William Bacon of Hermitage, baptised.
 1716, 12th April. William Harbottle of Anick Grange, buried.
 1716, 21st October. Thomas Alder of Bedlington, and Margaret Wilkinson of Hallington mill, married.
 1716/7, 1st February. Elizabeth, illegitimate daughter of John Shafto, officer of excise at Hartlepool, and Alice Stote of Hedworth, co. Durham, baptised.
 1718/9, 12th February. Nicholas, son of John Lampton of Fallowfield, baptised.
 1724, 31st May. Sarah, daughter of Edward Tweddale, clerk, of St. John Lee, baptised.
 1728/9, 24th March. Elizabeth Cartington, Woodhead, buried.

- 1730, 28th July. Henry Carr of Slaley, and Elizabeth Atkinson of Hill head, married.
 1732, 3, 17th January. Mr. Robert Dent and Mrs. Ann Carnaby, married.
 1733, 25th October. Mr. Robert Fenwick of Woodhead, buried.
 1738, 8th June. Mary, daughter of Mr. George Coulson of Brunton, baptised.
 1754, 3rd January. Barbara, wife of Mr. Michael Harbottle of Anick Grange, buried.
 1758, 21st March. John Witherington of the Chesters, buried.
 1760, 6th January. Elizabeth Kirsop of Houghton, aged 106, buried.
 1761, 23rd February. Mr. Robert Lorrان of Beaufront Woodhead, buried.
 1768, 15th October. Michael Harbottle of Anick Grange, buried.
 1769, 16th April. Mr. John Dawson of Brunton, buried.
 1773, 29th June. Mark Carr and Mary Hedley, both of St. John Lee, married.
 1774, 28th May. Mr. William Bentham, Acomb, buried.
 1777, 21st April. Brian Leek, parish of St. John Lee, clerk, and Ann Hemsley, parish of Hexham, married.
 1791, 18th October. George Coats, chapelry of Haydon, and Mary Potts of this parish, married.
 1791, 29th December. Archer Lee of parish of South Shields, and Deborah Cook, chapelry of Bingfield, married.
 1794, 6th March. Mr. Robert Bullock of the Woodhead, aged 85, buried.
 1806, 11th May. Frances, wife of John Dawson, esq., of Brunton house, buried.
 1807, 18th March. John Dawson, esq., of Brunton house, buried.
 1808, 14th August. Edward, son of the Rev. Anthony Hedley, assistant curate of this parish, buried.
 1812, 9th August. Eleanor, daughter of Thomas Samuel Dees, born at Greencarts, parish of Simonburn, baptised.
 1829, 1st July. Matthew Carr, parish of St. Nicholas, Newcastle, and Phoebe Dawson Lambton of this parish, married.
 1832, 7th June. Joseph Brooksbank, esq., and Susanna James, both of this parish, married.

CHARITIES, VISITATIONS, ETC.

Thomas Errington of Bingfield hall, gent., by will dated 20th November, 1677, devised £10 a year to a free school to be paid out of his lands at Bingfield East Quarter, and £5 a year to the poor of the parish of St. John Lee to be paid out of Bingfield.¹

Ursula Mountney of Stonecroft, widow, by will dated 16th July, 1680, devised *inter alia* 20s. a year to the poor of St. John Lee to be paid out of her lands at Stonecroft and Nunbush in the parish of Warden.²

1720, April. Office against John Coatsworth and Margaret Carr, widow, for antenuptial fornication; they were married by Mr. Lyant, vicar of Ovingham, by licence from Durham as of parish of Ovingham, though both of Hexham.

1720, April. Office against Robert Grey and Susanna Errington for the like. Grey proves that he was married by Mr. Edward Tweedale, curate of Corsenside and Thockrington, in a private room at Woodheads, parish of St. John Lee, at four in the afternoon without banns or licence.

1721. Office against William Bentham and Phillis Harbottle, married without banns or licence.

1725. Office against Edward Tweedale, St. John Lee, clerk, for being several times drunk. Received church reproof. Was suspended 3rd July, 1728.³

1751. Office against Nicholas Rowell and Thomas Hutchinson, churchwardens of St. John Lee for 1749, for neglecting to exhibit a copy of their parish register. They appeared with Mr. Alexander Stokoe their minister and owned their neglect which it is not in their power (as they now say) to recover, their register having been stolen out of their church about the latter end of last March.⁴

1764. Robert Andrews by will gave £10 to the poor of Bingfield, and £20 to the poor of Anick and Sandhoe, the interest is paid yearly out of land surrendered for that purpose, 17th June, 1772, by Slaughter Clarke and Honour his wife.

27th October, 1792. Confirmation to John Hunter, esq., and his family of a seat inside the great isle in the church of St. John Lee, late belonging to Mr. Jasper Gibson and others.⁵

¹ This charity is said to be lost, and is not mentioned in the Charity Commissioners' Report of 1830.

² Ritschell, *Tynedale Charities*. ³ Canon Raine, *Notes of York Faculty Books*, etc. ⁴ *Ibid.* ⁵ *Ibid.*

ACOMB TOWNSHIP.

The township of Acomb,¹ now generally described as West Acomb, to distinguish it from another township bearing the same name, in the parish of Bywell St. Peter, has an area of 2,879 acres. Its population, which has greatly fluctuated during this century, was at the last census returned at 900.² It has a broad base upon the North Tyne and Tyne rivers, and narrows as it ascends in a north-easterly direction towards the Roman Wall.

In this higher part is Acomb fell,³ with an elevation at Hangman's hill⁴ of 775 feet above sea-level; the other higher parts are at the Hemmel, the Fern hill, Carr hill, and Silver hill. To the right and left of the fell flow the Birkey burn and the Red burn. On the highway between Hexham and Wall is the Lady



Cross bank, where the socket of an ancient cross, believed to be one of the sanctuary crosses of Hexham, though not *in situ*, is now placed.⁵

The village of Acomb is situated at the foot of the fell, and consists of a single street running east and west, with roads leading off from the

¹ Acomb, pronounced in the immediate locality *Yekam*, and elsewhere in the district *Ak'am*.

² The Census Returns are: 1801, 532; 1811, 529; 1821, 533; 1831, 523; 1841, 571; 1851, 635; 1861, 800; 1871, 951; 1881, 1,056; 1891, 900.

³ On Acomb fell, near Hexham, is a brown argillaceous earth, with a yellowish cast. It is harsh to the touch, tough and ductile. Thrown into water, it makes an ebullition, with a slight noise, and after sometime moulders to a powder, a little gritty. It effervesces with aqua fortis. In the fire it acquires a dull reddish brown. It was lately used in making a fine black earthenware by a person well skilled in the figuline art from Staffordshire. Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. i. p. 43.

⁴ Not far south-west from St. Oswald's chapel is a curious hill called Hanging Shaws, with several gradations of artificial terraces on its sides. *Gentleman's Mag.* 1832, pt. i. pp. 581, 582.

⁵ Cf. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. p. 61 n.

centre of the village to north and south. It has on its south side the old heavily-built house of the Mewburns, and until recently was largely occupied by coal and lead miners.

At the end of the thirteenth century the town of Acomb was of small value, for to the subsidy of 1295 ten tenants contributed about ten shillings only;¹ and in 1331 the archbishop was induced, on account of the prevailing scarcity, to remit the arrears of the ferm of John de Coastley. The latter may have farmed the demesne lands, for in 1351 Acomb is not enumerated among the possessions of his son of the same name.²

The prior and convent had a tithe grange and a garden, containing a rood, for which, in 1479, Peter de Gunnerton paid a rent of 12s. They also possessed the tithes which, in 1536, were worth £2 13s. 4d.³

THE TOWN OF ACUM MUSTER ROLL, 1538.⁴

Edward Kell, Wyllam Armstrong, John Armstrong, Willm Chekyn, Willm Lee, Edward Byrk, Gilbert Pateson, John Spayn,⁵ John Chekyng, able with hors and harnes. Nicolles Armstrong, Robert Spayn, John Dayll, Ric. Armstronge, Christofer Smythe, Ric. Lee, Matho Lee, Ric. Chekyn, Thomas Armstrong, Richard Armstrong, Robert Spayn, John Lee, Willm Smythe, Robert Chekeyn, John Spayn, Willm Spayn. naither hors nor harnes. Richard Helinyly, Geo. Helmyslay, John Helmyslay, Alex Armstrong, Ric. Lee, Robert Armstrong, John Marchall, Ric. Pateson, harnesynd and no hors.

The survey of 1547 gives details of the conditions of ownership of the husband lands, which in number were apparently $28\frac{1}{4}$, besides which there were coatlands or cottages; the rent of the copyholders in all amounted to £20 14s. $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. There were 30 acres of demesne lands at Widehaugh, then held by Lady Carnaby at a rent of 30s., but formerly belonging to the prior of Hexham; the herbage of the wood called Akewood yielded £3 14s. 8d., and the mill, held by William Armstrong, 3s. 4d., making a total rent from the vill and township of £26 2s. $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. John Chicken was the grieve.⁶

The survey of 1608 contains some details unnoticed in, or differing from, the preceding one, for the division is now termed a grieveship, and the tenants are classed under the three heads of copyholders, customary tenants, and leaseholders. Both the moieties of Bucliffe, Hallington, etc., are included in the rental.⁷

¹ Their names are given in vol. iii. p. 33.

² Cf. p. 10 [*sub* Coastley].

³ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 167.

⁴ *Arch. Acl.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 188.

⁵ John Armstrang, John Spane, Richard Leyghe, George Helmesley, Willm Armstrang, Percevelle's son, Rolland Armstrang, Thomas Leyghe, Hob Cheken, and Roger Robson, were the nine men of Acom appointed to go to Berwick in tyme of necessite (in the reign of Henry VIII.). *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. p. cix. preface.

⁶ Vol. iii. pp. 68, 69.

⁷ *Ibid.* pp. 100-102.

Situated as it was on the north side of the Tyne, Acomb was more exposed to the forays of the Scots than Hexham; it was ravaged in 1315,¹ and about 1467 the village was burnt by a marauding party, to the loss of the archbishop, who retaliated by excommunicating the offenders. The sentence was proclaimed in the churches and chapels within the jurisdiction of the prior on Sundays and festivals during the celebration of the mass when the congregations were largest.² From the following petition³ addressed in 1626 to Charles I., it is evident that eighty years previously, or about the year 1546, Acomb,⁴ as well as the hamlet of Wall, had again suffered from the same enemy :

To the king's most excellent majestie :

The humbell peticon of the loyall subjects the coppiholders and customary tenants of inheritance within the two townes of Wall and Acomb, parcell of the manner of Hexham, in the counti of Northumberland, according to the customes of the same manner.

Humbly sheweth unto your gracious majestie : That tyme whereof the memory of man is not to the contrary, the most of all the laundes and tenements within the said manor were aunciently the possessions of the archbushopric of Yorke, untill about ye 36th yeare of King Henry VIII. ; that the same laundes and possessiones came to the Crowne by exchange, since which tyme, as also before, the same laundes and possessiones weare alwayes holden, and that ar and ought to be holden, by the tenants thereof as coppihold and customary landes, by copy of Court Roll, to them there heires and assigns for ever, according to the custome of the said manor of Hexham, and soe have bene alwayes by your subjects and all there ancestors, paying therefor yearely to your majestie and your predecessors the rent accustomed, and doing there suite and services at the courte of the said manner. The title of which landes being heretofore questioned by ye officer of your majestie's most royall father of blessed memory, was [on] view and perusal of auncient surveys, remaining of records in your majestie's Court of Exchequer and other there evidences, approved and so hath continewed ever sinc, and your subjects' ancestors, and predecessors have accordingly payed the [fines and] done there services according to the antient custome of this manor. All which notwithstanding, some persons knowing the poverty and distress of your poor subjects dwelling far remote in the northern parts, and that the old copyes of Court Rolls whereby they did hold there copy-hold estates, weare either burned by cunning when ye said two townes weare burned about 80 yeares since, or stolne by theives who herryed there howses, and that they had few or no old evidences to shoue towching there auncient estates, have upon untrue suggestions, and for there owne private gaine to oppresse your subjects by extreame compositions and multiplicity of suits, obeyned a lease from your late gracious father, in November before his majestie's death, of so many of the said customary tenements and lands in Wall as amounteth in yearely rent to 8^{li} 18^s 5^d, and of so many customary tenements and lands in Acam as amounteth in yearely rent to 19^{li} 8^s 9^d, for the tearme of three lives in the name of one Richard Isaacke, when there was no lord there, and without the permission of your orators, and without any consideracon at all to your said gracious father, other then the reservation of the said auncient yearlie rente, which alwayes have bene payed by your subjects' ancestors, and are now yearely payed by your orators, and the said pretended lease is neither inrolled before your majestie's auditor, nor any rent so much as tendred to your majestie's receivor upon the same, and the said Richard Isaacke hath, by his assignes, now comenced suit against some of your majestie's subjects in your highnes Court of Exchequer Chamber, upon the said lease, which suite your subjects are unable to defend in regard of their remote habitations and miserable poverty.

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. preface xci.

² *Ibid.* vol. ii. p. 153.

³ *Hexham Manor Rolls*, 17th October. 1626.

⁴ In 1552, four men of the inhabitants of Acomb were appointed to keep the night watch at Chollerford: the setters and searchers were Win. Armstrong and John Spain. Nicolson, *Border Laws*, p. 170.

May it therefore please your most gracious majestie (the premisses considered), and for that your majesties revenue is more certaine and comodious by the copy-hold estates, which the ancesters of your majestie's subjects ever held, till the clerkes of your majestie's courts there by negligence and ignorance discontinued, and omitted the same by which your subjects are to pay fines of all admittances, surrenders and leases, according to the custome of the said mannor, as their auncestors formerly did then by the said pretended lease, whereby no more is to be payed for 3 lyves then the auncient rent now and alwayes heretofore payed by your subjects and there auncestors, and that your subjects doe humbly desire to be restored to there former copy-hold estates by copy of Court Roll, (which will bring to your majestie, your heires and successors great yearely benefitt and profit), to referr the examination and determination of your subjects' estates, and the title of the said Richard Isaacke and his assignes concerning the said lands in Wall and Acam, to your majestie's high treasurer of England, and to direct that such order as his lordship shall make therein may be ratified and confirmed by decree of your majestie's said Court of Exchequer Chamber, for the perpetuall contynuance and success thereof whereunto your poore subjects, being in number with there wyves and children 300 persons, do humbly submitt themselves. And they shall daly pray, as there bounden dutyes, for your majestie's most happy raigne long to continue.

TENANTS IN WALL.

Geo. Kell	Matt. Kell	Ric. Ley
Edw. Dawson	Ric. Ley, jun.	Wm. Robson <i>in jur. uxor.</i>
Robt. Robson	Edw. Kell	Alice Simpson
Robt. Robson, jun.	Wm. Dawson	Tho. Kell
Robt. Kell	Lancelott Storoe	Nich. Trumbell

[? TENANTS IN ACOMB.]

Wm. Ley, sen.	Jas. Chicken, infant	Robt. Armstrong, sen.
Jo. Spaine, infant	Jo. Armstrong	Robt. Armstrong, jun.
Jo. Charlton, jun. <i>jur. ux.</i>	Ric. Ley, jun.	Rowland Rey (? Ley)
Cuthb. Smyth, infant	Tho. Ley	Wm. Kell
Robt. Chicken	And. Armstrong, infant	Geo. Pearson
Tho. Hutchinson	Wm. Ley, sen.	Robt. Pearson
Rob. Hutchinson	Jo. Hemsley	Nich. Armstrong
Tho. Smyth	Wm. Heslopp	Wm. Ley, jun.
Matt. Armstrong	Jo. Chicken	Arthur Ley
Ric. Ley, sen.	Jarrard Armstrong	Edw. Ridley

In the middle of the seventeenth century, a great controversy arose between the freeholders of Anick who claimed, and the copyholders of Acomb who demurred to their claim, the right of eatage, intercommon, or rake, not only upon Acomb fell, but upon the infields of Acomb. A suit was begun in the Court of Chancery, and ultimately both complainants and defendants agreed to abide by the award of John Ord of Barker-house, gent., John Hudspeth of Anick Grange, gent., George Allgood of Hexham, and George Gibson of Westboat-house, yeomen. The award of the arbitrators, with the assent of William Fenwick of Hexham abbey, esq., the umpire, was made on the 1st March, 1655/6, and confirmed to the tenants of the town of Anick intercommon on Acomb fell, and ordered that they should not herd any of their cattle upon the parcels of ground called Bishop's Leazes, Matthews-house, and Hackman Clewe, or upon 'any part or parcel of the

said moore or fell of Acomb which hath formerlie been enclosed, or which the said John Armstrong the elder, and the above mentioned defendants, or anie other of the inhabitants of the said towne of Acomb can prove hath been in rigg and reine belonging to the said towne of Acomb.¹

In 1663 the proprietors of lands in Acomb township were :

Christian Armstrong, widow, Acomb mill, who was rented at £2 5s. 0d ; John Armstrong, £6 ; John Armstrong, junior, £4 10s. ; John Armstrong, £6 ; Ann Armstrong, £1 10s. ; Richard Armstrong, £1 10s. ; John Charlton, £4 10s. ; Dorothy Canot, 18s. ; Alice Chicken, £5s. 8s. ; John Chicken, £3 ; Sir William Fenwick, tithe ; Thomas Heron, £1 10s. ; Thomas Hemless, tithe, £6 15s. ; Robert Hogg, 7s. 6d. ; Archibald Hobkirk, £4 10s. ; Mrs. Katherine Heslop for Heslop's land, £55 ; Thomas Kell, £7 10s. ; John Kell, £2 15s. ; George Lee, 12s. ; John Lee, £5 ; Thomas Lee, £6 ; Nicholas Lee, £6 ; Rowland Lee, 16s. ; John Lambert, 18s. ; Robert Pearson, £8 2s. ; John Smith, £6 15s. ; Richard Spaine, £2 8d. ; George Spaine, 15s. Total, £148 19s. 6d.

It will be noticed that many of these surnames are the same as those which occur in the petition of 1626 previously quoted.

The following will is that of one of these proprietors, or perhaps that of his son of the same name :

Will of John Charleton of Acomb, yeoman, dated 28th January, 1694/5. To my eldest sonn John Charleton, two oxen and two horses with long waine and short waine, with plough and plough irons, with husbandry gear thereunto belonging, to enter upon at the age of one and twenty years, with the ground sown and covered. Item, I give to my second sonn William Charleton, one long waine and one short waine, with plough and plough irons and husbandry gear thereunto belonging, to enter upon as soon as he accomplishes ye age of one and twenty years. Item, I give unto my third sonn George Charleton, one dwellinghouse and one barne adjoining thereunto, with one yard or backside with two butts of meadow ground at ye end thereof now in ye possession of John Cresswell for ye said George Charleton, etc. Item, I give out of that moyety or farmhold which my son William Charleton was fyn'd in or which may befall his share on this late division of lands according to his proportion what rents as may accrew over and above ye sesses, taxes, or what may be expended on suits of law or otherwise to be equally distributed betweene my son George Charleton and my youngest son Thomas Charleton by my executrix. To my daughters Margaret and Ann Charleton, £30 apiece. To my son John Charleton, one beddstead with ye bedding belonging and one cupboard, both standing in ye forehouse chamber, together with fowerteen furr deals. To my son Thomas, £10. Rest of my goods to my loving wife Ann Charleton ; she executrix.²

Thirty years later the lord of the manor and the tenants of Acomb, who were seised in fee simple or by copy of Court Roll of certain lands within the townfields lying common and undivided, dispersed and intermixed, agreed

¹ The complainants in the Chancery suit were John Charlton, Thomas Hutchinson, Robert Smith, Edward Errington, Nicholas Fairlamb, and other the freeholders of Anick, and the defendants were John Armstrong the elder of Acomb, William Lee the elder *alias* 'Blyth Nook,' John Armstrong *alias* Matthew, John Archbold Hobkirk, John Charlton, Richard Armstrong, Thomas Kell, William Smith, Thomas Hemsley, Nicolas Lee, James Chicken, John Kell, William Lee the younger, and other the copyhold tenants of the town of Acomb. From a copy in the *Bell Collection* transcribed from the original award, which, in 1835, was in the possession of Mr. Robert Leadbiter of Newcastle, solicitor.

² Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

to divide the same, and appointed Arthur Shafto of Bingfield, gent., Hugh Rowell of Sandhoe, Christopher Lee and John Lumley of Wall, yeomen, commissioners for that purpose.¹

The out-field known as Acomb fell or moor, containing 1,260 acres, upon which the township of Anick had intercommon or grazing rights, remained unenclosed until 1779, when it was divided under an Act of Parliament.² The lay tithe owners, viz., Henry Errington of Sandhoe, who held three-fourth parts, and Isabel and Frances Bacon of Newbrough, spinsters, who held the remaining one-fourth of the rectorial or corn tithes, and Sir Thomas Blackett, who possessed a modus of 19s. 4d. in lieu of the hay tithes and all other vicarial tithes, consented to take lands in satisfaction of their right, and most of the copyholders availed themselves of the offer. The commissioners appointed to carry the Act into execution made their award 9th April, 1779, by which, after reserving the sporting rights and minerals (except the lead mines which belonged to Sir Edward Blackett) to Sir Thomas Blackett, the lord of the manor, they set out various public roads, covering about 44 acres, and two public freestone quarries, containing about 11 acres, and allotted 45 acres, being one-sixteenth, to the lord for his consent to the division, and 339 acres to Henry Errington, 50 acres to Isabel and Frances Bacon, and 103 acres to Sir Thomas Blackett, in lieu of their respective tithes and modus. The remainder was divided into the following acreages, fractions being omitted :

The Rev. Thos. Coulter for lands which he held as curate of Allendale, 4 acres ; John Armstrong, 1 ; William Armstrong, 13 ; Isabel and Frances Bacon of Newbrough, spinsters, for their lands called Chairhead, 36 ; the devisees of Cornelius Bentham, 26 ; the Rev. Brian Leek for land which he held as curate of St. Mary, Bingfield, 5 ; Sir Thomas Blackett, 10 ; Matthew Carr, 10 ; Rev. Ralph Carr and

¹ The award was made in 1694, and the following tenants were party to the division. (Where no place-name follows the surname the place of abode was Acomb) : John Armstrong the elder, glover ; John Armstrong the younger of Ninebanks, an infant under the tuition of Edward Robson of Ninebanks, yeoman ; Symond Armstrong, yeoman ; Jane Charlton, widow ; John Charlton the elder ; John Charlton the younger, yeoman ; John Coatsworth of South Shields, gent. ; William Dawson of Wall, yeoman ; Joseph Dodd of Rye hill, yeoman ; Francis Elliot of Whitehill, yeoman ; Edward Fletcher of Ovington, yeoman ; Robert Gyll, yeoman ; John Helmsley, yeoman ; George Kell, yeoman ; John Lambert, yeoman, as infant under the tuition of Margaret Lambert, widow ; William Lee of the Croft in Acomb, yeoman ; William Lee of Smeethaires in Acomb, yeoman ; William Lee, blacksmith ; William Lee of Hexham, joiner ; John Lee, yeoman ; Thomas Lee, yeoman ; George Nicholson, yeoman ; Robert Nicholson, yeoman ; Thomas Pattinson, yeoman ; Robert Pearson of Errington, yeoman ; Mrs. Ann Pratt of Acomb mill, widow ; William Smith, yeoman ; John Spain, yeoman ; John Surties, yeoman ; Robert Thompson, yeoman ; and Elizabeth Walker of Newcastle, widow. *Bell Collection.*

² An Act for dividing and inclosing a certain common moor or tract of waste land called Acomb Common within the regality or manor of Hexham. 18 George III. The award was enrolled at the Quarter Sessions held at Hexham, 14th July, 1779. The enrolment is with the clerk of the peace at the Moot hall.

Mary his wife, 1; George Charlton, 14; William Charlton, 1; John Dagleas, shovel maker, 1; John Dagleas, glover, 3; Thomas Dagleas, 1; John Dobson, 1; William Dobson, 1; Joseph Dunn, 41; John Errington, esq., 11; Henry Errington, esq., 100; Jasper Gibson, 48; Thomas Gibson, 1; Thomas Hemsley, 1; Peter Hewitson, 1; Thomas Kirsop, 6; John Kitchen, 5; Thomas Lee, 17; William Lee, 7; Simon Mewburn the elder, esq., 182; Simon Mewburn the younger, 2; George Mowbray, esq., 16; Edward Nicholson, 7; Thomas Nicholson, 9; Michael Pearson, esq., 29; John Ridley, 16; Thomas Ridley, 8; Robert Salmon, 5; Christopher Soulsby, esq., 17; John Stephenson, 1; William Stokoe, 1; John Surties; Isabel and Mary Thompson, spinsters, 1; Robert Walker.

Amongst the families who have for many generations been land owners in Acomb are the Lees and Armstrongs. The latter family is now represented by Mr. W. R. Mewburn, whose pedigree is here given. The following wills, etc., afford some details of the former family :

1596, 8th June. Administration of John Lee of Acomb granted to Thomasine, wife of John Kell, late his wife; reservation to William and Mabel Lee his children.

1667, 8th October. Will of Thomasine Lee, widow, late wife of Thomas Lee of Acomb. To be buried at St. John Lee. My son Thomas Lee, my daughter Ann Lee: my father Archibald Hobkirk executor. Proved June, 1668.

1685, 11th April. Administration of Ellenor Lee of Acomb granted to Cuthbert Lee her husband.

1693, 19th July. Administration of John Lee of Acomb granted to William Lee his son.

1694, 25th June. Probate of the will of William Lee of Acomb granted to William Lee his son.

1704, 1st August. Administration of Christopher Lee of Wall granted to George Lee his brother; William Lee, the father, renouncing.

1704, 11th August. Will of Thomas Lee of Acomb, yeoman. To my loving wife Alice Lee the rents of all my lands in Acomb till my eldest son John Lee be 21. My lands in Acomb in a place called Jackfield, etc., to my second son, William Lee; the water corn mill near Acomb and the Kirke close to my third son Henry Lee. To my daughter, Ann Lee, £60. Residue to wife; she executor. Proved 21 November, 1704.

1760, 16th April. Probate of the will of John Lee of Acomb granted to Allison his widow and sole executrix.¹

1764. To be sold several houses, closes of land, and a very convenient and well fitted up pottery for all sorts of brown, black, and tortoise shell ware, situate within twenty yards of the village of Acomb, etc., lately belonging to Mr. William Lee, but now to Mr. John Lee, his son. *Newcastle Courant*, 17th October, 1764.

The mill of Acomb is described in 1226 as being on or near the Kirkeburn,² a rivulet which, a hundred years later, is called the Birkeburne. On land lying beyond it the prior and convent had common of pasture to which they were desirous to obtain a more convenient access than what they already had, and which ultimately they succeeded in obtaining.³ In 1547 William Armstrong held the mill at a rent of 3s. 4d., and in 1663 Christian Armstrong, widow, was rated for the same at £2 5s. Mrs. Ann Pratt of Acomb mill, widow, was party to the division of the townfields in 1694, and in 1699 John Errington surrendered Kirkburn mill and Kirk close to John Lee.⁴

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 92.

³ *Ibid.* vol. ii. pp. 92, 135, 136.

⁴ *Hexham Manor Rollis.*

MEWBURN OF ACOMB.

Simon Armstrong of Acomb; will dated 25th = Ann Hobkirk of Acomb; married
March, 1728; proved same year (c). 1st Jan., 1683 (a).

JAMES MEWBURN of Seaton Delaval in 1728; in 1734 voted for lands in Wylam.	= Jane, daughter and heiress of Simon Armstrong of Acomb; born July, 1684; as a widow resided at Southwick, co. Durham, but died at Acomb; administration granted to son Simon, 10th Oct., 1737 (c).	John, baptised 2nd Feb., 1786/7 (a); died in father's lifetime	Ann; buried 6th March, 1688/9 (a).
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Simon Mewburn; succeeded to Acomb under grandfather's will; tuition granted to father, 12th July, 1728 (c); in 1748 voted for Portgate in Allendale; buried 15th April, 1784 (a); will dated Sept., 1780; proved 1784 (c).	= Mary, daughter of Henry Tulip of Fallowfield; buried 4th Oct., 1779 (a).	... Armstrong; living 1728.	Dorothy, Ann, Jane, Frances, Hannah.	} All mentioned in grandfather's will, 1728.
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Simon Mewburn of Acomb, son and heir; died 17th Sept., 1834, aged 86 (a).	= Elizabeth, daughter of ... Davison; married 11th August, 1798 (a); died 22nd June, 1801, aged 28 (a) (b).	William Mewburn, baptised 8th Sept., 1757 (a); buried 4th July, 1792 (a).	Henry Mewburn, born Sept., 1750; of Newcastle, surgeon; married Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Mewburn of Standground; living 1780. ↓	Tulip Mewburn, baptised 17th April, 1755 (a). His wife Catherine was buried 25th Feb., 1811 (a).
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James Mewburn, baptised 30th May, 1743 (a); buried 14th Sept., 1761 (a).	James Mewburn, baptised 25th Nov., 1762; of Trinity college, Cambridge; ordered deacon 15th Oct., 1786, and licensed to curacy of St. Oswald and Bingfield; died at Acomb, and buried 21st March, 1807, aged 45 (a).	Thomas; buried 3rd Feb., 1752 (a).	Thomas; buried 3rd Dec., 1753 (a).	Thomas; buried 15th Aug., 1754 (a).	Thomas, baptised 10th June, 1756 (a).	Mary; buried 8th Oct., 1752 (a).	Mary, baptised 28th Dec., 1758 (a); buried 15th Dec., 1759 (a).
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Simon Mewburn of Acomb, baptised 15th Aug., 1799 (a); died 5th Oct., 1872, aged 73 (b).	= Margaret, daughter of Henry Richmond of Humsbaugh; married at Simondburn, 20th Oct., 1830 (a); died 31st July, 1867, aged 64 (b).	Isabel, baptised 5th Feb., and buried 24th April, 1801 (a).
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Simon Henry Mewburn, eldest son, baptised 10th Jan., 1833 (a); buried 3rd March, 1852, aged 19 (a).	William Richmond Mewburn of Acomb, baptised 17th Nov., 1834 (a); married 24th May, 1870.	= Elizabeth Fanny, daughter of Joseph T. Savory of Wendover, Bucks.	James, baptised 18th June, 1836 (a).	George Francis, baptised 9th Aug., 1838 (a); died 24th Dec., 1893.	John Clayton, baptised 25th Sept., 1840 (a).	Henry Richmond, baptised 12th March, 1843 (a).	Septimus, baptised 2nd May, died 4th May, 1844 (a).	Octavius Robert, baptised 12th Jan., 1847 (a).
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William Claud; born 24th, died 30th March, 1871.	Simon William Richmond Mewburn, born 9th Sept., 1884.	Dorothea Margaret Richmond, born 23rd Oct., 1882.
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In 1747/8 William Mewburn of Seaton lodge voted for lands at Wylam, and Simon Mewburn of Acomb voted for Portgate in Allendale. *Poll Book*.

(a) *St. John Lee Register*.

(b) *M.I. St. John Lee*.

(c) *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

(d) *Newcastle Courant*, 23rd Oct., 1830.

1713, 20th April. Will of Thomas Ridley of Acombe mill, miller. My estate of Acombe mill, *alias* Birkburn, *alias* Kirkburne mill, to Richard Ridley, my son, my wife Anne, and my daughter Catherine Ridley. Residue to son Richard; he executor. Proved 15th February, 1719/20.

1757, 31st July. Will of Richard Ridley¹ of Acum mill, miller. To my eldest daughter, Ann, £15. My eldest son, Thomas; my son, John; my daughter, Elizabeth; my wife, Jane. My brother, William Armstrong of Elrington. My lands and mill at Acomb. Proved 15th December, 1757.

1782, 8th February. Will of Thomas Ridley of Anicke. My sister, Elizabeth Ridley, £8 per annum. My daughter, Ann Scott, £300. My daughter, Sarah Winship, £100. My truthful friends, Mr. Robert Bullock of Beaufront Woodhead, gent., and Mr. James White of Lambshild fulling mill, trustees, to whom I leave each a guinea, far too small, but my poor girls have been unfortunate. As to the old household trumps, give them to Sarah. Probate of will of Thomas Ridley, formerly of Anick, but dying at Beaufront Woodhead, granted to Ann, wife of John Scott, his daughter, 16th June, 1789.²

At the top of the steep bank leading from the north end of the bridge over the Tyne are the two farms of East and West Oakwood, which have been recently sold by the persons who derive their title under the will of Henry Errington of Sandhoe, or by purchase from such persons, to Miss Allgood and Mr. C. W. C. Henderson of the Riding. They represent the mediæval Ackewoode, a place the name of which first occurs in Prior Richard's Chronicle, where it is described as 'Unum agrum inter Acuudam et Tinam fluvium.'³ In 1226 the prior and convent made over their rights in their wood of Acwde or Akwod to the archbishop in exchange for lands lying between it and Anick, with other lands at Dotland, Eshells, etc.⁴ When in 1232 Archbishop Gray demised his Hexham demesne lands to the priory for a term of fifteen years, pasturage for sixteen oxen in Akewood was included in the lease,⁵ and in 1301 Archbishop Corbridge granted them the use of his quarry at Akewood to repair the mill dam at Hexham.⁶ In 1547 the herbage or grazing of Ackewoode was held by three tenants: John Marshall who paid a ferm of 14s. 8d. for two parcels, Lady Carnaby 20s. for that parcel late in the tenure of the prior, and the tenants or town of Acomb a rent of 40s. for the remainder.⁷

The principal residence in the township is the Hermitage, which stands on a green haugh between the Tyne and the foot of the hill upon which the church is situated. Though some part of the house is of an earlier period the present building as a whole dates from the beginning of last century, when the south front was erected by one of the Coatsworth family. It is surrounded by well grown forest trees.

The designation Hermitage carries us back to the days when St. John of Beverley sojourned near the spot, but the first definite mention of the place under its present name is in a lease for ninety-two years, granted 2nd

¹ In 1722 and 1748 Richard Ridley, and in 1774 Thomas Ridley, of Acomb mill, polled for freehold lands there. *Poll Book*.

² Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

³ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. p. 58.

⁴ *Ibid.* vol. ii. pp. 91-94.

⁵ *Ibid.* vol. ii. p. 96.

⁶ *Ibid.* vol. ii. p. 107.

⁷ *Ibid.* vol. iii. p. 69.

March, 1496, by the archbishop of York to Nicholas Belyngham, of a tenement called Armytage, with two closes in the forest of Akewood.¹

'Tharmitag' was in the hands of the Crown in 1568,² but was subsequently granted by Letters Patent to Christopher Carnaby, and it was in 1608 the residence of Thomas Carnaby, who was said to hold 'the Hermitage and two closes, beinge parcell of the Akewood, by vertue of a lease not shown us,'³ these were evidently the same premises which were leased to Bellingham in 1496. The family continued to hold the estate until the Civil War, for on the 13th April, 1653, John Carnaby,⁴ of the Hermitage, begs of the committee for compounding cases confirmation of a lease of the said lands granted him by the county committee for four years at £48 10s., the estate not being in the last Act for sale.⁵

Immediately afterwards the Hermitage was acquired by a South Shields family of the name of Heslop, members of which appear to have resided there simultaneously⁶ with some of the former owners. William Heslop of the Hermitage was buried in Hexham church on the 15th April, 1648, and George Heslop, his son and heir, was admitted of Gray's Inn on the 6th November, 1651. In 1663 Mrs. Katherine Heslop was rated at £30 8s. for the Hermitage and the mill, at £55 for lands in Acomb, and at £15 for Hexham Westboat. The following document records all that is known of the family :

1689, 8th July. Will of Edward Heslop of South Shields. 'The thoughts of my change being often upon my spirit, and how soone or in what manner God will have me to put of my tabernacle I know not, but am expecting a sumons to that work, and least my worldly affaires should then trouble me I thought good to put them in order before hand, being very confident I shall have noe cause to make alteracon or change of anything I have ordered or sett down in this writeinge.' To my cousin, Elizabeth, wife of Michael Cotesworth of South Shields, my moiety of the two pans now in the possession of the said Michael; remainder to her eldest son, John Cotesworth. To the said John Cotesworth one eighth part of the ship 'Fortune,' whereof he is now master. To Caleb, William, Charles, and Michael, sons of Michael and Elizabeth Cotesworth, all other parts of ships whereof I am owner. To Elizabeth Cotesworth, daughter of the said Michael, 'a cabbinet covered with read leather, which is in my great trunck in my closet, with all that is in the said box or cabbinet.' To Edward Cotesworth of London, apothecary, son of the said Michael, 'ye litle trunck in my closet, with all yt is in ye sd trunck.'

¹ *Reg. Confirm. et Appr. Dec. et Cap. Ebor.* f. 354. ² *Feodary's Book*, lxi. ³ *Cf.* vol. iii. pp. 95, 100.

⁴ 1651, 11th March. William, son of John Carnaby of the Hermitage, baptised: *Test.* Mr. William Fenwick of Wallington, Mr. Ralph Carnaby of Halton, and Madam Grace Fenwick. *Hexham Register.*

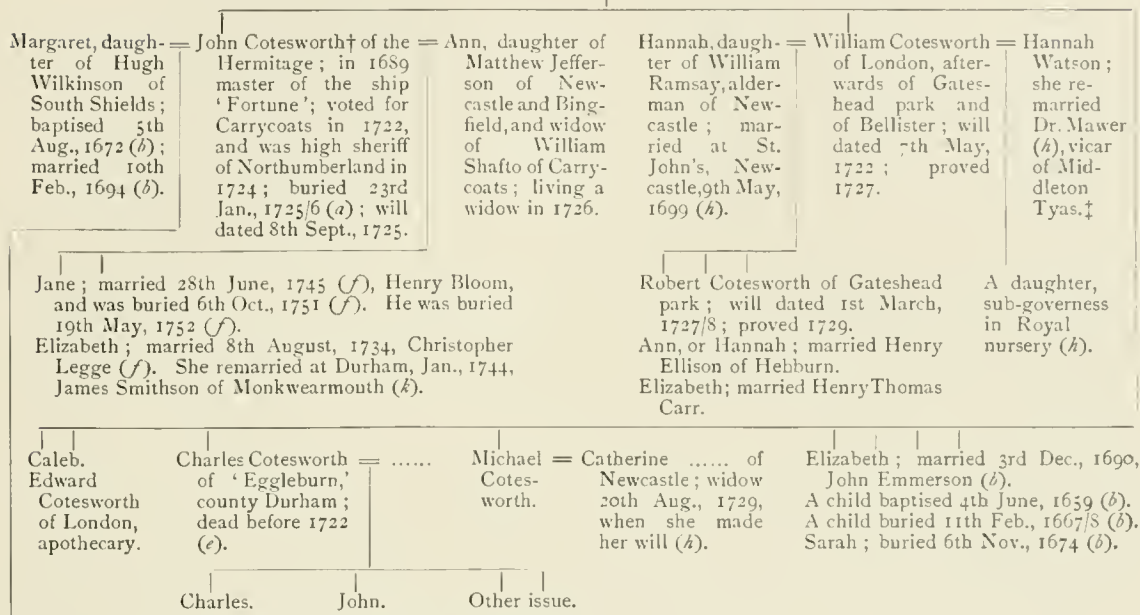
⁵ *Royalist Composition Papers*, vol. G 72, p. 661.

⁶ In 1625 Sir John Fenwick of Wallington, in consideration of £66 13s. 4d., conveyed to Cuthbert Heslop of Hexham, cordwainer, two closes of land near the East Boat house, and adjoining the 'Armitage.' He was of Carter Lonning house, and left three daughters and co-heiresses, Edith, wife of Crane Liddell; Dorothy, wife of John Heslop of the East Boat house; and Mary, wife of William Atkinson of Washington; who had dealings with the place in 1718. *Schedule of Deeds* in the possession of Mr. Joseph H. Straker.

1651, 25th March. William, son of George Bewick, tailor, baptised: *Test.* Madam Fenwick of Wallington, George Heslop of Hermitage, and Dorothy, wife of Cuthbert Heron of Chipchase. *Hexham Register.* ⁷ *Proc. of Newcastle Soc. of Antiq.* vol. vi. p. 142.

COTESWORTH OF THE HERMITAGE.*

MICHAEL COTESWORTH of Newcastle, hostman; = Elizabeth; cousin and heir of Edward
24th June, 1670, purchased lease of salt pans at Heslop (c); in 1682 with her husband
South Shields. was presented as a recusant.



Edward Heslop Cotesworth = Ann Newton of the Hermitage; as son of Hexham Spital; married and heir was in 1726 admitted to East Boat Rake (g); died *s.p.*; buried 6th Dec., 1741 (a); will dated 14th Nov., 1741; proved 1742 (e).

Ann Newton of Hexham Spital; married 19th Nov., 1729 (a); died 22nd Mar., 1738/9 (d).

Michael Cotesworth of the Hermitage; heir to brother. = Jane; John; buried 9th April, 1698 (a).

'Now Cotesworth in his hermitage at rest,
Pronounces himself and our free island blest,
No wooden shoes are heard, no galley oar
Is seen upon our hospitable shore.'[§]
He resided more than thirty years in the East Indies, where he was governor of one of the E.I. Company's settlements, and was well versed in Eastern languages. Died of gout in the stomach, 28th Nov., 1754 (j); will dated 10th June, 1754; proved 1755.

- (a) *Register of St. John Lee.* (d) M.I. St. John Lee. (h) *Sharp MSS.* Pedigrees, vol. iii. p. 433.
(b) *Register of St. Hilda, South Shields.* (e) *Raine, Test. Ebor.* Durham Chapter Library.
(c) *Proceedings of Newc. Soc. of Antiq.* vi. p. 142. (f) *Hexham Register.* (j) *Newcastle Journal*, 9th Dec., 1754.
(g) *Hexham Manor Rolls.* (k) *Newcastle Courant*, 14th Jan., 1744.

* The pedigrees of the families of Cotesworth and Jurin of the Hermitage are imperfect, for they have not been collated with the *Abstract of Title*.

† John Cotesworth may have been married more than twice, for Jane, wife of John Cotesworth of the Hermitage, was buried 15th July, 1703. *St. John Lee Register*.

‡ 1765, December 19th. Died at Gainford, Mrs. Mawer, relict of Dr. Mawer, vicar of Middleton Tyas, where she was buried on the 22nd. She was formerly the (supposed) wife of Wm. Cotesworth, esq., of Gateshead, who left her an annuity of £100 for her life. *Gyll's Diary*.

§ 'Cheviot,' a Poetical Fragment, by R. W. The reference is of course to the stock toast to the memory of the glorious William of Orange 'who delivered us from Popery and brass farthings and wooden shoes.' The wooden shoes being the French *sabots*.

1670, 24th June. Michael Coatsworth of Newcastle, hostman, purchased from Isaac Johnson and Margaret, his wife, a dean and chapter lease of salt pans in South Shields.

1689, 15th September. John Coatsworth of South Shields, master and mariner (son of Michael Coatsworth), acquired from John March of Newcastle, clerk, a dean and chapter lease at South Shields, which he acknowledged to be purchased for his father, and with the latter's money.

29th May, 2nd Wm. and Mary, 1690. Indenture between Michael Coatsworth of South Shields, gent., and Edward Heslopp of South Shields, gent. (after reciting that Heslop on the May ... inst., by letters of attorney, surrendered according to the custom of the manor of Hexham all his parcels of copyhold land and estates within the said manor and regality of Hexham to the said Michael Coatsworth and his heirs), witnesseth and the said Michael Coatsworth doth hereby testify and declare that the said surrender was taken in his name upon the special trusts and confidences hereafter mentioned: (1st) The said Edward Heslop to have the rents, issues, etc., for life; then (2nd) Michael Coatsworth and Elizabeth, his wife, and the longer liver of them to receive and enjoy the same, and at their death (3rd) John, Caleb, William, Edward, Charles, and Michael Coatsworth and their heirs male, by priority of birth, respectively to receive the same, and also the charter (land) and freehold land conveyed by the said Edward Heslop to Thos. Liddell of Ravensworth castle by indenture of lease and release 26th and 27th inst. The said copyhold land and premises are to be limited to them, the said John, Caleb, etc., etc., and their respective heirs male in the terms of the said indenture, and not otherwise. And upon the further trust that if the said Edward Heslop so recover of the sickness wherein he is now languishing, the said Michael Coatsworth, his heirs, etc., should re-surrender the said copyhold lands, etc., or stand seised of them to such use person and estate as the said Edward Heslop should by deed or will in writing signed by three witnesses appoint. (Signed) Edw. Heslop. Witnesses: Robt. Heslop, Cuthbert Stokoc, Peter Astell.¹

1722, May 7th. Will of William Cotesworth of Gateshead park, esq. To be buried in Gateshead church if I dye at my dwelling house in Gateshead. If I dye at or near London to be buried in Covent Garden chapell near my late friend Henry Liddell, esq., and the management of my funerall to be at the discretion of my dear son, Robert Cotesworth, and my friend Charles Sanderson of London, gent. All my mannors, salt pans, etc., to my brother-in-law, Robert Cotesworth of Unthank, esq.,² my nephews Charles and John Cotesworth, sons of my late brother, Charles Cotesworth of Eggleburn, co. Durham, gent., deceased, and William Dent of Swalwell, staithsman (?), in trust to pay debts, etc.: to carry on my salt works, colliceries, etc., with the advice of George Liddell of Ravensworth castle, esq., George Grey of Newcastle, esq., Ralph Featherstonehaugh, and John Airey of Newcastle, gents., until my eldest son be 24, paying him £200 per annum, and my daughters, Elizabeth and Hannah, £100 each per annum for maintenance. My daughters to have £3,000 each. The children of my brother-in-law, Robert Sutton, by Anne, his wife, £100 each. My sister-in-law, Elizabeth, wife of Robert Cotesworth, £200. My nephew, Charles Cotesworth, £100, and his brothers and sisters £150 each. To the poor of the parish of Gateshead, £50.

Codicil 12th September, 1726. To Hannah (formerly Hannah Watson), now my affectionate wife, and to whom I owe my life, £100 per annum for life and £1,500. Proved 26th February, 1726/7, by Robert Cotesworth, the son.³

1725, 8th September. Will of John Cotesworth of the Hermitage, esq. A moiety of my lands at Bingfield to my daughter, Jane Cotesworth, the other moiety to my daughter, Elizabeth Cotesworth. My daughter Jane and my son Edward Heslop Cotesworth executors. Proved 17th March, 1725/6.⁴

1727/8, 1st March. Will of Robert Cotesworth of Gateshead park, esq. To my servant Thomas Sisson £100. All to my two sisters of the whole blood by my late mother Hannah, deceased, daughter of William Ramsay, esq., late alderman of Newcastle, also deceased. They executors. Proved 27th May, 1729.⁵

1741, 14th November. Will of Edward Heslop Cotesworth of the Hermitage, gent. To Elizabeth Morton of the Hermitage, spinster, £30 per annum for life. My lands to my brother, Michael

¹ Document in the collection of Mr. Richard Welford.

² 1694/5, 22nd January. Robert Cotesworth and Elizabeth Ramsay, sp. mar. *St. Nicholas' Register*, Newcastle. 1723, October 5th. Robert Cotesworth, esq., from Unthank, buried. *Haltwhistle Register*.

³ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

Cotesworth and his heirs. My late dear wife. To Margaret Greenwell, widow, daughter of Cuthbert Cotesworth of South Shields, gent., £10. Elizabeth Morton executrix. Proved 15th February, 1741.¹

1754, 10th June. Will of Michael Cotesworth of the Hermitage, gent. To my wife Jane my house in Market Street, Hexham, the tillage called Boat-house, Chambers close, a ferry boat and boat-rake called Hexham East Boat-rake from the Water Meetings to the Prior Thorns, etc., also Tombs-house, St. Helens, in East Allendale. She executrix. Proved 17th November, 1755.²

1767, 14th October. Probate of will of William Coatsworth of Tombs-house, in the parish of Allendale, granted to Ann, the widow and sole executrix.³

The next owner of the Hermitage was a distinguished son of a distinguished father.

James Jurin, son and heir of Dr. James Jurin, fellow of Trinity college in Cambridge, 1711, and afterwards an eminent physician in London, well known and esteemed in the learned world for his curious experiments and indefatigable pains in promoting natural knowledge. He was editor of Varenus's *Geography*, published in two octavo volumes in London in 1711, and author of many learned dissertations in the *Philosophical Transactions*. He was fellow of the College of Physicians and of the Royal Society, also their secretary on the resignation of Dr. Halley, 1721, and their president some months before his death. Physician of Guy's Hospital, governor of St. Thomas's, and styled by Voltaire, in the *Journal de Sçavans*, 'the famous Jurin.' He died 22nd March, 1749⁵⁰, in the 66th year of his age.⁴

James Jurin, the son, was educated at the same college, and was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1756. In September of the following year he married Mary, daughter of John Simpson, alderman of Newcastle, and two months later, Benjamin Peile, the learned nonconformist minister at Hexham, wrote to him on the Roman inscriptions at Caerboron, as follows :

With the four volumes of *Amelia*,⁵ for which I thank you, I do myself the honour to send you enclosed the inscriptions I spoke of. I send the letters themselves that I may have no mistakes to answer for in transcribing them. They are, some of them, a little ragged ; but that, I hope, you will excuse on account of the family they belong to. My correspondent in the west is no antiquarian, but I believe very exact in copying ; and as I desired him to send me none but those that are lately discovered, I presume these are all of such. That one marked* I saw myself soon after it was found and built up into a wall.⁶ As to Mr. Walton,⁷ to whom I only act as caterer, I take a liberty in sending his letters, which he knows nothing of. But, sir, I can put confidence in you ; and I am, sir, with most respectful compliments to Mrs. Jurin and family, etc.⁸

He died at his house at Hackney on the 3rd July, 1762, 'after a lingering illness, which he bore with uncommon fortitude.'⁹ Shortly after-

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 109. For Jurin's dissertations see *Philosophical Transactions*, Nos. 355, 356, 358, 359, 361, 362, 363, 369, 373, 379, 470, and 472, which treat upon the following subjects : De Potentiâ Cordis ; on the Causes of Distinct and Indistinct Vision ; on the Momentum of Running Waters ; on Moving Bodies ; the Works of the Learned (1739) ; a Letter containing a comparison between the Mortality of the Natural Small Pox, and that given by Inoculation, 8vo, Lond. 1723 ; an Abstract of the Case of James Jurin, M.D., written by himself, as relates to his Lixivium for the Stone and Gravel, 8vo, London, 1752. Cf. *Nat. Dic. of Biography* ; Adamson, *Scholars of Newcastle Grammar School*.

⁵ Henry Fielding's then recently published novel.

⁶ 'In the end of a house at Causey, west from Codly gate.'

⁷ Vicar of Corbridge, and a great collector of Roman antiquities. Cf. *Arch. Ael.* xvii. p. 258 n.

⁸ *Stukeley's Diaries*, Lukis, vol. iii. p. 136. Surtees Soc.

⁹ *Newcastle Courant*, July, 1762.

wards an advertisement appeared in the local newspapers that his will could not, after the most diligent search, be found. Any person who might have the said will in his possession, or could give any account as witness or otherwise, was desired to communicate with Sir Edward Blackett or John Simpson, esq.¹

The front of the Hermitage, says Wallis, 'was built by the late Mr. Coatsworth, of white freestone and hewn work; the back part and the offices by Mr. Jurin, to whom the whole place is indebted for its present genteel appearance. To the east of the house is a small but neat garden, sheltered by a clump of tall forest trees. Before it is a grass lawn adorned with small clumps of young trees, and extending to a terraced road by the margin of the trout streams of the river Tyne. To the north-west is a small pendant copse, or natural grove, through which is a terrace walk, and at the top of it a seat to rest on. Here the melody and harmony of the birds, the whistling winds through the trees, the voice of falling waters, and the sight of the town of Hexham, and of that venerable dome, the church of St. Andrew, form a most beautiful scene.'²

JURIN OF THE HERMITAGE.

JOHN JURIN of London, citizen and dyer (e) =

James Jurin, baptised 15th Dec., 1684; was admitted to Christ's hospital, April, 1692; of Trinity college, Cambridge, 1702; B.A., 1705; fellow of Trinity, 1706; M.D., 1716 (e); master of Newcastle grammar school, 1710-15; in 1712 edited Varenus's *Geography*; fellow of and secretary to Royal Society, and president of College of Physicians; died at his house, Lincoln's Inn Fields, 22nd March, 1749/50, leaving a considerable legacy to Christ's hospital, where he had been educated (e); buried at St. James', Gaelic hill (f).

James Jurin of Trinity college, Cambridge, M.A., and of the Hermitage; fellow of the Royal Society. In 1762 answered at Hexham court for Fine Chambers mill (d). Died at Hackney, 3rd July, 1762. The *Newcastle Courant* of 4th Sept., 1762, contains an advertisement for his missing will. 12th Oct., 1762, administration granted to widow (b).

Marv, daughter of John Simpson of Newcastle, alderman [? remarried 3rd Aug., 1773, the Rev. Ralph Carr of the chapelry of St. John, Newcastle] (a).

Frances; married William Cotton of Edgeware.
Mary (or Margaret); married ...
Ann; unmarried 1770.
Catherine; married William Shepherd.
Jane; unmarried 1770.
Sisters and co-heiresses of James Jurin.

James Jurin; buried 14th April, 1760 (a).

(a) *St. John Lee Register*.

(c) Brand, *Newcastle*, vol. i. p. 95.

(e) *Dictionary of National Biography*.

(b) Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

(d) *Hexham Court Rolls*.

(f) Munk, *Royal Coll. of Physicians*, vol. ii. p. 58.

A pedigree of the family of Hunter of Medomsley, which succeeded James Jurin's heirs as owners of the Hermitage, may be found in Surtees's *Durham*.³ John Hunter of the Hermitage, who was high sheriff in 1805, died in 1821, leaving two daughters and co-heiresses, Ann, wife of Stamp Brooksbank,⁴ major 3rd West Riding militia, and Elizabeth, wife of Robert Lancelot Allgood of Nunwick. Miss Allgood, the daughter of the latter, is now owner of, and resides at, the Hermitage.

¹ *Newcastle Courant*, 4th September, 1762.

² Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 110.

³ Surtees, *Durham*, vol. ii. p. 289.

⁴ For particulars of the Brooksbank family, see Dr. Hunter's *Familia Minorum Gentium*. The pedigree of the Allgoods falls, naturally, under Nunwick.

ANICK AND ANICK GRANGE.

The first mention of Anick¹ as a distinct manor within the regality of Hexham is in the *inspeximus* of 1298, which records the benefaction of Archbishop Thomas II. in 1113,² and the ancient estates of the prior and convent seem to have been held as of that manor.³ The Black Book mentions lands at Wyrthkeryne near Thirlwall, Whytlaw near Whitfield, and Nesbit near Stamfordham,⁴ as answering at the court of Anick, and an abstract of title to land at Hexham begins with the admittance of the tenant in 1504 at the court of the manor of Anick Grange.⁵ At the dissolution, the priory lands were granted to Sir Reginald Carnaby, who demised Anick Grange to Margaret Carnaby, who was succeeded by her son David; but in 1568 they were recovered by Queen Elizabeth as part of the Crown estates.⁶ As has already been stated, in consequence of the exchange effected in 1545 between Henry VIII. and Archbishop Holgate, the Crown acquired the regality as well as the lands of the dissolved priory, and since then, though separate courts have been held, both manors have been possessed by the same lord.

The following townships are members of the manor: Anick, Anick Grange, Bingfield, Kirkbeaton, East Matfen, Sandhoe, Warden, and part of Barrasford.⁷ There are also lands and tenements at Birtley, Chollerton, Dalton, Dotland, Eachwick, Gunnerton, Heugh, Kearsley, Kirknewton, West Matfen, Newcastle, Prior-house, Prudhoe, Stocksfield, Wall, and Yarridge, besides many houses in Hexham.⁸ These houses received allotments at the division of Hexham common in respect of their common right, and the allotments are accounted to be, and are, within the manor of Anick Grange.

The townships of Anick and Anick Grange⁹ lie on the south-east side of Acomb, the former consisting of a narrow strip, nearly two miles in

¹ Anick is pronounced 'A—nick' (the *a* sounded as in bay); it is never 'An—ick.'

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 107-117. ³ *Cf.* vol. iii. p. 57.

⁴ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 18, 19, 53.

⁵ *Abstract of Title of Hexham Priory lands* belonging to the late Sir Walter Trevelyan.

⁶ *Exchequer Special Commissions*, 10 Eliz. Northumberland, No. 1711.

⁷ Dickson, *Wards of Northumberland*. ⁸ *Anick Grange Manor Rolls*.

⁹ The townships of Anick, Anick Grange, and Sandhoe, were amalgamated by order of the Local Government Board. *London Gazette*, 25th March, 1887. The combined township is named Sandhoe.

length, of the higher ground abutting on the river Tyne, while the latter comprises the fertile haugh land alongside the river, further lengthened by a bend of the Tyne. Anick has an area of 457 acres, and in 1881, the last time a separate census was taken, it had a population of 153.¹ Anick Grange has an area of 556 acres,² and at the same period had a population of 61.

When the fundamental change took place which converted Hexham into a collegiate or conventual church, Eilaf, the secular priest, who had been provost and had removed to Durham, was allowed to retain for his support a considerable part of the lands with which the church of Hexham was then endowed; amongst them were lands in Anick.³

After the grant by Archbishop Thomas II. in 1113,⁴ the next mention of Anick is in 1290, when Nicholas de Yetham, Hugh de Hauwyke, and Robert de Boceland, acting under a commission from Archbishop Romaine, were arbitrators in a suit brought by Henry del Syde against Robert del Syde and Agnes his wife, for a messuage, 22 acres of land, and 2 acres of meadow in Aynewike. Not long after this, in 1321, Sir John de Vaux and William de Shafthow were appointed commissioners to adjudicate in a dispute between the prior of Hexham and Thomas del Syde, the prior having claimed a messuage and 24 acres of land in Aynewyk,⁵ which Thomas asserted to be his.

Amongst the Ancient Petitions is one, without date, addressed to the chancellor by the prior and convent of Hexham, who assert that they have received the manor of Aynewyk within the franchise of Hexham adjoining the town of Corbridge, but that 'disputes have arisen between them and the people of Corbrigg about a piece of ground called Trepenske, parcel of the said manor of Aynewyk: they pray that a commission of perambulation may be granted them, addressed to Will. de Aldburgh, Herry de Barton, clerk, Rog. de Fulthorp, Elys de Thoresby, John de Mitford, and John de Halydene.'⁶

¹ The Census Returns for Anick are: 1801, 161; 1811, 169; 1821, 166; 1831, 163; 1841, 146; 1851, 148; 1861, 137; 1871, 123; 1881, 153. The Census Returns for Anick Grange are: 1801, 30; 1811, 35; 1821, 43; 1831, 36; 1841, 40; 1851, 40; 1861, 48; 1871, 55; 1881, 61. Since the date of this last return the census of Anick and Anick Grange has been included in that of Sandhoe.

² Anick has a water area of 6 acres, and Anick Grange a water area of 50 acres included in the recorded acreage.

³ 'Supradictus vero presbyter, junior Aeillavus, curam parochiae cum maxima parte beneficiorum, et unam carrucatum terrae, cum quibusdam mansis in ipsa villa de Hestaldasham, et sex bovatas terrae in Aeilnewic, scilicet dotem ipsius ecclesiae, cum magna pace et honore de ipsis canonicis longo tempore tenuit.' *Prior Richard*, book ii. cap. viii.; *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. p. 54.

⁴ Vol. iii. 139. ⁵ *York Registers*, Romanus, f. 93. Melton, f. 409 a. ⁶ *Ancient Petitions*, No. 14845.

When Thomas Ferrour retired from the office of prior in 1457, he obtained from the convent as his pension their lands in Anick, in addition to the 'aldechawmbre' and other rooms near the infirmary of the priory, with food and dress for himself, his companion, and two servants.¹

The canons themselves held in demesne and farmed Anick Grange, and the Black Book fully describes their possessions in 1479.²

There were, in 1479, twelve husbandlands, each of 16 acres of arable and meadow land, and nineteen cottagers, each of whom had a portion of land with his cottage, most of them having less than five, though one had nine acres.

The tenants were bound to repair the walls of the mill (which was held by Richard Forster of Acomb at a rent of £3 13s. 4d.), and when necessary to work one day with a man at the mill pond.³

In the survey of the estates of Hexham priory made at the dissolution (of which survey Mr. Beaumont possesses a transcript), the surveyor says :

ANEWYKE VILLATA. Thomas Spayne holdithe a tenement there with edifices, 2 acres medoo in Est-myres, 13 acres land arrable in the feldis, with comon in Cotland moore, and rentes by yere 17s. 10d. William Huchynson holdith 1 tenement ther with edifices, 11 acres land arrable, and comon of pasture in Cotland moore and rentes by yere 15s. 2d. John Smythe holdithe a tenement there with edifices, 14 acres land arrable and comon, by yere 16s. 2d. William Greene holdith a tenement there with edifices, 2 acres medoo and 15 acres land arrable, with comon there, by yere 18s. 3d. Robert Sowerby holdith a tenement there, wythe edifices, 2 acres medoo, and 13 acres land arrable, withe comon, and rentes by yere, etc., 15s. 2d. John Thomson holdithe a tenement ther callyd Belles leez, conteyning 6 acres land arrable, and rentes by yere, etc., 10s. Roger Robinson holdith a tenement ther wyth edifices, 2 acres medoo, and 18 acres land arrable in the feldis, and rentes by yer, with comon, 27s. John Sowreby holdithe a tenement there withe edifices, 1 acre medow, and 15 acres land arrable in the 3 felde, with comon ther, and

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. preface, cxxxv. ; appendix, xcix.

² Item, tenent grangiam de Aynwyk, in qua sunt diversae domus aedificatae et pomaria et columbaria. Item, tenent j barcariam, cum j gardino clauso cum muro, cont. ij acras, ex orientali parte grangiae. Item, tenent in eadem grangia j gardinum clausum cum muro versus orient., et cont. j acr. Item, tenent in eadem ccxviiij acr. et dim. terrae dominicae in cultura, et l acr. prati dominici jacentes in diversis locis, unde viij acrae expendantur ad opus grangiae, et xlij expendantur in ab(b)athia de Hexham. Item, tenent ibidem xl acr. terrae dominicae, quae includuntur cum le Medhop. Item, tenent xxx acr. terrae in territorio de Corbryg, quae vocantur le bisschopprek, et junguntur culturae de Aynwyk. Unde summa integra tam de terris dominicis quam de pratis cclxiiij acrae et dim. : quae quidem acrae specificantur per paucellas et metas et suas divisas. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 3.

In the Corbridge town fields there were 24 acres known as the Bishop's Rig, which were a detached portion of St. John Lee parish ; a fraction belonged to Anick township, and the remainder to Sandhoe.

³ Item, sunt ibidem xij terrae husbandorum, quarum quaelibet cont. xvj acras terrae arabilis et prati ; et quaelibet terrarum praedictarum operabitur per j diem cum j homine in stagno molendini, cum necesse fuerit ; et faciet le hege-yard ubique ; et dabit j gallum et j gallinam ad festum Natalis Domini ; et carriabit molares molendini de Aynwyk ; et faciet parietes dicti molendini, suis propriis expensis ; et cooperiet molendinum propriis expensis coopertura domini. Et quaelibet terra husband. arabit cum arato suo per j diem, quolibet anno cum requisitus fuerit, in solo grangiae praedictae. . . . Et sunt ibidem xix cotagia, et quodlibet cotagium faciet servitium et opera ad molendinum praedictum, sicut terrae husband. praedictae. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 4.

rentythe by yere, 15s. 3d. John Spayne holdith a tenement there with edifices, 2 acres medoo, and 18 acres land arrable, with comon, and rentes by yere, etc., 27s. Thomas Sowreby holdith a tenement there, withe 6 acres land arrable and comon of pasture there, by yere, etc., 11s. 4d. Summa, £8 13s. 1d.¹

In 1615 a suit was heard in the Court of Exchequer concerning an agreement touching their holdings made between the tenants of Anick, represented by Richard Smith, Edward Errington, John Hucheson, and William Smith on the one part, and Hugh Lee and Christopher Holford (who died during the suit) on the other part. The following depositions² were taken at Hexham on the 16th April :

Edward Armstrong of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, tailor, aged about 34 years, says that Christopher Holford and the defendant were seised of the inheritance or fee farm of all the tenements and farmholds in Anewicke, and the plaintiffs and rest of the inhabitants of the town bargained with them for inheriting each the inheritance or fee farm of his own tenement ; it is credibly reported that the tenants paid them £480 for their tenements. He heard Holford and the defendant say to the plaintiffs when they sealed their conveyances, that there were two other tenements in Anicke called Bells Leises and Shepperds-lands not compounded for, and they refused to finish the assurances of the other tenements unless the plaintiffs and other tenants bought of them these also, which they utterly refused to do.

It was agreed between the plaintiffs and Holford and the defendant, that the plaintiffs should enter into a bond to pay them £40 for the said two tenements if it fell out that they had good estate therein and power to sell them.

Holford and the defendant, by indenture of bargain and sale, conveyed their tenements to the plaintiffs and the other tenants, and also the said Bells Leises and Shepperds-lands ; the tenants then or soon after paid all the money for their said tenements, with which they were well satisfied.

At the time of sealing the bond for £40, Holford and the defendant promised, that if it fell out that they had not power to sell Bells Leises and Shepperds-lands, the said bond should be cancelled. The witness heard them say, that if the said two tenements had been formerly granted to others, they would get off the contractor, who had promised them, land in some other place of equal value.

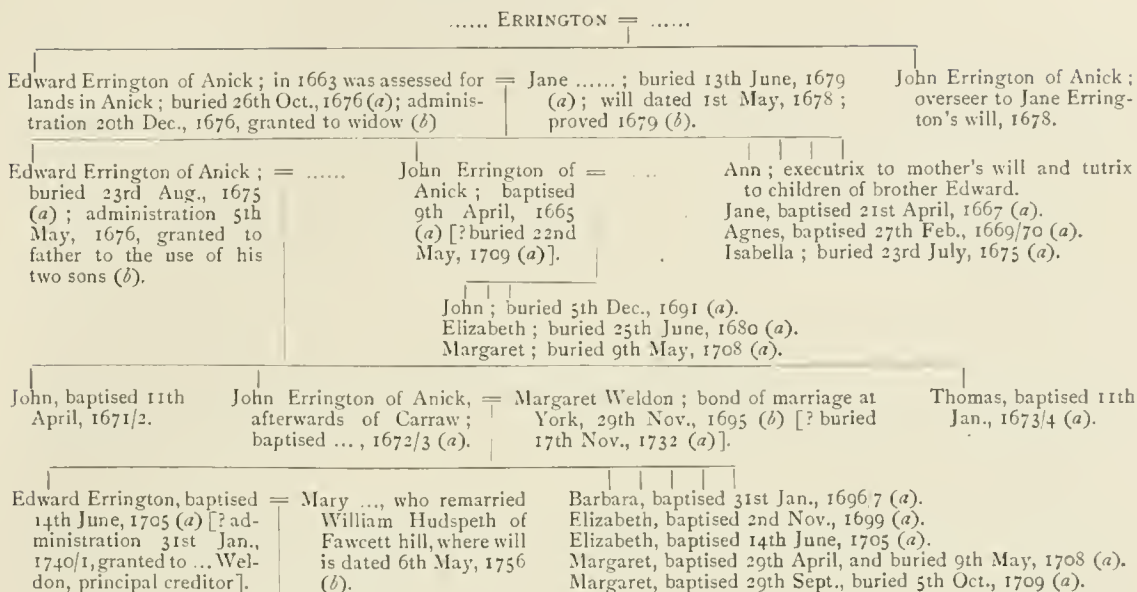
The witness knows no grounds called Bells Leases in Anicke ; but he knows grounds called Balls Leases in Sandhoe, and the Shepperds-lands in Anick, he hath heard by copy of record now shown to him, was granted formerly to Sir John Foster, knight, deceased, by Queen Elizabeth, and now is, and for seven years past has been, in possession of Sir John Fenwicke, knight.

In 1663 Anick Grange was rated to Sir William Fenwick at £90, and he also held the tithes of Anick. Anick was held by seven proprietors, who were assessed as follows : William Errington, esq., £16 ; Thomas Hutchinson, £9 ; Thomas Charlton, £7 ; Edward Errington, £9 ; Nicholas Fairlamb, £6 ; Sampson Hutchinson, £4 ; Robert Smith, £8. The history of the yeoman family of Errington has been thrown into the following pedigree of Errington of Anick :

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 161, 162.

² *Exchequer Depositions by Commission*, 14 Jas. I. Easter Term, Northumberland, No. 19.

ERRINGTON OF ANICK.



John Errington, named in stepfather's will in 1756.

(a) *St. John Lee Register.*

(b) *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

1595, 10th March. Administration of the personal estate of Robert Errington of Sandhoe granted to Margaret, wife of Edward Errington of Anick, his sister, for the use of his children.

1676, 5th May. Administration of the personal estate of Edward Errington of Anwick, parish of St. John Lee, granted to Edward Errington, his father, to the use of John and Thomas Errington, children of the deceased.

1676, 20th December. Administration of the personal estate of Edward Errington, sen., of Anwick, granted to Jane, his widow.

1678, 1st May. Will of Jane Errington of Annicke. To my sonne John Errington, three kine called Sense, Luckey, and Coppye. All my other goods to my daughter Anne Errington, whome I make sole executrix, and to have the tuition of my late sonne Edward Errington's two children, viz., John and Thomas, and to have all the land for bringing them upp till they come to lawfull age; and I desire Mr. John Errington of Beaufront, and my brother John Errington of Annicke, to be supervisors to my said two grandchilder, and see that they be honestly brought up and that none shall wrong them, and to assist my daughter Anne that she be not wronged. Jane Errington, widdow [her marke and seale].

1679, 25th June. Probate of the will of Jane Errington, widow, of Anick Grange, granted to Anne Errington, her daughter, and sole executrix, with tuition of John and Thomas Errington, sons of Edward Errington of Anick, minors, to her their sister (*sic*: query aunt).

1679, 17th July. Will of Thomas Errington of Annicke, yeoman. Sonne, Henry Wilson. My houses, leases, landes, etc., to my sonne Thomas Errington; he executor. Proved 8th January, 1679/80.

1718, 29th July. Will of Michael Weldon of Anick,¹ gent. My brother, Mr. Lancelot Weldon of Linnells, a guinea; to my sister Catherine's daughter, which lives near Weardale chappell, a guinea; my sister Barbara, a guinea; my sister Margaret, wife of John Errington of Carraw, a guinea; Weldon, son of Nicholas Rowell of Sandhoe, my sister Mary's son, a guinea. My brother, Mr. William Weldon of Thornyburn, parish of Bellingham, executor. Proved 28th November, 1718.²

¹ 1718, 26th September. Michael Weldon of Thorneburn, buried. *St. John Lee Register.*

² *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

1762. To be sold, a freehold estate in the parish of St. John Lee, of the yearly value of £22, and a valuable coal mine within a large parcel of good ground commonly called Anick common; and also the corn tithes yearly arising within the township of Anick aforesaid, of the yearly rent of £8: all which premises lately belonged to Mr. Edward Errington, dec^d.¹

Anick Grange belongs to Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont, and was, from the beginning of last to the middle of this century, farmed by a respectable family named Harbottle, one of whom left Tyneside at the beginning of this century for Remenham on the Thames, and afterwards went to Russia as agent to Prince Demidov.² Harbottle's Island is in the river Tyne opposite Anick Grange.

1712, 20th June. Will of William Harbottle of Anicke Grange. To my eldest son, William Harbottle, £200; to my son Michael Harbottle, and daughter Elizabeth, each £100 when 21; to my daughter Phillis, £100. I am executor of my sister Elizabeth Henderson of Newcastle, deceased, who was executor of George Henderson of Newcastle, merchant and alderman. My wife, Elizabeth, executrix. Proved 15th March, 1716/7.

1740, 9th April. Will of Ann Harbottle of Newcastle, widow of William Harbottle, merchant. My husband left the residue of his estate to his six children, George, William, Michael, Elizabeth, Ann, and John Harbottle, of whom George Harbottle is since dead. My brother George Henderson of Newcastle, merchant, deceased. To my nephew, William Charlton, £100; my sister Mary, wife of John Potts of Hexham, gent.; my nieces Anne and Mary Kelley. My brother Michael Harbottle of Anick Grainge, gent., and my nephew William Charlton, executors. Proved 2nd June.

1765, 6th March. Will of Michael Harbottle of Hexham, gent. My copyhold land in Hexham, etc., to George Charlton of Gateshead, merchant, and Michael Charlton of Bromley, Northumberland, gent., in trust to pay to my daughters Barbara and Phillis Harbottle, £300 a piece; residue to my son William Harbottle; he executor. Proved 24th April, 1769.

1791. Died in the island of Jamaica, in May last, Mr. William Harbottle, son of Mr. Harbottle of the Grainge, near Hexham, universally regretted for his amiable disposition.³

Besides the farmstead of Anick Grange there are in the townships two hamlets, Anick and Hexham Bridge-end, where are the extensive buildings originally erected for Donkin and Elstob's brewery, and now used as dye-works. At the beginning of last century Anick, owing, doubtless, to the influence of the Erringtons of Beaufront, was a refuge for Jacobites. In 1715 the names of George Angas, John Armstrong, John Errington, Edward Forest, Robert Smith, George Wilson, and Sarah Widdrington, widow, all inhabitants of Anick, are entered in the list of non-jurors,⁴ and after the suppression of the rebellion many of the inhabitants were bound over by recognisances.⁵

There is a national school, which replaces one said to have been built by John Errington of Beaufront, and which was supported by him from 1793 to the time of his death in 1828.

¹ *Newcastle Courant*, 10th April, 1762.

² Bates, *Thomas Bates and the Kirklevington Shorthorns*, p. 79.

³ *Newcastle Advertiser*, 30th July, 1791.

⁴ *Sessions Records*.

⁵ *Cf.* vol. iii. 61.

FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP.

The township of Fallowfield comprises one compact estate of 667 acres belonging to Mr. John Bertram Clayton, and has a population of 31.¹ The north-eastern and eastern portion is the heather-clad moorland called Fallowfield fell. Here the Little Limestone² reaches its greatest measured thickness, viz., 18 feet, and there are numerous remains of old coal workings. A lead mine, reputed for its produce, was formerly worked, and was known as 'the old man' by the miners, who always spoke of its wealth with enthusiasm. After being drowned out it was reopened about the middle of last century, and when Wallis wrote, in 1769, a 'fire engine' had been erected, and the mine gave employment to about 80 men.³ The valuable mineral witherite (carbonate of baryta) is now obtained from this mine, and both lead and coal are still worked on the fell.

The hamlet of Fallowfield stands near the edge of the moor; large and well grown sycamore and horse-chestnut trees enrich the grounds and closes of the old mansion,⁴ which stands on a natural terrace and commands an extensive view of the fells on the south of the Tyne.



On a long ridge of hard sandstone rock, running through Fallowfield fell in a direction nearly north and south, and fronting the east, is the celebrated 'written rock,' bearing on its face in deeply cut letters the inscription PETRA FLAVI(I) CARANTINI, perhaps cut by Flavius Carantinus himself, who,

¹ The Census Returns are: 1801, 94; 1811, . . . ; 1821, 93; 1831, 70; 1841, 74; 1851, 50; 1861, 43; 1871, 36; 1881, 46; 1891, 31. ² Cf. vol. iii. p. 6. ³ Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. i. p. 121.

⁴ The panelling of one of its rooms is said to have been brought from Dilston.

it is conjectured, may have been a foreman of the gang of men engaged in quarrying stone for the building of the Roman Wall.¹

The contribution of Fallowfield to the subsidy of 1295 was 11s. 8½d., paid by four tenants.² One moiety of the hamlet belonged to Sir John Vaux, whose *inq. post mort.* was taken in 1322. At the same period the proprietors of the other moiety were Richard de Langton, clerk, and John de Fallowfield, who sat as a juror in the enquiry into the state of St. Giles's hospital at Hexham in 1320, when it was stated that a rent charge, which the hospital possessed out of Fallowfield, had not been paid, because the place lay waste.³

The registers of the archbishops of York contain numerous entries belonging to the end of the thirteenth and beginning of the fourteenth centuries, referring to ownerships and succession in the township, and which give some insight into the life and character of this early period.

A writ of disseisin, dated at Witton, 28th October, 1287, addressed to the bailiff of Hexham, orders that whereas it is alleged that Adam Frount of Falufeld and H. de A. unlawfully dispossessed Ysabella, that was wife of Richard Stiward, of her free tenement in Falufeld after the crossing over of Henry, father of King Edward, into Gascony, that the matter be heard by a jury, presided over by J. de Erington and Robert de Boceland, the archbishop's justices.⁴

A writ, dated 8th June, 1300, directs the bailiff of Hexham to give to Robert de Cestre and Dionisia his wife, of Falughfeld, a messuage and twenty-four acres of land in Falughfeld, of which Alice, wife of Robert fitz Richard de Falughfeld, died seised, if it can be proved before John de Vallibus and Nicholas de Yetham, the archbishop's justices, that the said Dionisia is the heir. John fitz Richard de Falughfeld defendant.⁵

A mandamus, dated 13th November, 1302, to the bailiff of Hexham, on behalf of Anthony de Erington, orders that whereas it is alleged that Salamon de Valle had unlawfully overstocked his common pasture in Falufeld, the bailiff be directed to make admeasurement of the pasture, and see justice done.⁶

20th February, 1339, Richard de Vaus complains that Nicholas de Langeton, Robert Aldecrawe, William de Brungelflet, Richard Clerk of Falghfeld, John de Falghfeld, son of the same Richard, John Maugh, and Alan de Sandon, had unlawfully dispossessed him of his free tenement in Falughfeld. The bailiff is instructed to have the matter heard and decided before Thomas de Lelom, Adam and John de Corbigg, or two of them.⁷

An inquisition taken at Hexham on Monday before the Purification (January 31, 1322/3), before Thomas de Fetherstonhalgh, bailiff of the liberty, includes in the list of jurymen the name of Richard de Faloufield. In a finding as to lands and tenements held by Sir John de Vaux at the time of his decease, there is included a moiety of the hamlet of Falowfield, which he held of the archbishop in drengage, and by paying ten shillings per annum, and for carrying a hawk twopence.⁸ At the same

¹ *Arch. Acl.* vol. i. 4to series, p. 126; Bruce, *Roman Wall*, 1867, p. 141.

² Vol. iii. p. 32.

³ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 130, 131; cf. vol. iii. p. 310.

⁴ *York Registers*, Romanus, 93 a.

⁵ *Ibid.* Corbridge, 75 a.

⁶ *Ibid.* Corbridge, 93 b.

⁷ *Ibid.* Melton, 439 a.

⁸ 'Pro uno niso portando ij^l.'

inquisition the jury also find that Richard de Langton, clerk, died, seised of two messuages and forty-one acres in Faloufeld, worth thirty shillings per annum, and that he paid ten shillings, and also elevenpence for hawk bearing, and for ploughage twenty-one pence, and for cutting corn threepence halfpenny, and for work at Acum pond one penny and three farthings. He also did suit of court at the court of Hexham every three weeks. The jury find that his brother, Nicholas, is next heir and that he is of full age.¹

It is certified that on the third of the ides of February (February 11) in 1322 3, at Cawode, Nicholas, son of William de Langton, brother and heir of the deceased Richard de Langton, clerk, did homage to the archbishop and swore fealty for the moiety of the manor of Falghfeld and other lands and tenements and rents which he claimed to hold of him within the liberty of Hexham, and did suit of court at the archbishop's court of Hexham.²

By a deed, dated at Cawode, February 11, 16 Edw. II. (1323), Nicholas de Langton above mentioned grants to the archbishop of York, William de Melton, the moiety of the manor of Falghfeld, with its appurtenances and all lands and tenements, with the services appertaining.³

The forms Falu and Falou occur in three of the documents given above. In three others it is Falgh, and in a fourth Falugh. The word fallow occurs with the spelling of 'faugh' in a seventeenth-century document,⁴ and fallow is still generally pronounced 'faff' in Northumberland.

The contingent furnished by Fallowfield to the muster of 1538 was a large one for its acreage, but out of the total number of forty-three men fifteen had neither horse nor harness.

FELLOW-FELD MUSTER ROLL, 1538.⁵

Herre Henderson, Willm Henderson, Robert Choster, Christofer Heron, Edwerd Newbiggin, Roland Lee,⁶ Roland Watson, Edwerd Kirsop, Ric. Watson, Andro Watsen, Thomas Watson, John Bell, Robert Byrd; naither hors nor harnes. Willm Stowt, Georg Rowll, Herre Rowll, James Clos, Lawrens Hawde, Georg Heslop, Herre Rowll, Arthur Spark, Anton Rowll, Here Rodfurthe, Robert Richartson, Christofer Stowt, George Awdon, Ric. Witfeld, John Spark; able with hors and harnes. John Daweson, Willm Herreson, Herre Laws, Clemet Heslope, Thomas Hewetson, Thomas Stobatt, Cwthbert Hewden, Robert Phelopson, James Rowll; naither hors nor harnes. Georg Rowll, Edward Rowell, John Richardson, Thomas Stawt, Willm Bell, Archo. Bassenwhet; able with hors and harnes.

The survey of 1547 records the amount of rent payable by Nicholas Errington for the lands formerly held by John Fallowfield;⁷ and in 1608

¹ *York Registers*, Melton, 417 a. ² *Ibid.* 595 a. ³ *Ibid.* 414 a.

⁴ 'George Albin for puttinge his beasts into the *faugh*, contrary the payne of 12d.' W. Woodman, *Ulgham: its Story*, p. 13. ⁵ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 191.

⁶ The following wills, etc., of Lee of Fallowfield, remain at York :

1595, 22 April. Probate of the will of Roland Lee of Fallowfield granted to Elizabeth, the widow, with reservation to Thomas Lee, his son.

1595, 22 April. Probate of the will of William Lee of Fallowfield granted to Thomas Lee, the executor, with reservation to William, Nicholas and Katharine, children and co-executors of deceased.

1596, 19 October. Administration of the personal estate of Margaret Lee of Fallowfield granted to Thomas Lee, her brother.

1773, 2 April. Probate of the will of Mary Lee of the Planetrees, parish of St. John Lee, widow, granted to Gerard Dobson, her grandson and sole executor. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

⁷ Vol. iii. p. 81.

Nicholas Errington held the whole township in socage, paying yearly £1 2s. 9d.¹ Three years later in a petition to the king he stated that he had been forcibly dispossessed of the lead mines by Sir John Fenwick, who alleged that they belonged to the Crown.²

In 1642, for a payment of £200 and a rent charge of £20 a year, Henry Errington granted West Errington and Fallowfield to Richard Carnaby; the lands were sequestered in 1649 for Errington's delinquency, and Carnaby's petition was in 1652 disclaimed. But as William Errington, esq., was rated in 1663 at £15 for his lands in Fallowfield, the estate forfeited by Henry Errington may have been only a life one.³ Subsequently, however, but before 1717, the Erringtons sold the estate, which was then or later acquired by the Blacketts of Matfen, and it was exchanged in 1892 by Sir Edward Blackett for Bog-house and High-house near Matfen belonging to the late Mr. Nathaniel George Clayton.

The estate was farmed for several generations by a now extinct family which in an earlier day was called Tuddep, Twiddupp,⁴ and latterly Tulip, for some time owners of Brunton and Walwick.

¹ Vol. iii. p. 87.

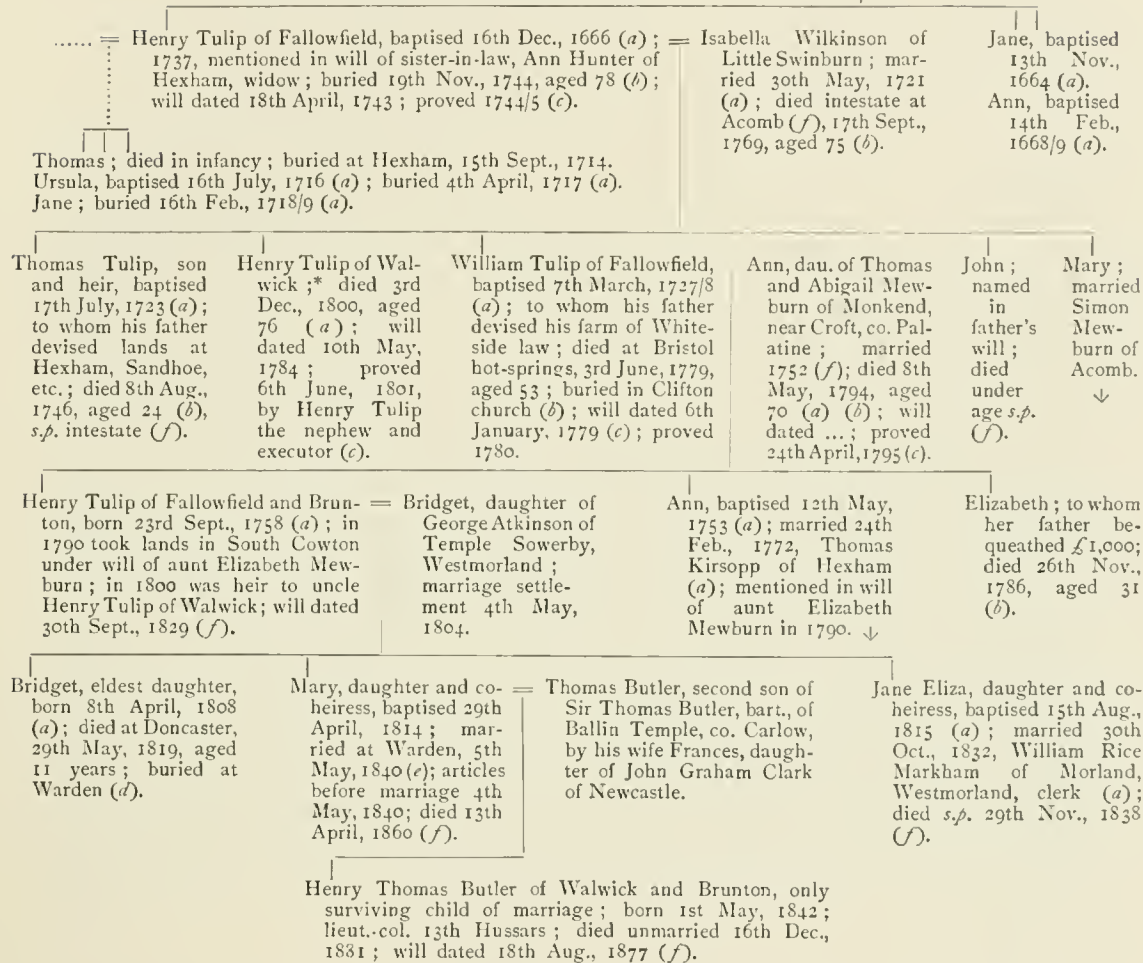
² *State Papers*, Dom. Jas. I. vol. lxiv. Nos. 45, 46.

³ *Royalist Composition Papers*, vol. G 72, p. 666.

⁴ The late Mr. John Clayton asserted that this family originally came from Tweedside. *Ex. inf.* Mr. Thomas Rowell, 1897.

TULIP OF FALLOWFIELD.

THOMAS TULIP of Fallowfield in 1664 [? afterwards of Wall; if so, he =
was buried 9th Nov., 1690 (a); and administration was granted
23rd July, 1691, to Ursula, the widow (c)].



(a) *St. John Lee Register.*

(b) *M.I. St. John Lee.*

(c) *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

(d) *M.I. Warden.*

(e) *Tyne Mercury.*

(f) *Mr. J. B. Clayton's Title Deeds.*

* 'Mr. Henry Tulip of Fallowfield purchased Walwick of ... Dixon of Newcastle, attorney, who had purchased of the Rev. Cuthbert Wilson of St. Nicholas', Newcastle. Henry Tulip's father acquired a fortune by farming under Sir Edward Blackett of Hexham abbey, at Fallowfield, etc. His son [? nephew] commenced captain and gentleman of the Northumberland Militia. He was a good tempered, inoffensive man, but rather vain, and was nicknamed the count. He was a good whist player, which made him a welcome guest at Bywell.' R. Spearman, *Notes*.

THE TOWNSHIP OF WALL.

The township of Wall is in shape not unlike an hour glass, the top towards the east and the base resting upon the North Tyne ; it has an area of 1699 acres,¹ and at the last census had a population of 422.²

The higher part of the township is occupied by uplands, called Wall fell, with the hamlet of Coldlaw and the farm house of Greenfield. Below the neck (about 600 feet in width), which connects the upper and lower parts of the township, is the farm house of Planetrees which stands in the ditch of the Vallum. From this place the military road goes on to Chollerford bridge by way of Brunton bank, while another road, by a sharp descent, leads to the village of Wall. All the land in the township, with the exception of some recent enfranchisements, is held by copy of Court Roll of the manor of Hexham.

The portion of the Roman Wall included in the parish of St. John Lee is about four and a half miles in length, and runs chiefly in the direction from east to west-north-west.

Immediately after passing Watling Street, the Roman Wall, as represented by the military road (which is for the most part constructed upon its foundations), is continued over the height known as Stagshaw bank, and proceeds upon a high ridge of country,³ overlooking the Tyne valley on the south and the low lands of the Erring burn on the north, until it reaches Brunton bank, where it makes a steep and rapid descent into the valley of the North Tyne. At Brunton house the lines of the Wall and General Wade's military road diverge, the latter turning sharply off to the north-west in order to ease the gradient by a zigzag course, while the Wall takes the straight course, which brings it to the North Tyne at the point where the abutment and pier of the Roman bridge still remain.

Of the Wall itself nothing is left at this part of its course, except a piece at Planetrees field⁴ and the 'turret' and wall adjoining it in the grounds of Brunton house, both of which are described later on. Though

¹ Including 32 acres of water area.

² The Census Returns are: 1801, 356; 1811, 499; 1821, 465; 1831, 495; 1841, 437; 1851, 474; 1861, 484; 1871, 479; 1881, 398; 1891, 422.

³ At the highest point in the Stanley plantation the Wall is 873 feet above the level of the sea.

⁴ About 50 yards east of the twentieth milestone. Maclauchlan, *Survey of the Roman Wall*, p. 25.

no other part of the Wall is now standing in the parish of St. John Lee, the stones which composed it are still to be seen at several points embedded in the military road, and its fosse yet remains and forms the north boundary, making its general direction and relation to that road to be easily distinguished.

Though the Wall has almost entirely disappeared, the aggers and fosse of the Vallum are plainly visible along the greater part of this section,



VALLUM NEAR PORTGATE.

and form most interesting and even picturesque objects, especially in autumn, when the different colours of the heather and the fern mark out the lines of the mounds and ditch. At this point it has been cut through sandstone.

In the following often-quoted passage, William Hutton of Birmingham (who in the first year of the present century journeyed on foot along the Roman Wall) describes his sensations on visiting this part of it :

I now travel over a large common, still upon the Wall, with its trench nearly complete; but what was my surprise when I beheld 30 yards on my left, the united works of Agricola and Hadrian, almost perfect.¹ I climbed over a stone wall to examine the wonder, measured the whole in every direction, surveyed them with surprise, with delight, was fascinated, and unable to proceed; forgot I was upon a wild common, a stranger, and the evening approaching.

Further on we learn from Hutton what was a century ago the condition of that part of the Wall, of which we have now only the mere fragment standing, as before described, in Planetrees field:

At the twentieth milestone I should have seen a piece of Severus's wall $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet high and 224 yards long, a sight not to be found in the whole line; but the proprietor, Henry Tulip, esq., is now taking it down to erect a farm house with the materials. Ninety-five yards are already destroyed, and the stones fit for building removed. Then we come to 13 yards, which are standing and overgrown on the top with brambles.

The next 40 yards were just demolished, and the stones, of all sizes from 1 pound to 2 cwt., lying in one continued heap, none removed; the next 40 yards are standing 7 feet high.

Then follows the last division, consisting of 36 yards, which is sacrificed by the mattock, the largest stones selected and the small left. The facing stones remain on both sides. This grand exhibition must be seen no more. How little we value what is daily under the eye.

Here was a fine opportunity for measuring. The foundation was, in fact, below the surface of the ground and consisted of two courses of stones, each 6 inches thick, extending to the width of $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The second course set off 3 inches on each side, which reduced the foundation to 6 feet, and the third 3 inches of a side more, reducing the wall to $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet, its real thickness here.

The foundation is laid in the native earth, the bed is cemented with mortar. The soil being afterwards thrown up on each side of the Wall 2 feet high caused the foundation to be 3 feet deep.

I desired the servant, with whom I conversed, to give my compliments to Mr. Tulip and request him to desist, or he would wound the whole body of antiquaries. As he was putting an end to the most noble monument of antiquity in the whole island, they would feel every stroke. If the Wall was of *no* estimation he must have a mean opinion of me, who would travel 600 miles to see it; and if it *was* he could never merit my thanks for destroying it. Should he reply 'The property is mine and I have a right to direct it as I please,' it is an argument I can regret but not refute.

Apparently the fortunate accident of Hutton's presence and seasonable intervention preserved the fragment of the Wall in Planetrees field (which appears to be the last 36 yards described by him) from destruction.

In the grounds of Brunton house, about half a mile to the west of Planetrees field, has long been visible a piece of the Wall 7 feet high, and showing nine courses of facing stones. The southern face of the Wall was supposed to be gone, but excavations made by Mr. John Clayton, about 1883, brought to light a remarkably fine specimen of one of those military sentry-boxes which antiquaries have chosen to call turrets, and of which apparently there were originally three to every Roman mile. This turret (to quote Dr. Bruce's description) 'is a small quadrangular building, enclosing a space of 12 feet

¹ Following the opinion of most previous antiquaries, Hutton believed that the southward agger of the Vallum, the fosse, and the 'marginal mound,' were the work of Agricola; the rest of the Vallum he attributed to Hadrian; the stone wall and its fosse to Severus.

9 inches by 11 feet 9 inches. It has a doorway nearly 4 feet wide. The turret is recessed into the great wall about 4 feet. The wall which forms the north wall of the turret is standing eleven courses high, giving an elevation of $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The side walls of the turret are 2 feet 9 inches thick. The south wall of the turret is nearly 4 feet high.¹ There is also now uncovered a fine piece of the south side of the wall to the west of the turret.

What makes the discovery of this turret the more important for the visitor who is exploring this section of the Roman Wall is, that of the next larger places of encampment, the mile-castles, he will find no good specimens here to examine. There must have been five originally; the first about 50 yards west of the 17th mile-stone from Newcastle; the second about 90 yards east of the 18th mile-stone; the third about 220 yards east of the 19th mile-stone; the fourth near Planetrees farm; and the fifth in the fields below Brunton house, about midway between the road and the river.² The distances between them are very regular, being in all cases about $7\frac{1}{4}$ furlongs (1,595 yards). 'If it were not that this regular distance had been calculated on,' says MacLauchlan, 'our researches for the mile-castles would often have been useless.' The traces of most of these five mile-castles have long been very faint, and are every day growing fainter.

A little south of the Wall, close to the western side of Watling Street, there is a 'temporary camp,' about 40 yards square. Another,³ of larger dimensions, connected with the south agger of the Vallum, is to be found about a quarter of a mile west of Watling Street in the field in front of Portgate farm house.

The construction of the military road, so disastrous to the Wall itself, has fortunately left its fosse intact, and its course, from Portgate westwards to St. Oswalds, is of more than usual interest. It is particularly observable as the ground descends towards the west, where the fosse appears of its full original depth and width, and its outlines remain as sharp as if it were a work of comparatively recent construction.

The material from the excavation has been deposited on the north side,

¹ Bruce, *Handbook to the Roman Wall* (1882), p. 67.

² The allocations of these mile-castles are taken from MacLauchlan's *Survey of the Roman Wall*, pp. 23-25.

³ To this last camp, not noticed in MacLauchlan's *Survey* nor to be found in the Ordnance map, attention was first directed by Mr. George Neilson of Glasgow in his monograph, *Per Lineam Valli* (p. 36). He ascribes both these camps to Roman soldiers engaged in quarrying stones for the Wall, and draws (from the position of the latter camp) important conclusions as to the relative ages of Vallum and Murus, and the strategical object for which the former was constructed.

where traces yet remain, which appear to show the manner in which the *débris* has been disposed of at different portions of the work. The 'written rock' on Fallowfield fell (already mentioned on page 155) indicates one of the sources whence the wall builders may have obtained material; and the line of outcrop, presenting a bold escarpment to the north of Whittington fell, appears to have been similarly quarried at an early period. The first of these sources of supply, it may be noted, is to the south, and the second is to the north of the barrier.



In a farm house at St. Oswalds hill head, a centurial stone has been built into the front of the house, where it appears in an inverted position, indicating the work of CAECILIUS CLEMENS.

The Wall, after passing down from Brunton house, is traceable across the fields to the bank of the North Tyne, where remains of a *castellum* and an abutment of heavy masonry have been unearthed. The military way which accompanied it crossed the North Tyne river by means of a bridge¹ of four spans, having an abutment at each end and three piers.² The spans were 35 feet 6 inches wide. The piers have each a face length of 21 feet 6 inches, with a breadth of 16 feet, and are angled on the ends facing the current to form starlings or cut-waters. The eastern abutment has the same face length as the piers, but the western one has been extended some distance further at its northern end. The abutments had long and massive wing-walls extending up and down stream to protect them from the scour of the water, and to give platform area for defensive works. That on the south side of the east abutment had, at a later date, been considerably extended by stones obtained from an earlier bridge on the same site.

Owing to the gradual shifting of the river course towards the west, the eastern abutment and the pier nearest to it had become deeply buried in the river bank, and it was not until the year 1860, upon suggestions by the late Mr. William Coulson of Corbridge, that excavations were made, and the remains of the abutment revealed to view. The western abutment foundations now lie in the river bed, adjacent to the western bank of the river.

¹ The late Dr. Bruce thought that the stone for building the bridge was obtained from the Black Pasture quarry, near Brunton bank. *Wallet Book*, p. 75.

² This account of the Roman bridge, originally written and now revised by Mr. Sheriton Holmes, is reprinted from *Arch. Acl.* vol. xvi. p. 328, by permission of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle.

The westward movement of the course of the river had been going on at an earlier time, and, in part at least, to this cause the erection of this bridge was probably due; for there are the remains of a former bridge, also of Roman construction, upon the same site, one water pier of which had been built in and enclosed in the eastern abutment of the later one.¹ The earlier bridge had been much less in width than that which superseded it, the piers being only 9 feet 4 inches long by 10 feet 4 inches broad, but they



ABUTMENT OF ROMAN BRIDGE.

were furnished with starlings both up and down stream, instead of at the upper end only, an arrangement which the later builders might have copied with advantage, for the danger of scouring by the regurgitation of the water against the flat-ended piers must have been great.

As the earlier piers were utilised, and by additions to them constituted the later ones, the spans of the later bridge were, owing to the greater

¹ See plan of bridge, where the earlier bridge works are indicated by a red tint.

breadth of the piers, necessarily shorter than those of the earlier bridge, the relative lengths being 35 feet 6 inches in the later bridge and 41 feet 2 inches in the earlier.

The water pier built into the later abutment must have had at least one span of its bridge to the eastward of it, and as the pier or abutment accompanying it occupied a position directly beneath where the Roman Wall is now placed, it becomes almost certain that this bridge existed before the Wall was built. The only alternative is, as has been suggested, that when the later bridge was built the Wall had been lengthened to bring it up to the castellum. This, however, is negatived by the results of an examination of the face of the Wall for a distance of 60 feet from the castellum, which revealed a uniform face of similar masonry and unbroken coursed work, dipping uniformly towards the abutment, which had sunk down considerably below its original level on account of the percolation of water underneath it.

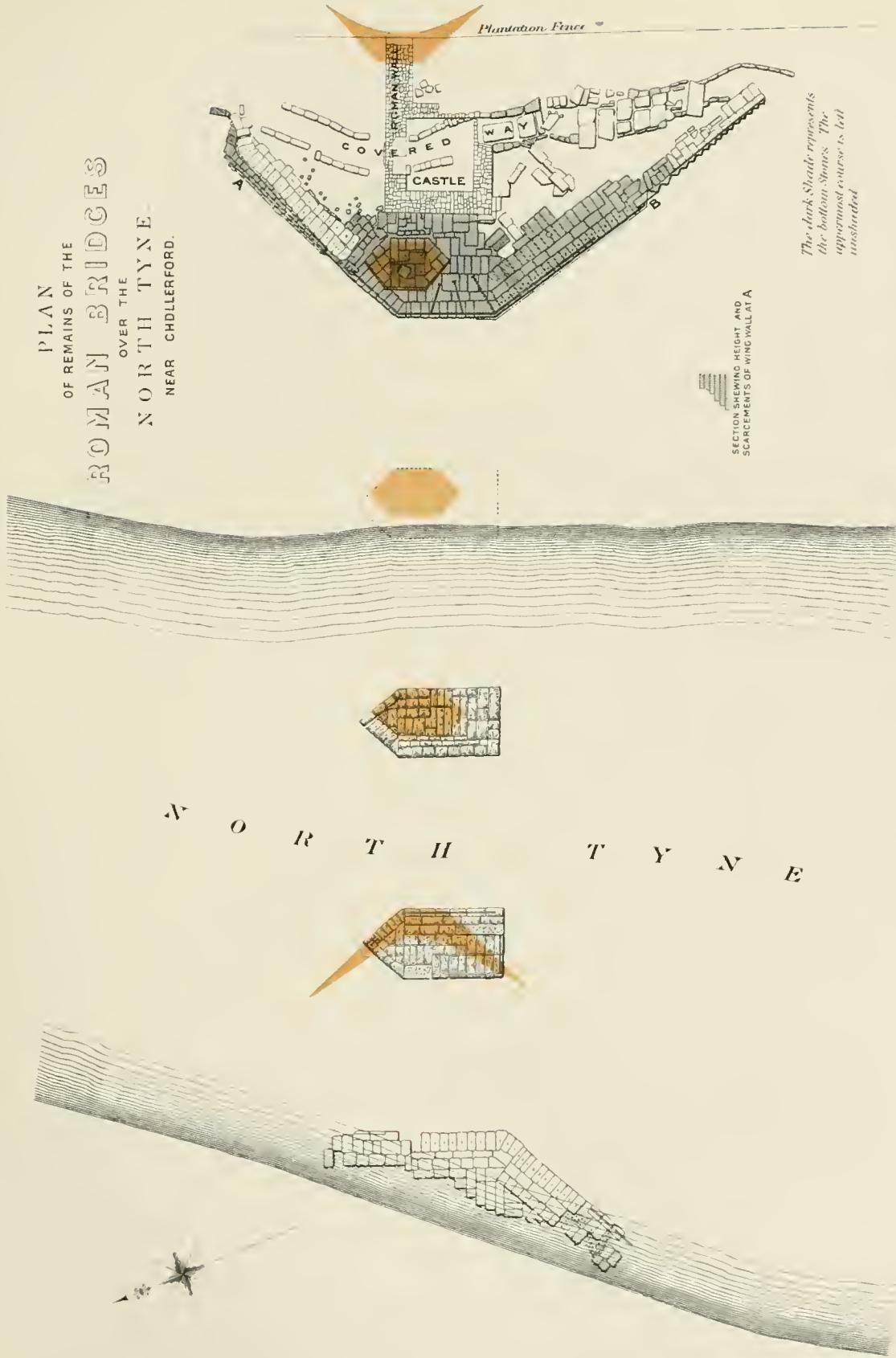
It seems to be beyond doubt that both the bridges had flat timber roadways, no arch-stones having been found; nor would the height of the abutment platforms have allowed for the rise of arches and yet permit of sufficient waterway beneath them. In further proof of this, several stones, grooved across for the insertion of timbers upon which to rest the longitudinal beams carrying the roadway, have been found.

The workmanship and appliances had altered considerably in the interval between the dates of the two structures, and the quality of the workmanship had retrograded in many respects in the later work, the fitting and snecking of the ashlar stones being decidedly inferior; and whilst in the earlier masonry the stones are fastened together by dovetailed cramps, the stones of the later bridge are unsystematically and rudely cramped together by long iron rods run in grooves near the face of the work with T-ended branches inwards. In one respect there had been an advance in mechanical appliances, for instead of the stones having to be set with the pinch (the holes for which are seen on the upper beds of the stones of the imbedded pier) the later artificers had the use of the crane and lewis, holes for the latter being found in all the large stones of the later work, whereas in the former they are invariably absent.

The late Mr. John Clayton¹ records that during the excavation of the

¹ *Arch. Ael.* vol. vi. p. 84.

PLAN
OF REMAINS OF THE
ROMAN BRIDGES
OVER THE
NORTH TYNE
NEAR CHDLERFORD.



The dark shade represents the bottom stones. The uppermost course is left unshaded.

SECTION SHOWING HEIGHT AND SCARPMENTS OF WING WALL AT A

The parts tinted SIENNA show the positions of the piers of the former bridge which were rebuilt in those of the later one, also the supposed position of the two earlier abutments.

SCALE OF FEET.
0 10 20 30 40

DESIGNED BY G. G. WOODWARD, ARCHT. R.S.A.

abutment a number of coins were found; the earliest in date being a silver coin of the *Gens Cassia*, or family of Caius Cassius, the assassin of Julius Cæsar. Amongst the coins was another silver coin, in excellent preservation, of Julia Domna, the second wife of the Emperor Severus. Besides these there were several coins of brass of the Emperor Hadrian, Diocletian, the Constantine family, and of the usurper Tetricus, and other articles including mill-stones, Samian ware bearing the pottery mark 'DOCCIVS,' and an altar without any inscription.

Amongst the *débris* of the bridge abutment there are certain peculiar shaped stones which have evidently been designed for some special use. One of them is a monolithic pillar, 9 feet 1 inch in length, having a rectangular base 2 feet 2 inches long, 1 foot 11 inches broad, and 2 feet 2 inches high; above this the angles are rounded off, until at the top the pillar assumes a circular form with a diameter of 1 foot 7 inches. The shaft of this column is 6 feet 6½ inches long, and concentrically on its upper end there is a curved conical boss, 4½ inches deep, with a scarcement all round it of 5 inches on the pillar top. On the longer face of the base the stone has been cut away to a depth of 5 inches, so as to leave projecting a face moulding, and as the shape of this moulding is similar to that upon other stones which have apparently formed an ornamental string course along the face of the abutment, its original position is determined as having been on the face of the abutment and in line with the string course. As another evidence of the position of the pillar stone, there remains one of the stones which had formed the parapet hollowed out to fit up against it. There are also portions of a similar column which had been broken up. The upper end of it is now on the abutment amongst the ruins, and what appears to be a portion of the shaft, about 4 feet long, with a dowel hole cut in a similar manner to that in the entire column, is now placed in an angle of the building on the west side of the river.¹

A third stone demands particular attention. It is in the form of a barrel or the nave of a cart wheel without the axle hole through it. This stone is 2½ feet long, with a diameter of 1 foot 7 inches at its centre, and 1 foot 1¼ inches at its ends. Radiating from the centre are eight recesses cut to a depth of 4½

¹ Where Watling Street crossed the Rede the bed of the river is paved with large stones; and when a part of the north bank was washed away by a flood a few years ago, two pillars were discovered, which it is supposed might have stood at the entrance to a bridge. Stephen Oliver, *Rambles in Northumberland*, 1835.

inches, which, at the face of the stone, form openings 1 inch wide by 3 inches long. The lower sides of these holes are cut deeper as they recede from the face, being half an inch deeper at the inner end than at the face, thus forming a tapered or half-dovetailed hole, similar to the lewis holes in the abutment stones. The weight of this stone is about $5\frac{1}{4}$ cwt., and its most probable use was that to serve as a balance-weight applied either over a pulley or at the end of a lever. A reference to the detailed drawings of this stone will show how admirably it is adapted to being slung, for, if in the holes there were placed half-dovetailed studs tapering from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches, they would fall down half an inch from the upper side of the hole, and admit of a flat slip of that thickness being driven in above them, thus securely fastening them in position. The studs being then left projecting beyond the face of the stone would form attachments for the ropes or rods used in slinging it. A very similar arrangement to this existed until lately at the smaller collieries in the northern counties, when the water was drawn from the pit in tubs by means of a 'whimsey' worked by a horse. To balance the water-tub they had another filled with stone, through which, midway in its height, pieces of wood were placed at equal angles, and the projections formed attachment studs in the same manner as those in the balance stone. This stone has, apparently, an intimate connection with the pillar stones, and all three taken together may be considered as a permanent frame and balance for the lifting of some heavy structure.

The conical boss on the top of the pillar seems designed to secure a beam placed across the top of the two pillars, which would have cups cut in it to fit the stone bosses.¹

Following a devious course along the whole length of the east abutment and its wings is a covered passage, which might have been intended to afford additional water-way in times of flood. From its position, however, and the manner in which it cuts diagonally through the castellum, it is evidently a much later work than the bridge. Its sides are generally formed of the lewis-holed stones of the later bridge, and the covers, which are very large slabs of stone, might have originally formed the flagging of the abutment platform.

¹ What exact purpose this mechanical arrangement was designed to serve remains an unsolved problem, though in the paper read by Mr. Sheriton Holmes before the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in 1893, a suggestion is put forward that it may have afforded a means of raising a portion of the bridge platform so as to break communication along it: turning it, in fact, into a drawbridge. *Arch. Ael.* vol. xvi. p. 328.

A much later bridge, known as Chollerford bridge, had become ruinous, when Bishop Skirlaw of Durham, in 1333 granted an indulgence¹ to all who should by labour or money contribute to its repair. The result of this effort² probably led to the building of the stone bridge of four arches, which was presented by the Grand Jury at the Northumberland Midsummer Sessions of 1718, 'to be fallen downe and out of reparaire, and that the same lyes upon the King's High Street or way leading from Carlisle to Newcastle, and is very necessary and convenient to the said county, and that the ford which lyes nigh the said bridge is very dangerous, almost att all times to be ridd.'³ It was again broken down by a flood on 11th December, 1733.⁴

This bridge was carried away by the great flood of 1771, and replaced by the present bridge, which was opened for traffic 21st April, 1775,⁵ and stands about half a mile north-east of the Roman bridge, the gradient of the military road being

eased by a detour from the direct line followed by the Roman works, thus carrying the road farther to the north. At the east end of Chollerford bridge, in the stationmaster's garden, is an ancient grave which was opened in 1868: there was a cist 4 feet 6 inches long, 2 feet 4 inches broad, and 2 feet 9 inches



ANCIENT GRAVE NEAR CHOLLERFORD BRIDGE.

deep; the top stone was about 6 feet long by 5 feet 9 inches in breadth. There were found in it the bones of a leg and arm, and a flint implement; the latter is figured in the *Proceedings* of the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries.⁶

¹ A translation of the indulgence is printed in Mackenzie's *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 242.

² If we could be satisfied that the ballad, 'Jock o' the Side,' were genuine, it might be inferred that in his time (*circa* 1569) there was not a bridge at Chollerford.

³ But when they cam' to Chollerford,
There they met with an auld man;
Says—"Honest man, will the water ride?
Tell us in haste, if that ye can."

"I wat weel no," quo the gude auld man;
"I hae bided here threty years and thrie,
And I ne'er yet saw the Tyne sae big,
Nor running ance sae like a sea."

Scott, *Border Minstrelsy*.

⁴ *Sessions Records*.

⁵ *Warden Register*.

⁶ *Richardson, Table Book*.

⁶ Vol. ii. pp. 170, 171.

In the thirteenth century the prior and convent of Hexham obtained a grant of a rood of land in Wall from archbishops Gray and Gifford for the purpose of building themselves a tithe barn,¹ and the vill paid towards the subsidy of 1295 the sum of 21s. 4½d., which was shared by thirteen tenants, headed by Sampson of Wall or Del Welle.² Like Acomb, it suffered severely from the Scottish inroads of 1315 and 1546. The names upon the Muster Roll of 1538 are Errington, Dawson, Kell, Robson, Wilson, and others, still common in the district.

WALL MUSTER ROLL, 1538.³

Edwerd Eryngton, Ric. Wilson, Edward Wilson, Robert Trumbyll, Thomas Kersope, Thomas Robson, Edwerd Spayn, Robert Store, Alexander Dawson, Rolland Kell, Thomas Pateson, John Gibson, Rolland Kell, Robert Robynson, James Kell, Edwerd Kell, Edward Watson, able with horse and harness. Thomas Dawson, Rog. Unstayn, Thomas Kell, Thomas Kell, Thomas Dawson, Willm Stere, Rog. Robson, neither hors nor harness.⁴

In 1547 the rents of the twenty-six copyholders amounted to £14 7s. 6d., and ranged from 2s. 8d., paid by Rowland Kell for the quarter of a husbandland, to 26s. 3d. William Kell held the water corn mill, for which he paid a rent of 10s., and 4s. 10d. was received from four tenants of 'Treasury lands.'⁵ The watch was ordered in 1552, 'from the foot of Erren to the miln of Chollerton, to be watched nightly with four men of the inhabitants of the town of Wall.' The setters and searchers of the watch were James Bell and Sander Dawson.⁶ The survey of 1608 discloses a more complex system of tenure than that made sixty years before, for the copyhold rents, which amounted to £6 14s. 7d., are entered under a different head from those of the customary tenants, which brought in £8 18s. 5d. With the latter are classed 'the Checquer rentes,' which, doubtless, were derived from the Treasury lands of the former survey. Some names appear in both lists, and an attempt is made to discriminate between tenants of the same surname by mentioning their respective abodes, as Edward Kell of the Hill and Edward Kell of the Chair, George Kell of the Chairhead and George Kell of the Hall-pool; the latter held the mill, which was worth £5 a year over and above the old rent of 10s.⁷ The condition of the township

¹ Vol. iii. pp. 139, 150.² *Ibid.* p. 33.³ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 188.

⁴ The nine men of Wall appointed about the same period to go to Berwick 'in the tyme of necessite when they be calld upon,' were Alexr. Kell the younger, Edward Errington, George Kell, Percevell Kell, Roger Yeldarde, Willm. Dawson, Jared Dawson, yonger, Richard Kyrsope, or a man for hym, James Kell, Edward's son. *State Paper* time of Henry VIII. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. p. cix. preface.

⁵ Vol. iii. pp. 67, 68.⁶ Nicolson, *Border Laws*, p. 171.⁷ Vol. iii. p. 99.

in the time of Charles I. has already been related under Acomb, where are given the names of the tenants of Wall in the year 1626. The proprietors in 1663, with the rateable value of their respective holdings, were: John Dawson, £22 10s.; William Dawson, £10; William Dobson of West Row, £3 6s. 8d.; Edward Kell of Stare, £12 10s.; George Kell of Hall-pool, £22 10s.; Thomas Kell of Greenhead, £17 10s.; Edward Kell of West Row, £7 10s.; Matthew Kell, £7 10s.; Thomas Lamb, £1 5s.; William Lee, £7 10s.; John Lookup, £5; William Robson and the tenements late Edward Kell, £17 10s.; Simon Simpson, £2 10s.; Mark Story, £5. Sir William Fenwick owned the tithes.

On the 12th October, 1747, the tenants of Wall, who were seised of messuages, farmholds, or lands copyhold of the manor of Hexham, entered into an agreement with Major Allgood of Brandon, gent., as the surviving trustee of the will of Sir William Blackett of Wallington, the lord of the manor and regality of Hexham, and with each other, for the enclosure and division of the out-field of the township, called Wall fell. The minerals were reserved to the lord, and it was agreed that one-sixteenth of the lands to be divided should be allotted to him for his consent; and that the remainder should be divided by the proportions of the ancient yearly rents, payable to the lord of the manor by the respective parties, who were:

George Cuthbertson, Newcastle; Thomas Daglease, Hexham; Edward Dawson, Haltwhistle; John Dawson, Brunton; Edward Kell, Raw-house; Joshua Kell, Wall; George Lee, Hexham; Simon Mewburn, Acomb; John Morpeth, Newton; John Nicholson, Stobbilee; Michael Pearson of Newcastle; John Robson, Blackbogg; William Shafto, Humshaugh; John Stobart, Wall; Henry Tulip, Fallowfield; Patrick Dawson of Newcastle, as guardian of Jane, infant daughter of David Johnson of Hexham, the elder, deceased; Thomas Stokoe of Hexham, as guardian of George Johnson, son and heir of David Johnson the younger of Hexham, deceased; George Holloway of London, and Mary his wife, John Wild of Scouts house, Durham, and Elizabeth his wife.¹

In 1722 the following polled for freeholds in Wall: Robert Kell of Willimoteswick, George Lee of Dilston, Edward Kell, George Kell, and Robert Dawson of Wall; John Armstrong voted for Wall mill; in 1748 John Dawson of Brunton voted for tithes in Wall, Edward Kell of Cocklehead and George Lee of Hexham voted for freeholds, and in 1774 Edward Kell of Standing Stone voted for tithes in Wall.

¹ 1748, March 31st. Award of Alexander Brown of Doxford, esq., and Thomas Reed of Aydon, gent., reciting amongst other certain articles of agreement bearing date 12th October, 1747, for the division and partition of the waste, moor or common called Wall fell, by the said Alexander Brown and Thomas Reed. Mr. J. B. Clayton's *Title Deeds*.

The following wills from the registry at York¹ are of members of the yeoman family of Kell, which still clings tenaciously to the township of Wall, being represented by Mr. T. E. Kell, a solicitor in Wetherby in Yorkshire, and Mr. Edward Rowell of Walbottle, who succeeded to the estate of the late Joshua Kell of Greenfield :

1593, 2nd July. Probate of will of William Kell of Wall granted to Richard Kell of Newcastle, an executor. Reservation to 'Effam,' the widow, and Robert Kell, the son, the other executors.

1595, 22nd April. Probate of will of Robert Kell of Errington granted to William Kell, the son and sole executor.

1595, 11th August. Administration of Reginald Kell of Wall, granted to Isabel, the widow. Reservation to George, Thomas, Edward, Margaret, Thomasine, and Elizabeth Kell, his children, minors.

1601/2, 8th February. Administration of Edward Kell of Chairehead, chapelry of St. Oswalds, granted to Isabel Kell, his daughter, a minor, and Robert Dawson of Wall, her grandfather, made tutor.

1601/2, 8th February. Administration of Edward Kell, son of Roland Kell, chapelry of St. Oswalds, granted to Janet, his widow, to her own use, and that of Roland, Nicholas and George Kell, her sons, minors.

1601/2, 8th February. Administration of Thomas Kell of Acomb granted to Edward and Elizabeth, his children.

1601/2, 8th February. Probate of the will of William Kell of Wall granted to Mabel and Isabel Kell, his daughters and executors; George Kell of Hall-pool made tutor of Edward Kell, son of deceased, and George Kell of Newcastle made tutor of Mabel, and John Kell of Humshaugh made tutor of Isabel Kell, all minors.

1602, 3rd May. Administration of Alexander Kell of Wall granted to Thomasine and Isabel Kell, his sisters.

1602, 3rd May. Administration of Nicholas Kell of chapelry of St. Oswalds granted to George Kell of Hall-pool and George Bell of Kepick mill.

1674/5, 19th March. Will of Thomas Kell of Acomb; my sons, George and John, my daughter, Jane, residue to wife Grace; son George, executor. Proved 8th September, 1675.

1680, 29th March. Will of Edward Kell of Wall, yeoman; to be buried at St. John Ley. To my second son, George Kell, the half of my corn tithes in Wall, which I bought of Sir John Fenwick; the other half to my youngest son, Robert Kell. To my eldest son, Edward Kell, all my lands in Wall when twenty-one. My sister, Margaret Hutchinson, widow, my sister, Jane Errington's daughter, Mary Errington. Residue to my wife, Elizabeth, she executrix. Proved 3rd July, 1680.

1685/6, 20th February. Will of Barbara Kell of Wall. My eldest daughter, Anne Byers, widow, my grandchild, Barbara Newburne, and Sarah Newburne, her sister; Joseph Dod, who married my grandchild; my daughter, Mabel Brown.

1689/90, 15th February. Tutition of Edward, son of Edward Kell of Wall, granted to Anne Byers, widow, and also administration of Edward Kell.

1701, 10th June. Will of Samuel Kell of Wall, yeoman. To my brother, Benjamin Kell, 20s., to the licensed meeting house at Hexham 5s. a year for four years. My copyhold lands at Wall to son, William; my son, John Kell, sole executor. Proved 26th June, 1704.

1710, 24th October. Edward Kell of Wester Row was found to have died seised of three messuages in Wall, with the lands belonging, and also of 106 acres lying in the Highfield of Wall. His son, Edward Kell the younger, was found to be next heir, and was admitted.²

1719, 26th June. Will of George Kell of Hexham, glazier. My son George Kell, my daughter Elizabeth Robson, my wife Isabel, executrix. Proved 19th October, 1719.

1721, 25th April. William Dodd of Aydon castle, and Agnes his wife, surrendered the water corn mill of Wall, etc., to the use of Edward Kell the younger of Wall.²

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

² Mr. J. B. Clayton's *Title Deeds*.

1722, 27th August. Will of Matthew Kell of Hexham, gent. My wife Ann; my son John Kell of Hexham; my son James Kell; my daughter Katherine, wife of George Rowland; my daughter Elizabeth, wife of George Turner. Proved 26th August, 1726.

1722, 16th October. Administration of Edward Kell of Wall to Jane, wife of John Armstrong, his relict.

1723, 28th December. Will of Edward Kell of Wall, yeoman. I have surrendered a tenement in Wall of 70 acres, yearly rent 15s. 9d.; my wife Hannah; my son Edward; the reversion of my house in Western raw, called Newhouse, my daughter Sarah, wife of Thomas Rowell, my son Joshua Kell; wife, Hannah, sole executrix. Proved 1st May, 1724.

1737, 26th April. Edward Kell the younger of Wall was found to have died seised of three messuages in Wall, with the lands belonging thereto, of 90 acres in Wall High field, Wall mill, etc. Edward Kell of Wall, his son and next heir, was admitted.¹

1741, 14th April. John Heron of Wall surrendered to the use of Edward Kell, then of Corbridge, eldest son and heir of Edward Kell the younger, late of Wall, deceased, a close in Wall townfields called Hanging Shaw bank.¹

1741, 14th April. Edward Kell of Corbridge, and Elizabeth his wife, and Jane Armstrong, mother of the said Edward, surrender to the use of John Morpeth of Corbridge (in trust) a messuage, lands known as Mantle garth, and Kiln garth, and Wall mill.¹

1758, 4th February. Probate of the will of Anne Kell of Hexham granted to Mary, wife of Matthew Kell, her daughter and sole executor.

1765, 14th November. Edward Kell was admitted to 56 acres of land, formerly parcel of Wall fell, and allotted to him in right of his estate in Wall upon a division of the said Wall fell.¹

1773, 1st December. Probate of the will of Thomas Kell of Wall granted to Elizabeth Kell, his widow, and Robert Patterson, the executors.

1782, 29th July. Probate of the will of Robert Kell of Wall fell granted to Joshua Kell, his son and sole executor.

The pleasant grounds² of Brunton house³ command fine views of the valley of the North Tyne; and through the garden, from the fosse of the Wall, flows a small rill, which coats the pebbles of its bed⁴ with an ochreous deposit. The Brunton estate has partly been made up of allotments of Wall fell, which was divided amongst the copyholders in 1748. It was long the property and residence of the family of Dawson, whose surname occurs in the lists of tenants of Wall from 1538 downward.

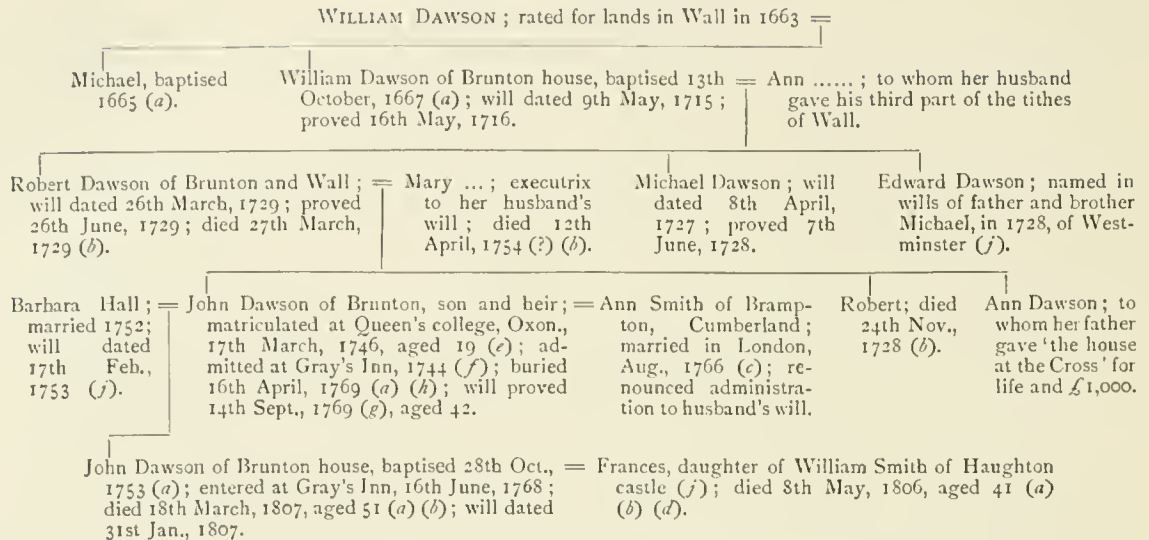
¹ Mr. J. B. Clayton's *Title Deeds*.

² They contain, resting against the ruins of the Wall, being the northern side of the turret which has been already described, an altar, which is figured in Dr. Bruce's *Roman Wall*.

³ East of Brunton is Coldlaw, which is probably the Coddan where a coal mine was worked as early as 1499, in which year Archbishop Neville granted a ninety-nine years' lease to Gilbert Errington, esq., at the rent of 10s. 4d. a year. In the Ecclesiastical Court at York there was a suit in 1590, Sir Joh. Forster v. Nicholas Errington of Errington, in which Robert Gibson of Hexham, yeoman, deposed that 'Gilbert Errington for the last five years hath occupied a colepitt called Coddayne cole pitt, and he hath sene the said Gilberte's servantes gett coles. The workmen have gotten ten chalder of coles in one day.' John Gibson of Hexham, *aet.* 60, deposed the same. 'This examine 24 yeres ago and more, being then servante to Ladie Carnabye, who was fermar of the tiethes of Hexhamshire, went to Coddain cole pitt and in the name of his said ladie and mistris received 24 chawders of coles for tieth yerely.' John Errington of Errington, gent., aged *circa* 64, deposed 'that for 16 yeres Gilbert Errington has occupied a cole pit at Fallowfield. Eastfield is a place called the New Ryfte and not elsewhere, about a quarter of a mile off is a place called Codd deane, in which place as it may appear by the view thereof there have been coal pitts sunk, but he never new any men work them. The articulate Nicholas Errington married this examine's wife's daughter, and ever since his marriage saying since Whitsontide last, the said Nicholas and his wife have dwelt in this examine's house, and his kine have depastured on this examine's farmhold.' Agnes Errington, wife of Nicholas Errington, deposed that her husband and Nicholas had six kine and no more.

⁴ Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. i. p. 48.

DAWSON OF BRUNTON.

(a) *St. John Lee Register.*(b) *M.I. St. John Lee.*(c) *Newcastle Courant*, 16th Aug., 1766.(d) *Gent's Mag.* 1806.(e) Forster, *Alumni Oxonienses.*(f) Forster, *Admissions to Gray's Inn.*(g) Raine, *Test. Ebor.*(h) *Gent's Mag.* 1769.

(j) Rev. John Hodgson's Collection.

1670, 22nd Aug. John Fenwick of Wallington, the Crown grantee, conveyed the corn tithes of Wall to John Dawson of Wall, William Lee of Wall, and Edward Kell of Wall, who, 6th June, 1672, released to each other, so that each might hold one-third in severalty.

1673 and 1675. John Dawson and Eleanor his wife conveyed one-third of the corn tithes of Wall to William Dawson of Wall, yeoman.

1715, 9th May. Will of William Dawson of Brunton house. To be buried in the churchyard of St. John Lee. To my wife Anne for life, one-third of the corn tithe of Wall, which is letten to tennants for £15 per annum. To my two sons, Robert and Michael Dawson, all moneys as shall become due or paid by the court of London upon the account of an estate at Ovingham that formerly belonged to John Addison, esq. To my son, Michael Dawson, £150 ; he executor. Proved 16th May, 1716.¹

1729, 26th March. Will of Robert Dawson of Wall, gent. To my son John, a farm called Brunton in Chollerford field, and Hall-pool farm there, and the Nine-acre and William Lee close and three houses in Wall, and the third part of my corn tithe in Wall. To my daughter Ann Dawson, £1,000 and the house at the Cross for her life. If my wife has another child, it to have, if a male, the said corn tithe and the house in Newcastle joining the Castle Stairs, and the two shops. Residue to my wife Mary ; she executrix. Proved 26th June, 1729.¹

1769, 14th September. Probate of will of John Dawson of Brunton, in the chapelry of St. Oswald's, esquire, granted to Christopher Reed, esq., with tuition of John Dawson, the son : Ann Dawson, the widow, renouncing.¹

9th May, 1806, died at Brunton, near Chollerton, Mrs. Dawson . . . she introduced the Jennerian vaccination into her neighbourhood, and once a week had many cart loads of applicants for that improved mode of inoculation. *Gent's Mag.* May, 1806.

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

In 1795 John Dawson of Brunton¹ for £6,750 sold his moiety of the corn tithes of Wall and his copyhold estate of Brunton, Spaniel-hall *alias* Low Brunton, and the farm of Hallpool, to Matthew Culley of Wark, and George Culley of Pallinsburn Eastfield. Two years later the Culleys sold to their kinsman, Thomas Bates of Hulton, who, in 1806, for £13,400 sold the same to Henry Tulip of Fallowfield. In 1876 Mr. Tulip's grandson, Lieut.-Colonel Butler,² sold it, with all his other lands in Wall, to Mr. John Clayton, to whose grand-nephew, Mr. J. B. Clayton, nearly the whole of the township now belongs.

TOWNSHIP OF COCKLAW.

The township of Cocklaw contains 3,764 acres,³ and at the taking of the last census had a population of 154, wholly agricultural.⁴ Its area, which is larger than any other township in the parish, comprises the ground which slopes northward to the Erring burn, from the ridge along which the Roman Wall is carried.

The military road, constructed by General Wade after the rebellion of 1745, runs westward on the site of the Roman Wall to the descent into the North Tyne valley, where the gradient causes a deviation. The chapel of St. Oswald-on-the Wall⁵ stands on a commanding site a little to the north of the Wall, where the plain terminates by abrupt descents on the north and west. Its spacious graveyard is used for burials to the south and east of the church; whilst on the north, or, as it is here called, the 'backside' of the church, there was a building used to stable the horses and ponies of the congregation. The building forms one of the sides of the enclosure, which is planted with a row of sycamore trees, and the site commands an extensive view, with Hallington on the north-east, and Chipchase, Simonburn, Haughton, and the valley of the North Tyne on the north-west, with far stretches of moors and crags in the distance.

¹ Mr. Dawson, under certain conditions, reserved to himself the mansion of Brunton under a lease for a term of years.

² In 1873 Major H. T. Butler of Elvaston Place, S.W., was returned as owner of 1,437 acres in Northumberland, with a gross estimated rental of £2,623. *Parliamentary Return of Owners of Land.*

³ Including 5 acres of water area.

⁴ The Census Returns are: 1801, 183; 1811, 197; 1821, 199; 1831, 188; 1841, 172; 1851, 183; 1861, 200; 1871, 192; 1881, 180; 1891, 154.

⁵ In 1879 an ecclesiastical district, comprising the townships of Bingfield, Cocklaw, Fallowfield, Hallington, Portgate, and Wall, with the two chapels of St. Mary, Bingfield, and St. Oswald, was formed out of St. John Lee. *London Gazette*, 31st October, 1879.

The present church of St. Oswald is a simple structure, rectangular in plan, and entirely destitute of architectural features. Its situation, remote even from the scattered farmsteads of the district, tended to its neglect. In 1310 it was seemingly out of repair, for it is included in the list of those churches which Archbishop Greenfield ordered to be visited, so that the parishioners should be compelled to amend what might be amiss.¹ It was either rebuilt or largely repaired about 1737,² a date which appears on a sundial. At this reconstruction such features as it then possessed of an architectural character were swept away, for nothing now remains but the bare structure of the eighteenth century.³ Less than twenty years ago this, too, presented a miserable appearance; the window shutters had been blown away, the window glass broken, and the roof left in a leaky condition. The internal fittings, originally of the baldest description, corresponded in their general aspect of discomfort and decay with the neglect of the exterior of the edifice; the pews were mere boxes of deal, and the floor was spread with straw to enable the sparse worshippers to sit in some degree of comfort through the service. All this has now been changed, and the church has again been recently repaired.

THE BATTLE OF HEFENFELD.

The church occupies a site remarkable in the history of Northumberland, for it was here that King Oswald set up, before the coming battle, the emblem of that faith, in the reception of which, by his country, he was to be one of the chief instruments, and in the vital principles of which, as his after life witnessed, he was a genuine and consistent believer. Northumbria had

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 123; Surt. Soc. No. 46.

² 1736, September. Office against Ralph Davison, chapel warden of St. Oswald's chapel. 'The chappel being ruinous, and much out of repair,' ordered to repair before 1st September next. Canon Raine, *Notes from Faculty Books at York*.

³ Names of persons claiming pews, and seats in pews, in St. Oswald's chapel, 13th March, 1794:

Pew No. I. John Dixon of Mantle hill; widow Gibson of Greencroft mill, for Wall mill; Henry Tulip of Walwick, esq., for Bank-head; and Robert Pearson, esq., for Black Pasture. II. Robert Pearson, esq., for his ancient lands, and Messrs. Watson for Dunkirk West farm (each party objects to the other's claim). III. John Dawson, esq., and H. Tulip, esq., of Fallowfield, for Folstern-house. IV. Simon Mewburn, esq., and Mr. Robson. V. John Stobart of Wall, Edward Charlton of Hexham, and Mr. Gibbons. VI. Henry Tulip, esq., of Fallowfield, and Edward Kell of Wall, in right of Edward Ramsay's farm. VII. John Dawson, esq., Messrs. Watson for Greenhead, and old Edward Kell of Wall. VIII. Henry Errington, esq., for Portgate. IX. Sir Edward Blackett, bart., and Henry Tulip, esq., Walwick. X. Sir Edward Blackett, bart. XI. Edward Kell, Wall, and Joshua Kell, Wall fell. XII. Henry Errington, esq., for Portgate, and Christopher Soulsby, esq., for Fences. XIII. Henry Tulip, esq., of Walwick, for Edward Forster's farm at Wall, and Hill-head farm. XIV. Henry Tulip, esq., of Fallowfield, for Kilmhouse farm and Wilkinson's farm, Wall. XV. John Dawson, esq., for Brunton. XVI. Sir Edward Blackett, bart., for Fallowfield, and Henry Tulip, esq., for George Ramsay's farm at Wall. XVII. and XVIII. John Errington, esq., for Cocklaw and Cocklaw Hill-head. XIX. *Ib.* for Errington Red-house. XX. *Ib.* for Errington. XXI. *Ib.* for Keepwick. XXII. *Ib.* for Errington and Errington Hill-head. XXIII. *Ib.* for Keepwick mill and Portgate leazes. Mr. J. B. Clayton's *Papers*.

before then become, at least to some extent, Christian, through the influence of King Edwin and the missionary zeal and preaching of Paulinus; but it had returned to a belief in its former gods when, at Haethfelth¹ in the year 633, Edwin was defeated and slain in a battle against Penda, king of Mercia, a steadfast adherent of the old Teutonic faith, and Cadwalla, nominally a Christian, the ruler over a part of Britain as yet unconquered by the English.² Bernicia, released from the rule of Edwin by his death, had become again a separate kingdom under Eanfrid, son of Ethelfrid, its former king. He had been with his brothers for many years in exile among the Scots, and had there been educated in that branch of the Christian church with which the saintly apostle from Ireland, Columba, is identified. Eanfrid, who had relapsed into paganism, was, after scarcely a year's reign, slain in 634 by Cadwalla, when Bernicia fell under the tyranny and savage control of the British chief. His rule was not to last long, for the year had not expired when Oswald, a younger son of Ethelfrid, became the leader of the men of Northumberland in their rising against the alien oppressor, and when they threw off his yoke.

The battle which resulted in the defeat and death of Cadwalla took place, according to Beda,³ at a place before then called Hefenfelth, which he interprets, the heavenly plain.⁴ Oswald's force was small, but, as Beda says, strong in the faith of Christ; strong, too, we may not doubt, in hatred of a hostile and oppressive race. Cadwalla was in command of a large and, as he thought, irresistible army. Oswald encamped his men on ground strongly defended by nature on one side, and situated to the north of the Roman Wall, which (then standing) afforded a protection against Cadwalla advancing from the south, probably along Watling Street. Of the details of the battle we know nothing. How it ebbed and flowed, how the small body of men, fired with patriotic and religious ardour, withstood the assault of the larger one, flushed with previous victories and maddened with the desire for vengeance on a people who had driven out their fellow-countrymen, no one has recorded; but Beda tells us something of the events which took place immediately before the fight, and most moving and inspiring they are. The spot

¹ Possibly Hatfield, to the north-east of Doncaster, in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

² He is called by Nennius 'Catgublaun,' and described as king of Guenedota (Gwynedd), probably North Wales, including territory further north. *Historia Britonum*, sec. 64, ed. Stevenson (English Historical Society), p. 54.

³ *Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum*, lib. iii. cap. 1, ed. Plummer, pp. 128, 129.

⁴ 'Caelestis Campus.' Nennius calls the battle Catscaul: that is, *cât is gwawl*, the fight within the Wall: a very descriptive name for the battlefield. *Hist. Britonum*, ed. Stevenson, p. 54.

where Oswald had camped commands a prospect over a wide and far-stretching land of hill and valley, an outlook dear to all Northumbrian hearts; an epitome, indeed, of that larger country which makes up Northumberland. To his little army it was home, with all the ties which braced their nerves and inflamed their courage to sweep away the invader and oppressor from the land. But another, it may have been an even stronger, impulse, which on many a field has led to victory, was added: the strength that flows from a fervour begot by faith. Before daybreak Oswald¹ himself holding the wood, while it was being fixed in the hole prepared for it, ordered the cross, the sacred standard under which they were to fight, to be set up. Kneeling at its foot, he said: 'Let us all bow the knee, and together pray the Almighty God, living and true, that He will in His mercy save us from the proud and savage enemy, as He knows that we have undertaken a just war for the salvation of our nation.' The fight began, as Beda's words seem to imply, by the attack of Oswald's troops; the battle went against Cadwalla, his army was broken, and himself flying southward from the field was slain at Denisesburne, now Rowley Water, a tributary of the Devil's Water, about seven miles distant from the site of the cross of victory.

The issue of the battle had an influence which extended beyond the kingdom of Bernicia. In its far-reaching consequences it may rank among the events which have had a deep, moving, and lasting effect upon the fortunes of England itself. After the death of Cadwalla and the complete rout of his army, which appears to have inflicted a crushing blow upon what at one time seemed to be the almost overwhelming force of the Celtic power, there was no more aggressive action on the part of the British tribes against the English. It cannot be doubted that in the end the Britons would have succumbed to the more powerful and persistent race which had, like themselves at an earlier time, invaded the island from over sea. But that event might have been delayed, and the course of England's progress have been altered, had Cadwalla been the victor at Hefenfelth. However much the kindred tribes of Angle, Saxon, and Jute were divided by many and diverse conflicting interests, this was, after Cadwalla's death, to be fought out among them-

¹ Adamnan, in his *Life of St. Columba*, relates that he was told by Abbot Failbhe, his predecessor, on the information of Abbot Seghine, who heard it from the mouth of Oswald himself, that on the eve of the battle St. Columba appeared to him, and, addressing him in the words of the Lord to Joshua before the crossing of Jordan, 'Be strong and of a good courage, I will be with thee,' added that he would be victorious in the coming fight, and that Cadwalla would be delivered into his hands. *Vita S. Columbæ*, ed. Reeves, p. 15; ed. Fowler, p. 12.

selves, without the interference of any alien opponent, and they were to be at last welded, with the exception of a small Celtic country in the west, into a nation one in spirit as in language, from the Frith of Forth to the shore of the southern sea.

But the battle had another result. The seating of Oswald on the throne of Bernicia, the prize of his victory, was a vital element in the Christianising of Northumbria. Brought up among the Celtic monks of Iona, he naturally turned to that place for aid in spreading the faith he had adopted among his people. Thus the gospel was taught through that part of England, not from Gaul or Italy, but from the church as it existed in Ireland, which had retained or adopted some forms of ritual and order that separated it from other members of the western church. They were differences of slight importance, but which became magnified in proportion to their smallness, until they tended to rend the church in two. The Celtic pre-eminency thus seated in Northumbria lasted but a short time, and after the Synod at Whitby in 664, when King Oswy gave way to the pressure from the Latin side in the controversy, Northumbria accepted the forms and usages of the rest of the western patriarchate, and Bishop Colman and his fellows returned to Iona. But the influence of their teaching remained, and some phases of religious thought and practice, which originated in the mission of Aidan and the Scottish monks of Iona, have left their traces in Northumbrian Christianity, itself one of the main issues of Oswald's kingship and of the battle which placed him on his throne.

The churchyard is separated from the military road by a level field, and in the middle of this field, and outside the graveyard, there stood a Roman altar, in the focus of which was cut a square hole for a cross shaft. It had been adapted to form the base of a cross, and had occupied the site in the field from a remote period. Traditionally it was said to have marked the position of Oswald's extemporised cross on the battle-field. When the land was brought under tillage the altar was removed to the grounds of Brunton house, where it now stands, and its site was ploughed over. A special sanctity was from the first attached to St. Oswald's cross.¹ 'Hither also,' says Beda, 'the brothers of the church of Hagulstad,

¹ St. Oswald's day is kept on 5th August, and the collect is: 'Omnipotens sempiterne Deus, qui hujus diei jocundam lactitiam in sancti servi tui Oswaldi passione consecrasti; da cordibus nostris tui amoris caritatisque augmentum; ut ejus in terris sancti sanguinis effusionem celebramus, illius in caelo collata patrocinia mentibus sentiamus.' *York Missal*, Henderson, p. 75; *Surtees Society*, vol. 60.

which is not far from thence, repair yearly on the day before that on which King Oswald was afterwards slain, to watch there for the health of his soul, and having sung many psalms, to offer for him in the morning the sacrifice of the holy oblation; and since that good custom has spread, they have lately built and consecrated a church there, which has attached additional sanctity and honour to that place: and this with good reason, for it appears that there was no sign of the Christian faith, no church, no altar erected, throughout all the nation of the Bernicians before that new commander of the army, prompted by the devotion of his faith, set up the cross as he was going to give battle to his barbarous enemy.¹ Beda relates 'one of the many miracles that have been wrought at this cross.'

Certain lands adjacent to the chapel belonged to the prior and convent, and were, in 1479, held by Robert of Dissington, their chaplain.²

Not far distant was the hermitage in which John the hermit was living when Simon de Meynell sought and obtained a licence from Archbishop Corbridge to associate himself with him in his retirement.³

COCKLAW TOWER.

The tower of Cocklaw occupies the centre of a slightly elevated position, the ground falling away from it on either side. There are indications of the former existence of a moat, and of buildings, including (possibly) the barmkyn, an enclosure into which the cattle were driven when danger was apprehended.⁴

The plan is an oblong. The masonry throughout is of an excellent description, the walls on both the exterior and interior faces being formed of squared stones laid in even courses. The dimensions on the exterior are 50 feet 6 inches from north to south, and 34 feet 8 inches from east to west. The height, from the entrance door sill to the moulding below the parapet, is 40 feet 3 inches. The elevation is divided, at about one-fourth of its height, into two stages by a splayed offset. The wall surfaces are unbroken, save by

¹ Beda, *Hist. Eccl.* lib. iii. cap. 2.

² 'Item tenent terram adjacentem ecclesie Sancti Oswaldi vocatam Kirk-land, et est gleba dictae ecclesie; et continet per aest. iii. acras terrae arabilis. Et dominus Robertus de Dissington celebrans ibidem, r. p. ann. pro dictis iii. acris vii. d.' *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 6.

³ 'Monstravit nobis Simon de Meynell lator praesentium, quod inter ipsum, qui contemplando affectat Domino famulari, et fratrem Johannem heremitam apud Sanctum Osewaldum juxta Hexildesham concorditer est consensus, quod simul viventes ibidem heremiticam vitam ducant.' *Ibid.* vol. i. app. xxxii.

⁴ This account of Cocklaw tower, originally written and now revised by Mr. W. H. Knowles, is reprinted from *Trans. Archit. and Archæol. Soc. of Durham and Northumberland*, vol. iv. p. 309, by the permission of that society.

two double-light windows on the first floor and two doorways (one on the ground floor and the other on the first floor) with pointed heads. There have been machicolations immediately over the entrance doorway, which is placed on the ground level. A portion of a turret remains at the south-west corner, at the parapet level: this would almost certainly be balanced by one terminating the staircase at the north-east corner.

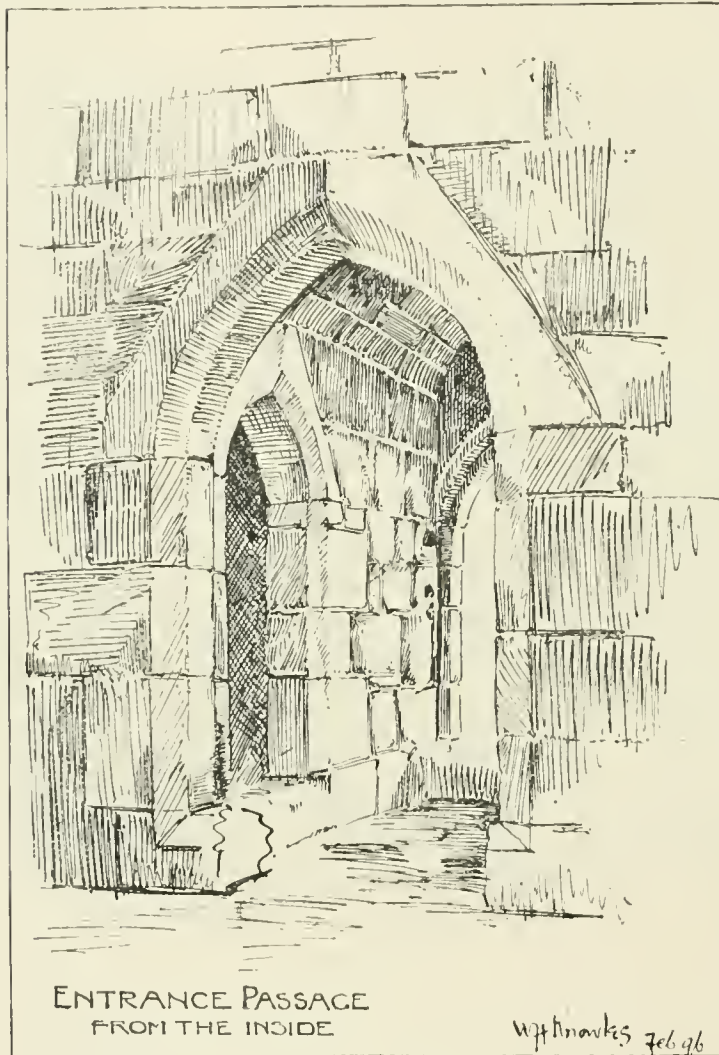


COCKLAW TOWER.

The main area of the interior is occupied by one large room in the basement, and by one room on each of the two floors above. At the south end is a series of small chambers four stories high. (See section DD.)

The principal entrance is on the basement or ground level, at the south side of the tower. The outer doorway is a plain one, with an obtusely pointed arch formed by two stones; the opening is 3 feet 10 inches wide, and the door was secured by a stout falling bar. This doorway opens into an

entrance passage 4 feet 7½ inches wide, having a pointed vault considerably higher than the door-heads. At the north end of the passage another pointed door, identical in form with the outer one, leads into the basement, which measures 31 feet 2 inches in length and 20 feet 10 inches in width; it is covered by a slightly segmental barrel vault, the crown of which is 12 feet

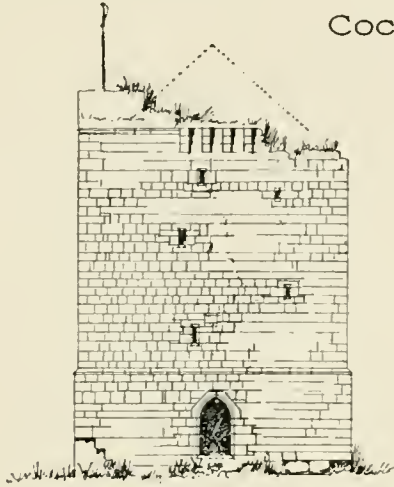


11 inches above the door sill. All the light which reached this vault came from a single loop at the north end. The walls on three sides are 7 feet thick. On the left of the vestibule is a vaulted chamber 8 feet by 5 feet, the only access to which was by a trap door in the floor of the room above it (see section DD). It was not provided with a window, and was probably used as a prison. The present opening between it and the entrance passage has been broken through in modern times. On the right of the entrance passage is a doorway opening upon a newel-staircase,

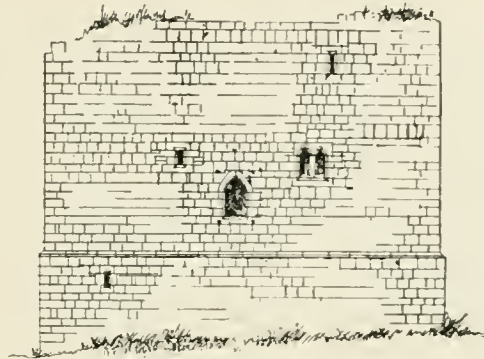
which gives access to the upper floors and the battlements. The staircase is 6 feet 3 inches in diameter, and is lighted by one loop-hole on the east side and by two on the south, each placed opposite to doorways, in order to light them.

COCKLAW TOWER

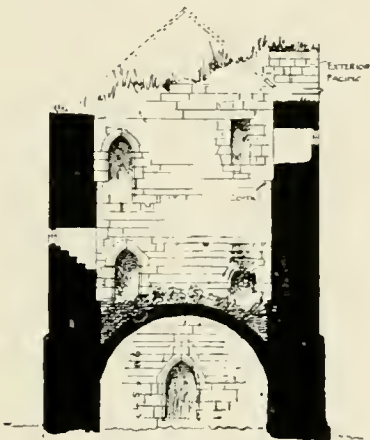
W.H. KNOWLES, DEL. FEB. 1896.



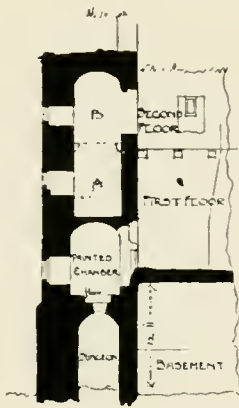
SOUTH ELEVATION



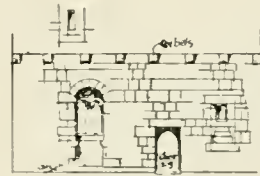
EAST ELEVATION



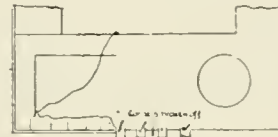
SECTION C-C



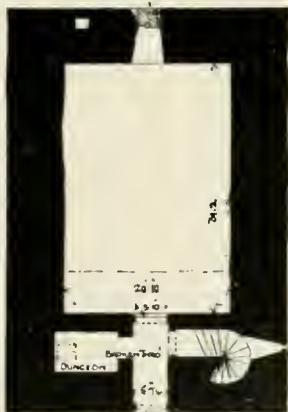
SECTION D-D



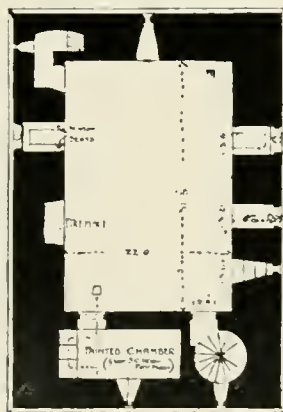
SECTION E-E EAST SIDE OF FIRST FLOOR



AT ROOF LEVEL (South)



ENTRANCE
BASEMENT OR
GROUND PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



CHAMBER B
NEAR SECOND FLOOR
CHAMBER A
BELOW SECOND FLOOR
SECOND FLOOR PLAN

Scale
0 10 20 30 40 50 FEET

The first floor contained the chief apartment, which is entered by a pointed doorway opening from the staircase; it is 31 feet 3 inches in length, 22 feet in width, and 14 feet high. The side walls are 6 feet thick. It is lit by four windows, two of which are small ones with square heads, one having a stepped sill (see section CC). Two larger and double-light windows are placed opposite each other in the east and west walls, set in lofty full-centered recesses with side seats (see section E). The lights are divided by a broad chamfered and rebated mullion, and have on the exterior pointed trefoil heads worked in one stone. The openings are constructed for shutters and iron bars. In the west wall are the remains of a fire-place which had a hood, now broken away; the square-shaped flue can still be traced ascending by the side of the fire-place on the second floor. In the west wall, close to the north end, is a door opening into a latrine, which is lighted by a loop on its west side, the drain being in the thickness of the wall. In the east wall is a doorway, pointed on the exterior and flat within, placed 17 feet above the ground on the outside. There are five holes in the exterior masonry: two at the sill level of the door, and three above the head. These were, no doubt, intended either for the purpose of attaching fastenings for a ladder, which could be drawn up, or to support a platform, or other communication with the adjacent walls or buildings. A pointed doorway in the south wall opens into a chamber 15 feet 6 inches long and 6 feet 2 inches wide, which is lighted by a loop in the south wall. In the floor is the trap door before mentioned, which afforded access to the dungeon below. The plaster on the walls of this chamber is decorated in colours, with a design probably of the sixteenth century, now too much decayed to be made out, but very clearly shown in a drawing made by Mr. Archer.¹

A square-headed doorway opens from the staircase, midway between the level of the first and second floors, into a chamber 15 feet 6 inches long and 5 feet 7 inches wide, which is lit by a loop in the south wall (it is marked A on the second floor plan, and on the section DI). The height of this room is shown by the corbels, which carried the floor above.

The second floor, which has been supported by sixteen corbels rounded on the underside, was 31 feet 3 inches long and 22 feet 6 inches wide, and was entered by a pointed doorway 3 feet wide. It was lit by two small

¹ This water-colour drawing is one of a series of views of the principal castles and towers in the county, executed about 1862 for the fourth duke of Northumberland, and preserved in a portfolio at Alnwick castle.

square-headed windows. There are the remains of a fire-place in the west wall, as shown on the plan. A square-headed doorway in the south wall gives access to a chamber marked B on plan and section. It is the same size as the chamber marked A. There are some remains of wall-plaster at the north end of the first and second floors.

The staircase is continued to the roof level. There are no parapet walls now existing, but on the dressed masonry of the west side of the turret is worked a weather moulding, which indicates the pitch of the roof (see section CC); on two sides of this turret is a cornice, so much decayed that the exact section is uncertain. It may be inferred that the staircase itself terminated in a similar turret. The machicolations placed between the turrets, and commanding the entrance door, which is immediately beneath, were supported by four corbels of three projections, placed 18 inches apart.¹

COKLAW MUSTER ROLL, 1538.²

Willm Henderson, Thomas Henderson, able with hors and harnes; Georg Henderson, Thomas Brown, Robert Person, Ric. Person, Thomas Person, Lyonell Person, Robert Henderson, Andro Sorby,³ John Sorby, George Sorby, Lyonell Eryngton, Thomas Eryngton, Ric. Eryngton, Willm Kell, Rolland Kyrsope, Alex. Elwald, John Newbegyn, George Kersope, John Newbigyn, Georg Newbigyn, able with hors and harnes.

In the north-east corner of the township, about three-quarters of a mile from Watling Street and the same distance from the Erring burn, on a grassy knoll, approached by a road from the east and west and sheltered on the north by a clump of sycamores, is the homestead⁴ now known as Errington or West Errington, but formerly described as Errington hall, and in Captain Armstrong's map of 1769 called a castle. It is now a substantial stone-built house facing south. Its plain front presents a quaint appearance, with a formal line of six narrow windows on the upper floor and corresponding apertures on the ground floor, enriched by effective mouldings. Farm offices are attached. From this, their ancient home, the family of Errington took their name, and it seems to be more appropriate to give the pedigree and history of the family here than under their later and more imposing seat of Beaufront.

Robert de Errington and Ralph de Errington occur about 1228;⁵ and the record has been preserved of a sale of two families of neifs (*nativi*) by

¹ Cocklaw has been purchased lately by Mr. J. B. Clayton from the owners of the Errington estates.

² *Arch. Acl.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 189.

³ Possibly the earlier form of Soulsby.

⁴ Errington and Errington Red-house farms contain 1,164 acres, which produce £1,286 a year; Errington Hillhead farm, of 425 acres, is of the annual value of £280. *Newcastle Journal*, 18th July, 1896.

⁵ *Lansdowne MS.* cccii. 16 b; *Archbishop Gray's Register*, Raine, Surtees Soc. vol. 56, p. 228 n.



INTERIOR OF COCKLAW TOWER, SHOWING COLOURED PLASTER WORK.

Robert de Errington to Archbishop Gray, in consideration of twenty pounds of silver.¹ Both Upper and Lower Errington occur in the Subsidy Roll of 1295; but the particulars relating to the former place are defective, and the latter is grouped with Fallowfield.² In the following year Robert de Errington and John de Vaux were appointed by Archbishop Romaine to be commissioners, to array his tenants within the regality of Hexham against the anticipated inroad of the Scots. These preparations did not turn aside the men of Galloway, who ravaged³ Northumberland and Hexhamshire, burning with fire the priory of Hexham, and in the school two hundred boys.⁴ The 'vill' of Errington was also burnt, and devastated by the Scots, in the time of Archbishop Bowet (1408-1423).⁵

The four men who appeared at the muster of 1538 all bore the name of Errington; and about the same period Gilbert Errington and five men of Errington were appointed to go, if called upon, to Berwick 'in the tyme of necessite.'⁶

ERRYNGTON MUSTER ROLL, 1538.⁷

Thomas Eryngton, Matho Heryngton, Roger Heryngton, Christofer Heryngton, able with hors and harnes.

In 1547 Nicholas Errington held freehold lands at Errington and Cocklaw at a rent of 24s. 8½d.;⁸ and Gilbert Errington held lands in Errington by copy of Court Roll, paying yearly £7 6s. 8d.,⁹ and twenty-one years later the heirs of Nicholas Errington held Cocklaw, Errington, Fallowfield, Keepwick, Wharmley hall, Stonecroft, Prior house, Hill house, Nakedale, etc.¹⁰

Many pieces of evidence seem to show that the family of Errington was not only one of the oldest, but also one of the most important in Hexhamshire. Their association with the lords of the regality and with the prior of Hexham has been already noticed. On 14th June, 1328, there was a mandate from Archbishop Melton to the bailiff of Hexham to take an inquisition on the death of Robert de Eryngton who held a tenement in capite.¹¹ This Robert had given to John de Eryngton and Alina his wife (doubtless the couple to

¹ 'Omnibus, etc. Robertus de Erington salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me vendidisse venerabili domino et patri in Christo carissimo, W. Dei gratia Ebor. archiepiscopo, etc. Robertum de Farinside et Thomam fratrem ejus, cum omni sequela eorum, nativos meos, quos dirtationavi in curia dicti domini archiepiscopi apud Hextild' per breve de nativo, anno consecrationis ejusdem vicesimo. die Lunae proxima post octabas S. Martini in hyeme (21st November, 1234). Pro hac autem venditione dedit mihi dominus archiepiscopus xx libras argenti eodem die.' *Lansdowne MS.* cccii. 17 a; *Archbishop Gray's Register*, Surtees Soc. vol. 56, p. 282.

² Vol. iii. p. 32. ³ In the raid made upon Northumberland in 1138, by Edgar, son of Cospatic, earl of Dunbar, and his cousins Robert and Uctred, sons of Meldred, the lands at Errington belonging to the canons of Hexham were plundered. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. preface lxx. and p. 95.

⁴ *Ibid.* vol. i. p. lxxx. preface.

⁵ Vol. iii. p. 66.

⁶ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. preface cix.

⁷ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 191.

⁸ Vol. iii. p. 82.

⁹ *Ibid.* p. 66.

¹⁰ *Fodary's Book*: Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. lxvi.

¹¹ *York Registers*, Melton. 425 a.

whose memory the monument at St. John Lee is dedicated) a moiety of the manor of Errington, which, owing to the deaths of their sons, Thomas Anthony and William, without issue, had in 1351 come into the possession of Isabella, wife of William de Redeshagh or Redshaw, daughter [or wife] of the aforesaid William. William and Isabella Redshaw's right was disputed, but at length acknowledged by John of Acomb, clerk; the agreement arrived at was acknowledged before the archbishop's justices.¹ William de Errington was high sheriff of Northumberland in 1373. Before 1387 John Errington married Elizabeth, a daughter of John de Vaux of Beaufront, and he is named in the entail of Beukley and Portgate, which estates ultimately came to his descendants.² In the sixteenth century, through the marriage of Gilbert Errington and Dorothy, daughter of David Carnaby of Beaufront, that estate was acquired which subsequently became the chief residence of the family. From the second marriage of Gilbert Errington and Grace, daughter of Gawen Rutherford of Rudchester, descended the Erringtons of Keepwick, etc. In the great Civil War, Henry Errington suffered for his loyalty to the king by the forfeiture of his estates; but Beaufront house, Acomb mill, the manor and estate of Fallowfield, the township of East Errington, Keepwick, etc., were purchased on his behalf from the treason trustees.³

In 1606 the heiresses of John Carnaby held copyhold lands in East Errington, Keepwick, and Keepwick mill, at a rent of £14 14s., which were worth £53 6s. 8d. over and above the rent.⁴ The subsequent history of these places is related in the Errington pedigree and the evidences appended to it.

John Errington, commonly called the chief of Beaufront, who was described by Ambrose Barnes as 'a person of great parts, great breeding, and of a magnificent soul,' was in 1686 admitted to the freedom of the Hoastmen's and Merchant Adventurers' companies of Newcastle (he being a considerable trader in lead) by mandate of James II. He died, unmarried, in December, 1713, when he was succeeded by his brother William, also a member of the Merchants' company, who, by great prudence, guided the family fortunes through the critical times of the rebellion of 1715, which involved in ruin the neighbouring families of Radcliffe and Shafto. He did not go out,⁵ but allowed his younger brother Thomas (ultimately his successor), a man

¹ *York Registers*, Melton, 440 b.

² Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 234.

³ *Royalist Composition Papers*, Cal. iv. vol. G 10, 18, 30, 72, 83, 84, 98, 157.

⁴ Vol. iii. p. 102.

⁵ Though Henry Johnson, writing to Henry Liddell from Newcastle on the 9th October, 1715, says 'the chief of Beaufront' was with the company which proclaimed the Pretender at Rothbury. *Diary of Lady Mary Cowper*, Cowper, p. 186.

of arms, to join Lord Derwentwater. Thomas Errington, who 'had formerly been an officer in the French service, where he had got the reputation of a good soldier,' was appointed to the command of Lord Widdrington's or the second troop of the forces:¹ he was taken prisoner at Preston, and put upon his trial, when he pleaded guilty, was committed to Newgate,² but subsequently pardoned. He was possessed of estates in Hallington and Little Whittington, which are now worth £1,400 a year, but then produced £305 10s.; rents from certain leasehold lands brought up his income to £320 13s. 6½d. All his property was forfeited to the Crown; but his wife's portion of £2,000 had been, by her marriage settlement, secured on Hallington to herself and her younger children; and numerous creditors and mortgagees presented claims which amounted to £3,749.³

Thomas Errington died in 1748, and was succeeded by his grandson, John Errington, whose traditional position as the chief of Beaufront and many whimsical qualities endeared him to his neighbours and still preserve his memory. His patriotic efforts to rebuild Hexham bridge, and the great loss which he suffered by its destruction, have already been related. He was provincial grand master of the Freemasons in 1776. His portrait, engraved from a miniature by Cosway, was published in 1798. Henry Swinburn, writing on the 4th September, 1779, says: 'I dined at Beaufront with Mr. Errington, who is as cracked as ever man was. I wonder he is still allowed to be at large and to see company. He has the mania of fancying he has been created duke of Hexham. He has erected a pillar in his grounds, with the ducal arms, supporters, and coronet, on Stagshaw Bank; a most public station, as it is the rendezvous of an annual fair. A foreign title is his idea, for a foreign crown is over his door.'⁴

Subsequently, having written to the king requiring a confirmation of his title to be duke of Hexham, a commission of lunacy was taken out against him, when Lords Sefton, Sidney, Berkley, and Stourton gave evidence. He was one of the witnesses⁵ to the ceremony performed (in contravention of the Royal Marriage Act) on the 21st December, 1785, by which his niece, Mrs. Fitzherbert, became the morganatic wife of George, Prince of Wales, afterwards King George IV. After being a lunatic under the commission for many years, he died unmarried and intestate on the 28th June, 1827, the last male heir in a direct line of this very ancient family.

¹ Patten, *History of the Rebellion*, p. 48. ² *Ibid.* p. 116. ³ *Forfeited Estates Papers*, E. ⁴ Swinburn, *Courts of Modern Europe*, vol. i. p. 289. ⁵ *Dictionary of National Biography*, sub. Mrs. Fitzherbert.

A

<p>John Errington of Errington and of Beaufront, son and heir; 'a person of great parts, great breeding, and of a magnificent soul, John Errington, esq., commonly called the <i>chief of Beaufront</i>' (<i>k</i>); 1686, was admitted free of the Hoastman's company of Newcastle by mandate of King James II. (<i>h</i>); died unmarried 19th Dec., buried 29th Dec., 1713 (<i>a</i>); administration 20th Feb., 1718/9, granted to his brother William (<i>d</i>).</p>	<p>William Errington of Errington = , daughter of ... Girlington of Thurland castle, Lancashire (<i>c</i>). buried 22nd Feb., 1725/6 (<i>a</i>); administration 3rd July, 1727, granted to Joshua Douglas, a creditor (<i>d</i>).</p>		
<p>Thomas Errington of Sandhoe; in 1686 was admitted free of Hoastman's company of Newcastle by mandate of King James II. (<i>h</i>); died 30th May, 1748, 'the chief of that family' (<i>b</i>), aged 88 (<i>i</i>); will dated 31st Aug., 1741; proved 1751 (<i>d</i>).</p>	<p>= Mary, daughter of John Douglas of Newcastle and Halton (<i>c</i>); settlement before marriage, 21st and 22nd Nov., 1700; marriage portion £2,000.</p>	<p>Edward (<i>c</i>) [? buried 27th July, 1699(<i>a</i>)]. Henry (<i>c</i>).</p>	<p>Dorothy [Perpetua, a nun at Bruges in 1737]. A second daughter, married ... Hamilton, of Ireland (<i>c</i>). A third daughter, married (<i>c</i>).</p>
<p>John Errington of Beaufront, son and heir; was aged to years in 1718; marriage settlement 17th Oct., 1734; died in father's lifetime; buried 7th Feb., 1740/1 (<i>a</i>); will dated 25th June, 1737 (<i>d</i>); proved 1741.</p>	<p>= Maria, daughter of James Levery of London and widow of Joseph Griffin of Bickmarsh, Warwickshire. She remarried for her third husband Thomas Molyneux of Croxteth, Lancashire, son of William, Viscount Molineux; died in London, 14th Aug., 1795, aged 86.</p>	<p>William Errington of Sandhoe; was aged 9 years in 1718; died in his chariot at Hexham, 25th Feb., 1766 (<i>f</i>) (<i>b</i>); will dated 3rd Aug., 1765 (<i>d</i>); proved 1766; devised real estate to nephew Henry Errington; unmarried; buried at St. John Lee (<i>a</i>).</p>	<p>Alice, born 24th Feb., 1702 (<i>a</i>); married 5th Feb., 1729 30, John Fenwick of Bywell (<i>a</i>), and was buried at Bywell, 22nd Nov., 1731 (<i>c</i>).</p>
<p>John Errington, died in infancy and was buried at Bath Easton (<i>c</i>).</p>	<p>John Errington of Errington, 'the chief of Beaufront,' died intestate 28th June and buried 16th July, 1827, aged 89 (<i>a</i>), but had been lunatic for many years before death; <i>s.p.</i></p>	<p>Henry Errington of Sandhoe and of Redrice, Hants.; married by special licence, Aug., 1769 (<i>e</i>); marriage settlement, 4th Aug., 1769; died <i>s.p.</i> at Stable Yard, St. James', Westminster, aged 81, and was buried 24th Dec., 1819, at Paddington (<i>l</i>); will dated 13th Jan., 1814 (<i>l</i>); proved, Prerogative Court, Canterbury, 14th Jan., 1820.</p>	<p>= Maria, daughter of Thomas Hill of Tern, Salop, and widow of Sir Brian Broughton, bart. (<i>c</i>); sister to Noel, Lord Berwick; died 8th Jan., 1813. Ann; was aged 14 years in 1718; married Taylor White of Lincoln's Inn, son of Thomas White of Tuxford, Notts (<i>c</i>). Mary; was aged 13 years in 1718; married Thomas Bradford of Durham, M.D.; articles before marriage, 8th Feb., 1747/8 (<i>d</i>); died at Beaufront, March, 1749 (<i>m</i>).</p>
<p>Mary Ann; married Walter Smyth of Brambridge, Hants., brother to Sir Edward Smyth of Esh (<i>c</i>). ↓</p>		<p>Frances; married firstly, 13th Sept., 1759, William Middleton of Stokeld; and secondly, William Fermor of Tusmore, Oxon., by whom she left issue (<i>c</i>). ↓</p>	

- (a) *St. John Lee Register.*
- (b) *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1748.
- (c) Howard and Vincent Collections at Heralds' college.
- (d) *Raine, Test. Ebor.*
- (e) *Newcastle Journal*, 1st Mar., 1766.
- (f) Brand, *Newcastle*, vol. ii. p. 299.
- (g) *Newcastle Courant*, 28th May, 1748.
- (h) *Memoir of Ambrose Barnes*, p. 164.
- (i) *Abstract of Title*, with Messrs. Clayton & Gibson.
- (j) *Newcastle Courant*, 4th Mar., 1749.

EVIDENCES OF ERRINGTON PEDIGREE.

1595, 10th March. Commission to Mr. William Assheton, vicar of Bywell Andrew, to commit the administration of the personal estate of Robert Errington of Sandhoe to Margaret Errington, wife of Edward Errington of Anicke, sister of deceased, to the use of Thomas, Elizabeth, and Anne Errington, children of deceased, minors.

1597, 15th March. Administration of the personal estate of Robert Errington of Sandhoe granted to Thomas Errington of Anick, to the use of Thomas Errington, son of deceased, and he is made his tutor.

1600, 20th May. Administration of the personal estate of Roger Errington of Sando granted to Marian Errington his widow, to her own use and that of Edward, Richard, Ellen, and Ann Errington, children of deceased.¹

1602, 3rd May. Administration of the personal estate of John Errington of the chapelry of St. Oswald granted to Anne Errington, his widow.¹

1604. John Errington of Errington, gent., and Edward Errington of the same place, gent., were charged with having, on the 29th March, on Matten Moor, feloniously robbed Mark Harrison of Morpeth, chapman, of certain linen cloth and other articles.²

1626. Henry Errington of Bufront, esq., surrenders the vill of East Errington and Errington hall, which belonged to John Errington, his father, to the use of Sir William Lambton, co. Durham, to secure £300.³

1629. Henry Errington of Bufront, esq., surrenders the capital messuage called Lee Kirk hall, etc., and a messuage in Kepwick now in occupation of Nicholas Errington, gent., to the use of the said Nicholas, to secure £160.³

1643. Will of Dorothy Errington of Newcastle, second daughter of John Errington of Beaufront, esq. Dorothy Errington, my mother; William Errington, my brother deceased; my cousin David; my brother-in-law Thomas Rutherford, gent., my sister Jane Rutherford, his wife, and my nephew William Rutherford, her son; my cousin Barbara Shafto; my uncle Nicholas Errington of Keepwick and his son Thomas; my aunt Jane Hall of Otterburn; my aunt Katherine Widdrington; my cousin Ursula Mountney, and her sister, Katherine Widdrington; my cousin Henry Widdrington of St. Anthony's; my brother Henry Errington; Thomas Errington, eldest son of Thomas Errington of Fourstones.¹

1643, 13th September. Will of Dorothy Errington of Newcastle, widow, late wife of John Errington, late of Beaufront, esq. To my nephew John Widdrington of Newcastle, gent., and his heirs, my lands in Stonecroft, Nunbuse, Grottington, Portgate, Whittington, Naicht Eele *alias* Plankey, in the county of Northumberland, left to me by Dorothy Errington, my daughter lately deceased, which she had by the will of William Errington, esq., my son. My daughter Dorothy left a legacy to David Errington, gent. The said John Widdrington to pay to the Rt. Hon. William Lord Widdrington of Widdrington two twente and two shilling peeces of Gould to make him a signett ringe, which I desire his honour will be pleased to wear for my sake. To my daughter Jane, wife of Thomas Rotherford, gent., £40; to William Rotherford, her son; to Katherine Widdrington, my sister, sometime wife to Benjamin Widdrington; my cousin Henry Widdrington of St. Anthoines, gent., and his daughter; my cousin Ursula Mountney, wife of Arnold Mountney; my brother-in-law Ralph Errington of Keepwick, gent., and Dorothy his daughter; my brother-in-law William Errington, gen.; my sister-in-law Jane Hall of Otterburn, late wife of John Hall of Otterburn, esq., deceased; my cousin David Errington; my cousin Thomas Errington, son of Nicholas Errington, gent.; my cousin Henry Mallorie, son of Robert Mallorie, gent., deceased, late of Studley, co. York; my cousin Barbara Shafto (my faithful servant), £3 per annum; Isabel Shafto, her mother; the four children of Thomas Errington, late of Fourstones, deceased. Proved at Durham in 1644.⁴

1650. Henry Errington, son of John Errington of Bufront or Beaufront, being adjudged a delinquent, petitioned for and obtained an allowance of 1/5th of his estate for his wife and children. The Royalist Composition Papers show that considerable sums had been raised on the estates by granting annuities, e.g., Richard Knight of Dunstan-in-the-West, London, in 1616, purchased an annuity out of the manor of West Errington; in 1642, Richard Carnaby was granted an annuity out of West Errington and Fallowfield.⁵

1653, 18th January. Henry Errington, Thomas and George Bell, Nicholas Fenwick, and George Chatter, complain that, being tenants of the sequestered estate of Henry Errington at Beaufront, Grottington, etc., William Cox and other bailiffs of Hexham manor have distrained them for old arrears of fee

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

² *Bell Collection*, Alnwick castle.

³ *Hexham Manor Rolls*,

⁴ Raine, *Test. Dunelm.*

⁵ *Royalist Composition Papers*, Cal. part iv. vol. G 84, p. 1013; *Ibid.* 10, p. 203.

farm rents due before they took the farms, compelled them to pay, and spoiled their cattle, so that by threats of new distresses many are ready to leave their farms; they beg restoration of the moneys, or allowances thereof in their rents.¹

In 1663, William Errington, esq., was rated: for Beaufront, £35; Fallowfield, £15; Keepwick, £35; Cocklaw, £50; Errington, £100; Grottington, £20 (or £26); Anick, £16; all in the parish of St. John Lee, and for Haining and Harlaw in the parish of Simondburn.²

1674/5, 16th January. Will of Ann Errington of Heslewood, Hull. My sister Bacon, my son Errington, my son-in-law John Errington of Durham, esq., my brother Mr. Chr. Bacon of Hexham. Proved 1678.³

1683. Henry Lambton of Lambton, co. Durham, esq., makes John Carr of Hexham, his deputy, to surrender the vill of East Errington and Errington hall to the use of Edward Radcliffe of Dilston, esq., and Benoni Carr of Hexham, gent.⁴

1684, 20th September. Administration of John Errington, esq., of Durham, granted to Anne his widow.⁵

1686, 26th April. James II. to the mayor and to the governors of the Hoastman's company and Merchants' company, Newcastle: 'Trusty and well-beloved we greete you well. Whereas it hath beene represented unto us that John Errington and Thomas Errington of Beaufront, in our county of Northumberland, gentlemen, are considerable dealers in leade in that our towne and county of Newcastle, wee have thought fitt hereby to require you to make them freemen, free hoastmen, and free merchants of our said towne and county of Newcastle, any constitution, custome, or order to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding, with which wee are graciously pleased to dispence on their behalf. And for soe doing this shall be your warrant. And soe we bidd you farewell.' John and Thomas Errington were admitted 25th June, 1686.

1695, 21st January. Will of William Errington of Hexham, yeoman. To my wife Margaret Errington all my leasehold houses and grounds at Fourstones; my three children Ann, Elizabeth, and Margaret Errington; my loving brother Richard Lambert to give counsel and advice to my said wife. Proved 25th June, 1696.

1700, 17th July. John Errington of Beaufront, with John Rowell of Hexham, presented by the Grand Jury for enclosing part of the common where the fair was formerly accustomed to be kept at Stagshaw Bank.⁶

1702, 18th June. Administration of Elizabeth Errington of Beaufront granted to Gilbert Errington, gent., her son.⁷

At the Sessions, held at Morpeth, 11th January, 1709, John Errington, esq., of Beaufront proposed, at his own charges, to make the Tyne navigable from Newburn to Hexham if an Act of Parliament could be obtained.⁷

The estates forfeited by Thomas Errington for taking part in the rebellion of 1715 were: Hallington, 1,200 acres, Little Whittington, Portgate Leazes, a leasehold colliery at Fourstones, and a leasehold farm at Spites (*sic*) in the parish of Warden. Besides the trustees of his marriage settlement, who claimed for and obtained his wife's marriage portion of £2,000, which was secured to her children upon Hallington, the following creditors, in December, 1717, entered claims: Thomas Errington of Capheaton, £115; Andrew Wise of Newcastle, merchant, £100; Charles Smithson of Newcastle, gent., £300; Elizabeth Huddleston of Newcastle, widow, £300; William Mitford of Newcastle, master and mariner, £200; William Wilkinson of Hallington, yeoman, £50; Thomas Teasdale of Steel hall, gent., £100; Ralph Soulsby of Anick Grange, gent., £50; Thomas Robson of Low Shield Green, in Chollerton, yeoman, £150; and subsequently Ann Marshall of York, spinster, £400; Dame Barbara Villiers, £1,800; and Valentine Errington, Philip Dixon, Thomas Howey, and Jane Hamilton, for servants' wages amounting to £34 9s. od.⁸

1717, 20th April. William Errington of Beaufront, as a Roman Catholic, registered the following estates: a capital messuage called Beaufront, Beaufront Hill head, rent £39; West Errington *alias*

¹ *Royalist Composition Papers*, Cal. part iv. vol. G 84, p. 1010.

² *Book of Rates*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. ³ Raine, *Test. Ebor.* ⁴ *Hexham Manor Rolls*.

⁵ *Newcastle Merchant Adventurers*, F. W. Dendy, p. 231, Surtees Soc. vol. 93.

⁶ *Northumberland Sessions Records*. ⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Forfeited Estates Papers*, E 17, Nos. 17, 698, 863, 905, 914, 923, 967, 979, 1,326.

Cocklaw, £160; Cocklaw Walk mill, £11; East Errington, £100; East Errington Red-house, £100; East Errington hall-house, £30; Beukley copyhold, £100; Keepwick, £122 17s. 6d.; Keepwick corn mill, £25; Grottington, £70; Anick Red-house, cottage, and colliery, £55; Holling-hall, £50; Haining in Simondburn, £65; Corbridge tithes, £269; Kirkley Thorn, £125; Beanridge in Kirkley, £27; Kirkley mill, £12.¹

1720, 5th April. Administration of Edward Errington, gen., of Corbridge, granted to Margaret, wife of John Robson, gen., and Frances Errington, spinster, and Jane, wife of Thomas Loraine, gen., her sisters.²

1725, 15th December. Will of Frances Errington, of the parish of St. Andrew, Hoborn, spinster. To be buried in the churchyard of St. Pancras, in the same vault where my father was buried. All my lands, manors, and real estate to Stephen Barnes of Gray's Inn, esq., and Nicholas Hall of Furnival's Inn, gent., in trust to pay my cousin Elizabeth Fenwick, who now lives with me, £20 per annum, and £20 per annum also to my cousin Frances Errington, who also lives with me, and £80 per annum to my mother, Everille Errington, out of my houses, co. Middlesex, during my term. My manor, etc., co. York, to be conveyed to the use of my cousin John Errington, son of Gilbert Errington, co. Northumberland, gent., and grandson of Benjamin Errington, late of Borwick hill, in Northumberland, esq., for life, and to his heirs. My interest in Blythe Nooke, co. Northumberland. My cousin Lancelot Errington of Newcastle and his wife £10 each. To the nephews and half nephews of George Errington, esq., my late father, a guinea each. To John Mayre of Gray's Inn, gen., my father's law books. Proved 3rd November, 1740.²

1725/6, 8th February. Will of John Errington of Hexham, skinner and glover. My house in Priestpople to second son John Errington; my wife; my daughter Isabel Errington, a minor; residue to eldest son Peter Errington; my brother Michael Errington executor. Proved 20th February, 1726/7.²

1737, 25th June. Will of John Errington of Beaufront, esq. Not more than £30 to be spent on my funeral. To my aunt, Perpetua Errington, at Bruges, £20; to my sister Mary Errington, £20; to Mrs. Rose Levere, £20; to Francis Prujeon, esq., and Ann, his wife, £10 each; the rest to Thomas Swinburn of Capheaton, gent., John Hilton of Hilton, esq., William Stourton of Gray's Inn, esq., and Edward Webbe of Gray's Inn, esq., in trust to pay debts, etc.; then for children; failing them, to go to my brother William Errington, if I have no son living till 21. My father Thomas Errington not to be required to account with me for the personal estate of my late uncle, William Errington, esq., to whom I was executor. To Mr. John Howard, who now lives with me, £100. My wife Maria and trustees to be executors. Proved 31st August, 1741.²

1741, 31st August. Will of Thomas Errington of Sandhoe, esq. To my son William Errington, £500 and my lands, collieries, etc., at Fourstones; to my daughter Mary Errington, £20; the marriage settlement of my son John Errington. Proved 11th January, 1750/1.²

1756, 9th June. Will of Valentine Errington of Fourstones. My nephew and niece, Robert and Margaret Harrison, my nephew Thomas Errington, my nephew Leadbitter, £5 each; wife £10 per annum. John Knott (?) to receive and pay to William Errington, esq., the colliery account. Will of Valentine Errington of Fourstones proved 10th April, 1758, by John Knott, sole executor.²

1765, 3rd August. Will of William Errington of Sandhoe, esq. To my nephew Henry Errington, younger son of my late brother John Errington, esq., deceased, all my lands and personal estate; to the eldest daughter of my said brother, £100; to his younger daughter, £50; to my niece Soulsby, wife of Ralph Soulsby, esq., £50, and to her two daughters £20. 'I recommend my executor to continue the working of the mines, collieries, and smelting mill, which I now do, and recommend him to continue John Donkin in the management of the same.' To the poor of the parish of St. John Ley, £10; to Mr. Berry of Beaufront, £10 for the poor; to the Rev. Mr. Stokoe of St. John Ley, a full suit of mourning. My nephew Henry executor. Proved 24th March, 1766.²

At the Quarter Sessions, held at Hexham, 16th July, 1766, a claim was entered by Mary, wife of Ralph Soulsby of Hallington, to the estates of the late William Errington of Sandhoe, and by him bequeathed to his nephew Henry Errington (youngest son of his late brother, John Errington, esq., deceased). The petitioner alleged the devisee's legal disqualification to the succession on the ground of his being a papist, and that she Mary, wife of Ralph Soulsby, was the next of the said William Errington's kin who was

¹ Register with clerk of the peace.

² Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

Protestant. The estates claimed were East and West Oakwood, and Portgate, in the parish of St. John Lee, Little Whittington, in the parish of Corbridge, The Lee, in the parish of Bywell St. Andrew, etc.¹

In 1794 Mr. Errington advertised to be let the following farms: Beaufront Hillhead, 130 acres; Fawcett Hill, 44 acres; Grottington West farm, 266 acres; Cocklaw fulling mill and land, 17 acres; and again, in 1819, he advertised to let the following farms: Hallington South farm, 248 acres; Hallington North farm, 216 acres; Hallington Newhouse East farm, 248 acres, and West farm, 207 acres; Errington East farm, 291 acres, and West farm, 297 acres; Red-house, 561 acres; Keepwick, 453 acres; Grottington, 491 acres; Errington Hillhead, 424 acres; Cocklaw West farm, 212 acres, and East farm, 217 acres; Hillhead, 258 acres; Beaufront Hillhead, 122 acres.²

On the death of John Errington of Beaufront his real estate descended to his heirs-at-law, the two infant daughters and co-heiresses of Walter Smyth of Brambridge (the eldest son of John Errington's eldest sister) and William Fermor of Tusmore (eldest son of the younger sister).³ His younger brother, Henry Errington of Sandhoe, had died eight years previously, and by will dated 13th January, 1814, had devised a large sum of money to trustees for the purchase of lands to be settled in the same manner as his own real estate.⁴ The latter the testator devised first to his nephew, Richard Fermor (who predeceased him), with remainder to his own great-great-nephew, Rowland Stanley (second son of Sir Thomas Stanley of Hooton in Cheshire), with a shifting remainder in case of the heir succeeding to the Stanley estates. With the approbation of the court the trustees of the will purchased, with the personalty, several of the farms⁵ which descended to and were sold by the heirs-at-law of John Errington. At the death of Sir John Stanley Errington, without issue, in 1893, these estates reverted to the Fermor family, several of whose members had at different times sold their reversionary interest. These rights were so disposed of that one-eighth share was ultimately acquired by Sir John Swinburne, one-quarter by Mr. John Straker, one-quarter by Mr. John Clayton, and a quarter which had not been sold descended to Sir F. Harvey-Bathurst, and one-eighth to Messrs. Beville and Edward Ramsay.

The following tables will show the descents of the co-heirs :

¹ *Northumberland Sessions Records.*

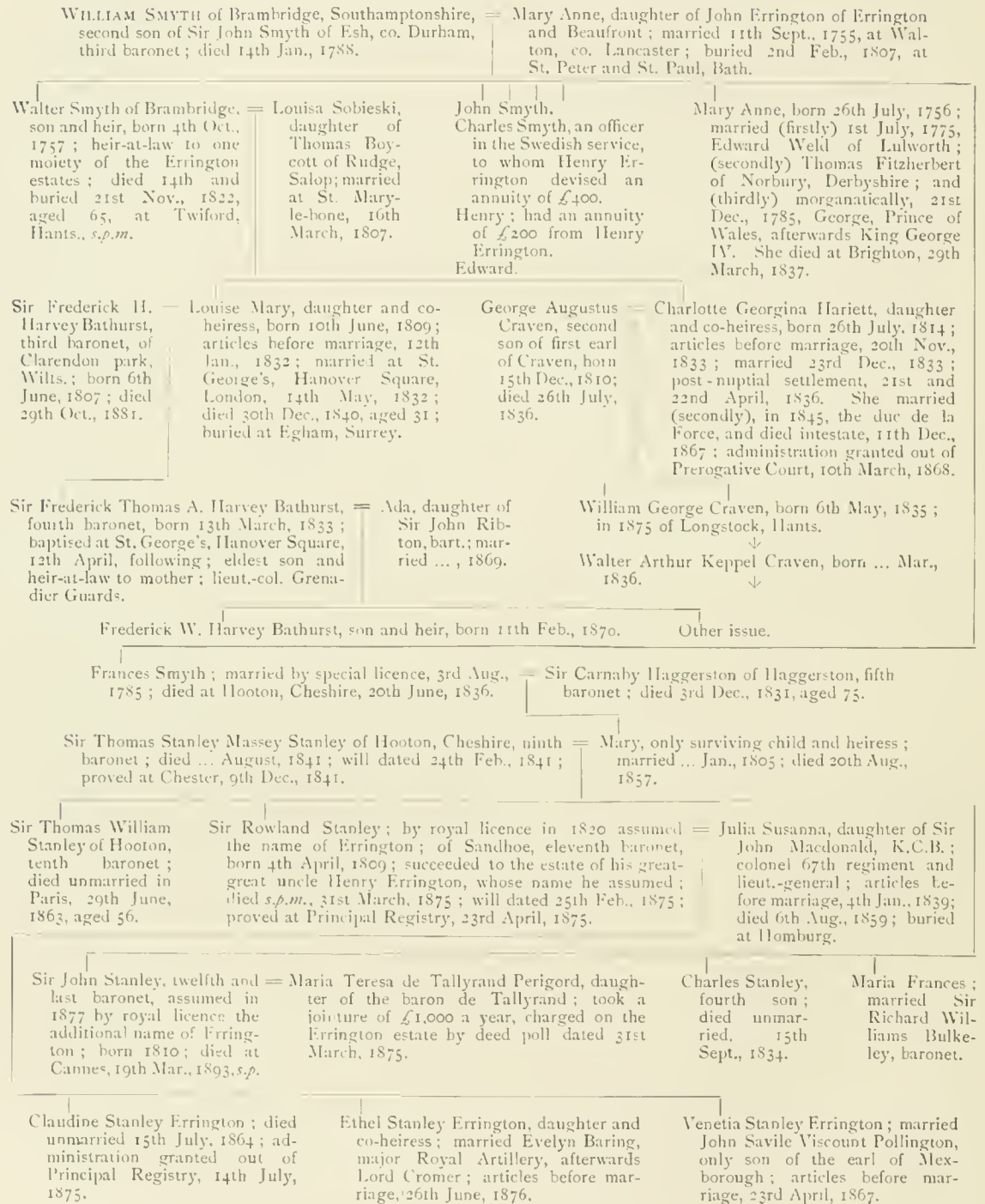
² Newcastle newspapers.

³ Abstract of title with Messrs. Clayton & Gibson.

⁴ The freehold estates devised by Henry Errington's will, dated 13th January, 1814, were: Stephenson's farm, 74 acres; Brewery field, 10 acres; Sands closes, 17 acres; the Boat house east close and Bridge-end field, Bridge-end island, 3 acres; High Balk, 165 acres; Little Whittington out-ground, 61 acres; Little Whittington south farm, 172 acres; Portgate, 304 acres; Sandhoe Low hall, 50 acres; Anick, 69 acres; East Oakwood, 211 acres; West Oakwood, 165 acres; Fern hill, 338 acres; Fences, 52 acres; Portgate East field, 18 acres, etc.; in all, 1,705 acres, and the three quarters of Acomb corn tithes.

⁵ The freehold estates, purchased by the trustees of his will, were: The Hallington farms, 1,300 acres; Keepwick mill and ground, 48 acres; Grottington and Hezeldean, 938 acres; Little Whittington, 389 acres; Haining, 3,450 acres; East and West Cocklaw, Cocklaw Hillhead, and fulling mill, 704 acres; part of Sandhoe Low hall, 13 acres. The copyhold estates purchased were: East and West Errington, and Errington Red-house, 1,168 acres; Beuckly, 411 acres; Keepwick, 445 acres.

STANLEY-ERRINGTON OF SANDHOE.



FERMOR OF TUSMORE.

William Middleton of Stokeld; = Frances, daughter of John Errington = WILLIAM FERMOR of Tusmore, Oxfordshire; married 1st Sept., 1759; died of Errington and Beaufront; died at Brompton, London, 25th June, 1787. married at St. George's, Hanover Square, 16th May, 1766; died 1st July, 1806, aged 68.

<p>William Fermor of Tusmore, son and heir; heir-at-law to one moiety of the Errington estates; died 17th Nov., 1828; residing at Boulogne when he made his will, dated 8th July, 1823, by which he gave all his real and personal estate in trust for his adopted daughter, Maria Whitehead; proved in Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 30th Dec., 1828, and established by decree of court, 7th July, 1830.</p>	<p>James Fermor, second son, to whom his uncle Henry Errington devised an annuity of £200 a year.</p>	<p>Richard Fermor, third son; devisee and heir by will of Henry Errington of Sandhoe, but died unmarried in 1816 in the testator's lifetime.</p>	<p>Barbara. Henrietta. Louisa. } All died unmarried.</p>
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Maria Whitehead, adopted daughter and heiress of William Fermor; was aged about ... years in 1823, and was married before 17th Nov., 1828; died 10th Feb., 1855. = John Turner Ramsay; in 1833 residing at Boulogne-sur-Mer; died 10th Nov., 1840.

<p>William Fermor Ramsay, eldest son; in 1858 of Croughton, Northamptonshire. John Dryden Ramsay; died in infancy, 27th Oct., 1846</p>	<p>Bevile Ramsay; in 1875 of Croughton park, Northamptonshire. Norman Ramsay; died in infancy, 22nd May, 1855. Edward Ramsay; in 1875 of Croughton.</p>	<p>Philippa Maria; married William Wemyss Methven Dewar; articles before marriage, 13th Feb., 1852; died <i>s.p.</i>; will dated 6th July, 1852; proved at Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 2nd July, 1853.</p>
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(A copious account of the family of Fermor of Tusmore may be found in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1827, pp. 114, 580.)

Between Cocklaw and Errington is Keepwick, now a single homestead, though in a grass field to the east of the farm steading may be traced foundations of ancient buildings.¹

The canons of Hexham during the thirteenth century obtained a grant of a rood of land in Kepwyk and subsequently built a tithe barn.² Robert, the son of Gamell, was the most considerable of the five tenants of the vill, who together contributed to the subsidy of 1295 the sum of ten shillings and a half-penny.³ It was one of the places burnt by the Scots⁴ in a raid just before the beginning of the fifteenth century.⁵ Its rental in 1536 was £6 13s.,⁶ and two years later it furnished eleven fully armed men to the muster.

¹ The farm was tenanted by a junior branch of the family of its owners. On or about 20th May, 1672, 'Margrett Errington of Kepwicke, widow, in the chapelry of St. Oswould,' made her nuncupative will: 'All the debts that I have owing to mee I give unto my daughter Catherine Errington of Keepwicke, widdow, except £5, which I give to my sonne Fredricke Errington, and I make him my executor; all which words were spoken in the hearing of Mr. John Errington, and Nicholas Errington, and other witnesses.' Probate granted, 20th September, 1673, to Frederick Errington, the son. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

1634, 30th May. Thomas Errington, son of Nicholas Errington of Kepeck, gent., apprenticed to Henry Dawson. 1669, 1st August. John Errington, son of Henry Errington of Keepick, apprenticed to Thomas Errington. *Books of Merchant Adventurers' Company, Newcastle.*

² Vol. iii. pp. 139, 150; and *Hexham Priory*, vol. ii. p. 12. ³ Vol. iii. p. 32. ⁴ *Ibid.* p. 54.

⁵ The earl of Douglas was forced by the plague, which was raging in the north of England, to return sooner than he intended from an inroad he had made in the summer of 1420 into the English borders. Ridpath, *Border History*, p. 386. ⁶ Vol. iii. p. 55.

KYPWYK MUSTER ROLL, 1538.¹

Roger Rewcastell,² John Rewcastell, Jerard Newbigyn, Gilbert Newbigyn, Jerard Yong, John Newbigyn, Jerard Robson, Thomas Newbegyn, Roger Newbegyn, Mylles Rowcastell, Roland Welkynson, able with hors and harness.

The place did not quickly recover from the Scottish inroad, for in 1547 Gilbert Errington, who held by copy of Court Roll, claimed and received an allowance in the amount of rent payable by him.³ Kepwicke, in 1608, was grouped with East Errington, and held by Isabel Fenwick and Agnes Carnaby, the two daughters and co-heiresses of John Carnaby, at the rent of £14 14s.⁴ Keepweeke was rated, in 1663, at £35 to William Errington, esq., and has since been comprised in the Errington estates. It is now a farm of 493 acres, of the annual value of £421.

On Keepwick fell, and not far from the Wall, is the small farmstead of Hazeldean, which, in 1547, as a freehold called Heselden, was held by Thomas Errington, paying a rent of 15s.⁵ The survey of 1608 states that Thomas Errington, of the Hirst,⁶ and John Errington held certain copyhold lands with the appurtenances, at the above named rent, which were worth £2 10s. over and above. Their possession was disputed by Ralph Errington, son of Thomas Errington, gentleman, deceased.⁷ Subsequently it was absorbed in the Errington estate. Its chief interest is the fact that Sir Walter Scott seems to have taken it to be the home of the hero of the ballad 'Jock of Hazeldean,' of which the first and only ancient stanza runs:

Why weep ye by the tide, ladie; why weep ye by the tide?
 I'll wed ye to my youngest son, and ye sall be his bride:
 And ye sall be his bride, ladie, sae comely to be seen;
 But aye she loot the tears down fa' for Jock o' Hazeldean.'

Hazeldean may perhaps be identified with Knetelhesel, which, with the two Grotingtons, lying immediately to the east of it, was given to the prior and convent, in 1113, by Archbishop Thurston.⁸ A new house had been built at the greater Grotington⁹ on account of which the rent before 1479 had been raised from £2 to £2 10s.¹⁰ But in 1536¹¹ the former sum was returned as

¹ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 189.

² In 1552, 'The watch of Erreyn-brigges (was) to be watched with two men nightly of the inhabitants of Kepwerk and Erington. Setters and searchers, Robert Ratchester and John Bell, and to search to the Gorburn-foot.' Nicolson, *Border Laws*, p. 171.

³ Vol. iii. p. 70.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 102.

⁵ Vol. iii. p. 82.

⁶ In the parish of Woodhorn.

⁷ Vol. iii. p. 102.

⁸ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 109.

⁹ The canons, in 1479, 'tenent Grotynnton, quae includitur infra has divisas; videlicet, inter rivulum de Pont ex parte australi; et le Dere-strete [*i.e.*, Wailing Street] ex parte orientali; le lonyng dictae Boclive et lez Graystones, jacentes inter praedictum Grotynnton et Codlaw-more ex parte boreali; et quoddam fossatum antiquum inter praedictum Grotynnton et praedictam moram ex parte occidentali.' *Ibid.* pp. 7, 9, 10.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* pp. 9, 10.

¹¹ Vol. iii. p. 158.

the rental, as it was at the dissolution, when the wife of Thomas Harrington¹ held a tenement at Grottington with 10 acres of meadow in the Moor-flat, 3 acres of arable land and common of pasture in Dounes-moore.²

It is now a farm of 513 acres, chiefly pasture land, which, with a saw-mill, is of the annual value of £350.

The hamlet of Beukley or Bewclay stands on an outcrop of limestone to the east of Watling Street, high, exposed, and bare.

The earlier form of the name is Boclive, under which designation it was granted about 1250 by Adam Bertram, son of Adam Bertram, to Archbishop Gray. Amongst the attesting witnesses are John of Upper Errington, and John of Lower Errington.³ In the Subsidy Roll of 1295 it is called Bokeley or Bokelef, it had then nine tenants whose payments amounted to 17s. 7d., though the vill is credited with 19s. 10d.⁴ Bucliffe was amongst the estates entailed by John de Vaux of Beaufront in 1387 upon his son Thomas de Vaux with remainder to Elizabeth, wife of John Errington, a daughter of the same John de Vaux.⁵

In 1536 the tithes of Bokley were worth 10s. a year,⁶ and eleven years later Sir John Widdrington held freehold lands in Buckcliffe, paying a rent of 32s. 3d. a year in two equal payments at Martinmas and Pentecost, according to the custom of the manor of Hexham.⁷ George Errington and John Errington held lands in Bukele or Bukeley in 1568,⁸ and in 1663 Mr. Richard Errington was rated at £79 for Bukley and Todridge, and at £50 for Portgate. It is now a single farm of 411 acres, mostly under grass, and has long formed part of the Errington estates. It is of the annual value of £346.

¹ Probably a clerical error for Errington.

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 163.

³ 'Omnibus, etc. Adam Bertram, filius Adæ Bertram, salutem. Noverit me resignasse domino Waltero de Gray Ebor. archiepiscopo villam de Boclive, sicut Adam Bertram, pater meus, dictam villam de dicto archiepiscopo tenuit. Pro hac autem resignatione dictus archiepiscopus mihi dedit per manus domini Petri de Vallibus, militis sui, quater viginti marcas argenti et unum palefridum sorum, ad debita mea acquietanda versus Christianos et Judeos.' *Lansdowne MSS.* ccccii. 18 a.; *Archbishop Gray's Register*, Raine, p. 284.

⁴ Vol. iii. p. 32.

⁵ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 234.

⁶ Vol. iii. p. 159.

⁷ *Ibid.* p. 81.

⁸ *Feodary's Book*, lxvi.

SANDHOE TOWNSHIP.

The township of Sandhoe lies between the Roman Wall and the river Tyne, and occupies the south-east corner of the parish. It has an area of 1,629 acres, including four detached portions, which contain 35 acres, 55 acres, 22 acres, and 12 acres respectively.¹ In 1881 the population was 216, and in 1891, with the associated townships of Anick and Anick Grange,² it had a population of 439.³ Besides the residential houses of Beaufront, Sandhoe, and Stagshaw Close house, it contains the small hamlet of Sandhoe, the farmsteads of Beaufront Hill-head, Beaufront Wood-head, Fawcett-hills, Black-hill, Holly-hall, and Mount Pleasant.

The principal residence in the township is that which attracts the eye of every traveller who journeys by rail from Newcastle to Carlisle. It stands on the site of the ancient tower of Beaufront, which occurs in the list of castles and fortalices made in 1415,⁴ and the place⁵ is styled a manor in 1547.⁶ After it became the chief residence of the Errington family, a large and many-windowed barrack-like mansion arose, of which the Rev. John Hodgson, writing above eighty years ago, says: 'Few places make a finer appearance, or enjoy a larger and better cultivated prospect than this. From the south side of the Tyne it exhibits a long and handsome front, surrounded with fine pleasure-grounds, and from its walks are seen towns, towers, and hamlets, and the winding stream of Tyne, sometimes hidden under its banks and at others boldly crossing the meadows in broad and silver-looking reaches.'⁷ In the collection of prints belonging to the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries is a 'Plan of Beaufront Demesne,' drawn by Coulson, and engraved by Beilby and Bewick, for John Errington,⁸ about

¹ The township has a water area of 12 acres. ² The three townships of Sandhoe, Anick, and Anick Grange were united by order of the Local Government Board. *London Gazette*, 25th March, 1887.

³ The Census Returns are: 1801, 198; 1811, 199; 1821, 180; 1831, 240; 1841, 273; 1851, 280; 1861, 266; 1871, 280; 1881, 216; 1891, 439. ⁴ Bates, *Border Holds*, vol. i. p. 18.

⁵ In 1479 the canons of Hexham had certain lands in Anick 'sub parco de Beuanfront.' *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 3. ⁶ Vol. iii. p. 83. ⁷ Hodgson, *Description of Northumberland*, 1810, p. 158.

⁸ The Erringtons had a domestic chapel at Beaufront Wood-head, of which the register of baptisms, in the custody of the Roman Catholic priest at Hexham, begins in 1774; it contains the following entries:

1784, 28th May. Jane, daughter of	} Thomas and Winefred Haggerston, baptised.
1785, 13th July. Thomas, son of	
1788, 7th June. Edward Robert, son of	
1791, 29th May. William Charles, son of	
1793, 11th November. Elizabeth, daughter of Jasper and Frances Gibson, baptised.	
1795, 2nd October. Elizabeth, daughter of John and Margaret Gibson, of the parish of Hexham, baptised.	
1795, 3rd December. Mr. James Gibson, died at Stagshaw house.	



OLD BEAUFRONT.

1797, which was prepared to show how injurious to him would be the canal proposed at that time to run from Carlisle to Newcastle, towards which he offered the strongest opposition. There is also a view of the house from the south-west, showing that it was of two stories, though part of it had a basement; the roof was either flat or low pitched, and the pediment was adorned with life-sized figures, doubtless the figures in stone of Ceres, Minerva, and other mythological personages, which still remain about the present house. In the letterpress attached to the plan, Mr. Errington states that he had expended upwards of £20,000 upon the fruit walls, hot houses, plantations, and gardens. The present house of Beaufront was built by Mr. William Cuthbert in 1841, from designs by Dobson of Newcastle, in the domestic castellated style.¹

There can be no doubt that the Northumberland family of de Vallibus or Vaux, which ultimately became settled at Beaufront, as its principal possession, was a branch of the great Cumberland house of which Robert de Vallibus, the founder of Lanercost priory in 1169, was a prominent member. From this parent stock important branches were settled in Norfolk and other parts of England, as well as in Northumberland. Peter de Vallibus appears to have been the first of the name who settled in the county, having obtained property there through his marriage in 1208 with Emma,² the widow of Walter fitz Gilbert of Bolam. Emma had agreed,³ in 1207, with King John, for 200 marks and two palfreys, that she should not be forced to marry against her will,⁴ and it was characteristic of that king's financial policy that he took five palfreys from Peter de Vallibus for leave to marry Emma if she consented.⁵ In 1225 Peter de Vallibus had a grant from Walter Gray, archbishop of York, of a piece of land out of his waste, lying between Anick and Sandhoe.⁶ To the same Peter the archbishop in the following year, 1226, granted a lease for six years of the minerals of Hexham,⁷ and in the year 1230 he obtained from the same archbishop the wardship and marriage of the heir of William de Sweethope.⁸ In 1252 he

¹ In one of the rooms is a chimney piece of fine white marble, with delicately carved festoons of flowers, which, with the turret bell with the date 1768, and the clock tower bell with the date 1694, belonged to the seventeenth-century house, of which the only portions retained are what are now the kitchens, with the rooms over them.

² This lady, generally styled Emma de Ayden, was an Umframville. *Fine Rolls*, 9 John, m. 1; *Cal. Doc. relating to Scotland*, Bain, vol. i. pp. 70, 71.

³ Robert de Vallibus made himself responsible in Cumberland for Emma's debt. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. 107; cf. *Pipe Roll*, 15 John, m. 13, Cumberland.

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. 98.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 101.

⁶ *Archbishop Gray's Register*, Raine, p. 221; Surt. Soc.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 227.

⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 237.

and his wife¹ had an agreement with Newminster abbey concerning a third part of Newton of the dower of Emma as widow of Walter de Bolam.² On Emma's death Peter became owner for life of Aydon, Brunton, and Little Whittington.³

The debt incurred to the king in 1208 was only finally extinguished in 1256, in which year⁴ Peter appears to have died, when his widow, Agnes, paid for a brief.⁵

At Michaelmas, 1256, Agnes, widow of Sir Peter de Vallibus, knight, being then at Aydon, quit-claimed to Peter de Vallibus, rector of the church of Crathorne,⁶ who was a son of Sir Peter, all rights she had in houses in South Street, in the parish of St. Margaret, Durham, which her husband had sold to Sir Hugh de Stanbrige,⁷ and which he had obtained by grant from William de London, clerk.⁸

Sir John de Vaux, who was the first justice itinerant in Northumberland in 1279,⁹ and who had commissions from the archbishop of York from 1306 to 1321 for gaol delivery at Hexham, as well as other commissions,¹⁰ did homage at Hexham in 1307 to Archbishop Greenfield for the manor of Beaufront, which contained 100 acres of arable land, pasture, and meadow, and for 48 acres of arable land, and for 1 acre of meadow in Bingfield.¹¹ This homage he renewed at Thorp, November 20th, 1318, to Archbishop Melton.¹² He was dead in 1322, when on Monday next before the feast of the Purification, an inquest on his death was held at Hexham. He was found to have been seised of the manor of Beaufront of the value of 5 marks, of the manor of Bokeley of the value of 20 marks, as well as of various other property in land and houses. His heir was his grandson, John, aged nine years, the son of his son John.¹³ The custody and marriage of John de Vaux was sold in 1325 to Robert Oliver for 50 marks.¹⁴

¹ In 1219 Emma de Ayden, who was one of the king's wards . . . was married to Peter de Vaux, her lands being of the value of £10. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, part iii. vol. i. p. 227.

² *Newminster Chartulary*, Fowler, pp. 179, 180; Surt. Soc.

³ *Testa de Nevill*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 229 (1219); p. 215 (1240).

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. 233. ⁵ *Ibid.* p. 236.

⁶ 1233-1238. Peter de Vaux, rector of Crathorne, provided a lamp to burn for ever before the tomb of St. Godric at Finchale. Surtees Soc. vol. 6, p. 26. He was canon of York 1281-1292. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 91.

⁷ *Durham Treasury*, 6ⁿ 5th Elemos., No. 2. ⁸ *Ibid.* No. 1. ⁹ *Ibid.* Nos. 3 and 5.

¹⁰ *Assize Rolls*, p. 223; Surt. Soc.

¹¹ *York Registers*, Greenfield, 34 a, 41 a, 47 a, 54 a, 40 b; Melton, 405 b, 408 b, 409 b; *Ibid.* Greenfield, pars. ii. 224 a. ¹² *Ibid.* Melton, 595 a. ¹³ *Ibid.* Melton, 487 a. ¹⁴ *Ibid.* 566 a.

There are preserved in the Treasury at Durham some thirteenth and fourteenth-century charters which relate to Whittonstal, where the Vaux family held land, in one of which Sir John de Vaux is described as 'dominus de bello fronte.' An abstract of some of these is printed below, together with others connected with Beaufront, which belong to the Rev. Wm. Greenwell.

Wydo Darrens grants to John de Vallibus all lands, etc., he has in the vill of Qwyttunstal cum minera carbonum which Esolda, his mother, held. Testes, Dni. Rob. de Balliolo tunc vicecomes Northumbriæ, Johannes de Swyneburn milites, Johannes de Hawylton fil. Dni. Will. de Hawilton, Johannes de Insula, Ric. Tyson, Symon de Waskerley, Peter de Ponteland. Seal armorial of Darrayns. *Misc. Chart.* No. 6918.

An appointment by Rich. II. to certain persons to enquire into a grave complaint of Thomas Menneville that John Vaus, Alan Vaus, John de Erynton, Will. Cowyke, Rich. de Acumbe, Thos. Bakester, Will. Wryght, Gilb. Cole, Hugo Mauntill, John Howeton, John Spendloue, Walt. Henryson, John de Malteby, John Coke de Hexham, John Hunter, John Farndale, John Hunter de Corbrigge, Gilb. Hannay, William Sclater, Thos. de Cowyke, Will. Thomson, Rich. Whiteheued, Will. Coke, Radulph Jones seruant Vaus, Will. Shiphird de Sandhowe, Thomas Denyas de Acumbe, John de Rawe de Brunle, Thom. de Hewardla, Rich. de Acumbe, and Rob. Hynmerssh, and others, malefactors and breakers of our peace had broken the houses and fences of the said Thomas Menneville at Whittonstall and Fairhill, and had carried off 30 horses, 20 heifers, 100 oxen, 100 cows, of the value of £200, and goods and chattels of the value of £100, and had assaulted, beaten, and wounded his men and servants, and had done other damage, etc., to the amount of £1,000. Dated at Durham, August 21st, 9 Ric. II. (1385). *Misc. Chart.* No. 6964.

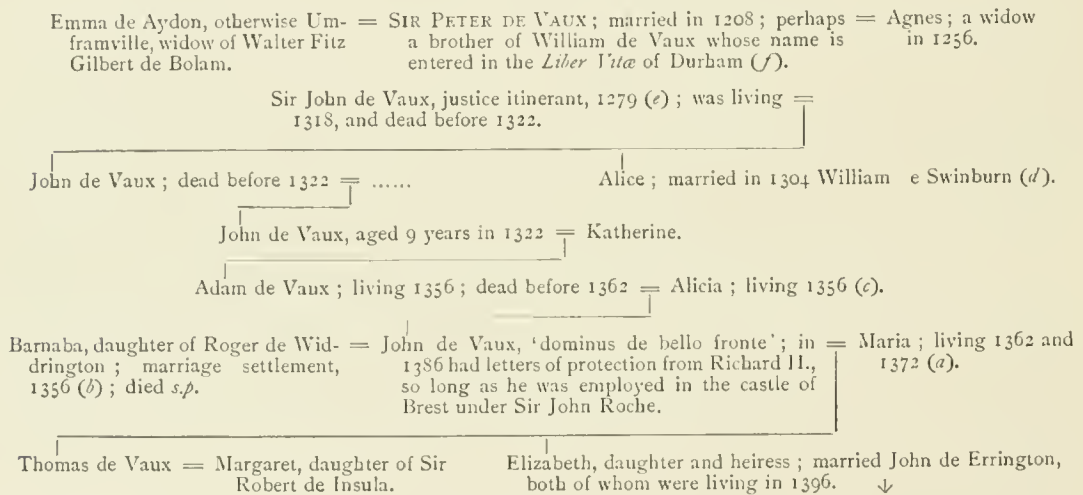
Cest endenture fait entre Roger de Wideryngtone dun parte et Johan le fitz Adam de Meneuille daltre parte tesmoyn que les partiz auant ditz sont acordez en cest maner que les ditz Roger et Johan et lour heirs pursewront trois rentes charges grantez au dit Johan ses heirs et ses assignez par Adam de Vaus de ces terres et tenementz en le conte de Northehumbreland et Hexamschir et mettront lour custages owelment cest assauoir lun lunnmoite et lautre lautremoyte tancome la sewyt finablement soit parfourne et apres la recouerer ent fait les custages mys par les deux serront leuez del entier et rebaillez a les deux qount mys les custages tancome eux soient pleynment paieiz de leur mises mys et le remenant de les arrerages serra parte en deux troys, cest assauoir vn tierce partie serra done a Johan le fitz Adam de Vaus et Barnabe sa femme vn altre tierce partie serra done a Adam de Vaus et Alice sa femme, la tierce tierce partie demoura a Roger et Johan de Meneuille pur lour traual mys et auxint le dit Johan le fitz Adam de Meneuille graunt pur luy et pur ses heirs que les troys rentes charges cest assauoir vn de xxx liuers vn altre de trent liuers le tierce de cessant liuers a luy et ses heirs grauntez soient baillez a Johan le fitz Adam de Vaus et Barnabe sa femme quant ils serront de age, et apres la recouerer fait pur lour profit ent faire issint que les terres recouerez ne les terres en lour meyns esteantz del heritage le dit Adam apres cel recouerer par les trois faites auant nomez ne soient chargez, et le dit Johan fitz Adam de Meneuille graunt pur luy et pur ses heirs quil ne fra reles (= release) ne altre chose en enentissement de les troys rentes charges, pendant la sewyt sanse assent Roger de Wideryngton, et en cas que le dit Johan de Meneuille deuie deuant ceo que laccion de les trois rentes charges soient pleynment perfourne lauant dit Johan de Meneuille volt pur ses heirs que ses heirs que pour le temps que serra auenir pursewent en autiel fourme come il mesme voldra auoir pursewe sil fust en pleyn vie et oltre de tenir les couenantz solunk ceo quil mesmes deueroit auoir tenew sil vst vesque et solunqz ceo quil est charge per cest endenture. Et en cas que il ou ses heirs faillont dens couenantz auant ditz en partie on en tote, il graunt pur luy et pur ses heirs que apres ceo que defalt en luy soit troue ou en ses heirs si ceo ne soit par neelligence quils soient tenez et obligez a Roger de Wideryngton et a ses heirs en quarant liuers desterlinges, et lauant dit Roger graunt pur luy et pur ses heirs quen cas quil ou ses heirs faillont en ascuns des couenantz auant dits de quels il est lye par cest endenture, que apres ceo que defalt en luy soit troue ou en ses heirs que adonqz le dit Roger et ses heirs soient tenez et obligez au dit Johan le fitz Adam de Meneuille et ses heirs en quarant liuers desterlinges. Et en cas que le dit Johan fitz Adam de Meneuille on ses heirs recoueront par les trois faites

des rentes charges auant nomez ou par ascun de eux, quil les relesont a Johan le fitz Adam de Vaux et Barnabe sa femme tut le droit quil ad a demander rent en les terres et tenementz des queux ils sount enfeffez et que furunt en ancien temps del heritage le dit Adam de Vaus quant a ceo faire serront convenablement requis issint que ceux tenementz demurauntz en leur meyn par vertu del recouerer ne soient apres chargez par le recouerer ne par les charges auant faites mais soient auxi clers deuers le dit Johan fitz Adam de Meneuille et ses heirs come ils furunt deuant les rentes charges au dit Johan fitz Adam de Meneuille et ses heirs grauntez ciant regard a les charges auant nomez. En tesmoynance de quel chose les partiz auant ditz entre changeablement ont mys leur seals. Done a la vile del Neuf chastell sur Tyne en la fest de Seint Thomas Lapostell (December 21st) Lan du grace mille tres cenz sinquant setisme. Endorsed. Scriptum inter R. de Wydrington et J. Meneuille.

Another deed. Adam de Vaus and Alice, his wife, to Roger de Woderington, and William, son of John de Meneuille, land in Beaufront, Boccliffe, etc., to enfeoff John, son of Adam and Alice and Barnaba, daughter of Roger. Dated at Newcastle, the eve of the feast of St. Lucy (December 13th) mile tres cenz czinquant seeisme. Witnesses: Rich. de Aske, bailiff of Hexham, Gilb. de Vaus, Adam, son of Rich. de Faloufeld, Rob. de Eryngton, Rob. Spenzr of Bingfield. Seals of Widdrington and Menville attached.

John, son of Adam de Vaus, gives power of attorney to William de Meneuille to receive the fine of all tenements with their appurtenances which Adam his father gave him by deed in the vill of Falghfeld [Fallowfield]. Dated at Falghfeld, the Vigil of the Purification of B.M. (February 1st), 1349/50. Seal, cross patonce, not on a shield. *Misc. Chart.* No. 5879.

VAUX OF BEAUFRONT.



(a) Deed made at Denton, 20th May, 1372. Rev. John Hodgson's Collection, 'L.'

(b) *Egerton Charters*, No. 539.

(c) *Durham Treasury*.

(d) *Swinburn Charter*. Rev. John Hodgson's Collection, 'T.'

(e) *Northumberland Assize Roll*, Page, p. 223; Surtees Soc.

(f) *Liber Vita*, p. 111; Surtees Soc.

At the dissolution of the monasteries Edward Hirst and William Lee held Beaufront by lease from the prior and convent of Hexham.¹ Their rights were acquired by David Carnaby, after whose death a commission was issued in 1587 to enquire into the nature of his holding.

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 163. In Horsley's time it was pronounced Beevram.

Edward Hirst of Hexham, smith, aged 80, deposed that he was the grantee of the lease, which was granted to him seven or eight years before the suppression, by Edward Jay, the last prior of Hexham (who was his godfather), for thirty-one years; that he sold his interest to David Carnaby in consideration of 'four nobles worth of land in Hexham in fee farm for ever, but he only got land worth 18s. by year' and £6 in money; and that the annual value (of both moieties) was £2 13s. 4d.¹

Besides Beaufront, David Carnaby in 1568 held Beaumont, Portgate, lands at Hexham, etc.,² and in 1584 a jury found that John Carnaby, son of David Carnaby, deceased, had died, seised of lands in the town of Errington and Keepwick and Keepwick mill, and that Isabella and Agnes Carnaby were his daughters and co-heiresses. Two years later there was an *inq. post mortem* of Christopher Carnaby, who was found to have died, seised of cottages in Acomb. Isabella and Agnes, daughters of John Carnaby, were his heirs.³ Their wardship gave rise to much quarrelling, and a long matrimonial suit ensued in the Ecclesiastical Court at York as to whether Isabella Carnaby was wife of Matthew Fenwick or of Roger Read.

Matthew Fenwick *v.* Isabella Carnaby *alias* Read *in causa matrimonialia*.

1597, 24th November. Roger Fennick of Bitchfeild, parish of Stamfordham, gen., *at. circa* 36, saith that on a Tuesday so now as he remembreth a fournight or therabouts after Whitsuntide last was two yeres the articulate Mattheu Fennick, being brother on the father's side to this examine, and beyng then at this examine's house at Bitchfeild, ride together with this examine and some six other persons to Mr. Middleton his house at Belsey, where the articulate Isabell Carnaby then lay, and then one of the said Matthew Fennick his companie, with consent and privitie of the said Mr. Middleton, being uncle to the said Isabell, toke the said Isabell behind him and cared her to Whelpinton church, in which church they the said Matthew and Isabell, about six or seaven of the clock in the morenyng of the same day were married together by the ministerie of Reginald Fennick, vicar or minister of Whelpinton afore-said, in such manner and forme as is articulate, viz., after morenyng praier, first said, the said Matthew holding the said Isabell by the hand, as the manner is, said unto hir after the recitall of the said minister, thus, 'Here I, Matthew, take the, Issabell, to my wedded wife,' and so furth, as conteyned in the Book of Common Praier; at which marriage was used the ring and all other ceremonies used at other marriages and required by the said Book of Common Praier, of this examine's sight and hearing, being then and ther present together with Jo. Horseley, Tho. Bewick, Stephen Redhead, William Braiddie, George Ogle, and some two or three mo' persons whose names he now remembreth not. After the said marriage so solemnized, they the said Matthew and Issabell, with ther companie, went home with this examine to his house at Bitchfeild and ther dyned and lay together that night and for the space of seaven nights next after. The said Isabell Carnaby did remayne at Errington within the jurisdiction of this court, but now is taken away he knoweth not whither.

He hath hard the father of the said Roger Read and diverse others of his frendes, as also the said Roger himself, say that the said Roger Read is not yet fourteane yeres of age. He hath hard that the said Roger Read and Isabell Carnaby *alias* Read are married together.

Thomas Bewick of Belsey, *at. circa* 20, servant to Mr. Middleton, deposes the same. He says that Roger Fennick, Jo. Horseley, Stephen Redhead, Jo. Ogle, Oswald Fennick, William Braddie, and others were at the church. 'He knoweth Roger Read verie well, and it seemeth to him that the said Roger is not 14, no, nor 13 yeres of age.'

¹ *Exchequer Special Commissions*, No. 1747, Northumberland, 30 Eliz.

² *Feodary's Book*, lxvi.

³ *Hexham Manor Rolls*.

John Horseley of Milburne Grange, *at. circa* 26, also deposes to the marriage. The said Mr. Middleton, his unckle, sent his kinsman, one John Ogle, to give the said Issabell in marriage to the said Matthew. After the mariage they went to Bitchfeild to Roger Fennick's house, and ther lay all that night together in one bed of this examine's sight. They also lived together as man and wife at Houghton, in the said Matthew Fennick father's house, about half a yere after the said marriage.

Henry Read, parish of St. John Lee, *at. circa* 50, sayeth that Roger Read at Christmas next or therabouts shalbe fourtene yeres old and no more. This examine being his unckle, viz., his father's brother, doth verie well remember the birth of the said Roger.

Henry Reade, of the parish of St. John Lee, *at. circa* 50, was pryvye that about three yeares agoe Edwarde Reade, this examine's brother, father to the same Roger, dyd go about to make a maryage betwene his sayd sonne and Isabell Carnaby, whose mother his sayd brother had maryed, and in a workeday in Lente last past was two yeares, about eighte or nyne a'clocke before noone, this examine was present in the chappell of Saynt Oswolde's, where and when he sawe the articulate Roger Reade and Isabell Carnaby maryed together by the mynistry of one George Powrye, clerke, then serving the cure att the same chappell of St. Oswolde's. After the maryage they came to Errington hall to the house of the said Edwarde Reade, where the same nyghte they did go to bedde together as man and wyfe.

Edward Reade of Kepecke, parish of St. John Lee, gen., *at. circa* 40, says that Roger Reade and Isabell Carnabie *alias* Reade beinge bothe at Errington hall, had dyvers tymes talke and communicion of matrimonic to be had betwene theme, and after soom talke of that matter they concluded to be handfeste together, and the said Roger tacking her by the hand said, 'Here, I taiketh the to my wife,' with soom other woordes, etc. The said Roger and Isabell were married together in the chapell of Sainte Oswoulde's, etc. He knows not where the said Isabell nowe remains. [Other witnesses depose to the marriage.]

1599, 5th July. Nicholas Errington of Kepick, *at. circa* 40, says that 'Isabell Carnabie *alias* Read, and Agnes, her sister, were daughters and heires of John Carnabie of Befront, deceased about twelve yeres since or more, and that they, as co-heires to ther father, claime the tithes of Errington, and lands and tenements in Kepick, Errington, and Beamont, amounting to the yerelie value of fourtie markes *de claro*; howbeit, he saith, the said Isabell and Agnes are not in quiet possession of the premisses, for that one John Errington of Wharmeley maketh claime to the same tithes and landes and tenements, and now ther is sute commenced for ther rightes and title in the premises; and furder saith that the said Isabell and Agnes, as heres to ther said father, have certaine tenements and lands in Acome and Hexham which they enjoy quietlie and receive rent for them, but of what yerelie value they be he knoweth not, but he thinketh about fourtie shillings by yere, or scarce so much; and furder sayth that the said Matthew Fenwick, whose father and brethren this examine did verie well know, is a younger brother, viz., the third or fourth begotten sonne of his father, and that he hath nether landes nor any goodes, except a horse, that this examine, being his neybor, knoweth of; and he saith that Roger Fenwick, articulate, is naturall brother to the said Matthew, and that John Horseley is of new (*sic*) kynred, as this examine thinketh, to the said Matthew and his dear frend, and an utter ennymy to Edward Read, father of the said Roger, as is also the said Roger Fennick, which enmitie did first grow at or about the tyme of the marriage of Matthew Fennick and Isabell Carnabie, and hath ever since continued, since which tyme ther have bene great quarrells betwixt them about possession of Errington hall and the tithes of Errington.

John Errington of Errington, in the chapelry of St. Oswald's, *at. circa* 70, deposes to the same effect. He says that the two daughters, since their father's death, have not enjoyed his lands, etc., in Kepick, Errington, and Beamont house (worth £20 per annum), but that John Errington of Swinburne claims them. They have 40s. land in Corbeck (*sic*) and a house in Hexham, and some land in Acome not worth more than 20s. per annum.

On the 15th May, 1602, the court pronounced sentence in favour of the marriage with Fenwick, and Roger Read was condemned in costs. In 1608, Isabel Carnaby *alias* Fenwick and Agnes Carnaby, her sister, daughters and heirs of John Carnaby, held the villages of East Errington and



BEAUFORT CASTLE

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Keepwick with Keepwick mill; and a tenement in Acomb was held by Matthew Fenwick in right of Isabel his wife, and Agnes Carnaby her sister. But the succession of John Carnaby's two daughters to their grandfather's lands was disputed by, or shared with, Nicholas Carnaby of Rudchester, son and heir of Mark Carnaby of Anick Grange, who, 30th May, 28 Elizabeth (1587), in consideration of a certain sum of money, conveyed the capital messuage of 'Befron,' with Beaumont house in the parish of Chollerton, to Gilbert Errington of Wharmley,¹ who thus became of Beaufront, which his descendants to the sixth generation subsequently made their chief seat. At the death of John Errington, the last male heir of the family, in 1827, as already related, his estates descended to his heirs-at-law, who, in 1836, sold Beaufront to Mr. William Cuthbert of Redheugh, near Newcastle, whose great-grandson, Mr. James Harold Cuthbert, is the present owner.²

A little to the east of Beaufront on a terrace commanding a noble view of the valleys of the Tyne and Devil's Water is the mansion house of Sandhoe, of which it was formerly an appanage, possessed or occupied by a younger son of the Errington family: It was the property and northern home of Henry Errington, who died in 1819, and passed under his will to Rowland Stanley, afterwards Sir Rowland Errington, and became, after the sale of Beaufront, the capital mansion of the Errington estates; it now, since the death of Sir John Stanley Errington, belongs to the heirs of Henry Errington's estates and their assigns.³

The vill of Sandhow was one of the earliest benefactions to the priory of Hexham, having been granted to the house by Archbishop Thomas II. in 1113.⁴ It was returned with the payment of 17s. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to the subsidy of 1295, but the contributions of the several tenants amount to £1 6s. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., the largest sum being 12s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., paid by the widow Hawysia.⁵ In the fifteenth century it is stated that there were 13 husband lands of 24 acres each, and 12 cottagers, each of whom had a house and an acre of land or less.⁶ Full

¹ *Capheaton Deeds.* The Rev. John Hodgson MSS.

² Mr. Cuthbert purchased an undivided moiety of the manor and freehold estate of Beaufront, 2nd December, 1835, from the trustees of the will of William Fermor; an undivided fourth part, 24th August, 1836, from the trustees of the marriage settlement of Sir F. H. Hervey Bathurst and Dame Louisa Mary, his wife; and the remaining fourth, 8th September, 1836, from the trustees of the marriage settlement of the Hon. Mrs. Geo. Augustus Craven. Mr. J. H. Cuthbert's *Title deeds.* In 1873 William Cuthbert of Beaufront was returned as owner of 1,682 acres of land in Northumberland, with an estimated rental of £3,202. *Parliamentary Return of Owners of Land.* ³ *Cf. supra*, p. 193. ⁴ Vol. iii. p. 139. ⁵ *Ibid.* p. 33.

⁶ 'Sunt ibidem xiii terrae husband. quarum quaelibet cont. xxiiii acras terrae arabilis et prati. Et quaelibet terra faciet opera et consuetudines ad molendinum de Aynwyk, ut tenentes ejusdem villae; et quaelibet terra husband. dabit j gallum et gallinam domino ad festum Natalis Domini.' *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. xix. 5.

CUTHBERT OF BEAUFRONT.

JAMES CUTHBERT of Marton-in-Cleveland =

Henry Cuthbert, baptised 3rd July, 1690 (<i>a</i>). John Cuthbert of Eston, near Middlesbrough, baptised 3rd Dec., 1692. ↓ James Cuthbert, baptised 28th April, 1695 (<i>a</i>).	William Cuthbert of Newcastle, baptised 9th Feb., 1696 (<i>a</i>); married at St. Nicholas', Newcastle, 6th June, 1736.	= Jane, daughter of ... Walker, of Sprouston, near Kelso, and widow of ... Wheelwright; born 5th Dec., 1697; died 1757.	Thomas Cuthbert of Plymouth, baptised 10th Mar., 1697 (<i>a</i>). ↓ Dorothy, baptised 23rd Feb., 1698 (<i>a</i>).
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William Cuthbert of Newcastle, born 21st July, 1737 (<i>b</i>); purchased Greenridge and Nubbock, and died 13th Aug., 1781; will dated 30th Dec., 1779; proved ... Oct., 1781 (<i>d</i>).	= Ann, daughter of John Hodgson of Elswick; married 2nd October, 1776; died 21st Dec., 1834.
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William Cuthbert of Newcastle and Beaufront, born 16th Dec., 1778; died 31st Jan., 1853; buried at St. John Lee (<i>c</i>).	= Ann, daughter of Robert Shafto Hedley of Long Benton; married 1812; died 4th Oct., 1828, aged 35.	Jane; died unmarried, 1856. Mary Ann; died at Benwell, 9th June, 1848, aged about 70, unmarried (<i>e</i>).
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William Cuthbert of Beaufront, born 7th Aug., 1813; high sheriff of Northumberland, 1860; died 29th Nov., 1879; buried at St. John Lee (<i>c</i>).	= Mary, daughter of Isaac Cookson of Meldon; married at Meldon, 16th June, 1840; died 24th April, 1893 (<i>c</i>).	Robert, born 2nd March, 1821; died <i>s.p.</i> near York, 13th July, 1888. George, born 1824; died <i>s.p.</i> at New York, U.S.A., 28th Dec., 1851.	John Rawlinson Cuthbert, born 1826; captain 10th Hussars.	= Marie Theodosia, daughter of W. Kierman.	Elizabeth; married 26th July, 1836, Richard Burn of Orton hall, Westmorland. Jane Anne; married 16th July, 1839 (<i>c</i>), William Isaac Cookson of Benwell.
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William Cuthbert of Beaufront, born 19th March, 1848; died <i>s.p.</i> , 3rd Dec., 1880.	= Eleanor Lockhart, daughter of lieutenant-col. F. Bull of New Park, co. Kilkenny; married at Ovingham, 30th April, 1878; died 26th Nov., 1880.	Sidney Cuthbert of Beaufront, born 19th Feb., 1851; died at Melsetter, Natal, South Africa, 9th June, 1882.	= Frances Yates, daughter of C. Griffin; married 28th April, 1874.	Richard, born 13th April, 1856.
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Claude Arthur Cuthbert, born 14th June, 1860. ↓	= Annie Beatrice, daughter of James Rankin of Bryngwyn, Herefordshire, M.P.; married 12th January, 1887.	Gerald James Cuthbert, born 12th Sept., 1861, captain Scots Guards.	Annie; married 20th Oct., 1860 (<i>c</i>), Major-general F. Green Wilkinson. Mary Constance; married 6th Sept., 1860 (<i>c</i>), Sir Alfred Slade, bart., of Maunsel house, Somersetshire. Fanny Isabella; married at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, 15th July, 1869, Henry Percy Anderson of the Foreign Office. Emily; married 20th Oct., 1868 (<i>c</i>), Arthur Arbuthnot of Woodford house, Northamptonshire. Alice Burn. Mary Sara.
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James Harold Cuthbert of Beaufront, born at Melsetter, Natal, 21st July, 1876; 2nd lieutenant, Scots Guards.

Sidney William, born at Melsetter, 29th April, 1882.

Lily Ethelwyn Noel.
Gladys Mary.
Dorothy.

(*a*) *Marton Register.*(*b*) *St. Nicholas' Register, Newcastle.*(*c*) *St. John Lee Register.*(*d*) *Raine, Test. Ebor.*(*e*) *Matthew Forster's Obituary.*

particulars of the tenants and of the nature of their holdings in 1479 are given in the Black Book of Hexham, where it is stated that Sir Peter de Gunnerton, chaplain of the church of St. John Lee, held 8 acres of glebe, called kirk-land.¹

In an undated survey made at the dissolution is the following record :

SANDHOW. John Errington holdith a tenement there, with edifices, 1 cloose containing 1 acre in the Law Inges, 4 acres medoo; and in the Toune-feldis 24 acre land arrable, with comon there, and renttes by yere, etc., 26s. 8d. Richard Hudchonson holdith a tenement there, with 1 cloose containing 1 acre in the Law Inges, 4 acre medoo; and in the Toune-feldis 24 acres land arrable, with comon ther, and rentes by yere, etc., 26s. 8d. Robert Buteland holdith a tenement there, 1 cloose containing 1 rode in the Law Inges, 3 acres medoo, 18 acres land arrable, and comon there, etc., 20s. Robert Sowreby holdithe a tenement there, 1 litle cloose; and in the Law Inges 3 acre; in the Toune-feldis 18 acre, and comon there by yere, etc., 20s. John Stevynson holdithe a tenement ther, with bithe (*sic*) 6 acres land arrable; and 2 acres in ye Law Inges, with comon there, and rentes by yere, etc., 13s. 4d. Summa, £5 6s. 8d.²

The value of the township in 1536 was £5 6s. 8d., and two years afterwards it sent seventeen fully equipped men to attend the muster.

SANDO MUSTER ROLL, 1538.³

Cutbert Eryngton, Robert Solby, John Stevynson, Robert Bowtland, Ric. Huchenson, able with hors and harnes. John Spayn, John Solby, John Solby, Roger Robson, Robert Solby, Willm Gren, John Smythe, Thomas Spayn, Willm Lee, Thomas Eryngton, able with hors and harnes. Patrike Yonger, Thomas Yonger, able with hors and harnes.

Stagshaw Close house, about a mile east of Sandhoe, is approached from Watling Street by a fine avenue of tall, well-grown lime trees. In a field near by the plough in 1822 unearthed a prehistoric grave, probably of the Bronze period, described at the time as 'about 4 feet deep, 3 feet long, and 2½ feet wide, cut in the native rock. This rude tomb enclosed a small antique urn composed of clay and sand, uncovered and coarsely ornamented; it contained a few ordinary sized teeth in perfect preservation, the mouldered remains of a skull, a small heart-shaped amulet of a grey slaty stone, perforated for suspension, and a tongue-shaped piece of flint.'⁴

With the remainder of the township of Sandhoe, Stagshaw Close was a possession of the prior and convent of Hexham.

Under a commission dated 12th February, 1567/8, directed to Nicholas Ridley, George Heron of Chipchase, Robert Middleton of Belsay, and Thomas Bates, esquires, commanding them to enquire concerning lands belonging to the dissolved monastery of Hexham supposed to be concealed, an inquisition was taken at Dilston, when the jury said :

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 6.

² *Ibid.* vol. ii. p. 161.

³ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 191.

⁴ *Newcastle Courant*, 23rd March, 1822.

That a parcel of ground called Stagsa Close adjoining to Sandho feelds was parcel of said possessions ; now occupied by one Cuthbert Carnabye of Halton, esq., who saith he hath it by the grant of one Clare Forster, widow of Reginald Forster of Capheaton, esq., deceased, by virtue of a lease made to the said Reginald, and that Sir Reginald Carnabye, knt., deceased, William Carnabye, and the said Cuthbert Carnabye have occupied the same ever since the dissolution, and it is claimed by the said leasers ; and said Cuthbert saith that he payeth to said Clare £10 per annum.¹

Stagshaw Close is enumerated amongst the estates which, at the death of Sir John Forster in 1602, descended to his grandson Sir John Fenwick, and in 1663 it was rated to Sir William Fenwick at £5. It was one of the places purchased from Sir John Fenwick in 1689² by Sir William Blackett, who on the 22nd December, 1691, transferred it to Thomas Gibson of Stonecroft in exchange for his interest in Donkin Rigg in the parish of Hartburn and £25. Gibson's widow, Ann Pudsay, was residing at Stagshaw Close house in 1724, when, as a Roman Catholic, she registered an annuity out of Stonecroft. Their son, George Gibson, who was found guilty of high treason and imprisoned for taking part in the rebellion of 1715, died in the following year of the spotted fever, and was buried in St. Giles' churchyard, London. Stagshaw Close house, having been included in his marriage settlement, was either restored to or secured by his family.³ His great-grandson George Gibson sold Stagshaw Close house about 1817 to the Rev. John Thompson, vicar of Warden,⁴ whose son, the Rev. Francis Thompson, sometime vicar of Carham, made it his home. After passing through the hands of the Crawhall family it was purchased from the trustees of Robert Hawthorn in 1868 by Mr. John Straker. Mr. Straker was son of Mr. Joseph Straker of North Shields, and grandson of George Straker of Walker, master and mariner. The latter by trading between the Tyne and Baltic during the second half of last century had been induced to settle as a shipowner and wood exporter in the great timber port of Memel, though he ultimately returned to England and died in 1806. A biography of his son, George Straker, 'a strong minded Novocastrian' and public spirited Tynesider, may be found in Mr. Richard Welford's *Men of Mark*. Another son was Mr. Joseph Straker, who, with his son John and Mr. Joseph Love of Durham, founded the well-known firm of Strakers & Love, colliery owners. Mr. John Straker,⁵ in 1885, built

¹ *Exchequer Special Commissions*, No. 1711, Northumberland, 10 Elizabeth.

² Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 259.

³ *Ibid.* vol. iii. pp. 393-395.

⁴ John Thompson was vicar of Warden for forty-three years, and died 12th December, 1826, aged 88.

⁵ In 1873 John Straker of Stagshaw house was returned as owner of 1,870 acres with an estimated rental of £2,086. *Parliamentary Return of Owners of Land*.



J. P. C. BROWN PHOTO

STAGSHAW CHURCH

the domestic chapel dedicated to St. Aidan, which stands a little to the north-west of Stagshaw Close house, now the residence of his widow.

Above Stagshaw Close house is the moor where the great muster was taken on 24th November, 1595,¹ and where annually on the 4th July, is held the Stagshaw Bank fair,² which, before the days of railways, was one of the largest cattle and sheep fairs in the north of England, upwards of 100,000 head of the latter being frequently shown on such occasions at the end of last century.³ Blackfaced sheep were brought from the south-west and west of Scotland,⁴ and great numbers of cattle, horses, and swine were exposed for sale. The fair day was a gala or festival for all ranks and classes in the district. It was visited in 1825 by the Rev. John Hodgson and the Rev. James Raine, the latter of whom writes as follows :

Upon reaching Stagshaw Bank, a large open tract of ground, not far from Corbridge, inclining swiftly from the Roman Wall to the Tyne, we found ourselves in the midst of a great annual fair held on this declivity, chiefly for cattle, but in truth for goods of all kinds, 'things,' as an old inventory at Durham has it, 'moveable or moving themselves.'⁵ At this place, which is a solitary field, at a distance from any population, there are great well-known periodical gatherings of buyers and sellers from the whole north of England, on the western or eastern coast; and the southern counties of Scotland send forth in abundance their men and goods to buy, sell, or be sold.

In a large pasture upon the slope of a hill, with a wide prospect, extending down the valley of the Tyne as far as Gateshead Fell, and in every other direction except on the north, having an almost unlimited view of a spreading tract of country, there were gathered together, without the slightest attempt at the order which is of necessity observed in markets and fairs held within the walls of a town, horses and cattle, and sheep and swine, and in short every thing which is bred or of use in farming operations, with thousands of other things, which it would be no easy task to enumerate; and then there were people of all ages, from all quarters, and in all kinds of costume; the Scotchman in his kilt, and the Yorkshireman in his smock-frock; and every variety of booth or hut for refreshment or dissipation. That we had stumbled on a fair of Roman origin may not, I think, be doubted. The situation of Stagshaw Bank is an extremely convenient one for gathering together at stated periods of the year the produce of the eastern side of the island; and as long as the Romans were in possession of Britain, and there was an immense population along the line of the Wall from sea to sea, the natives would find a ready market for the produce of their fields and farmyards. The Wall, which runs at the distance of a mile northwards, would be a protection to the sellers of cattle and wares in that direction; and from the south they had nothing to fear.⁶

¹ The commissioners of array were Richard Goodrick for Yorkshire, William Fenwicke for Northumberland, John Featherstonhaugh for the bishopric, who reported 'that all those viewed were generally well armed with furniture as light horse, and very few defects in armour.' There were 37 light horse allowed to be furnished, 270 horses were disallowed, and 190 were returned as absent. *Border Papers*, Bain, vol. ii. p. 73.

² The fair is called the *Midsummer* fair (to distinguish it from the similar Whitsun fair), and it was probably originally held about Midsummer day, the feast of St. John Baptist. Cf. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 159. ³ Cf. Bailey and Culley, *Agricultural Survey*, 1797, p. 152.

⁴ In the early part of the century, Mr. John Moore Bates, of Aydon White house, bought a Gaelic grammar in order to acquire enough of the language to converse with the Highland drovers at Stagshaw Bank, who could speak hardly any English.

⁵ 'Inventarium omnium bonorum mobilium et immobilium seseque moventium.' Here at Stagshaw there was nothing immovable save the ground. ⁶ Raine, *Memoir of Rev. John Hodgson*, vol. ii. pp. 60, 61.

The fair is formally opened and proclaimed by the bailiff of the duke of Northumberland as lord of the manor of Corbridge,¹ who welcomes at the 'Angel' inn at Corbridge the officials and those who intend to accompany him to 'ride the fair.' Preceded by the constables carrying halbert and staff, and followed by the piper playing on the Northumberland small-pipes the familiar air, 'Chevy Chase,' the company march to the market cross, where is made the first proclamation, and thence to the fair ground, so that the riding the fair may begin at noon. The procession takes the low or east side of the horse fair (which is held on both sides of Watling Street), and when the west side of Watling Street is reached, a halt is called and the following proclamation is read :

These are in Her Majesty's name and in the name of the Most Noble ALGERNON GEORGE duke and earl of Northumberland, Earl Percy, earl of Beverley in the county of York, Baron Warkworth of Warkworth castle in the county of Northumberland, Lord Lovaine, baron of Alnwick in the said county of Northumberland, a baronet and one of the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Northumberland and of the city and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, lord of this manor and fair, and the rights and privileges of the same, to strictly charge and command all manner of persons coming and resorting thereunto, well and decently to behave themselves in word and deed, and that they and everyone of them do preserve and keep Her Majesty's peace without offering any violence, making any riot, rout, or unlawful assembly or drawing any weapon, or shedding any blood during the continuance of this present fair, and that they nor any of them do use any unlawful buying or selling, or commit any misdemeanour whatsoever which may disquiet Her Majesty's peace and the civil government of this present fair, upon pain of such penalties and punishments as shall be inflicted upon them by the governor or officer of the said fair or manor, and that as well the buyer, seller, or exchanger shall repair to the clerks of the tolls and in their books record their names and surnames, together with the colour, marks, and ages of every horse, colt, gelding, mare, or filly, or any other sort of cattle, upon pain of forfeiting the same as shall be neglected to be tolled, and all other goods, merchandise, liquor, and so forth as do not pay their toll and stallage are under the same forfeiture. And it is further commanded that all manner of persons whatsoever, buying, selling or exchanging between party and party within the said manor and fair, do quietly and peaceably pay their toll and stallage due and accustomed to be paid, and if there should happen any controversy in the buying, selling, or exchanging between party and party within the said fair and manor, they may repair to the officer of the said fair, where they shall have justice in and by the Court of Pie Powder, according to the equity of their cause. And lastly know all men that this fair is to continue for and during the space of eight days next after this proclamation is read, and hereof all manner of persons as well foreigners as aliens and those of Her Majesty's subjects are required to take notice, as they and every one of them do tender their duty towards Her Majesty, and will avoid such penalties and punishments as are limited for the punishment of offenders. GOD save the QUEEN, and the lord of this manor and fair.

The procession moves forward to the bridge, the wall of which on either side above the keystones is touched with the halbert and staff borne by the constables, it then proceeds along the north side of the fair ground to the Sandy Lane, where the boundary walls are touched by the constables in

¹ The circumstances under which the lord of the manor of Corbridge comes to hold his fair in another manor and within the regality cannot be described here, but must be deferred for the account of Corbridge.

like manner. Moving from thence along the western boundary to Sandhoe gate, where it takes to the fields (for part of the ancient fair ground has been enclosed and planted), the procession goes down the south side of the plantation until it comes to a cottage, the doorstep of which it crosses, and thence passing over the open ground to where it began. On reaching this, the starting and finishing point, the riders with their horses form in a circle, when punch is handed round, and the health of the lord of the fair is drunk.

In 1663, besides the owners of Beaufront and Stagshaw Close house, there were six proprietors in Sandhoe who were rated as follows: Mr. John Weldon, £12; Lawrence Hutchinson, £12; Nicholas Soulby, £9; Elizabeth Stephenson, £6; George Armstrong, £4; and Robert Reed, £4. Some of these parcels are represented by the estate between Sandhoe house and Stagshaw Close house, belonging to Mr. Livingston Clarke of Hexham house; others have doubtless been absorbed in the other estates described.

PORTGATE TOWNSHIP.

The township of Portgate,¹ which is divided by the Wall into two nearly equal parts, has an area of 663 acres, and at the last census had a population of 57.² Its name has been derived from the Porta, by way of which Watling Street was carried through the Wall, a derivation, however, which has no claim to be adopted. The hamlet stands high, and much of the land is poor.

At the Northumberland Assizes, in 1278, there was a case heard respecting common of pasture in Porthete, to which William de Middleton and Walter, archbishop of York, were parties.³

In the return made in 1320, to the order of Archbishop Melton, to enquire into the state of St. Giles' hospital at Hexham, it is stated that the

¹ MacLauchlan in his *Survey of the Watling Street* says: 'At Portgate the Roman Wall crosses the Watling Street, the turnpike road being on the Wall and its ditch on the north of the road. The Roman ditch and rampart are parallel to the Wall at this place, and about 80 yards on the south side of it. It may be proper to notice here that the township of Portgate extends a considerable distance on each side of the meeting of Watling Street with the Roman Wall, and it seems possible that the name originally applied to the cross-road, as *fort* an entrance and *gate* the northern word for a way or road, for it is presumed that the buildings now called Portgate are much subsequent to the naming of the township.'

Dr. Hunter, Mr. Smith, and others take notice of some remains at Portgate, or near it. And in the new edition of Camden it is observed that 'there is at Portgate a square old tower still standing and great ruins of old buildings.' But this tower has nothing in it that is Roman, being of the same form with a multitude of others that are in the north, and of a much later date: and the ruins are not (that I know of) at Portgate, but at Halton. Horsley, *Britannia Romana*, p. 142.

² The Census Returns are: 1801, 29; 1811, 29; 1821, 33; 1831, 29; 1841, 18; 1851, 32; 1861, 74; 1871, 77; 1881, 72; 1891, 57.

³ *Northumberland Assize Rolls*, Page, p. 241; Surtees Soc. No. 88.

hospital had possessed certain property at Porteyate, as well as at Hexham and Falufeld, the gift of different benefactors, but from it (though formerly worth 11s. 2d. a year) they received nothing, as it was all waste.¹

On the 1st January, 1335/6, an order was issued from Archbishop Melton to Thomas de Lelom, the bailiff of Hexham, to enjoin Gilbert and Henry de Vaus to show before the justices why they had forcibly carried away the crop (*blada*) of Thomas del Shawes of Porteyate, of the value of £10,² and on the 4th October, 1348, in a *breve pat. ass. nov. diss.* to Nevill,³ there is the record of a suit brought by Thomas del Shawe of Portyet against Adam de Vauls, lord of Beaufront, Henry de Vauls, and Robert del Coten of Acomb, concerning a free tenement in Portyet.⁴

On the marriage of Thomas de Vaux of Beaufront with Margery, daughter of Robert de Lisle, in 1387, a moiety of the hamlet of Portgate, with the whole vill of Bucklif, was, by his father, John de Vaux, settled upon him, with remainder to his sister, Elizabeth, wife of John Errington. Both of these places were, in 1452, in the possession of Margery, widow of William de Mitford, who in that year gave seisin of them to Gerard de Widdrington.⁵ In 1547, lands in Portgate and Portgate Leazes were held by Odinel Carnaby at the annual rent of 11s. 8d., William Carnaby at 2s. 4d., and Robert Errington⁶ at 12s. 10d.⁷

On the 12th October, 1560, Odnell Carnaby made feoffment with livery of seisin of Portgate to his younger son, George Carnaby.⁸ On the 3rd April, 1594, administration of the personal estate of Roger Carnaby of Portgate was granted to his sister Mary, wife of Francis Blenkinsop,⁹ and in 1606 there was a suit in which William Carnaby was plaintiff and Lancelot Carnaby defendant. Twelve years later William Carnaby and Magdalen his wife settled the estate to their own use for life, with remainder to Thomas Middleton. They were both living in 1629, but in 1631 William Carnaby, who was then in Bradford in the county of Northumberland, joined with Middleton in conveying the estate to William Radcliffe, who three years later conveyed it to Sir Edward Radcliffe.¹⁰ The latter, in 1654, with the consent

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 131.

² *York Registers*, Melton, 437 a.

³ *Cf.* vol. iii. p. 39 n.

⁴ *York Registers*, Zouche, 296 a.

⁵ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 234.

⁶ 1597, 31st March. Administration of John Errington of Portgate granted to Helen, his widow. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

⁷ Vol. iii. p. 81.

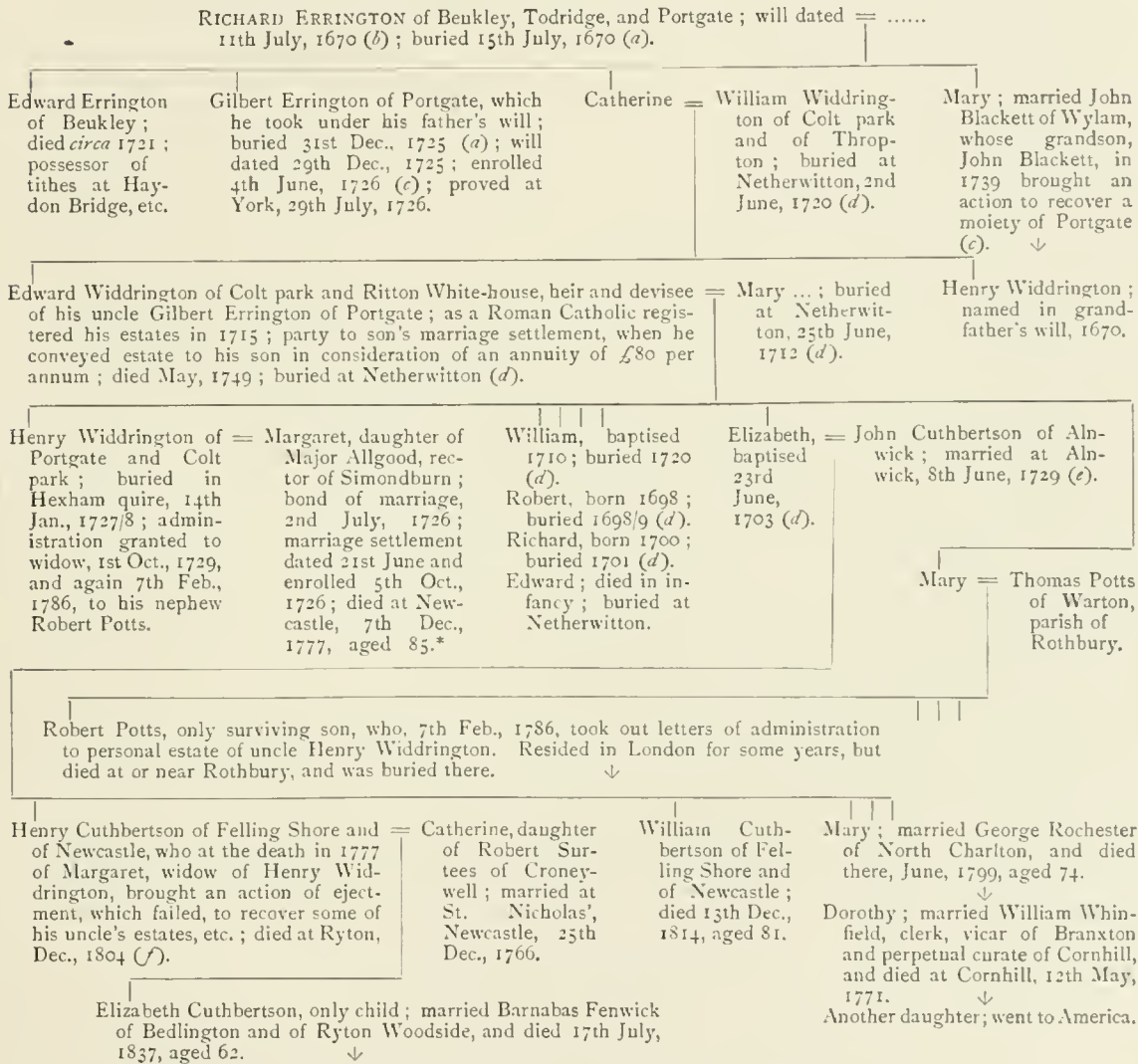
⁸ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

⁹ The remainders over were to Nicholas Carnaby, elder brother of George, to Roger Carnaby brother of Nicholas, to Tristram Carnaby (whose connection is not recited), to Reginald brother of Tristram, and to Robert Carnaby brother of the first said Odnell Carnaby. *Schedule of Portgate Deeds* with Mr. John H. Straker.

¹⁰ *Abstract of Title to Portgate* in the Rev. John Hodgson's Collection.

of Francis Radcliffe, his son and heir apparent, conveyed Portgate to Richard Errington of Beukley, who was rated for it in 1663 at £50. All that is known of this branch of the Errington family and of the Widdringtons, who succeeded them, is shown in the following pedigree :

ERRINGTON OF PORTGATE AND WIDDRINGTON OF COLT PARK.



(a) *St John Lee Register.*

(b) *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

(c) *Abstract of Title to Portgate*, Rev. John Hodgson's Collection.

(d) *Netherwitton Register.*

(e) *Alnwick Register.*

(f) *Newcastle newspapers*, 29th December, 1804.

* Mrs. Widdrington's portrait is at Nunwick ; she is said to have been married in Chipchase chapel in July, 1726.

EVIDENCES.

1670, 11th July. Will of Richard Errington of Beuckley. To my eldest son Edward Errington, my mortgage of Beuckley and all my reall estate, except what shalbe expected (*sic*). To my second sonne Gilbert Errington, my land at Portgate. To my daughter Mary Errington, in lieu of her portion all my interest and mortgaged lands in Hexhamshire, etc. To my daughter Catherine Widdrington, £10. Grandchildren Edward and Henry Widdrington each £10. To my grand-daughter Widdrington, £10. To my wife, beside her thirds, £5. John Thornton of Netherwitton, esq., and Henry Thornton of Witton Sheeles, gent., executors, and that for the proper rite (*sic*) of my sonne Edward, my daughters Widdrington and Mary Errington. Proved 16th December, 1670, by the two executors.¹

Gilbert Errington of the Portgate complained at the Midsummer Sessions, 1703, against Bartholomew Anderson and Lancelot Weldon for their proportion of certain cesses charged on the lands in the township of Portgate. Against the order Mr. Thomas Errington and Lancelot Weldon appealed at the following Sessions (Michaelmas, 1703), but it being alleged that Gilbert Errington was then ill, proceedings were stayed until the following Sessions.²

1723. A farm of land at Portgate, £75 per ann., now in possession of Mr. Gilbert Errington, adjoining Stagshaw Bank, with good houses, barn, byre, etc., to be let. Enquire of Mr. Gilbert Errington in Hexham, or Mr. John Errington, free-porter, Newcastle.³

1725, 29th December. Will of Gilbert Errington of Portgate in Northumberland, gent. My estate called Portgate, Totridge, and tyths of Haydon Bridge, late the estate of Edward Errington, to my nephew Edward Widdrington of Coltparke, gen.; he executor. My household goods to my maid Bridget Weddell. Probate of will of Gilbert Errington of Hexham, granted 29th July, 1726, to Edward Widdrington the nephew and sole executor.⁴

1774, May. The 12th inst., died at Cornhill, universally lamented by all who knew her, Mrs. Whinfield, wife of Mr. Whinfield, vicar of that place, daughter of Mr. John Cuthbertson, late of Alwick, and grand-daughter of Edward Widdrington of Colt park, esq., about two days after she was delivered of her tenth child. An affectionate wife, a tender parent, and a sincere Christian; a little before her death, which she found was gradually coming upon her, she desired to see all her eight children, advised those that were old enough to understand her not to cry for her but to pay a greater attention in their lives to virtue and religion than to either riches or honour, recommended them in a short prayer to the Almighty who had wonderfully protected and delivered her, and took leave of them one after another without a tear.⁵

1799, June. At North Charlton, aged 74, Mrs. Rochester, widow of the late Mr. George Rochester of that place, and grand-daughter of the late Edward Widdrington of Colt park, esq.⁶

¹ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

² *Sessions Records.*

³ *Newcastle Courant*, 7th September, 1723.

⁴ Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

⁵ *Newcastle Journal*, 18th May, 1774.

⁶ Newcastle papers, June, 1799.

Henry Widdrington married Margaret, daughter of Major Allgood, rector of Simondburn, and settled his lands upon her in such a manner that at his death intestate she became entitled to them absolutely. She died at an advanced age in Newcastle in 1777, whereupon Henry Cuthbertson, a nephew of her late husband, brought an action of ejectment, but failed to recover the various estates of his uncle. At the present time Portgate belongs to the same ownership as the Errington estates.¹

WATLING STREET.

The name Portgate is so closely identified with Watling Street that it may be fitting at this point to describe the section of the Roman road which traverses some of the townships treated in this volume.

¹ *Cf. supra*, p. 193.

The word 'gate,' used in its northern sense of a way, or road,¹ is familiar in Carelgate, Stanegate, and Portgate. Carelgate is 'Carlisle road,' Stanegate is 'stone road,' or 'paved road'; and, whether by coincidence or as an actual survival of the term, Portgate represents the title 'Iter ad portum,' or road to the port of embarkation, which occurs as the heading of the main road in the Antonine Itinerary of Britain. In the reverse direction, and looked at from its base, the great highway was regarded as the *strata via* leading to the confines in the country of the Otalinoi, and was called the Watling Street from an early period.²

Portgate and Watling Street, as two titles for one and the same highway, correspond with the common practice in road nomenclature, where the same road may be either 'the London road' or 'the great North road,' according to the direction north or south in which it is regarded.

In the British iters the first one is treated as a branch uniting with the second iter at Cataracto (Catterick Bridge), and running with it as far as Eburacum (York). Thence the through route is taken up by the second iter and carried on 'ad portum Ritupis' (Richborough, in Kent).

The first stage in iter i. is that from High Rochester (Bremenium) to Corbridge (Corstopitum); and it is entered thus: 'A Bremenio Corstopitum m.p.m. xx.' [millia plus minus viginti].³ Of this distance nearly one-half lies between Broomhope and Sandhoe, passing through the intervening townships treated of in the present volume; and an equal portion lies between the terminus at Bremenium and the point at which the road enters the township of Broomhope. From High Rochester to the river Rede the course of the road measures $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and on the left bank of the river at Risingham the *prima statio* (Habitanicum) is passed at a distance of 8 miles 5 furlongs. A rapid ascent from the river valley of $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles leads past the Swine Hills camp, and, at a point a little south of Four Laws, the Watling Street reaches the district with which we are now concerned.

¹ 'Gate,' a street (Scand.), common in the north; it also means 'a way.' Icelandic *gata*, Swedish *gata*, a way, path, street, lane. Skeat, *Concise English Dictionary*, 1887, *sub voce* 'Gate' (2).

² 'It is just possible that the Otalinoi, whose name has often been misspelt Otadinoi, may have given this name to the Watling Street, the road which led to and through their country.' C. J. Bates, *History of Northumberland*, 1895, p. 14. Similarly, Icknield Way 'would be the highway of the Icen, or Icenii, the people into whose country this trackway directly led.' Edwin Guest, *Origines Celtae*, vol. ii. 1883, p. 228. Compare the suggested derivation Erming Street. 'Earninga Street, the street of the Earnings or fennen.' Guest, *Ibid.* p. 233. Deor Street, which was one of the names of Watling Street, is in like manner conjectured to be 'Deur (Deira) Street.' *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. xxiii.; Surtees Soc. vol. 46.

³ That is to say, 20 Roman miles, more or less. This distance would be equal to a little over $18\frac{1}{4}$ English miles; but the actual distance, according to MacLauchlan, is 23 miles and 5 furlongs.

Here, for $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles of its course, it forms a township boundary, first as the eastern boundary of Broomhope and then of Great Swinburne detached. It crosses Green Rigg at an elevation of about 950 feet above sea-level. A cylindrical stone, dug out of the roadside here, has been set up on the hill above Waterfalls farm, and is known as 'the Derwentwater monument,' in commemoration of the meeting which took place on Green Rigg on the 6th October, 1715. The stone, which is without inscription, appears to be a Roman milestone, and is said to be 6 feet 9 inches long by about 15 inches in diameter. Its base is fixed in the ground, the present visible height of the column being 4 feet 9 inches.¹ Just beyond this, the road bends a little eastwards, and from thence takes an undeviating south-eastern course. A 'drove,' or 'drift,' road of ancient date has been traced from Wark ford, by Birtley, and south of Tone hall across Watling Street; and some facts in support of its Roman origin have been adduced.²

About 350 yards from Tone inn, to the north-west, is a small camp placed on a prominent hill, and a similar camp occurs a little to the south of it, near Cowden.³ These so-called 'exploratory camps' may have been occupied by Roman scouts (exploratores), but they are probably of an earlier time. Passing Colt Crag, the road continues to descend towards the Swin burn, and at 550 yards on the east, and, a little further on, at the same distance on the west of the road, are twin camps, of rectangular form, enclosing areas of about half an acre each. 'They have been levelled so completely, that it is difficult to make out their forms precisely; but enough remains to lead to the presumption that they are of Roman construction.'⁴ Further to the west is a group of pre-historic camps on Camp Hill, Rever Crag, and Pity Me. The Roman road ran straight south to the Swin burn and, swerving eastwards at the crossing, entered a pass of some intricacy; 'for the rocks project so much on each side that advantage must often have been taken of their recesses in times of warfare.'⁵ On the south side of the burn, and at a distance of 90 yards on the right hand, is the conical Ox Hill, which appears to have been fortified; and 700 yards to the east is Blue Crag camp, and its supporting camp on Green Crag. Blue Crag appears to have been very strongly fortified, and in its enclosures twelve hut-circles of about 25 to 30 feet diameter are visible. These camps all

¹ MacLauchlan, *Survey of the Watling Street*, p. 26.

² Rome Hall, 'Roman way across Wark's Ford.' *Arch. Ael.* vol. vii. p. 19.

³ MacLauchlan, *Survey of the Watling Street*, p. 26.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 25.

⁵ *Ibid.* p. 24.

'bear evidence of British rather than of Roman construction.'¹ They are an outlying portion of similar remains of an early period which are scattered yet more thickly to the west and north-west of this line.

The modern road has made a detour to effect an easier passage across the stream with a saving of the approaching gradients, but the two ways become presently joined again, and are so continued down to the Erring burn, where Bingfield township is entered, the stream being crossed below the 300 feet contour-line of the Ordnance map. The elevation has thus fallen about 650 feet in a course of 7 miles. But from this point to Beukley the rise is a rapid one, grading upwards about 500 feet in the next $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. On reaching the 700 feet contour-line, beyond the road to Beukley farm, Watling Street bends southward. To the north-east is the prominent eminence of Grundstone Law, with lines of fortification on its summit. Just below, and on the east side of it, runs the Devil's Causey, known in local legend as Cobb's Causey, from the name of one of the group of 'Yetuns,' or mythic giants, popularly supposed to have haunted these parts. This causeway is the eastern branch of Watling Street, which diverges north-eastward across the country, traversing it in the direction of the Tweed. The exact point of junction of this branch road is involved in some difficulty. Mr. MacLauchlan traces its direction from a point, 'where tradition and evidence satisfy any reasonable enquiry,' leading thence from 'the bottom, south of Ryal, at the junction of the parishes of Stamfordham and St. John Lee, where it has the name of Cobb Causeway,' by Roses Bower, to the bend just south of Beukley, where he surmises that it joined the main road.²

The course of the main road up to this point, after forming for a short distance the eastern boundary of Gunnerton, then divides that township from Little Swinburn, and traverses Great Swinburn, Chollerton, Bingfield, and Cocklaw, which it skirts on the east. It there enters and crosses the township of Portgate.

Looking back from this elevation, across the great catch-basin drained by the Swin and the Erring burns, the road is in full view as it slopes down in its long incline to the Erring burn. Its arrow-like course, and its disregard of gradients, is a marked characteristic. It throws, too, some light upon the Roman conquest and occupation of these parts. Summit after

¹ Rome Hall, *Arch. Acl.* vol. vii. p. 7.

² MacLauchlan, *Survey of the Watling Street*, pp. 1, 2.

summit presents the remains of British camps and earthworks. The valley below 'has been very extensively occupied in pre-historic times, as is clearly shown by the existence of numerous camps, hut-circles, terraces, and burial-mounds. The older histories and the recollection of people still living tell of circles of stones which have now disappeared.'¹ These remains are especially apparent on the west side of Watling Street. Near Birtley there are seven such pre-historic camps, varying from 1 acre to 3 acres in area. At Gunnerton the basaltic escarpment is occupied by three large camps,² whilst the line of road itself is flanked on either side by the similar remains just noticed. The significant fact has been pointed out that the pretorian gates at Habitancum and Bremenium are on the south sides of these stations;³ and the walls of Bremenium, especially those on the south and west, the two sides which face towards this centre of population, are of unusual thickness.⁴

Watling Street, on reaching the line of the Roman Wall and the Vallum, crosses them, not at right angles, but obliquely. All trace of the gateway by which it entered the Wall was probably destroyed in the construction of General Wade's 'military road,' which occupies the site of the murus. Although there was a mile-castle upon the Wall itself only a furlong to the east of the point of intersection, there was a special structure where the road crossed the Wall, thus described as it appeared early in the last century: 'At Watling Street gate there has been a square *castellum* half within the Wall and half without, in which respect it differs from the other *castella*. And the part without is more visible and distinct than that which is within.'⁵ The Watling Street gate was therefore a special feature, distinct in character from the ordinary mile-castle. From a consideration of this peculiarity it has been surmised that Watling Street was made before the building of the Wall;⁶ this was the opinion of Hutton, who 'had no doubt' that Watling Street was made first.⁷ From the crossing point the comparatively level surface to the north and south shows the road well in view for a considerable distance in each direction. The lines of the Vallum are crossed at a distance of 50 yards south of the Wall, and are well defined. Just beyond, the road dips down to cross a sike, and

¹ Greenwell, *British Barrows*, 1877, p. 435.

² Bates, *History of Northumberland*, 1895, p. 17.

³ Horsley, *Britannia Romana*, 1732, bk. i. ch. 9, p. 142.

⁷ Hutton, *History of the Roman Wall*, 1813, p. 156.

² Rome Hall, *Arch. Ael.* vol. vii. p. 3, etc.

⁴ Bruce, *Arch. Ael.* new series, vol. i. p. 70.

⁶ Bates, *History of Northumberland*, 1895, p. 17.

then ascends sharply on the south bank of the stream. The crest above is carefully guarded by a well-defined camp of rectangular form (see p. 163), lying close alongside the road on its west side, and having an area of about an acre and a quarter. It is enclosed by a double agger, rounded at the corners, with an appearance of entrances on the east and north sides. The position is not more than a quarter of a mile south of the Wall and the defile, of which it is the defence, is a comparatively shallow one. The camp is significant of the disturbed conditions which existed in Roman times, and of the extreme precautions against a possible ambushade.

After passing the sike, the road continues due south across Stagshaw common, where it forms for some distance the eastern boundary of Sandhoe township. Thence begins a rapid descent to Corstopitum. As far as the lodge at Stagshaw house it is on the actual site of the existing road, but from that point the modern road has swerved a little eastward to ease the declivity, and Watling Street itself lies just within the park wall as far as its south-east angle, where the road enters the township of Corbridge.

The fact which most strikes a traveller passing over Watling Street is its permanence; for, except at the few slight points of deviation just described, the road now in use is the actual Roman road itself. With such an example in view it seems remarkable that until the year 1751 no other 'made road' existed in the district.¹ Up to that date communication eastward and westward was effected by mere trackways.² In this respect little or no advance appears to have been made since the first Anglian colonists found Watling Street ready-made. Be this as it may, the road which had carried legate and emperor bore the new invaders to their 'hams' and their 'tons.' It formed a route for the armies of the Scots, as again it served the cattle lifter returning from his raid, and, yet later, the peaceful cattle seller from his fair; and to-day the wheels of the farmer's cart pass over the very road bed laid by the levies of Agricola.

¹ General Wade's survey for the 'military road' was made in 1749; and the road itself was begun near the West gate, Newcastle, on the 8th July, 1751.

² 'From Newcastle, his lordship's rout lay to Carlisle. . . . And because the hideous road along by the Tyne, for the many and sharp turnings, and perpetual precipices, was for a coach, not sustained by main force, impassable, his lordship was forced to take horse, and to ride most part of the way to Hexham.' Roger North, *Life of the Right Hon. Francis North, Baron of Guilford*, second edition, 1808, p. 271.

BINGFIELD TOWNSHIP.

The township of Bingfield is situated on the east side of Watling Street, and contains 2,081 acres, with a population of 70 at the last census.¹ In addition to the hamlet of Bingfield² it comprises the residence called New Bingfield, the farmsteads of East Side, East Quarter, Bingfield Comb, Toddridge, and Grundstone Law.³

Grundstone Law, which probably takes its name from some large stone or stones, fixed in the earth and rising above the surface, is situated about three miles north of the Roman Wall, and one mile and a half east of Watling Street. On the top of a hill, which slopes rapidly to the north and east, occurs one of those fortified places which are so common in the district, and which were probably the strongholds of the British tribes. This camp is surrounded by a mound and ditch, and is oval in form. On the south side of it, within a few yards distance from the mound, there is a barrow, probably a sepulchral monument of the Bronze Age. It is circular, about 40 feet in diameter and 4 feet in height. It had been originally surrounded, at the base, by a circle of large whin boulders, so many of which are scattered over the neighbouring ground. These stones are now, with the exception of two of them, removed from their first position, and are lying, some at a little distance from the barrow down the slope of the hill, whilst others have been used to form the wall of the field in which the camp is placed. The barrow is formed of stones and earth, and on opening it, when the level of the original surface of the ground was reached, an oblong cist was discovered, hollowed out of the limestone rock, and in part lined with sandstone slabs. The cist, which lay east and west, was 6 feet in length, 2 feet 9 inches in width, and 2 feet 3 inches in depth. On the north side was one lining stone of sandstone, which did not occupy the whole of the side; on the west side also was one stone, similarly placed; on the south were four stones, whilst the east end was formed of the limestone rock alone. It was covered with four large sandstone slabs, each about 8 feet in length and 8 inches in thickness. Within this cist were found the remains of two bodies. The more complete one was lying on its left side, with the legs doubled up, the head being at the east end of the cist. The bones of the second body, which were few in number, were lying irregularly in the cist; one of them, the radius, a bone of the fore arm, was standing against the south side of the cist. Nearly all the articular surfaces of the more robustly formed and more complete skeleton, particularly of those of the left side, have suffered a change, whereby the motions of the joints must have been for some time before death impeded to a considerable extent; within and around some joints small exostoses have been formed, and the spaces for muscular attachment have been rendered somewhat indistinct. On the articular surfaces there are seen raised borders, that on the humerus being half an inch in breadth, which have evidently restricted the movements to the enclosed central part of the surface. From this state of the bones it seems fair to infer that, for some time before death, either from some grievous bodily hurt or invasion of disease, the movements of the person must have been restricted to a considerable extent and executed painfully.⁴

The south-west extension of Grundstone Law is a tract of poor pasture land called Duns Moor; and rising opposite to it on the north-east is the

¹ The Census Returns are: 1801, 91; 1811, 109; 1821, 111; 1831, 98; 1841, 111; 1851, 125; 1861, 93; 1871, 105; 1881, 65; 1891, 70.

² Often called Old Bingfield.

³ Often written Grindstone Law.

⁴ Abridged from *Notes on Tumulus at Grundstone Law*, by Rev. Wm. Greenwell and D. Embleton, M.D. *Trans. Tyneside Nat. Club*, vol. vi. p. 34. The tumulus was examined 14th June, 1860.

Moot Law, in Stamfordham parish, the valley between being watered by an affluent of the Erring burn.¹

Before the Reformation the status of the chapel of St. Mary at Bingfield was analogous to that of St. Oswald-on-the-Wall and St. John Lee, with which it was associated in the order made in 1310 by Archbishop Greenfield.² At the dissolution Hexham priory possessed 'the offerings and tithes within the chapel of Our Lady in Bingfield,' which were worth £3 6s. 8d. a year; but the prior paid a stipend of £4 a year to the chaplain.³ Subsequently St. John Lee rose to the rank of a parish, and the chapelries of St. Oswald-on-the-Wall and Bingfield became subordinate to it⁴ until 1879⁵ when, as has already been stated, they were severed by an Order in Council and together constituted into one ecclesiastical parish. There is no graveyard. The chapel had fallen out of repair and was ruinous before 1736, when John Kell, the chapel warden, was proceeded against at York.⁶

The following account of the assessment made for that purpose is valuable, as showing the extent of the parochial chapelry as well as the allocation of ownership of the farms within it :

1737, 26th October. An assessment for the rebuilding of Bingfield chapel of 12^d in the pound:⁷

	The Rental.	The Rental as given to the Commissioners of the Land Tax.
Grottington	£100	£100
Buckley	140	140
Totherish (<i>sic</i>)	50	54
Grinston Law	39	40
Bingfield Comb	124	126
Bingfield hall	55	55
Mrs. Mary Varnell	35	—
Story's land	25	24
Mr. Brumell	35	—
Mr. Thomas Andrew	40	—
Mr. John Milbank	100	—
East Quarter	75	86
Hallington mill	22	20

¹ The *Black Book of Hexham* mentions, in 1479, the Haliwell flat, lying between the vill of Bingfield and Todridge. Near the burn, but destroyed by draining operations about ninety years ago, was the spring called Hell's Caldron. *Arch. Ael.* vol. v. p. 106.

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 123. ³ *Ibid.* pp. 167-169; *cf. Arch. Ael.* vol. iv. pp. 9, 10.

⁴ 1734, 4th February. Alexander Stokoe was licensed and admitted to the curacy of St. John Lee, and on the 24th February of same year was admitted to St. Oswald's and St. Mary Bingfield. *York Faculty Books.* ⁵ *London Gazette*, 31st October, 1879.

⁶ Canon Raine, *Notes from York Faculty Books*, etc. ⁷ From Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds*.

	The Rental.	The Rental as given to the Commissioners of the Land Tax.		
Hallington demesne ¹	£80	£100	£4	0 0
Hallington Town	185	200	9	5 0
Hallington Newhouses	125	140	6	5 0
Bingfield demesne*	—	225	—	—
Bingfield corn tithes	—	47	—	—
	£1,230	£1,357	£61	10 0

* Bingfield demesne, I think, consists of these particulars:²

Mrs. Varnell	£35
Mr. Brumell	35
Mr. Thomas Andrew	40
Mr. Milbank	100
	210
Underassessed to the chapel	15
	£225

The rectorial or great tithes of the township of Bingfield, which belonged to Hexham and had passed from the Crown grantees to Sir John Fenwick, were sold by him in 1628 to the Mercers' company of London, and form part of the endowment of the lectureship of Hexham. They were commuted in 1839, under the Tithe Commutation Act, for rent charges, which amounted to £150 10s. per annum; at the same time the small tithes accruing from portions of Bingfield were merged, and the remainder commuted for rent charges amounting to £27 14s. 6d. payable to Robert Capper, esq. The landowners then were :

Landowner.	Tenant.	Estate.	Acreage.
William Henry Clarke, esq.	Robert Robson	Todridge	309
		Bingfield West farm	193
		Bingfield North farm	100
Robert Capper, esq.	John Hepple	Bingfield	92
		Bingfield Comb	458
	William Coulson	Grindstone Law	277
Joseph Hepple	Joseph Hepple	Bingfield East Side	125
John Longridge	James Jewitt	Bingfield East Side	156
Ann Tweddel	Richard Robson	Bingfield East Quarter	287
		George Dobson	Law House... ..	46
			2,047 ³

¹ 1763, 15th April. Licence to Ralph Soulsby, esq., to erect a seat in the chapel of St. Mary Bingfield, and erect a pew against the north wall, to open on the aisle leading to the communion table on the south side, opposite to the reading desk, about 5 feet square. *York Faculty Books.*

² This is an exact transcript of the original document.

³ From a statement dated 30th August, 1839, of the apportionment of tithes of Bingfield chapelry. Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds.*

A school-house was built upon land conveyed 9th and 10th August, 1771, by Mary Vernol to trustees for that purpose. It is endowed with a rent charge of £10 a year for teaching ten boys and girls free. Bye-laws for its regulation were made by the Education Department in 1881.¹

The first mention of Bingfield is in a thirteenth-century deed of sale of certain niefs (*nativi*) by Roger the son of Pagan of Bingfield, with the consent of his wife Margaret, to Archbishop Gray.² This transaction probably took place before 1229, in which year Archbishop Gray granted the wardship and marriage of the lands and heir of Roger de Bingefeld to one of his servants named Henry Wallon.³ About the end of the thirteenth century Alice, widow of Roger de Bingefeld, brought an action against John de Vallibus concerning a tenement in Byngefeld, to determine which John of Upper Errington and Robert de Boceland received a Commission of Assize from Archbishop Romayne.⁴

In the beginning of the fourteenth century,⁵ Robert, son of Adam de Bingfield is found in possession of the manor. A writ of new disseisin was addressed by Archbishop Greenfield, 13th October, 1310, to Sir John de Vaux, Roger de Thornton, and William de Swethop, at the instance of John de Todholerig and Mathilda, his wife.⁶ This appears to have been a friendly suit, and Mathilda obtained possession of the manor, and after the death of her husband is styled by its name. After the death of Robert de Bingfield, Emma, his widow, had married Adam de Daneby, and they claimed the manor for Emma's life, alleging it to have been so demised by Robert, though he had allowed Mathilda to enter into possession.⁷ In 1320 Sir John de Vaux, William de Denom, and Warin de Swethop were appointed justices to hear and settle this action, but they do not appear to have done so, as Sir John de Halton, John Travers (Archbishop Melton's steward), Thomas de

¹ *London Gazette*, 17th May, 1881.

² 'Omnibus, etc. Rogerus filius Pagani de Bingefeld salutem. Noveritis me, de assensu et voluntate Margaretæ uxoris meæ, vendisse . . . venerabili patri Waltero Ebor. archiepiscopo et successoribus suis . . . Siricham quondam uxorem Waldevi, Ricardum. Uhtredum, Johannem et Waldevum, filios ejus, nativos meos, cum catellis et omnibus sequelis eorum : pro qua venditione dedit mihi duas marcas argenti. Et hoc fideliter et firmiter observandum tactis sacrosanctis (Evangeliiis), tam ego Rogerus quam dicta Margareta, uxor mea, juravimus. Insuper etiam subjecimus nos jurisdictioni prioris de Extild', qui pro tempore fuerit, ut, si necesse sit, nos ad hoc possit per sententias excommunicationis et interdicti compellere. Renunciamus appellationi, privilegio fori, et omni juris remedio, tam canonici quam civilis. Testibus,' etc. *Lansdowne MSS.* cccii. 17 a, b, British Museum.

³ *Archbishop Gray's Register*, Raine, p. 234; Surtees Soc. No. 56. ⁴ *York Registers*, Romanus, 91 b.

⁵ 21st July, 1303. Simon of Bingfield was one of the jury in an inquisition taken respecting the manor of Otterburn. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 108.

⁶ *York Registers*, Greenfield, part 11, 49 b.

⁷ *Ibid.* Melton, 405 a.

Fetherstonhalgh, and William de Schafthowe were appointed for the like purpose in the following year.¹ Other justices were named in 1324 to hear the disputes between Richard de Acton, burgess of Newcastle (who appears to have acquired his claim from Mathilda) and Adam de Daneby and his wife;² and finally on 6th December, 1327, Acton did homage at Newcastle to Archbishop Melton for the lands and tenements he claimed in Bingfield. He was to do suit at the court at Hexham each year, at Michaelmas, Epiphany, and Easter, and to pay 8s. 2d. twice in the year, at Martinmas and Whitsuntide. A day was fixed for his informing the archbishop (*ad certificandum dominum*) if he should be called on to pay more (*si in pluri teneatur*) before the following Whitsuntide in consequence of his oath; and he was to pay half a mark as the chancellor's fee.³ A Commission of Assize was issued 20th March, 1331, for another suit between Richard de Acton,⁴ plaintiff, and Hugh de Ranynghton and Joan, his wife, defendants.⁵ From the Actons, Bingfield seems to have passed, by marriage, to the Widdringtons, and on May 25th, 1367, by a deed executed at Warkworth, Roger de Widdrington appointed Thomas Ullesby and Edmund de Heselrigg his attorneys to deliver seisin of the manor of Bingfield, together with that of Denton, to his son, John,⁶ and Catherine, daughter of William de Acton, his wife.⁷ Henry de Bingfield was deputy or under sheriff in 1386.⁸

At an early period of its existence the priory of Hexham had obtained a grant of a moiety of Bingfield from a person named Germund. The original charter was destroyed with the other muniments of the house by the Scots, and the donation is only known from the *inspeximus* of 1296. The prior and convent also possessed a rent of 6 marks a year out of the other moiety granted in 1289 by Robert de Skipton.⁹

That part of the Subsidy Roll of 1295 which relates to Bingfield is mutilated, but it shows that the payments made by thirteen tenants exceeded 14s.¹⁰

There is in the Treasury at Durham a deed made 2nd October, 1448, between Roger Widdrington, esq., and Robert of Claxton, esq., concerning

¹ *York Registers*, Melton, 409 b.

² *Ibid.* Melton, 417 a.

³ *Ibid.* Melton, 595 a.

⁴ Richard Acton, who married Maud or Mathilda, daughter of Richard Embleton (sometime mayor of Newcastle), was mayor of Newcastle 1334, 1335, and M.P. 1371. Welford, *Newcastle and Gateshead*, vol. i. pp. 81, 83, 85, 179.

⁵ *York Registers*, Melton, 431 b.

⁶ The Widdrington pedigree as given in the *Heralds' Visitation* begins with Sir John Widdrington, who married Catherine, daughter of Sir William Acton.

⁷ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 252.

⁸ *Arch. Ael.* vol. vi. p. 103.

⁹ Vol. iii. p. 139.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* p. 32.

lands and tenements 'whilk of late time were Adam Wasche' [Vaux] in the county of Northumberland and Hexhamshire, whereby it is agreed 'that Roger shall have to himself and his heirs for ever the townfields in Cowpen, certain lands in Heton beside ye Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Shotton, North Horsley, and Bingfield.'¹

The survey of 1479 gives full details of the lands in Bingfield belonging to the prior and convent, where, together with the manor and grange, they possessed a chapel with various houses and 237 acres of arable land in demesne, lands scattered about in divers places and fields called Crawlaw, near the Erring bridge, Essewell-meadow, near Sandilands, the Linburn-flat, the Cotis-flat, the Cote-hill, the Cote-lech, Warin-law-side, Langthombes-flat, the Hollchester-bank, Cam-meadow, and Cammis-law. There were twelve husband lands (each of 24 acres) with rents varying from 11s. 3d. to 17s. 3d. There were also twelve cottagers, and John Oxbird held the mill at a rent of 10s. Amongst the place-names it is interesting to recognise at least three which are retained to the present day, the Grene-came, Donnis-more, and Gryndstan-law.²

Of the large number of fifty men furnished by Bingfield to the muster of 1538 only eight were fully equipped with horse and harness.

BYNGFELD MUSTER ROLL, 1538.³

Necolles Eryngton, Thomas Eryngton, able with horse and harnes ; Edward Eryngton, Christofer Eryngton, Thomas Raunde, Thomas Knag, Edward Henderson, John Eryngton, Robert Robartson, Jarrad Robynson, Willm Denyng, Gilbert Burdus, Robert Butland, Willm Brown, Robert Wod, Robert Robson, Rog. Word, Anto. Wod, Thomas Store, Jerrad Trumbyll, Nicolles Cuper, Ric. Melburn, Thomas Robinson, Andro Robinson, Willm Robson, John Younger, Lioll Whit, Georg Yonger, Robert Yonger, Allexander Kell, naither hors nor harnes ; John Kell, Rolland Kell, Robert Kell, Thomas Kell, John Haliday, George Haliday, able with horse and harnes ; George Dod, Robert Trubyll, Edwerd Hedle, Edward Hedle, Nicolles Daveson, Robert Robinson, John Erryngton, Willm Car, Ric. Nicolson, John Dennyng, Thomas Welson, naither hors nor harnes ; John Hew, Jerrard Henderson, Raufe Crafurtl., naither hors nor harnes.

From the survey taken of the possessions of the priory in 1536 we learn that their lands and tenements in Bingfield were let to Henry Errington by lease and yielded £7 a year.⁴ The survey taken in 1547 does not notice the priory lands, but only those of two freeholders, viz., John Widdrington, who paid a rent of 4s., and Thomas Errington of Bingfield, who paid 8s. 1d. a year for lands which formerly belonged to Roger Ash, and before that to Cuthbert Shafto and Swinburn's heirs. The reason for the omission appears

¹ *Dur. Treas. Miscell. Charters*, No. 502.

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 6-10.

³ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 189.

⁴ Vol. iii. p. 158 ; *Arch. Ael.* vol. iv. p. 8.

in the finding of the jury in an inquisition taken at Dilston under a commission dated 12th February, 1567/8, to enquire concerning lands belonging to the late dissolved monastery of Hexham supposed to be concealed, and addressed to Nicholas Ridley, esq., and others. The jury say that :

One George Swynborne did give to the said monastery forty shillings lande by yere within the townefeeldes of Bingefelde called Swynebornes landes for ever. And that his son Roger Swyneborne came to Hexham as his attorneye and dyd surrender the same in open corte with other certen land also called Swynebornes landes, and given by the said George lyenge within the towne and feeldes of Hexham, and said Roger by sufferance of the prior at time of the suppression entered said lands in Bingefelde and received the rents thereof one term ; and after they stayed in the hands of Thomas Errington of Bingefelde, how long they know not ; and now the heirs of said Swynborne do receive said rents.¹

The only Bingfield tenant mentioned in the survey of 1608 is Thomas Story, who held a freehold at the yearly rent of 8s.²

The lands possessed by Hexham priory in Bingfield remained in the hands of the Crown from the dissolution until 5th March, 8 James I., when they were granted by letters patent to George and Thomas Whitmore, the Crown trustees, who on the following day sold to Sir John Fenwick 'a capital messuage at Bingfield in Hexhamshire, 90 acres of demesne lands, four tenements in Bingfield with the arable and meadow lands belonging thereto, and common of pasture in the fields of Longmore and Downes-more, to be held of the Crown as of the manor of East Greenwich.'³

On the 15th August, 1615, Sir John Fenwick sold all the lands granted to him by the Crown to John Errington of Bingfield, son and heir of Ralph Errington, late of Bingfield, deceased, and he, on the 30th June, 1621, conveyed the same to his brother, Ralph Errington (to whom he was indebted for considerable sums of money), in consideration of an annuity of £30 a year, payable to him and to Isabel, his then wife. He reserved a life interest in the coal pits.⁴ John Errington was also possessed of lands at Bingfield, formerly in the tenure of Nicholas Errington of Bingfield.

As is shown in the pedigree, the Erringtons of Bingfield were identical with that branch of the family for many generations settled in Benklev. Lord Eure writing to Lord Burghley on 18th February, 1595/6, says : ' Mr. Ralph Errington of Bingfield is removed to Richmondshire, his house⁵ (is) possessed with a hinde which weakens the queen's service.'⁶

¹ *Exchequer Special Commissions*, No. 1711, Northumberland, 10 Eliz.

² Vol. iii. p. 87.

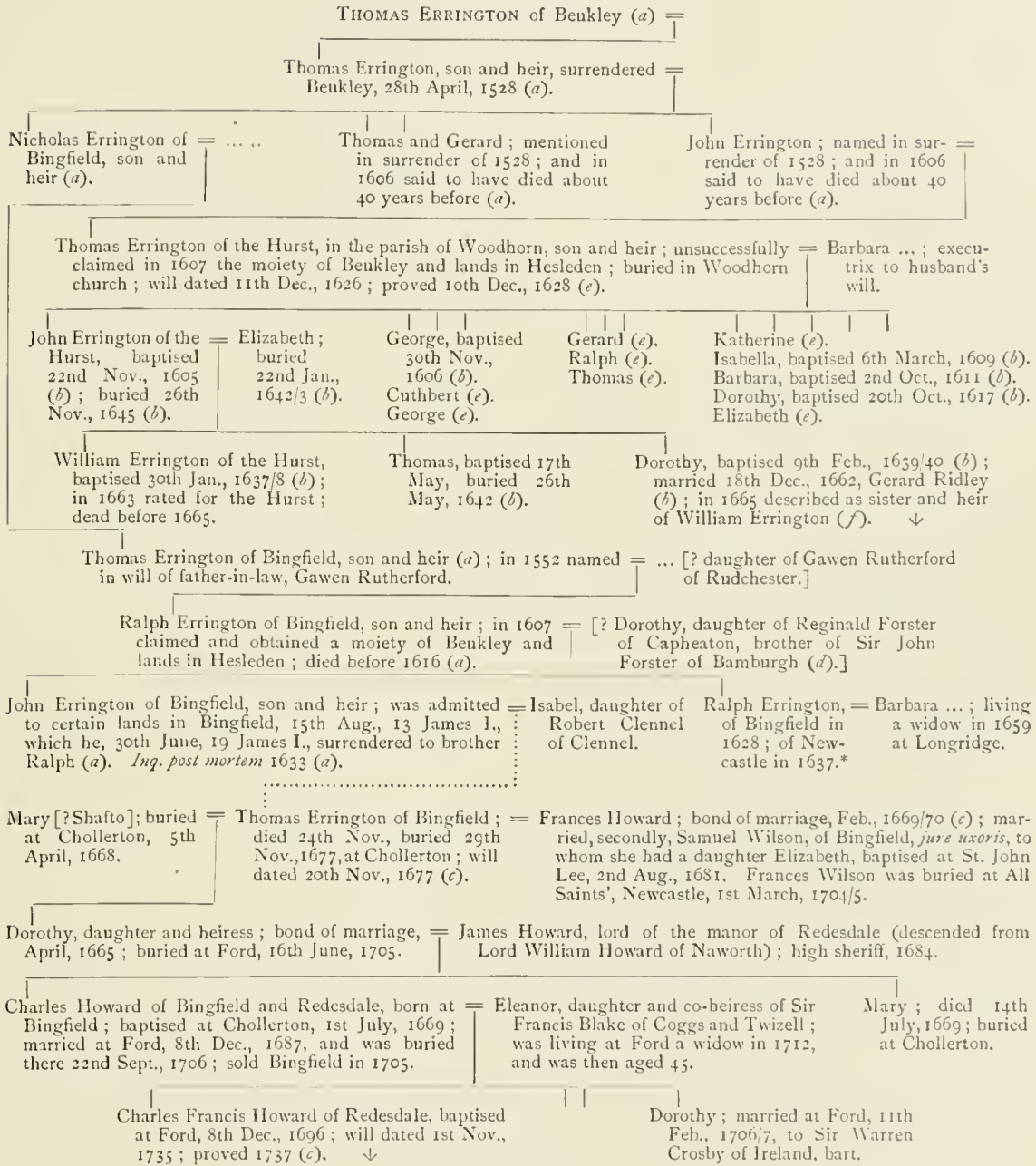
³ Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds*.

⁴ *Ibid.* Gilbert Errington of Ponteland was party to the deed.

⁵ The old manor house of the Erringtons (used as a farm house) was still standing when the Rev. John Hodgson visited Bingfield, 27th June, 1837; it bore the features of two centuries, and had a remarkable chimney.

⁶ *Border Papers*, Bain, vol. ii. p. 106.

ERRINGTON OF BINGFIELD.



* Ralph Errington of Bingfield probably married twice, for in 1637 his wife is called Ellinor (a).

(a) Hexham Manor Rolls.

(c) Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

(e) Raine, *Test. Dunelm.*

(b) Woodhorn Register.

(d) Vol. i, pp. 160, 231.

(f) Woodhorn Papers, Woodman Collection.

The place to which Errington had removed was Cleasby,¹ and in 1607 he successfully contested the possession of Hesleden with his kinsman Thomas Errington of the Hirst, in the parish of Woodhorn.² Thomas Errington of Bingfield³ died in 1677, and was buried in Chollerton church, under a stone which retains a Latin inscription to his memory.

1677, 20th November. The will of Thomas Errington of Bingfield. To be buried in the church of Chollerton. To Charles Howard my estate in Ridsdaile, to witt all the lands on the south side of Reed-water till £1,300 be paid with the dammages now eight yeares by past, and all the rest of Ridsdaile with use and dammage for £700, six yeares and upwards, allso with £60 in suitt for procureing an execution against the premisses; my will is to make it all to the said Charles and his heires, and failing him and his heires, to Dorothy Howard, wife to James Howard, esq. and her heires lawfully begotten, and failing her and her heires to James Howard and his heires for ever. To my wife Frances Errington my whole estaite, houses and lands of Bingfield and the Kame house, and the lands therunto belonging, together with the Fell hous, and the halfe of my personall estait, and the pety tithes bellonging unto me, for her life; then my lands of Bingfield, the Kame house, and Grindston Law to the said Charles Howard; then to Dorothy Howard and her heires; then to John Shafftoe of Gunnerton and his heires. To Arthur Shafftoe of Fouston my lands called the East Quarter, paying £5 per annum to his mother Margery Hearon during her life, £3 per annum to Thomas Errington of Bingfield, and £2 per annum to Matthew Errington, and £10 per annum to my wife for charratable uses for the present, afterwards to be given for the keeping of a free scoulle for ever. The other half of my personall estaite to my wife. It is my will that when the said Charles Howard my grandson, or Dorothy my daughter, or their heires come to enjoy the estate of Bingfield, to redeme and purchaes my said lands called the East Quarter, yeilding and paying to the said Arther Shaftoe his heires, or the said John Shafftoe his heires, the full vallue. Lastly, it is my will that my wife or Charles my grandsonne, or Dorothy my daughter, or Arthur or John Shafftoe, when they come to injoy my estaite of Bingfield, shall pay yearly £5 to the poore of the parish of St. John Lee. So I rest this 20th of November, 1677. Proved at York by Frances the widow, 27th December, 1677.

As will be seen from his will he gave the greater part of his lands to his wife for life, with remainder to his daughter (who had married the representative of the thriftless Howards of Overacres, lords of Redesdale), and to her son Charles Howard. Errington's young widow married Samuel Wilson, and bore him at least one child before she parted from him to reside in Newcastle.

The Howards, as the Rev. John Hodgson describes them, were in a chronic state of difficulty, and always borrowing from money lenders.⁴ In 1692 James and Charles Howard mortgaged their reversionary rights to Francis Radcliffe, esq., and in 1702 there was an exchange between John Aynsley and Charles Howard, in which Aynsley gave certain petty tithes and £130, and took lands on the fell side and lands called Story's lands adjoining Grundstone Law, formerly belonging to John Story; these lands Aynsley

¹ *Exchequer Depositions*, 37 Elizabeth, Northumberland, No. 27.

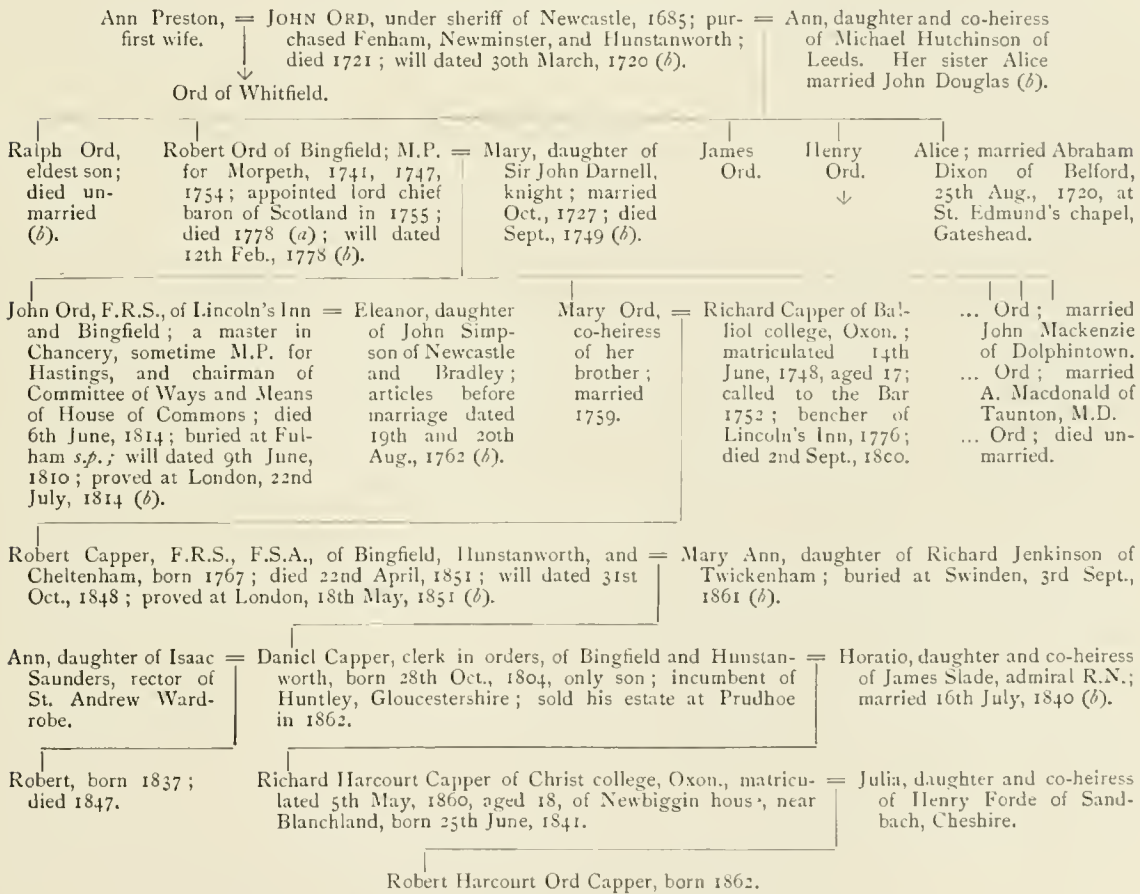
² Vol. iii. p. 102.

³ Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds*.

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. pp. 79-81.

in 1706 sold to John Douglas of Newcastle. Three years later, on the 6th February, 1705/6, Charles Howard and his mortgagees sold, for the sum of £3,000, his maternal inheritance at Bingfield to Charles Waite (of the Inner Temple, London). Charles Waite had married Alice, one of the daughters of John Douglas of Newcastle, and by articles before marriage, dated 29th December, 1699, covenanted to purchase lands in Northumberland to the value of £150 per annum, and to settle the same on his intended wife and her issue. Douglas covenanted to purchase lands of the value of £60 a year for the same purpose; and the contract was completed by the purchase of these several estates in Bingfield.¹

ORD AND CAPPER OF BINGFIELD.



(a) Cf. *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1778, p. 94.

(b) Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds*.

¹ Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds and Exchequer Depositions*, 11 Anne, Northumberland. No. 8.

The only issue of the marriage was a son, John Waite, who was of age in 1722, when he raised £1,600 by mortgage on his Bingfield estate to Robert Ord, subject to which mortgage on the 18th March, 1723, the estate was conveyed to the trustees of the settlement made on his marriage with Alice, daughter of Sir Andrew Hume of Kimmergham, one of the lords of Session of Scotland, to secure her marriage portion of £700.¹

John Waite (who was deputy governor of Pendennis castle, and died 3rd July, 1749), with his wife and the trustees of their marriage settlement, on the 9th June, 1733, conveyed his estate at Bingfield to Robert Ord of Lincoln's Inn,² whose only son, John Ord, and grandson, Robert Capper, successively enjoyed it. Mr. Daniel Capper, only son of Robert Capper, in 1863 sold his Bingfield estate, consisting of a farm at Bingfield, 211 acres, Bingfield Comb,³ 235 acres,⁴ and Grundstone Law, 277 acres, to Mr. John Fawcett of Durham, uncle to the present owner, Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett.⁵

Though the purchase of the East Quarter at its full value from Arthur Shaftoe was enjoined by the will of Thomas Errington upon his grandson, it is apparent that the latter was never able (even if desirous) to do so. It was acquired, probably by purchase, by John Aynsley of Hexham, and by his will, dated 5th January, 1748/9, was given with estates at Threapwood, High Laws, etc., to his son John Aynsley, with remainder to the testator's grandson Francis Tweddell, afterwards of Threapwood. The latter by will, dated 14th March, 1805, gave his estates in trust for his two surviving sons, Francis and Robert, from whose representatives it was purchased about 1854 by Mr. George Stephenson, whose nephew, Mr. George T. Stephenson, is the present owner. It contains 280 acres.

In 1663 the town, mill, and demesne lands of Bingfield were rated at £213 6s. 8d., and held by the following proprietors: Mr. William Charlton of Spittle, £90; Mr. Thomas Errington of Bingfield, £90; another Mr.

¹ Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds*.

² *Ibid.*

³ The following quatrain is believed to be a fragment of the seventeenth-century ballad, 'Show me the way to Wallington':

Dear billy Sam, show me the way to Wallington;
I have a grey mare o' my ain, she ne'er gies owre a-gallop in;
Down by Bingfield Kame, and in by the banks o' Hallington,
Through by Bavington Syke—and that's the way to Wallington.

Hardy, *Denham Tracts*, Folk-Lore Soc. vol. i. p. 237.

⁴ Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds*.

⁵ A pedigree of the family of Fawcett of Durham is printed in Surtees' *Durham*, vol. ii. p. 60.

Thomas Errington of Bingfield, £20; John Storey, £13 6s. 8d.; Mr. Thomas Errington also possessed part of the petty tithes, which were rated at £6.

The lands held by William Charlton in 1663 were of equal value to those of Thomas Errington, whose descent has been traced, and may have comprised one moiety of the lands granted by the Crown to Sir John Fenwick in 1611, for in 1628 Ralph Errington of Bingfield and Barbara his wife mortgaged certain lands at Bingfield to Sir William Fenwick of Wallington and Robert Anderson of Newcastle, esq. In 1637 Ralph Errington, then of Newcastle, with the mortgagees conveyed his estate to Ralph Widdrington of Bingfield.¹

In 1640 Ralph Widdrington,² then of Colwell, made a settlement of his lands at Bingfield north side, and the water corn mill, 'with custom of grit from the inhabitants of the township of Bingfield,' upon his eldest son Henry, with remainder to his other sons in tail, then to William Widdrington (brother of Ralph), with remainder to Thomas, William, and John, first, second, and third sons of Henry Widdrington, whose relationship is not stated. The trustees of the settlement were Roger Pearson of Blackheddon and George Ramsay.³

The Widdrington lands in Bingfield (which were of greater extent than the moiety of the lands conveyed in 1611 by Sir John Fenwick, and included the mill) were, with an estate at Colwell, confiscated for the delinquency of Ralph Widdrington, 'late of Colwell.' They were sold in 1653 for the sum of £980, by the commissioners of Forfeited Estates, to John Rushworth of Lincoln's Inn and Gilbert Crouch, who, in the following year, conveyed to Henry Widdrington of Blackheddon, who acted, apparently, in trust for, or on behalf of, William Charlton, then of Capheaton.⁴ The latter was a scion of the Hesleyside family, who, by marrying his cousin Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Edward Charlton, and by buying out the rights of her sisters in their father's estates, himself became of Hesleyside, and was the ancestor of the present owner.

Probably to enable him to buy out the interest of his wife's sisters in their father's lands, William Charlton raised £1,500 by mortgaging his

¹ The Rev. John Hodgson's Collection.

² Ralph Widdrington of Bingfield married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of John Swinburn of Blackheddon, who was living in 1591. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 232.

³ Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds*, and the Rev. John Hodgson's Collection.

⁴ Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds*.

estate at Bingfield to Sir Francis Radcliffe of Dilston, and in 1682 he sold the fee simple to Joseph Atkinson of Newcastle. The lands conveyed are described as a capital messuage in Bingfield, with certain lands extending 'eastward along a stone wall to the Lymeburne,¹ and soe upp Wallow²-banck and from Wallow-banck northwards in a direct line to Errion-burne along all the marshe, which doth divide the severale lands of Sare³ and Swinburne newly set out from the demesne lands aforesaid, and from thence westward down Errion-water to Errion bridge, and from thence southwards up Crawlye to Bingfield churchway, and from thence again eastwards to the said house' of Bingfield aforesaid.⁴ The same year Atkinson conveyed the land to Matthew Jefferson and Timothy Robson of Newcastle, merchants and aldermen.⁵

Timothy Robson's only daughter and heiress, Mary, married John Milbank of Thorp Perrow in Yorkshire, and was succeeded by her son, also named John Milbank, who married his kinswoman, Dorothy, daughter of Sir Mark Milbank of Halnaby. Mark,⁶ son of John and Dorothy Milbank, by will dated 23rd July, 1775, devised all his real and personal estate to his three sisters, of whom Jane, the last survivor, by will dated 20th June, 1791, gave her real estate to William Melville, whom she enjoined to assume the name of Milbank. William (Melville) Milbank in 1796, in consideration of £7,000, conveyed his estate called Bingfield Red-houses (or East Bingfield) to Joseph Hepple of Ryall and Thomas Mason of Fenwick South Shield, who, in the following year, agreed upon a partition. Mason, in 1799, by will gave his moiety to his sister Ann, wife of William Longridge,⁷ whose daughter, Elizabeth Weatherlev (acting by her trustee), in 1841, sold it to William Annandale of Shotley Bridge, and his son, Alexander Bowie Annandale of the Orange Free State, in 1888, sold it to Mr John Coppin.

¹ The Linburn is mentioned in 1479. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 7.

² Or Wallon; *cf. supra* p. 223.

³ There was a suit in Trinity term, 3 Elizabeth, between John Coniers and others, plaintiffs, and John Sayer and Dorothy, his wife, defendants, concerning manors in Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and lands in Bynekefeld and Gesmond in Northumberland.

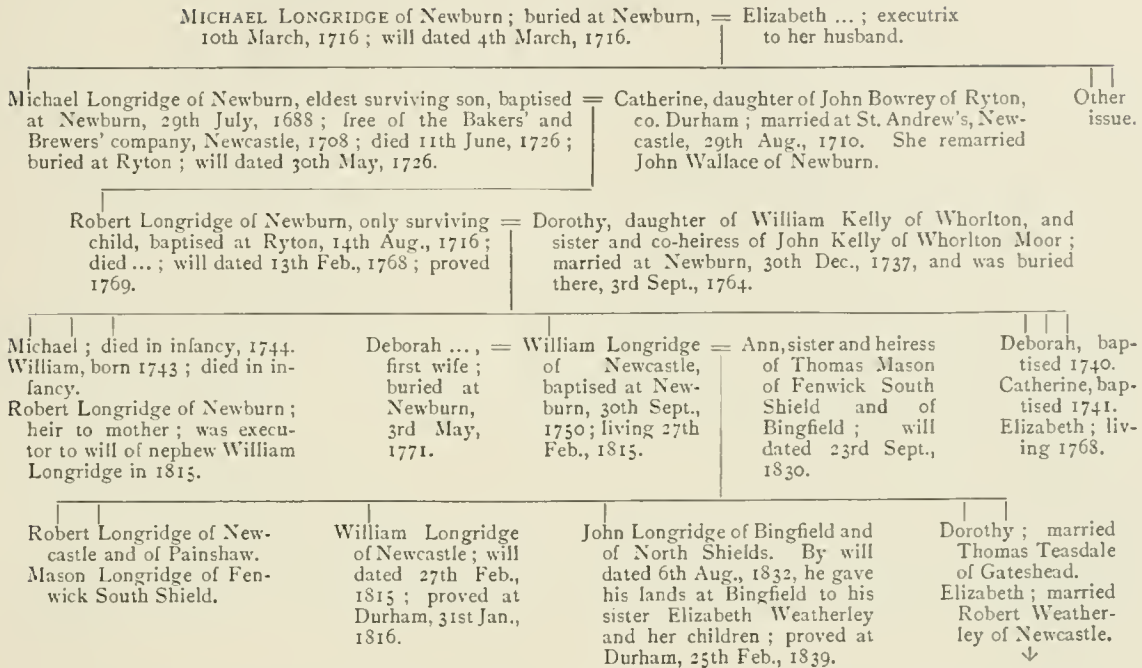
⁴ The Rev. John Hodgson's Collection.

⁵ In 1684 and 1686 Jefferson and Robson entered into agreements, whose purport does not appear, with Arthur Shafto of Bingfield and John Shafto his son and heir, and in 1700 and 1708 into another agreement with Sir Robert Shafto, serjeant-at-law, and Mark Shafto, his son and heir. Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds*.

⁶ In 1774 Mark Milbank of Barningham voted for Bingfield. *Poll Book*.

⁷ William Longridge was of Newburn and Newcastle, and a member of the family well-known in the north of England as the proprietors of the Bedlington iron works.

LONGRIDGE OF NEWBURN AND BINGFIELD.*



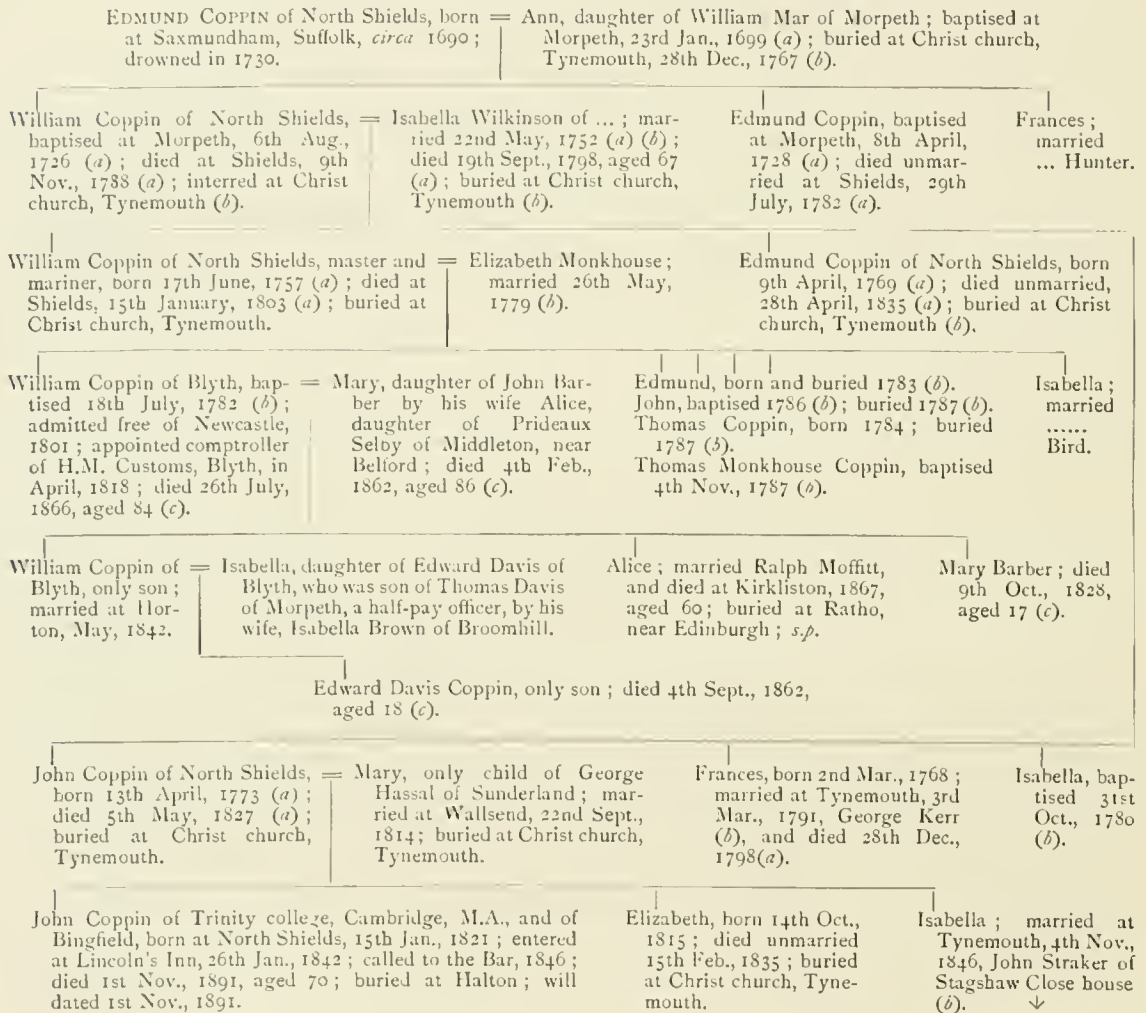
* This pedigree is based on one printed in *Genealogical Notes of the Families of Longridge, Fletcher, and Hawks*, collected by Mr. R. E. C. Waters of the Inner Temple, and printed for private circulation. The additions are from the Bingfield deeds, etc.

The other moiety of Milbank's land, which was purchased by Joseph Hepple (who was a member of the family of Hepple of Blackheddon), was, by his will dated 13th July, 1816, given to his grandson Joseph, eldest son of his deceased son, William Hepple, and his (the testator's) second son, Edward Hepple.¹ The latter had only one child, who, in 1836, sold her share to her cousin Joseph (in the conveyance she is described as Elizabeth Nicholson Caroline, widow of John Netherton O'Brian Hall of Jarrow, clerk), who thus became possessed of the whole of the lands purchased by his grandfather. He died unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother John, whose only child, Miss Elizabeth Hepple, in 1868, sold the estate called Bingfield East Side to Mr. Henry Wilkinson, who, in 1876, sold it to Mr. John Coppin, in whom the two portions, comprising 280 acres, parted by the

¹ In 1826 Edward Hepple of Bingfield voted for freehold lands there.

division effected by Hepple and Mason in 1797 became re-united. Mr. Coppin, who resided at Bingfield for many years, died in 1891, and devised his estate, of about 280 acres, to his nephew, Mr. Joseph H. Straker, the present owner.¹

COPPIN OF BINGFIELD.*



(a) Family Bible.

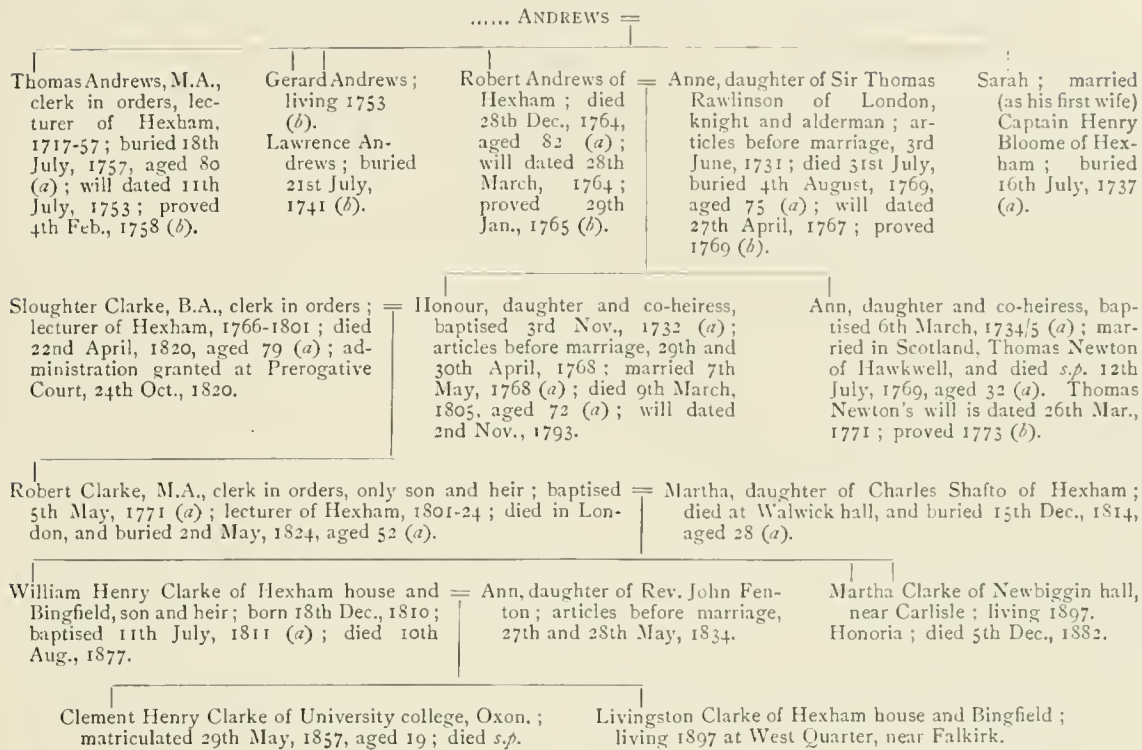
(b) Tynemouth Register.

(c) Horton Registers and M.I.

* Believed to be descended from and to represent Coppin of Market Cell, Herts. Cf. Clutterbuck, *Hertfordshire*, and Herald's *Visitation* of Herts., 1634.

¹ The particulars of the transmission of this estate and the succession of its owners are taken from Mr. Jos. H. Straker's *Title Deeds*.

ANDREWS AND CLARKE OF HEXHAM HOUSE AND BINGFIELD.

(a) *Hexham Register* and M.I.(b) *Raine, Test. Ebor.*

1716. Bowes, son of Gerard Andrew, gen. commissary or muster-master, baptised about the latter end of October, 1715, and received 3rd May, 1716. Witnesses, Dr. Bowes of Durham, Madam Jane Bowes, his sister, and Mrs. Mary Shafto of Spittle.¹

Gerard, another son, born 26th and baptised 28th April, 1719. Witnesses, Captain Giles Peacock, Mr. Giles Dawson, and Mrs. Ann Challoner.²

1764, 28th March. Will of Robert Andrews of Hexham. To the parish of Hexham, £50: the interest to the poor, at the disposal of the minister. I give £20 towards some decoration in Hexham church. To that part of the parish of St. John called Aneck and Sandhoe, £20: the interest to the sick poor, at the disposal of the minister, and £10 also to the sick poor of Bingfield chapelry. The residue to my wife, to be divided at her decease between my two daughters Honour and Ann, provided they marry with their mother's consent; otherwise, that which doth not, shall forfeit out of her moiety £1,000, which her mother shall dispose of. Anne, my wife, sole executrix. I request my body may be interred in my vault in Hexham churchyard, in the north side of my late brother Thomas Andrews, and laid as he was. Proved 29th January, 1765.³

1808. 'Lately the Rev. R. Clark of Hexham to Miss Martha Shafto, daughter of the late Charles Shafto, esq., of that place, with a fortune of £70,000.'!!!⁴

¹ *Hexham Register.*² *Ibid.*³ *Raine, Test. Ebor.*⁴ *Gent.'s Mag.* December, 1808.

The other moiety of William Charlton's estate, which was purchased in 1682 by Matthew Jefferson,¹ was, by his will dated 16th October, 1685, given to his son, John Jefferson, with remainder to the testator's daughters, three of whom ultimately succeeded as co-heiresses, viz., Ann, who married, first, William Shafto of Carrycoats, and, secondly, John Cotesworth of the Hermitage; Elizabeth, who married Mr. Brumell;² and Mary, who married Mr. Vernol. Mrs. Cotesworth's share came to her³ two daughters, Jane, wife of Henry Bloome⁴ of Hexham, and Elizabeth, wife first of Christopher Legge and then of James Smithson.⁵ These two ladies on the 11th October, 1735, with their kinswomen, Mrs. Brumell and Mary and Elizabeth Vernol, entered into articles of agreement with John Milbank to stand the award of Major Allgood, Joseph Ledgard, and Edward Wilson for the division of Bingfield demesne. These shares, ultimately acquired by bequest and purchase by the Andrews family, are now comprised in West Bingfield, and belong to Mr. Livingston Clarke of Hexham house.

It is apparent from the Black Book of Hexham that Todridge⁶ is the other or Little Grotington granted in 1113 to the prior and convent of Hexham by Archbishop Thomas II. On the 21st July, 1648, Thomas Pye of Morpeth, and Jane, his wife, gave feoffment and livery of seisin of Todridge to Richard Errington of Beukley, gent. The consideration paid by Richard Errington⁷ was £150, and he was rated in 1663 at £79 for Todridge and

¹ Matthew Jefferson, alderman, and sometime mayor of Newcastle, died 1st March, 1687, and was buried at St. Nicholas'. John, his son, died 4th March, 1700/1. Welford, *St. Nicholas*, p. 140.

² 1774. John Brumell of Newcastle voted for Bingfield. *Poll Book*.

³ It is not clear whether Mrs. Bloome and Mrs. Legge were not Cotesworth's daughters by a former marriage.

⁴ 1752, 29th January. Will of Henry Bloome of Hexham, gent. £1,000 in East India stock to my nephew, the Rev. Mr. Hemington, to perform my will, to sell; my aunt Rebecca Lekee, widow of Robert Lekee of London, apothecary, £20 per annum; Hannah, wife of Thomas Oliver, officer of Excise, £10 per annum for life; my niece, Mary Hemmington, daughter of Mr. John Hemmington, £500; to Honor and Ann Andrews, daughters of Mr. Robert Andrews of Hexham, £50 each; to Ann, Charles, Martha, Matthew, and John Shafto, children of Mr. Charles Shafto, late of Carry Coats, deceased, £200 each; the Rev. Mr. Benjamin Peel of Hexham, £10; the Rev. Mr. William Warton of Slealey, £10; my brother-in-law, Mr. John Hemmington, and my sister Mary, his wife, £10 each; to Honor Andrews, my two silver candlesticks and snuffers and snuff dish; to Ann Andrews, my four silver spoons, marked on their boles S.A.; to poor householders, £80; to my nephew, William Hemington, my messuage and farmhold called Bingfield demesne, and my messuages in London and the residue, he executor. Proved 11th June, 1752. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

⁵ In 1748 John Smithson of Monkwearmouth voted for freehold lands in Bingfield.

⁶ 'Et est ibidem quaedam portio terrae arabilis jacens inter Grotyngron et territorium villae de Byngfelde, ex antiquo vocata Litol Grotyngron, modo vocata Todrige. . . . videlicet inter le Blake-dyke ex parte orientali; et sic, descendendo per lez Oppots et Todryge-burn, ad le Halywell ex parte boialii; et exinde, ex parte occidentali, ascendendo versus orientem, per le Grenelech ex parte austuali, inter territorium de Bocyve et Todryge-feld usque ad le Blak-dyk prius nominatum.' *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 7, 9.

⁷ Mr. Livingston Clarke's *Title Deeds*.

Beukley. Todridge was one of the estates included in the settlement made in 1726 upon the marriage of his grandson, Henry Widdrington with Margaret, daughter of Major Allgood.¹ In 1739 John Blackett of Wylam, grandson of Mary, daughter of Richard Errington, brought an action to recover a moiety of his great-grandfather's estates, but compromised his claim for the payment of £1,050 by Mrs. Margaret Widdrington, who in 1743 sold Todridge to Robert Andrews of Hexham.² It now belongs to Mr. Livingston Clarke, whose estate here and at West Bingfield contains 699 acres.

As has been already noticed, Thomas Story was entered on the Muster Roll of 1538 as having appeared unfurnished with either horse or harness. One of the same name was a freeholder in Bingfield in 1608, and in 1663 John Story was proprietor of about a sixteenth part of the township, which was sold about the end of the century, for in a deed of the 3rd July, 1702, made between Charles Howard and John Aynsley, the lands formerly belonging to John Story are mentioned. But though this family disappeared from Bingfield, it took root in Ireland, where Joseph Story, son of John Story of Bingfield, and born there in 1679, became successively chaplain to the Irish House of Commons, bishop of Killaloe and of Kilmore and Ardagh. He is at the present time represented by Major Story of Bingfield, Crossdoney, county Cavan.

It is probable that Story's land is partly represented by the small estate of 46 acres, called in 1839 Law house, and now Bingfield lodge, which, after remaining for some generations with the Aynsleys and Tweddells, was purchased in 1853 by Mr. Thomas Scott of Bingfield, and now belongs to his son Mr. George Scott.

Thomas Errington of Kearsley was a party to the deed of the 22nd June, 1648, by which Ralph Widdrington of Colwell conveyed lands in Bingfield, and it may be surmised that he was the second man of that name mentioned in the Book of Rates of 1663 as holding lands worth £20 a year. At the sessions held at Morpeth on the 13th April, 1681, Thomas Errington of Bingfield,³ yeoman, was indicted for assaulting William Errington, and Jane Errington was bound over to appear at the following sessions to answer

¹ Mr. Livingston Clarke's *Title Deeds*. ² *Ibid*.

³ 1685, 19th April. Edward, son of Thomas Errington of Bingfield, baptised.
1689, 10th March. Thomas Errington of Bingfield buried. *St. John Lee Register*.
1698, 26th March. Thomas Potts of Wearmouth Salt pans, son and heir of Frances Potts, who was sister and co-heiress of Thomas Errington, late of Bingfield, for £210 released to John Aynsley all his rights in certain lands in Bingfield. Mr. C. J. F. Fawcett's *Title Deeds*.

a similar charge brought against her ; her sureties were Thomas Errington of Bingfield and Edward Reed of Ryal, yeoman. The cause which led to the indictment is related in the following information :¹

1681, 7th February. The information of Arthur Shafto of Bingfield East Quarter, gentleman. William Errington of Wallicke Grange, gentleman, having broken his legg, and not being recovered thereof, he setting in a chaire at his house at Wallicke Grange aforesaid reading a bond from Thomas Errington of Bingfield, gent., to the informer, one Jane Errington, wife of the said Thomas Errington, sitting by the said William Errington, the said Jane Errington snatching at the said bond, and missing it, did in a violent manner lay hold on the said William and pulled him out of his chaire, whereon he then satt, and violently threw him downe upon the ground with his legg (which was broken) under him, which this informer verily believes hath made the said William Errington's broken legg almost in as bad a condicon as when it was first broken ; and further, that the said William Errington is now lying in a very weake condicon by means of the saide fall.²

HALLINGTON TOWNSHIP.

The township of Hallington is the most remote portion of the parish of St. John Lee, and is almost severed from it by the parishes of Chollerton and Stamfordham, which abut upon it at Bingfield, of which chapelry it forms a part. It has an area of 1,712 acres³ and a population at the last census of 76.⁴ Here, to quote the words of Leland, 'there is a fame that Oswald won the batelle at Halydene a two myles est from St. Oswald's Asche, and that Haliden is it that Bede caulith Havenfeld.'

Traces of early settlement are to be seen in a series of British graves on an outcrop of basalt half a mile to the north of the homestead of Cheviot. Within the mounds have been found a fragment of a whetstone of schist, 'a cup-marked' stone bearing traces of fire, a fine (but small) mortarium of freestone, and a portion of the upper stone of a quern. All of these objects are in the possession of Mr. R. C. Hedley at Cheviot. On the same farm, in a small clump of trees, is an unexplored barrow. Two Roman altars, bearing the usual sacrificial instruments sculptured in relief, but without inscription, a Roman monumental slab, and a mediæval grave cover with a floriated cross, are preserved in the grounds of Hallington hall.⁵

¹ *Sessions Records.*

² Document in the possession of Mr. Joseph H. Straker.

³ According to the *Ordnance Survey Book of Reference*, printed in 1863, this includes 16 acres of public roads and a water area of 10 acres; but these proportions have been materially affected by the operations of the Newcastle and Gateshead Water company.

⁴ The Census Returns are: 1801, 182; 1811, 144; 1821, 129; 1831, 120; 1841, 105; 1851, 106; 1861, 109; 1871, 128; 1881, 99; 1891, 76.

⁵ *Ex. inf.* Mr. R. C. Hedley.

In the early part of the thirteenth century an exchange of lands took place between Archbishop Gray and William, son of William Waukin of Haliden, by which the latter released to the archbishop all his right in the pasture of Hallington called *le frid*, and received in lieu thereof $13\frac{1}{2}$ acres in the waste before Sweethope Law,¹ and in 1248 there is a confirmation of the gift of William Waukelin, clerk, of his lands in the vill of Halidene to his ward (alumnus) William Waukelin.² About the same period the prior and convent obtained a grant from Archbishop Gray or Archbishop Gifford of a rood of land in Haliden, upon which they subsequently erected a tithe barn.³ The Subsidy Roll of 1295 is unfortunately damaged and imperfect at the part where the return from Hallington should be entered.⁴

There are some notices in the York registers relating to Hallington early in the fourteenth century. On the 26th July, 1301, Archbishop Corbridge addressed to the bailiffs of Hexham a *Breve de recto* to right William de Mynsterton and Margery, his wife, John de Babington and Alice, his wife, and Elen, sister of the said Alice, concerning lands at Haliden, of which Robert de Naffreton of Haliden had unjustly deprived them.⁵ On the 17th October, 1301, a similar brief was issued to right the same parties in a messuage, 30 acres of arable land and 2 acres of meadow in Hallydene, of which Adam le Farbur of Newcastle and Maria, his wife, had unjustly deprived them.⁶ On the 2nd December, 1301, a mandate was issued to Sir John de Vauzht and Robert de Eryngton to hear a claim for dower made by Mariota, wife of Adam le Fourbour, out of the same lands in Haliden which once belonged to John, son of William Walkelyn.⁷ In April, 1322, a commission was issued to the archbishop's justices, John de Wauton and Adam de Corbrig, to determine a suit in the court of Hexham, brought by Symon de Babyngton and Isabella, his wife, against Robert de Boceland and Ellen, his wife, concerning a messuage, 40 acres of land and appurtenants in Haliden.⁸ On the 2nd April, 1328, a mandate was issued to Thomas Fox, Warin de Swethop, and Thomas de Lelom to determine a suit brought by Robert de Mosegrave and John, son of William of Kirkeherle, and Cicely, his wife, concerning a messuage, 2 tofts, 69 acres of arable land, and 8 acres of meadow, with appurtenances, in Haliden.⁹ On the 18th February, 1331/2, a

¹ *Lansdowne MSS.* cccii. 17 b; British Museum.

³ *Cf.* vol. iii. pp. 139, 150.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 31.

⁶ *Ibid.* Corbridge, 92.

⁷ *Ibid.* Corbridge, 92 b.

² *Archbishop Gray's Register*, Raine, p. 258.

⁵ *York Registers*, Corbridge, 90 b.

⁸ *Ibid.* Melton, 411 b.

⁹ *Ibid.* 424 b.

mandate addressed to William de Wirkesworth the receiver at Hexham ordered that the tenants of Haliden should not be pressed for time for their rent (£13 10s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.).¹ In 1495 the archbishop granted a lease of forty years from the 13th December of that year to John Heron of Chipchase, esq., of his vill (*villatum*) of Halyden at the rent of £7 13s. 4d.²

In 1536 the archbishop derived a rental of £7 3s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. from Haliden,³ and two years later the vill sent seventeen fully equipped men to the muster, of whom ten bore the surname of Younger.

HALYDAYN MUSTER ROLL, 1538.⁴

Willm. Yonger, Roger Yonger, Jerrard Yonger, Anton Yonger, Willm. Yonger, Robert Yonger, Thomas Kell, Robert Nicolson, John Yonger, John Yonger, Phelope Yonger, Thomas Page, Willam Raynnyl, John Yonger, Christofer Stawper, Robert Wite, John Riddle, able with hors and harnes.

In 1547 a very full account of Hallington, in which the person who drew up the survey (after recording that John Widdrington,⁵ the farmer of the same, accounted for 3s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., received from Gerard Ilderton for rent of the 'Exchequer lands') proceeds to say that on 13th December, 1538, Edward, archbishop of York, leased to Richard Bellacis, esq., and his assigns, the manor of Hallidene for sixty years, from the feast of St. Michael last past, at a rent of £7 13s. 4d. to be paid at the two terms of Whitsuntide and Martinmas. The rents of the manor or township were reserved to the archbishop and his successors, as also were all woods and underwoods, but Bellacis was to be permitted to take sufficient timber for the repair of the manor house and sherdings of trees for mending the hedges. Bellacis agreed to collect the reserved rents of the manor, and to render a proper account of them; for this the archbishop was to allow him the fee of 13s. 4d. a year; all necessary repairs were to be done at the cost of the farmer. For the farm of the water mill,⁶ formerly in the tenure of John Heron, esq., Widdrington did not account, as this was included in Bellacis' lease of the manor. The total sum due was £17 16s. 5d., and was disposed of in the following manner: 13s. 4d. was deducted for the fee as above, and 2s. allowed for the clerk of

¹ *York Registers*, Melton, 431 a. ² *Ibid.* Confirm. et approb. D. et Cap. Ebor. ³ Vol. iii. p. 55.

⁴ *Arch. Acl.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 190.

⁵ Will, dated 4th February, 1570, of John Widdrington of Temple Helay: 'I doo give and bequethe unto James Widdrington, my sone . . . all my hoill intereste, tytle, and terme of yeares yet to come, in my lease of the maner and tounshipe of Halliden, which I have delivered into my said sone James' hands.' *Durham Wills*, Raine, p. 321; Surtees Soc. No. 2.

⁶ 1552. The water of Tyne, beginning at the water meetings at Ereytfoot, and up Ereynt to Haledonmylne: the watch at the Narrow-rake [is] to be kept nightly with two men of the inhabitants of Sando, Hawyke-grange [Anick Grange], Bothoke, Kothons, Thornes, and the Bromhaugh. Nicolson, *Border Laws*, p. 170.

the auditor for writing the account (which was an allowance similar to that made to the auditor of the king's duchy of Lancaster), which two sums, added to £7 1s. 1½d. paid by Widdrington to Sir Robert Bowes, the king's receiver, made up the amount.¹

The lease granted to Bellacis expired in December, 1598, when a lease of the 'townshippe of Hallendon with the appurtenances' for twenty-one years was granted to William Selby, gentleman, at the same rent of £7 13s. 4d., though the annual value is entered in the survey of 1608 as being £24 more.²

It has not been ascertained when the lands were granted out by the Crown, but in 1663 Hallington and Hallington mill were held by Mr. Thomas Way, who was rated for them at £130. They were sold in 1677 by Richard and Thomas Way to Philip Bickerstaff,³ the clerk of the Poultry. The amount of consideration money does not appear, but Bickerstaff left £1,093 10s. on mortgage, which was, two years later, transferred to George Hascard, D.D., in trust for Mary, countess dowager of Exeter; and in 1695 the fee simple of the estate was conveyed by Bickerstaff to Peter Potts, who had previously acquired the mortgage. Four years later Potts sold the estate to Thomas Errington, and by his marriage settlement, dated 21st and 22nd November, 1700, the manor and lordship of Hallington, with the water corn mill, were conveyed to trustees to secure the marriage portion of his intended wife, Mary, daughter of John Douglas of Newcastle. But Philip Bickerstaff, perhaps to raise a portion of the purchase money, had by deed staple (acknowledged before the chief justice of Common Pleas on the 14th December, 1687) secured a deferred annuity (to commence on her widowhood) of £100 a year to Dame Martha, wife of Sir Edward Villiers.⁴

When Thomas Errington's estates were forfeited in 1715 his creditors, as well as Dame Martha Villiers and the trustees for his wife and children, entered their claim as has been already related in the account of the Errington family. His estates were surveyed for the trustees of the Forfeited Estates, and the manor, lordship, mill, and lands of Hallington were stated to yield a

¹ Vol. iii. pp. 69, 70.

² *Ibid.* p. 102.

³ Philip Bickerstaff was elected M.P. for Berwick in 1686, and for Northumberland in 1688 and 1694. He married, 24th October, 1675, Jane, widow of John Clark of Chirton (he was the auditor of the Percy estates, and obtained for himself the gift of the materials of Warkworth castle wherewith to build his house at Chirton). Mrs. Bickerstaff was buried at Tynemouth, 31st May, 1694. H. A. Adamson, *Old Land Marks*, No. iii.

⁴ Sir Edward Villiers was knighted at Whitehall, 7th April, 1680, and died 24th June, 1689.

rental of £235 a year. William Wilkinson paid £127 10s. a year for Hallington town and 800 acres of land; James Yarrow and others paid £88 a year for Hallington Newhouses and its lands; George Wilson paid £20 a year for the mill and the lands attached to it. Of the latter, the surveyor says, 'Hallington mill, in the month of June, 1716, did fall to the ground, the axell tree, cogwheel, and other materials rushed down altogether, and the under milstone broke in four pieces, on which the tenant, George Wilkinson, in repairing the same, hath disbursed these sums following: Paid Robt. Robson for wood, £8 9s. 6d.; for two milstones, £10; iron and hoops, for the axell tree, £1 2s. 6d.; nales, 12s.; tarr and paper, 4s. 9d.; rossell, 2s. 5d.; Anthony and William Wilkinson, milwrights, for their work and labour, £7 3s. 10d.; total, £27 15s.' (The rent of mill and land was £20.)¹ The tenants held their lands by parole from year to year, and the fee farm rent of £7 13s. 4d. was (as it still is) paid to Colston's almshouses in Bristol. Arrangements were made to secure Hallington to the Errington family, and it descended lineally to John Errington, who died in 1828, and by his heirs at law, was sold to the trustees of the settled estates of Henry Errington.² The heirs and assignees of the estates are now (1897) offering the Hallington farms for sale.³

Hallington mains or demesne was, in 1663, rated to Mr. Richard Wilson⁴ at £30 a year. In 1730 it was acquired by the family of Soulsby, long settled at Chollerton, Anick Grange, and in or near Hexham. Wallis writing in 1769 says Ralph Soulsby's house 'is a neat modern structure of white freestone . . . before it is a grass area extending to the brink of a deep gill, wherein is a small stream which falls a little below into Erring burn.'⁵

The history of the family is shown in the following pedigree:

¹ *Forfeited Estates Papers*, E 13. Some of the field names in 1717 were Whitefield, Hill Law, and Weatherly Meed.

² *Cf. supra*, p. 193.

³ The acreage and rentals of the Hallington farms, belonging to the Errington estates, are as follows: Newhouses, 453 acres, £402; High farm, 337 acres, £231; South farm, 243 acres, £261; Mill farm, 62 acres, £62; North farm, 205 acres, £198. Attached to the estate is a perpetual rent charge of £100, payable by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water company. *Newcastle Journal*, June, 1896.

⁴ 1694, 8th November. Administration of the personal estate of Richard Wilson of Hallington was granted to Richard Wilson, the father. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

⁵ Wallis, *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 114.

SOULSBY OF HALLINGTON

RALPH SOULSBY of Chollerton; buried 12th Dec., 1725(*b*); = Ann ...; buried 21st June, 1727(*b*); administration to widow, 9th May, 1726(*g*).
 administration to Christopher, her son, 7th March, 1727/8(*g*).

Christopher Soulsby of Chollerton; will dated 10th Sept., 1733; gives Carraw to eldest son Ralph with great silver punch-bowl and great silver tankard; to second son Christopher his farm at Gunnerton and £800; to son John house at Hexham and £800; proved at York, 1734/5(*g*).
 = Martha, daughter of Archibald Reed of Bellingham and sister of John Reed of Chipchase; married 23rd Nov., 1721(*b*); marriage settlement, 16th Nov., 1721; died at Stamfordham, 25th Nov., 1779, aged 87(*d*); buried at Chipchase, 28th Nov., 1779(*b*)(*e*).
 Dorothy; married 16th Sept., 1707(*b*) [? John] Kelly of Whorlton, upon whose issue the estates were settled in 1721, in default of issue to the marriage of Christopher Soulsby.

Ralph Soulsby of Hallington, baptised 17th Nov., 1723(*b*); administration granted at York, 28th Jan., 1771, to Mary, his widow, and on 3rd Oct., 1774, to Alice, his daughter, wife of Thomas Heath(*g*); buried 28th July, 1769(*e*).
 = Mary, daughter of John Fenwick of Stanton and half-sister of William Fenwick of Bywell; born at Stanton; baptised 20th Sept., 1731; marriage settlement, 18th and 19th Sept., 1751, under which she took a jointure of £200 per annum, charged on Carraw and Reed's Close; died at Morpeth; buried 19th Sept., 1771(*e*); administration granted at York, 29th Aug, 1772, to William Fenwick(*g*)*.
 Christopher Soulsby of Sandhill, Newcastle, baptised 16th Feb., 1726(*b*); heir to his uncle John Reed of Chipchase, and assumed the name of Reed; married Sarah, eldest daughter of Francis Blake of Twizel; will dated 28th Dec., 1779(*g*).
 ↓
 From whom the Reeds of Chipchase.
 John Soulsby of Newcastle, mercer, baptised 15th Sept., 1729(*b*); died 3rd Nov., buried at Chipchase 7th Nov., 1793(*b*), aged 64(*b*)(*e*); will dated 28th Dec., 1779; proved at York, 1793(*g*).

Ann, baptised 27th June, 1725(*b*); married at Gateshead, 28th May, 1753, Richard Bateman.
 Martha, baptised 26th Sept., 1731(*b*); named in father's will.

Christopher Soulsby of Hallington, only son, was aged 17 in 1772; attained the age of 21 in 1775; sheriff of Newcastle, 1783; died 22nd Jan., 1814; buried 29th Jan., 1814, aged 59(*e*).
 = Julia Elizabeth, daughter of John Hudson of Bessingby, Yorkshire, and niece to Sir John Trevelyan, bart.; marriage settlement, 17th and 18th Jan., 1783; married at Netherwitton, 20th Jan., 1783; died at Bessingby, near Bridlington, 13th May, 1829(*d*).
 Alice; was aged 19 in 1772; married 22nd Sept., 1772, Thomas Heath, one of the common council of Newcastle, and of the Hawkwell family.
 Mary, born at Stanton ...; was aged 14 in 1772; married Christopher Wilkinson of Newcastle, and died in Northumberland Street, Newcastle, May, 1829(*d*). ↓

Christopher Thomas Soulsby of Hallington, baptised 14th July, 1794; in 1814 advertised for sale Hallington demesne and Carraw; living 10th April, 1834, late of Hallington and then of Bessingby(*f*).
 Walter Raleigh Soulsby, twin with Christopher; baptised 14th July, 1794(*e*); in 1813 lieutenant, 2nd Dragoon Guards.

1692, 22nd Sept. Probate of will of Christopher Soulsby of Hexham, granted to Robert Soulsby, the sole executor(*g*). 1697/8, 9th Feb. Dorothy, widow of Christopher Soulsby, buried at St. John Lee(*a*).

'Basil Harrington Soulsby, only son of Christopher Percy Soulsby of Bessingby, New Zealand; of Corpus Christi college, Oxon.; matriculated 19th Oct., 1883, aged 18; B.A. 1887.' Forster, *Alumni Oxonienses*.

* Cf. page 192.

(a) Hexham Register.

(d) Local papers.

(f) Chesterhope Abstract.

(b) Chollerton Register.

(e) St. John Lee Register.

(g) Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

(c) M.I. Chipchase chapel.

Soulsby's estate was advertised to be sold by auction in 1825, and was then described as the hall and a farm of 330 acres. It was purchased by Leonard Wilson of Newcastle and Newbiggin, and was sold in 1862 by his

nephew, Mr. John Atkinson, to the late Mrs. Catherine Anne Trevelyan.¹ It now belongs to her only child, Mrs. Florence Trevelyan Cacciola of Hallington, Taormina, in Sicily, whose Hallington estate² consists of the hall and the farm called Cheviot.³

The most characteristic feature of Hallington is that which strikes the eye of the wayfarer on the Watling Street when he reaches Beukley, and, looking northward over the wide valley of the Erring burn, sees at a distance of three or four miles a thin blue line. This line marks the Hallington reservoirs of the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company (constructed under an Act of Parliament obtained in 1868); that at East Hallington has a surface area of 131 acres, and when full will contain 686 millions of gallons. By another Act obtained in 1877 another reservoir was constructed at West Hallington (but within the township of Colwell) to contain 722 millions of gallons. These two reservoirs are connected by a tunnel and open aqueduct, about two and a half miles in length, with other reservoirs of the company at Colterrag and Little Swinburn.⁴

¹ In the Parliamentary *Return of Owners of Land of 1873* (the new Domesday book) Mrs. S. Trevelyan of Hallington is entered as owner of 745 acres of land, with a rental of £971, and Catherine A. Trevelyan of Hallington of 227 acres, with a rental of £317. The two entries refer to the same person, viz., Mrs. Spencer Trevelyan.

² About half of the area occupied by the Water company's reservoir at East Hallington was purchased from Mrs. Trevelyan.

³ The conveyance to Leonard Wilson is dated 1st and 2nd November, 1825, and the consideration was £11,200. Mr. Wilson's will is dated 15th July, 1837, and was proved at York, 27th December, 1839, by his nephew, Mr. John Atkinson. The latter sold a portion of land in 1859 to the Whittle Dean Water company for water courses, and, 2nd August, 1862, conveyed the estate to Mrs. Catherine Ann Trevelyan of Longwitton hall, widow, in consideration of £10,400. *Hallington Title Deeds*, communicated by Mr. Jos. A. Philipson.

⁴ A great variety of birds frequent the reservoirs: redshanks, the common sandpiper, the snipe, and the coot breed regularly; the common tern and the Sandwich tern sometimes. Several hundreds of black-headed gulls breed upon the island in the East Hallington reservoir: and ducks come in great number, such as the mallard, the teal, the golden eye, the widgeon, the sheldrake, the pochard, the gadwall, and also the common gull and the black-backed gull. Goosanders, grey-lag and been-geese, and Bewick's swans, come as visitors. Herons are common; and there are to be, or have been, seen, the cormorant, pintail duck, great northern diver, the common and bartailed godwit, the little and the eared grebe, whimbrels and dunlins, the ringed plover, and the little stint. R. C. Hedley, *Trans. Tyneside Nat. Club*, vol. xvi. p. 398.

CHOLLERTON PARISH.

The parish of Chollerton has an area of over 21,000 acres, with a greatest length of nine miles from Hindhaugh on the Rede to the hamlet of Chollerton, and a greatest breadth of six and a half miles from Little Swinburn to Gold Island. Its western and north-western boundaries are well defined by the rivers of North Tyne and Rede; on the east it is bounded by the parishes of Corsenside, Thockrington, and St. John Lee, and on the south by the Erring burn, which divided the ancient regality of Hexham from the rest of the county of Northumberland, and the peculiar jurisdiction of the archbishop of York from the diocese of Durham.

Watling Street, for a length of seven miles, either divides or marches with the parish. Of the townships included in it Gunnerton and East Swinburn formed an *enclave* of the great Baliol barony. West Swinburn and Colwell belonged to the barony of Hadston, while Barrasford, Chipchase, Birtley, and Chollerton itself were members of the Umframvill barony of Prudhoe called into being by Henry I. These are now grouped into the ten modern townships of Chollerton, Barrasford, Great Swinburn and Colwell, Little Swinburn, Whiteside Law, Gunnerton, Chipchase, Birtley, Buteland, and Broomhope. The inter-dependence of the inhabitants is shown in the orders of the Watches upon the West Marches made in 1552.

The Order of the Watch from Erreyn-foot to the Marches of Ryddysdaill, as the Waters of Tyne and Reyd goes.

First: The inhabitants of Chollerton to watch at the Baweford, with two men in the watch: and George Heron of Chollerton and Anthony Wodman to be setters and searchers of the watch.

The inhabitants of Barresforth, with six men forth of Chollerton, to watch at three places; that is to say, at Barresfordrakes, the Strandes, Chepchesmylne, with two men at every place; and Edward Heron of Barresforth, Davy Taylour, John Denand, and William Robson to be setters and searchers of the watch.

The inhabitants of Gonerton, with three men forth of Barresforth, to watch at three places; that is to say, the water against Gofton-burne-foote and Warkesbriggende, the Goleforderackes, and the Lyndnyrford, with two men at every place; Anthony Nicholson, baylif of Gonerton, George Nycholson, Pate Nycholson, and James Dod to be setters and searchers of the watch.

The inhabitants of the lordship of Chepches, and two men forth of Gomerton and Bertley, to watch at three places; that is to say, at the Mylneford, Prest-Hobburne-mouth, and the Long Rackes at Brokeshangh in Cowntes-park, with two men at every place; and George Heron of Chepches, or his deputy William Ledell, baylif of Chepches, Edward Marshall and John Marshall to be setters and searchers of the watch.

The inhabitants of the lordship of Bertley, with Butland and Redsmouthe, to watch at three places; that is to say, at Reddesford and the Rakes beneath the Brokehaughe to the Hateleugh and the Newke-mylne, with two men at every place; and Roger Heron of Bertley, John Robson baylif of Bertley, Gerard Mylburne and Wilham Robson of Edsmothe to be setters and searchers of this watch.

Overseers of this watch : George Heron, keeper of Tyndall, and Kauff Wetheringtone.¹

Unlike the parishes described in the earlier part of the volume, in which the land was largely, and is still, held by copy of Court Roll, Chollerton parish is wholly freehold.

GEOLOGY OF CHOLLERTON, KIRKHEATON, AND THOCKRINGTON.

From the regality of Hexham attention may now be directed to the parishes immediately to the north, viz., Chollerton, Thockrington, and (the chapelry of) Kirkheaton, whose physical features are very similar to those of North Hexhamshire. The surface, on the whole, is undulating, becoming wilder and more elevated as we approach the northern boundary, which just touches the 1,000 foot contour near Furlaws. All the country, however, north of a line joining Birtley and Thockrington stands at an elevation of over 700 feet.

The whole of the surface drainage from the parishes of Chollerton and Thockrington finds its way into the North Tyne between Redesmouth and Chollerford, with the exception of a square mile of country situated in the extreme north-east corner, drained by the Wansbeck, which rises in Sweethope lough, and runs for a mile along the northern boundary of Thockrington. The northern and eastern boundaries of the district run practically along the watershed. The North Tyne, which marks the western boundary, has excavated its valley directly across the outcrop of the beds, forming a true 'dip valley.' In consequence of their relatively high dip the outcrop of the beds, as they enter this valley, curves down stream in a conspicuous manner, the fall of the river between Redesmouth and Chollerford, a distance of nearly ten miles, being barely 100 feet. Many of the tributary streams draining the district under notice, on the other hand, occupy pronounced 'strike' valleys, and run between the escarpments formed by the outcrop of the harder beds: we are, in fact, on the edge of the parishes of Wark and Simonburn, where the formation of strike valleys and escarpments can be studied almost better than anywhere else in the county.²

¹ Nicolson, *Border Laws*, pp. 175, 176.

² App. i. 5 and 8.

One of the most conspicuous of these streams is the Erring burn, forming the southern and south-eastern boundary. This stream occupies a depression in the softer beds underlying the Five-yard Limestone, and can be seen bending round to the north as it is traced to its source near Hallington, conforming exactly to the alteration in the strike of the beds. The Swinburn, Gunnerton, and Holywell burns also flow in well marked 'strike' valleys.

Turning to the rocks on which the parishes of Chollerton and Thockrington are situated, we find that they are the direct continuation, geologically speaking, of the lower Carboniferous strata of Hexhamshire, which lie immediately to the south.

In traversing these parishes in a north-westerly direction we meet with lower and lower members of the 'Bernician' series cropping out successively at the surface. This term is used for the beds of the district as a compromise between Tate's twofold division, adopted in describing the beds in the Bamburgh and Dunstanburgh area, and the southern appellation of Mountain Limestone, since neither of these nomenclatures is strictly applicable; and it is believed that it was during his survey of this ground that Prof. Lebour was first driven to adopt this term for the grouping of the lower Carboniferous beds in Northumberland.¹

The greater portion of the beds would appear to belong to Tate's 'Calcareous' group, the base of which he places at the Dun Limestone, which he defines as the 'the lowest limestone of any value' in the series. The limestones, however, in the district under consideration are most inconstant, thickening and thinning as they are traced northwards, whilst many additional ones here make their appearance. Tate's definition, therefore, is obviously artificial, and of no practical value in this portion of the county.

Shortly before reaching Chollerton from the south, we pass over the outcrop of the Five-yard Limestone, and after this any attempt to correlate the limestones with equivalent beds elsewhere becomes very hazardous. It is probable, however, that the limestone on which Colwell is built, and which is found in contact with the Whin near Swinburn castle, is the continuation of the Scar Limestone of the district to the west.

The lowest beds encountered are those associated with the Redesdale ironstone shale and its overlying limestone, which is correlated with Tate's

¹ Vol. i. app. i. 25.

'Dun' Limestone by Hugh Miller, and adopted as the base of his Calcareous division.¹ Between this and the Five-yard Limestone upwards of a dozen outcrops of limestone can be traced in these parishes. The most important of these are the Redesdale limestone and that immediately overlying it. The outcrops of both these beds run from near Chipchase castle northwards, bending afterwards north-east to Hartside and Greenrigg on the northern boundary of Thockrington parish. The Redesdale limestone forms a very fossiliferous bed, separated from the ironstone shale beneath it by a few feet of sandstone. Though classed with the Calcareous and Carbonaceous divisions respectively, there is, according to Prof. Lebour, no palæontological break between the two.²

The limestone running through Colwell is also continuous throughout the district, whilst between these, several thinner, but well marked, beds occur. The highest of these (the first limestone beneath the Whin) is associated with an underlying ironstone shale, which runs parallel to the outcrop of the Whin from Sweethope to Watling Street, north of Swinburn mill. This limestone must be situated somewhere near the horizon of the Tyne Bottom Limestone. The bed, near Swinburn castle, contains the interesting fossil *Saccamina*, once considered by Prof. Lebour to be characteristic of the Four-fathom Limestone in Northumberland, but since found to be universally distributed.³ The associated ironstone, however, unlike that of Redesdale, is not of great commercial importance. The latter was worked until a few years ago by the firm of Sir William Armstrong & Co.⁴ These mines were situated in the parish of Corsenside to the north. Old outcrop workings can, however, be observed between Pithills and Holywell burn.

Another bed of economic importance, consisting of a coarse, massive grit, underlies the third limestone in order below the Whin; it is largely quarried for building stone at Pity-me, near Gunnerton, and at places farther north along its line of strike.

The most important coal bed in the district is undoubtedly the Gunnerton and Fourlaws seam. The outcrop of this bed runs from the west corner of Sweethope lough in a south-westerly direction towards Chipchase castle. It is cut off at both ends by faults. This seam, in places, attains a thickness of 2 feet 6 inches, and is still mined at Gunnerton. The present pit, situated on the second (L) of Chollerton on the 6 inch map of Northumberland,

¹ Vol. i. app. i. 35.

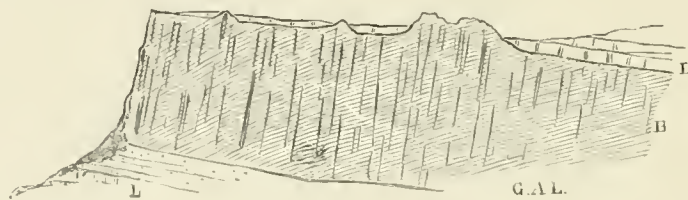
² App. i. 3.

³ *Ibid*

⁴ *Ibid*.

and affording also a good example of pyrometamorphism. Here the limestone has been recrystallized into a saccharoidal condition and the shale into hornstone.

From Little Swinburn northwards the Whin appears to lie between the shales and sandstones underlying the Scar Limestone. Another inlier is seen crossing the North Tyne below Haughton castle, and a small patch is also exposed in the road about half a mile north of Chollerton village. In Kirkheaton we find a Basalt dyke running nearly east and west through the north of this area, occupying a line of fault; and a small intrusion also occurs along the same dislocation further to the north-east at Sandybreas, where we find traces of old trials for lead.



SECTION AT GUNNERTON CRAG. B, Whin Sill. L, Limestone.

Evidences of glacial action in the district are not wanting, though well-preserved scratches on solid rock are rare. Near Hallington High farm striæ can be observed pointing a little north of east; others occur on the surface of the Whin above Peasland plantation, Great Swinburn, and also below Swinburn mill. In both of these localities the ice appears to have travelled from the west-north-west. Much of the country, especially the valleys, is covered with drift; thus, in sinking to the coal in Kirkheaton, the shaft passed through 27 feet of stony clay overlain by sands and gravel. At Gunnerton fell this covering reaches a total thickness of 42 feet.¹

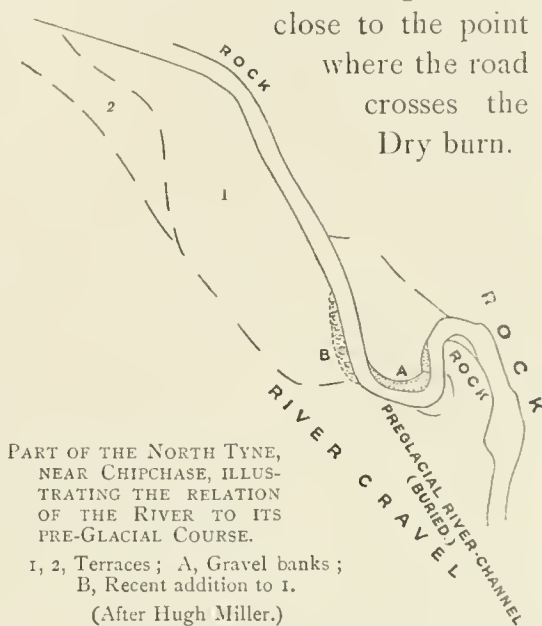
The faults traversing the district are neither numerous nor important. In the extreme north-west corner of Thockrington, however, we have two converging faults, which meet just outside the northern boundary on Watling Street. They appear to be connected with the numerous dislocations in the Redesdale district farther to the north. They run roughly east and west, and being nearly coincident with the strike of the beds, they repeat a considerable thickness of the strata, bringing in again on their north side the Fowlaws coal and Redesdale limestone with its underlying ironstone shale.

¹ See app. ii.

A continuation of these united faults appears to run eastward through the depressed alluvial-covered area to the north of Greenrigg, through Sweethope lough, and away out of the parish to the north-east, along Farneyrigg burn. It is this fault which cuts off the outcrop of the Gunnerton and Fourlaws coal-seam, and shifts it a mile and a half to the west. Since the dip of the beds here only averages some 5 degs., the throw of this fault must exceed 600 feet. A few minor faults also occur in the neighbourhood of the Whin Sill outcrop. The most important of these, economically speaking, is that which cuts off the outcrop of the ironstone shale on its southern side, where that bed touches the bend of Watling Street, close to the point where the road crosses the Dry burn.

Alluvial deposits occur in the valley of the North Tyne, especially to the north of its junction with the Hauxty burn, where two complete horse-shoe shaped deposits of this material indicate the former meandering propensities of the river. As pointed out by Hugh Miller, the river flows partly on rock partly on glacial deposits. In the annexed diagram of the bend near Chipchase the river flows upon softer glacial deposits (on the left) with some covering of alluvium, and the upper part of the loop (with the slight bend above it) may be regarded as

relatively shifting. The shifting curve is endeavouring to worm itself past the persistent one, along the line of a buried pre-glacial channel occupied by till. The limb of the stream above the gorge has probably worked within its tropozoidal strip of alluvium somewhat like the limb of a piston. At present this movement is taking the form of a slow progress to the right on the post of a gentle curve above the double loop, which, exhausting itself at the gorge, may temporarily straighten the upper half of it, until such time as the limb of the piston may come down again along the bank upon the left.¹



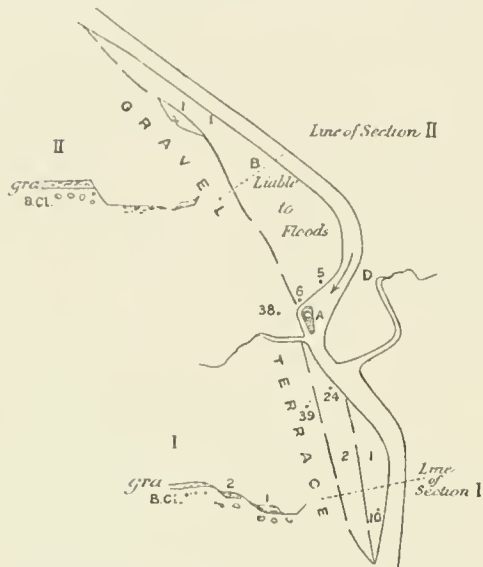
PART OF THE NORTH TYNE, NEAR CHIPCHASE, ILLUSTRATING THE RELATION OF THE RIVER TO ITS PRE-GLACIAL COURSE.

1, 2, Terraces; A, Gravel banks; B, Recent addition to 1.

(After Hugh Miller.)

¹ App. i. 9.

Another river valley in the district, now partially filled up with drift, is the Dry burn. During the formation of a new reservoir for the Newcastle water supply at Colt crag, the pre-glacial ravine of this stream was excavated to a depth of 26 feet below the level of the modern stream. The stiff till that had occupied it was full of boulders, many of them having the characteristic smooth lobe-shape. These boulders were lying as if hustled-in in the passing, and their axes and striæ were disposed at random. This old ravine lay at right angles to the line of ice movement.¹



PART OF THE NORTH TYNE, NEAR WARK, ILLUSTRATING THE GROWTH AND DESTRUCTION OF RIVER TERRACES.

A, Curve, shifting down stream; B, Haugh forming behind it; C, Sand-bank (1865) now (1883) being added to B; D, Tributary streamlet now broken in upon at that point; I, 2, Terraces below A; I', Lower Terrace replacing them, and 2', probable selvage of 2. The other figures denote typical points of elevation above river in feet. I, II, Sketch sections; Gra., Gravel; B.Cl., Boulder Clay.

Horizontal scale—3 inches = 1 mile.

(After Hugh Miller.)

Patches of peat are scattered over the northern portion of the parish, as at Bogshield, Folly Moss, Hartside, and round Sweethope lough. It is interesting to note that this latter depression, which is still occupied by a tarn, like those of Greenlee and Broomlee farther west, is situated on a line of fault.

In writing of these Northumberland lakes, Hugh Miller placed them in the category of typical glacially eroded tarns.² As they occupy strike valleys, and are contained on at least one side by alluvium, and moreover lie in the track of streams, it may be equally probable that they are dammed by drift. Mr. Marr³ has recently shown that the English lakes are in no case true rock basins, and until proof is forthcoming to the contrary, it seems more in keeping with the facts to assume a similar scepticism with regard to the glacial

origin of the Northumbrian lakes by direct excavation. In the case of Sweethope, there is, however, no conclusive evidence that this lough occupies a true rock basin; on the contrary, it lies on the main line of drainage of the river Wansbeck, which issues from it to the east, and enters it on the west under the name of the Curtis burn.

¹ App. i. 11.

² App. i. 6.

³ Proc. Geol. Assoc. May, 1896.

CHOLLERTON TOWNSHIP.

Chollerton township is a compact oblong tract of comparatively level land occupying the south-west corner or nook of the parish. It has a southern exposure towards the Erring burn, and comprises an area of 1,557 acres;¹ its population in 1871, when the last separate census was taken, was 138.²

A barrow, situated about a mile east of Chollerton, was opened in 1866. It was 36 feet in diameter and 3 feet high, and was made up of earth and stones. It contained on the south side, not far from the edge of the mound, a deposit of the burnt bones of an adult, placed under a flat stone upon the surface level. Not far from this deposit was a cinerary urn, containing the burnt bones of a young person. The urn, which was placed upright on the surface level, was much decayed. The overhanging rim was ornamented with alternate series of twisted thong impressions of vertical and horizontal lines. At the centre was a cist placed on the original surface, formed of seven side stones and two covers. In shape it was irregularly oblong, 3 feet 10 inches long, 2 feet 4 inches wide, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep. Nothing was left of the bones of the body originally deposited in it, that, apparently, of a full grown person, except portions of the larger and more solid bones. The mound contained nothing in the shape of implements, etc., except a flint flake, which showed signs of having been used.³

The townships of Chollerton, Barrasford, Chipchase, and Birtley are all manors within, or members of, the barony of Prudhoe, and as such were held by the family of Umframvill from the reign of Henry I. Odinel de Umframvill (died 1182), grandson of Robert With-the-Beard, the first lord of Redesdale after the Conquest, granted the church of Chollerton, with its chapels of Birteley, Chipchasse, Gonewarton, Est Swyneborne, Little Heton, and Colewelle, to the prior and convent of Hexham, together with eight oxgangs of land in the vill of Chollerton, which formed part of the endow-

¹ Including public roads, 20 acres; North British railway, 8 acres; and water, nearly 12 acres.

² The Census Returns are: 1801 and 1811, no return; 1821, 149; 1831, 187; 1841, 155; 1851, 157; 1861, 161; 1871, 138. In 1881 the Census Returns for the parish of Chollerton (exclusive of the chapelry of Birtley) was 1,210 and in 1891, 1,097.

³ Greenwell, *British Barrows*, p. 436.

ment of the church, and 5 acres to the north of it called the Michelcroft. His grandson, Gilbert de Umframvill (died 1245), granted the hamlet of Beamont to the same house.¹

The manor of Chollerton appears to have been in 1240 in the immediate possession of Gilbert de Umframvill as lord of the barony of Prudhoe.² Shortly afterwards it became the property of his younger brother, Robert, whose sons, Gilbert and Richard, held it successively. Richard de Umframvill resigned it to his cousin, Gilbert, earl of Angus, in a full court of the barony held at Inghoe,³ receiving in exchange lands and rents of the value of £10 in Whelpington.⁴ Earl Gilbert granted Chollerton to William de Swinburne in the presence of John de Lazysingby, prior of Hexham (died 1269), and others.⁵ The common rights of the men of Chollerton in Chesterhope and Buteland were included, as were also those they had enjoyed in the wood of Birtley, whenever Birtley (then with the exception of the capital messuage and park, held in dower by the widow of Robert de Umframvill) should revert to Gilbert or his heirs. An annual payment of 6d. was to cover all feudal services; 12d. was to be paid for forfeitures, and the same sum for reliefs.⁶

William de Swinburne, the new lord of Chollerton, was the youngest of the three surviving sons of John de West Swinburne.⁷ He appears for the first time in 1251 as having lent three marks of silver to Reginald Prath, a necessitous knight of Tyndale.⁸ Five years later Prath bound himself to put William de Swinburne in possession of his estates at Haughton and in the Huntland, and of six marcates in Knaresdale.⁹ Swinburne accordingly received a third of the manor of Haughton, all Prath's lands in the Huntland, and the whole manor of Williamston.¹⁰ These were confirmed to him by

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 111. ² *Testa de Nevill*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 206.

³ *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 12.

⁴ *Rotuli Hundredorum*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 107.

⁵ Richard of York was elected prior of Hexham in succession to John de Lazysingby in 1269. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. app. xxii. etc. The error of supposing Lazysingby to have continued as prior till 1271 (vol. iii. *Hexhamshire*, pt. i. p. 164, etc.) seems due to a confusion in the abstract given in *Dodsworth MSS.* xlv. fo. 56, of this grant of Chollerton by Gilbert de Umframvill with the confirmation of it by Richard de Umframvill in that year.

⁶ *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 12.

⁷ See under West Swinburn.

⁸ *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 8.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.* p. 5. This charter and two others which are necessarily posterior to Prath's obligation to give possession, dated 1256, were assigned by Hodgson to the shrievalty of Hugh de Bolbec, 1236-1245, on account of his name appearing at the head of the attestations; but had he been sheriff, the words 'tunc vicecomite' would have almost certainly followed his name.

Alexander III. of Scotland at Stirling in 1257.¹ Already in April, 1259, William de Swinburne was acting as treasurer to Alexander's young queen, Margaret. During the four ensuing years he disbursed the sum of £598 10s. 4d. for his royal mistress in the purchase of cloth, furs, napkins, towels, linen, cloth of gold and *aresta*, cambrics, wax, spices, oblations, jewels, and other petty expenses.² It was probably these duties at the Scottish court that involved him in a serious dispute with Gilbert de Colecester, a London tailor, living in the parish of St. Benet de Gerschereche (Gracechurch). The tailor in the end made a most abject submission.³

Swinburne, who had been appointed rector of Fordun in Kincardineshire, farmed the altar dues of his church for three years from 1260, to a chaplain named David, at forty marks annually. David was to serve the church with two chaplains, and the necessary clerks, bearing all charges connected with it, except papal imposts, and was to find Swinburne fuel, litter, hay, and a stone of cheese for 8d.⁴ It cannot have been long after this that Swinburne resigned his ecclesiastical preferment, and took to himself a wife.⁵ In 1269, the same year that he acquired Chollerton, Queen Margaret sent him as her bailiff into Cumberland.⁶ In consequence perhaps of a letter the queen wrote to Walter de Merton, her father's chancellor, in his behalf,⁷ Swinburne obtained a confirmation of his grant of Chollerton from Henry III., 29th March, 1269.⁸ From her brother Edmund he received Ottercaps and Snaridelf.⁹

William de Swynburne had become possessed of the manor of Staworth (Staward pele). On 14th January, 1272, he wrote from Haughton to Henry III. to say that he was prevented by great infirmity from attending his court in Hilary term with reference to a perambulation to be made between the manor of Langley in the county of Northumberland and that of Staworth in the liberty of Tyndale. He gave his consent to the perambulation provided one-half of the jury were taken from the liberty.¹⁰

¹ *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. pp. 12, 13. A second confirmation in the same terms, in 1267, was probably obtained, owing to the violent changes in the Scottish government in the interval. ² *Ibid.* pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 20. ³ *Ibid.* p. 23.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 21. The date, 1270, given in the heading there seems a misprint.

⁵ *Assize Rolls*, 21 Ed. 1. ⁶ *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 21.

⁷ Royal Letters, No. 851. *Cal. of Documents rel. to Scotland*, vol. i. No. 2260.

⁸ *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 13.

⁹ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. pp. 105, 106.

¹⁰ Collins, *Proc. in Bar.* pp. 22, 23; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 20.

Notwithstanding the royal protection which he obtained from Henry III., and a further confirmation of his title to Chollerton from Richard de Umframvill at Hexham, 26th July, 1271,¹ Swinburne was not allowed to remain in unquestioned enjoyment of the manor. Before 1274, Eva, the widow of Robert de Umframvill, the former owner, had married William de Percy, and now claimed the third part of 490 acres in Chollerton as her dower. After four years' delay Gilbert, earl of Angus, came forward to bear witness that Eva's claim to dower had already been satisfied in the manor of Birtley.² A greater danger threatened Swinburne in 1278: Richard de Umframvill had gone out of his mind, and his friends raised the point as to whether he was sane at the time of his renunciation of Birtley and Chollerton in favour of his cousin and overlord, Earl Gilbert. The earl, however, was able to prove that Richard had appeared in person to levy a fine of these manors before the justices itinerant. Edward I. and his council decided in favour of Richard's ability to renounce, holding that it was to be presumed that the justices would not have allowed any person under age or an idiot to transact business in court. They laid down the rule that it was a thing unaccustomed to bring the discretion of the justices before a jury (*inusitatum est quod discretio justiciariorum inquiratur per patriam*).³

One of the first things Swinburne did at Chollerton was to ensure better communication with the property he had already acquired at Haughton, by establishing a ferry boat on the North Tyne. He entered into an agreement with Ranulph de Halvton (Haughton), the owner of Selburhalv, on the west bank of the river, to buy and keep at their joint cost a boat to ply between that place and his own land at Scothaly on the east bank. Each of them was to have a right of way to the boat for himself and his men through Chollerton and Haughton respectively.⁴

Swinburne granted to Master William de Wauker, the vicar of Chollerton, a piece of ground 8 feet wide and 30 feet long on the south side of the vicarage for the purpose of constructing 'a chamber for the priests' use' (*camera*

¹ *Dodsworth MSS.* xlv. fo. 56; see footnote 8 on previous page.

² *De Banco Rolls*, 2-3 Ed. I. Michas. m. 6; 6-7 Ed. I. Michas. m. 38.

³ *Abbrev. Placit.* 7-8 Ed. I. rot. 21 in dorso, p. 197; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 14.

⁴ *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 1. The agreement which has been assigned to the time of Henry II. is of that of Henry III.: there was no William de Swinburn in the time of Henry II., at any rate in possession of Chollerton.

ad opus sacerdotum). He conceded this 'for the good of his soul and the souls of his ancestors,' in consideration of a special memorial of himself and his wife and their children every Sunday in Chollerton church, and at the rent of one penny payable at Michaelmas. He also gave Wauker personally (not as vicar) common rights for three mares and two cows in the pasture where the men of Chollerton kept their cattle; in return he was to receive twelve hens every Christmas.¹

Alexander III. appointed William de Swinburne his bailiff in Tynedale, but at his consort's request freed him from all involuntary services of the kind in 1273,² an exemption that Swinburne had already enjoyed in England since 1268, through Queen Margaret's influence with her father.³ On the same day Alexander bestowed on him Haughton Strother with the adjacent demesnes 'in free forest with vert and venison.'⁴ Swinburne's house at Haughton is styled simply a 'camera' in the curious instrument by which, in 1278, John de Insula became his liegeman 'against all in the world save his own overlords,' for the yearly sum of 20s.⁵

Alan de Swinburne, brother of William and rector of Whitfield since 1264,⁶ had bought the manor of Great Heton (Capheaton) from Thomas de Fenwick in 1274.⁷ Wishing to settle this on his brother William and his heirs while retaining his own life-interest, he enfeoffed his brother in it in 1284, and, under the name of an exchange, was enfeoffed himself in the manor of Chollerton as security. The intention was that after a year's possession had ratified the entail of Capheaton each should resume possession of his own manor; a transaction which they ultimately carried out.⁸ William de Swinburne was still living in July, 1285, when he came to a final agreement with John Comyn of Badenoch as to his shiels of Greenley, and a half of the adjacent lake of Wigglesmere.⁹ Indeed he does not seem to have died till 1289, when Anthony Bek, bishop of Durham, received orders, as 'custos' of the king's lands in Tyndale, to take possession of those of William de

¹ *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 19. The date, 1426, given in the Latin heading, is manifestly wrong. The witnesses would all have been 150 years old, or more, in that year. ² *Ibid.* p. 23.

³ *Patent Roll*, 52 Henry III. m. 4; *Cal. of Documents rel. to Scotland*, vol. i. p. 496.

⁴ *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 16. ⁵ *Ibid.* vol. ii. p. 28.

⁶ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 109.

⁷ *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. pp. 1-3.

⁸ *Assize Roll*, 21 Ed. I. Alan de Swinburne's receipt for 100 marks from Sir William, by the hand of the latter's wife Margaret, 1282-83, is sealed with a rude antique set within an inscription. *Swinburne Charters*, i. 9; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 213 n.

⁹ *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 19.

Swinburne, deceased.¹ Sir William's widow, Margery, married Thomas de Lucy, and in 1293 unsuccessfully claimed dower in Capheaton in addition to that which she had in Chollerton.²

COLDEN, CHOLLERTON SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.					£	s.	d.		s.	d.
Summa bonorum	Willelmi Lamb	...	...	...	1	2	0	unde regi	2	0
"	Roberti de Snaudon	...	...	...	1	7	0	"	2	5½
"	Adae de Husband	...	...	...	2	1	8	"	3	8½
"	Thomae Turpyn	...	...	...	1	4	0	"	2	2¼
"	Symonis Homil	...	...	...	1	5	6	"	2	3¾
"	Alani Liall	...	...	...	2	11	8	"	4	8½
"	Willelmi filii Galfridi	...	...	...	0	19	2	"	1	9
"	Thomae filii Walteri	...	...	...	0	12	0	"	1	1
"	Thomae filii Roberti	...	...	...	1	15	9	"	3	3
"	Willelmi filii Willelmi	...	...	...	2	7	10	"	4	4¼
"	Adae filii Walteri	...	...	...	1	4	6	"	2	2¾
"	Galfridi filii Tunhok	...	...	...	1	10	11½	"	2	9¾
"	Galfridi filii Ade	...	...	...	2	6	2	"	4	2¾
"	Radulphi filii Roberti	...	...	...	1	11	7	"	2	10½
"	Willelmi de Water-felles	...	...	...	2	1	0	"	3	8¾

Summa tota hujus villae cum Colden, £24 os. 8½d. Unde regi, £2 3s. 8½d.

Sholurton Subsidy Roll, 1336: Patricus de Bello Monte, 2s. 2d.; Willelmus Homel, 1s. 1d.; Thomas Houete, 1s. 2d.; Walterus Molendinarius, 2s. 5d.; Adam filius Gilberti, 2s. 6d.; Willelmus de Bleumonte, 3s. Summa, 12s. 4d.

In 1479, in addition to Beaumont, which yielded a rent of £2 13s. 4d., the convent of Hexham held in Chollerton a husbandland, containing 29 acres and 3 roods, which, with two cottage lands, containing about 4 acres, was let to Hugh Colstone for 28s. a year, and another husbandland of 30 acres and 3 roods for which Alan Hoghird paid 30s. a year.³

CHOLLERTON MUSTER ROLL, 1538.⁴

John Usshor, Davide Wood, Michell Forestandhaw, John Colson, Wyllm Colson, able with hors and harness. Robert Pawtson, Henry Wilson, Thomas Colson, Thomas Fenwyk, Christofer Jakson, Robert Robson, John Hynd, Rauff Bell, George Nicolson, Archibald Yldert, Andro Logam, James Foster, Robert Colson, neither hors nor harness. Gerard Bell, Robert Nicholson, Gerard Patyson, Oswyn Eryngton, Robert Wodeman, able with hors and harness. Willm Wodeman, Thomas Wodeman, Robert Tomson, Henry Woodman, naither hors nor harness.

In 1534 Edward Jay, prior, and the convent of Hexham, granted their pastures of Beaumont house to David Carnaby; this, together with Beaufront, was, in 1586, conveyed by Nicholas Carnaby of Ronchester, son and heir of Mark Carnaby, late of Anick Grange, to Gilbert Errington of

¹ *Originalia*, 17 Ed. I.; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 287.

² *Assize Roll*, 21 Ed. I. On 14th August, 1332, Alexander, son and heir of Sir William de Swinburne gave at Chollerton 121 acres of land and 20 acres of pasture there to Brian de Thornhill, rector of Bydale, and a great entail of the Swinburne estates was executed there on Trinity Sunday (7th June), 1349, in the presence of Sir John de Stryvelan, Sir William de Felton, and Sir John de Lisle of Wodeburne, knights, and John de Clifford the Sheriff. See Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 214 n.

³ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 30-32.

⁴ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 176.

Wharmley.¹ In 1622 Henry Errington of Beaufront conveyed 'Beaumont house or Beaumont field' to William Swinburne of Capheaton,² who already held the greater part of the township by descent from William Swinburn, to whom the manor was granted 350 years before. In 1663 Sir John Swinburne was rated at £140 for his lands in Chollerton, and from him is lineally descended its present owner, Sir John Swinburne of Capheaton, bart.

In the survey of July, 1536, it is stated that the prior and convent held a tenement with appurtenances in Chollerton, which was rented by the vicar of Chollerton for 40s. or 45s. a year.³ Under the description of 'a tenement in Chollerton and the arable lands said to have been sometime in the occupation of the vicar of the parish church of Chollerton by particular thereof said to be of the value of 40s., and sometime parcel of the dissolved monastery of Hexham,' it was, in 1622, for the sum of £120, conveyed by Sir John Fenwick of Wallington to his servant George Heron, then of Kearsley, 'to be holden in fee farm for ever.'⁴ Three years later Heron sold it for £160 to Richard Wilson of Haughton castle 'in as full a manner as King James by letters patent, dated 7th October, in the seventh year of his reign, had granted the same, *inter alia*, to George Salter and John W'⁵ In 1642 Roger Wilson of Hexham, son of Richard Wilson of Haughton, for £200 conveyed it to Cuthbert Heron of Chipchase.⁶ Heron was not rated in 1663, but Roger Chalto was rated at £13 for lands in Chollerton.

In the second half of the seventeenth century Chollerton was farmed by a cadet of the ancient family of Carnaby, whose will, remaining in the registry at Durham, makes his landlord, Sir John Swinburne, one of his executors, and affords some genealogical information hitherto unknown. The inventory filed by the executors discloses the contents of a well-plenished farm house of the period, as well as the nature and value of the farm stock.

Will of Ralph Carnaby of Chollerton, gentleman. Dated 16th March, 1693.

To the poor people, £10, to be distributed at my burial among every poor man and woman of the parish of Chollerton. To my nephew, John Carnaby of Halton, esq., £5. To my niece, Jane Carnaby, sister of the said John, £5, and a bond or specialty of £25 entered to me by Sir Robert Fenwick of Bywell, knight, deceased. To my nephew, William Fenwick of West Matfen, gentleman, £25. To my nephews, Ambrose Fenwick of West Matfen, £5, and to Ralph Fenwick of the same place, £30, and my new suit of clothes. To my niece, Dorothy Kempe, wife of Francis Kempe of London, £5. To my niece, Mrs. Catherine Dunn of the Brigghouse, near Bellingham, widow, £5. To my niece, Mrs. Mary Fenwick of

¹ The Rev. John Hodgson MSS. *Capheaton Deeds* (Y), pp. 230-233.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 166; *cf.* vol. iii. p. 158.

⁴ The Rev. John Hodgson MSS. *Capheaton Deeds* (Y), pp. 230-233.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

West Matfen, spinster, £10. To Mr. John Bury of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, one of the sons of Mr. Matthew Bury, £30. To Mr. James Bury of Newcastle-on-Tyne, £25; to Mrs. Ann Bury of Newcastle-on-Tyne, spinster, £30, children of the said Matthew. To Mrs. Barbary Simpson of Corbridge, daughter of Mr. Henry Simpson, late of Corbridge, gent., deceased, £5. To Mrs. Anne Thornton, wife of Nicholas Thornton of Netherwitton, esq., 20s., to buy a mourning ring. To the Honourable Francis Radcliffe, esq., 20s., to buy a mourning ring. To the Honourable Thomas Radcliffe, esq., 20s., to buy a mourning ring. To the Honourable William Radcliffe, esq., 20s., to buy a mourning ring. To the Honourable Lady Mary Ratcliffe of Dilston, 20s., to buy a mourning ring. To Mrs. Catharine Swinburne of Capheaton, spinster, daughter of the Right Worshipful Sir John Swinburne, baronet, 20s., to buy a mourning ring. To Mr. Edward Swinburne of Capheaton, one of the sons of the said Sir John, 20s., to buy a mourning ring. To my lady, Isabell Swinburne, wife of the said Sir John, 20s., to buy a mourning ring, and direct that the said Isabella shall divide all my household goods and stuff between herself and my loving wife, Mary Carnaby. To Simon Wilkinson of Chollerton, yeoman, 20s. To William Kell of Chollerton, yeoman, 20s. To Jane Dacre, my servant, £5. To the rest of my servants, 5s. each. To my servant, Henry Armstrong, my black mare at Chipchase with Sir Charles Heron, bart. To Mrs. Troth Swinburne of Capheaton, one of the daughters of Sir John Swinburne, the best bedd. To Mrs. Mary Swinburne of Capheaton, another daughter of the said John Swinburne, the seeing glass in the browne chamber where my late deceased daughter lay. To Anne Carnaby, daughter of Mr. Richard Carnaby, late of Nubbock, deceased, £5. To Mr. James Swinburne of Capheaton, son of the said Sir John Swinburne, the sum of £400, now in the hands of the said Sir John Swinburne. To my loving wife, Mary Carnaby, all and everything which I have not already bequeathed together with the sum of £800 which is due to me at Michaelmas from Robert Sureties of Ryton in the county of Durham, gentleman, and John Steavenson of Byerside, in the said county of Durham, gent. I devise unto my said wife, and unto her heirs, all my estate and title and interest in the messuages and lands in Crawcrook, in the said county of Durham, conveyed to me by the said Robert Sureties and John Steavenson for the said security of £800. I appoint my loving wife, Mary Carnaby, and my well-beloved and worthy friend the said Sir John Swinburne of Capheaton, baronet, executors. Proved 1694.

An inventory of the goods and chattels of Mr. Ralph Carnaby, late of Chollerton, in the county of Northumberland, gentleman, deceased.

In the hall, one long table, valued at £1 15s.; in the out-rooms, another table, 5s.; in the dairy, bowles, a chirnn, chesfatt and suchlike, £3 10s. Potts, pannels, and little things as trenshare, £1; three kettells and a fish pann, £2 14s. Fowerteen pewter dishes, most of them little ones, 3 douzen of plates, 2 pair of candlesticks, 2 pair of brass candlesticks, with snuffers and snuffe pans for both, one dish cover, one cullinder, 1 douzen of petty pannels, a little ring for sallett, 2 brass rings, 30 glasses, jugs and cups, with a lating pudding pan, a big earthen pot, all at £5. One fine new tick for a bed, £2; one webb of unbleached cloth, £1 6s.; 17 yards of unbleached harden, 14s. 6d.; 9 spindle of yarne, £1 2s.; 2 spitts and a pann, 6s. The linning; 8 paire and one sheet, most of them thinn, £2 15s.; seaven paire of a courser sort, more worn, £1 18s.; nine paire and one of course sheets, £1 18s.; nine paire of good pillowbers, one paire more, very cours, £1 2s.; one window curtain of course cloth, and clother (*sic*) for another, 8s.; 13 table cloths of linning, dyper and huggaback, and one more, £2 5s.; 9 douzen and a half of linning dyper and huggaback napkins, with fower dyper towels, £2 15s. Two barrells, 3s., one new-booke, 6s.; one old green bed, 10s.; a browne bed and bedstead, £2 10s.; three feather beds, 3 paire of pillows, 2 bowlesters, one peice of course ticking for a bowlster, £4 10s.; five paire of blanketts, £1 15s.; 2 pieces of woolling cloath for blanketts, 10s.; 2 ruggs, 4 coverlitts or happins, 3 more all very bad, £1 2s. A prospect glass, a runner to cut paste, and a sause pann, 5s.; 2 coverlitts, and two paire of more blanketts, £1. There was one broune bedd and bedstead, fether bedd, bowlster and pillows, blanketts, rugg, and one looking glass, which was left Mrs. Troath Swinburne by Mr. Carnaby's will, and which the said Troath Swinburne had, the same were vallued at £4 5s. There was chaires, virginalls, trunks, with Mr. Carnaby's cloathes in them, severall boxes, chists and cupbert of drawers, 2 iron boxes, and a dish, a warmeing pann, the fether bedd, bowlster, and pillows, bedstead, curtaines, and table (and the kitchen racks) that was in Mr. Carnaby's chamber, and other fether bedds with blanketts, and one looking glass, that Mr. Bury had and disposed of, £— —s. The particulars of plate: One little silver

tankard valued at £3; one silver tumbler, 15s.; tenn silver spoons, £3; a little teapott of silver, 15s.; one silver salt, £2. These particular peices of plate Mr. Bury had and received the same to his owne use without allowing my Lady Swinburne, the other legatee, her moyety or share thereof. The beasts and other cattell at Chollerton upon the lands at Mr. Carnaby's death valued: 23 draught oxen at £3 15s. per beast, £86 5s.; 17 fat oxen at £7 per beast, £119; 28 milk cowes, £3 per beast, £84; 10 steers at £5 per beast, £50; 12 steers and quies at £1 5s. per beast (these were two years old), £15; 12 steers and quyes more at £1 15s per beast, £21; 16 one year old stirks at 15s. per beast, £12; 1 bull at £3; one bull segg at £4. 15 score of ewes at £7 10s. per score, £112 10s.; 6 score of hogge at £4 per score, £24; 11 score of wethers and seven dinments at £7 per score, £79 9s. The swine: one sowe at 14s.; 3 piggs at 8s.; 2 hoggs at £3; 2 braunes at £1 2s. The horses: 4 maires at £2 each, £8; 3 old work horses at 10s. each, £1 10s.; the husband geare valued at £11 9s. 4d. The corne in the garth valued to £70; the cropp upon the ground at £20; reedy money in the house, £350.

An account of what bonds Mr. Carnaby left for moneys due to him and which are all desparate and not worth one farthing:

Sir Robert Fenwick's bond for £25; it was left to Mrs. Jane Carnaby and given to her; Mr. Robert Fenwick's bond of £20; one bond of Thomas Gray for £3 1s.; a bond of Nicholas Romy, £3 6s.; a bond for 30s. a year till £7 be paid by Thomas Hedley, £7; William Robson's bond for £2 16s.; Richard Carnaby's bond for £2; James Graham's bond for £4 13s.; Nicholas Hodshon and John Forbus, there bond for £3 6s. 8d., but with Mr. Carnaby's owne hand is writt, there is only behind £1; William Routledge, his bond for £1 9s.; Nicholas Robson and Nicholas Robson, there bond for £3 16s.; Roger Chatoe and Henry Chatoe's bond for £5 5s.; John Herrison and Edward Herrison, bond for £3 13s.; Archabald Harp and Edward Champley's bond for £4, but most of it is paid; Robert Hedley and Thomas Hedley's bond for £8 10s.; paid of this £1; remains due £7 10s.; George Chicken and George Chicken, bond for £5; but Mr. Carnaby hath writt on the bond all is paid but £1 10s.

An account of what sumes of money came to the hands of, and was received by Sir John Swinburne as executor to Mr. Carnaby, and due to him as such, over and besides the severall particulars of the personal estate above menconed:

John Carnaby, esq., his bond for £30; one bond of the Honourable Thomas Radcliffe, for principall money and interest, all of which money he paid and Sir John received, £159; received upon bond of Henry Lowes and William Foster, £3 12s.; received upon a bond of Richard Cooke, £3 8s.; received of John Tomson for 20 bowles of bigg sold by Mr. Carnaby, £11 10s.; received of John Tomson for 20 bowells of rye sold by Mr. Carnaby, £12; of John Tomson for 6 score and tenn sheep sold by Mr. Carnaby, £59 5s.; received of Lawson upon bond, £6.

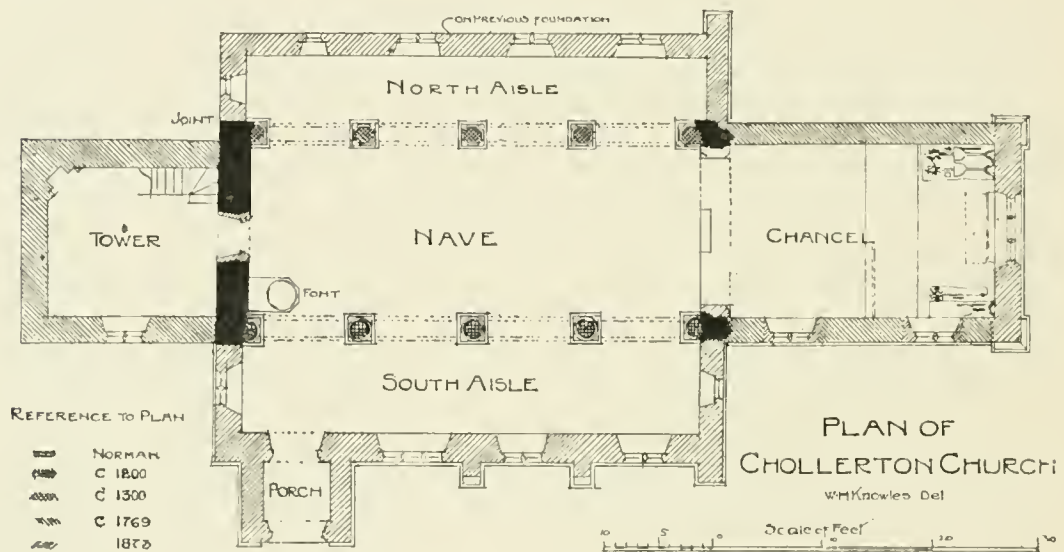
With the exception of about 6 acres of glebe belonging to the vicar the whole township belongs to Sir John Swinburne. It is divided into the East, West, and Middle farms, and the farm of Beaumont house, but under the old system of rating was reputed to comprise eight ancient farms.

THE PARISH CHURCH.

The parish church stands in the nook formed by the confluence of the Erring burn, with the North Tyne at the extreme south-west of the parish, on a site from which the ground falls to the south, and commands a view of Cocklaw tower, and in the distance of St. Oswald's chapel, Keepwick fell, and the line of the Wall. The grant of the church of Chollerton made by Odinel de Umframvill to the prior and convent of Hexham

included 8 oxgangs of land in the vill of Chollerton, which had formed part of the old endowment of the church, and a 5 acre field to the north of it, called the Michel-croft, as appears in the *inspeximus* of 1298.¹ The deed of gift and the ordination of the vicarage are not now extant.

Although the church presents a picturesque object among its surroundings, with a background of lofty trees,² it does not exhibit on the exterior any indication that the building is of more than ordinary interest. As seen from the road, it is entirely modern, the oldest portion being the tower, and this does not appear to be earlier than the last century.



The plan comprises a chancel, a nave with north and south aisles, a detached western tower, and a south porch. The nave is 41 feet long, and measures 16 feet between the arcade piers.

Though there are no remains of that period left, a pre-Conquest church may have occupied the site. The earliest evidences of a stone building are some arch stones of the Norman period. Although the Norman church and its supposed predecessor (which may have been a wooden one) have disappeared, a close examination of the walls shows that the present building is an enlargement and reconstruction of an older one. The west wall still retains some portions of the Norman work *in situ*, including the quoins at the south-

¹ *Inspeximus* of 1298; *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 111.

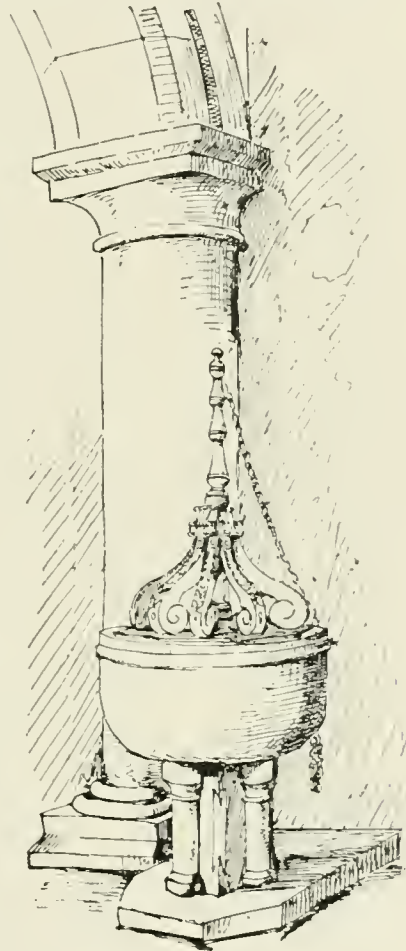
² Ash, elm, and plane trees, planted in the churchyard. *Chollerton Register*, 1st March, 1828.

west angle of the nave, which are visible from the ground to the roof level, and at the north-west angle, to the extent of 3 feet above the ground level.

The first addition to the Norman church was the extension towards the south by means of an aisle, which was separated from the nave by an arcade of four bays. The arches have two plain chamfered orders, with no hood moulding; they rest on cylindrical shafts 1 foot 7 inches in diameter and 8 feet high, having square capitals and moulded bases on square plinths. The proportions of this arcade are striking, and there is a characteristic rudeness about the whole which at once arrests attention. This arises from the fact that the isolated columns, as well as the respond shafts at the two ends of the arcade, are monoliths, and are clearly of different workmanship from the other portions. There can be no doubt that they are of Roman origin, and may be columns transferred from a Roman building at the neighbouring station of Cilurnum.

It is interesting to note a similar re-use of Roman material in the north arcade of Lan-
chester church in the county of Durham, where is a closely adjoining Roman station, and where the shafts are uniform in number, size, and shape with those at Chollerton. On the north side of Canterbury cathedral there are standing two columns which did service in, and have been removed from, the early church of Reculver in Kent, which was also a Roman station. Built into the porch walls of the church are some small capitals of Transitional character, and the sunk ornamental panel (marked V) shown among the sketches of the sepulchral remains.

The north arcade was added about a century later than the southern one. The arches are of two chamfered orders, resting on octagonal shafts or columns with moulded capitals and bases, the latter standing on square plinths. The responds are semi-octagonal in plan. The whole of the



mouldings have been chiselled over in modern days, and their shape much



obliterated. Writing in 1769, Wallis, the historian, informs us the tower had been recently erected.¹ Its extent is shown by the projecting angle quoins and the string course of classical character. The chancel was rebuilt at the same time. The present termination to the tower was added in 1873, when the chancel was shortened by 3 feet, the wall of the north aisle rebuilt, the south aisle reduced from 15 feet to 9 feet 6 inches in width, and the windows on the south side of the chancel inserted.

Chollerton can boast the possession of three founts. The one in use is probably contemporary with the south arcade; it has a wooden cover of seventeenth-century work, of a

somewhat ornamental character. Another, which is now in the churchyard, has been formed out of a massive Roman altar, on which the sacrificial instruments are still left, though the letters I.O.M., visible a few years ago, have disappeared.² The third is a shallow octagonal bowl, which belonged to the old chapel of Gunnerton. A portion of the cross of a gable (IV.) is built into the north chancel wall.



¹ *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 90.

² The altar has been inverted and the base hollowed out to form the basin of the font.

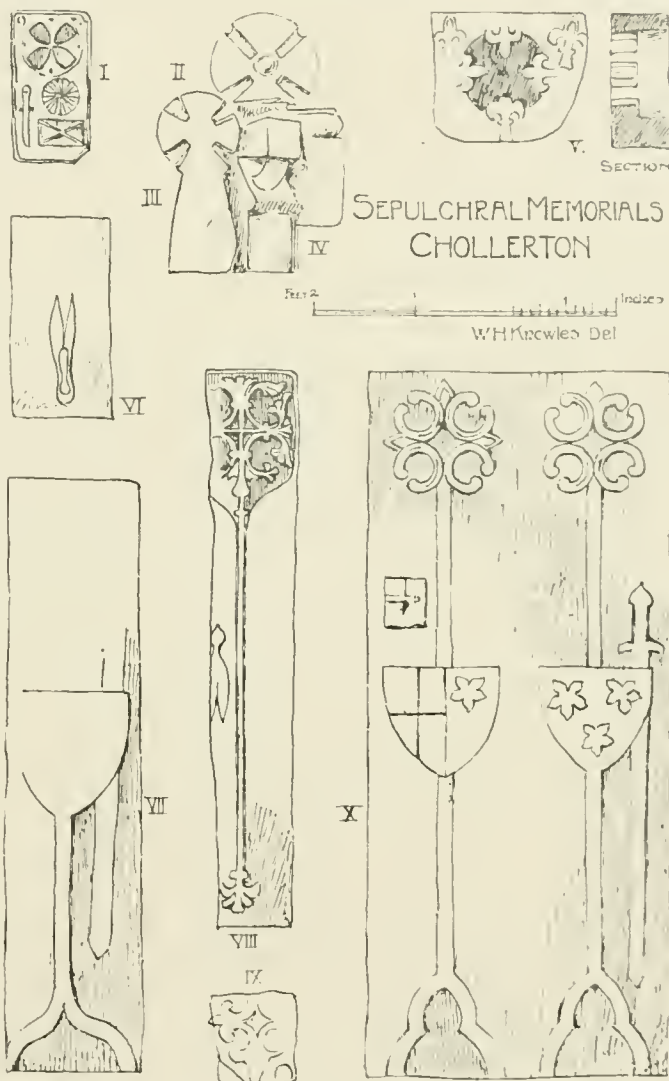


INTERIOR OF CHOLLERTON CHURCH (FROM THE SOUTH-WEST).

GRAVE-COVERS AND MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

The sepulchral memorials¹ form an interesting series and afford varied examples of the ordinary monuments in use in country churchyards during the Middle Ages. They may be divided into the following classes: flat grave-covers forming portions of the floor of the churches; grave-covers which were laid over graves in the churchyard; and small standing crosses which were placed at the heads of the graves. To the first of these types belong the stones in the floor of the chancel (VII., VIII., and X.). Of the second, an example exists in the churchyard; it bears a cross patee and a pair of shears. Of the third, are the fragments marked II. and IV.

The small grave-cover marked I. on the sketch is that of a child; it has a sunk cross patee within a circle, and two other sunk panels, interspersed with punctures. II. and IV. are head crosses. VI. is a small slab, or a portion of a larger one with incised shears, indicating a female. VII. is a fragment of a large limestone slab; the only portion of the design now discernible upon it is the ogee base which



¹ As usual, the number of burials within the church is very great. In digging a grave in 1815 an immense quantity of human bones were exposed; Mr. William Bates, who at that time farmed the whole of Chollerton, told Sir David Smith that he counted upwards of forty skulls.

supports the stem of a cross, overlaid by a shield on which a single cinquefoil may perhaps be traced. VIII. is a good example of an early thirteenth-century grave-cover. The arms and base of the cross have beautiful floriated terminations, the arms of the cross are also filled with semi-circles with floriated ends. The shears on the dexter side indicate that the person represented was a female. X. is a double grave-cover, rectangular in shape, belonging to the thirteenth century. The stem of each cross springs from a trefoiled base and terminates in a head formed of portions of four circles conjoined. Both crosses are overlaid by a shield charged with armorial bearings. That on the dexter cross has an impaled coat, the dexter side of which is quarterly, but so much worn that it is difficult to describe the exact charge.¹ The sinister side shows only a single cinquefoil in chief. Above the shield is a book with a strap. The shield on the sinister cross is charged with three cinquefoils² only. By its side is placed a long sword. In addition to these there is built up in the porch a fragment of an important thirteenth-century slab. It has a Norman-French inscription round its margin, which reads CI GIT DAME ELIZABET DE | PRIER PVR SA AULME.

A seventeenth-century slab, now secured to the east wall of the south aisle, bears the following inscription: HIC JACET HENRICVS WIDRI | NTON DE COLWELL OBITVS | XII AVGVSTI 1633 ET CLARA | VXOR EJVS ORATE PRO EIS. Below this is an incised Latin cross. At the west end of the south aisle is another limestone slab, also secured to the wall, having the following inscription: HIC JACET THO: ERRING | TON NVPER DE BING | FIELD GENER: QVI OBI | IT 24 NOVEMBꝛ ANNO | DOM: 1677 ET MARIA VX | OR EJVS QVAE OBIT 3^o | APR 1668 & MARIA HOWARD | FILIA: JACOBI: HOWARD | ARMIGERI GENERI: THO | ERRINGTON: QVAE: OBI | IT 14^{to} JVLII 1669.

In memory of the Rev. John Hixon Arrowsmith, vicar of Kirkharle, and late curate of Chollerton, who died Nov. 12, 1865, aged 29 years.

In mem. Christophori Bird ex agro Westmor. viri moribus ac pietate insignis hanc tabulam dicat filius C.B. hujus paroechiae vicarius ob' A.D. 1814 ann. 86 nat. Hanc Margarettae Bird effigiem virtutis eximia monumentum ponit filius C.B. grati animi causa vixit ann. 84 decessit A.D. 1822.

In memory of Christopher Bird, 46 years vicar of this parish, born in Dec., 1778, died 11 May, 1867. Anne, wife of Christopher Bird, born 4 Feb., 1778, died 19 May, 1852, obdormivit in pace.

Anne Jane, daughter of Christopher Bird, nat. 12 August, 1811, dormivit in Christe, 4 Feb., 1866.

¹ A drawing made over sixty years ago, preserved in Sir David Smith's collection, describes the charge to have been the arms of Widdrington: *quarterly, a bend*. In that case the impaled coat has not been dimidiated, and cannot be Swinburne of Capheaton, as at first seems probable.

² Possibly for Swinburne of Capheaton, but there is no indication of the field being divided *per fess*.

In memory of the Rev. Oswald Head, 34 years vicar of this parish, who died 20 Dec., 1820, aged 64 years. Also of Ann his wife, who died at Neston, in Cheshire, 21 March, 1841, aged 74 years.

Sacred to the memory of Margaret, wife of John Hornby of Blackburn, esq., and daughter of Christopher Bird, vicar of this parish. She died at Torquay, after a long and painful illness borne with pious and cheerful resignation, October 3, 1853, ætat 39. Her remains are laid in a vault in the churchyard of Tor-mohun, Devon.

Lavinia Louisa Inman, obiit Maiae 24, 1856, ann. nat. 35 in deum pia in omnes benevola sic amore requiescam hoc monumentum ponit maritus Rev. T. Inman.

Here lies the body of Stephen Kitchen, who died October ye 13, 1747, aged 47 years; and Elizabeth his wife, died Feb. 11, 1756.

Here lieth the body of Edward Taylor, who departed this life July 11, 1786, aged 78 years.

VICARS OF CHOLLERTON.

Before 1289. William de Wauker.¹

1316. William, vicar of Cholverton.²

1361. John de Skardeburch, vicar of Chollerton.³

1372. John de Ebor, vicar of Chollerton, was party to a deed dated at Denton, 20th May, 1372, relating to Beaufront, Bingfield, Beukley, etc.⁴

1380. Waltre de Chambre.⁵

..... John Ellison.^{6 5}

1495, 2nd June. Robert Stehinson, after the resignation of Ellison.^{6 5}

1496, 2nd March. Henry Leshman, after the death of Stehinson.^{6 5}

1498, 20th July. John Westmerland, after the resignation of Leshman.⁶ He appeared at the archbishop's Visitation in 1501.⁷ In the dissolution period survey, it is noted that the vicar of Chollerton held a tenement, with appurtenances there, at the rent of 45s.⁸

1556, 11th February. Arthur Shafto was presented by the queen.^{6 5} He was also vicar of Stamfordham, and did not appear at the Visitation of 1578, and was excused. His curate, Thomas Woodcock, appeared, but could produce no licence.⁹

1584. John Dobson, after the death of Shafto.⁵

1585, 12th November. John Wood, after the resignation of Dobson.^{6 5}

1610. Alexander Wooddell, after the resignation of Wood.⁵

1650. John Wigham.

1662, 13th January. Robert Adamson, M.A., was presented by Sir William Fenwick :⁶ buried in the church, 27th January, 1688/9.¹⁰

1689. John Bland; he was residing in Morpeth in 1722, when he voted for freehold in Chollerton, and died 15th October, 1733.¹¹

1733. Charles Stoddart, M.A., inducted 20th November, 1733:¹¹ also vicar of Brampton in Cumberland; buried 16th June, 1790.¹¹

1790. Oswald Head, died 20th December, 1820.¹¹

1821. Christopher Bird, instituted 26th January, 1821,¹¹ son of Christopher Bird of Morland, in Westmorland, of St. Alban's hall, Oxon.; matriculated 9th June, 1803, aged 24; M.A. 1806; rector of High Hoyland, 1806; perpetual curate of Allendale, vicar of Warden, 1827.¹²

¹ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 19, where the date (1426) is erroneously given.

² Inquisition touching the vicarage of Edlingham; *Bishop Kellawe's Register*, Hardy, vol. ii. p. 820, Rolls Series. ³ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 18. ⁴ Rev. John Hodgson MSS. (L), 263.

⁵ Randal, *State of the Churches*. ⁶ Rev. John Hodgson MSS.; *Bishop of Durham's Register*.

⁷ *Ecc. Proc. of Bp. Barnes*, Raine, xxxii. Surtees Soc. ⁸ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 166.

⁹ *Ecc. Proc. of Bp. Barnes*, Raine, p. 30.

¹⁰ *Chollerton Register*. 1703, 13th May, John Bland, clerk, vicar of Chollerton, and Isabella Fenwick of West Harle, widow, married. *Kirkwhelpington Register*. ¹¹ *Chollerton Register*.

¹² Mr. Christopher Bird purchased the advowson of the church from Mr. Beaumont.

1867. Christopher Bird the younger, instituted 10th July, of Trinity college, Cambridge; B.A. 1838; sometime vicar of High Hoyland, Yorkshire; honorary canon of Newcastle; died 29th December, 1896, aged 80.

1897. Wilfrid Bird Hornby of Brasenose college, Oxon., matriculated 9th June, 1870, aged 19; B.A. 1875; M.A. 1878; sometime bishop of Nyasaland.

Though the present dedication is ascribed to St. Giles,¹ the scanty evidence which we possess points to St. Michael as the patron saint of the church. It is so entered in Archdeacon Sharp's minutes of his visitations, the belief is strengthened by the designation of the adjoining field which (as has already been stated) is named Michel-croft, and may have been originally St. Michael's Croft. The church possesses a silver communion cup, of Newcastle make, with the inscription: 'Chollirton Vicradge R. A[damson] Vic^r. R.D : T.N : H.A : R.R : Churchwardens, 1687'; a silver paten, inscribed 'The gift of Anne Bird to Chollerton church, 1842'; and a flagon, also of silver, given in 1885 by the Rev. Christopher Bird. The illustration shows the church as it appeared in 1828.



CHOLLERTON CHURCH.

North⁴

Engraved by J. C. Smith in 1828 for H. Brown Esq. del.

scription: 'Chollirton Vicradge R. A[damson] Vic^r. R.D : T.N : H.A : R.R : Churchwardens, 1687'; a silver paten, inscribed 'The gift of Anne Bird to Chollerton church, 1842'; and a flagon, also of silver, given in 1885 by the Rev. Christopher Bird. The illustration shows the church as it appeared in 1828.

REGISTERS.

The following entries are selected from the registers, which begin in 1651: ²

- 1648, 14th August. Robert Adamson and Margaret, his wife, married.
 1673, 11th September. Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. James and Mary Fenwick of Berkle, baptised.
 1675, 20th July. Cuthbert, son of James and Mary Fenwick of Berkle, baptised.
 1681, 14th June. Mr. William Ruthven (?) and Esther, daughter of Mr. Robert Adamson, vicar of Chollerton, married.
 1687, 5th January. Stephen, son of Mr. Hallaburton of Wall houses, baptised.
 1688, 4th October. Hennaritennerly (*sic*), daughter of Sir John Heron of Chipchase, baptised.
 1691, 12th September. Mrs. Berry, sister of Mr. Carnaby of Chollerton, buried.
 1693, 21st September. Edward Robson of Whiteside Law and Margery, daughter of Edward Shafto of East Quarter, married.
 1693, 21st November. Mr. Robert Fenwick and Mrs. Hannah Heron, married.
 1694/5, 2nd February. Ralph Carnaby and his wife of Chollerton was buried.
 1695, 23rd April. Mr. Skilton's brother of Great Swinburn, buried.
 1696/7, 4th January. Mr. Ramsha of Countess park, buried.
 1696/7, 28th February. Sissely, mother of Mr. Cuthbert Heron of Carrihouse, buried.

¹ This appears in Ecton's *Thesaurus*, 1742, etc., but may have arisen from a confusion with the chapel of St. Giles at Charletun (North Charlton). *Cj.* vol. ii. p. 292.

² With a few entries earlier in date relating to his own family which have been copied in by Vicar Adamson.

- 1698/9, 1st March. Mr. Denton of Great Swinburn, buried.
 1699, 2nd September. Richard, son of Mr. Mairs of Chipchase, baptised.
 1701, 12th February. Thomas, son of Mr. Jasper Hall of Colwell Mains, baptised.
 1711, 19th June. Mr. John Wears and Mrs. Catherine Charlton of Williamswick, married.
 1722, 24th August. Elizabeth Shafto with Mrs. Weldon of Gunnerton, buried.
 1724, 6th August. Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Thomas Hall of Colwell Mains, baptised.
 1734, 28th October. Mrs. Close living at Chipchase, buried.
 1734, 30th October. The Rev. Mr. Jackson and Mrs. Jane Bland, married.
 1734, 13th December. Mr. Lorain living at the Park house, buried.
 1736, 12th August. Mr. George Coulson and Mrs. Mary Dawson, married.
 1738/9, 22nd February. Lancelot Allgood, esq., and Miss Jane Allgood, married.
 1740/1 1st January. Mr. Cuthbert Watson and Mrs. Margaret Bates, married.
 1744, 13th October. Mr. William Charlton and Mrs. Margaret Lamb, married.
 1744/5, 12th January. Mr. Benjamin Sorsby and Miss Elizabeth Fenwick, married.
 1748, 12th May. The Rev. Mr. John Clark, curate of Chollerton, buried.
 1767, 12th December. Cuthbert Bates of Great Swinburn, buried.
 1774, 19th October. The Rev. Mr. Orton of Bingfield, buried.
 1782, 15th May. The Rev. Mr. Dixon, papist priest, of Tone, buried in the church.
 1783, 3rd August. Eliza Harriet, daughter of John Grover, esq., and Mrs. Elizabeth, his wife, of Walwick Grange, baptised.

VISITATIONS, ETC.

1536. In the survey of the possessions of Hexham priory, taken in July of that year, the corn tithes of Chollerton were worth £1 6s. 8d., of Barresford, £1 13s. 4d., of Chipchase, 'Stewden,' and Birtley, £4 6s. 8d., of Gunnerton, £2, and of Colwell, £2.¹

1552. The inventorie of all the churches within Northumberland, maid the xvii daie of Auguste, in the vi year of the reigne of oure Sovering Lorde Kinge E. the vi before the Lorde Ogle, Sir Thomas Graye, knight, Cuthbert Horsleye and Robert Horslie, esquires. CHOLLERTON: Towe belles, one challes of tene, one vestment, towe alter clothes, ii towelles, one crose of ten, one pare of sensours of latten, one sakring bell.²

1578, 30th June. The bishop 'in his dyninge chamber at Awkelande,' called before him Arthur Shafto to exhibit his qualification, dispensation, or other documents, for holding the two livings of Stamfordham and Chollerton. Shafto exhibited a dispensation from Cardinal Pole, the pope's nuncio, during the reign of Queen Mary, dated 31st August, 1556, which the bishop refused to admit, and declared Stamfordham vacant. Nevertheless, he died in possession of both livings. His will, dated 30th January, 1581, and the inventory of his goods at Stamfordham are printed in the appendix to the *Ecclesiastical Proceedings of Bishop Barnes*. He desires to be buried in the chancel of Stamfordham, and gives lands and legacies to John and Robert Shafto, sons of Jane Jobson; though he had conformed to the reformed religion and married, he hesitated to call his wife by his own name.³

1579, 12th April. John Forster purchased from Sir Christopher Hatton all the tithes, etc., late belonging to the priory of Hexham.¹

1580-1581. In a suit in the Court of Exchequer, in which Sir John Forster was plaintiff and Thomas Swinburne and others defendants, answers were returned to the following interrogatories: 'Whether and in what sort has Thomas Swinburne, or any other occupier of the lands, tithes, fruits, commodities, and increase of all corn and grain yearly renewing and coming within Chollerton, time out of mind paid, set forth, or severed in kind the tithes of the corn in Chollerton? Has Thomas Swinburne or any of his ancestors ever made any recompense for the same tithes to the plaintiff, being her Majesty's tenant thereof for the time being, or to any other person? When were the said tithes so set out and severed in kind?

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 168.

² *Ecc. Proc. of Bp. Barnes*, Raine, app. l.; Surtees Soc. vol. 22.

³ *Ibid.* pp. 71, 72, cxv. cxvii.

⁴ *Cf.* vol. iii. p. 57.

To what person or persons did he or they so pay the same tithes in kind or make recompense for the same? What quantity of the said grounds does the said defendant occupy for which he sets forth no tithes in kind?¹

William Storie of the Wall-town, yeoman, aged about 80, deposed 'that he was a servant of the prior of Hexham, and did gather and leade the tithe corn of Chollerton to one Bell's garthe in Chollerton, being the prior's house, and that the same was paid in kind for four years together to the prior's use.'

Richard Radcliffe of Hexham, gent., aged 66, deposed that 'about 28 years past the Lady Carnabie, being then farmer to the Queen's Majesty to the premises, she sent this examinate to Chollerton, and there commanded him to gather the tithe corn of Chollerton. He did so, and covered and set up the same in George Heron's garth of Chollerton to the use of the Lady Carnabie.'

John Pawteson of Hexham, yeoman, aged above 80, deposed 'being a servant to prior Jaie, he went with the said prior (about sixteen years before the house was suppressed) to Chollerton, and there the prior did take the tenth sheaf from the rest and bring it to Hexham.'¹¹

The tithes of Chollerton, with the rest of Sir John Forster's Hexham estate, descended at his death to his grandson, Sir John Fenwick, who in 1628 sold the tithes of Little Swinburn, Colwell, etc., and in 1631 of Chollerton and Barrasford to the Mercers' company of London, to form part of the endowment of the lectureships of Hexham and Berwick.²

In 1633 George Forest of Bingfield, clerk, was charged with marrying persons clandestinely, and acknowledged the offence, but alleged 'that he did solemnize the said marriage ignorantly, and at the intreaty of Mr. Wooddell, vicar of Chollertoun.' He was discharged, and letters missive given against Mr. Wooddell.³

1650. The Oliverian Survey says 'that the parish of Chollerton is a vicaridge worth fortye pounds per annum, and the present incumbent, Mr. John Wigham, a preaching mynister. That the corne tithes of the said parish are parcell of the late monasterie of Hexham belonging to Sir John Fenwicke, knight and baronett: and that there are foure chappells belonging unto the said parish, vizt., Chipchase, Gunnerton, Collwell, and Birtley chappellryes, all within less than three myles distant from the said parish church, saving Birtley, which is foure myles distant; soe it is fit and convenient that Gunnerton and Chipchase chappellryes, with Wortshaugh,⁴ Carrycoats, Whitehouse,⁵ Collimagge,⁶ and Towne⁷ be taken from their severall parrishes and annexed to Birtley, which may fittly be made a parish of itselfe for the ease of the said places.'⁸

1663. Chollerton. It is well supplied at present. It was vacant about half a year after his majestie came in. The impropiator, Sir William Fenwick. The impropiation valued at £160 per annum. But most of it sold to the Mercers of London and paid to the lecturer at Hexham, and [the vicar] hath hardly competent maintenance. The vicaridge worth but £40 per annum.⁹

1665. The chancel was repaired by Sir William Fenwick, the impropiator and patron of the living.

1735. The vicar of Chollerton is entitled to all vicarial tithes in the parish of Chollerton; but in the chapelry of Birtley tithes calves have not been paid in the memory of man. The sum of £2 4s. 11d. is paid for all tithes and Easter offerings (except reek penny and communicants) for the whole estate of Chipchase, but there is a doubt about the validity of this; *vide* Mr. Bland's receipt. A modus of 16s. is paid for all tithes of Beaumont house, and the hay tithe of Chollerton (excepting a part called Alexander meadows). A modus of 2d. a farm is paid throughout the parish of Chollerton (except as above) for hay and lint. But the present vicar has recovered the hay tithe in kind in all the improved commons.¹⁰ In the chapelry of Birtley are 40 farms, 20 pay hay penny and 20 pay nothing, yet the hay tithe has never been drawn from the ingrounds of these 20 farms as far as the present incumbent could ever learn, but he has recovered the hay tithe of all the outgrounds which could be proved to belong to, or to have been taken from, the

¹ *Exchequer Depositions by Commission*, 23 and 24 Eliz., Northumberland, No. 19.

² *Cf.* vol. iii. p. 167.

³ *Acts of High Com. Durham*, Longstaffe, p. 50. Surt. Soc. No. 34.

⁴ Warkshaugh.

⁵ Carrycoats Whitehouse in Throckington.

⁶ Query, Colterag or Comogan.

⁷ Tone.

⁸ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iii. p. 7.

⁹ 'The Ecclesiastical State of Northumberland,' *Arch. Ael.* vol. xvii. p. 260.

¹⁰ 'N.B. Gunnerton fell was not then divided' is written in the margin.

common. It was alleged by the duke of Somerset's agents that the grounds called the glebe¹ were given in lieu of the hay tithes of the ingrounds of these 20 farms The vicar had a right to the pasturage of five stints, winter and summer, in the township of Chollerton, which were exchanged for a piece of ground : *vide* the deed.²

1758. The vicar had formerly the right of five stints on the town field, which the present vicar, with Bishop Chandler's consent, exchanged for a close containing 9 acres on the estate of Sir John Swinburne.³

In 1744 the chancel being in such 'a ruinous condition' that it would cost £150 to rebuild, and the lecturers of Hexham and Berwick, who enjoyed the great tithes of Barrasford, Chollerton, Colwell, and Swinburn, and others who possessed fractions of the rectorial tithes, having disclaimed their liability to repair, the bishop was prayed to sequester the tithes, and a suit was commenced at the Ecclesiastical Court of Durham. The lecturer of Hexham alleged that Colwell was a distinct parish (like Kirkheaton), or a free chapel ; and though he could not disprove that the small tithes were paid to the vicar of Chollerton, he alleged that he enjoyed them by sufferance for performing burials, marriages, and christenings, 'for the inhabitants of Little Swinburn and Colwell; the people of Colwell, on the destruction of their own chapel by the Scots army, may also have resorted to the parish church of Chollerton as most convenient unto themselves and submitted to repair the nave.' The disclaiming tithe owners contended that the tithes they possessed had been sold by Sir John Fenwick without exceptions, and that his successor in title, who was also patron of the living, was the only person liable to repair the chancel over which (through his vicar and nominee) he had exercised his right of control.⁴ Ultimately, the co-owners of the great tithes (by mutual agreement if not by order of the court) undertook the obligation which the law imposed upon them, for the following entry remains in the parish register :

1762. The chancel was repaired (and part rebuilt) at ye joint expense of ye following gentlemen, each contributing in proportion in value of the corn tithe they were possessed off in ye parish of Chollerton, which yt year was calculated and adjudged as follows, viz. :

	Value of ye tithes.		Shares for repairing ye chancell.		
	£	s.	£	s.	d.
S ^r Walter Blackett	45	...	10	12	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
S ^r Lancelott Allgood	16	...	3	15	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Christ ^m Reed, esq ^r	54	...	12	14	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tho ^s Riddell, esq ^r	24	...	5	13	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
The Rev. Mr. Totton (lecturer of Hexham)	40	...	9	8	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
The Rev. Mr. Wolfal (lecturer of Berwick)	48	...	11	6	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Allen Hodgson, esq ^r	20	...	4	15	5

I attest ye above as true. Chas. Stoddart, vicar of Chollerton.⁵

In 1826 the chancel was repaired at the cost of the impropriators of the corn tithes 'they contributing according to the number of acres subject to such tythe that were in tillage the year before without reference to the quality of the land. By this proceeding a dispute of several years' standing between the parishioners and the impropriators as to the liability of the latter to uphold the chancel was finally settled.'

Names of the impropriators.	Acres.	Sums contributed.		
		£	s.	d.
The Rev. C. Lee, lecturer of Hexham	597	...	20	6 11
The Rev. Wm. Proctor, lecturer of Berwick	500	...	17	10 10
The Rev. Christ. Bird, for Gunnerton estate	295	...	10	1 1
Ralph Riddell, esq., of Great Swinburn	244	...	8	6 3
John Reed, esq., Chipchase	232	...	7	18 1
Robert Lancelot Allgood, esq., Nunwick	88	...	2	19 11
Thomas Kerr, esq., Tone hall	42	...	1	8 7
	1,998	...	68	2 0 ⁶

¹ *i.e.*, Birtley glebe.

² *Chollerton Register.*

³ Archdeacon Robinson, *Visitation.*

⁴ Documents with Mr. L. C. Lockhart.

⁵ *Chollerton Register.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

Archdeacon Singleton visited the church, 10th September, 1828, and notes in his minute book that it was 'in very tolerable condition, although it is much to be desired that it should be new pewed throughout and that it should be ceiled. Archdeacon Sharp congratulated himself on the introduction of Venetian and sash windows into the church. The impropriation is held under the Mercers' company by the lecturers of Hexham and Berwick, their nominees. Mr. Bird has also a share for his private property at Gunnerton, Mr. Ker for Tone, Mr. Allgood for Chipchase, and Mr. Riddell for Swinburn and Colwell. The vicar claims and enjoys all vicarial tithes (with the exception of agistment, which he has never claimed) throughout the new enclosures, the ancient lands in many cases pleading a modus. There are about four acres of glebe, called Micklecroft. Mr. Bird values his benefice at £400 per annum . . . (Mr. Bird holds) Warden, with its chapelries of Heydon and Newbrough, he has the spiritual charge of an immense tract of rich country stretching from Bavington to Beltingham. If he preach habitually as well as he preached at my last visitation at Newcastle, it will be well for the neighbourhood.'

GREAT SWINBURN AND COLWELL.

The combined township of Great Swinburn and Colwell comprises 3,760 acres to which a modern poor law arrangement has added a detached portion, containing other 1,813 acres, making in all 5,573 acres. The population in 1871, when the last separate census return was made, was 492. Since that year the return has been included in that of Chollerton parish.¹

It will be convenient to deal with the two portions separately. The first and larger portion contains the castle and hamlet of West or Great Swinburn, the village of Colwell, and the homesteads of Liddell-hall, Fawcett, Edge-house, Well-house, Quarry-house, Colwell fell, and Swinburn hermitage. It abuts upon the North Tyne, and is watered by the Erring and Small burns, the Coal or Col burn, and the Swin burn.

Remaining from a prehistoric age there is in the park of Swinburn a remarkable stone pillar, a *peulvan* or *ménhir*, known as Swinburn 'standing stone.' It is 11 feet in height, $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in breadth, and about 2 feet in thickness, spreading out at the top like an open fan or human hand, and deeply furrowed by the falling rain of ages. Near by are three or four sepulchral mounds or barrows, in one of which were found five cist-vaens, and a very fine series of culture terraces.²

West Swinburn, or as it was afterwards called Great Swinburn, formed with Colwell the westernmost of the three widely separated parcels of the ancient barony of the 'Wirecesters,' and their successors, the Herons. The *caput* of this small barony, created by Henry I.,³ was at Hadston, near

¹ The Census Returns are: 1801, 407; 1811, 387; 1821, 403; 1831, 441; 1841, 393; 1851, 393; 1861, 373; 1871, 492. ² Rome Hall, *Arch. Acl.* vol. vii. p. 11; vol. x. p. 18.

³ *Inq. de tenementis et feodis, circ. 1212*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 234.

Warkworth ; its remaining members were Chirton and Flatford, near North Shields, and Little Benton, near Newcastle. It was formed certainly after the *enclave* of Gunnerton and East Swinburn had been included in the great Baliol barony by William Rufus, and probably before the incorporation of Chollerton and Barrasford in the Umframvill barony of Prudhoe by Henry I.



STANDING STONE AT GREAT SWINBURN.

Why West Swinburn and Colwell were attached to Hadston is a mystery, nor do we know why the barony itself was conferred on a family that took its name from the city of Worcester. During the Norman Conquest Urse d'Abetot, the fierce sheriff of Worcestershire, was much mixed up with Odo of Bayeux and Geoffrey of Coutances, two alien bishops, who both bore secular rule in Northumberland.¹ Aschatinus de Wirecestre² witnessed a charter of Bishop Flambard (died 1128) relating to Islandshire and Norham-

¹ Freeman, *Norman Conquest*, vol. iv. p. 173; De Injusta Vexatione Willelmi I. sec. 9; Symeon of Durham, Rolls series, i. p. 179.

² Asketil de Wygornia and Ralph his son gave Trimdon and Langdale to Guisbro' priory before 1182. *Guisbro' Chartulary*, Brown, vol. i. p. 17; Surtees Soc.

shire.¹ All we really do know is that Ralph de Wirecester (or de Wigornia)² appeared as the owner of the Hadston barony in 1162.³ Six years later he informed Henry II. that one of his own surname, Pagan de Wirecester, holds of him for a quarter of the service of a knight's fee⁴ what must have been the manor of West Swinburn. On Pagan's death, his son William did not obtain possession of his father's lands without encountering in 1184 the opposition of Ralph's heir, Jordan Hairun.⁵ As William de Wyrcestre he witnessed a charter by which, possibly in the court baron, Ralph of Gunwarton, with the assent of Peter, his son, gave to Godfrey of Swinburne and his heirs all his land of Swinburn.⁶ About the same time Ralph of Gunwarton conceded to Godfrey of Swyneburne and his heirs common pasture and fuel in the moor and moss of Gunwarton for his house of Swyneburne which he held of the fee of Wyrcestre.⁷

In 1240 West Swinburn was held of William Heron by John de Wircester.⁸ He bestowed on the priory of Hexham, during the reign of Henry III., an acre of land in the field of West Swinburn,⁹ and the homage of the lords of that manor, and the service of three shillings for the chantry of the chapel there.¹⁰ It is not impossible that this John de Wircester was one and the same person with the John de Swyneburn who held the manor of West Swinburn in 1257.¹¹

On the 17th April, 1278, it seems that Nicholas, son of John de West

¹ Raine, *North Durham*, p. 74 n. ² *Pipe Roll*, 14 Henry II., etc.; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. 12, etc. ³ *Pipe Roll*, 8 Henry II., etc.; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. 299, etc.

⁴ 'Paganus de Wirecester (debet mihi facere) aliam quartam partem servitii similiter de novo feamento.' *Liber Niger Scaccarii*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. 304.

⁵ 'Willelmus filius Pagani reddit compositum de j marca pro recto de terra patris sui versus Jordanum Hairun.' *Pipe Roll*, 30 Henry II.; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. 37.

⁶ 'Ego Rad. de Gunewarton assensu Petri filii mei dedi Godfrido de Swinburne et heredibus totam terram meam de Swinburne per has divisas scilicet, etc. Test.: Jordano de Harrun, W. de Wyrcestre, Gervasio de Bentone, Ada de Swinburne,' etc. *Dodsworth MSS.* vol. xlv. p. 95. Godfrey's lands descended through his son Alan, and his grandson Alan, to his great-grandson Richard, son of Alan of West Swinburn.

⁷ 'Omnibus praesentibus, etc., ego Radulfus de Gunwarton, etc., noveritis me concessisse, dedisse, etc. Godefrido de Swyneburne et heredibus suis de me et heredibus meis communem pasturam et fualium in mora et petario de Gunwarton ad domum suam de Swyneburne quam tenet de feodo de Wyrcestre, etc. Et ego dictus Radulfus et heredes dicto Godefrido et heredibus suis warrantizabimus,' etc. *Assize Roll*, 34 Ed. I.

⁸ 'Johannes de Wirecester tenet de eodem Willelmo (Heron) Swinburne per quartam partem unius feodi de veteri feoffamento.' *Testa de Nevill*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 203. The *Liber Niger* states that the fee was of new feoffment.

⁹ 'Tenent etiam unam acram terrae in campo de West Swyneburne in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam de dono Johannis de Wernecestre et inde habuerunt cartam et tenerunt e tempore regis Henrici patris domini regis nunc.' *Rot. Cart.* 27 Edward I; *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 116.

¹⁰ 'Habent etiam homagium heredum Nicholai de West Swyneburn et servicium trium solidorum per annum pro cantaria capellae de West Swyneburne ex concessione Johannis de Wircestre, etc.' *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Inq. p.m.* (Willelmi Herun) 42 Henry III. No. 24.

Swyneburne, founded a chantry at the altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary of West Swinburn. Among other things he gave 17½ acres that Robert, his brother, had held in that 'town' to Walter of Blanchland, the chantry chaplain. The deed was attested by Nicholas' own seal, and that of his brother, William.¹ There were, we learn elsewhere, three brothers, sons of John de West Swynburne, Nicholas, Alan, and William. The two latter had been 'parsons in Scotland,' and had acquired different properties; then William resigned his churches and married.² Alan was rector of Whitfield, in the Scottish franchise of Tyndale; William had been rector of Fordun in Kincardineshire, and treasurer to Queen Margaret of Scotland. Among the other estates he acquired were Chollerton and Capheaton, which have ever since remained in his family.³

Nicholas de Swynburne did not long survive the foundation of his chantry. On the 19th September, 1279, his daughters, Christiana and Juliana, with their respective husbands, Thomas de Fisseburn and Gilbert de Middleton, and their unmarried sister, Avicia, confirmed the endowment at West Swinburn, and Alice, his widow, expressly renounced any right of dower she might have in the lands assigned.⁴ Fisseburn and the other heirs further ordered their tenants William, son of Lawrence, Richard, son of Alan, Alan Quardelin, and Roger, son of Alice, to do fealty every year to

¹ 'Nicholaus filius Johannis de West Swyneburne fundebat cantar. ad altare Beatae Mariae Virginis in capella Beatae Mariae Virginis in West Swyneburne. Et dedit (*inter alia*) Waltero de Albalanda capellano cantariae predictae 17 acras. et dimid. quas Robertus frater meus quondam tenuit in eadem villa. Carta sigillata cum sigillo dicti Nicholai et sigillo Willelmi fratris sui. Test.: dno Waltero de Swethop milite, Johanne de Gunwarton, Johanne de Swynburne, Johanne de Erington superiori, Nicholao de Yeteham, Johanne de Erington inferiori. Dat. 15 Kal. Maij, 1278.' *Lansdowne MS.* 326. f. 133; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 213 n.

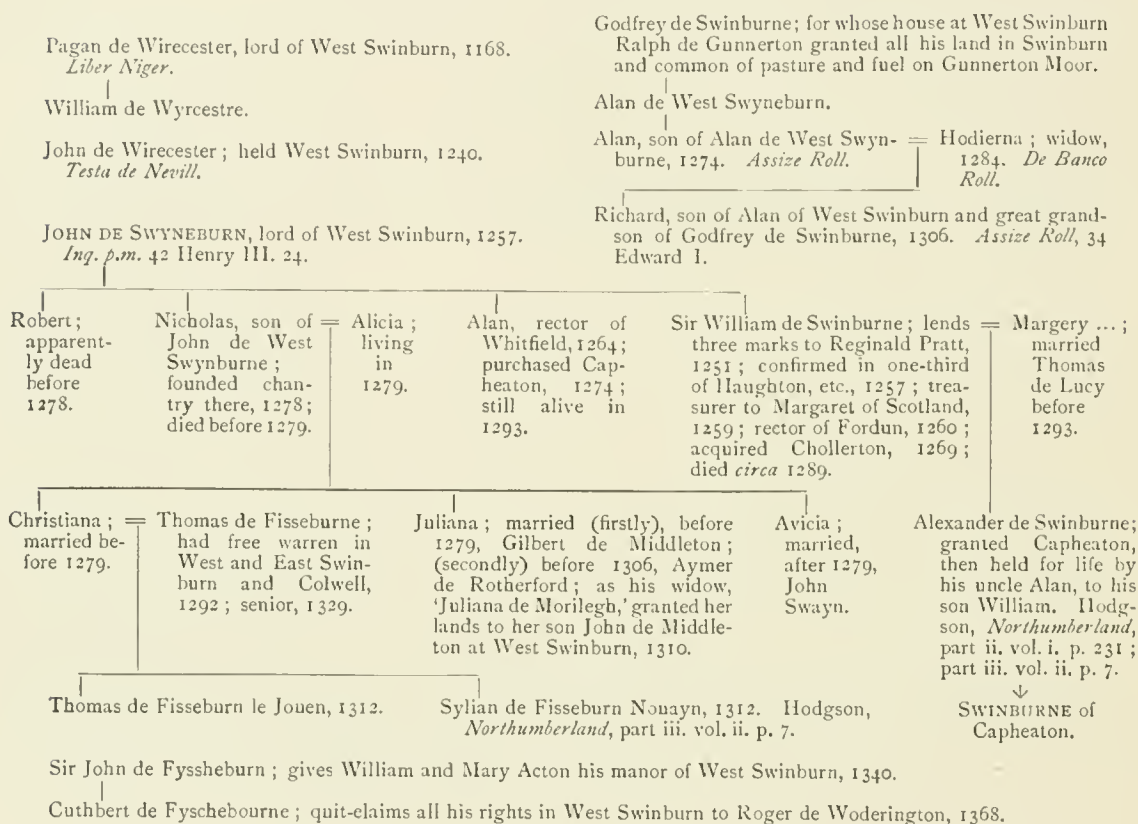
² 'Fuerunt tres fratres, videlicet Nicholaus ante-natus et praedicti Alanus et Willelmus. etc., qui quidem Alanus et Willelmus fuerunt personae in Scotia et perquisiverunt diversa tenementa in partibus istis, etc.; praedictus Willelmus postea resignavit ecclesias suas et duxit uxorem,' etc. *Assize Roll*, 21 Ed. I.

³ For a sketch of the life of this Sir William of Swinburne see under Chollerton.

⁴ 'Omnibus hoc scriptum visuris vel audituris Thomas de Fisseburn et Cristiana uxor ejus, Gilbertus de Middleton et Juliana uxor ejus et Avicia soror praedictarum Cristiana et Juliana salutem. Donacionem et concessionem terrarum, tenementorum et reddituum quam Nicholaus de Swinburne fecit domino Waltero capellano, ad sustentacionem suam et successorum suorum pro divinis celebrandis in capella Beatae Mariae de West Swynburn, pro nobis et heredibus nostris concedimus in perpetuum in omnibus sicut carta cyrographata dicti Nicholai penes dictum Walterum et successores suos remanens plenius . . . et testatur. Et ad instanciam nostram domina Alicia quae fuit uxor dicti Nicholai de Swineburn praedictam donacionem confirmando et accessionem (?) suam quam nomine dotis habuit vel habere poterit a . . . am partem terrarum petendo dicto capellano et successoribus suis remanet quietum clamavit et se exclusit inperpetuum. In cujus, etc. Data apud West Swyneburne die Martis proxima post exaltacionem sanctae crucis anno domino m.c.c.lxx nono. Hiis testibus: dominis Willelmo de Swyneburne, Waltero de Swethope, Roberto de Insula domino de Chippeches, militibus, Alano de Swyneburne, Nicholao de Yetham, Willelmo de Roucheclive et aliis.' (Seals wanting.) *Swinburne MSS.* vol. i. p. 18; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 29; cf. *Dodsworth MSS.* xlv. 57.

Walter of Blanchland and his successors in the chaplaincy, who were entrusted with the custody of the foundation charter. At their request the widowed 'Lady Alice' set her seal to this mandate. A postscript bade Nicholas, son of Helias de Grimeshowe, do fealty to the chaplains.¹

SWINBURNE OF WEST SWINBURN.



A partition of the manor between Nicholas de Swyneburne's three heiresses was arranged in 1281. On Trinity Sunday, Robert, son of John of Swynburn, and Walter, son of Eustace, did homage to Thomas and Christiana de Fysseburne; Roger, son of Alice and William, son of William of Swyn-

¹ 'Omnibus, etc. Thomas de Fisseburne et Cristiana uxor ejus, Gilbertus de Midiltone et Juliana uxor ejus, et Avicia soror praedictarum, etc. Noveritis nos praecepisse Willelmo filio Laurencii, Ricardo filio Alani, Willelmo filio Ricardi, Alano Quardelinis, Rogero filio Aliciae facere fidelitatem domino Waltero de Albalanda capellano et eius successoribus in capella de Westswyneburne celebraturis ad fideliter reddendum annuum redditum dictis capellae et capellanis qui pro tempore fuerint per manus eorundem assignat. . . . Carta domini Nicholai de Suiyneburne penes praedictos capellanos remanente. In cuius, etc. Et ad nostram instanciam domina Alicia quondam sponsa praedicti domini Nicholai huic scripto sigillum suum apposuit. Praeterea praeceptum est Nicholao filio Heliae de Grimeshowe facere fidelitatem praedicto domino Waltero et eius successoribus sicut et alii in isto scripto praenominati.' (Seals wanting.) *Swinburne MSS.* vol. i. p. 18; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 30.

burne, to Gilbert and Juliana de Middleton; and Richard, son of Alan and William, son of Lawrence, to Avicia de Swynburne, in the form contained in a deed that was delivered to the safe keeping of Nicholas de Yetham.¹

Thomas de Fishburn obtained a grant of free warren in his demesne lands in West Swinburn, East Swinburn, and Colwell from Edward I. at Berwick, 30th June, 1292. No one was to enter them for the purpose of hunting, or to take any game from them except by Fishburn's leave, under pain of forfeiting £10 to the king.² He was able to produce this at the great inquisition *de quo warranto* in the following year. It was found that he had made reasonable use of the right, and that he and his predecessors in title had possessed the power of seeing that the beer sold on their property was justly measured, though the penalties with which they enforced this were restricted to the imposition of small fines.³

By the time of the collection of the eleventh granted by the barons and knights of the shires in the parliament of 1295 towards the conquest of Scotland, Nicholas de Swynburne's second daughter, having lost her husband in 1291, was known as 'the Lady Juliana'; her sister, Avicia, had married John Swayn,⁴ possibly the same as John de Faloudon.

WEST SWYNEBURNE SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.

		£	s.	d.		s.	d.			
Summa bonorum	Thomae de Fisseburne	...	...	...	5	10	0	unde regi	10	0
„	Walteri capellani	...	...	...	1	0	10	„	1	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
„	Alani Poste	...	...	...	2	16	10	„	5	2
„	Dominae Juliana...	...	...	...	2	10	0	„	4	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
„	Nicholai filii Eliae	...	...	...	1	2	10	„	2	1
„	Willelmi filii Baldwyni	...	...	...	0	11	0	„	1	0
„	Johannis de Faloudon	...	...	...	4	4	2	„	7	8 $\frac{3}{4}$
„	Ricardi filii Alani	...	...	...	2	14	0	„	4	11
„	Adae filii Matildae	...	...	...	1	10	8	„	2	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
„	Willelmi de Rowley	...	...	...	1	5	4	„	2	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Summa tota hujus villae, £23 5s. 8d. Reddit unde domino regi, 42s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.										

'The Lady Juliana' took for her second husband Aymer de Rotherford. She was again a widow in 1310, when, passing Michaelmas at West Swin-

¹ 'Die Trinitatis, anno graciae 1281, Robertus filius Johannis de Swynburne et Walterus filius Eustachii fecerunt homagium Thomae de Fyseburne et Christianae uxori ejus; et Rogerus filius Aliciae et Willelmus filius Willelmi de Swynburne fecerunt homagium Aviciae sorori Christianae et Juliana de tenementis suis in West Swynburne, in forma contenta in quodam scripto tradito in custodiam Nicholai de Yetham per assensum omnium parcennariorum praedictorum ad custodiendum ad commodum omnium parcennariorum.' *Lansdowne MSS.* 326, f. 150 a; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 356.

² *Cal. Rot. Chart.* 20 Ed. I. pt. i. No. 23; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 393.

³ *Placita de Quo Warranto*, Northumberland, rot. 7; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 167.

⁴ *Abbrev. Placit.* 33 and 34 Ed. I. rot. 32; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 349.

burn, she granted all her lauds there to her son, John de Middleton.¹ The next year, at Martinmas, John regranted them to his mother for her life. Subsequently joining in his brother Gilbert's rebellion against Edward II., he was drawn and hung. He left no heir of his body.² His mother continued to hold her third of West Swinburn till 1st May, 1320, when, by the style of 'Juliana de Morilegh,' no doubt from residing at Moralee on the South Tyne, she sold her interest to William Thorald of Newcastle. The transaction attracted the notice of the authorities, and although this third of West Swinburn, owing to the Scottish ravages, was said to be worthless, notwithstanding that in time of peace it had been valued at £6 13s. 4d. a year, it was seized in the king's name as an escheat consequent on the treason of John de Middleton.³

Thomas de Fishburn had been accused by Roger Mauduit of taking from him Richard Middleton and four others whom he had made prisoners as they were burning and pillaging during a Scottish raid on Redpeth, near Haltwhistle, in 1317. Fishburn sold Middleton to the king for £100, and let the others go their way.⁴ By 1329 Thomas de Fishburne, senior, appears to have become possessed of the whole manor of West Swinburn. On 14th August he confirmed and gave to Sir Hugh, son of Alexander de Swinburne, chaplain, the messuage and lands which William of Blanchland, chaplain, lately deceased, held in West Swinburn, by the gift of Sir Nicholas, late lord of West Swinburn, for the purposes of a certain chantry in the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the town of West Swinburn, on condition of his praying for the souls of Nicholas and Thomas.⁵

¹ 'Sciant praesentes et futuri quod ego Juliana quondam uxor Aymari de Rotherford dedi, concessi et praesenti carta mea confirmavi Johanni de Middleton filio meo omnes terras illas et tenementa quae et quas habeo vel habui in villa de West Swynburn, habend. et tenend. dicto Johanni et heredibus suis de corpore suo legitime procreatis, de capitalibus dominis feodi, per servicia inde debita et consueta, cum omnibus libertatibus, pertinentiis et aisiamentis, videlicet in molendinis, in pasturis, in moris, in mariscis, in boscis, et in planis, dictis terris seu tenementis ubicumque pertinentibus, ita libere, quiete, bene, et in pace sicut antecessores mei unquam habuerunt vel habere potuerunt. Et si contingat quod praedictus Johannes sine herede de corpore suo, etc., forte decesserit, quod absit, volo quod praedictae terrae et tenementa michi et heredibus meis vel meis assignatis absque ullo impedimento revertantur. Et ego vero Juliana praedicta et heredes mei omnes praedictas terras et tenementa cum suis pertinentiis ut plene supradictum est, praedicto Johanni et heredibus suis de se legalie procreatis contra omnes gentes et in omnibus warantizabimus et defendemus. In cujus rei testimonium huic praesenti cartae sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus: dominis Joh. de Swynburn, Ada et Roberto de eodem militibus, Nich. de Gunwarton, Ada de Yetham, Ricardo filio Alani de West Swynburn, Joh. de Faloudon, et aliis. Datum apud Swynburn West die Sancti Michaelis Arch. anno Domini M^oCCC X^o.' *Inq. ad q.d.* 17 Ed. II. No. 73.

² 'Et idem Johannes post modum pro feloniam quam commisit adherendo Scotis inimicis et rebellibus domini regis tractus fuit et suspensus et obiit sine herede de corpore suo procreato.' *Inq. ad q.d.* 17 Ed. II. No. 73. ³ *Ibid.* ⁴ *Cal. Doc. relating to Scotland*; Bates, *Northumberland*, p. 157.

⁵ Thomas de Fishburne, senior, confirmavit et dedit domino Hugoni filio Alexandri de Swynburne capellano unum mesuagium cum omnibus terris, etc., quae Willelmus de Blanchland capellanus nuper

The next year Edward III. granted to William de Acton of Newcastle 1 toft and 3 acres in West Swinburn that had belonged to 'the traitor John de Middleton,' for ten years at an annual rent of 20s.¹ In the Subsidy Roll of 1335 William de Acton pays 10s. as the sole occupant of the place. On the marriage of his son, William, with Mary, daughter of Robert de Musgrave of Newcastle, the latter, 29th November, 1339, settled on them and their issue all his lands and tenements in West Swinburn and East Swinburn, with common of pasture in Gunnerton.² The 6th of March following Sir John de Fyssheburn gave to William and Mary Acton his manor of West Swinburn.³ They, in their turn, levied a fine to Roger de Widdrington of the manor of West Swinburn with its appurtenances in East Swinburn;⁴ and finally, 8th December, 1368, Cuthbert de Fyschebourne quit-claimed to Widdrington all his right in the lands of Sir John, his father, in West Swinburn and East Swinburn.⁵ William de Nessefeld, the escheator, had taken into the king's hand certain lands of Widdrington's in West Swinburn, alleging them to have been the property of Richard, son of Alan, and that Richard had been implicated with Gilbert de Middleton. Edward III., however, restored them with other lands to Widdrington in 1358, on account of his good services.⁶ West Swinburn remained with Widdrington's heirs till 1695, and since 1777 it is again the property of his descendants.

The first mention of the castle of Great Swinburn is the licence granted by Edward III., 16th March, 1346, to Roger de Widdrington, to crenellate 'mansum suum de West Swynborn.'⁷ Roger Widdrington in 1343 had acquired certain lands from Gilbert de Colwell; he was high sheriff of

defunctus nuper tenuit et habuit in West Swyneburne. de dono domini Nicholai nuper domini de West Swyneburne pro quadam cantaria, etc., pro animabus dicti domini Nicholai nuper domini de West Swynbourn et dicti Thomae de Fishburne, etc. Dat. apud Gyseburn in vigilia Assumpcionis Beatae Mariae, 1329. Test.: Johanne de Vaux, Willelmo de Tindale.' *Lansdowne MSS.* 326, fo. 1336; *Dods-worth MSS.* xlv. p. 48; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 214 n.

¹ *Originalia*, 4-5 Ed. III. rot. 2; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 307.

² *Swinburne MSS.* vol. ii. p. 16; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 32.

³ 'Johannes de Fyssheburne miles dedit Willelmo filio Willelmi de Acton et Mariae uxori ejus manerium suum de West Swynburne. Test.: Dno. Roberto Darrayns tunc vic. Northumbriae, 14 Ed. III., 6 Mar.' *Dods-worth MSS.* xlv. 95.

⁴ 'Esript a Noefchastell sur Tyne le judy en le fest seint Michell l'arkangell l'an di grace 1345.' Seal, 'S. WILL'I · FIL · WILL'I · DE · ACTON,' a cross between four lions passant gardant. *Dods-worth MSS.* xlv. 101-108; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 252.

⁵ 'Ego Cuthbertus de Fyschebourne filius et heres Johannis de Fyschebourne militis dedi et quietum clamavi Rogero de Woderington domino de Woderington et heredibus suis totum jus quod habeo in omnibus terris quae fuerunt Johannis patris mei in West Swynbuine et Est Swynburne. Dat. in festo conceptionis Beatae Mariae Virginis, 1368. Test.: W. Heron, Joh. Heron, Rogero Heron, Johanne de Woderington militibus.' *Dods-worth MSS.* xlv. 956; *Lansdowne MSS.* 326. f. 156; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 234.

⁶ *Cart. Rid.* p. 87; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 361 n.

⁷ *Pat. Roll*, 20 Edw. III. pt. i. m. 5; Bates, *Border Holds*, vol. 1. p. 10.

Northumberland, 1361-1369, and warden of the Middle Marches, 1369-1371.¹ In the list of fortalices drawn up in 1415, the castle is entered as being in the possession of Sir John Widdrington² (Roger Widdrington's son and successor), who having attained the patriarchal age of 100 years died, 1443, seised of the manor and vill of West Swynburn, the manor and vill of Colwell, and of lands in Little Swinburn and Gunnerton.³ Mention is made of the wall surrounding the castle (*muri circumdantis castrum*) in 1479.⁴ In the Great Survey of the Borders made by Sir Robert Bowes and Sir Ralph Ellerker in 1541, it is said: 'At Mykle Swynburne hath bene a great towre of the inherytaunce of Sr. John Wetherington, knight, but all the roofes and floores thereof bene decayed, and nothings standinge but the walls.'⁵ Fourteen years later, Sir John Widdrington, by indenture, dated 23rd July, 1555, gave the castle and town of Swinburn to his second son, Edward Widdrington, who died there, and to whose goods administration was granted at Durham, 6th March, 1577.⁶ Edward Widdrington's eldest son, Henry Widdrington, in 1592, succeeded his uncle, Sir Henry Widdrington, but as the widow of the latter (who remarried the famous Sir Robert Carey) held Widdrington castle in dower, he continued to reside at Swinburn.⁷

This Henry Widdrington was on ill terms with Lord Eure, the warden of the Middle Marches, and though he was knighted in 1597, 'disdainfully refused to live on his March,' and withdrew himself, making a declaration of the causes which moved him thereto.⁸ He was arrested and sent to the bishop of Durham to be tried, and in him he found a friend, as he already had one in his kinsman, Sir Robert Carey, whose deputy he was.⁹

On the 30th November, 1596, Lord Eure, writing to Lord Burghley, complains of 'the disobedience of the race of Woddringtons openly shown by slanders on myself as the queen's officer, and their open bravadoes causes me to run a more quick course to punishment than I had determined, for on my first entry, finding great spirit in Henry Woddrington, I hoped to win him by employments, love, and favors which turned to harm, he thinking his desert far surpassed them, contemning what I did, as the late earl of Huntingdon and Sir William Bowes, now living, know; their pride is so high that now Roger, his brother, hath submitted himself prisoner to Sir

¹ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. pp. 233, 234.

² Bates, *Border Holds*, vol. i. p. 15.

³ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 334.

⁴ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 35.

⁵ Bates, *Border Holds*, vol. i. p. 47.

⁶ Raine, *Test. Dunelm.*

⁷ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii.

vol. ii. pp. 236, 237.

⁸ *Border Papers*, Bain, vol. ii. pp. 479, 596.

⁹ *Ibid.* 184.

Robert Kerr, and gone to Scotland without my leave, against my command, to her majesty's dishonour.'¹

Roger Widdrington had little choice in the matter of submitting himself prisoner, for on the night of Friday, 27th August, 1596, Sir Robert Kerr of Cessford (who only three days before had, by deputy, made a 'fayer showe' at the day of truce kept at Cocklaw, on the Border, where business had been done) broke into Swinburn castle and 'sownding his trumpett upon the topp of the house, when he had taken his pleasure, went his way' with one James Young, *alias* James of the Coave, a prisoner in hold there. The latter had been committed to the keeping of Widdrington by Ralph Selby of the East Marches, without the knowledge or leave of Eure, the warden of the Middle Marches. 'This, with a private quarrel between him (*i.e.*, Widdrington) and Kerr begun in Sir John Forster's time, is the alleged cause of Sir Robert's . . . contemptuous and insolent acte.' In this assault, Kerr had taken prisoner and released on parole Roger Widdrington (Henry's brother) 'tying him to his enterie by promise of his hande.'² To save his life, Ralph Widdrington, the youngest brother, 'lept out of his chamber windowe, being three stories highe, upon a pavement, where he was almost bruized to death and hardlie escaped.'³ The ill blood between Henry Widdrington and Kerr culminated in 1599 in a challenge from the latter to meet him on 'Fryday morning next, being the 7th of September, God willing, att the Hayr Craggs in the March betwen England and Scotland by eight howers in the morning, with a short sword and a whyniard, with a steel bonet and plate sleeves, without any more weapons offensive or defensive.'⁴

On the 17th October, 1605, Sir Henry Widdrington made a settlement of the manor and demesne of Swinburn upon his issue male, but before he made his will on the 12th September, 1623, he granted to his daughters a ten years' lease of Swinburn, Tone, and Colwell.⁵

The tower which witnessed the stirring episode narrated is traditionally said to have stood on the lawn, but it is more probable that its actual site is occupied by a portion of the west wing of the present house. If this be so, it would be attached to the long, narrow building, erected about 1600, which stands on the edge of the dene through which runs the Swin burn. This building is two storeys high, and its east front has a series of nine windows

¹ *Border Papers*, Bain, vol. ii. p. 226.

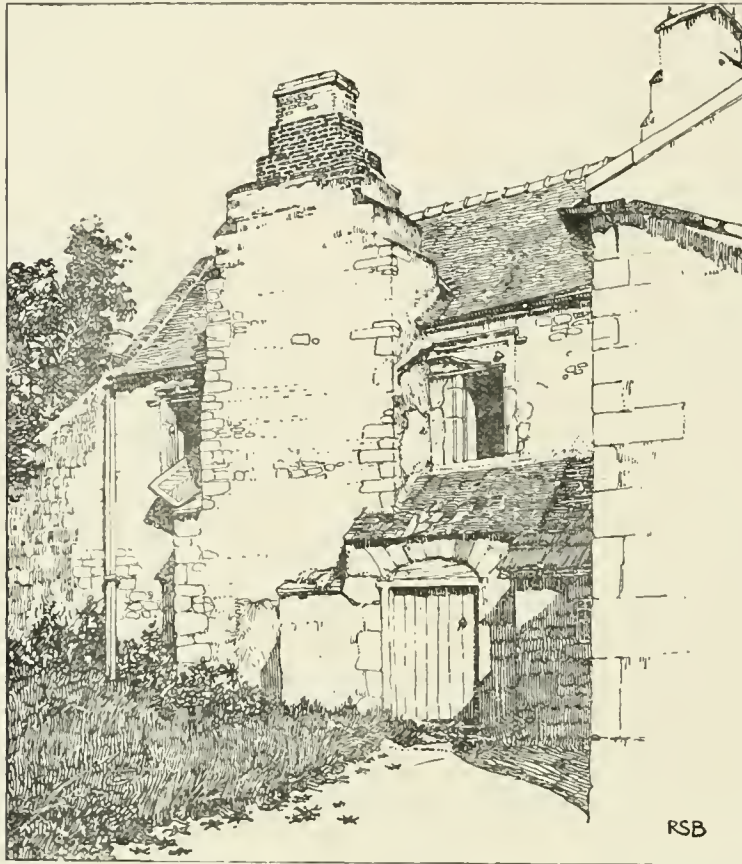
² *Ibid.* pp. 184, 187.

³ *Ibid.* p. 480.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 622.

⁵ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 254.

on the upper floor, the original chamfered jambs, head, and label moulding of which still remain, but the mullions have given place to wooden sashes.



On the ground floor the windows are all modernised. A door probably occupied a central position on this front. On the west side of the building, the windows had originally mullions and transoms; they have suffered much alteration. The massive chimney stacks with their numerous splayed offsets, shown in the sketch, form a picturesque group. An outer door on the ground floor opens into a room, once a brew house, and over it was a

room which, until 1841, was used as a domestic chapel; the latter was reached by a flight of stone steps, and access obtained through the opening, now a window. Another wing at right angles to the last is now used as offices;¹ on one of the door-heads is the date 1728, and the initials R. T. M. for Thomas and Mary Riddell. 1728.

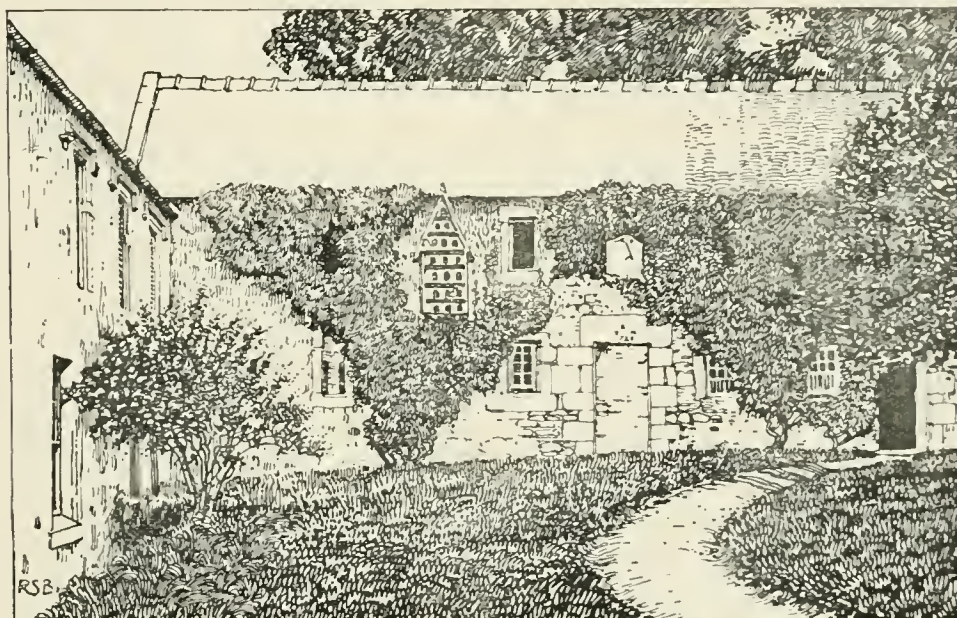
The old castle of Swinburn was pulled down by Thomas Riddell² (who married the only daughter and heiress of Ralph Widdrington of Felton), and in its place he built the house, of which Hutchinson, writing in 1776, says:

¹ See illustration on opposite page.

² The family tradition is that the central part of the present house was built in the time of Queen Anne by Thomas Riddell, yet the following statement made by Wallis, who wrote in 1769, must be regarded as decisive: 'Mr. Riddell, the present possessor of Swinburn castle, married the daughter and sole heir of the late Horsley Widdrington of Felton, esq. His seat at Swinburn is of his own erection, out of the ruins of the old castle, after a very neat design.' *Northumberland*, vol. ii. p. 66. The wings were added in 1771. *Ex. inf.* Mrs. J. G. Riddell. Lying in the garden is an old sun-dial, on which can be read the date, 1686, and the word *Deflectimus*.

The modern seat of Mr. Riddell which arose from the ruins of Swinburn castle, an elegant stone building, covered with woods . . . commands an extensive view, but it is over an open and ill-fenced tract. He is making rapid progress in the cure of this defect, and multitudes of quick fences and plantations are arising, which in a few years will extinguish the disagreeable traces of that hostility and devastation which before the union marked this country with the melancholy memorials of warfare; and in their place give to the eye all the charms of rural opulence.¹

The house has an extensive prospect to the south, and is sheltered from the north-east, north, and north-west by plantations and woods of beech, elm, and other hard wood timber.



The ancient chantry chapel of the Blessed Virgin seems to have stood at the west end of the village on the south side of the road, opposite to the north-east corner of the curtain wall of the castle. It was probably destroyed during the Scottish wars, though a message on its site continued to be held, by homage and fealty, of the prior and convent of Hexham. The heir of Roger Widdrington had it in 1479 at a rent of 3s. paid in kind. It had been formerly held by Adam Scibald.²

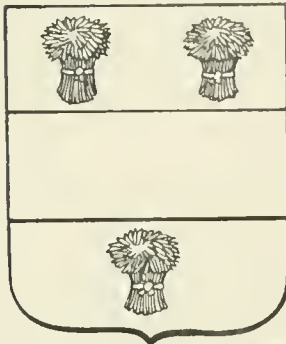
At the north-east end of the hamlet is a Roman Catholic chapel, erected in 1841 by the late Mr. Thomas Riddell.³

¹ *Northumberland*, vol. i. p. 178.

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 35.

³ The following are the names of the successive chaplains: The Revs. Nicholas Saunderson, S.J., 1773 (who died at Alnwick in 1790, aged 60); Jas. Higginson, 1828; Peter Allanson, O.S.B., 1828-1875 (died at Swinburn, and was buried at Ampleforth); Glassbrook, 1875-1876; Hergeroether, 1876-1882; the Rev. Raphael Nenci, D.D., the present chaplain, has in his official charge the Capheaton register of baptisms, 1774-1785, and the Swinburn register, which begins in 1828. The chapel is registered for marriages.. Cf. *London Gazette*, 23rd February, 1883.

RIDDELL OF SWINBURN CASTLE AND FELTON PARK.



ARMS: *Argent, a fesse between three garbs azure.*

CREST: *A demi-lion erminois, holding a garb azure. Visitation.*

THOMAS RIDDELL of Newcastle; = Eleanor, daughter of Ralph Claxton
mayor 1510, 1521, 1526; died of Wynyard; remarried Edward
...; buried in St. Nicholas'. Swinburn, who was mayor of
Newcastle in 1528.

Peter Riddell of Newcastle, merchant adventurer; will = Dorothy, daughter of John
dated 5th November, 1558 (*g*); 'to be buried in St. Brandling.
Nicholas' church where his father lay with solemn
air and dirge'; mentions sister Shaftoe's children;
enrolled at Durham by grandson William (son of
Peter), 10th Jan., 1618.

Anne, daughter =
and heiress of William
Lawson of
Newcastle.

William Riddell of Newcastle, son and heir,
merchant adventurer; mayor of Newcas-
tle, 1582, 1590, 1595; will dated 27th
Aug., 1600 (*m*); buried 31st Aug., 1600
(*m*). 'I geve to William Ryddell an old
ryall for a token, and I pray him help
my children withe his counsell, as my
trust is in him.' *Will of Alderman Ric.
Hodgson*, 1581.

Barbara, daughter of Bertram
Anderson of Newcastle, mer-
chant and alderman. 'To
Barbara Riddell my stand-
inge gilded cuppe with the
cover, having the picter of
Paull on the said cover.'
Will of Barbara Tomlinson,
1577; died 11th Nov., 1627;
buried in St. Nicholas'.

Thomas Riddell;
apparently edu-
cated for the
priesthood;
died *s.p.*

Peter Riddell of Newcastle. 'I doe geve unto Peter Ryd-
dell one angell for a token, and to his sister Eleoner
Lawes an angell for a token, for ther father's sake and
other ther ancestors, by whom I have beene preferred in
my youthe.' *Will of Alderman Richard Hodgson*, 1581.
Buried in St. Nicholas', 22nd June, 1606.

Eleanor, daughter
of John Swin-
burn of New-
castle.

Eleanor; married Henry
Lawes.
Catherine; married An-
thony Lawes.
Elizabeth; living 1558.
Mary; living 1558.

Henry Riddell,
baptised 11th
July, 1574;
will dated 4th
Nov., 1597.

Isabel, daughter of ...
Atkinson of New-
castle, merchant and
alderman; married
19th December, 1603;
buried in St. Nicholas',
12th Oct., 1614 (*m*).

Sir Peter Riddell, knight, baptised 8th Jan.,
1575/6 (*m*); admitted to Hoastman's
company, 1602 (*e*); knighted 4th May,
1617 (*e*); mayor of Newcastle, 1619,
1635; M.P. for Newcastle, 1624, 1626,
1628, 1640; died 14th April, 1641; buried
in St. George's porch in St. Nicholas'.*

Mary, daughter of Thomas
Surtees of Middleton (*g*);
married 6th Feb., 1615/6;
buried in St. George's
porch in St. Nicholas',
15th May, 1660 (*g*).

William Riddell of Queen's college, Oxon.; matriculated
11th Oct., 1622, aged 16 (*f*).

George, baptised 9th Oct., 1580; living 1627.
John, baptised 6th June, 1585 (*m*).
Robert, baptised and buried 1582 (*m*).
Michael, baptised 30th Sept., 1583; buried
17th Sept., 1613 (*m*).

William Riddell,
baptised 28th
March, 1578/9.

Robert Riddell,
baptised 15th
Nov., 1590;
buried 11th
April, 1635.

Jane, daughter of
... Cole; married
4th Sept., 1621;
buried 16th Sept.,
1651 (*m*).

Alice, baptised
11th March,
1587/8 (*m*);
married Rob-
ert Delaval.

Sir Thomas Riddell of Gateshead house, knight, son and heir; admitted
to Hoastman's company, 1602 (*e*); knighted 1603; mayor of New-
castle, 1604, 1616; M.P. for Newcastle, 1620, 1628; died 30th March,
1650, aged 82; buried 1st April, in St. Nicholas' (*g*).

Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John
Conyers of Sockburn, knight;
buried 3rd Jan., 1631/2 (*m*).

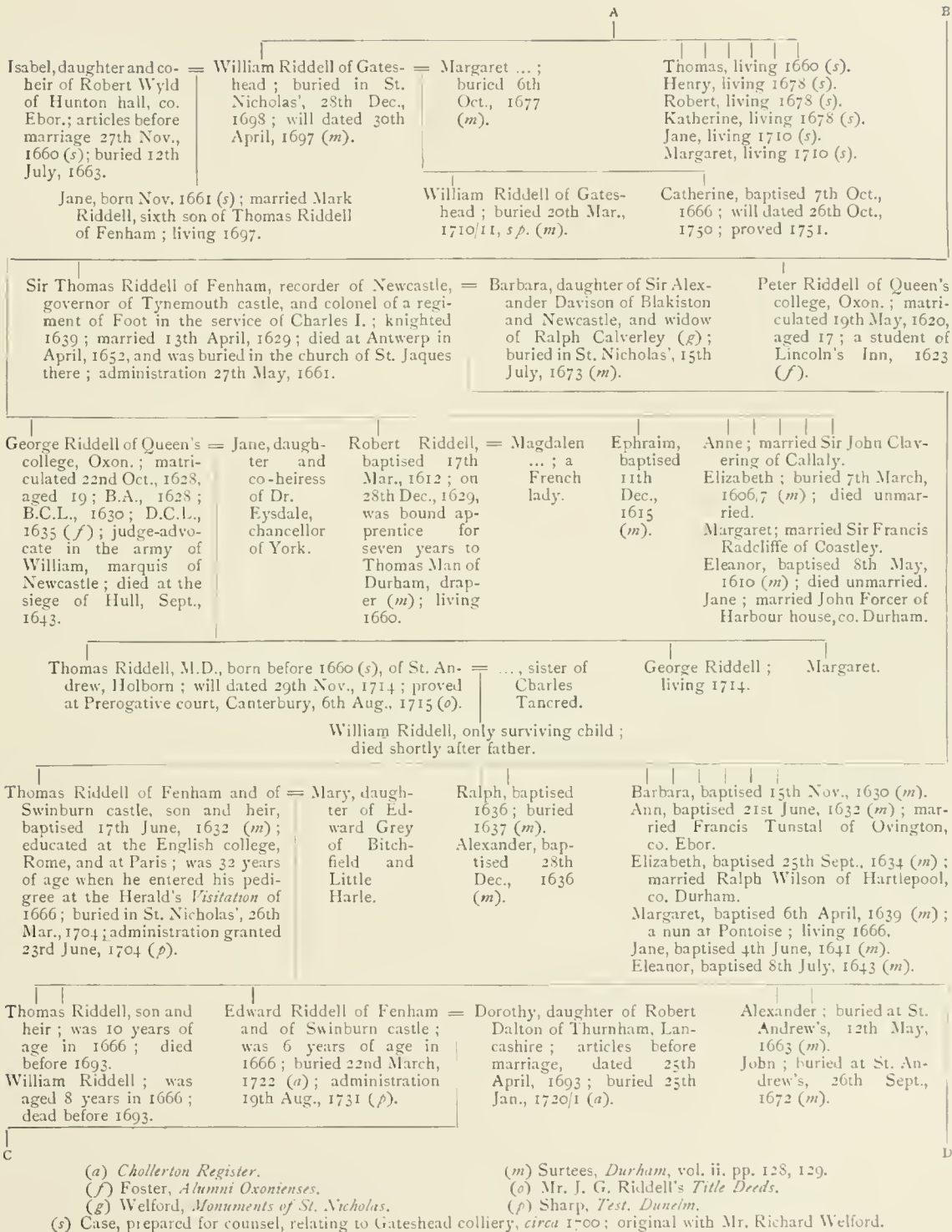
Sir William Riddell of Gateshead, son and heir; of University college, Oxon.;
matriculated 2nd Dec., 1614; of Lincoln's Inn, 1623 (*f*); knighted 17th
July, 1633; buried 21st Jan., 1654/5, in St. Nicholas', Newcastle.

Katherine, daughter of Sir Henry Wid-
drington of Widdrington; buried in
St. Nicholas', 21st Aug., 1658 (*m*).

(*e*) Welford, *Newcastle and Gateshead*.
(*f*) Foster, *Annals Oxonienses*.

(*g*) Welford, *Monuments of St. Nicholas*.
(*m*) Surtees, *Durham*, vol. ii. pp. 128, 129.

* An armorial panel remains in the south transept of St. Nicholas' church.



<p>Mark Riddell of Hunton, Ebor. <i>jure uxoris</i>, aged 1 year in 1666; was sent abroad to be educated, for which offence his father was presented 10th June, 1681 (<i>b</i>); died at Morpeth; will dated 7th Oct., 1721; proved 13th March, 1731 (<i>p</i>).</p>	<p>= Jane, daughter of William Riddell of Gateshead; married before 1st May, 1695 (<i>s</i>); sole executrix to husband's will.</p>	<p>Thomas Riddell; living 1709. William Riddell of Swinburn; buried 20th Oct., 1735 (<i>a</i>); will dated 5th March, 1727 (<i>o</i>).</p>	<p>Margaret Riddell of Newcastle; aged 5 years in 1666; will dated 6th Nov., 1732 (<i>p</i>). Elizabeth; aged 10 months in August, 1666; married William Shafto of Little Bavington. Anne Riddell of Fenham; buried in south alley of St. Andrew's church, 8th Oct., 1702; will dated 29th Dec., 1700 (<i>p</i>). Mary Riddell of Newcastle; will dated 14th Nov. 1747; proved 1750 (<i>p</i>).</p>
<p>Edward Riddell of Newcastle, son and heir; living 1721. An attorney in Newcastle, who in 1723 was tried for killing Captain Lilburn in a duel in the Nuns' garden. Buried in St. Nicholas', 13th March, 1723/4. = ... Heron.</p>			
<p>Thomas Riddell of Newcastle, only son; living 1765; ? [died at his house in Newgate Street, 18th May, 1777] (<i>r</i>).</p>			
<p>Thomas Riddell of Swinburn castle, son and heir; buried 10th March, 1754 (<i>a</i>); will dated 4th Dec., 1753; proved 27th March, 1754.</p>	<p>= Mary, daughter of William Widdrington of Cheeseburn Grange; bond of marriage, 5th June, 1726; buried 10th April, 1751 (<i>a</i>).</p>	<p>Robert Riddell; in 1715 professed at the Benedictine monastery of Lamspring, in Westphalia; administration granted 3rd April, 1760, to Ralph Riddell, the nephew (<i>o</i>).</p>	<p>Edward; buried 4th Feb., 1698/9, in the south alley of St. Andrew's church, Newcastle. Edward Riddell; in 1719 professed at Lamspring; administration granted 3rd April, 1760. Elizabeth, Dorothy; administration 5th Sept., 1735. Barbara (<i>m</i>).</p>
<p>Thomas Riddell of Swinburn castle, son and heir, baptised 7th Dec., 1727 (<i>a</i>); will dated 29th March, 178(9) (?); proved 1789.</p>	<p>= Elizabeth Margaret, daughter and heiress of Edward Horsley Widdrington of Longhorsley and Felton; mar. settlement, 14th Aug., 1760 (<i>o</i>); died at Felloe, 4th April, 1798.</p>	<p>Ralph Riddell of Cheeseburn Grange. ↓ (From whom Riddell of Cheeseburn Grange.) Edward Riddell of Swinburn; buried 4th April, 1766 (<i>a</i>); will dated 29th March, 1766 (<i>p</i>).</p>	<p>Ann. Elizabeth; buried 1st July, 1737 (<i>a</i>). Dorothy; sole executrix to brother Edward. Mary, baptised 9th June, 1728 (<i>a</i>); married James Maxwell of Kirkconnel; died 23rd Dec., 1805, aged 81; buried at New Abbey. Barbara; married ... Nelson of Fairhurst.</p>
<p>Thomas Horsley Widdrington Riddell of Swinburn castle and Felton, born 4th Oct., 1762 (<i>a</i>); died 24th Nov., 1798; buried at Chollerton; will dated 24th Sept., 1798 (<i>o</i>).</p>	<p>= Margaret, daughter of William Salvin of Croxdale; articles before marriage 14th April, 1790 (<i>o</i>); married 19th April, 1790.</p>	<p>Edward Horsley Widdrington Riddell of Horsley and Felton, born 23rd June, 1766 (<i>a</i>); married 20th June, 1792; died <i>s.p.</i> 26th Jan., 1793, at Stella.</p>	<p>= Isabella, daughter of William Salvin; remarried at St. Martin's, York, 9th May, 1803, Ralph Riddell of Cheeseburn Grange.</p>
<p>Thomas, only child; died in father's lifetime.</p>			
<p>Ralph Riddell of Horsley and Felton, born 9th Nov., 1770 (<i>a</i>); succeeded to Swinburn castle at death of brother Thomas; died 9th March, 1833.</p>	<p>= Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Blount of Maple Durham; articles before marriage, 22nd July, 1801 (<i>o</i>); married 23rd July, 1801; died at Leamington, 6th July, 1849, aged 71.</p>	<p>Dorothy; buried 10th Feb., 1765 (<i>a</i>). Juliana, born 19th June, 1769 (<i>a</i>); died 1812. Anne Catherine, born 24th Nov., 1771 (<i>a</i>); married at Felton, 25th Nov., 1792, Sir Walter Blount of Sodington. Mary, born 27th July, 1761 (<i>a</i>); died unmarried, 10th March, 1833. Elizabeth, born 5th July, 1762 (<i>a</i>); married John Clifton of Lytham; articles before marriage, dated 14th Nov., 1785 (<i>o</i>).</p>	

(a) *Chollerton Register*.

(b) *Surtees Soc.* vol. 40, p. ...

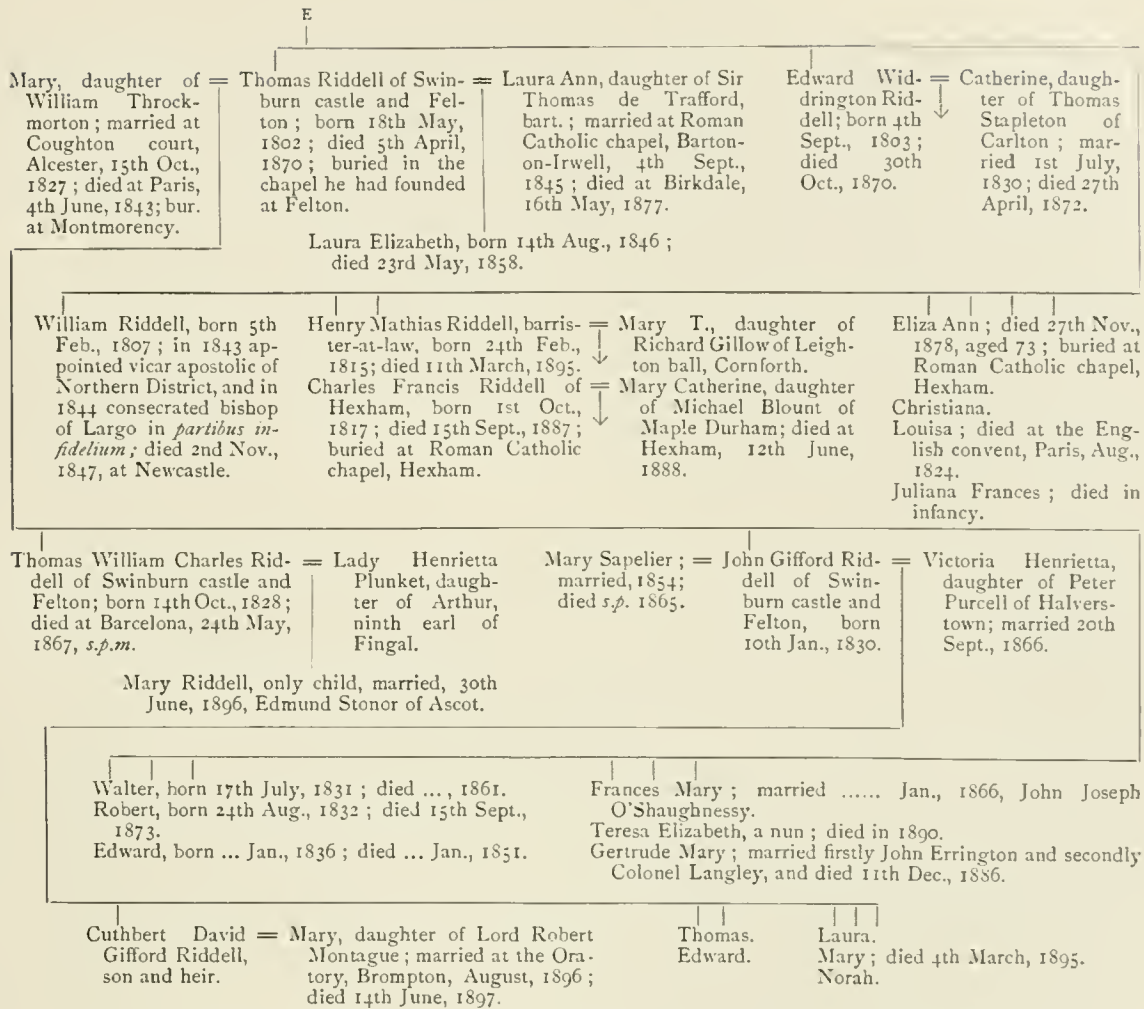
(m) *Surtees, Durham*, vol. ii, pp. 128, 129.

(s) Case, prepared for counsel, relating to Gateshead colliery, circa 1700; original with Mr. Richard Welford.

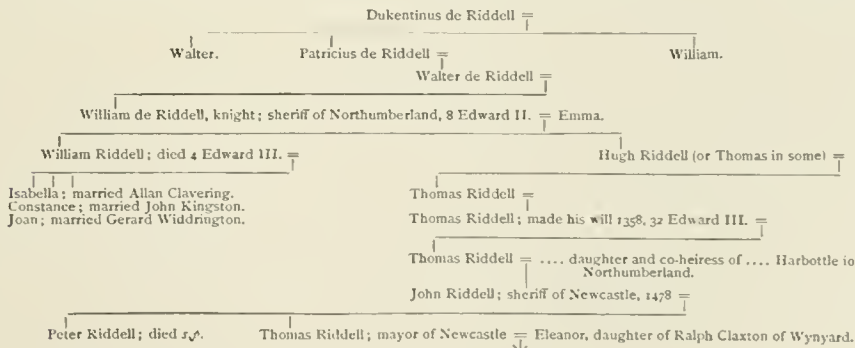
(o) Mr. J. G. Riddell's *Title Deeds*.

(p) Sharp, *Test. Dunelm.*

(r) *Newcastle Chronicle*, May, 1777.



NOTE. The following pedigree was registered by the Heralds at St. George's *Visitation* of Durham in 1615:



Cf. 'The Riddell Bulls,' Bates, *Arch. Ael.* vol. xii. p. 200 n. Welford, *Newcastle and Gateshead*, vol. iii. pp. 377, 378.

EVIDENCES TO RIDDELL PEDIGREE.

In 1649, Sir Thomas Riddell, sen., and Sir William Riddell, his son, petitioned to be allowed to compound for their estates. Sir Thomas was fined (at one-sixth) £408, and in the following year his wife, Dame Barbara Riddell 'begs an order (which was granted) for one-fifth of her husband's sequestrated estate, being reduced to great want and misery for lack thereof.'

1651, 20th December. Declaration of Thomas Riddell on entering the English college at Rome: 'My name is Thomas Riddell. I am son of Thomas Riddell of Durham, where I was born. As a boy I lived at home, but in my youth among various uncles in the country, and the last three years I spent at Antwerp. My father (like both my grandfathers) is a knight, with a rental of some £1,000 a year. I have no brother, but four sisters, of whom my three youngest are still Protestants. I have studied in various places in England, and for the last two years in the college of the Society of Jesus, at Antwerp. I was a Protestant until my 15th year; then, crossing over to my father, who had a little before been converted to the faith in Belgium, I was instructed by him. My father wished me to seek admission to this seminary for the sake of my education.' Thomas Riddell left Rome for Paris, 7th April, 1654. Foley, *Records of the English Province S.J.* vol. v. p. 659.

1653, 8th Sept. Sir William Riddell begs the benefit of the Act of Pardon, as not being sequestrated before 1st Dec., 1651, and having taken the engagement.

William Riddell of Gateshead, eldest son of Sir William Riddell, obtained with his wife Isabel, daughter and co-heir of Robert Wyld of Hunton, the estates of Ketton and Chilton; but, after her early death (being involved in money transactions with the Milbanks, to whom he owed considerable sums) he obtained the assent of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Wyld, to sell these estates. The following letter, from Mr. Richard Welford's *Collection*, addressed to Mrs. Wyld by Ralph Clavering of Callaley, discloses the negotiation:

Madam,

Callaley, August 28th, 1663.

This comes not to renew your grief for that unfortunate revolution which happened lately at Gateshead, but to congratulate the satisfaction you receive in the fruition of the pretty little pledge God Almighty hath given you instead of your daughter. For her must the common care now be, though her father and you be principally concerned therein; yet give me leave, as not disinterested in her, to offer my advice. I perceive that £5,000 was discoursed of to be her fortune out of the father's estate in case Ketton or Chilton were by him disposed of, which, if both sold, would to a farthing yield but £7,200, so that £2,200 would only remain to him. Out of the many arguments that might be used on his behalf I shall propound this only: that he hath paid, and is to pay to yourself, £500; to Mr. Tankerd, £300; to pious uses, £300; to Atkinson, £200; to your daughter Barbary's funeral, £150, as I remember, which, in all, is £1,450. To this add the £200 yearly rent to Mrs. Bulmer, and the £10 rent to the other old gentlewoman, which, if reckoned but at four years' value for their lives, would amount to £840. There are, besides, some arrears due to Mrs. Bulmer's children; all which, added together with the £5,000 now demanded, would make him much a loser by his match, his only benefit being that the child's present maintenance will not amount to the interest of the £5,000. I am confidently assured 'tis not your design to make him worse than you found him. Again, I remember you told me at Gateshead all happiness did not consist in the greatest fortunes. I intend not to trouble your repose with overgrown letters, verily believing, upon consideration of the whole matter, your serious thoughts will conclude £3,000 enough for her to have, and him to give, and in all things else there will be no hesitation. Let this, I pray, present you and my wife's best service and assurance that my best wishes and ready assistance shall never be wanting to you and your sweet little one, as becomes hers, and, madam, your most affectionate kinsman and servant,

RA. CLAVERING.¹

1717, 26th April. Register of the estate of Edward Riddell of Swinburn castle, esq.: The manor of Great Swinburn, mansion and appurtenances in my own possession. The East farm of the said lordship let to 4 tenants by me under the yearly reserved rent of £95 and 1 goose and 1 hen, and lessees obliged every year to lead 20 waine loads of coals to the manor house of Swinburn for my use. No fine taken for the lease. The Low farm of Swinburn let to 3 tenants at £130 rent. Water corn mill, let at £20 a year. Coldwell demesne, held by Jasper Hall, gent., and the North pasture, part of Swinburn demesne, part of the hamlet of Coldwell at the yearly reserved rent of £220 for 32 years, commencing May, 1717. No fine taken for lease. The Well houses, let to 3 tenants on lease commencing May, 1717, at £130 a year. No fine taken for lease. Coltraig, in the parish of Chollerton, leased for 9 years from May, 1715, for 3 past years £50 and the remaining £65 a year. No fine paid for lease. The coal mines opened and unopened in the manor of Fenham, leased by me to Mr. Bowman, merchant, and John Hebdon, since deceased, for 21 years, commencing Nov. 20th, 1714, reserving the annual rent of £200, which is after the rate of 13s. 4d. per ten for 300 tens of ship coals, and for every ten over 300 13s. 4d., and for every tenn of pann coals yearly rent of 10s. a tenn. The said John Hebdon, by indenture 26th Feb., 1714, at my request assigned to Jasper Hall in trust for me one moiety of the said coal mines. The said colliery is unwrought, and no reserve rents paid. In all the said premises I have an estate only for life.

¹ Case, prepared for counsel, relating to Gateshead colliery, circa 1700; original with Mr. Richard Welford.

Incumbrances on said estate : The said lands, etc. (the coal mines excepted), are subjected to a forfeited mortgage, mortgagee in possession, on which is due for principal and interest £2,945. My sisters' portions £875, annuities £70, coal mines to my sisters' fortunes charged with £1,000 and annuities of £80. The lands and coal mines also charged with £1,500, a portion for my daughter ; and they are also charged with £3,000. £3,477 1s. 10d.

Gerry Wear holds the farmhold called Crookden, in the parish of Kirkwhelpington, under me at £30 a year, in which last-mentioned premises I have an estate of 99 years if William Fenwick, gent., soe long lives.¹

1717, 26th April. Register of the estate of William Riddell of Swinburn castle : An annuity of £50, secured by indenture in five parts, dated 25th April, 1693, made between Thomas Riddell, esq., of Swinburn castle and others, declaring the uses of a Common Recovery of all the castle, manor, etc., of Swinburn, the lordship of Coldwell, and the Well houses with the tenements called Colt Crag and Kelly Quarter, whereby it is declared that I, the said William Riddell, should yearly after the death of my father, the said Thomas Riddell, have the annuity of £50 during my life out of the said land.

1717/8, 20th Feb. Register of the estate of George Riddell of London, gent. : A rent charge of £20, granted by his late father, Thomas Riddell, 25th April, 1693, by the same instrument.¹

¹ Register of Roman Catholic Estates with clerk of the peace.

COLWELL.

The hamlet of Colwell¹ is about a mile to the east of Great Swinburn, and consists of two lines of houses running east and west, which stand on natural terraces facing each other. On the northern terrace stood the chapel of Colwell, which, as a dependent of Chollerton, was given to the prior and convent of Hexham, by Odinel de Umframvill ; its site was excavated in 1887, by Mr. R. C. Hedley, who has given a careful description of the result in the *Proceedings* of the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries.² The chapel consists of a nave and chancel, the former measuring in the inside 17 feet, and the latter 13 feet 6 inches. The walls were from 2 feet 9 inches to 3 feet 3 inches thick, and remained at some points to the height of three courses above a chamfered base course, which ran round the structure and was stepped on the north and south nave walls at their east end. The base course was returned into a door opening. Several arch stones were discovered, some with a roll moulding worked on one angle, and some with a roll moulding on two angles, portions doubtless of the chancel arch. There were also some widely splayed window jamb stones, together with fragments of grey roofing slates, and a quantity of charred wood and fragments of mediæval pottery.³

In 1479 the prior and convent possessed a tithe barn, which stood to

¹ There are several barrows in front of the farm house to the south-west of Colwell, and the district is rich in prehistoric remains. Three quarters of a mile north of the hamlet, on the Blue Crag is an entrenchment ; a quarter of a mile further north is another entrenchment almost rectangular in form ; on the Ox-hill is a camp with a single rampart, and at the foot of the hill immediately to the north-west of Blue Crag are the remains of a prehistoric village without any defensive work.

² *Proc. of Newcastle Soc. of Antiq.* vol. iv. p. 102.

³ A fragment, pronounced to be a portion of an early thirteenth-century cross found at Colwell, is in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle.

the north-east of the chapel of Colwell, and was then waste.¹ In a survey taken in 1536, the corn tithes of Colwell, worth 40s. a year, were leased to Sir John Widdrington, by an instrument which did not bear the convent seal.² The ornaments of the chapel in 1552 were 'one challes of tene and one vestment of whyt satten,'³ and thirty years later it was destitute, having neither curate nor chapel wardens.⁴ Colwell chapel is one of the four mentioned in 1650 as being within the parish of Chollerton, and one hundred



REMAINS OF COLWELL CHAPEL.

and twenty years later, under the designation of Swinburn chapel, it was reported as in decay.⁵ In papers connected with a suit in the Ecclesiastical Court of Durham about 1744, when some of the owners of the great tithes of the parish of Chollerton disclaimed their liability to repair the chancel of the parish church, the lecturer of Hexham, who possessed the tithes of Colwell, professed that Colwell was a free or parochial chapel, and that though no service was performed there (for it had been destroyed by the Scots

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 35.

² *Ibid.* p. 168. Cf. vol. iii. p. 159.

³ *Eccles. Proc. of Bp. Barnes*, Raine (App.) I. ; Surt. Soc. vol. 22.

⁴ *Ibid.* pp. 99, 100.

⁵ Randal, *State of the Churches*.

army) its roofless walls remained, and that he was ready (if cleared of all liability towards Chollerton) to repair the chancel of the chapel.¹

In 1240 Colwell was held of the Heron barony by Gilbert de Umframvill at a socage rent of 40s. ;² and its possession enabled the Umframvills to join their detached manor of Chollerton with the rest of the barony of Prudhoe. It was afterwards reckoned to be the tenth part of a knight's fee.³ At the Assizes of 1256 a presentment was made that an unknown man had been found in the fields of Colwell torn to pieces by dogs. No suspicion attached to Reginald, the shepherd of Colwell, who was first to discover the remains, but as the townships of Colwell, Swinburn, Chollerton, and Barrasford did not come in proper numbers to the inquest, they were fined.⁴ In 1288 John de Burgo and Christian his wife received 16 acres of land in Colwell from John Swynburn,⁵ and in 1293 Walter de Cambhou (sheriff 1278) and Isabel his wife settled 4 messuages, 24 bovates of land, and 44s. of rent, with half of the mill, on their issue severally. For these lands Walter de Cambhou had in 1277 a grant of free warren,⁶ and in 1345 they were claimed by Isabel's grand-daughter Emma, the wife of Robert of Coventry.⁷

COLLEWELL SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.				£	s.	d.		s.	d.
Summa bonorum	Walteri filii Julianae ...	...	...	1	16	0	unde regi	3	3½
„	Willelmi de Choluerton ...	...	...	3	17	10	„	7	1
„	Simonis filii Willelmi...	...	...	1	16	4	„	3	3½
„	Willelmi filii Walteri ...	...	...	2	17	6	„	5	2¾
„	bercatoris Alani ...	...	...	2	6	4	„	4	2½
„	Nicholai filii Willelmi...	...	...	2	7	6	„	4	3¾
„	Rogeri filii Matildae ...	...	...	2	11	2	„	4	7¾
„	Johannis Durand ...	...	...	1	13	0	„	3	0
„	Willelmi de Filton ...	...	...	0	12	0	„	1	1½
„	Johannis de Swyneburne ...	...	...	3	17	0	„	7	0
„	Adae filii Johannis ...	...	...	2	12	0	„	4	8½
„	Symonis filii Johannis ...	...	...	2	18	4	„	5	3¾
„	Adae de Swyneburne...	...	...	3	7	0	„	6	1
„	Ricardi Spynke ...	...	...	0	15	6	„	1	5
„	Hugonis de Tocrinton ...	...	...	2	18	4	„	5	3¾
„	Nicholai filii Rogeri ...	...	...	2	18	4	„	5	3¾
„	Adae Tod ...	...	...	1	4	8	„	2	3
„	Gamelli filii Roberti ...	...	...	2	7	0	„	4	3½
„	Henrici filii Nicholai ...	...	...	0	14	0	„	1	3½
„	Nicholai de Yetham ...	...	...	12	8	0	„	22	6½
Summa hujus villae, £55 17s. 10d.				Unde regi, £5 1s. 7½d.					

¹ Documents with Mr. L. C. Lockhart. ² *Testa de Nevill*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 203.

³ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 65. ⁴ *Assize Rolls*, p. 95; Surtees Soc.

⁵ *Originalia*, 16 Ed. 1. No. 15; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 286.

⁶ *Cal. Rot. Chart.*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 392.

⁷ *Placita Rolls*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 356.

				CALDWELL.			£	s.	d.	s.		d.
Summa bonorum	Thomae de Caldwell ...	...	...	...	1	14	2	unde regi	3	1	¼
„	Willelmi filii Gerardi ...	...	...	...	1	2	0	„	2	0	
	Summa hujus villae, 56s. 2d.	Unde domino regi,	5s. 1¼d.									

Early in the fourteenth century the manor was held by Nicholas de Yetham; he was succeeded by his son Adam who, under the designation of Adam de Colwell, in 1317 conveyed it to Robert de Chalert the chaplain.¹

Sir Adam de Swynburn held at his death in 1318 the fourth part of the vill of Colwell from Sir Roger Heron at 6d. a year, but it was all lying waste.² Two messuages, 120 acres of land and 6 acres of meadow in Colwell, were in the hands of the king in 1323 by the forfeiture of Henry de Swynburn, son of Sir Adam de Swynburn. A petition to the king from Peter Grapier of Newcastle alleged that these lands were held from him by the rent of four marks and four shillings, and under a writ dated 16th March, 1323/4, an inquisition was taken at Morpeth before Roger Heron and Richard de Emeldon to enquire into the matter. The jury, whose names were John Gray of Denum, William de Sharplaw, Simon de Waskerley, Hugh de Mynstoracres, William de Croxston, John de Houghton, Anthony de Eryngton, William de Midelton, Thomas de Wotton, Richard de Oggle, Henry de Akedon, and Nicholas de Houghton, found that the lands in question were held by feoffment made by Ormo Grapier, the grandfather of Peter, to John de Swynburn, father of Sir Adam, that the latter had obtained from Peter a release of the reserved rent, and that the property in time of peace was worth six marks, but was then worthless because waste.³

In 1324 Robert de Umframvill and Lucy his wife held in Colwell a messuage and a carucate of land,⁴ and in 1327 there were six bondagers, each of whom held a messuage and 24 acres of land as he had held from Sir Adam Swynburn.⁵ These lands, estimated to be of the annual value of £5 8s., were assigned on the partition of Sir Adam's property to his grandson Gerard de Widdrington.

COLWELL SUBSIDY ROLL, 1336.

Ricardus clericus, 1s. 10d.; Johannes filius Simonis, 2s. 1d.; Robertus de Herll, 3s. 4d.; Ricardus de Catden, 3s. 8d.; Robertus Dun, 1s. 8d.; Willelmus Wychsleshe, 5s. 6½d. Summa, 18s. 1¼d.

¹ 'Sciant praesentes et futuri quod ego Adam de Colewell, filius Nicholai de Yetham, dedi domino Roberto de Chalert capellano, totum manerium meum de Colewell cum pertinentiis. Testibus: domino Ada de Swynburne, tunc vicecomite Northumbriae, domino Roberto de Swynburne, domino Roberto de Insula, militibus: Thoma de Belshow, etc. Dat. Colewell pridie calend. Junii anno dom. 1317; anno Ed. 11. 11.' *Lansdowne MSS.* 326, fol. 149 b; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 356.

² Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 251.

³ *Inq. ad quod damnum*, 17 Ed. 11. No. 98.

⁴ *Escheats*: 18 Edw. 11., No. 78; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 64.

⁵ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 66.

In 1336 Alina de Colwell and her sister Idonea received possession of the manor of Colwell by an action brought against William Wyghtflesch in the King's court at Newcastle.¹ And on 28th December, 1343, Gilbert de Colwell gave a power of attorney to Roger Widdrington of Denton to put Roger Widdrington, brother of Sir Gerard, in possession of all his lands and tenements in the vill of Colwell.²

At the end of the fourteenth century Sir John de Middleton and Christian his wife held a tenement and 24 acres of land in Colwell.³

There is no separate Muster Roll for Great Swinburn in 1538, but its contingent may or may not be included in that of Colwell, which sent 11 men, fully equipped, and 8 who had neither horse nor harness.

COLWELL MUSTER ROLL, 1538.⁴

Gerarde Yonger, Cuthbert Nicolson, Perce. Reid, Ric. Wodman, John Walles, John Caruthers, Willm Caruthers, Thomas Robson, John Person, Willm Long, David Chastowe, able with hors and harnes. Georg Yong, Thomas Robson, Thomas Hutley, Robert Nathres, Thomas Person, Willm Caruthers, Thomas Murton, Thomas Robson, naither hors nor harnes.

The prior and convent of Hexham held, by grant of Walter Corbet in the reign of Henry III., common pasture in Colwell for 32 oxen, 10 cows, and 240 sheep, which privilege, before 1479, had become altered to pasture for 30 oxen, 10 cows, 1 bull, and 400 sheep; they also possessed in Colwell a tithe barn and a garden, and enjoyed a right of way to their estate at Bingfield, with which their grazing rights seem to have been leased. After the dissolution, there was quarrelling and litigation between the Crown lessees of Bingfield and the lord and tenants of the manor of Colwell concerning a tract of land called Errean, asserted to be a third of the township of Colwell, which the tenants claimed had always been held in severalty and cropped. It had formerly been staff-herded, and it was subsequently divided from Colwell Moor by a ditch and hedge, and from the fields of Bingfield by the river, water or small brook called Errean. Thomas Errington, the farmer of Bingfield, had with a number of his people, about 1564, entered Errean, pulled down and destroyed part of the hedges of one Richard Hartborne who was tenant to Sir John Widdrington, lord of the manor of Colwell, for which offence he and they were sued before the queen's commission at York, and committed to the castle.

¹ *Originalia*, 10 Ed. III. No. 48; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 315.

² Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 233.

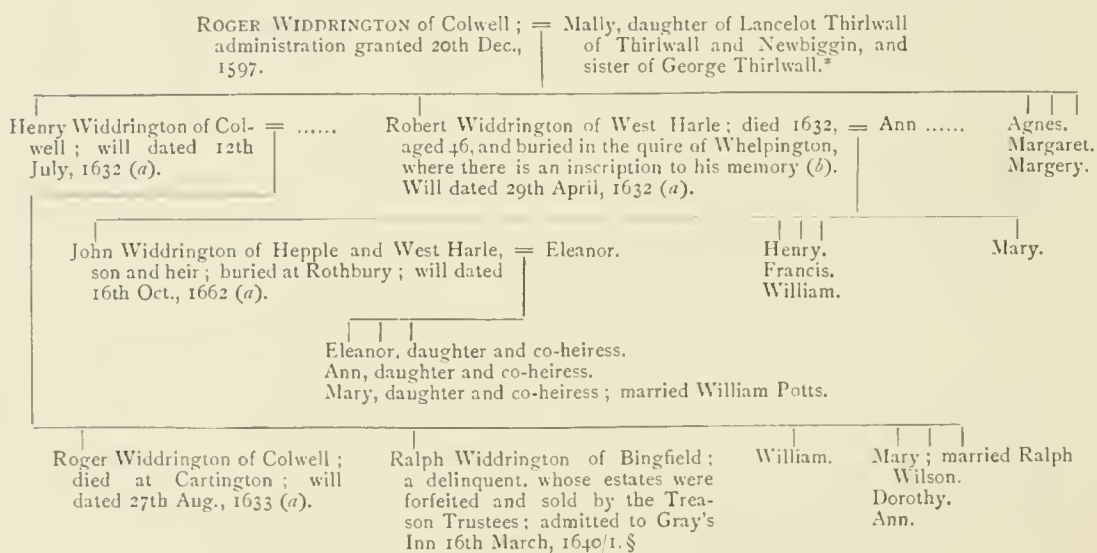
³ *Escheats*, 20 Ric. II. No. 37; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 260.

⁴ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 177.

There was another suit heard in the Court of Exchequer in 1594, in which many witnesses deposed to the above facts, and though they did not altogether deny the right of common on Colwell Moor, they asserted that the Bingfield cattle and sheep had always been driven off Errean, and from time to time impounded in the town fold of Colwell, or 'in a pasture field called a barnekin in the town of Swinburn,' and for loosing their cattle thence their owners had to pay a penny parpage.¹

The old house or hall at the west end of the village may have been the home of that cadet line of Widdrington which for some generations resided at and owned part of Colwell. What is known of them is shown in the following pedigree and evidences :

WIDDRINGTON OF COLWELL.

(a) Raine, *Test. Ebor.*(b) Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 200.

* To the childe that my dowghter Mallye Woodthrington is withall, if it be a man childe a wether, or 6s. 8d. to buy hym a fole withall ; if it be a dowghter a yow and a lambe. Will of Lancelot Thirlwall of Thirlwall, 27th December, 1582. *Durham Wills*, Greenwell, p. 75, Surtees Soc. No. 38.

§ A Ralph Widdrington of Bingfield married Elizabeth, daughter and coheirress of John Swinburne (died *circa* 1623) of Black Heddon ; another of whose daughters, Mary Swinburne, married Henry, brother of Thomas Widdrington of Cheeseburn Grange. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, part ii. vol. i. p. 232.

¹ The parties to the suit were Ralph Errington, plaintiff, and Henry and Benjamin Widdrington, defendants. Among the witnesses who deposed were: Edward Reed of Errington, aged 40 ; Thomas Fenwick of Chollerton, aged 80 ; Thomas Chatter of Newton hall, aged 60 ; Henry Hedley of Colwell, aged 60 ; John Usher of Barrasford, aged 70 ; George Nicholson, Ralph Atchinson, Archibald Marshall, John Carother, Thomas Robinson, all of Colwell. *Exchequer Depositions*, 37 Elizabeth, Northumberland, No. 11.

EVIDENCES TO WIDDRINGTON PEDIGREE.

1597. The inventory of the goods and chattles of Roger Wodrington, deceased, late of Colwell, in the parish of Chollerton, prized by Ralph Atchesone, William Merry, and James Reed and Edward Carrothers, the 16th of February, 1596/7 : Imprimis, corne in the garth att Colewell, £16 ; item, corne in the garth att Swynbourne, £2 ; item, corn in the garth att Ryall, £10 ; item, two horses and three meares and one foole, £10 ; item, xvj oxen, £10 13s. 4d. ; item, viij kye, £6 ; item, six stirkes, £1 ; item, iij score sheep, £5 ; item, household stuffe and his owne apparell, £8 ; item, corne sowen before his death, £10 ; item, husbandry furniture, £1 ; total, £79 13s. 4d.

1597, 20th December. Administration of the goods of Roger Widdrington, late of Colwell, granted to Richard Thirlwall and Lewis Widdrington, next in blood, to the use of Henry, Robert, Agnes, Margaret, and Margery Widdrington, his children.

1599, 2nd September. The declaration of Richard Thirlwall and Lewis Widdrington, gents., tutors of Henry, Robert, Agnes, Margaret, and Margery Widdrington, children of Roger Widdrington, late of Colwell.

1632, 29th April. Nuncupative will of Robert Widdrington of West Harle, parish of Kirkwhelpington, gent. To my wife Anne, £300 ; to my daughter Mary, £200 ; to my three younger sons Henry, Francis, and William Widdrington, each £100, to be raised of my lands in Todrige, Baresford, and Carycoats. My brother Henry Widdrington, and my uncle George Thirlwall ; my lands in West Harle to my son and heir apparent John Widdrington. Inventory, dated 11th and 12th May, 1632, taken by George Thirlwall of Rothbury and ... Rateliffe of Thropton, gents.

1632, 12th July. Will of Henry Widdrington of Collwell, gent. To be buried in the parish church of Chollerton. To my two younger sons Ralph and William, £100 each ; to my daughter Mary, wife of Ralph Wilson, £100 ; to my two daughters Dorothy and Ann Widdrington, £100 each, to be raised out of my lands in Bingfield. Roger Widdrington of Cartington, esq., Thomas Widdrington of Gray's Inn, gent., and George Thirlwall of Rothbury, gent., my brother Robert Widdrington, and Roger Widdrington, my son and heir apparent, executors. Pr. 1632.

1633, 27th August. Will of Roger Widdrington of Colwell, gent. To be buried in the parish church of Chollerton. None of my father's legacies paid, except £100 to my sister Wilson ; to be paid by my executors. My brother Ralph Widdrington executor ; Roger Widdrington of Cartington, esq., Thomas Widdrington of Gray's Inn, and George Thirlwall of Rothbury, gent., supervisors. (The testator died at Cartington. His sisters Dorothy and Ann, and his brother William, are mentioned in the inventory.) Pr. 1634.

1653, 15th March. W. Skynner, W. Robison, and others, the surviving trustees appointed for the sale of forfeited estates, sell to John Rushworth of Lincoln's Inn, and Gilbert Crouch, for £980 9s. 9d., a messuage in Bingfield late in the occupation of Rowland Widdrington.

Also, the demesne lands of Collwell, lying entire, bounded with Great Swinburn ground south-west and west, Little Swinburn ground on the north, and Colwell town and town field on the east and south, consisting of a messuage or house called Collwell hall, with a stable, a byar, a barn, a fould garth, a stack yard, a dove coate,¹ and one garth of arable land called the orchard, consisting of, by estimation, 2 acres more or less, together with 58 acres of meadow ground and 145 acres of pasture ground, now or late in the tenancy of the said Rowland Widdrington, of the yearly value of £35 ; and also all houses, outhouses, etc., belonging or in anywise appertaining or known to be part of the same, which said messuage with the appurtenances, in the particulars thereof, are mentioned to have been parcel of the possessions of Ralph Widdrington, late of Collwell, gent., one of the persons in the said additional Act named, whose estate hath been, and is, hereby declared and adjudged to be justly forfeited by him for his treason against the parliament and people of England.

¹ A curious stone-built pigeon-house still remains behind the old mansion-house. The latter contains a carved fireplace.

Rushworth and Crouch acted on behalf of Henry Widdrington of Blackheddon, to whom, 19th Sept., 1654, they reconveyed the estates described above.

1674, 20th July. Will of Edward Widdrington of Blackheddon, esq. Whereas I am possessed by lease from the earl of Northumberland of 2 pts. in 3 p^{ts}. to be devided of certaine lands in the high lands in Tindall called Woofe Keilder Stoupe, White Kielder, Keilder Hay, and other names, for 21 years yet in being, I give the same to my dear wife Elianer Widdrington; also £400, now in the hands of my brother William Widdrington, esq. Whereas my brother Ralph Widdrington is now possessed of a third part of the aforesaid lease, he to hold it dureing the whole terme yet to come. My loveing freind Allen Swinburn, esq., executor in trust for my wife. My will is, that £20 be given to the poore of the parishes of Stannerton, Hugh, Bitchfield, and Owston, and £30 to the poore, at the discretion of my executor. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

Henry Widdrington must have sold his lands in Colwell to Lord Widdrington, who alone was rated for them in 1663, and by deed dated 20th August, 1678, William, Lord Widdrington, conveyed Colwell and the castle and manor of Swinburn and Colt Crag¹ to Thomas Riddell of Fenham, to whose descendant, Mr. J. G. Riddell, these estates now belong.

TONE AND COWDEN.

The estates of Tone, Cowden, and Colt Crag (the detached portion of the township of Great Swinburn and Colwell) form an irregularly shaped tract of land, comprising 1,813 acres, lying on both sides of Watling Street, and separated from the other portion of the township by about the width of a mile, the township of Little Swinburn intervening.

This tract represents very largely,² if not wholly, estates which before the dissolution of the monasteries, belonged to the abbot and convent of Newminster and to the prior and convent of Hexham. Tone, then called Tolland, was granted to Newminster by Odinel de Umframvill (died 1182), who also bestowed Filton on that house. Odinel in his charter describes his gift of Tolland as contained within the boundary, 'as Derestrete runs between Filton and Tolland as far as Waterfal, and from Waterfal by Slade, which goes from the north side of the moss, and thence as the proper boundary exists, which I have perambulated for them, on the west of the Carrs, and as it turns to the head of the land of Tolland towards the south, and thence by the boundaries between Tolland and the land of the canons (of Hexham) up to the before-mentioned Derestrete.' For this the Cistercians were to pay annually four marcs; this grant was subsequently confirmed by Odinel's sons, Robert and Richard, and Richard's sons, Richard and Gilbert.³

¹ Mr. J. G. Riddell's *Title Deeds*.

² In the Subsidy Roll of 1296, Colden is associated with Chol-

lerton, *cf. supra*, p. 258.

³ *Newminster Chartulary*, Fowler, pp. 62-63; Surt. Soc.

After the dissolution of the monasteries¹ the grange of Tolland² fell into the hands of the Widdringtons, and not unnaturally may have been considered thenceforth as attached to the township of Great Swinburn, wherein lay their larger and residential estate. Under the form of Towlands it is mentioned in the inquisition taken on the death of Sir Henry Widdrington in 1592,³ and it was one of the places which his nephew, Sir Henry Widdrington, leased for a term of years as a maintenance for his daughters.⁴ As Tone house it was rated to William, Lord Widdrington, in 1663, and was doubtless sold under the terms of his will made in 1673, which ordered to be sold all his estates which could be sold.⁵ The purchaser was Allan Swinburne, who was the tenth child of William Swinburne of Capheaton, by his marriage with Jane, daughter and co-heiress of Matthew Bee of Ninebanks.⁶ He was dead before 2nd September, 1693, when Frances Swinburne, his widow, Philip Hodgson and Mary, his wife, who was the only daughter and heiress of the said Allan Swinburne, covenanted to levy a fine of 'all that grange or farm hold called by the name of Towlands *alias* Tone house, theretofore in the tenure of Ralph Widdrington, esq.'⁷

Allan Hodgson and his sisters were ardent Jacobites, and were steeped in the plots of which the district of the North Tyne was a hotbed. One of the sisters is said to have disguised herself as a gingerbread wench to follow the duke of Cumberland's army in order to gain intelligence for the rebels. Allan Hodgson himself was committed to Morpeth gaol (it is said at the instance of some of his more cautious friends), and was in confinement there in August, 1746. He died at Morpeth, unmarried and intestate, in 1772. One of his sisters had married, but died without issue in her brother's lifetime. Another had formed a connexion, said to have had the sanction of the rites of marriage in the Roman Catholic chapel of Stella, with Delaval Shafto of the Little Bavington family, who, sometime a salt officer in Elsdon, subsequently farmed on the Tone estate, and in a fit of despondency shot himself in the woods there.

¹ In 1568 Tonande was in the Crown. *Feodary's Book*, 10 Eliz.; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. lxi.

² A fee farm rent of £6 13s. 4d., issuing out of a tenement in Filton *alias* Cary-coats, and Tolland *alias* Tone, was in 1696 part of the endowment of the Colston almshouses in Bristol. *Abstract of Title of Tone* with Mr. R. G. Bolam.

³ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 236.

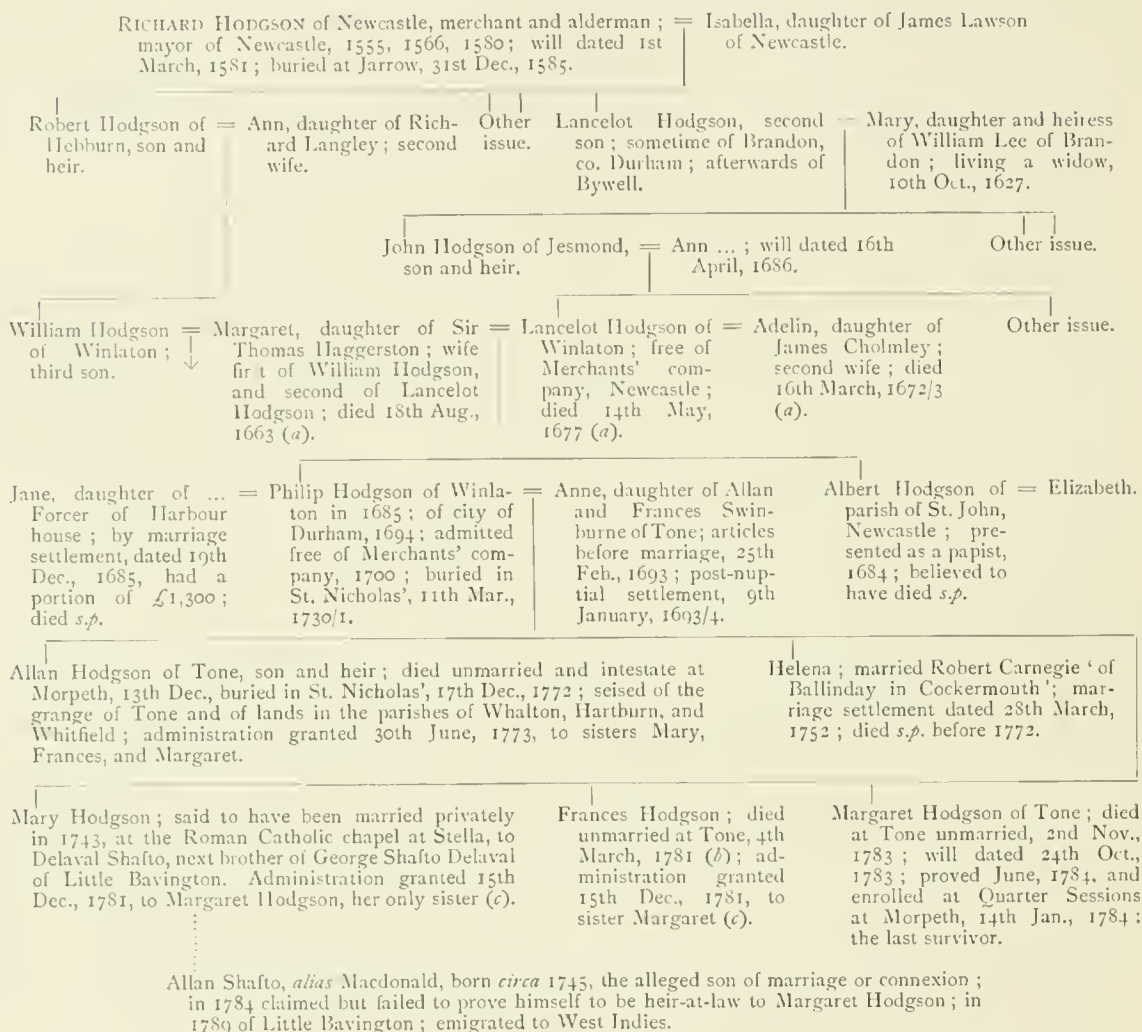
⁴ *Ibid.* p. 254.

⁵ *Ibid.* p. 238.

⁶ *Ibid.* pt. ii. vol. i. p. 233; cf. vol. iii. p. 118.

⁷ *Abstract of Title of Tone* with Mr. R. G. Bolam.

HODGSON OF TONE.*



(a) M.I. St. Nicholas', Newcastle.

(b) *Newcastle Courant*, 10th March, 1781.(c) Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

* A pedigree of Hodgson of Hebburn is printed in Surtees' *Durham*, vol. ii. p. 77; *cf. ibid.* vol. ii. p. 319; Hodgson of Manor-house, Lanchester.

On the death, in 1783, of Margaret Hodgson, the last survivor of the family, the estates were claimed by Allan Shafto *alias* Macdonald, who (born *circa* 1745) had been brought up by Allan Hodgson and his sisters as their adopted son.

He brought actions (but he failed to obtain verdicts) against William

Sanderson (who took the estates under Margaret Hodgson's will)¹ at the Northumberland Assizes of 1784 and 1785. He contended he was the legitimate son of the union of Mary Hodgson and Delaval Shafto, and as such was nephew and heir-at-law to Allan and to Frances Hodgson. The other side contended that he was really the son of Macdonald of Kinloch Moidart, who was executed at Carlisle in 1746, and some of whose children had been adopted by fellow-Jacobites. It was further alleged that Margaret Hodgson was drunk when her will was made by Mr. Harvey of Newcastle (who was solicitor to Sanderson), but Dr. Charles Brown, a physician in Newcastle, and others, testified that, however much she might have been influenced by flattery, this charge was not true. The estates were also claimed by Mrs. Mary Teresa Eyre of Hassop, who was asserted to be, and probably was, the real heir-at-law.

William Sanderson, who succeeded to the estate, was the eldest son of William Sanderson of Healey, in the parish of Bywell St. Peter, to which estate he also succeeded on his father's death. He assumed the name of Hodgson,² but falling into difficulties, conveyed, 26th and 27th June, 1812, Tone and Healey to Edward Charlton of Sandhoe and William Witham of Durham, in trust for his creditors. His wife had a jointure of £200 a year charged on Tone, which she was enjoying at the venerable age of 95 in 1846.

Hodgson's trustees, in 1816, sold Tone to Thomas Kerr, a solicitor in Alnwick, who subsequently made it his residence, and by will, dated 15th January, 1830, gave it (with Cowden and Greenrigg, also in the parish of Chollerton; Coldtown, Chesterhope, High-house, in Corsenside; Ritton White-house and Rough-lees, in Netherwitton, and Boggle hole, in Bellingham) to his nephew, Anthony Gregson of Low-linn. In the following year Gregson entailed his estates upon Mr. Henry Knight, son of the Rev. Thomas Knight, rector of Ford, in tail male, but the trustees in

¹ 1783, 24th October. Will of Margaret Hodgson of Tone, spinster. To Allan Macdonald of Bavington, gent., £20 a year; to Ralph Sanderson of Tone, gent., £10 a year; Clementina, wife of William Sanderson of Heley, esq., to have my gold watch for her life, and after her decease Frances Margaret Hodgson Macdonald to have it; to the said Frances Margaret Hodgson Macdonald, £400 when 21; all my trinkets to be divided equally between her and her sister Mary Macdonald. I give the residue of my personal estate, and all my freehold estate, to William Sanderson the younger of Heley, gent., and his heirs male, he and they to assume the name of Hodgson; remainder to the youngest son of Henry Swinburne of Hamsterly, esq. Enrolled with clerk of the peace, 14th January, 1784.

² The Rev. John Hodgson writes in his note book, August, 1814, of Tone hall: 'Sanderson lived about a year at it after he changed his name to Hodgson; then his father came and lived there till about the time of his death; it has since been inhabited by tenants, and now mostly by pitmen. It is a large mansion with offices on the north . . . and is much enclosed in wood, which flourishes well enough around the house; but in places behind to the north is stunted, though it has been planted on crests of earth, but is peat moss. The colliery at Tone employs about eight people.'

1840 obtained an Act of Parliament to enable them to sell or exchange the settled lands. Under the powers so given, the Tone and Cowden estates were, in 1864, sold to Mr. J. G. Abbot for £30,100, who three years later resold them to Mr. Hugh Taylor of Chipchase, their present owner.

Colden or Cowden was granted by Richard de Umframvill to the prior and convent of Hexham, who also obtained from Ralph de Gunnerton common pasture on Gunnerton Moor for 300 cattle belonging to Colden.¹ In 1479 the vill was let to Alan del Strother at the rent of £3 6s. 8d.²

The land the convent held in severalty was comprised within these boundaries: Beginning at the east side of Trow hill, the line passed by way of an old ditch at the Trow burn, and thence by that burn towards the west as far as the Ley-acre-dyke, and thence towards the south by the Standing Stones between the moor of Birtley and the new field of Colden as far as the Lange syke; towards the east as far as Colden burn and thence by way of an ancient dyke between the moor of Gunnerton and the said Colden as far as a little sike on the north side of a certain little hill called Colden Kyrk, as far as the Derestrete, and thence by the Derestrete towards the north as far as the before-named Trow hill.³

The history of Cowden after the dissolution is unknown: it is not mentioned in the Book of Rates of 1663, but in 1697 it was amongst the estates given by the will of Sir Mark Milbank of Halnaby, with whose descendants it remained until 1787, when it was sold by Ralph Milbank to John Reed, a woollen draper in Newcastle, for £2,400. Reed's eldest son, William Reed, married Ann, daughter of William Hay of Lesbury, and by the marriage settlement, dated 26th and 27th December, 1799, Cowden was conveyed to trustees to secure her marriage portion of £2,000, but subsequently was conveyed to trustees for the benefit of William Reed's creditors. The trustees in 1809 sold it to William Collingwood of Alnwick, scrivener, dealer, and chapman, who two years later became bankrupt, whereupon Cowden was purchased for £5,040 by Thomas Kerr, then of Alnwick, afterwards of Tone. Since that period it has formed part of the Tone estates, and now belongs to Mr. Hugh Taylor.

At the southern extremity of this part of the township is a curious rock called Colden or Cowden Kirk; the water-course close by and the hill were called Trow burn and Trow hill respectively.

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 111.

² *Ibid.* p. 34.

³ *Ibid.* p. 34.

At Cowden, about 650 yards on the west side of Watling Street, there is a small camp placed within a plantation. Its name is preserved in Camp hill, but 'it is so ploughed down as to be nearly invisible; it is partly within the plantation and partly without, that within being much the more perfect; it is nearly rectangular.'¹ There is a similar camp also within a plantation about 350 yards north-west of Tone inn.

The Hodgsons were a Roman Catholic family, and maintained a chaplain at Tone; after 1812 the mission was removed to Bellingham, where are preserved a vestment and other relics removed from Tone.

Colt Crag, under the name of Coulter Crag, is mentioned in the inquisition taken, 21st October, 1592, after the death of Sir Henry Widdrington.² Colt Crag was one of the farms conveyed with Swinburn in 1678 by Lord Widdrington to Thomas Riddell.³ It is a moorland farm belonging to Mr. J. G. Riddell, and includes a large reservoir of 206 acres belonging to the Newcastle and Gateshead Water company, which contains 1,070,000,000 gallons of water.⁴

WHITESIDE LAW TOWNSHIP.

The township of Whiteside Law, comprising 87 acres, is so insignificant that no separate census returns are made. It may have been originally a farm in Great Swinburn or Colwell, and have owed its status as a township to the operation of the Poor Law Act of Charles II.

In 1654 William Milburn was infeoffed of Whiteside Law by William Widdrington, and in 1663 he was rated for the same at £13. He was then residing in Newcastle, where he made his will, 10th June, 1692, by which he gave Whiteside Law to Margaret, his wife, for life, and then to his two daughters, Ann and Dorothy. He gave a legacy of £5 to his brother, Ambrose Milburn. After passing through various hands it was purchased in 1771 by Thomas Riddell of Swinburn, from whom it has descended to Mr. J. G. Riddell of Swinburn and Felton.⁵

¹ MacLauchlan, *Survey of Watling Street*, p. 26.

² Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 236.

³ Mr. J. G. Riddell's *Title Deeds*.

⁴ *Trans. Tyneside Nat. Club*, vol. xvi. p. 401.

⁵ Mr. J. G. Riddell's *Title Deeds*.

EAST (OR LITTLE) SWINBURN TOWNSHIP.

The township of Little or East Swinburn¹ comprises 1,236 acres, divided by the stream which, taking its rise on Carrycoats Moor, is known, near its source, as the Dry burn, and lower down as the Swin burn. It is impounded by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water company, whose reservoir at Little Swinburn has an area of 15 acres, and contains 34,000,000 gallons.² To the east of Watling Street, on the Folly farm, are to be seen the remains of a camp, within which has been found a fragment of an upper millstone of granite.

The hamlet of Little Swinburn stands upon the limestone and is sheltered by higher ground on all sides except the south-east, where it has a wide and wild prospect over the Tepper Moor to the heights of Whitfield and Allendale, and even as far as Cross fell. It now consists of a farm house, built in 1808 by Sir William Loraine, the usual outbuildings, and a few cottages, but near the tower are foundations of buildings, and to the south of it is an ancient fish pond.

LITTLE SWINBURN TOWER.

The tower can only be seen when close at hand, the broken nature of the ground preventing a more distant view. Its general appearance recalls the towers of Tosson and Hepple, near Rothbury, which it also resembles in its construction and dimensions.

The tower is not mentioned in the list of strongholds made for Henry V. in 1415, but if it did not then exist, it must have been erected within a short time after. In the Border survey of 1541 it is stated that 'at lytle Swyneburne is a lytle towre of the inheritance of Thomas Mydleton of Belso, esqui', decayed in the roofes.'³

Of the structure there is less now standing than when Mr. Edward Swinburne made the drawing for the Rev. John Hodgson's history, here reproduced. The ruin has been robbed of so many of its stones that barely sufficient remains to enable its original form to be determined. The stones still left at the south-west corner show the exterior to have been faced with good squared

¹ The population of Little Swinburn and Whiteside Law in 1811 was 219; in 1821, 149. Since that time the census returns have been included in those of Chollerton.

² *Trans. Tyneside Nat. Club*, vol. xvi. p. 401.

³ Bates, *Border Holds*, vol. i. p. 47.



LITTLE SWINBURN TOWER.

stones in courses of large size at the ground level and diminishing in height towards the top. There are also portions of a chamfered course about 12 feet above the ground level.

The building measures on the exterior 40 feet from north to south, and 27 feet from east to west, the walls being about 5 feet thick. The doorway was on the ground level in the east wall at its north end. It opened into a vaulted passage, from which a straight stair ascended in the thickness of the north wall. On the left of the passage or entrance lobby was the opening into the vaulted chamber, which formed the basement; the loop for ventilation was probably at the south end. The straight staircase, also vaulted, led to the first floor, where there are indications of a fire-place in the west wall. The south jam band springing stone of the rear arch of an opening remains *in situ*. There are also traces of a fire-place above the first floor level, showing that the tower comprised at least three floors. The gabled weathering on the west wall indicates the pitch of the roof of a later addition.

The chapel of East Swinburn was included in the grant of the church of Chollerton to the prior and convent of Hexham. It was dedicated to All Saints and had a graveyard attached to it.¹ At the west end of this, towards the north, was a tithe barn and a garden granted to the convent by Hugh de Baliol.² This site, 80 feet long and 80 feet wide, was let in 1479 for one penny to Jordan of Barousford.³

Ulfchill de Swyneburne,⁴ the earliest known resident proprietor at East Swinburn, must have been a man of considerable standing, although he held his lands of the lords of Gunnerton, who, in their turn, were feudal tenants of the Baliols. His name occupies the sixth place among the twenty-nine witnesses to the famous judgment that Odinel de Umframvill delivered in favour of Bertram de Widdrington in the chief court of the barony of Whalton, in the latter part of the twelfth century.⁵ Ralph of Gunwarton confirmed a donation of 33 acres from 'his man' Ulfchill's son, Adam, to Robert, son of Richard of Colwell.⁶ Subsequently, in the presence of the

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 35.

² *Ibid.* p. 117; *cf.* vol. iii. p. 142.

³ *Ibid.* p. 35.

⁴ In the *Liber Vita*, p. 48, is the entry: 'Ulfkil filius Suhain et Sungiua uxor ejus.' This Suhain may have given his name to Swinburn. ⁵ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. pp. 224, 230, 248.

⁶ 'Sciant omnes quod ego Radulfus de Gunewarton consensu heredum meorum dedi et confirmavi donacionem Adae filii Ulkilli de Swinburne hominis mei quam fecit et contulit Roberto filio Ricardi de Colewell pro homagio et servicio suo, scilicet de xxxiii acris terræ in Swineburn. Test.: Gilb. capellano, Pet. fil. et hered. præfati Radulfi, Ada de Graham, W. de Hawelton, T. fil. Rob. de Divelston, Gervasio de Bentone, Eustac. fil. eius, W. et Laurent, fratribus eius de Stanton, W. de Wircester. Alano de Swinburne, Rad. fil. Ric. de Colewell.' *Dodswoth MSS.* xlv. 95.

prior of Hexham, Adam de Swyneburn renounced to his lord, Ralph of Gunwarton and his heirs, all the land formerly under cultivation in the fields of Swyneburn, and embraced by a line drawn 'from the west side of Swinerigh to the Holleche, and continued down to the nearest valley; thence to the "siket,"¹ and so to the Swyne burn, and by the Swyne burn to Derestreet,' together with common of pasture and peat. In consideration of this Adam de Swyneburn received the remainder of East Swinburn in perpetuity at a rent of 30s., and subject to the feudal services attached to the third part of a two knights' fee.²

The lands acquired by Ralph of Gunwarton appear to be the same as those he granted to Richard Fossor for a pound of pepper annually; the bounder, however, is more explicit: 'From the water which is called the Swyn burne by the bounds of Geoffrey of Swynburn ascending to the nearest moor, and the whole of that moor which is called Heiside as that moor and Geoffrey's land march as far westward up the "siket" next to Derestreet, and by the "siket" eastwards between the two moors up to Stelden at the head of Swynerig; and thence as the ploughed land and the moor march to the head of the Holleche; thence by the road which is called Petemoswey to the head of Riggesbanc, and along the "siket" there downwards to the water called the Swyn burne, and down this water again to the bounds of Geoffrey before mentioned.' To common of pasture in the whole pasture of East Swinburn and all its rights to peat, there was added the privilege of making a mill in any place selected within the bounder.³ Richard Fossor, in his turn, made over this grant to the monks of Newminster, for the good of his soul and of the soul of Ralph of Gunwarton.⁴ In his confirmation, Ralph's son and heir, Peter of Gunwarton, made the grant to Newminster absolute for the good of his soul and those of his wife, his ancestors, and his heirs. He added the right of common pasture in Gunwarton, as well as in East Swinburn, for 4 broken-in horses, 10 oxen, and 30 cows and 400 ewes with their calves and lambs till weaned. Due note was made of this addition in the confirmation obtained from the over lord, Hugh de Baliol.⁵

Under the general name of Stelden (which perhaps comprised most of the township of East Swinburn to the west of the Swin burn) the abbot and convent of Newminster, with the common consent of their chapter, granted

¹ 'Sicket' (diminutive of syke), a small rill; 'as burns are the tributaries of rivers, so, in turn, are sykes the tributaries of burns.' Cf. Heslop, *Northumberland Words*.

² *Newminster Chartulary*, pp. 70, 71.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 70.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 71.

⁵ *Ibid.* p. 72.

a lease of these lands and privileges to the prior and convent of Hexham in perpetuity at a rent of 33s. 4d.¹ Prior John de Lazenby (who died 1269) and the convent of Hexham on their part, with the common counsel of their convent, granted the whole of their land of Stelden to John, son of Richard of East Swinburn, together with a messuage formerly held of them by Richard Fossor and a toft and croft sometime held by Samson of Swynburn, at the annual rents of 40s. and 12d., but with a reservation of their own sheep-fold at Stelden and their pasture on Gunwarton Moor, together with free passage for the sheep.² By default of the prior of Hexham in paying the stipulated rent, the abbot of Newminster re-entered on Stelden and let it 'as his own right and justice demanded.' John de Midleton, lord of East Swinburn held, in 1479, the whole of what had been originally granted to John, the son of Richard, at 40s. a year.³ In 1567 Roger Widdrington received a grant of lands at Stelden from the Crown.⁴

As in the case of the Swinburnes of West Swinburn the sudden rise to wealth and influence of the Swinburnes of East Swinburn is a remarkable fact in the local history of the latter part of the thirteenth century. John, the son of Richard of East Swinburn and probably the great-grandson of Ulfchill, was no doubt the same John de Swinburne who granted lands in Stamfordham to Walter de Foderingeye, the principal and the scholars of the house of Balliol, in Oxford, in about 1270.⁵ He became possessed, possibly

¹ *Newminster Chartulary*, p. 73.

² 'Sciant praesentes et futuri quod ego Johannes prior et conventus Augustaldensis. communi consilio conventus nostri, dedimus Johanni filio Ricardi de Swyneburne orientali, pro homagio et servicio suo totam terram nostram, cum capitali mesuagio, quam Ricardus Fossator de nobis quondam tenuit; et totam terram nostram, cum tofto et crofto, quam Sampson de Swyneburne de nobis aliquando tenuit in eadem villa: et totam terram nostram de Steldene cum pert., excepta bercaria nostra de Steldene, et pastura nostra in mora de Gunewarton, sicut carta abbatis de Novo Monasterio, quam inde habemus testatur, cum libero introitu et exitu ad oves nostras ad praedictam bercariam commorantes. Reddendo annuatim xls. et xiiid. Faciendo forinsecum servicium, quantum ad praedictas terras pertinet. Hiis testibus: dominis Hugone de Bolebeck, Roberto de Insula, Thoma de Oggil, Thoma de Fennewyke, militibus; Johanne de Swyneburne occidentali, Waltero de Suetehope, Willelmo de Colewelle, et aliis.' *Capheaton Charter from Hodgson MS.: Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 100, 101.

³ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 35.

⁴ 9 July, 1567. Lease for 50 years from the Crown to Roger Widdrington, of Stelden with the appurtenances in the vill of East Swinburn, late belonging to the monastery of Hexham, with two parcels of land, also within East Swinburn, lately belonging to the monastery of Newminster, the one called Hatherc park, lying on the south side of the burn, and the other called Prior's cleugh, lying on the north part of the same burn, within a ring fence (*leringe dykes*). Rent 5s. a year. *Land Revenue Records Office*, 2 B, folio 54.

⁵ *Balliol College Deeds*, 'E,' 4, 5, 6. *Hist. MSS. Comm. Appendix*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 231. The seal of de Swyneburne shows on a shield the arms, *on a cross five garbs* and the legend 'S. IOHIS DE SWYNEBVRNE.' A similar seal (here reproduced) with the legend 'S. IOHIS DE SWI' is preserved in the Treasury, Durham. 1^{ma} 1^{ma} Spec. No. 66, on a deed dated 5th February, 1312, relating to property in Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne: 'Johannes de Swinburne miles Dno Adae de Colewell capelano mesuagium cum edificiiis et pert. in villa Novicacstri super Tynam in vico peregrinorum inter terram quondam Thomae de Silkesworth ex parte una et terram Dni Adae de Denton militis ex parte alt. quod emi de Rogero de Kingeston burgensi dictae villae.'

by marriage, of the manor of Bewcastle, in Cumberland. In this and East Swinburn he had a grant of free warren, 14th May, 1277.¹ The next year he was sheriff of Cumberland. In 1294 he was assessor and collector in Northumberland of the tenths granted by parliament. As one of the commissioners appointed in 1300 to summon the knights of Northumberland to meet the king for the purpose of performing military service against Scotland, he was commanded in October, 1309, to repair with his two sons, Adam and Robert de Swinburne, to their respective estates on the Borders near Carlisle, and there to continue and attend to the defence of the Marches.² Richard de



Kellaw, bishop of Durham, granted on 14th November, 1313, an indulgence of forty days for the souls of Sir John de Swinburn, knight, and Avicia,³ his consort, whose bodies lay buried in the parish church of Chollerton.⁴ The manor of Gunnerton which they had acquired passed to Robert, who seems to have been their younger son; thus their elder son, Adam, came to hold the ancestral estate of East Swinburn of his younger brother by the service of 14d. for the ward of Newcastle.⁵

Sir Adam bore the whole coat *gules three boars' heads argent*: in the case of Robert and his descendants cadency was marked by a *field crusily*.⁶

Sir Adam de Swinburn had received the manor of Simondburn in marriage with Idonea, the sister of Henry de Graham. This was confirmed to him and his wife at Wark in 1291.⁷ Identifying himself with Scottish interests he led the hordes of Athol and Menteith to the destruction of Hexham in 1296.⁸ The subsidy roll of that year shows the flourishing state of his father's village of East Swinburn, which, mainly through his instrumentality, was so soon to be reduced with the rest of Northumberland to the state of a blackened desert.

¹ *Cal. Rot. Chart.* 5 Ed. 1. pars un. num. 16; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 231; pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 392.

² *Rot. Scoe.* vol. i. pp. 40-164; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 250.

³ Richard Syward gave to John Swyneburne and Avicia, his wife, all his lands in Espley-wood and Ravenisburne in North Tindale. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 250.

⁴ 'Memorandum quod xiiii die Nov. anno dni millesimo cccxiii apud Kypier concessit dominus xl dies indulgentiae pro animabus domini Johannis de Swynburn militis et Aviciae consortis suae, quorum corpora in ecclesia parochiali de Chollerton suae diocesis requiescant humata, et pro animabus omnium fidelium.' Kellawe's *Register*, fo. 138; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 15.

⁵ 'De manerio de Est Swynburne. Et tenuit dictum manerium de domino Roberto de Swynburne domino de Gunwarton per serviciuum 14 denar. ad wardam Novi Castri.' *Inspeximus, temp.* Ed. VI. of *Inq. p.m.* 12 Ed. II. No. 28; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. pp. 250, 251.

⁶ *Roll, circa* A.D. 1308-1314; Queen's college, Oxford. MS. 158; Papworth, *Ordinary*, p. 925.

⁷ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. pp. 232, 250.

⁸ Bates, *Northumberland*, p. 149.

SWYNEBURNE EST SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.

		£	s.	d.		s.	d.
Summa bonorum	Alani filii Alani	...	...	...	...	1	13 0
	unde regi					3	0
"	Walteri praepositi	...	...	...	...	1	19 4
"	Johannis filii Walteri	...	...	...	...	1	11 8
"	Alani de Gunwarton	...	...	...	...	0	17 2
"	Willelmi Smalheye	...	...	...	...	0	17 2
"	Ranulphi Bleschet	...	...	...	...	1	3 4
"	Alexandri filii Radulphi	...	...	...	...	1	3 0
"	Rogeri de Colewell	...	...	...	...	0	18 8
"	Johannis filii Alani	...	...	...	...	0	19 0
"	Adae Feyrheud	...	...	...	...	1	16 6
"	Ricardi fabris	...	...	...	...	1	13 4
"	Ricardi sissoris	...	...	...	...	0	16 0
"	Willelmi filii Alani	...	...	...	...	0	11 8
"	Ricardi de Mora	...	...	...	...	0	11 10
"	Johannis de Swyneburne	...	...	...	...	4	11 0
	Summa hujus villae, £21 2s. 8d.						
	Unde regi, 38s. 6½d.						

For his treason, Sir Adam was imprisoned in the castle of Berwick till May, 1297, when Edward I. directed the constable to be guided by the advice of Hugh de Cressingham as to the propriety of setting him at liberty. In August, 1300, he received at Drumbogh, in Scotland, from Edward I., £3 6s. 8d. for his summer's wages, 4 marks for his summer robe, and £12 for his own wages and those of his three esquires for forty-eight days. He was sheriff of Northumberland in 1315, when the *posse comitatus* was ordered to march with him under the command of Henry de Beaumont, the king's cousin, in order to punish certain aggressions of the Scots.¹ The truth of the story that he was arrested by Edward II. in 1317 for speaking his mind too freely on the misrule and ruin of the Border, and that it was this arrest that led his cousin, Gilbert de Middleton, to kidnap the bishop elect of Durham on the 1st of September of that year and then launch into open rebellion,² may be questioned when we find Sir Adam taking 100 silver marks from the collectors of Peter's pence at Durham on the 6th of December, as part payment of 1,000 marks due to him for the custody of the palatinate.³ This shows that he was at large at the time and looks like a piece of black-mailing similar to the levy of 200 marks, extorted by Middleton from the temporal chancellor in the previous October.⁴ The

¹ *Rot. Scoc.* vol. i. pp. 40-164; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 250.

² 'Par caus qe le roy auoit fait arester Adam de Swynburne a qy il estoit cosyn. qi ly auoit parle trop rudement de lestat dez marchies.' *Scalacronica*, Maitland Club ed. p. 144.

³ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 214 n.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 360.

seal on Sir Adam's receipt to the collectors gives a shield charged with the coat borne by his father *on a cross, five garbs*;¹ on each side of the shield as well as above it is a boar's head coupéd.² At the time of his death in 1318 Sir Adam's son, Henry, was just of age.³ Robert de Sapy, the escheator, was ordered to take all the property of the late Sir Adam into the king's hands,⁴ and it appears to have been confiscated.⁵ Henry also incurred forfeiture;⁶ in 1323-1324 he presented a petition praying for the restitution of some of his lands.⁷



After the deposition of Edward II.,⁸ the estates seem to have been restored to Sir Adam's surviving daughter, Barnaba, and his two grandsons, Gerard de Widdrington and William Heron. Barnaba received the *stamm-gut* at East Swinburn, together with Bewcastle and other lands.⁹ She became wife of Sir John de Strivelyn of Belsay. The Scottish wars had reduced East Swinburn to a mere sheep walk.¹⁰ Barnaba de Strivelyn appears to have had a daughter named Christian, who, marrying Sir John de Middleton in about 1371, carried East Swinburn into that family.¹¹ At his death, which took place during his wife's lifetime in 1396, Sir John de Middleton was himself seised in fee of the manor and mill of East Swinburn, together with the pasture called Steldenleys, all which he held of the lord of Gunwarton.¹²

¹ This coat is blazoned in Glover's *Ordinary*: *arg. on a cross gu. five garbs or.*

² *Misc. Chart.* No. 4581, *Durham Treasury*. Surtees Seals, pl. x. The legend is 'S. ADE DE SWINEBURNE.'

³ *Inq. p.m.* 12 Ed. II. No. 28; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 251 n.

⁴ *Originalia*, 12 Ed. II. ro. 3; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 296.

⁵ 'Asserendo dictum Adam . . . Scotis inimicis dni Edwardi quondam regis Anglia aui et dni Edwardi nuper regis patris nostrorum, ac Gilberto de Middleton proditori eiusdem patris nostri contra ipsum patrem adhesisse, et cum ipsis inimicis de guerra equitasse incendia et alia mala quam plurima perpetrando.' *Cart. Ridl.* p. 87; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 361 n.

⁶ *Inq. ad quod damn.* 17 Ed. II. No. 28.

⁷ *Inq. p.m.* 17 Ed. II. No. 98.

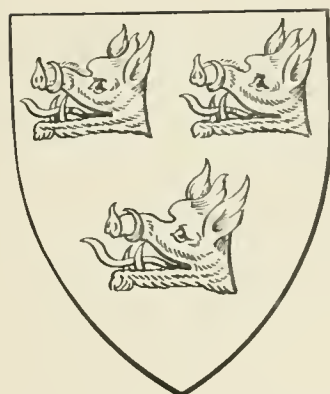
⁸ A second *Inq. p.m.* 20 Ed. II. No. 48, was taken at Newcastle, 9th January, 1327, in answer to a writ dated at Kenilworth on the 12th of December previous. The revolution in the government had been completed, in the middle of November, by the king's capture. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 251.

⁹ *Originalia*, 1 Ed. III. ro. 28; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 302. The reason for this may be that she was treated as heir to her full brother, Henry, in preference to their half sisters, Christian and Elizabeth. At East Swinburn the manor house had been worth 2s. a year in time of peace, but it had been destroyed by the Scots and its site was worthless. Formerly there had been 160 acres in demesne, each worth 6d. in peace and now 30 let at 6d. an acre, the rest waste; there were also 20 acres of meadow worth in peace 6d. See *Inq. p.m.* 20 Ed. II. No. 48.

¹⁰ SWYNBURN EST SUBSIDY ROLL, 1336. Johannes de Strivelyn, 13s. 4d.; Nicholaus bercarius, 1s. 4d.; Willelmus Merlyrigge, 10d.; Henricus bercarius, 10d.; Johannes de Rupon (?), 9d. Summa, 17s. 1d.

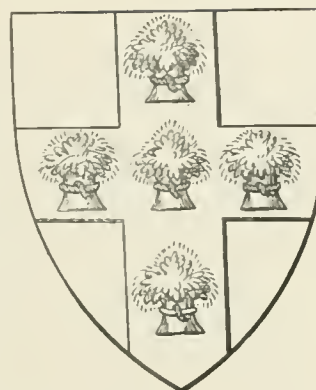
¹¹ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. pp. 354, 356.

¹² *Ibid.* p. 363.



SWINBURNE OF EAST SWINBURN.

ARMS: *Gules three boars' heads argent*, entered as borne by Adam de Swynburne in MS. L. 14, College of Arms (A.D. 1240-1245), and in MS. 158, Queen's college, Oxford (A.D. 1308-1314); but Sir John de Swyneburne and his son Sir Adam used *argent on a cross gules five garbs or* given as SWINBURN in Glover's *Ordinary*, though probably derived through an heiress, and possibly connected with the garbs of the Comyns of Tynedale. Round this Sir Adam on his seal placed three boars' heads as accessories. His brother Robert, in Essex, retained the coat of his paternal ancestors differenced with crosses crosslet; to these Thomas de Swyneburn of East Mersey added a label.

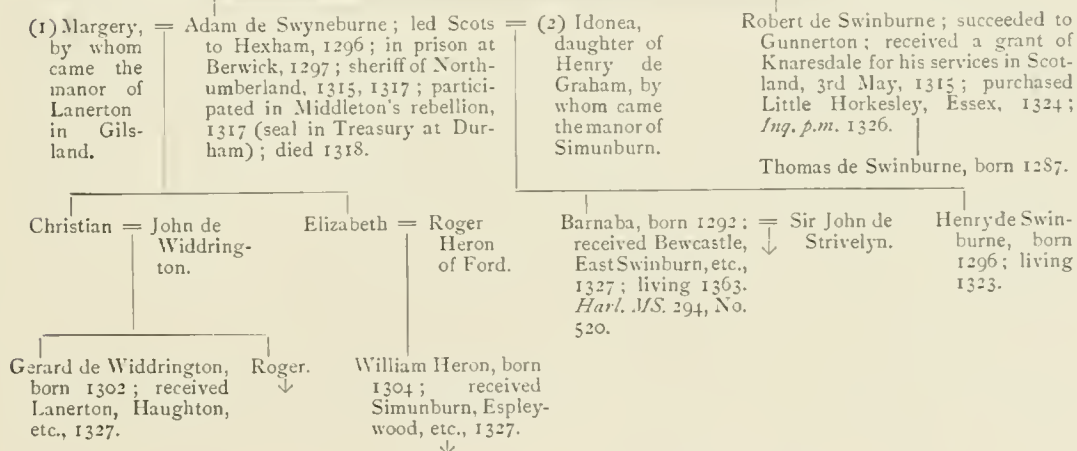


ULFCHILL DE SWYNEBURNE attested Odinel de Umframvill's (died 1182) judgment at Whalton.

Adam de Swyneburne, 'filius Ulkilli,' renounced all claims to Filton, 1236, *Newminster Cartulary*; M.S. 'L. 14,' College of Arms (1240-1245); received a grant of East Swinburn from Ralph de Gunwarton.

Richard de Swyneburne, 'filius Adae,' joined in his father's renunciation of Filton, 1236; juror, *Inq. p.m.* Otwel de Insula, 1255.

John de Swyneburne, 'filius Ricardi de Swyneburne orientali'; granted lands to Balliol college *circa* = Avicia, 1270; had free warren, 1277; sheriff of Cumberland, 1277; acquired Gunnerton, 1296; to repair to the Borders with his sons Adam and Robert, 1309; sold house in Newcastle, 1312 (seal in Treasury at Durham); indulgence for the souls 'dni Johannis de Swynburn militis et Avicie consortis sue,' 1313.



Little Swinburn remained in the possession of the family of Middleton for many generations, and in 1663 it was rated to William Middleton, esq., at £60. But at the close of the seventeenth century it was sold to Edward Swinburn of Capheaton, who having gone out in 1715 was taken and committed to prison, where he died of the spotted fever, 6th December, 1716, and was buried at St. Giles', London. His estates in Northumberland,

comprising Little Swinburn, East, West, and New Deanham, were sold by public auction by the commissioners of Forfeited Estates, 9th June, 1719, for £6,800 to John Wicker of Horsham, Sussex, esq., who acted for, and immediately conveyed the same to, Sir William Loraine of Kirkharle.¹ Little Swinburn remained with the Loraine family until 1826, when it was purchased from Sir William Loraine by Mr. Ralph Riddell of Swinburn castle, to whose descendant, Mr. J. G. Riddell, it now belongs.

The small estate of Short Knowes, containing 34 acres, formerly belonging to Mr. John Shanks, is now the property of the Newcastle and Gateshead Water company.²

BARRASFORD TOWNSHIP.

The township of Barrasford, comprising 1,440 acres,³ is somewhat wedge-shaped in form, the wider end (like the townships of Chollerton and West Swinburn) abutting upon the North Tyne. On the south-east it is divided from Great Swinburn by the Swin burn, the narrower end extending to Watling Street (or rather to the line where that road is deflected to ease the descent to the Swin burn), and its north-western boundary is defined by a line drawn along the crags which run up between it and Gunnerton. At Reaver Crag, where picturesque grey cliffs of columnar basalt 60 to 80 feet in perpendicular height look toward the north, the abrupt face of the crags has been smoothed by the erosive action of glaciers moving in a south-east direction. This is quite apparent from the traces left of striations and grinding or polishing on the rock surfaces. In the words of a survey made in the time of Elizabeth :

The boulder of Barresforth begynneth at the water of Tyne on the north syde of the foot of Swinburne burne, and so up Tyne west to the foot of a green sike that stynteth on the said water of Tyne, soe directly east up that sike to an old dike drawing northwarde, and so on the High Street and over a hedge directly north-east, and up the east side of a brode rigg to the Mayden knowes, and soe directly north-east on Mayden knowes to the west side of the cragg, and soe north-east by a hedge to the Gunnor heugh, and soe by another hedge to the west end of Phillecup hill, and soe north by the west syde of Phillecup stack to a carne of stones called Imdbays doore, and soe north-east by the Toddle cragg to Dynelaw foard, and soe east downe a sike to Cottwall burne, up the north syde of that burne to Coatewall foarde.

¹ *Forfeited Estates Papers*, S, 114.

² In 1873 Isaac Baty of Short Knowes owned 34 acres of land of the estimated rental of £17. *Parliamentary Return of Owners of Land*.

³ Including 19 acres of water, 11 acres of public roads, and 5 acres of railway.

In 1871, the last occasion on which a separate census return was made, the population of the township was 233,¹ made up chiefly by dwellers on the haugh lands in the valley of the North Tyne, where the village and mill of Barrasford and the homesteads of Chiselly-hall, Catheugh, Ellwood-house, and Reaver-hill are placed.

Of the pre-historic inhabitants numerous traces have been found, and some remains of places of abode and of burial are still left. On an escarpment above the Barrasford burn a cairn was excavated in making the cutting near the railway station.² It proved to be the place of sepulture of an Angle, and amongst the articles it contained were an iron shield boss and six circular disks of silver, one of which had covered the top of the central and projecting part of the boss, the others having served as ornaments on the flatter part, and possibly had been used to cover the heads of the rivets which attached the boss to the wooden and leather-covered shield; a broad two-edged sword and a knife (of both of which only fragments were left), all having been associated with the Anglian interment. A British urn was found at a lower level, indicating that the mound had originally been thrown up over a Briton, and long afterwards, as frequently happened, been made use of for a later interment.³ In a close near the Barrasford school, occupying the level space almost in the centre of a kind of natural amphitheatre, there stood (in an enclosed portion) until lately a block of native basalt about 6 feet in length, which a few years ago had two or three companions; beneath the stone, fragments of bones and charcoal were found.⁴ On the Catheugh farm a large cairn of the British period formerly existed, in which were several cists and urns.⁵ On the high ground north-west of Reaver Crag house, and about half a mile from Watling Street, are the remains of a camp, of which Sir David Smith about seventy years ago wrote that it was '60 paces from north to south, and 80 paces from east to west; the base of the agger is about 6 paces, the old fence to the westward may (as some think) have been part of the original work, but the better conjecture is that it was not; the ditch of the camp is plainest to be traced on the north and west sides.' At the whinstone quarry were

¹ The Census Returns are: 1801, 169; 1811, 181; 1821, 193; 1831, 232; 1841, 209; 1851, 228; 1861, 215; 1871, 233. Subsequently the returns have been included in those of Chollerton parish.

² Cf. *Arch. Ael.* vol. vii. p. 14.

³ The articles found are now in the duke of Northumberland's museum at Alnwick castle, and are described in the catalogue of that museum prepared by Dr. Bruce.

⁴ Rome Hall, *Arch. Ael.* vol. vii. p. 11, and vol. x. p. 17.

⁵ *Ibid.* vol. x. p. 17.

found in 1886 a perforated stone axe hammer and a *denarius* of Hadrian. The hammer is $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad at the well-preserved cutting edge, $3\frac{1}{8}$ inches at the middle, and $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches at the hammer end.¹

But the most remarkable remains are those on Gunner Peak, which have been described by Mr. Rome Hall in the following passage :²

This ancient town or village is in form nearly quadrangular, and is of the comparatively small area of over half an acre. Relatively, however, to the whole extent of the ramparted and well-defended inclosure of the great peak, which is cut off by natural crags and artificial walls from the rest of the range, it may be said to resemble the Norman keep of a mediæval castle, with its surrounding outworks and curtain walls.

The rampart or external walls are built in the usual manner, of unhewn, unmortared stones, mingled with much earth; particularly in the central space between the outside courses. Upon the massive rampart walls would probably be fixed a stockade or strong palisade of trunks of felled trees and beams; some relics of which, it is supposed, were lately found in excavations at Carlisle, the ancient British Carluel, the Roman Luguvallium.

From sections cut into the southern rampart wall, which is the strongest, the width was ascertained to average about 13 feet. At present the wall stands only 3 to 4 feet 6 inches high, defined on each side by a line of large boulders of the native basalt, blocks of freestone brought from a considerable distance, and of limestone found *in situ*. The whin fault is, in this part of the range, protruded between the limestone strata, which appear both below the great crag and above it. Hence the upper limestone bed, creeping up the basalt rock-slope nearly to the summit, forms the floor or basis both of the camp and its dwellings. From an outburst of the whin, a salient mark and natural defence on the north-east, at the very edge of the Gunnar Heugh, (the deep precipitous ravine, 'nick,' or 'gap,' already referred to, which cleaves the igneous range at this point, and at a right angle to it), the eastern rampart runs downwards upon the sloping brow of the fissure, and necessarily in a straight line, for about 54 yards towards the south. Then it turns with slightly rounded corner (as at each angle of the camp), past the chief entrance, for about 40 yards in a westerly direction, with a bend inwards. Here the wall runs up the gently sloping ground towards the north for 56 yards, again nearly at a right angle to the line of the south rampart, but making a more decided curve at the junction with the latter. The remaining side on the north, being not far from the impregnable precipice of the great crag itself, has been less massively constructed than the others; and the wall passes here nearly due east for about 50 yards, running into the natural barrier of the basalt outcrop, from which it started on the edge of the Gunner Heugh.

Some traces of alterations and additions to the southern rampart were discovered, as if it had been thrown down during an enemies' assault, and then afterwards strengthened when the wall and stockade were re-formed. At its foundation on the inner side, 10 yards from the entrance to the town at the south-east angle, we came upon two portions of antlers of red deer (*Cervus Elephas*), the cores having been broken off when partially sawn or cut round, showing two or three incisions upon one of them. Also teeth and thigh and other bones of red deer, with the right *astragalus* (between the heel and shin-bone) of a human foot. Within the section made in the external wall at this point, towards the outside, from one to three feet below the sward, amongst the stones, which were often much reddened by the action of fire, were found more animal bones, among which were two finger-bones (*phalanges*) of a human hand; with a small sling-stone of basalt, two chips of coarse red Roman ware of the amphora

¹ Rome Hall, *Arch. Ael.* vol. xii. p. 118.

² This account of Gunner Peak camp was written by the late Rev. G. Rome Hall, and is reprinted and the plates reproduced from *Arch. Ael.* vol. x. pp. 20-23, by permission of the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries.

kind, a small bone spoon-like implement, probably the upper portion of a stylus for writing, and part of a link of an iron chain, which, though lying near, has rather a modern appearance.

In another section made at the south-west angle—where two stages of wall-building were apparent—about 2 feet 6 inches below the present summit of the partly demolished wall, a small disk, a rounded oval, of Roman Whitchurch ware, came to light, together with a smooth water-worn pebble, its fellow in size and shape, perhaps used in Romano-British times to while away the lingering hours in some game like our draughts or 'chequers.' This may lead to the supposition that the ancient town had certainly been occupied, and its walls to some extent repaired and strengthened, if not rebuilt, during the Roman period. At the north side of this section a first wall was found, 5 feet 6 inches in thickness, of massive, so-called Cyclopean masonry. At the south a second wall, 2 feet in breadth, of similar character; and intermediate the material was chiefly a rich loamy soil; about 8 inches in depth of the limestone rock-foundation being quite disintegrated and mouldered away. The building stones at the corner, externally, were very large and carefully placed.

The trench here was made 3 feet 6 inches in average width; and though the rampart itself, as originally constructed, seemed to have been about 13 feet broad, the uppermost courses of unhewn stone, thrown down at the last fatal assault and capture of the town, spread out southward to a considerable distance. From the highest point of the wall, as at present existing, it slopes down for 25 feet near the angle, and more rapidly than it does farther to the east. Seven yards from this trench eastward, and for about 23 feet, the rampart has been lowered beneath the usual level about 18 inches, and the materials cast down southwards, spreading out and projecting still further upon the green sward.

A third section was cut in the low western rampart, but only one or two bones appeared. Since the plan of the camp was made, very recently, a fourth trench was excavated in the face of the eastern rampart-wall, 6 feet to the south of the north-east corner of the courtyard of the principal circular dwelling. The thickness at this point, where the wall forms a breastwork upon the brow of the great fissure or ravine, is $3\frac{1}{2}$ yards, and the present height varies from 20 to 28 inches. It is evident that here it would be an easy task to hurl the most massive stones down the steep declivity, where they are still to be seen partly covered by the luxuriant growth of bracken. Large blocks of the native whin and limestone have been used in constructing the wall, carefully set in line both on the internal and external face. Some of the whinstones were much reddened by fire, as if by the general conflagration which may have destroyed the wooden stockade with the inclosed dwellings, all, except their bases, being made of similar perishable materials. We found no sandstone blocks built in here. A number of bones and teeth of animals were lying on the surface of the rock, and amongst the stones and soil.

The entrance or gateway of the ancient town has been in the south wall near the south-east angle, the access flanked on one side by the ravine. The width may have been 7 or 8 feet, but it is ill-defined amidst the crumbling *débris*.

The enclosure contains well defined traces of several hut circles, one of which is shown in the illustration on the next page.

The earliest mention of Barrasford is in the Testa de Nevill in 1240,¹ at which time it was in the possession of Gilbert de Umframvill and it occurs in Assize Rolls for 1255, when Edmund of Errington was tried for wounding in the wood of Akwode the widow Agnes of Barewesford. Adam, the provost or bailiff of Barewesford, is named in the record of the proceedings.² An

¹ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 206.

² *Northumberland Assize Rolls*, Page, p. 87; Surt. Soc.

original member of the barony of Prudhoe, Barrasford has consistently followed the descent and fortunes of that fee, though it very narrowly escaped being added to the great inheritance of the de Merlays, having been granted by Richard de Umframvill, with his daughter Margery, to Roger de Merlay in free marriage. On her death, without heir of her body, the manor of Barrasford reverted to her nephew, Gilbert de Umframvill, who in 1291 was found to be entitled to it under the terms of the grant made by his grandfather.¹



HUT CIRCLE ON GUNNER PEAK.

In the latter part of the thirteenth century it suffered severely in Border warfare, for when the inquisition was taken in 1289, after the death of Gilbert de Umframvill, the jury say that the site of the manor house was worth nothing, because it had been burnt by the Scots; 120 acres of demesne land worth 12s. an acre in time of peace were also worthless; the eighteen

¹ Inquisition, 20 Edw. I. No. 35.

bondage holdings, each containing a toft and 20 acres, worth 13s. 4d. in time of peace; the six cottage holdings, the water corn mill in time of peace worth 18 marks, and the brewery rent of 13s. 4d. were for the same reason of little value.¹ Seven years afterwards the eighteen tenants, of whom Ralph, the bailiff, was the chief, paid £3 3s. 8½d. as their quota to the subsidy.

BARUYSFORD SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.²

						ℓ	s.	d.			s.	d.
Summa bonorum	Willelmi	Beufrere	...	...	...	1	14	6	unde regi	3	2	¾
"	Johannis	Bel	...	...	...	2	17	2	"	5	2	½
"	Thomae filii	Willelmi	...	...	...	1	14	0	"	3	1	¼
"	Willelmi filii	Edel'	...	...	...	0	11	8	"	1	0	¾
"	Agnētis	viduae	...	...	...	1	5	9	"	2	4	½
"	Adae filii	Willelmi	...	...	...	2	2	2	"	3	10	
"	Willelmi filii	Beatt'	...	...	...	0	19	8	"	1	9	½
"	Adae filii	Rogeri	...	...	...	0	12	0	"	1	1	¼
"	Thomae	del Hill	...	...	...	3	8	8	"	6	3	½
"	Alani filii	Roberti	...	...	...	1	7	10	"	2	6	½
"	Willelmi	praepositi	...	...	...	2	1	4	"	3	9	¼
"	Ricardi	de Hetton	...	...	...	1	12	10	"	3	0	
"	Ricardi filii	Walteri	...	...	...	0	18	7	"	1	8	½
"	Ranulphi	praepositi	...	...	...	4	13	0	"	8	5	½
"	Alani	Beufrere	...	...	...	3	2	6	"	5	8	¼
"	Adae	Barun	...	...	...	1	9	0	"	2	7	¾
"	Adae filii	Edae	...	...	...	2	15	8	"	5	0	¾
"	Adae	Bul	...	...	...	1	14	8	"	3	1	¾
Summa hujus villae, £35 os. 12d.						Unde regi, 63s. 8¾d.						

In addition to the lands held by these tenants, the prior and convent of Hexham held certain lands by a then recent grant (time of Edw. I.) of Margery de Umframvill; in 1298 these were described as comprising 2 tofts and 30 acres of land with appurtenances;³ before 1479 the convent had acquired a tithe grange with half an acre of land.⁴

Before the year 1307, Robert Umframvill, earl of Angus, obtained (with a grant of free warren of his lands at Barrasford and in Lincolnshire) a licence to hold at Barrasford a market on every Wednesday and a fair at Martinmas.⁵

There is no entry upon the Muster Roll of 1538, but at the muster of

¹ *Inq. p.m.* 18 Edw. I. No. 78.

² BAROUSFORD SUBSIDY ROLL, 1336. Willelmus filius Alexandri, 4s. 4d.; Jordanus, 1s. 8d.; Willelmus Scotus, 3s. 10d.; Alexander praepositus, 4s.; Adam cocus, 3s.; Adam filius David, 3s. 6d. Summa, 20s. 4d.

Hexham Priory, Raine, vol. ii. p. 111.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 33.

⁵ *Cal. Rot. Chart.* p. 137; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 28.

the Middle Marches taken on the Moot-law by Sir John Forster on 26th May, 1580, only two horsemen properly furnished appeared from 'Barros-forthe,' the other seventeen tenants said 'they sit on holdings of ten shillings apiece, and cannot keep horse and armour.'¹ A survey made about 1586 mentions the names of 21 tenants, who amongst them held (in proportions varying from a quarter of a husbandland, held by John Usher, to three husbandlands held by Roger Heron) 19¾ husbandlands, 17 messuages,



THE 'HEAD HOUSE' OF BARRASFORD.²

6 cottages, 7 gardens, 20 crofts, 1 close, and 2 tofts, each had 'sufficient common of pasture.' The 'head house' was held by John Heron; the brewsters paid a brew farm rent; and the water corn mill 'with soken and moulter thereunto belonging, with a cottage and close,' was held by Roger Heron at a rent of 26s. 8d.³

¹ *Cal. Border Papers*, Bain, vol. i. p. 20.

² The illustration is reproduced from a drawing by Mr. Archer in the collection of the duke of Northumberland.

³ *The Duke of Northumberland's MSS.*

Tenants at Will.	Husband-lands.	Messuages.	Cottages.	Gardens.	Crofts.	Closes.	Tofts.	Rent. £ s. d.
Robert Nicholson	$\frac{1}{2}$	—	1	1	1	—	—	0 5 0
John Colston... ..	$\frac{1}{2}$	—	1	1	1	—	2	0 7 2
Do. 4 riggs of land called Freeland alias Frecroft...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 1 4
Thomas Nicholson	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	0 10 0
Thomas Bennett	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	0 10 0
Arthur Leconfield	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	0 10 0
John Robson	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	0 10 0
Roger Heron	3	3	1	—	—	1	—	1 13 4
John Nicholson	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	0 10 0
John Usher	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	—	1	1	—	—	0 6 0
Janet Taylor... ..	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	0 10 0
Edward Shipley	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	0 12 8
George Nicholson	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	0 10 0
Edward Mylner	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	0 10 0
John Shipley	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	0 10 0
David Coulston	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	0 10 0
John Denaicle	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	0 10 0
Thomas Cant	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	0 11 4
Thomas Dodd	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	0 10 0
John Usher	$\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	—	1	—	—	0 2 6
Christopher Coulston	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	0 1 6
Do.	$\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
John Heron	$\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	1	—	—	0 5 0
	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	17	6	7	20	1	2	£10 3 4 (sic)

In 1608 the mill and its appurtenances was granted on a twenty-one years' lease to Benjamin Widdrington at the rent of £4.

The Rate Book of 1663 is imperfect as far as it relates to Barrasford, for only the earl of Northumberland is returned in the list of proprietors, and no rentals are given. Down to the year 1717 the townfields were undivided, and the fell or outfield was held in common. On the 14th May, 1716, William Charlton of Hesleyside, Thomas Nicholson, Charles Shipley, Thomas Miller, Henry Dunn, Robert Dening, John Smith, John Cant, John Coulson, George Cant, George Usher, William Dunn, Francis Wilkinson, George Bennet, and Robert Elliot, all leaseholders under the duke and duchess of Somerset, with the said Robert Elliot as a freeholder, entered into articles for the division of the township. Jasper Hall of Colwell, Edward Dawson of Wall, and George Usher of Humshaugh, the commissioners appointed, made their award on the 21st May, 1717, when they

gave 21 acres in the townfield and 33 acres of fell land to Robert Elliot¹ as a freeholder, and divided 487 acres in the townfields and 736 acres of fell land in varying proportions amongst the leaseholders.²

In a survey made in 1727 it is said: 'The town of Barresford is lately divided, and also the common or moor. It lyes on the north syde of Tyne. The tenants have lymestone in every part of their feilds, and coalls within ij myles. They have improved their tenements from six pounds to sixteen pounds each tenement. Their rents are reckoned one pound and ten shillings per farm; but, in case the rent of a cottage mak up a quarter of a farm, it pays rent accordingly. . . . The towne of Barresford, being a demesne, pays yearly nineteen wood (*sic*) hennes *alias* rent henns, to the farmer of his lordship's demesne of Prudhoe castle during his lordship's pleasure.' But the surveyor accounts for nineteen and one-fourth husbandlands, besides the mill, as belonging to the Percy estates.³

The township now belongs to the duke of Northumberland, to Mr. J. G. Riddell, and to Colonel Hornby, who succeeded to Ellwood-house as heir-at-law to the late Rev. Christopher Bird.

GUNNERTON TOWNSHIP.

The township of Gunnerton is an irregular parallelogram in shape, whose west side impinging upon the North Tyne is divided from Chipchase by the Mallow burn. On the north-west it is bounded by Birtley and Cowden, on the north-east by Watling Street, and on the south-east by Barrasford. In the words of an eighteenth-century surveyor:

The boundary begins at Mollowfoot, and then west up an earthen fence or hedge to Mollow burn, and then up the said burn north-west, and takes an earthen fence or hedge, which turns north of the burn with some windings and turnings, and then turns west again to the Lang-ford; from thence north up a sike to Routhchester hedge, and then east of the said hedge, which, near the top of the hill, turns north or north-

¹ In 1772 Robert Elliot of Haughton castle, in 1748 Robert Elliot of Haughton Strother, and in 1826 Robert Elliot of Barrasford, voted for freehold lands in Barrasford. In 1832 William Hays (? Kay) of Barrasford voted for freehold lands at Ellwood-house.

² Sir David Smith's Collections.

³ In 1727 the husbandlands were held by John Smith, 1; Thomas Miller, 1; Thomas Nicholson, 1; *ib.* 1; William Charlton, esq., 3; *ib.* 1; *ib.* 1; *ib.* ¼; John Coulson, 1; Robert Dynand, 1; Henry Dunn, 1; Frances Wilkinson, ½; George Cant, ½; George Bennet, ½; Thomas Miller, ½; William Dunn, ¾; Charles Shipley, ¼; *ib.* 1¼; Robert Elliot (late Mark Alewood), 1; John Cant, 1; Isabel Usher, ¾. Total, 19¼. *Duke of Northumberland's MSS.*

Under the old system of rating, Barrasford township was reckoned to comprise 23 ancient farms. In 1838 the following moduses were payable, and paid, to the vicar of Chollerton by the duke of Northumberland for his lands in Barrasford township: Chishill-ways, 5½ farms, 10½d.; Gunner-well, 2 farms, 4d.; Reeve hill, 7¼ farms, 1s. 2¼d.; Catheugh, 3 farms, 6d.; Barrasford mill and land, 2 farms, 4d. Total, 3s. 3d.

east, to the north-east corner of the said hedge or fence; from thence cross the Coal-burn, so eastward up an old cast, then cross the Chesters to a great flat stone on the south-west side of the Nevell-rigg; from thence in a direct line north-east to an old ford in Nevell sike; then down the sike to Cowden-burn head, so down the said burn, and then turns east up a dean to Cowden-close head; from thence along a cast to Cowden-kirk or cragg, and then eastward along the north side of the said cragg to the east end thereof; then turns south down a swang to Watling Street, and continues still southward along the Street to ye Broadford boulder; from thence, directed by several hedges or fences, to Mollowfoot, where the boulder began.¹

The township comprises 2,649 acres, and in 1871, when its last separate census return was made, it had, with Chipchase, a population of 475.²

Like Barrasford, this township is rich in pre-historic remains. Above the junction of the Coal burn with the Gunnerton burn there is placed on an elevated headland or platform a large mound, the original purpose of which it is difficult to determine, but it appears to have more of a defensive than a sepulchral character. It is a large 'conical mound of earth, about 30 feet high and 100 yards in circuit at the base, with a fosse of great breadth and depth surrounding it. Another fosse or ditch of equal height, with a high rampart of earth on each side, passes, as it were, to isolate and defend the approach of the great mound, diagonally across the level space to the north between the ravines.'³

Gunnerton Money hill, as this place is named, was opened in 1865, and the only object discovered was a fragment of a mediæval drinking vessel which, though found several feet below the surface, was doubtless a relic of former explorers. Nothing was met with to identify it as a place of sepulture.

Higher up the fell at Camp hill or Pity Me (an estate belonging to Mr. J. G. Riddell), about a mile and a half west of Watling Street, are four camps which MacLauchlan suggests may have formed part of the defences of Great Swinburn.

The most southerly of these is elliptical, the diameters of which are about 43 and 50 yards. It had but one entrance apparently, opposite which, on the outside, is a ring of stones, which probably had been a tumulus. On the north of this, between the houses at Camp hill, is another conforming somewhat to the ground, and in the shape of an irregular pentagon approaching, in its mutilated form, to a semicircle. The area is about an acre, and the entrance seems to have been on the south side. On the south-west of this, in much lower ground, part on the farm of Rever Crag and part on that of Camp hill, is another similar in form to that last mentioned, with an area of about the same extent. Still further north than any of these, about 450 yards north of the North-house at Camp hill, is an entrenchment quite unlike any of the others, approaching a square in form, and containing about three quarters of an acre. Within the area

¹ Gunnerton boundary riding, 4th October, 1722. From copy at Wallington; the Rev. John Hodgson's Collection.

² The Census Returns for Gunnerton and Chipchase are: 1801, 370; 1811, 375; 1821, 409; 1831, 422; 1841, 372; 1851, 373; 1861, 417; 1871, 475. Since that time the return has been included in that of Chollerton parish.

³ It is described by the Rev. G. Rome Hall, *Arch. Acl.* vol. vii. p. 12.

are lines of division, and one circular compartment, as if it had been an entrenched residence rather than a regular camp. These camps are so placed on the high lands looking towards the west that they seem as if they had been made by different people, at different times, as a part of the defences at Swinburn and Gunnerton.¹

As has been already related, Gunnerton and its dependent, East Swinburn, formed a part of the great barony of Balliol, created by William Rufus, and under this barony local lords, taking their name from the place, held their lands. The first of the Gunnertons of whom definite information exists was Ralph, a munificent benefactor of the priory of Hexham, to which he granted pasturage in Gunnerton, lands at Chesterhope and a moiety of Dalton.² His son Peter granted to the abbot and convent of Newminster a charter of confirmation of lands given them by Richard Fossor.³ The name of Peter's son seems to have been Robert, probably he who married Christian, sister of William Heron, who is recorded to have been mother of John de Gunnerton and grandmother of his daughter Anabel, wife of Thomas de Tyndale.

In 1279 Sir John de Gunnerton, knight, was coroner of the district south of the Coquet,¹ but was dead before 1296, when the name of Nicholas de Gunnerton his son and successor stands at the head of the Subsidy Roll of that year.

GUNEWARTON SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.					℥	s.	d.		s.	d.
Summa bonorum	Nicholai de Gunewarton	...	...	...	6	14	8	unde regi	12	3
„	Johannis filii Walteri	...	...	...	1	1	3	„	1	11½
„	Johannis filii Rogeri...	...	...	...	4	16	0	„	8	9
„	Willelmi filii Johannis	...	...	...	0	18	6	„	1	8½
„	Agnētis uxoris Walteri	...	...	...	0	17	3	„	1	7
„	Mathildis de Bellomonte	...	...	...	0	14	7	„	1	4
„	Ricardi capellani	...	...	...	1	12	11	„	3	0
„	Thomae filii Margaretæ	...	...	...	1	7	1	„	2	5¼
„	Johannis Scrache	...	...	...	1	0	3	„	1	10½
„	Willelmi patris Adami	...	...	...	0	16	6	„	1	6
„	Alani Keppcrawe	...	...	...	1	9	2½	„	2	8
„	Adæ le sergaunt	...	...	...	0	18	6	„	1	8¼
„	Johannis filii viduæ	...	...	...	0	18	3	„	1	8
„	Roberti Sergaunt	...	...	...	0	11	3	„	1	0¼
„	Thomae del Syde	...	...	...	1	0	9	„	1	10¾
„	Willelmi Theules	...	...	...	0	14	9	„	1	4
Summa huius villæ, £25 11s. 8½d.					Unde domino regi, 46s. 6¼d.					

¹ MacLauchlan, *Survey of Walling Street*, p. 25. On the ground at the top of Gunnerton Crag a ground stone axe was found, now in the collection of Dr. Sturge of Nice.

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 111, 112.

³ *Newminster Chartulary*, Fowler, p. 72.

⁴ *Northumberland Assize Roll*, p. 372.

But the legitimacy of Nicholas being disputed by his uncle, Peter, there was litigation about the estates, and an investigation was ordered by the bishop of Durham. The following abstracts show the nature of the enquiry :

September 26th, 1297. Peter de Gunwarton claims the manor of Gunwarton, with appurtenances, except 100 acres of land in the same manor, and says a certain John, his ancestor (he was brother) was seised of the said manor, etc., except the said 100 acres, and that it descended to him, the said Peter, because John died without heir of his body, and because he was his brother and heir. And Nicholas said he was son and heir of John by his wife legitimately begotten, and is in seisin of the said tenements. And Peter says Nicholas is a bastard. And for that it concerns ecclesiastical law, the bishop of Durham is ordered to enquire into it. And Peter complains that the bishop is unwilling to certify. The bishop is ordered to act, afterwards the king commands his clerk, William Gerberd, to forward, if he has in his possession, the record and process of the plea before the king's justices, Hugh de Cressingham and others at Newcastle.¹

Adam de Charleton claimed of Nicholas de Gunwarton 4 messuages, 1 carucate, and 16 acres of land with appurtenances in Gunwarton, and of William de Essinton 5 messuages, 1 carucate, and 8 acres of land, and 3 acres and a half of meadow, with appurtenances in Gunwarton, and said that a certain Aycusa, his ancestor, was seised of the said tenements in her demesne, as of fee and right, in the time of Richard, *consanguineus* of the present king. And that from Aycusa the right descended to a certain Hugh, her son and heir, and from Hugh to William, his son and heir, and from William to Alexander, his son and heir, and from Alexander, who had no heir of his body, to Adam, his brother, and from Adam to John, his son and heir, and from John, who had no heir of his body, to Richard, his brother, and from Richard, who had no son of his body, to Adam, his brother, the plaintiff. And Nicholas denies the seisin of Aycusa, and puts himself on the great assize. And certain jurors, specified, say that Aycusa was not seised, and that Nicholas shall hold the land. The same decision was given in the case of William de Essinton.²

¹ ' Petrus de Gunwarton petit versus Nicholum de Gunwarton manerium de Gunwarton cum pertinentiis, exceptis centum acris terræ in eodem manerio, ut jus, etc., per breve de recto patens. Et unde dicit quod quidam Johannes antecessor suus fuit in seisina de prædicto manerio cum pertinentiis, exceptis centum acris terræ in eodem manerio, ut de feodo et jure tempore pacis, tempore domini regis nunc, capiendo inde explecia ad valenciam, etc. Et de ipso Johanne, quia obiit sine herede de se, descendit jus, etc., isti Petro, qui nunc petit ut fratri et hereedi; et quod tale sit jus suum offert, etc.

Et Nicholaus venit et defendit jus suum, etc., et dicit quod ipse est filius et heres prædicti Johannis de uxore sua legitime procreatus, et est in seisina de prædictis tenementis. Et ex quo prædictus Petrus in narrando facit omissionem de ipso, petit iudicium de accione, etc. Et Petrus dicit quod prædictus Nicholaus bastardus est. Et quia hujusmodi causæ cognicio ad forum spectat ecclesiasticum, mandatum est episcopo Dunelm, quod convocatis coram eo convocandis rei veritatem super hoc diligenter inquirat. Et quid inde inquisierat scire facere justiciariis hic per litteras suas patentes. Postea venit prædictus Petrus et queritur quod prædictus episcopus non vult certificare, etc.; ideo mandatum est prædicto episcopo quod certificet justiciariis apud Eboracum vel coram, etc., scire facere justiciariis itinerantibus ibidem a die Sancti Johannis Baptistæ in tres septimanas, etc. Postea mandavit dominus rex breve suum in hæc verba. Rex dilecto clerico suo Willelmo Gerberd, salutem. Quia quibusdam de causis venire fecimus coram nobis recordum et processum loquelæ, quæ fuit coram Hugone de Cressingham et sociis suis justiciariis nostris ultimo itinerantibus apud Novum Castrum super Tinam per breve nostrum de recto inter Petrum de Gunwarton petentem et Nicholaum de Gunewarton tenentem de manerio de Gunewarton cum pertinentiis, exceptis centum acris terræ in eodem manerio, et sine brevi prædicto quod est in custodia vestra ut dicitur in recordo et processu prædictis procedere non possumus ad justiciam partibus faciendam, vobis mandamus quod breve prædictum si in custodia vestra existat sub sigillo vestro nobis sine dilatione mittatis et hoc breve. Teste Edwardo filio nostro apud Sanctum Paulum London. xxvj die Sept. anno regni regis vicesimo quinto.' *Assize Roll*, 21 Ed. 1.

² ' Adam de Charleton petit versus Nicholaum de Gunwardton quatuor mesuagia, unam carucatam et sexdecim acras terræ cum pertinentiis in Gunwardton ut jus suum, per breve de recto patens, etc., et versus Willelmum de Essinden quinque mesuagia, unam carucatam et octo acras terræ et tres acras prati et dimidiam cum pertinentiis in Gunwardton ut jus suum, per aliud breve de recto patens, etc. Et unde dicit quod quidam Aycusa antecessor sua fuit seisita de prædictis tenementis in dominico suo ut de feodo et jure, tempore pacis tempore domini Ricardi regis consanguinei domini regis nunc, capiendo inde explecia

In 1305 Richard, son of Alan de Swyneburn, complained that Nicholas de Gunwarton, John Hunter, and Thomas Hare had unjustly disseised him of common of pasture in a thousand and five hundred acres of moor and pasture in Gunwarton for all his beasts of Swyneburne. The two last defendants, by their bailiff, John de Essendene, disclaimed any right and denied having disseised him. Nicholas, by his bailiff, John de Essendene, said that he holds nothing in the said tenements put in view unless in common with John de Swyneburne, who is not named in the writ. Richard said that the aforesaid tenements were in seisin of Ralph de Gunwarton, who enfeoffed thereof a certain Geoffrey de Swyneburne, the great-grandfather of the said Richard, and his heirs, and produced a charter of Ralph de Gunwarton, granting to Geoffrey de Swyneburne common pasture and fuel in the moor and peat moss of Gunwarton for his house of Swyneburne, which he holds of the fee of Wyrcestre, etc. And that as heir of the said Godefrid, he has entered upon and been seised of the same. The jurors find that the persons named have disseised Richard, and that he should recover his seisin and have taxed costs. Costs 10 marks.¹

ad valenciam, etc. Et de ipsa Aycusa descendit jus, etc., cuidam Hugoni ut filio et heredi. Et de ipso Hugone descendit jus, etc., cuidam Willelmo ut filio et heredi. Et de ipso Willelmo descendit jus, etc., cuidam Alexandro ut filio et heredi. Et de ipso Alexandro, quia obiit sine herede de se, descendit jus, etc., cuidam Adæ ut fratri et heredi. Et de ipso Adæ descendit jus, etc., cuidam Johanni ut filio et heredi. Et de ipso Johanne quia obiit sine, etc., descendit jus, etc., cuidam Ricardo ut fratri et heredi. Et de ipso Ricardo quia obiit sine, etc., descendit jus, etc., isti Adæ qui nunc petit ut fratri et heredi, etc. Et quod tale sit jus suum offert, etc. Et Nicholaus de Gunwardton venit et defendit jus suum quando, etc., et seisinam prædictæ Aycusæ antecessoris, etc., de tenementis versus eum petit ut de feodo et jure et totum, etc. Et ponit se super magnam assisam domini regis et petit rectum fieri utrum ipse majus jus habeat tenendi prædicta quatuor mesuagia, unam carucatam et sexdecim acras terræ cum pertinentiis sicut tenet, an prædictus Adam de Charleton habendi ea sicut exigit, etc., et offert domino regi dimidiam marcam pro habenda mencione de tempore, etc., et recipitur, etc. Et Walterus le Escot, Johannes de Hertweyton, Willelmus de Framlington, et Johannes de Ogghill, quatuor milites, summoniti ad eligendum sexdecim milites de se et aliis, venerunt et elegerunt istos, scilicet: Robertum de la Val, Hugonem de la Val, Will. de Haulton, Walterum de Burudon, Joh. de Kirkeby, Rob. de Biddeslesdon, Rob. de Maneriis, David. de Couplaud, Joh. de Roseles, Franconem le Tyeyes, Gerardum de Woderington, Lucam Taylleboys, Joh. de Oghil, Walterum le Scot, Will. de Framlyngton et Stephanum de Muschamp. Qui dicunt super sacramentum suum quod prædicta Aycusa antecessor, etc., non fuit seisita de prædictis tenementis tempore prædicti regis Ricardi, et ideo consideratum est quod prædictus Nicholaus teneat prædicta tenementa sibi et heredibus suis quieta de prædicto Adæ et heredibus suis imperpetuum. Et Adam in misericordia, etc.

Et Willelmus de Essindon de tenementis versus eum petit ut vocat ad warrantum Radulfum de Essinden, qui modo venit per summonicionem, et ei warrantizat. Et defendit jus suum quando, etc. Et seisinam prædictæ Aycusæ antecessoris, etc., de prædictis tenementis ut de feodo et jure, etc., et totum, etc. Et ponit se in magnam assisam domini regis, et petit recognicionem fieri utrum ipse majus jus habeat tenendi prædicta quinque messuagia, unam carucatam et octa acras terræ et tres acras prati et dimidiam cum pertinentiis in Gunwarton per warrantiam suam sicut tenet, an prædictus Adam de Charleton habendi ea sicut exigit, etc. Et offert domino regi dimidiam marcam pro habenda mencione de tempore, etc. et recipitur. Et Willelmus Herun, Johannes de Swyneburne, Willelmus de Halghton et Johannes de Kirkeby quatuor milites summoniti ad eligendum sexdecim milites de se et aliis ad rec, etc., venerunt et elegerunt istos, scilicet: Will. de Haulton, Hugonem de la Val, Rob. de la Val, Gerard de Woderington, Walterum le Scot, Stephanum de Mouschauns, Nicholaum Puchardun, Walterum Burdoun, David de Couplaud, Rob. de Maneriis, Rob. de Bedelesden, Hen. de Dychent, Joh. de Kirkeby, Lucam Taylleboys, Rob. de Glantington et Will. de Framlington; qui dicunt super sacramentum suum quod prædicta Aycusa antecessor, etc., de cujus seisina, etc., non fuit seisita de prædictis tenementis tempore prædicti regis Ricardi et ideo cons. est quod prædictus Radulfus teneat prædicta tenementa per warrantiam suam sibi et heredibus suis quieta de prædicto Adæ et heredibus suis imperpetuum. Et Adam in misericordia,² etc. *Assize Roll*, 21 Edw. I.

¹ Assisa venit recognitura si Nicholaus de Gunwarton, Joh. Hunter et Thomas Hare injuste, etc., disseisiverunt Ricardum filium Alani de Swyneburne post primam, etc. Et unde queritur quod disseisiverunt cum de communa pasturæ suæ in Gunwarton ad communiandum cum omnimodis averiis in mille et quinque centis acris moræ et pasturæ ad omnia averia sua de Swyneburne omni tempore anni, etc. Et Joh. et Thom. per Joh. de Essendene ballivum suum veniunt et dicunt quod ipsi nichil tenent nec clamant nec aliquam injuriam seu disseisinam inde fecerunt, et de hoc ponit se super assisam, etc. Et Nicholaus per Joh. de Essendene, ballivum suum, venit et dicit quod nichil tenet in prædictis tenementis positus in visu nisi in communi cum Joh. de Swyneburne qui non nominatur in brevi, et petit judicium de brevi; et si convincatur, etc., tunc dicit quod nullam injuriam seu disseisinam inde fecit et de hoc ponit se super assisam, etc. Et Ricardus dicit quod prædicta tenementa fuerunt in seisina Radulfi

Enquiries were made in 1308 as to whether John de Schefeld and Peter de Gunwarton have unjustly disseised Nicholas de Gunwarton of his free tenement in Gunwarton. John did not appear, and could not be found. Peter pleaded that the assize had been unjustly brought against him because he had previously brought an assize in the king's court, before H. de Cressingham and other justices in eyre, when he had claimed against Nicholas the manor of Gunwarton with appurtenances, except 100 acres of land. At which action Nicholas claimed the said manor as son and heir of John, brother of Peter, but it was decided upon the certificate of the bishop of Durham that he was a bastard. Whereupon Peter recovered seisin against Nicholas as well as the land now claimed as of the manor, to wit, everything that Nicholas held on the day of the issuing of the writ in the action.¹

Perhaps in consequence of these disputes Gunnerton was sold to Sir John and Avicia de Swinburne, who took a conveyance from Nicholas and a quittance from Peter de Gunnerton.² The latter came to an untimely end,

de Gunwarton qui de eisdem feoffavit quemdam Godefridum de Swyneburne et heredes suos proavum suum cujus heres ipse est. Et profert quoddam scriptum sub nomine ipsius Radulfi in hæc verba : Omnibus præsentibus, etc., ego Radulfus de Gunwarton, etc., noveritis me concessisse, dedisse, etc., Godefrido de Swyneburne et heredibus suis de me et heredibus meis communem pasturam et fualium in mora et petario de Gunwarton ad domum suam de Swyneburne, quam tenet de feodo de Wyrcestre, etc. Et dictus Radulfus et heredes dicto Godefrido et heredibus suis warrantizabimus, etc. Et sicut heres dicti Godefridi dicta tenementa intravit et fuit seisitus de eisdem ut de libero tenemento suo, quousque prædictus Nicholaus et alii ipsum disseisiverunt, etc., et de hoc ponit se super assisam. Et prædictus Nicholaus similiter, etc. Ideo capiatur assisa. Juratores dicunt super sacramentum suum quod prædictus Ricardus est solus tenens de prædictis tenementis positus in visu, et quod prædicti Nicholaus, Johannes, et Thomas disseisiverunt prædictum Ricardum [de] prædictis tenementis positus in visu sicut queritur. Ideo consideratum est quod prædictus Ricardus recuperet inde seisinam suam per visum recognitorum et dampna sua quæ taxantur per eosdem ad decem marcas. Et prædicti Nicholaus, Joh., Thom. in misericordia, etc.

Dampna x marcas unde xls capti. Et dimidium marcam mar (marescallo?). Et xxs Simoni de Wakefeld Subvicecomiti. *Assize Roll*, 34 Edw. 1.

¹ Assisa venit recogn. si Johannes de Schefeld et Petrus de Gunwarton injuste, etc., disseisiverunt Nicholaum de Gunwarton de libero tenemento suo in Gunwarton post primam, etc., et unde queritur quod disseis. cum de centum acris terræ cum pertinentiis, etc. Et Petrus venit. Et Johannes non venit nec fuit attachiatus quia non fuit inventus, ideo capiatur assisa versus eum per defaultam. Et prædictus Petrus respondet tanquam tenens et dicit quod prædictus Nicholaus injuste tulit assisam istam versus eum, quia dicit quod idem Petrus alias in curia domini regis coram H. de Cressingham et sociis suis justiciariis itinerantibus in comitatu isto petiit manerium de Gunwarton cum pertinentiis, exceptis centum acris terræ, versus eundem Nicholaum per breve de recto de seisina Johannis de Gunwarton fratris ipsius Petri tanquam heres ejus propinquior, eo quod idem Johannes obiit sine herede de se exeunte; ad quod breve prædictus Nicholaus dixit quod ipse fuit filius et heres prædicti Johannis, de quo nullam fecit mencionem in narratione sua et petiit inde judicium, etc. Et prædictus Petrus objecit eidem Nicholao quod ipse fuit bastardus, etc. Et præfatus Nicholaus dixit quod ipse fuit filius et heres prædicti Johannis legitimus, et hoc paratus fuit verificare ubi, etc. Et prædictus Petrus dixit ut prius quod idem Nicholaus bastardus fuit et hoc paratus fuit verificare ubi, etc. Et super hoc breve domini regis directum fuit episcopo Dunelm. ad certificandum justiciariis domini regis utrum prædictus Nicholaus fuit bastardus nec ne. Et prædictus episcopus per breve suum mandavit justiciariis domini regis apud Westmonasterium quod prædictus Nicholaus fuit bastardus ob quod idem Petrus recuperavit seisinam suam versus eum, tam de prædictis centum acris terræ de quibus modo se queritur disseisiri, quam de prædicto manerio, scilicet quicquid idem Nicholaus tenuit die impetrationis brevis sui. *Assize Roll*, 2 Edw. 11. This was a successful plea of an estoppel.

² Ego Nich. de Gunwarton filius et her. dni Joh. de Gunwarton dedi dno. Joh. de Swynburn et Aviciæ uxori ejus totam terram cum bosco et vasto in Gunwarton ad includend. cum molend. de Gunwarton. Test.: Dnis Hug. Gobyon, Joh. de Camhow, Joh. de Herteweyton militibus.

Ego Petrus fil. Roberti quondam dni de Gunwarton quietum clam. dno Joh. de Swynburn et Aviciæ uxori ejus mess. cum tota terra quam habent ex dono Adæ filij Will. Wyke in Gunwarton. Test.: Robt. de Insula dno de Chipches. *Dodswoth MSS.* xlv. 99 b, 21 Edw. 1. It will be observed that the date here given is earlier than the proceedings before the courts.

for in 1310 an enquiry was ordered about his murderers.¹ Both Sir John Swinburne and his wife were dead before 1313, and Gunnerton passed to their younger son Robert (possibly owing to Adam the elder having been in open rebellion about the time of its purchase in 1296), with the curious result, as has been already pointed out, that the younger was overlord to his eldest brother. In the inquisition taken in 1325, after the death of Robert de Swinburne, it was found that he died seised of the manor of Gunnerton, held of the barony of Bywell by the service of a third part of a knight's fee and by suit of court. The chief messuage was worthless, because it had been burnt by the Scots. Of the 100 acres of demesne land, which in time of peace were worth 8d. an acre, 40 acres had been held by Robert, the rest lying waste: the sixteen bondagers each held a toft and 20 acres of land, in time of peace worth 13s. 4d. a year, but all lay waste, except 44 acres, which they held at the lord's will at the rent of 22s. The six cottagers each held a toft and half an acre of land, worth 12d. in time of peace.² Robert de Swinburn had acquired, the year before, the manor of Little Horkesley in Essex.

GUNWARTON SUBSIDY ROLL, 1336.

Gilbertus de Werke, 1s. 9d.; Willelmus de Whitlawe, 4s. 6d.; Adam Wolfe, 2s. 1d.; Robertus Maynaw, 2s. 4d.; Willelmus Dun, 3s.; Ricardus de Marwod, 10d.; Johannes Gray, 9d.; Stephanus de Mollawe, 2s. Summa, 17s. 4d.

Thomas de Swinburne of East Mersey in Essex, lord of Gunnerton and Knaresdale, in 1392 gave a power of attorney to Sir William de Swinburne of Capheaton, knight, and others to receive his rents in Northumberland and Tindale; the shield of the seal is charged with a label *three boars' heads and four crosses crosslet*.³

¹ *Rot. Pat.* 13 June, 3 Edw. II. m. 4. 'Rex omnibus ball. et fid. suis ad quos, etc., salutem. Sciatis quod pro bono servicio quod Wills de Gun. in partibus Scociar. nobis impendit perdonavimus eidem Willo. et Sigredæ uxori ejus sectam pacis nostræ quæ ad nos pertinet per mortem Pet. de G. assensu, missione et mandato mortis prædictæ ac receptamento latronum unde iudicati seu reclamati sunt et eciam utlagariam si qua in ipsis accionibus fuerint promulgata et firmam pacem nostram eis inde concedimus. Ista tamen quod stent recto in curia nostra si quis per eos loqui voluerit de morte prædicta. In cujus rei test.' *Rot. Pat.* 4 Ed. II. p. 1, m. 10. ² *Inq. p.m.* 20 March, 19 Edw. II. No. 81.

³ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 232. There is a magnificent brass at Little Horkesley with the effigies of two knights surrounded by the inscription: ' + Icy · gist · mons' Robert Swynborne · Seigneour · de Horkesley · Petite · Qe · morust · le · iour · de · Seinte · Feye · lan · du · grace · Mill. ccc Quat' vintz · unzieme · De · qy · alme AMEN + gist · mons' · Thoms · Swynborne · fitz · au · dit · mons' · Robt · s' · de Hammys · mair · de Burdeux · 't · Capitaigne · de · Fronsak · Qe · morust · en · la · veile · de · Seint · laurence · lan · du · g'ce · Mill · cccc. xij. Del. alme · de · qy · dieu · eyt · pitee · 't · mercye. Amen · Amen.' On the shafts of the canopies the Swinburne arms, *three boars' heads between ten crosses crosslet*, are twice repeated, and one shield is now blank. It is remarkable that the three other coats, *paly wavy of six, an escutcheon between eight martlets*, and *a fess between two chevrons*, were borne by the names of Mauduit, Vaux, and Lisle respectively. See Papworth, pp. 686, 739, 1018.

GUNNERTON OF GUNNERTON.

RALPH DE GUNNERTON granted pasturage in Gunnerton, lands at Chesterhope and Dalton to Hexham priory, and gave all his land in Swinburn to Godfrey de Swinburn. He was great-great-grandfather to the Nicholas de Gunnerton of 1296. = Eva, daughter of Alan de Eggescliffe.

Peter de Gunnerton, son and heir of Ralph de Gunnerton, = Thomas de Gunnerton.
confirmed a grant of lands to Newminster abbey.

Robert de Gunnerton, = Christian, sister of Roger Heron. She was called Dame Christian
'sometime lord of de Gunnerton, and was mother of John de Gunnerton, and
Gunnerton' (a). grandmother of Anabel, wife of Thomas de Tyndale.

Sir John de Gunnerton, in 1268, recovered a carucate of land in Gunnerton from John de Quintelly (? Whinetley) and Orenge his wife, and in 1279 was coroner for the district south of Coquet (b). Peter de Gunnerton, in 1296, quit-claimed to John and Anicia de Swinburn all his right in Gunnerton. Was murdered circa 1310.

Nicholas de Gunnerton, son and heir, whose legitimacy was disputed by his uncle Peter. Was rated for his lands in Gunnerton in 1296, and in the same year sold them to John and Avicia de Swinburn. Anabel, daughter of John = Thomas de de Gunnerton. Tyndale.

William de Tyndale = Lucy de Reymes, daughter of Robert de Reymes of Shortflat,
↓ by his wife Mathilda de Wortley (c).

(a) Robert was grandson of Ralph de Gunnerton; but it is not clear whether he was the son or the nephew of Peter. (b) *Northumberland Assize Rolls*, pp. 158, 372, 415. (c) *Surtees, Durham*, vol. i. p. 34.

EVIDENCES TO GUNNERTON PEDIGREE.¹

About 1210. Eva de Gunwarton . . . Thomae de Gunwarton filio meo medietatem totius terrae meae quam habui in territorio de Frostley et in Pekefeld (par. Stanhope). Testibus: Dno Ada de Yeland, senescallo Epi Dunelm., Robt. de Yeland, etc. Seal round, 1½ in. diam. ✚ SIGILLI EVE · DE · GVNEWARTV. *Durham Treasury*, 3^{cia} 1^{mae}, *Finchale*, No. 56.²

Early 13th century. Petrus filius Radulfi de Gunewarton . . . Willelmo Britoni consanguineo meo totam terram de Eggeslesliue (Durham) et de Lurlehou quam Alanus de Eggeslesliue avus meus tenuit. Testibus: Hugone de Baillol, Rog. Bertram, Rob. de Brus, Wydone de Fontibus, Joh. de Amundeuilla, Radulfo de Gunewarton, Ric. de Super Tesiam, Rad. de Super Tesiam, Will. de Thorneton, Radulfo Baard, Waltero de Cadamo, etc. Seal round, 1½ in. diam. Fleur-de-lys. ✚ SIGILLI PETRI DE GVNEWARTVN. *Ibid. Misc. Chart.* No. 5144.

Dec. 18, 1296. Nich. fil. dni Johis de Gunwarton . . . inspexi cartam Radi atavi mei dni de Gunwarton in hæc verba. Nov. me Rad. de Gunwarton assensu Petri filii mei dedisse Godfredo de Swynburne et hered. totam terram meam in Swynburne per suas divisas. Test.: Joh. de Kirkeby tunc vicecomite Northumbriae, Robt. de Insula de Chipches mil. Datum apud G. die Martis prox. ante festum beati Thomae Apli, 1296. *Dodsworth MS.* xlv. 95 b, p. 96.

Mons. William Heroun aiel Mons. Roger Heroun avoit un sore que avoit a nome Dame Crestian de Gonwarton, de Crestian vient Mons. John de Gonwarton son fitz, de Mons. John vient Anable de Tyndale sa fiel, de Anable vient Mons. Will^m de Tyndale son fitz, qe est en le quart degree. De Mons. William Heroun avantdit vient Mons. Will^m Heroun son fitz, le pere Dame Isabell de Borteley, de Dame Isabel de Borteley vient Malde de Reymes sa fiel, de Malde de Reymes vient Dame Luce de Tyndale sa fiel, que est ore en le quiente degre, issint furrount William de Tyndale et Luce sa femme marriez. *Durham Treasury, Misc. Chart.* No. 5262.

William, son of Thomas de Tyndale, grants the manor of Kirkehaulge, which Anabella his mother held for life 'de hereditate mea,' to return to him, as heir after Anabella's death, with remainder to Thomas his son, then to Robert his (Thomas's) brother, then to William Robert's brother, then to John William's brother, ultimate remainder to revert to William and his heirs. Witnesses: Robert de Insula de Chipches, William de Swynburne, knts., Hugo de Walys, Will. de Whitelawe, Will. de Hautewisel, Will. de Elrington, John de Hantewisel, John son of Alan de Kirkehaulge. Arms: Fess, charged with 3 garbs. S WILLE. *Ibid.* No. 5261.

¹ At the Newcastle Assizes, 53 Hen. III., there was a suit relating to a messuage at Corbridge which had belonged to Gilbert de Gunnerton deceased, of his two sons, Ralph was then dead, and Robert was living. *Assize Roll*, p. 139; *Surtees Soc.*

² Eva de Gunnerton's seal has a floriated device. Besides the moiety of Frosterley and Pekefeld she gave three tofts and three crofts in the vill of Frosterley and a moiety of her part of the mill of Frosterley.

The same year Sir Thomas Swinburn enfeoffed John de Eston, vicar of Ponteland, John de Kellingdon, John de Kirkly, and Sampson Harding, in the manor and lands of Gunnerton, and in the following year under the style of 'Thomas de Comarch, knight, brother of Robert de Swinburn,' released all rights he had in the estate so conveyed to the same persons,¹ who had purchased in trust for John de Fenwick, to whom in 1429 William Harding, son of Sampson Harding, the last surviving trustee, released all rights in the manor and vill of Gunnerton.² In 1410 John Lisle of Tynedale, having incurred the greater excommunication for an assault at Gunnerton upon John de Kendale, a friar minor, obtained absolution.³ The list of fortalices taken in 1541 says that 'at Gonnerton is a toure and a stone house of th'inherytance of S^r John Fenwyke, knighte, in good repac'ons.'⁴

The chapel of Gunnerton was one of the six depending upon Chollerton when the church was granted by Odinel de Umframvill to the prior and convent of Hexham.⁵ It has long since disappeared and its very site is doubtful, but the octagonal font in Chollerton churchyard is said to be that once belonging to Gunnerton chapel.⁶ Near the chapel was a tithe barn, which, with two bovates and 12 acres of land with the appurtenances, the prior and convent held by grants made, previous to 1298, by Ralph de Gunnerton and Thurkill de Cadeiou.⁷ By a grant from the former they also acquired common of pasture on Gunnerton Moor for 300 cattle kept at their sheiling at Cowden.⁸ The abbot and convent of Newminster also had in Gunnerton grazing for horses, oxen, cows, and sheep, granted by Peter de Gunnerton and confirmed by Hugh de Baliol,⁹ concerning which there were bargainings made with the sister house of Hexham.¹⁰ The Black Book of Hexham

¹ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 83. ² Schedule of Gunnerton deeds belonging to the late Sir W. C. Trevelyan and *Dodsworth MSS.* xlv. f. 39, lxii. f. 856.

³ 1409. *Commissio ad absolvendum a sententia excommunicationis.*

Henricus, etc., *Jurium ac privilegiorum ordinis Fratrum Minorum provincie Angliae a sede Apostolica indultorum conservator a(b) eadem sede specialiter deputatus, religioso viro fratri Roberto Welles gardiano custodie Novi Castri-super-Tynam, ejusdem ordinis, salutem, et mandatis Apostolicis firmiter obedire, ad absolvendum in forma juris Johannem Lyle de Tyndale a sententia excommunicationis majoris quam se asserit dampnabiliter incurrisse pro eo quod idem Johannes in fratrem Johannem Kendale dicti ordinis apud villam de Gonwarton nostrae discesios manus injecerat violentas, necnon ad injungendum eidem Johanni Lyle attentis dictae violentiae circumstantiis, poenitentiam salutarem, et faciendum quae in praemissis fuerint oportuna, quatenus ad nos attinet, vobis vices nostras committimus cum coercitionis canonicae potestate. Data in prioratu Sancti Oswaldi, xv die Junii, et nostrae translationis secundo. *York Registers*, Bowet, pars. i. 293 b; Raine, *Transcript*, p. 287.*

⁴ Bates, *Border Holds*, vol. i. p. 47.

⁵ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 111.

⁶ In a cottage garden at Gunnerton there is a thirteenth-century gable cross with some other worked stones. In 1553 the chapel at Goncrton possessed 'one challes of tene, one vestment, one albe, ij alter-clothes, one lytill bell.' *Ecc. Proc. of Bp. Barnes*, Raine, app. i. (50); Surtees Soc. There is near the burn, 'in a picturesque fern-clad and moss-mantled hollow,' a spring called the Lady's well or Margaret's well. *Arch. Ael.* vol. viii. p. 65.

⁷ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 112.

⁸ *Ibid.* p. 111.

⁹ *Newminster Chartulary*, Fowler, p. 72.

¹⁰ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 100.

relates that in 1479 the property of the priory in Gunnerton consisted of a building at the west end of the vill, a chapel, a garden, and a tithe barn, with 36½ acres of land distributed in divers plots, named, or lying near to, the Prior-flat, Wyndilandes, Sandilandes, Schirrwel-strandes (which abutted on the river Tyne), the Millside, the Schol-brades, Fulfurd-syde, Gibbis-more, Michels-bank, Sclate-ford, Harden-way, and Mullar wood.¹ At the dissolution the priory lands at Gunnerton were stated to be let to two tenants, William Cook and John Cook, who each held a tenement, 1 acre of meadow and 4 acres of arable land, with common right, the rent of each being 6s. 8d.² At the same time the corn tithes were worth 40s.³

In the middle of the sixteenth century Gunnerton was in the possession of Sir Roger Fenwick of Wallington, and descended to his son Sir William Fenwick (who had his livery from the Court of Wards, 19th May, 1571), and it was included in the settlement, made 1st August, 1579, upon his marriage with Grace, daughter and co-heiress of Sir John Forster. Gunnerton remained with the descendants of this marriage until 1689, when, with the regality of Hexham and other estates, Gunnerton, Gunnerton colliery, Gunnerton corn mill, and Gunnerton corn tithes were conveyed by Sir John Fenwick to Sir William Blackett.⁴

But beside the estate which belonged to the Fenwicks of Wallington there was another estate in Gunnerton which belonged to the Fenwicks of Kenton. This family, which has already been incidentally mentioned under Rock, disappeared from the roll of landowners at the beginning of last century, and it is not known whether it has now any male representative.

In the year 1689 Gunnerton fell was the scene of a very mysterious murder, of which the victim was William Brearcliffe or Braidclyffe, a Yorkshire gentleman belonging to the parish of Brotherton. The following deposition⁵ was made at the inquest which sat at Gunnerton on the 11th May:

Edward Shaftoe of Gunnerton, gent., saith that hee, going out into Gunnerton moores a gunning, very early yesterday morning, upon the breake of day, at a place called Stonegapps in Gunnerton moores, hee see two gray maires, both saddled and bridled, and the one of their bridles tyed to the other's sturrup-iron. And, seeing none near the said maires, hee brought them to the common pinfold of Gunnerton and putt them therein. After which hee called of his brother, William Shaftoe, and told him they would goe and see if they could see the owners of the said maires. And, rideing on the said moore to a place called Whitley Knoake, being further on the moore and higher then ordinary, they hollowed there to know if any would answere them. And, going northward on the said hill, they heard a voice of a man crying out ' Help, for Christ Jesus' sake ! ' and wished hee had but a man to speake to him before he dyed. Whereupon this informant and his brother goes northward to a burne side, and hee spoake over the burne and asked him what the matter was, and what hee wanted. Who replied

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 33. ² *Ibid.*, p. 166. ³ *Ibid.*, p. 168. ⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland* pt. ii. vol. i. pp. 255, 256, 259. ⁵ *York Castle Depositions*, Raine, p. 294 : Surt. Soc. No. 40.

hee wanted nothing but a man to speake to him before hee dyed, for he was a dyeing man. And this informer askeing him how, or by whome, he said there was a rogue had shott and murdered him. This informant asked him if he knew him that did soe; and he said, Yes, he knew him well enough. And askeing him what they called him, he answered 'Rodger.' This informant asked him if he knew his surname; he said noe, he did not, but one Mr. Errington of the Linnells knew him well enough, and could give a better account of him than hee, hee being once the said Mr. Errington's servant. And this informant and his brother rode through the burne, and went to the place where he was lyeing waltering in his owne blood. This informant said, 'Sir, what's the matter with you?' and he said he was shott and murdered by a rogue. This informant asked him if the rogue had gott any money from him, and he said he had gott two guineas, one silver watch, one crowne peice of silver, three or four shillings, his crivitt and sleeves. This informant askeing him if he had not a hatt, hee said noe, he had not a hatt, but he had a velvett capp, which the rogue was gone with. This informant asked him if he had noe spurs, and he said, 'Oh dear, is he gone with my spurs too?' And findeing a part of a pistoll stock, this informant said, 'Sir, here's a peice of a pistoll stocke'; and he, 'Oh dear, hee had two pistolls.' And this informant, searching among the hather, found the stock and lock of the other pistoll, and asked him how the rogue came by the pistolls; who replyed, 'Mr. Errington lent him them before they came away.' And this informant asked how he came to be soe farr out of the way, and he said they were goeing up to the high-lands to see the rogue's mother. And the maieres were both his owne, and he lent the rogue one to ride one, and now hee's gone with them both. The rogue pretended himselfe to be sleepy and weary, and had a desire that they should light and rest themselves a litle, and when they came and lay downe, the deceased lyeing on his belly with his head upon his arme, never feareing anything, the said Roger shott him in at his back betwixt his shoulders. And after he had shott him he fell upon, beating and cutting of his head in severall places with the pistolls. And he prayed him for Chrst Jesus' sake not to beat or cutt his head with the pistolls, and he would quit him all that he had in the world freely, but the rogue said he would not; of which shott and wounds the said deceased dyed.¹

Up to the year 1741 Gunnerton continued to be held on the ancient system of undivided infield or townfields and a common pasture in the outfield or fell, cultivated by tenants who resided in the village in houses, to which barns, garths, closes, and crofts were attached. The Act of Parliament² obtained to divide the township recites that the common fields were estimated to contain 1,300 acres, and the fell or outground 1,000 acres. The profitable and manurable land within the manor consisted of $20\frac{1}{4}$ tenements, called farmholds, of which Walter Blackett, esq. (who was lord of the manor), held 11; Samuel Burroughs, esq., 8; Ralph Soulsby, esq., 1; and Stephen Kitching, yeoman, $\frac{1}{4}$. The commissioners appointed to carry the Act into execution, after allotting 41 acres ($\frac{1}{10}$ th part of the outfield) to

¹ Sir David Smith has preserved a tradition current in Tynedale in his day which evidently relates to this tragedy: 'On Gunnerton grounds, at a place called the Holy well, which is an "iron spaw," a Scotch gentleman and his servant, who were travelling, sat down to refresh themselves (this was before the land was enclosed). The man shot his master, and was hung in chains on some rising ground not far from the spot. The stob of the gibbet was to be seen several years ago, and the place of execution is still called "Roger's hill," that being the servant's name; this about 150 years ago.' Roger's hill, between Camp hill and Gunnerton fell homestead, is within the 600 feet contour-line.

² An Act for enclosing and dividing the common fields, common pastures, and waste grounds lying within the manor and township of Gunnerton, 13 Geo. II. The commissioners appointed to carry out the Act were William Cuthbert of Newcastle, Edward Collingwood of Newcastle, Thomas Clennell of Newcastle, William Potter of Newcastle, Alexander Brown of Doxford, and Richard Peck of Newbigin, Matthew Ridley of Newcastle, Wm. Carr of Etal, Wm. Carr of Eshot, Thos. Wood of Falldon, John Wood of Preston, Thomas Forster of Lucker, and Major Allgood of Brandon; the award, dated 19th March, 1741, is with the clerk of the peace.

the lord of the manor for his consent, and having allowed 10 acres for public roads, awarded to Walter Blackett 1,302 acres, and also the mill and mill garth, certain houses and closes called Master Blackett's close, Usher's close, the Haugh, part of the Town Green, etc., comprising 32 acres, that part of Gunnerton fell called Cowden Kirk and Broad Lee, containing 50 acres, and the northern part of New Law, containing 15 acres. They awarded to Samuel Burroughs 1,060 acres and certain houses and lands comprising 26 acres. They awarded to Ralph Soulsby 63 acres in the Low Field, with certain houses and closes formerly belonging to Christopher Soulsby and containing 10 acres. To Stephen Kitching they gave a house, garth, and allotment, containing 5 roods and 28 perches. In all, 2,630 acres.

The Blackett estate descended to Mr. T. W. Beaumont, who in 1825 sold the manor of, and all his lands in, Gunnerton to the Rev. Christopher Bird, vicar of Chollerton, for £18,500. He was succeeded by his son of the same name, to whose nephew, Colonel Hornby, the estate now belongs.

It has not been found possible to trace the descent of the other estates with exactness. The six undivided farms, which in 1732 belonged to a Mr. Robert Lilburn,¹ were doubtless the lands which had formerly belonged to the Fenwicks of Kenton, and which in 1741 belonged to Samuel Burroughs, and now to Mr. J. G. Riddell. The farm, which in 1741 belonged to Ralph Soulsby, may have been a portion of the lands which were sold before 1823 by his descendant, Mr. Reed of Chipchase, to Mr. John Smith of Wester hall for about £4,000, and resold by his heirs in 1862 to Mr. Bird for £3,800.

CHIPCHASE TOWNSHIP.

The township of Chipchase forms a triangle, the base of which rests upon the North Tyne. It is divided from Gunnerton on the east by the Mallow burn, and on the north it is bounded by the township of Birtley. It comprises an area of 1,603 acres,² the population of which was, until 1871, reckoned in the census return for Gunnerton, and has since that time been included in that of Chollerton.

¹ To be let six undivided farms at Gunnerton in the parish of Chollerton, belonging to Mr. Robt. Lilburn. Enquire of Mr. Stephen Watson of North Seaton, or Mr. Wm. Rutter, jun., attorney-at-law in Newcastle. *Newcastle Courant*, 9th December, 1732.

² Including 21 acres of roads, 17 acres of railway, and 39 acres of water. An allotment made on a division of Birtley common to the owner of Chipchase, containing 89 acres, and situated near Gold Island was, up to 1887, accounted to be a detached portion of Chipchase township. It was then, by order of the Local Government Board, annexed to Birtley. Of this 89 acres, 3 acres were occupied by the railway, and there were 10 acres of water area.

In the freestone quarry near Chipchase Park-house, in 1868, were found, embedded 18 inches below the surface, two bronze spear heads of the plain leaf-shaped type, the first of which is $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches across the widest part, the socket having a diameter of $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches; the other is 7 inches in length, 2 inches in the greatest breadth, with a socket $\frac{7}{8}$ inch in diameter; both have holes for the rivet which secured them to the spear shaft.¹ Near the same place and about the same time were found two socketed and looped bronze axes, placed in a crevice of the rock.²

In the thirteenth century Chipchase was held under the Umframvills, together with Whittle near Ovingham, as the third part of a knight's fee of the old feoffment, by Peter de Insula (or Peter de Lisle),³ the younger brother of Otwel,⁴ the ancestor of the Lisles of Woodburn, and a grandson of Otwel de Insula, who held Matfen and other Bolbec manors in the beginning of the reign of Henry II.⁵ Richard de Umframvill, who died in 1226, gave the vill of Ray to Peter and his wife Margery, who possibly was an Umframvill.⁶ The privilege of a perpetual chantry in the chapel of Chipchase on every other day of the week was granted to Peter and his son Robert and their heirs by the prior and convent of Hexham, apparently on the occasion of a visit paid to prior Bernard by Simon, abbot of Newminster in 1243.⁷ The chaplain was to be provided for at the expense of the mother church of Chollerton, the rights of which were to be protected according to the usual practice of the archdeaconry. Every requisite for the service, except the chaplain and the clerk, was to be found by the two de Insulas and their heirs.⁸

At the Assizes of 1256 a certain Richard of Chippeches was tried for the murder of Gilbert, the smith of Barewesford and for the theft of oxen. Although Richard protested his innocence on all and every count, two juries, taken from the south and the north of the Coquet respectively, brought in a

¹ G. Rome Hall, *Arch. Acl.* vol. vii. p. 209. ² *Ibid.* vol. xii. p. 264. The spear heads and axes are in the collection of the Rev. William Greenwell, Durham. ³ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. pp. 206, 227. ⁴ 'Otwelus de Insula et Petrus frater eius.' *Finchale Priory*, p. 82; Surt. Soc.

⁵ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. pp. 172-174.

⁶ *Abb. Plac.* 226; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 196 n.

⁷ *Cf. Newminster Chartulary*, Fowler, p. 68.

⁸ 'Nos B. prior et conventus Haugustaldensis concessimus dno Petro de Insula et Roberto filio eius et heredibus suis licensiam habere perpetuam cantariam in capella de Chipches quolibet altero die in septimana per unum capellanum sumptibus matris ecclesie de Cholverton · Salvis in omnibus iure et indempnitate eiusdem matris ecclesie secundum usum et consuetudinem archidiaconatus · Prædicti vero Petrus et Robertus et eorum heredes omnia necessaria ad administracionem dictae capellae competentia sufficienter in omnibus et per omnia providebunt et inuenient, exceptis capellano tantummodo et clerico · Test.: Dno S. abbate de novo Monasterio · Magistro H. de Stanbrig rectore ecclesie de Stanfordham · Magistro Abel rectore ecclesie de Symondburn · Dno Othuelo de Insula · Willo vicario de Biwell · Willo de Sco Johanne · Symone de Hext' · Willo Capon de Hayden capellanis · Willo de Gunwarton clerico et aliis.' *Lansdowne MS.* 326, fol. 46 b; *Dodsworth MS.* xlix. 3.



J.P. GIBSON PHOTO

CHIPCHASE CASTLE FROM NORTH EAST

verdict of guilty, which was confirmed by the oath of the townships nearest the scene of the crimes. Consequently Richard was hanged.¹ Either before or after this incident Peter de Insula granted to Richard's son Waldef and his son Robert all that had been his brother Edulf's and all that had been Huloc's in the vill of Chipches, together with 14 acres of land for the annual acknowledgment of some spurs, or, in default of them, six shillings.² As the right bank of the Tyne at Chipchase was in Scottish territory, Peter de Insula had to obtain a licence from Alexander III., 18th July, 1261, for strengthening his mill dam.³

Peter's son and successor, Robert de Insula, gave a house and an acre of land at Chipches to Hexham priory before 1272.⁴ He obtained an acre and three roods in his own park from Robert de Wales,⁵ to whom Jane, daughter of Adam of Teket, had conveyed all her land in Chipches in Peter de Insula's time.⁶ To his cousin and namesake, Robert de Lisle of Woodburn, and his tenants there, he gave the right of taking as much marl as they chose from his manor of Ray.⁷ On his death, this cousin appears to have been appointed the guardian of his son and heir, another Robert, by Gilbert de Umframvill, but was charged by his ward in 1284 with having wasted his inheritance at Chipches, lands, houses, and men, as well as woods, parks, and gardens, by sale and depletion.⁸ As regards Ray, a similar charge was actually

¹ *Northumberland Assize Rolls*, Page, p. 115.

² 'Ego Petrus de Insula dedi Waldef filio Ricardi de Chipches pro homagio et servicio suo et heredi suo Roberto filio suo et heredibus de dicto Roberto exeuntibus totum quod fuit Edulfi fratris sui et totum quod fuit Huloci (? Hulonci) in villa de Chipches et xiiij acras terrae in territorio eiusdem villae, etc. Redd' quaedam calcaria aut sex denarios annuatim ad festum Sci Chudberti in Septembr. Test.: Otuelo de Insula · Gileberto filio Araldi · Roberto de Insula · Petro de Gunnewarton · Hugone de Herle · Roberto de Insula · Roberto de Newham · Rogero de Bedale et multis aliis.' *Lansdowne MS.* 326, fol. 46 b.

³ 'Alexander Rex Scotie licentiam dedit Petro de Insula firmare stagnum molendini sui de Chipches. Dat. 1 Julij anno regni nri 11^{mo}.' *Lansdowne MS.* 326, fol. 53; *Dodsworth MS.* xlix. 86. That the king was Alexander III. seems settled by Dodsworth's marginal note, 'Fuit rex a 33 Hen. 3 ad 13 Ed. i.'

⁴ 'Tenent etiam unam domum et unam acram terrae, cum pertinentiis, in villa de Chipches, in liberam, puram et perpetuam elemosinam, de dono Roberti de Insula; et inde habuerunt cartam.' *Inspeximus*, 1298; *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 112.

⁵ 'Robertus de Wales quietum clamavit Roberto de Insula dno suo 1 acram et 3 rodas terrae quae fuerunt in parco Roberti de Insula in villa de Chipches. Teste dno.' *Lansdowne MS.* 326.

⁶ 'Johanna filia Adae de Teket dedit in viduatate sua dno Roberto Walays et heredibus, etc. · totam terram quae fuit in villa de Chipches. Testibus: Dno Petro de Insula qui tunc erat dnus feodi. Dno Roberto de Insula · Dno Nicholao de Veteri Ponte · Ricardo de Boteland · Johanne de Swinburn · Willelmo de Colewelle · Nicholao de Swinburn et alijs.' *Ibid.* 326, fol. 53 b; *Dodsworth MS.* xlix. 8 b.

⁷ 'Ego Robertus de Insula de Chipchesse dedi Roberto de Insula de Wodeburne cognato meo pro se et hominibus suis de Wodeburne tenentibus marla in mora mea de Ray,' etc. *Harl. MS.* 2101, fol. 245; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 168 n.

⁸ 'Robertus de Insula de Chipches per attornatum suum optulit se iij^{to} die versus Robertum de Insula de Wodeburn de placito quare fecit vastum, vendicionem et exilium de terris, domibus, hominibus, boscis, vivariis et gardinis, quae habuit in custodia de hereditate praedicti Roberti de Insula de Chipches in Chipches.' *De Banco Roll*, 12-13 Ed. I. m. 54.

proved in a suit at law. In the course of this it was found that Gilbert de Umframvill had no claim for wardship or marriage on any of the plaintiff's ancestors.¹

CHIPCHES SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.				£	s.	d.		s.	d.
Summa bonorum	Roberti de Insula	...	...	9	9	8	unde regi	17	3
„	Roberti filii Nutricis...	...	...	0	11	0	„	1	0
„	Adae filii Thomae	...	...	0	17	3	„	1	7
„	Emmae viduae	...	...	1	15	0	„	3	2½
„	Walteri Surnayn	...	...	1	3	9	„	2	2
„	Thomae filii Margaretae	...	...	0	19	5	„	1	9½
„	Evae viduae	...	...	0	14	6	„	1	4
„	Roberti filii Rogeri	...	...	1	18	11	„	3	6½
„	Walteri filii viduae	...	...	1	16	5	„	3	3½
„	Willelmi filii viduae	...	...	1	8	4	„	2	7
„	Willelmi filii Alani	...	...	1	1	0	„	1	11
„	Thomae Franckes (?)	...	...	1	5	6	„	2	4
Summa hujus villae, £23 os. 8d.				Unde regi, 41s. 10½d.					

CHIPCHESE SUBSIDY ROLL, 1336. Robertus del Isle, 10s.; Robertus Joly, 1s. 8d.; Walterus Shiphead, 2s. 4d.; Johannes Talyour, 1s. 2d. Summa, 15s. 2d.

A John de Insula now succeeded, since Robert, heir of John de Insula, contributed 13s. 4d. for Chipchase and Whitcheater to the Lay Subsidy Roll of 1346.² On 22nd February, 1347, this Robert de Insula gave his son Nicholas a messuage and 30 acres of arable and meadow land there for life, free of multure at his mill,³ and on the eve of Lady day in the following year he quit-claimed all his rights in the 30 acres to Roger del Spens, to whom Nicholas had granted them.⁴ Then on Tuesday, 9th September, 1348, he sold his right as guardian of Cecily, daughter of his son John de Insula,⁵ on whom he had entailed the reversion of the manor of Chipchase, including the giving her in marriage, to Sir William Heron of Ford, on condition that her husband should be one of the latter's three sons, William, John, or Walter.⁶

¹ *Abbr. Plac.* pp. 218, 226; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 197 n.

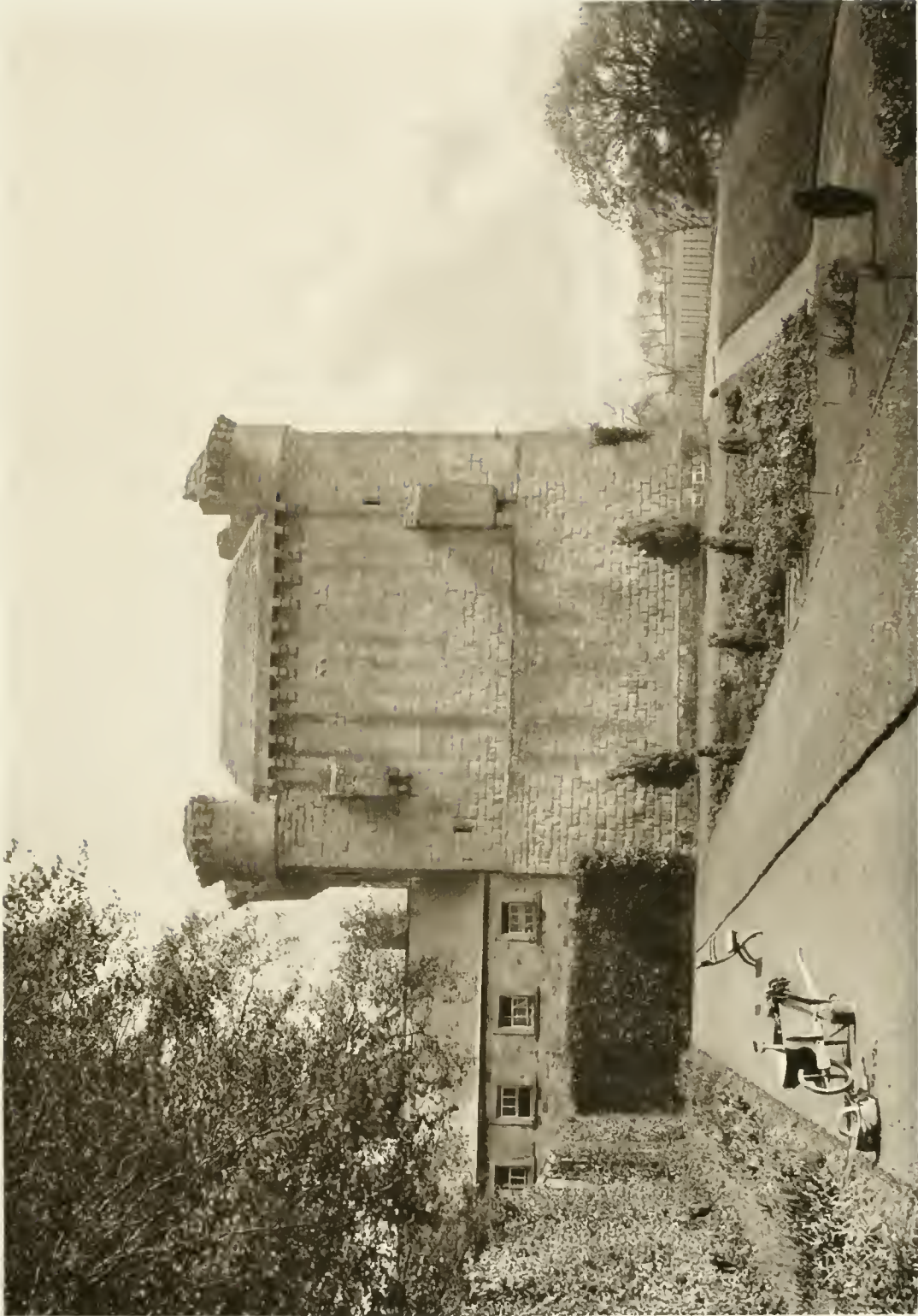
² *Exchequer Lay Subsidy Roll*, 11^r, 8^v.

³ 'Ego Robertus de Insula de Chipches miles dedi Nicholao filio meo mesuagium et xxx acras terrae et prati cum pertinentiis in Chipches · Habendum ad totam vitam ipsius Nicholai · Et ut quietus sit de multura ad molendinum meum de Chipches, etc · Test · Michaele de Esshenden · Willelmo filio Gilberti de Babington · Willelmo filio Ricardi de Babington · Thoma Fossure · Hugone de Whelpington · Roberto le Walays et aliis multis · Dat. apud Chepches die Jovis in festo Sci. Petri in cathedra anno M^o CCC^o xlvj.' *Lansdowne MS.* 326, fol. 46 a; *Dodsworth MS.* xlix. 3.

⁴ 'Ego Robertus de Insula de Chipchesse miles dedi et quietum clamavi Rogero del Spens et heredibus · etc · totum jus quod habeo in 30 acris terrae · etc · in Chipchesse quod idem Rogerus habet ex dono Nicholai filij mei in dicta villa · Test · Johanne de Insula filio meo · Michaele de Essynden · Willelmo filio Gilberti de Babington · Willelmo filio Ricardi de Babington · Datum in vigilia annunciationis Beatae Mariae · Anno 22 Ed. III.' *Lansdowne MS.* 326, fol. 53; *Dodsworth MS.* xlix. 8 b.

⁵ This can hardly be the 'John Lyle de Tyndale' who laid violent hands on John de Kendale, a friar minor at Gunnerton, whose absolution from excommunication was sanctioned by Archbishop Bowet in 1410. *Cf. supra*, p. 326.

⁶ 'Cest endenture faite a Chipchesse le mardi prochein apres la Nativite de Notre Dame lan de grace 1348 entre Mons^r Robert de Lisle de Chipches dune parte et Mons^r William Heroun seigneur de Ford dautre parte tesmoigne que le dit Mons^r Robert a vente et done au dit Mons^r William la garde et le

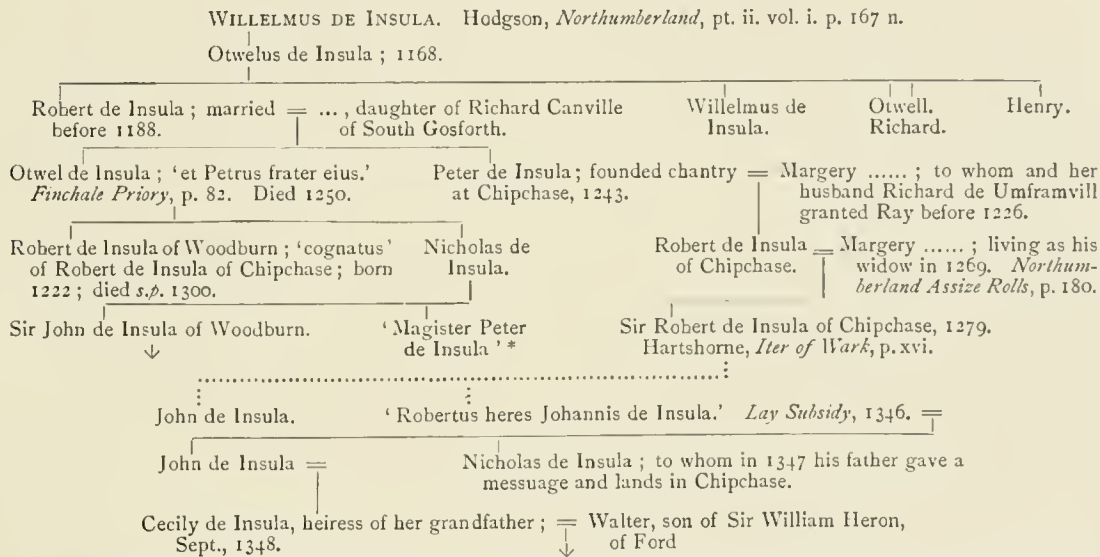


J.P. GIBSON, PHOTO

CHIPCHASE CASTLE FROM THE WEST

Whether Cecily exercised any choice in the matter or not, it was Walter Heron, the youngest of the three, who obtained her hand. On the 11th of October Sir Robert de Insula formally conveyed all his rights in Chipchase, with Rowchester, etc., to Sir William Heron.¹

DE INSULA (LISLE) OF CHIPCHASE.



* Magister Peter de Insula obtained a grant from Archbishop Greenfield, 19th June, 1311, of four or five fat bucks to be taken in the park of Cawood by his brother 'Johannes de Insula,' knight, or others in his name, as also three oaks for firewood. *York Registers*, Greenfield, pars. i. 54 a; Raine, *Transcript*, p. 149. See also vol. iii. p. 24 n of this work.

CHIPCHASE TOWER.

Chipchase castle is situated on the left bank of the North Tyne, on a site which slopes gently towards the river, from the opposite bank of which one of the best of the distant views of the house is to be obtained. Seen from this bank, the ancient tower rises boldly above the manor house of later date, against a background of well-grown and lofty beeches, the

mariage Cecile la file Johan de Lisle de Chippeches a quel Cecille le dit Mons^r Robert ad taille la reversion de manoir de Chipches oue les appurtenances a marier a un de trois fitz le dit Mons^r William, cest assavoir a William, Johan ou a Wauter, si dieu les dirent (?) vivre tonque la dit Cecille et un des ditz fitz veint del age quilz purront conisante de la dit Cicilie devant sa morte. Don. a Chippechess; etc. *Lansdowne MS.* 326, fol. 53 b.

¹ 'Ego Robertus de Insula de Chippeches chevaler remisi Willelmo Heroun domino de Forde militi totum ius quod habui in manerio de Chippeches cum Rowchestre, etc. Testibus · Gerardo de Woderyngton · Willelmo de Swynburne · Willelmo de Tyndale · militibus · Rogero de Wodryngton · Roberto de Raymes · Willelmo de Babyngton · Alano de Belingham · Rogero del Spens et aliis · Dat. apud Chippeches die sabbati prox. post festum beati Dionysii anno Domini M^oCCC^oXLVII^o.' *Ibid.* 326, fol. 46. (The Rowchester referred to was Rowchester, in Birtley still held by John Heron of Chipchase in 1586. See Stockdale's survey of Birtley. The seal of Robert de Lisle was attached to this charter. *Dodsworth MS.* 43, 3.)

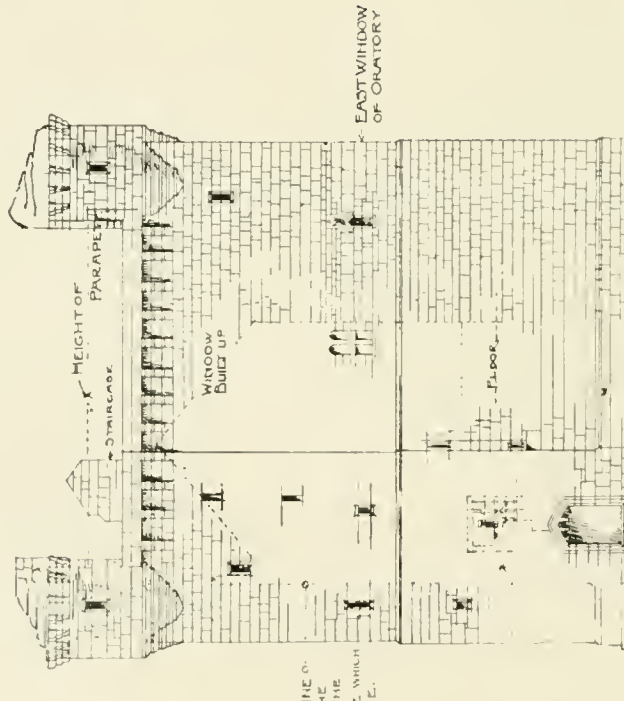
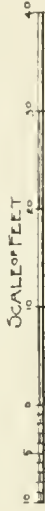
cultivated surroundings and rich pastures of the foreground forming a striking contrast to the bleak and barren environment of many of our Northumbrian castles. The tower of Chipchase is one of the most imposing and best preserved in Northumberland. It is unusually well built, and affords an excellent example of the work executed in the middle of the fourteenth century. Though possibly later in date than the neighbouring tower of Cocklaw, which is illustrated and described elsewhere in the present volume, both its design and domestic arrangements show it to have belonged to a family of much more importance and wealth than the Erringtons, and it may be regarded as a typical example of the larger towers as distinguished from the castles properly so called.

Except for the projection on the east side, in which is placed the entrance and staircase and some small chambers above, the plan is oblong, measuring externally 51 feet 6 inches from north to south, by 34 feet in width at the north end. It is 50 feet in height to the parapet walk, and 10 feet more to the top of the angle or watch turrets. On the exterior the appearance is one of great strength. Two splayed offsets divide the height, one at 3 feet and the other at 23 feet above the present ground level. A very boldly corbelled and machicolated battlement crowns the walls, and there is an overhanging angle turret at each of the four angles, which is in its turn similarly machicolated at its summit. The window openings generally are small and square-headed, and are rebated for shutters or wooden window frames. On the east side is a trefoil-headed window, which has a hood moulding with a carved finial. Three other windows, two in the east elevation and one in the west, were of two lights transomed at half their height. That on the west side is visible; it shows the head worked in one stone. The design on the exterior is finished square, having ogee lights, the spandril being slightly sunk.

The interior of the tower is divided into four stages. The basement is vaulted, and the upper floors were of timber, supported on corbels. The main area of each floor formed a single apartment; and, in addition, there are a number of smaller rooms, well lighted, and conveniently arranged in the thickness of the walls.

The entrance doorway, which has a pointed segmental head, is on the east side, at the basement level; the jambs and head are of two orders, divided by a portcullis groove. The ancient wooden grille, which was worked

CHIPCHASE CASTLE THE TOWER

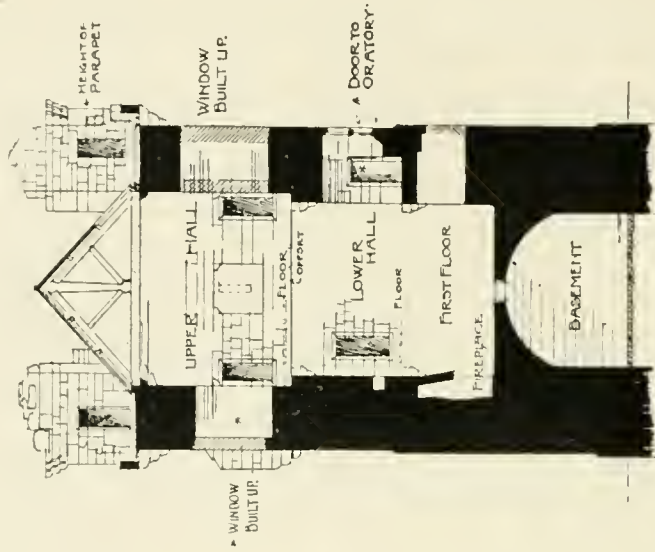


THE DOTTED LINE INDICATES THE SECTION OF THE MAJOR HOUSE WHICH ABUTS ON THE TOWER.

ENTRANCE

* DOTTED LINES INDICATE THE PORTCULLIS.

EAST ELEVATION.



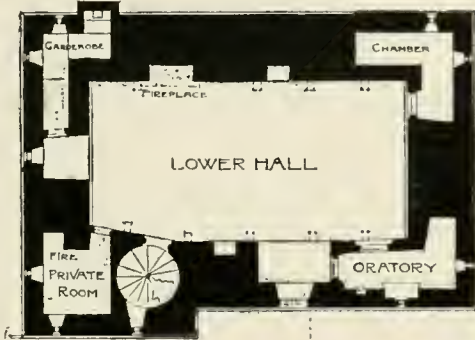
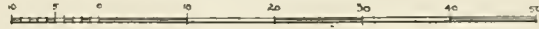
SECTION LOOKING NORTH

WHITKNOWLES, MENS. ET DEL. 1896.

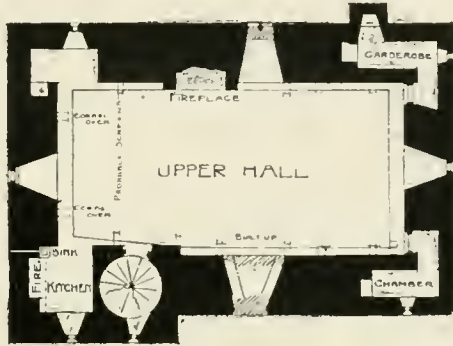
CHIPCHASE CASTLE PLANS OF THE TOWER

→ N.

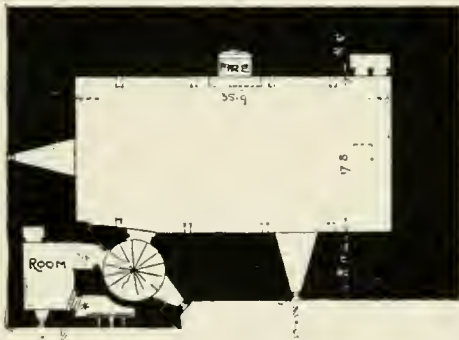
SCALE OF FEET



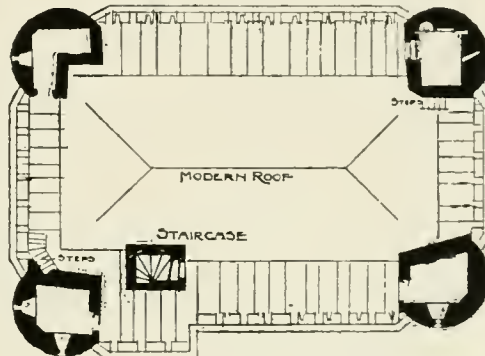
PLAN OF SECOND FLOOR



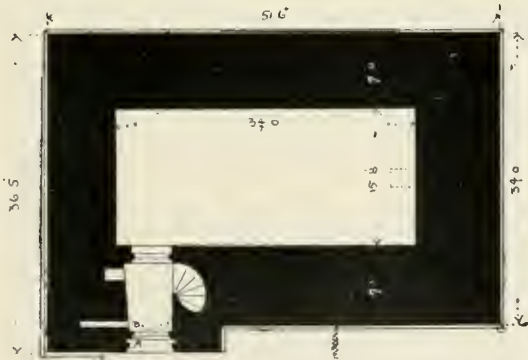
PLAN OF THIRD FLOOR



PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR



PLAN OF BATTLEMENTS



PLAN OF BASEMENT



INTERIOR OF ORATORY
LOOKING EAST

from the portcullis room immediately above, is embedded in the wall, in the position indicated on the drawing of the east elevation. The entrance is further strengthened by a door, which was secured by two stout draw bars, the holes for which are in the south jamb.

The entrance passage is 7 feet 9 inches long by 5 feet wide. From the north side the circular newel staircase, 7 feet diameter, ascends to the battlements, and communicates with the various floors. The vestibule, which has a semi-domed lamp niche on its south side, leads, by means of a square-headed door, into a vaulted basement 34 feet long by 15 feet 8 inches wide, and 12 feet 6 inches high. In the crown of the vault, at the north end, is a trap door; but there are no windows. The walls at the basement level are 9 feet thick.

Ascending the staircase, and before the first floor level is reached, a chamfered and rebated square-headed door gives access to a room 7 feet 8 inches by 5 feet 8 inches. It contains a locker with a semi-domed ceiling, and the entrance to the portcullis room. The occupant of this chamber had a view of those entering the tower, and controlled the portcullis. The apartment was, in fact, a superior guard room, and is lighted by a small loop. On either side of the loop there is a dished semi-circular hole, 7 inches diameter, passing through the thickness of the wall and sloping towards the exterior. The object of these holes is not quite clear, as they are hidden from view on the exterior. They were probably for offensive purposes, or for staying or working the portcullis, the upper portion of which is to be seen in this apartment.

The first floor room measures 35 feet 9 inches by 17 feet 8 inches, and is about 9 feet 6 inches high. It must have been a somewhat dismal apartment, being lighted by two loops only, one on the south and the other on the east side. In its west wall there is a small fire-place with a projecting hood, and in the north-west angle a locker, faced with a stone, which looks like a later insertion. In it is worked a double pointed opening having a filleted roll moulding on its outer edge. The walls at this level are 8 feet thick.

Continuing up the staircase a square-headed chamfered and rebated doorway enters directly into the lower hall, which occupies the second floor. It is 36 feet 3 inches long by 17 feet 8 inches wide, and about 11 feet 6 inches high. It is lighted by two windows let into deep square recesses, that on the south being a small one with chamfered and rebated square head, sill,

and jambs, and that on the east, a large one of two lights with pointed heads and a square transom ; it is blocked up by the adjoining building. In the west wall is a large fire-place with a projecting hood carried on chamfered corbels. There are two square lockers, one on the east and the other on the west side. On the east side of this important room, which for convenience may be called the lower hall, is a chapel, and at the south-east corner a private room, both of very good workmanship. The recess of the east window is 8 feet by 4 feet 9 inches, and forms an ample lobby from which the chapel is entered by a square-headed door. The chapel is in shape like the letter L. Below the east window is the altar slab, and adjoining it on the south side the piscina, the basin of which is broken. On each side of the window is a bracket intended for a figure. The wall between the lower hall and the chapel is pierced by a window opening 3 feet 6 inches wide. It is set askew, thereby permitting the occupants of the hall to see the altar and the officiating priest. There is also a loop on the north side of the oratory. The private room at the south-west angle is 7 feet 9 inches by 7 feet 6 inches. It is entered by a doorway 1 foot 6 inches wide, and is lighted by two small windows, and has a fire-place with some fragments of decorated plaster on the walls. At the north-west angle is a mural chamber, L-shaped, as shown on plan. It has two loops, one on the north and the other on the west side. Opening off the recess of the south window is a passage terminating in a projecting garde-robe, carried on two chamfered corbels of two projections, and covered with a sloping stone roof.

The third floor is occupied by the upper hall, which measures 40 feet by 20 feet, and is about 15 feet high to the top of the stone cornice. It is altogether the best and most cheerful apartment in the tower. It is well lighted by four windows, that on the west side is of two lights with square transoms and pointed heads; the one on the east side is unfortunately built up ; it has seats in the recess, and probably resembled the window in the west wall. The north and south windows are alike 12 inches wide, with rebated and chamfered square heads, sill, and jambs, the latter on the inside being widely splayed. That at the south end yet retains the crooks on which the shutters were hung. The fire-place is similar to that in the room below, but the hood is carried on two chamfered corbels. At the north end two doorways, chamfered and rebated, open into L-shaped mural chambers ; that at the north-east angle was probably a sleeping apartment, whilst that at



THE PORCH, CHIPCHASE CASTLE.

the north-west has a projecting garde-robe. Each is lighted by a loop. The kitchen occupies the south-east corner, it has a large fire-place with a hood carried on corbels, and at one side a sink, the drain from which passes through the south wall and delivers by a stunted gargoyle into the open. The window is on the east side. The mural chamber in the south-west angle has a locker and window. Each of the openings to the two chambers at the south end is without the chamfered and rebated jambs which are provided for the door openings elsewhere. From this it may be reasonably inferred that a screen once existed across the south end of the upper hall; this explanation is further strengthened by the existence of two corbels at this end, which do not appear at the north end. The corbels on the side walls bore the struts which supported the roof.

The staircase terminates at the top in a square turret with sloping stone roof. The battlements are very effective; the four angle turrets, each containing a watch or shelter chamber, are circular on the outside and square within. They are oversailed below, and have open machicolated battlemented parapets, carried on corbels of three projections, identical with those of the rampart walk. The top of two of these turrets is accessible by stone steps. They possess no internal feature, except that at the north-west angle, which has a double checked doorway, are a very small loop or spy hole and a small garde-robe. There is also a shallow recess near the floor in the west wall, and there are holes for a beam or seat in the north and south walls. The height of the parapets is marked on the turrets.

The walling both on the exterior and interior faces is of exceptionally good ashlar in courses. The ceilings of the various recesses and wall chambers are of large flags, carried by two, and sometimes by three, over-sailing chamfered courses. Some of the windows on the interior jambs are shouldered, and all the doors and windows are of excellent masonry. The floors of the upper and lower hall were of timber, carried on corbels of two projections, rounded on the underside.

'The manor house, built by Cuthbert Heron, to the south-east of the tower in 1621, is the finest example of the architecture of its time in Northumberland. The front has two short wings and a square porch with semi-octagonal windows on the floors above it. Above the entrance is a shield, charged with the Heron coat of three herons, and the crest of a heron under an oak tree. In the pedestals of the side shafts are two panels, the

one representing a bird, of which it can only be said that it is not a heron, with a palisade or faggot behind it, the other an ostrich-like heron in front of oak branches. On the highest pinnacle of the porch turret is seated a stone bear that seems to have once held a staff or some such object in its clasped paws. The cornices, both of the original wings and of the semi-circular windows thrown out from them at a later date, are surmounted by similar beasts holding the shields of various northern families. The proportion of bears among them is so large that the motto, "Bewar the bar," is all that is wanting to make us believe that we are at the Tully-Veolan of *Waverley*. Many of the shields are so weather-worn that their charges are lost. Among those which can be made out are the chevron and indented chief of Thornton, held by a lion, the six annulets of Musgrave and the hurts and bars of Carnaby, both supported by bears, and a shield with three birds, very unlike herons, supported by a bull.

The windows of the comparatively narrow wing between the front part of the manor house and the old tower looked at one time into the small courtyard in the centre of the building. They were first converted into sash windows and then ultimately built up. The present windows all face the Tyne, and in order to add to the symmetry of this, the south-west, front, six false sash windows were inserted in the wall of the tower with neo-classical string courses at each floor level. The lower courses of masonry round the central courtyard have the appearance of mediæval work, as though they might possibly be the remains of an earlier manor house.¹

The alterations made by the Reeds about the year 1784 greatly altered the appearance of the house. At that time all the windows in the east front, except the semi-octagonal window over the porch shown in the illustration, were converted into sash windows.² At the same period the fine room now used as the library was reconstructed by throwing rooms on the first and second floors into one: it contains the oak mantelpiece, of which the upper portion is carved in high relief, as shown in the illustration.

Chipchase tower is first mentioned, as far as is known, in the list of 1415, when it was in the possession of Alexander Heron. On the 6th of June, 1428, he assigned the manor, tower, and town of Chipchase to Sir

¹ Bates, *Border Holds*, vol. i. p. 413.

² In the basement of the south-west front there remains one small window which shows what the original windows were.



MANTELPiece IN THE LIBRARY OF CHIPCHASE CASTLE.

John Bertram and Sir John Widdrington upon trust. In 1541 Chipchase is described as a 'fair tower and a manor of stonework joined thereunto of the inheritance of John Heron of the same, esquire, kept in good reparations.' This shows that there was a manor house in addition to the tower before that erected in the reign of James I.¹

In 1522 Sir Robert Bowes and Sir Ralph Ellerker, in their survey, report on the office and duties of the keeper of Tyndale, and add :

And the most conveyent house for the said keeper of Tyndale and the said garrison with hym (as we thynke) were Chypchase and Symondburne the which house of Chypchase ys in measurable good state and reparation for the same at this presente. And Symondburne ys a greatt and strongly buylded towre, etc. . . . For the better strength of both the said houses we thinke yt much necessary that there were a brydge made over the said ryver of North Tyne even under the towre of Chypchase that the inhabytantes upon both the sydes of that ryver might assemble by that waie to serve or releve the said keeper of Tyndall as his need shall requyre, although the water were a-floudd and passed rydinge, and the bridge to be upon the nighte cheyned or otherwe shutte up for stoppage the passage of suche theves or Scottes as would attempte to passe over yt Chypchase which standeth so nere to Symondburne that the one of them may both heare and see when a fraye or busynes ys about the other, and by such a brydge as ys afore devysed the one of them mighte ever releve the other as nede should requyre.²

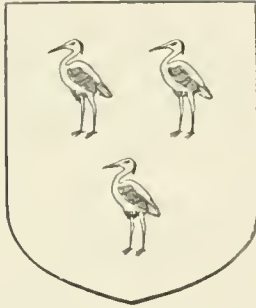
The pedigree of the Herons is not free from difficulties, especially before the year 1600, at which period several cadet lines existed both in the immediate neighbourhood and in other parts of the county. A younger son of the house, George Heron, was killed at Marston Moor fighting on the king's side, and after the Restoration his eldest brother, Cuthbert Heron, was made a baronet, the patent being dated 20th November, 1662. The Rate Book of the following year enumerates his wide estates, or rather those which lay within the county. Besides the rectory of Corbridge, which he held by lease from the dean and chapter of Carlisle, and the tithes of Birtley, Chipchase, and Newbrough, he held freehold lands at West Whelpington, Ray, and Blackhall, in the parish of Kirkwhelpington; Barnsteads, Barnhouse, Gofton, Hall Barns, Hall hill, Mortley, Nunwick, Overtown, Puncher-shaw, Sharpley, Simondburn castle, Sewingshields, Tepper Moor, Warkshaugh, and Chipchase, for which he was rated at above £420 a year. The estates were probably encumbered, and all the outlying portions were sold before 1718, when the castle and estate of Chipchase were conveyed to Robert Allgood, who already held them to secure a mortgage.³

¹ Bates, *Border Holds*, vol. i. pp. 47, 415.

² Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 235, 237.

³ By lease and release dated 4th and 5th August, 1718, Sir William Loraine, bart., and Sharrock Heron, esq., of the first part, George Huxley, esq., and Henrietta Maria, his wife, of the second part, Sir Henry Heron, bart., son and heir of Sir Charles Heron, deceased, who was brother of Sir John Heron, with Dame Catherine Heron, mother and guardian of the said Sir Henry, of the third part, conveyed Chipchase to Robert Allgood and Nevill Ridley, esq., of the fourth part. Mr. Hugh Taylor's *Title Deeds*.

HERON OF CHIPCHASE.



ARMS: *Gules 3 herons argent.* CREST: *On a wreath a heron close proper.* Kimber, *Baronetage.* A heron under an oak tree, sculptured on porch at Chipchase.

Walter Heron, youngest son of Sir William = Cecily, daughter of John de Insula, Heron of Ford, in 1360 had grant of Pigdon from his father. and heiress of Sir Robert de Insula of Chipchase, Sept., 1348.

Roger Heron, 1394/5, lets the vill of Pigdon to Sir Ralph Eure.

Alexander Heron dominus de Chipchase in 1408 had grant of lands in Pigdon; was of Chipchase tower in 1415 (o), and 6th Jan., 1428, conveyed Chipchase to Sir John Bertram and Sir John Widdrington in trust (c).

John Heron of Chipchase, esq., 20th May, 1443, had seisin of lands in Holy Island, Harbottle, Dissington, and Corbridge from Gerard Heron of Chipchase, gentleman, acting as attorney of William Harbottle. He married Isabella, daughter of Robert, first Lord Ogle, and was dead before 2nd January, 1477/8.*

John Heron of Chipchase, 1477, had grant of lands in Mollowe from Sir Roger Heron of Ford, son of Sir John Heron. John Heron of Chipchase, 1st Sept., 1491, had dispensation to marry Joan Ridley; was high sheriff of Northumberland in 1494.

Sir John Heron of Chipchase; 2nd Mar., 1516, had grant from Giles Musgrave and Roger Heron of the manors = Margaret, daughter of Sir Edward Musgrave. of Chipchase, Whelpington, Ray, etc., which they had with John Heron of Chollerton and Norman Heron, now dead (in 1505), remainder to male heirs of Gerard Heron of Errington, remainder to William Heron of Ford, remainder to right heirs of John Heron of Chipchase. Called 'little John Heron,' who, in 1536 (h), 'conceyved crafty devyise and subtille way' to have the inhabitants of Tyndale and Hexhamshire 'to breyke'; was appointed keeper of Tyndale and Redesdale in 1540 (i), and used his own house of Chipchase 'for the order and conservation of Tyndale' (n).

John Heron, son and heir, who in 1537 was ordered to be taken as a pledge for his father, and to be brought 'with a hode on his hedde, and so secretly kepte by the waye that no man shold knowe hym unto his delerveraunce' (k). In 1533 had grant of Carryhouse from earl of Northumberland.

Sir George Heron of Chipchase, knight; 13th July, 1550, had grant of Birtley and Barrasford from John, earl of Warwick; died 10th Nov., 33 Eliz., 1591. = Marion, daughter of George Swinburn of Edlingham (f).

Giles Heron, treasurer of Berwick; killed = on Sunday, 28th March, 1557, in a feud between the Herons and Carrs.

Ursula; married Roger Fenwick of Bitchfield (f) and Prestwich (a). Thomasine; married Lancelot Thirlwall of Thirlwall (f).; married Cuthbert Charlton, nephew of Edward Charlton (l).

Elizabeth; contracted to William Carr of Ford, and died before marriage.

John Heron, son and heir; will dated 5th Dec., 1590; proved 19th June, 1591.

= Margery, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Gray of Horton; will dated 3rd Nov., 1612; proved 19th March, 1613/4; adm. 29th Mar., 1613, by son John Heron of Overtoun, parish of Simondburn (f).

Isabel; married John Fenwick of Walker. His will is dated 10th Oct., 1580 (f).

Agnes; married ... Charlton.

George Heron, son and heir; *ing. p.m.* 22nd Jan., 35 Eliz.; was found to have died seised of manor of Simondburn, and died *s.p.* (g); administration 22nd Jan., 1591/2 to brother John (f).

Cuthbert Heron; was dead before 18th Feb., 1595/6, when 'his child, an infant in minority, and the widow, his mother, married to Mr. Henry Bowes who lies in the bishopric' (m).

= Anne, daughter of Francis Anderson of Newcastle, who remarried Henry Bowes of Newcastle. *Durham Visitation.*

(a) Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 255.

(c) *Lansdowne MS.* 326; Bates, *Border Holds*, vol. i. p. 414.

(f) *Durham Wills*, vol. ii. Surtees Soc.

(g) Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 197.

(h) *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. p. cxl.

(i) *State Papers*, Henry VIII. vol. v. p. 203.

(k) *Ibid.* vol. v. p. 102.

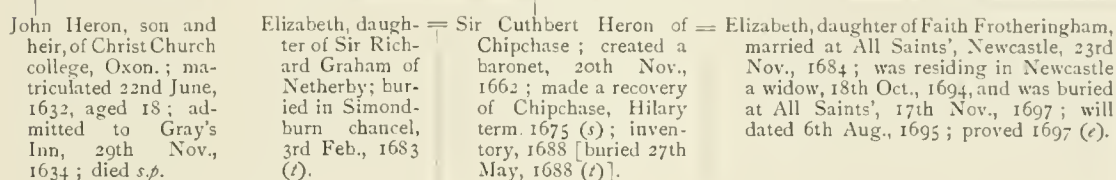
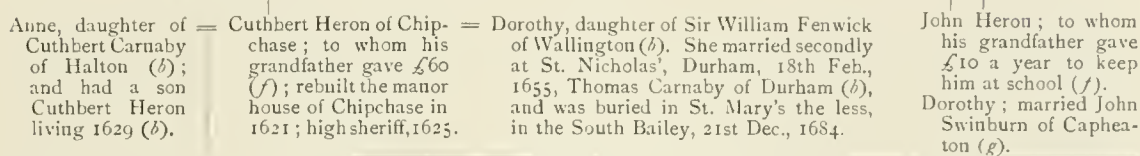
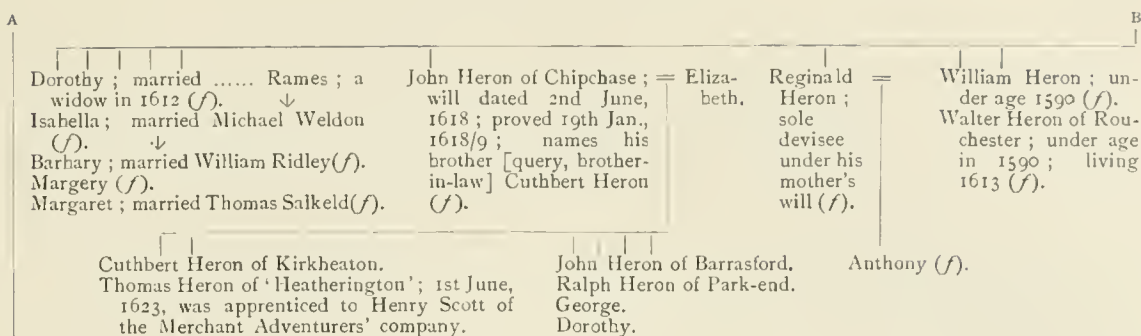
(l) *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. p. cxlii.

(m) *Border Papers*, Bain, vol. ii. p. 107.

(n) Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 226.

(o) *Ibid.* pt. iii. vol. i. p. 29.

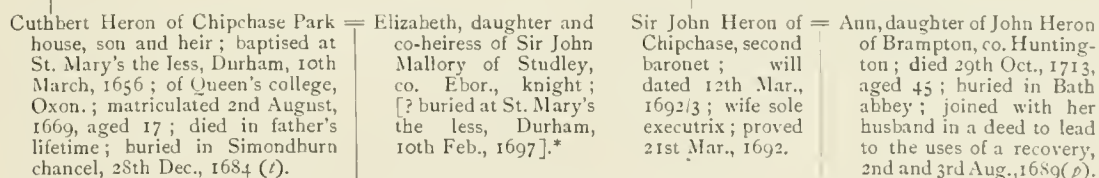
* Cf. will of Isabella Ogle, lady of Ogle, dated at Chipchase, 2nd Jan., 1477/8: She gives her lands in Lancashire to her two grandsons, John Heron of Chipchase, esq., and his half-brother, Robert Widdrington, esq., the two sons of her daughter Isabella. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 391.



George Heron of Christ Church college, Oxon.; matriculated =
22nd June, 1632; admitted to Gray's Inn, 29th Nov., 1634,
aged 16; killed, fighting on the king's side, at Marston
Moor.

Dorothy; married John Swin-
burne of Capheaton (*b*).
 Frances; married Nicholas Er-
rington of Ponteland (*b*).

Isabella; married William Errington of Benwell.



Cuthbert, baptised 7th Sept., 1680 (*a*); buried
in Simondburn chancel, 3rd April, 1681 (*t*).
 Cuthbert, baptised 31st Oct., 1686 (*a*); died
young; buried at Simondburn, 27th May,
1688 (*t*).
 John; buried 29th April, 1683, in Simondburn
chancel (*t*).
 George; buried 5th March, 1684, in Simond-
burn chancel (*t*).

Elizabeth, daughter and heiress,
baptised 13th March, 1679
(*a*); married Ralph Jenison
of Walworth, and was living
in 1693.
 Mary, baptised 20th March,
1683 (*a*); died young.

Henrietta Maria, daughter and
heiress, baptised 4th Oct., 1688
(*a*); married George Huxley
of London; both were party
to lease and release made 4th
and 5th Aug., 1718 (*p*).
 Elizabeth, baptised 15th April,
1686 (*a*); buried at Simond-
burn, 5th June, 1686 (*t*).

* In 1656 there was a curious case of witchcraft in which two women were charged with bewitching Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Mallory of Studley, who was then aged about 14. *Depositions from York Castle*, Raine, p. 75. Surtees Soc.

(*a*) *Chollerton Register*.

(*b*) *Herald's Visitation of Northumberland*, 1666.

(*c*) F. W. Dendy, *Arch. Ael.* vol. xviii. pp. 250, 251.

(*f*) *Durham Wills*, vol. ii. Surtees Soc.

(*g*) Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. pp. 231, 232.

(*p*) *St. Oswald's Register, Durham*.

(*s*) Mr. Hugh Taylor's *Title Deeds*.

(*t*) *Simondburn Register*.

C D

Sir Charles Heron of Chipchase, 3rd baronet; died before 4th Aug., 1718 (*p*); buried in London. = Catherine, daughter of Sir William Poulteney, knight; as guardian to her son was party to lease and release, 4th and 5th Aug., 1718 (*p*).

Dorothy. Mary. Elizabeth; married ... Fenwick of Stanton [but '21st Nov., 1693, Mr. Robert Fenwick and Mrs. Hannah Heron married' (*a*)].

Catherine; married ... Smith of Southampton. Henrietta Maria, baptised 13th Aug., 1670 (*a*); living 11th May, 1694.

Sir Henry Heron of Chipchase, fourth baronet; lieutenant Life Guards; buried at Acton, Middlesex, 26th Feb., 1748/9. = Elizabeth, daughter of ... Coventry; married before 1727 (*p*); died *circa* 1734.

Catherine; married ... Panton of Banff, Scotland. Two daughters; died young.

Cuthbert Heron of Durham, only surviving child of marriage; in 1703 was of full age and residing at Chester-le-Street (*e*); buried at St. Oswald's, Durham, 14th Nov., 1731 (*p*). = Katherine, daughter of Richard Middleton of Offerton, co. Durham; articles before marriage, 20th and 21st Oct., 1715 (*e*); buried 30th Sept., 1738 (*p*).

Cuthbert Heron, son and heir, baptised 4th Nov., 1716 (*p*); died unmarried; buried 13th Dec., 1740 (*p*). Richard Heron, baptised 4th Jan., 1717/8 (*p*); died unmarried, 1737. Margaret, dau. of Rev. [?] Ralph Finlay of Carrickfergus, Ireland; married at Carrickfergus, 1749; buried at Ballinrobe, 1753. = Sir Thomas Heron, third son, and fifth and last baronet, baptised 17th Jan., 1722/3 (*p*); in 1745 an ensign in General Handyside's regiment of Foot (*e*); assumed the name of Middleton (*e*); deed 27th May, 1801; will dated ...; proved 8th June, 1801. = Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Arbuthnot of Fortree, Scotland; married ... August, 1758. Catherine, baptised 19th Jan., 1718/9 (*p*); buried 10th May, 1722 (*p*). Elizabeth, baptised 16th Nov., 1720 (*p*); living at Offerton in 1745, and unmarried (*e*); married Benjn. Raine of Durham; died 31st March, 1789, in her 69th year (*r*). [She left an only child, a daughter, living in 1813.]

Mary Heron, daughter and heiress, born 2nd Oct., 1750; died 1st June, 1804 (*q*). = Captain Robert Barron of Alnwick; married at Bishop Middleham, , 1768; buried at Alnwick, 27th Oct., 1789.

Catherine Hannah, baptised at Alnwick, 18th June, 1769.
Mary, baptised at Alnwick, 28th July, 1775; married George Lynn of Southwick house, Northamptonshire.
Elizabeth, born at Gainford, 1777; died young.

(*a*) *Chollerton Register*.

(*d*) *Proc. Soc. of Antiq.* vol. vi. p. 65.

(*e*) F. W. Dendy, *Arch. Ael.* vol. xviii. pp. 250, 251.

(*p*) *St. Oswald's Register, Durham*.

(*q*) M.I. St. Oswald, Durham.

(*r*) M.I. Houghton-le-Spring.

EVIDENCES TO HERON PEDIGREE.

John Heron of Chipches, junior, and John Heron his son, take the manor of Birtley, Northumberland, at the court at Newburn.

Indenture made at Chipchasse, Sept. 8, 1348, between Mr. (Sir) Robert de Lisle of Chipches and Sir William Heroun, lord of Ford. Sir Robert sells and gives to Sir William the wardship and the marriage of Cecily, daughter of John de Lisle of Chippeches, upon whom, the said Cecily, Sir Robert has entailed the reversion of the manor of Chipches to marry her to one of the three sons of Sir William: *i.e.*, to William, John, or Walter. *Lansdowne MSS.* 326, fol. 53 b.

Sir William Heron, lord of Ford, gives his son Andrew the vill of West Whelpington, with remainder to Roger Heron, son of Walter Heron of Chipchase, remainder to Thomas Heron, then to Robert Heron, then to Walter Heron, then to John Heron, then to Sir Roger Heron, knt.

Sir William Heron and his sons Roger and William hold land in grieveship of Wark, Tyndale, August 1, 1348. *Ibid.* 326, fol. 52 n.

Alicia, wife of Stephen de Mollawe, and William Mollawe, her son, quit-claim to Sir William Heron, knt., all right they have in the manor of Mollawe, 1357.

1360. Sir William Heron, knt., who held the manor of Pykeden for his life, with remainder to his son Walter, in that year granted it to Walter. *Lansdowne MSS.* 326, fol. 46 a.

John Heron, son of Sir William Heron, has land in Thornton, 1377.

Roger Heron lets to Sir Ralph Eure his vill of Pekdon (Pigdon), 1394-95.

John Heron of Thornton quit-claims land in Corbridge, 1407. *Ibid.* 46 b.

Alexander Heron, dominus de Chipchesse, was, in 1408, a grantee of his lands in Pykden (Pigdon).

John Heron, son of William Heron, senr., marries Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Heron, by papal dispensation, July 11, 1438.

Gerard Heron of Chipchase, gent., has power of attorney from William Harbotell to give seisin to John Heron of Chipchase, esq., May 20, 1443.

William Harbottle gives power of attorney to Gerard Heron of Chipchase, gentleman, to give seisin to John Heron of Chipchase, esq., of all his lands in the vill of Halyeland, Hirbotel, Dissington, and Corbrigg, May 20, 1443. *Ibid.* 326, 54 a.

Sir William Heron, knt., lord of Ford, grants to Andrew Heron his son, his vill of West Whelpington to him and his heirs male, remainder to Roger Heron, son of Walter Heron of Chipches, and his heirs male, remainder to Thomas Heron and heirs male, remainder to Robert Heron and heirs male, remainder to Walter Heron and heirs male of his body, remainder to John Heron and heirs male, remainder to Roger Heron, knt., remainder to right heirs of Sir William the donor. *Ibid.* 326, fol. 52 a.

John Bertram and John Widdrington, knts., give power of attorney to John Horsley and John Carlee to give seisin of Chipches and Whittill, which they have, by grant of Alexander Heron, esq., 8 Hen. VI. Grant from Alexander Heron to Bertram and Widdrington of manor, tower, and vill of Chipches and mill. June 6, 4 Hen. VI., 1428.

Sir Roger Heron, lord of Ford, son of Sir John Heron, grants to John Heron of Chipches, esq., his land in Mollowe, near Chipchase, 1477. (In 1357 Sir William Heron had Mollowe.)

Sir Roger Heron, knt., lord of Forde, son of Sir John Heron, knt., grants to John Heron of Chipches, esq., all claim he has in the land called Mollawe, near Chipches. July 6, 17 Edw. IV., 1477. *Ibid.* 326, fol. 52 a.

John Heron of Chipches, junior, and John Heron, his son, took the manor of Birtley at the court at Newburn.

Dispensation for John Heron and Joan Ridley to marry within third and fourth degree. Sept. 1, 1491. *Ibid.* 326.

John Heron of Chipchase has grant from Giles Musgrave and Roger Heron of the manors of Chipchase, Whelpington, Peldon, Whitwel, and Ray, which they had with John Heron of Chollerton and Norman Heron, both now dead (in 1505-6), remainder to male heirs of Gerard Heron, late of Eryngton, remainder to William Heron of Ford, remainder to right heirs of John Heron of Chipchase. March 2, 1516.

Egidius (Giles) Musgrave and Roger Heron grant to John Heron of Chipchesse their manor of Chipches, 900 acres of land, with appurtenances in Chipches, Whelpington, Ray, Peldon, and Whithyll, in Northumberland, all which they have lately had with John Heron of Chollerton and Norman Heron, lately dead. Hilary term, 21 Hen. VII. Before Rad. Frowike, knt., and others, justices on bench, they have recovered against the aforesaid John Heron of Chipchess 'per breve de ingress,' to hold to the said John Heron of Chipchesse and his heirs male; remainder to the heir male (masculo) of Gerard Heron, late of Eryngton, remainder to William Heron of Ford and his heirs male, remainder to right heirs of the aforesaid John Heron of Chipchess. March 2, 7 Hen. VIII., (1516). *Ibid.* 326.

John Heron, senior, of Chipchase, and John Heron, junior, of Chipchase, have pardon, December, 6 Henry V.

Sir John Heron of Chipches lets to Roger Heron of Corbrigg, gent., land in Corbridge. August 6, 1529. *Ibid.* 326.

1536. John Heron of Chipchase intrigues with the canons of Hexham. See the adventure connected with the dissolution of Hexham priory. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. p. cxi.; Surtees Soc.

1550, 13th July. George Heron of Chipchase has a grant of Birtley and Barrasford from John, earl of Warwick (created duke of Northumberland, 11th Oct., 1551).

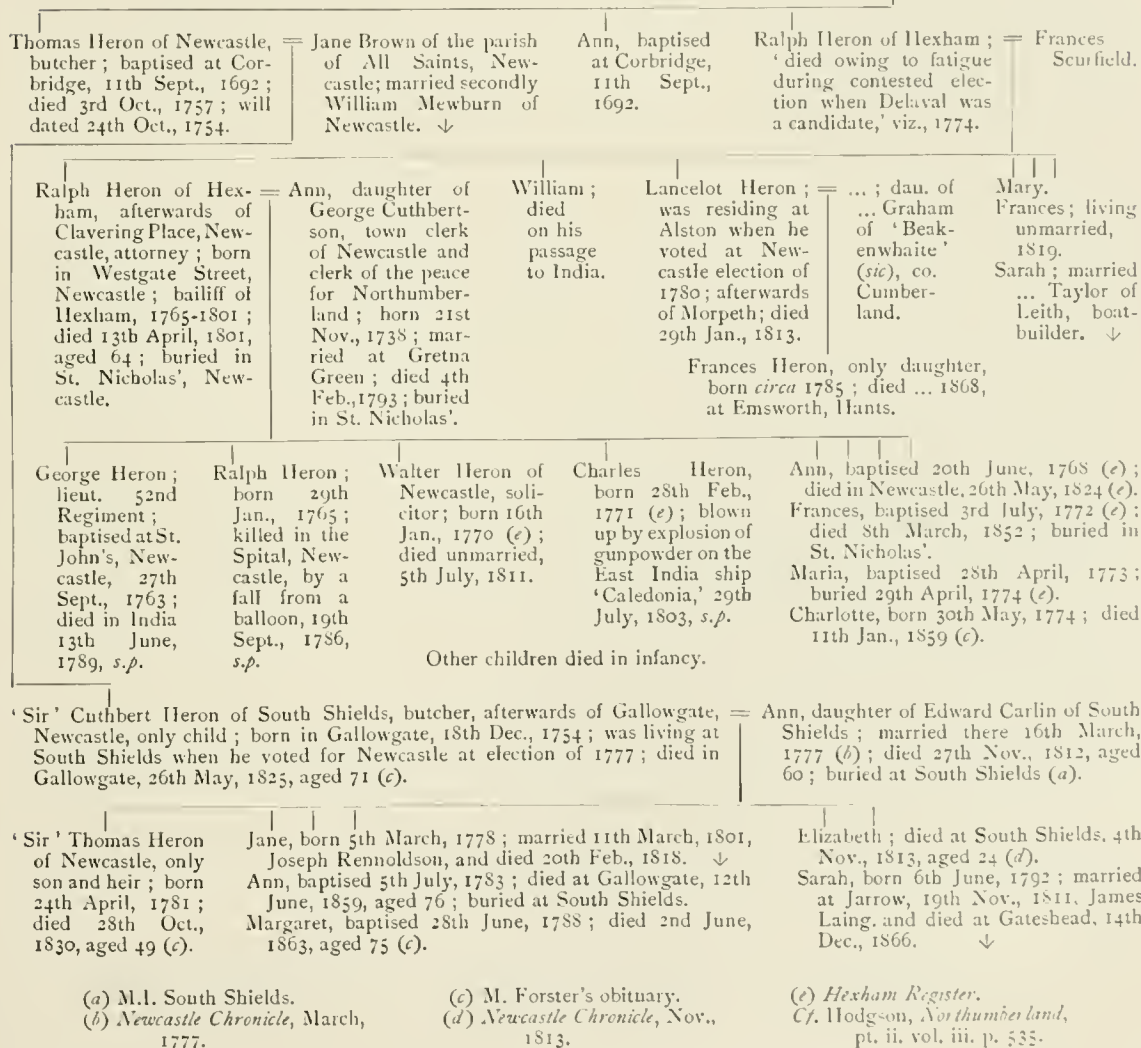
October 11, 18 Eliz., 1576. John Heron of Chipches, esq., grants to Cuthbert Heron, gent., his son and heir, his castle and manor of Ford. *Lansdowne MS.* 326.

1586. John Heron of Chipchase, esq., held in the manor of Birtley certain lands called Rowchester, by fealty and suit of court to Prudhoe and a rent of 12d. *Stockdale's Survey.*

Inq. p.m. 22nd January, 35 Eliz. Geo. Heron was found to have died seised of manor of Simonburn, and appurtenances in Hawarnes, Overton, Sharplove, Prestop, Ravensworth, Mortley, Gofton, held of the queen *in cap.* as one-third part of a knight's fee. Also the manor of Shitlington, Snabdaughe, and Childen, and appurtenances in Epplerwoodhope, Hetherington, and Harle, Well Cragge, held of the queen's manor of Wark by the service of one-tenth part of a knight's fee. Also the manor or castle of Sewingshiele castle, and appurtenances held of the queen's manor of Wark by the twentieth part of a knight's fee. Also Pigdon in Mitford at the tenth part of a knight's fee; he died 10th September, 33 Eliz. Cuthbert was his cousin and heir, aged 8 years. Rev. John Hodgson's *Collection* (K, 625.)

After the sale of Chipchase the family continued to survive in the male line until 1780, when it died out with Sir Thomas Heron-Middleton, who had assumed the name of his mother's family, and resided at Bowlby, in the North Riding of Yorkshire. The baronetcy was claimed by Mr. Cuthbert Heron of South Shields, who was certainly not legitimately descended from the first baronet, though he may have been from a more remote ancestor. Being well known on Tyneside, he was generally received and addressed under the style of a baronet; as much of his pedigree as is known is given in the following table :

THOMAS HERON of Heron's hill, Corbridge; buried there, 29th Aug., 1723 = Elizabeth Hudspeth.



Thomas Heron, writing to Mr. Petyt, of 80, Broad Street, London, under date 27th November, 1819, concerning the proving of his father's claim to the baronetcy, says :

My father always considered that Thomas Heron of Heron's hill was an elder brother of Cuthbert Heron of Durham, father of the late Sir Thomas, and from the strong likeness between the latter and my father must have been a near connexion. Sir Thomas was an officer in a foot regiment when he assumed the title and afterwards retired from the army. At his death Mary Baron, his only child, sent by his desire with her compliments the original patent, and also said would give up any other papers relative to the family, but being indisposed went to the south, and never saw her afterwards ; her only living issue is Mary, wife of Major Lynn of Oundle, Northamptonshire, with whom we still occasionally correspond. I take the liberty of sending you a copy of the patent ; the original is in Latin, and was deciphered a few years back. I also send some letters for your perusal on family affairs ; one was from Mr. Lancelot Heron of Morpeth, who was always angry at my father for not getting himself righted, but he felt so confident in his mind that the title was in his possession, and undisputed by any rival, that he neglected to pay the heralds' fees, and was of course put out of the Red Book. He has been addressed as a baronet by many of the first people of the land (when chairman of the shipping interest of the port of Tyne), also received thanks for his military services, and bore his majesty's commission as a captain of a volunteer corps raised partly at his own expense in 1797, and also as that of lieutenant-colonel in 1803 until the end of the war. He has voted for the county of York as a baronet, also signed the writ for the county of Northumberland, and acted as a grand jurymen for the same county.

Robert Allgood, the purchaser of Chipchase from Sir Henry Heron, was not welcomed by the tenants of the estate, who may have grown licentious during the prolonged and habitual non-residence of the later Herons ; the nature of the reception of the new landlord is indicated in the following letter written by him to Thomas Ord, the clerk of the peace, dated January 12th, 1718 :

Notwithstanding all the manors and demesnes I have, and my purchase deedds make mencion of severall, yett cannot I gett a dish of wild fowl for myselfe or friend by reason of soe many gunerrs and poachers. Now pray, sir, may I not have an order of sessions to seize the guns of unquallified persons within my manor and demesne of Chipchas estate being not onely mortgaged to me for a round sum of money, but by my articles of purchase and a decree in chancery stands as a collatery security to mee. Nay, as the Chipchase tenantry affirm, and as you may see by the Court Rolls answers to the court of Symondburn : I pray thenn, may not I seize the guns of the Chipchase tenants as well as other unquallified persons in the neighbourhood. But this I shall not venture to doe without a particular order, which if you please to procure for me (as I doubt not but you may) I shall most willingly pay for it, and thankfully owne the favour among the rest done.

Besides this grievance I have another to complaine of, viz., of some of the neighbours' hounds which run day and night, and I suppose by the owners sett into my grounds where they trample bothe the summer and winter corne miserably. Now pray what must I doe in this case ? May I order the hounds to be shott or hamstrung ? I once more desire you'll please to doe mee all the service you can in what I write aboute and informe the bearer right as to whatt he wants to know

Now, sir, if what I write about cannot be handsomely and cleverly done at ye publick sessions, I pray lett it be done at a private sessions when you have more leisure.¹

The Allgoods did not long retain the estate. It was conveyed on 16th August, 1734, to John Reed, the history of whose family is embodied in the following pedigree :

¹ *Sessions Records.*

REED AND SOULSBY OF CHIPCHASE.

ARCHIBALD REED of Bellingham; purchased Chesterhope in 1698; = Sarah, daughter of William and sister of George Ridley of Yethouse in the parish of Simondburn. died 1729, aged 86 years; will dated 20th March, 1724/5.

By frugal acts of industry he rose,
Preserved his virtue and provok'd no foes:
But dy'd lamented as he liv'd belov'd,
For all his actions just and generous prov'd;
Always subservient to a poor man's suit,
His gains were sweetened with a good repute.
Unenvy'd he his fortune fairly left;
And mourned his country of such worth bereft. (a)

John Reed of Chipchase, which estate he purchased in 1734 from George Allgood; died in London, 20th March, 1754, aged 54, and was buried in the chapel which he had built at Chipchase, 4th April, 1754 (d) (e); will dated 15th June, 1753; proved at Prerogative Court of Canterbury. = Mary, daughter of Gawin Aynsley of Little Harle, baptised 20th August, 1717; married at Kirkwhelpington, 8th Sept., 1740 (f); died 9th Oct., 1747, aged 30, and was buried in Chipchase chapel (h) (e).

Martha Reed; articles before marriage, 16th Nov., 1721; married 23rd Nov., 1721 (e); died at Stamfordham, 25th Nov., 1779, aged 89 (h); buried in Chipchase chapel, 28th Nov., 1779 (e). = Christopher Soulsby of Newcastle and Chollerton; will dated 10th Sept., 1733; proved 1735. Hannah; married Francis Mascall of Epleton; articles before marriage, 7th Jan., 1733; mentioned in brother's will; died ...; buried 4th July, 1754.

Christopher Soulsby of Newcastle, second son; succeeded to Chipchase under his uncle's will, and assumed the name of Reed; baptised 16th Feb., 1726 (e); high sheriff of Northumberland, 1764; died 6th Nov., 1770, aged 48 (e); will dated 1st Nov., 1770.* = Sarah, daughter of Sir Francis Blake of Twizel, bart.; articles before marriage, 8th and 9th April, 1757; married at Norham, 25th April of same year, 'an agreeable young lady with a fortune of £10,000' (g); died 6th Nov., 1771, aged 33 (e). (For other issue see page 243.)

<p>John Reed of Chipchase, son and heir, baptised 13th Dec., 1759 (e); lieut.-col. Northumberland militia. Becoming involved in the failure of Blake, Reed, & Co.'s bank, he in 1823 conveyed Chipchase and other estates to trustees to the use of his creditors. Afterwards was distributor of stamps for Newcastle and district, and died at Felton vicarage, 20th Feb., 1842; buried at Bell's Close, Newburn.</p>	<p>Mary, daughter of Henry Nevil of Kingston-on-Hull; articles before marriage, 3rd Dec., 1789; married 10th Dec., 1789; died in London, 3rd April, 1808, aged 37 (e).</p>	<p>Francis Reed, clerk in orders, rector of Haselbury Bryan, Dorsetshire; born 30th Nov., 1762 (e); died 6th April, 1821.</p>	<p>Mary Ann, daughter of Anthony Story of Newbottle; married 1st Oct., 1803; died 16th July, 1863; buried at Humshaugh.</p>	<p>Archibald Reed of Newcastle, baptised 9th February, 1766 (e); resided at Whorlton; was six times mayor of Newcastle—1800, 1806, 1819, 1826, 1830, 1831; died in Newcastle, 13th Dec., 1842; buried in Jesmond cemetery.</p>	<p>Mary Ann, daughter of Arthur Maister of Hull; married 29th Oct., 1801.</p>
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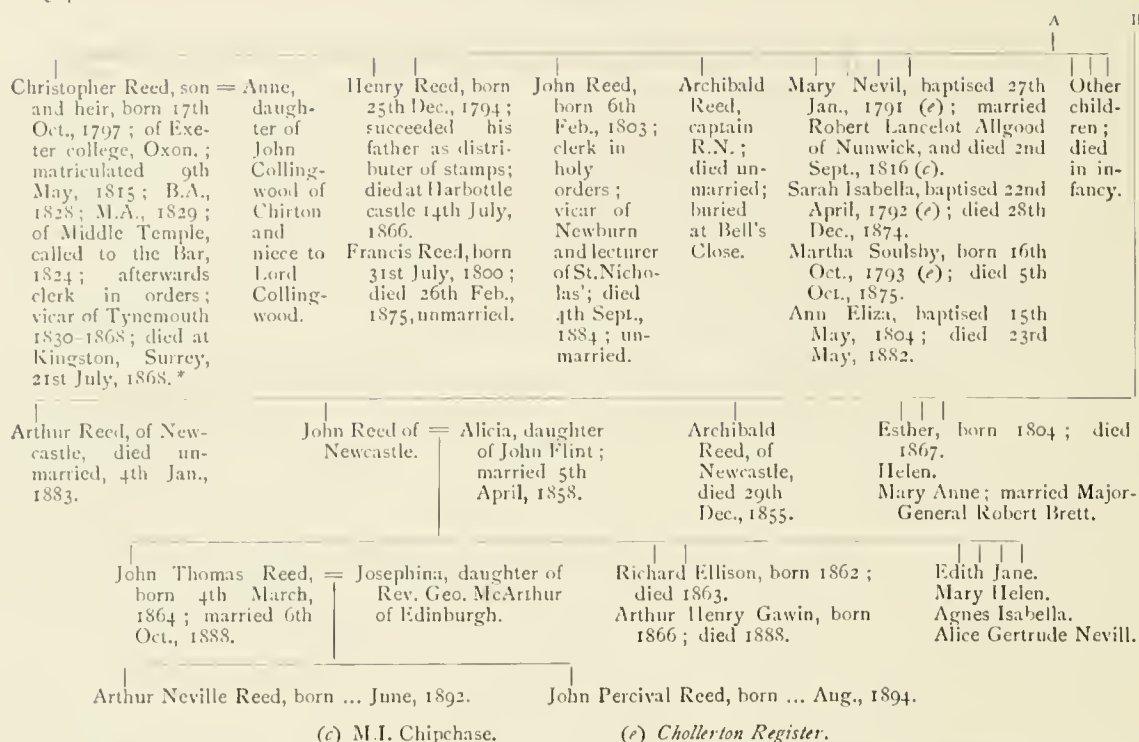
<p>Christopher. Francis. Archibald William.</p>	<p>} All died young and unmarried.</p>	<p> Mary Anne; died unmarried. Isabella; married John Gregson of Murton, county Durham, barrister-at-law. Sarah; living at Tynemouth, unmarried, in 1897. Sophia; died unmarried, 19th Nov., 1888; buried at Humshaugh.</p>
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<p>Christopher, baptised 18th Oct., 1760 (e); died 1st June, 1768, aged 8 (e). Thomas, baptised 4th Oct., 1763 (e). Ralph, baptised 7th Aug., 1761 (e); died 25th May, 1776, aged 15 (e).</p>	<p>Isabella, baptised 24th May, 1758 (e); died at Felton vicarage, 28th Feb., 1842; buried at Bell's Close, Newburn. Martha, baptised 7th March, 1767 (e); married 2nd Oct., 1790, James Allgood of Nunwick, and died 19th Dec., 1802. Sarah, baptised 15th Nov., 1768 (e); married Thomas [Fenwick] Clennel, and died 11th Aug., 1859.</p>
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A B

* 'I give to the corpulent Kit Reed my lecture upon Ginger-bread.' *Will of a certain Northern Vicar* (of which the second edition was published in 1765).

(a) M.I. Bellingham. (c) M.I. Chipchase. (f) *Kirkwhelpington Register*.
(b) Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 210. (d) *Newcastle Magazine*, 1754. (g) *Newcastle Covenant*, 30th April, 1757.
(e) *Chollerton Register*. (h) *Newcastle Advertiser*, 4th Dec., 1779.



* Mr. Christopher Reed's high sense of honour induced him to join his father in breaking the entail of Chipchase so that the estate might be sold to pay the creditors, conduct which was greatly extolled.

Mr. John Reed, who was a principal partner in the Newcastle banking house of Blake, Reed, & Co., which suspended payment in 1821, on 14th March, 1823, conveyed his estates to trustees for the use of his creditors, and receiving very general sympathy in his misfortune, he was afterwards appointed distributor of stamps for Newcastle and district, in possession of which office he died in 1842. The trustees, in 1826, conveyed Chipchase to Mrs. Anne Grey and others in trust for Mr. Richard W. Grey, then in his minority, whose patrimonial estate of Backworth had, under an Act of Parliament, been sold to the duke of Northumberland. In 1862 Mr. R. W. Grey sold the estate to Mr. Hugh Taylor.¹

The ancient chapel of Chipchase is said to have stood near to the castle; it was one of those depending upon Chollerton when that church was given by Odinel de Umframvill to Hexham. Peter de Insula, and his son Robert, obtained a concession from Bernard, the prior and the convent of Hexham, to have a chantry within the chapel of Chipchase.² The prior and

¹ For an account of the Taylor family see Welford, *Men of Mark*, vol. iii.

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. i. preface, clviii.

convent in 1479 had at Chipchase a tithe barn and a rood of land for the gathering and housing of their corn tithes, which in 1536 were let to John Widdrington at a rent of £2.

The following entry (*circa* 1723) in the minute book of Archdeacon Thomas Sharp refers to the older chapel :

Chipchase in the parish of Chollerton. Here is a little chapel in which the sacraments have been formerly administered, and where at present there is service performed four times in the year. It hath neither books, vessels, or vestments belonging to it. There is a bell lying in the chapel, but it hath never been fitted and hung up. The chapel hath never been either plaistered or floored. But how far the archdeacon hath jurisdiction here is a question, therefore nothing was ordered upon the view of the defects.

Just within the park gates and about 100 yards east of the castle stands the present chapel, erected during the first half of the last century. It is a simple parallelogram without external feature, save a bell cot at the west end, below which is the entrance door. There is no division of nave and chancel, nor in the interior is there anything to arrest attention except an octagonal pulpit, with fluted pilasters on the angles, and a canopy above it, placed near the south wall.

There are tablets and monumental inscriptions to members of the Reed family, some of whom lie in a vault beneath ; and to the wife and son of the present owner :

To the memory of those whose names are inscribed and whose bodies are interred in this chapel, this monument was erected by their affectionate relative, John Reed of Chipchase castle.

Anne Eliza, daughter of John and Mary Reed, died 16th September, 1801, aged 5 years and 4 months.

Mary Reed, died 6th October, 1747, aged 50.

John Reed, died 20th March, 1754, aged 54.

Martha Soulsby, died 25th November, 1779, aged 87.

John Soulsby, died 3rd November, 1793, aged 64.

Martha, daughter of Chris^r and Sarah Reed, died 3rd November, 1764, an infant.

Christopher, son of Chris^r and Sarah Reed, died 1st June, 1768, aged 8.

Chris^r Reed, died 6th November, 1770, aged 48.

Sarah Reed, died 6th November, 1771, aged 38.

Ralph, son of Chris^r and Sarah Reed, died 25th May, 1776, aged 15.

John, son of John and Mary Reed, died 7th September, 1795, an infant.

Sacred to the memory of Mary, wife of John Reed, esq., who died in London on the 3rd April, 1808, aged 37, and was interred in this chapel on the 30th day of the same month. She was a most affectionate wife, the tenderest of mothers, and a truly pious and charitable Christian. As a testimony of his great esteem, and strong affection which she so justly merited from him, this monument was erected by her afflicted husband.

Sacred to the memory of Mary Nevill Allgood, whose remains are here deposited, eldest daughter of John and Mary Reed of Chipchase castle, and first wife of Robert Lancelot Allgood of Nunwick, who departed this life on the 2nd September, 1816. As a mark of his unceasing affection and regard, and to commemorate her truly amiable and virtuous life, this monument was erected by her affectionate father, May 8th, 1824.

In memory of Henry John, the dearly loved child of Sidney and Isa. Streatfield ; born 25th May, died 6th July, 1869.

To the dearly loved memory of Mary, wife of Hugh Taylor of Chipchase castle, who died in London, in January, 1852, aged 36 years, and was interred at Kensal Green cemetery.

Also of Hugh John, eldest son of the above, who died in London, December, 1861, in the fourteenth year of his age. He was a youth of great promise and his early death was deeply lamented.

Also of Percy, youngest son of the above, who died from an accident at sea on the 6th March, 1878, aged 26 years.

There are several homesteads in the township, all of which belong to the estate ; some of them bear ancient and picturesque names, such as Comogan, Close-house (near which is the site of the ancient hamlet of Chipchase), Combyhengh, Chipchase-Strother, Black-hill, Parkhouse, Ruchester, Short-moor, and Threepit-hill (preserving the memory of some ancient boundary dispute with the township of Birtley) (Mallow), Brrn-mouth, and the Pace gate, where the highway enters Birtley.

BIRTLEY TOWNSHIP.

The township of Birtley has an area of 3,694 acres,¹ and at the last census the chapelry had a population of 387.² Like many of the other townships in Chollerton parish it abuts upon the North Tyne on the west ; on the south it is bounded by Chipchase and Gunnerton, on the east by Great Swinburn and Colwell, and on the north by Buteland and Broomhope ; or in the words of an Elizabethan survey :³

The boulder of Birtley beginneth at the water of Tyne at a place called the Haugh-head hole, and soe proceedeth up the north-east side of the said water to a march dike called the Reeds-mouth kilne, and soe up that march dike to the Cowper Lee lynn, joyning upon Presthoepe burne, and then up the south syde of the said burne to the Reedskarthe, and from thence directly north to three march stones standing in Dere Street, which is the boulder betwixt Redesdale and Northumberland, and so from the said march stones directly downe the west side of Deare Street to the Fawne Lawe. to a march dike there standing, and soe downe the north side of the said dike to Toane myre, and so from Toane myre down a march dike called Lager dike to the Cowstand, and from the Cowstande at the Trow burne downe the west side of that burne to a march dike at the Lowsye Law stenting on Cowdon burne, and so down the west side of Cowdon burne to a march stone at the south-east end of Nessfeldridge, and from the said stone down Cowdon burne to Byrtley foard, and so directly north-west to the Pudding well, and from thence directly west to Mare well ; and from the Mare well downe the north side of the Cragg burne to a cragg called John a Wood's bowre ; and from thence up the Bessetts north-west to the Allery burne, and so down the north side of the Allery burne to the march dike at the Pace yate, and soe down the east side of that march dike to the water at the Hangh-head hole where it begann.

The township of Birtley possesses many and varied pre-historic remains, such as camps and barrows, ironstone workings, and marks of terrace cultivation. The Birtley Shield-dene camp stands on the verge of a precipitous ravine, and is surrounded by a massive rampart strengthened by a broad fosse on the west and north ; it is in form nearly square, but with rounded corners, and contains three distinct hut-circles. A hollow way, evidently artificial, leads down to the Carryhouse camp. The latter, which is circular in form, has an area of about an acre, and contains a number of hut-circles, chiefly grouped against the western side ; in the centre is a cist, which contained an urn, now lost. The boundary wall between the Birtley Shield and High Carryhouse farm bisects this camp. The camp at Birtley West farm is on a rounded eminence called 'The Good Wife Hot' : it has been rectangular in form, but its outline is now indistinct. These three camps are not placed on very elevated situations. At High Shield-green is an ancient fortified work called the 'Night folds,' placed on an escarpment nearly 900 feet above the

¹ Including 45 acres of public roads, 19 acres of railway, and 28 acres of water.

² The Census Returns are : 1801, 351 ; 1811, 376 ; 1821, 393 ; 1831, 447 ; 1841, 327 ; 1851, 428 ; 1861, 404 ; 1871, 451 ; 1881, 393 ; 1891, 387.

³ *The Duke of Northumberland's MSS.*

sea-level ; within it are traces of four or five hut-circles and the foundations of two inner parallel walls. A mile to the north-west, on the brow of a rounded hill with abrupt declivities to the north, west, and south, is the Male Knock camp.¹ It is elliptical in form, and comprises an area of an acre and a half ; on the east, where alone it could be assailed, it has a broad deep fosse and a massive double rampart. It contains at least six hut-circles and a four-sided oblong dwelling.²



QUERNS FOUND NEAR BIRTLEY.³

On the Pitland hills is a group of three barrows, which were opened in 1885. In the first were found two cists, in the larger of which was the whole of a skeleton (except the small bones of the hands and feet), with a brachycephalic skull. The second cist contained a hammer-stone, and an urn of the food-vessel type, 5½ inches in height, 6 inches in diameter at the rim, 6½ inches at the shoulder, and 2½ inches at the bottom. It is ornamented on the inside of the rim and on the upper part of the outside with herring-bone

¹ The Male Knock is a waterfall on Birtley Shield farm made by a burn falling over a perpendicular rock. ² Rome Hall. *Arch. Acl.* vol. vii. pp. 4-6. ³ The collection of querns shown in the illustration was made by and belonged to the late Rev. G. R. Hall, F.S.A.

ornament, and has a series of punctured dots over the rest of the surface. In the second cist were also found fragments of stone reddened by fire, and pieces of charcoal. Inside the barrow, but outside the cists, were found a cinerary urn (unfortunately destroyed soon after), ornamented with lozenge-shaped scorings, and containing the cremated bones of a child; the barrow also contained a portion of an upper millstone, and no less than seventeen stones bearing incised cup markings.¹ In the second barrow was found a large



CUP-MARKED STONES FOUND NEAR BIRTLEY.

cinerary urn of coarse dark pottery, 11½ inches in height, 10 inches in diameter at the mouth, 11 inches at the shoulder, and 6¾ inches at the bottom, which fell to pieces on being removed. Near it was an 'incense cup' of dark grey pottery, 3 inches in diameter and 1½ inches in height. In the third barrow were found the remains of an unburnt body.

At the Low Shield Green is a barrow about 60 feet in diameter from east to west, and 54 feet from north to south. When opened in 1884 it was found to contain two urns, one of thick coarse pottery, 9½ inches high, 10

¹ The collection of cup-marked stones shown in the illustration was made by and belonged to the late Rev. G. R. Hall, F.S.A.

inches in diameter at the top, and $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches at the bottom, ornamented upon the upper portion of the outside by scorings, made with a notched stick. The second urn (which was unfortunately crushed) is 10 inches in height and $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter at the top and $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches at the bottom.¹

Fine examples of terrace cultivation are to be seen between the Carryhouse and West farm camps, and at Birtley Shields. At the latter place is a series of six or seven terraces, from 6 to 10 feet high, and varying from 18 feet to 27 feet in breadth.²

Deposits of ironstone, slag, and scorize, have been found at Warkhaugh, in Birtley wood, Cinder Kiln hill,³ and near the West farm camps.⁴

About a mile from Birtley village, in the dene of the Holywell burn, near the Knock Male waterfall and the Devil's stone, is a chalybeate spring issuing from the face of a sandstone cliff, which is said to have been, and doubtless was of old time, a holy as well as a medicinal well.⁵

The manor of Birtley, like that of Barrasford, a member of the barony of Umframvill, has consistently followed the descent of the castle of Prudhoe. In the time of Edward I. it was in the possession of Gilbert de Umframvill, earl of Angus, who, on several occasions, was called upon to defend actions or resist claims brought against him by various persons. In 1277 there was an action concerning three messuages and 8 acres of land in Birtley, brought against Richard, son of Richard de Boteland, by David, son of 'Gilbert fitz le ken petit' (*sic*), in which the defendant produced a charter of feoffment granted by Gilbert de Umframvill.⁶ In 1282 the manor of Birtley with all its appurtenances, except 60 acres, was claimed by Richard de Umframvill, and two years later Ingeram de Umframvill brought two actions. By the first, he claimed a messuage, 6 acres of meadow, and 400 acres of wood, in Birtley; and by the second, twenty-two tofts, a mill, 266 acres of land, and 13 acres of meadow, in Birtley, of the rent of 20s. and a pound of pepper.⁷

				BIRTELEY SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.				℥ s. d.		s. d.		
Summa bonorum	Ricardi	Pastoris	...	...	...	...	0	17	0	unde regi	1	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Willelmi	Ketil	...	...	...	...	0	13	0	"	1	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
"	Johannis filii	Ricardi	...	...	...	...	0	17	9	"	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Willelmi	capellani	...	...	...	...	4	11	0	"	8	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Adae	Prestman	...	...	...	...	1	15	8	"	3	3
"	Ricardi	praepositi	...	...	...	...	1	8	6	"	2	7 $\frac{1}{4}$

¹ Rome Hall, *Arch. Ael.* vol. xii. pp. 248-260. Both urns are figured in *Archaeologia Aeliana*.

² *Arch. Ael.* vol. vii. p. 8. ³ *Ibid.* vol. vi. p. 149. ⁴ *Ibid.* vol. vii. p. 10. ⁵ *Ibid.* vol. viii. p. 68.

⁶ *De Banco Rolls*, 5-6 Edw. I. m. 10; 6 Edw. I. m. 55; *Rot. Pat.* 8 Edw. I. m. 11.

⁷ *De Banco Rolls*, 12-13 Edw. I. m. 46.

		£	s.	d.		s.	d.
Summa honorum	Waldevi filii Thomae ...	...	...	...	unde regi	2	2½
„	Adae de Barneford ...	...	...	...	„	1	10¼
„	Walteri filii Radulphi ...	...	...	...	„	1	8½
„	Nicholai filii Aldun ...	...	...	...	„	1	2¾
	Summa hujus villae, £13 19s. 5d.				Unde regi,	25s.	5¼d. ¹

In 1302 Gilbert de Umframvill, to make better provision for his widow, obtained a special licence from the king (who, at the instance of Queen Margaret, wished to do him a favour) to grant his manors of Birtley and Otterburn, with lands in Harlaw, held of the king in chief, to William de Faunes, so that William might re-enseoff Gilbert, and Elizabeth his wife, without impediment.² In the enumeration of the estates of which Gilbert de Umframvill died seised, as set out in the inquisition post mortem taken in 1307, it is stated that he held 'the manor of Birtley, in which is a certain chief messuage worth 2s. a year; 74 acres of arable land, worth 12d. an acre; a park, a league about, in which are wild beasts, with an agistment of pasture, worth 2s.; another wood, worth 10s. in agistment; rents of freeholders of the value of 19s. 6d.; ten bondages, each containing 16 acres, and worth 10s. each, and two worth 13s. 4d. each; ten cottages, each of which was worth 12d.; a water corn mill, worth 20s.' The estates were held of the king by the service of two and a half knights' fees, and suit of court at Newcastle. Robert de Umframvill was found to be son and next heir, and was over thirty years of age.³

In 1473-4 Cuthbert Newton, bailiff of Prudhoe, accounts for 20s. 4d. received for the free farm of Birtley from William Herryson the 'praepositus' there.⁴ In the order of the watch made in 1552:

The inhabitants of the lordship of Bertley, with Butland and Redsmouth, [are] to watch at these places: that is to say, at Reddesford and the Rakes beneath the Brokechaughe, to the Hatcleugh and the Newke-mylne, with two men at every place, and Roger Heron of Bertley, John Robson, bailiff of Bertley, Gerard Mylburne and William Robson of Edsmothe [are] to be setters and searchers of this watch; overseers of this watch, George Heron, keeper of Tyndall, and Rauff Wetherington.⁵

At the muster of the Middle Marches taken by Sir John Forster on the Moot-law, 26th May, 1580, two men only appeared from 'Byrtkeleye,' other nine tenants alleging that 'they sit on holdings of ten shillings apiece and cannot keep horse and armour.'⁶

¹ On the Subsidy Roll in 1336 for Birtley are: Benedictus de Birtleye, 3s. 4d.; Willelmus Carpentarius, 2s. 4d.; Ricardus filius Walteri, 2s. 6d.; Patricius faber, 1s.; Johannes Talyour, 3s. 6d.; Rogerus de Faloufald, 1s.; Ricardus Fraunelayn, 3s. 4d.; Johannes faber, 3s. 7d. Summa, 20s. 7d.

² *Rot. Pat.* 31 Edw. I. m. 15. ³ *Inq. p.m.* 1 Edw. II. No. 48. ⁴ *Bailiffs' Accounts; The Duke of Northumberland's MSS.* ⁵ Nicolson, *Border Laws*, p. 176. ⁶ *Cal. Border Papers*. Bain, vol. i. p. 20.

In 1586, when the survey¹ was made from which the 'bounder' of the township is quoted, the free tenants in Birtley were William Robson, who held by homage, fealty, and suit of court at Prudhoe, paying the yearly rent of 16d.; John Lee, who held a tenement, late belonging to the monastery of Hexham, by the like service and paying a rent of 4d.; John Heron of Chipchase, esq., held certain lands called Rowchester by the like service, paying a rent of 12d.

The tenants of the demesne lands were the late wife of Roger Shafto, who held the capital messuage called Birtley-hall with all the 'demeyne there at the rent of 32s. '; Thomas Harbottle, who held a 'parcel of demeyne ground called Caryhowse² with a mansion house well builded thereon, at the rent of £5 and 16d. '; William Fenwick of Bitchfield, who held 'certain parcells of arrable land, meadow, and pasture called Broomyhaugh, Fleakebraye, and the Great Hurst, as they lye between Blynd-burne and Warkeshaugh dike'; Edmund Robson, who held the herbage of the Countess park; and another Robson, who held a messuage, two husbandlands, and a croft called Birtley Shields. Edmund Robson held the water corn mill 'standing upon the water of Tyne with the soke and moultter thereunto belonging.'

Tenants at Will.	Husband-lands.	Messuages.	Cottages.	Crofts.	Riggs.	Rental. £ s. d.
Reginald Milbourne	1	1	—	1	—	0 9 0
John Robson, senior	1	1	1	1	—	0 10 0
John Robson, junior	2	1	1	1	—	0 14 0
Robert Milbourne	1	1	—	1	—	0 6 4
Humphrey Milbourne... ..	1	1	—	1	4	0 8 4
John Lee	1	1	1	1	—	0 9 4
James Robson	1	1	1	1	—	0 8 10
Humphrey Robson	1	1	1	1	—	0 7 11
Cuthbert Robson	2	1	1	1	—	0 13 4
John Robson	1	1	—	1	—	0 6 4
Thomas Hedley	1	1	—	1	—	0 8 0
Thomas Hedley	—	—	1	1	with certain lands	0 3 0
	13	11	7	12		£5 4 5

Edmund Robson held at the will of the lord a tenement called the Packefoot *alias* the Heugh, an improvement of meadow and pasture called the Black bogg, and another improvement called Asse hurst.

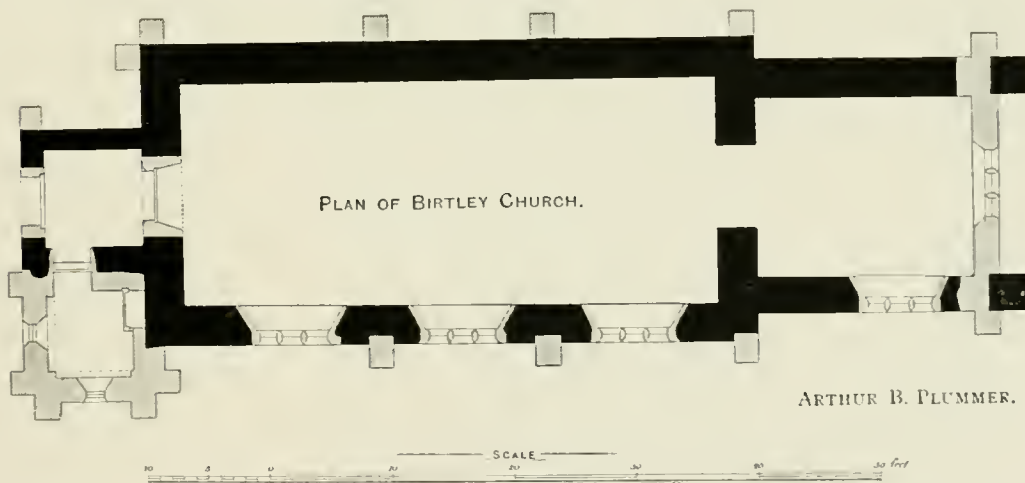
¹ *Stockdale's Survey: The Duke of Northumberland's MSS.*

² 8th March, 24 Henry VIII. (1532-3). Indenture between Henry, earl of Northumberland, of the one part and John Heron of Chipchase, esq., son and heir of Sir John Heron, knight, of the other part. A lease from the earl of 'certain parcells and platts of ground and land called Caryhowses adjoining to the said earle's forrest of Birtley wood on the north part, with the Milne-holme and Dummerigg, together with another parcell of ground and land called Warkeshaugh bank, with the tenement of the Broomyhaugh adjoining to the said forrest of Birtley wood on the south'; to hold for life at the yearly rent of 6s. Against Carry-house in the margin of the survey there is written 'These are demised to John Heron in 1606, for 21 years, at the rent of £20 per annum.'

The township lay open and undivided up to the middle of last century, when the common, about the year 1750, was divided amongst the earl of Northumberland's tenants. Inter-common rights, which had been enjoyed by John Reed of Chipchase and Lancelot Allgood, were satisfied by apportionments made in 1741 of 205 acres to the former and 70 acres to the latter, the memory of which transaction is preserved in the two detached portions of Chipchase and Wark townships shown on the Ordnance maps. Nearly the whole of the township now belongs to Earl Percy (as heir to the dukedom) and the outlying homesteads are the Heugh, High and Low Shield Green, Pitland hill, High and Low Carry-house, Birtley Shield, Catreen, and Dinley hill.

BIRTLEY CHURCH.

The village of Birtley, which stands on an elevated situation on the south side of the township, contains twenty-six cottages and a school-house. At the south end, at an elevation of over 600 feet above sea-level, placed on a site which commands a wide prospect to the south and west, is the parochial chapel, now the parish church.



The chapel of Birtley was one of six depending upon Chollerton when that church was granted by Odinel de Umframvill to Hexham priory. Nor was it the only benefaction in Birtley made to the house by that family; a toft and 7 acres of land having been granted by Richard de Umframvill.¹ The estate held by Hexham priory in 1479 comprised a tenement and garden at the south end of the village, with a croft which, lying between the lands of

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 111.

William Lightfoot and Andrew Lee, abutted upon Dnnley [Dinley] on the south, and contained 6 acres; the rent was 5s.¹ The survey of 1536 says that the property consisted of a tenement, 1 acre of meadow, 3 acres of arable land, with common of pasture in Birtley Moor let to Thomas Lee at 3s. 4d. a year, but worth 5s. 10d.² The corn tithes of Chipchase, 'Stewden,' and Birtley at the same time were held by John Heron by lease at the rent of £4 6s. 8d.³

The discovery by the Rev. G. Rome Hall of a sepulchral stone of certainly pre-Conquest date shows that there was a church there at that time.



CHANCEL ARCH.

It may have been of wood, and there are no remains of any building previous to the twelfth century now remaining. Of a church of that period there appear to be some portions of walling still left, but there is little in the shape of doorways, windows, or mouldings, which can be referred to so early a date, with the exception of the chancel arch, the chancel doorway, and perhaps the north door of the nave. It had been much altered in the last century, and in 1884 a complete 'restoration' took place, which has to a large

extent made the church a modern building. The ancient sepulchral stone is a small slab of close-grained freestone, which measures $9\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches,

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 34.

² *Ibid.* p. 165.

³ *Ibid.* p. 168.

and is 3 inches to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in thickness. It has upon it a Latin cross with the letters O.R.P.E., which may stand for the words *Orate pro Edmund*, or some other name beginning with the letter E.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

This tablet is set up by his friends in loving memory of the Rev. George Rome Hall, F.S.A. He was minister of this parish for 35 years. He built the vicarage, enlarged the school, and restored the church. He was buried on his 60th birthday, May 6th, 1895, and rests from his labours in God's keeping until he shall wake unto the perfect day.

To perpetuate the memory and record the worth of the Rev. Robert Lowther during 56 years' incumbency of the chapelry of Birtley this monument is erected at the expense of his friends and parishioners. He died the 4th day of August, 1853, aged 79 years.

In memory of Frances, wife of the Rev. R. Lowther, who died at Birtley hall, November 22nd, 1866, aged 86. Also their children, Ann Eliza, died November 11th, 1835; Robert, died October 29th, 1832; Jane Margaret Frances, died April 11th, 1863.

In memory of Thomas Robson of Countess park, and Mary, his wife, this window was dedicated by their sons, Anthony and William, and their daughter, Mary, A.D. 1884.

In memory of Jane White Wray, formerly of this parish, and afterwards of Chester Terrace, Regent's Park, London, the tower and spire of this church were erected by her husband A.D. 1883.



PRE-CONQUEST STONE.

REGISTERS, ETC.

The register begins in 1728. In the parish chest is a piece of oak (once part of a pew), which bears the initials of some of the Herons of Birtley hall, etc. 1607, I.H.; 1609, D.H.; 1611, F.H.; 1619, E.H.

In 1553 there belonged to Byrtly chapel 'one challes of tenne, one vestment of whyt fushen, one alb, ij alterclothes, one bell.'¹

1610, 17th December. Office against the chapel wardens. They want a surplesse and a book of canons, a table of ye ten commandments, a seat for the minister, a cloth and cushion for the pulpitt, a linnen cloth for the communion table, and a covering for the same, a chist and box for the poor, and a register book in parchment. Office against Cuthbert Heron of Chipchase. Their church is ruynouse and the chancel lying downe in his default.²

Circa 1723. It lay in ruins for many years, as appears by the old books at Durham, in which 'tis mentioned as a ruined chapel. But it was at length coarsly rebuilt for present use. S^r Harry Heron repaired ye chancel when I visited, and his steward was Mr. Gibson of Aclif, near Darlington, in bishoprick, but ye Chipchase estate is since bought by Mr. Algood, who is, I suppose, to maintain this chancell. S^r Cuthbert Heron or his father left £40 per annum to the vicar of Chollerton for performing divine service and preaching Christmas Day, Good Fryday, first Sunday after Midsummer, and first Sunday after Michaelmas, which is now done.³

¹ *Ecc. Proc. of Bishop Burnes*, Raine, app. I.; Surtees Soc.

² *Act. Cur. Consist. Dunelm.* at Bishop Auckland.

³ *Archdeacon's Minutes*, Bishop Auckland.

The communion cup made in Newcastle by Isaac Cookson bears the following inscription: 'Birkley Chalice, given by Mrs. Reed of Chipchase, 1743.'

Up to 1765 the curates were appointed by and served under the vicar of Chollerton, but in that year there was a severance and the patronage of the benefice was assigned to the duke of Northumberland, lord of the manor, who had made a benefaction to the living.

In 1765, 1767, etc., the benefice obtained grants from Queen Anne's bounty amounting to £600, to which sum the duke of Northumberland and Sir W. Blackett each added £200; this £1,000 was laid out in 1771 in the purchase of a farm of 41 acres of land at Thropton, in the parish of Rothbury, which was sold in 1872 for £3,000. In 1807 another grant by Queen Anne's bounty of £200 was laid out in the purchase of a close of land in Birtley. Later grants were made in 1873 from the Ecclesiastical commissioners of an annual sum of £32 13s. 4d. to meet a benefaction (by the patron of the living) of the parsonage house and 4 acres of land, and in 1886 from Queen Anne's bounty of £400 to meet a benefaction of £500. There are now 15 acres of glebe in Birtley.

CURATES OF BIRTLEY.¹

1563. Sir John Dickson, curate of Birtley.²

1578 and 1579. The curacy of Birtley was vacant,³ and in 1582 the chapel had neither curate nor churchwardens.⁴

1606. Edward Porter.⁵

1610. Mark Greenwell.⁵

1751. 8th October. John Brunton, licensed.⁶

1754. Thomas Wolf, licensed.⁶

1766, 6th August. H. Wastell, licensed.⁶

1769, 25th August. James Johnson, licensed.⁶ Drowned when fishing on the North Tyne, 15th August, 1770.⁵

1770, 19th September. Richard Harrison, licensed. He was a native of Kirkbampton, Cumberland, and was ordered deacon 1766 and priest 1768 at Auckland; he was also curate of Elsdon; and died 19th May, 1805, aged 60.

1780-1785. John Atkinson.*⁷

1785-1788. Isaac Fearon.*

1789-1790. James Mewburn.†

1790, 24th August. Oswald Head, licensed.⁶

1791. Thomas Thompson.‡

1792. William Barnes.* †He lives and teaches a small school about a mile from chapel.^{2,6}

1794-1796. Joseph Smith.

1805, 24th July. Robert Lowther, licensed.⁶ He had been sub-curate from 1796.

1853. William Heron Wilson, son of William Wilson of South Shields, of Corpus Christi college, Oxon., matriculated 21st October, 1841; B.A., 1849; died 27th September, 1870.

1858-1859. J. C. Edwards, M.A.*

1860. G. M. Tandy, B.A.*

1860-1895. George Rome Hall, F.S.A., a native of Milton, in the parish of Brampton, Cumberland. Educated at St. Bees; ordered deacon 1858 and priest 1859 in the diocese of York. Author of many archaeological papers printed in *Arch. Acl.* etc.

1895. Percy Thomas Lee, Hertford college, Oxon., matriculated 1882; B.A., 1885; M.A., 1889; ordained deacon 1886 and priest 1887, by the bishop of Newcastle. Admitted to benefice of Birtley, 6th October, 1895.

¹ Except where otherwise quoted, this list is taken from the parish register.

² *Supra*, p. 82.

³ *Ecc. Proc. of Bishop Barnes*, pp. 72, 93; Surt. Soc.

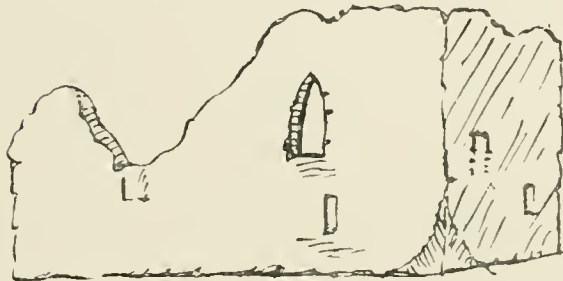
⁴ *Ibid.* p. 99.

⁵ Randal, *State of the Churches*.

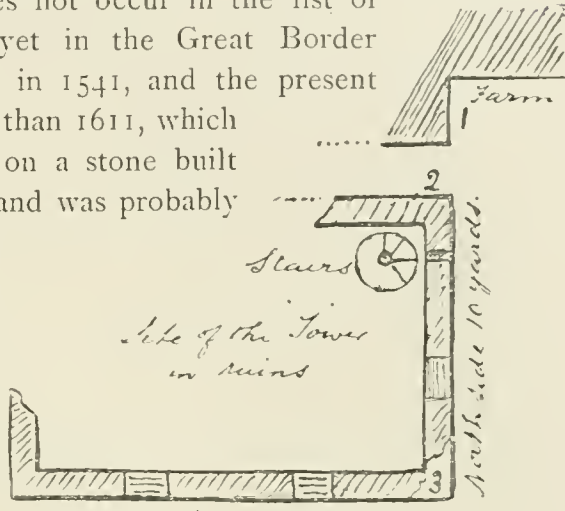
⁶ *Durham Register* at Bishop Auckland.

⁷ The names marked with an asterisk are probably those of stipendiary curates.

The mention of the chief messuage in 1307 is the earliest notice of Birtley hall, whose ruined walls remain in the vicarage garden and against which the parsonage is built.¹ It does not occur in the list of castles and fortalices of 1415, nor yet in the Great Border Survey made by Bowes and Ellerker in 1541, and the present building may not be of an earlier date than 1611, which date, with the letters J. H., remains on a stone built into the wall. It was long inhabited, and was probably



East side about 15 yards



East side about 15 yards.

built by a cadet line of the family of Heron of Chipchase, whose descent is shown in the following pedigree :

HERON OF BIRTLEY HALL.*

GEORGE HERON of Birtley ; purchased Shield hall, 30th May, 1611, from John Eldred and George Whitmore (c).

..... = John Heron of Birtley hall ; in 1618 was supervisor of the will of John Heron = of Chipchase (e) ; will dated 10th Dec., 1647 ; proved 1650 ; ' to be buried in Birtley quire near my two wives and predecessors and five children.'

George Heron of Birtley hall, son and heir, bailiff of Birtley ; will dated 9th Oct., 1669 ; buried in Birtley quire.

..... ; to whom her husband gave a life interest in his lands at Hexham and Netherwarden.

John Heron of Shield hall, in the parish of Sleafy, second son ; was living at date of son George's will [? born 1607] ; buried 8th Aug., 1686 (a).

= Cecilia, living 1652 (d).

Elizabeth ; married Thomas Raine and living in Hexham in 1673 (d) ; administration to estate of Thomas Raine granted at York, 7th Oct., 1685. ↓ Margery ; married ... Pawstone. ↓ Katherine ; married Mark Ogle of Kirkley. ↓ ; married Scott. ↓

William Heron of Birtley, base son ; servant and legatee of his uncle George Heron ; in 1698 gave evidence as to bounder of Birtley, and was then aged about 70, and had for 50 or 60 years been present at every bounder riding by the direction of his uncle George Heron, who was bailiff of Birtley.

A

* 20th Oct., 1591, John Heron of Birtley and Alice Farddonn married. *St. Nicholas' Register, Newcastle*. In 1618 John Heron of Birtley hall was supervisor of the will of John Heron of Chipchase. *Durham Wills, Greenwell, vol. ii p. 201*.

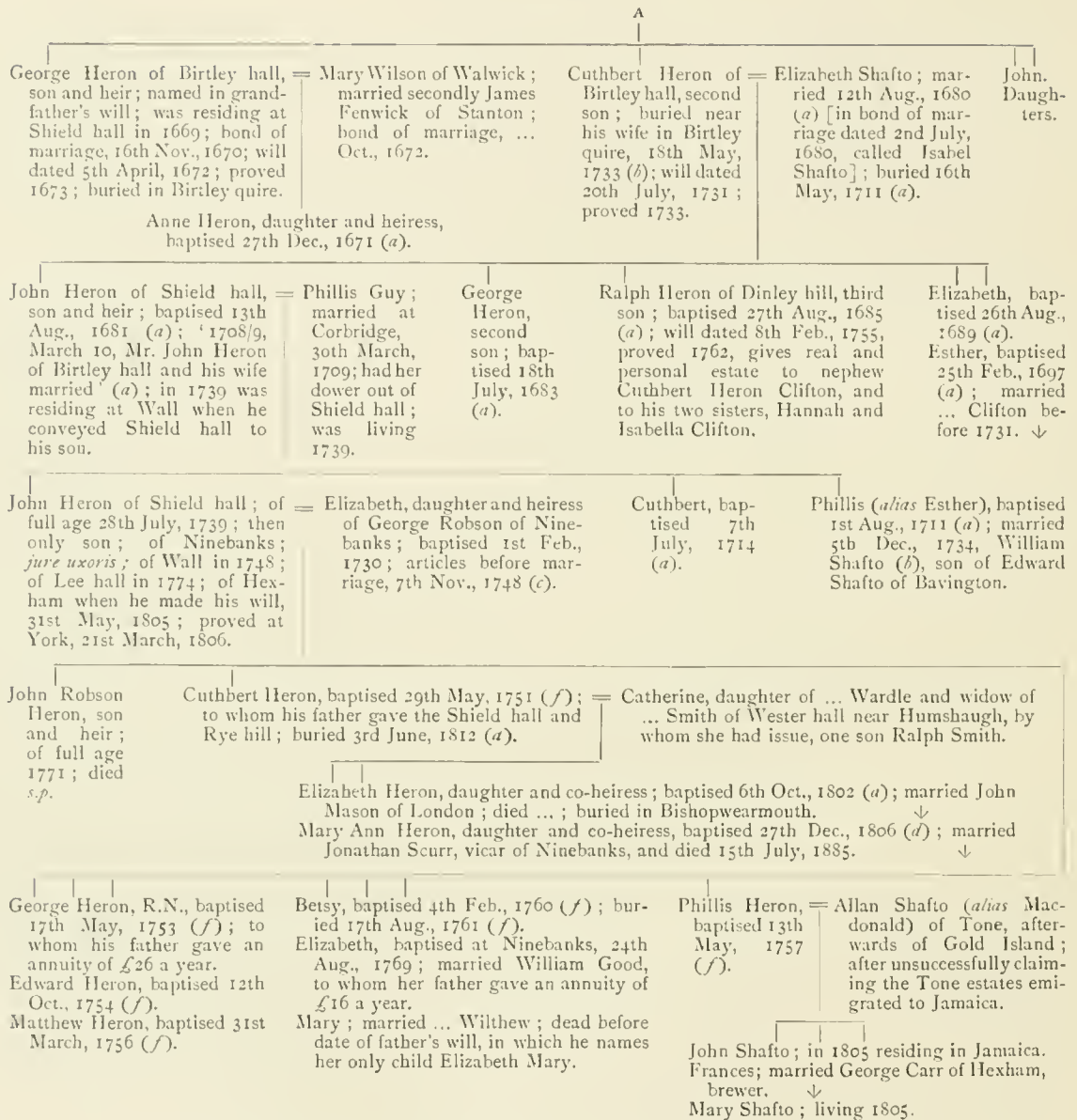
(a) *Chollerton Register*.

(c) *Shield Hall Title Deeds*.

(d) *Hexham Register*.

(e) *Durham Wills, Greenwell, p. 201 n ; Surtees Soc., No. 38*.

¹ The sketch of the ground plan and north-east elevation of the tower is from Sir David Smith's collection ; 'at (1) a stone in the wall, I.H. or I.L., 1611 ; at (2) a stone in the wall, 1, 1, 0, 7 ; at (3) the corner stones are broken away.'



(a) Chollerton Register.

(b) Birtley Register.

(c) Shield Hall Title Deeds.

(d) Hexham Register.

(f) Allendale Register.

BUTELAND AND BROOMHOPE TOWNSHIPS.¹

The townships of Buteland and Broomhope² have on the west and north-west a well-defined boundary in the North Tyne and Rede, on the north-east they are bounded by the parish of Corsenside, and on the south are divided from Birtley by the Heugh burn.

Like the neighbouring townships, this district is rich in pre-historic remains, possessing at least three camps situated respectively on the low ground near the North Tyne, at Countess park on the high and exposed ground at Buteland, and at Broomhope near the valley through which the Steel burn finds its way to join the Rede. In this valley there is, on a limestone escarpment, a series of terraces of uncertain date but which are believed to have been connected with a special mode of cultivation. 'Near the Steel farm house are innumerable delves, or rounded shallow pits, stretching for several hundred yards above the terrace lines where a great mound or hill of iron scoriæ occurs. The native iron is found in nodules near the surface; and so rich is it in quality, that the site appears to have been worked in all ages.'³ Thirty years ago the mine was worked for the Elswick works by the firm of Sir William Armstrong & Co., who abandoned it owing to the more readily obtainable ores of Spain.

The Countess park camp, near the margin of the North Tyne, has an area of about three acres.

The ground slopes gently upwards towards Buteland house on the north, which is the only weak side. Here the ramparts are obliterated, but the ditch can be easily traced, determining the camp to be irregularly rectangular in form, with rounded corners. The rampart walls are of massive blocks of free-stone, unhewn and generally water-worn, with larger 'binding stones' at intervals for additional strength. The fosse is between 3 and 4 yards wide, beyond which, on the south-west, there appears to have been a second outer rampart. This would protect a narrow outlet, as it seems to be, from the camp towards the level space which is now an open glade in the woods. An enclosure, nearly circular, of the extraordinary diameter of 46 feet, occupies the centre of the fortress. A kind of guard-chamber fronts the door-way at the eastern side, from which may also be traced the foundations of walls, nearly parallel, that proceed in the fashion of an avenue towards the chief entrance of the *caer*. This entrance is in the east, the usual position. Adjoining this great central circle is a smaller one opening out of it, having the wall in common on the west side. Four or five hut-circles or 'old buildings,' as the woodman terms them, are visible in other directions; a cluster of two, one on each side of the south-western adit, being in excellent preservation. In their dimensions these are typical hut-circles of the district, varying in diameter from 17 to 27 feet.⁴

¹ Buteland comprises 1,848 acres (including 17 acres of roads, 16 acres of North British railway, and 27 acres of water) and Broomhope 1,348 acres (including 5 acres of water). For the modus paid to the vicar of Chollerton in lieu of tithes of hay and lint, Buteland was computed to contain 8 ancient farms: Countess park, 1; Redesmouth, 1; Broomhope, 5; Hindhaugh, 2; Calf Close, 1; Steel, 2.

² The Census Returns are: 1801, Buteland and Broomhope, 139; 1811, Buteland, 73; Broomhope, 56; 1821, Buteland and Broomhope, 87; 1841, Buteland and Broomhope, 145. In 1831, 1851, and onwards, the Census Return is included in that of Birtley chapelry. ³ Romie Hall, *Arch. Acl.*, vol. vii. p. 9. ⁴ *Ibid.* p. 4.

The Buteland camp covers about an acre and a half, and is in form an irregular rectangle with corners rounded off. The rampart is of massive freestone blocks, and is surrounded by a wide fosse. An additional defence, unique in the district, but not unusual in other parts of Northumberland, has been afforded by a second massive rampart projected like the arch of an ellipse on the eastern, the weakest side.¹

There is little documentary evidence from which to construct an account of the history of Buteland and Broomhope. In 1244 Richard de Boteland² held Broomhope (of the manor of Umframvill) by a twelfth part of a knight's fee.³ At the Northumberland Assizes of 1256 there was an enquiry whether Richard de Botland, and Robert his son, and Richard Knight, Stephen Draper, and Walter Curtejambe, had unjustly disseised Robert de Insula of his common of pasture in Blocland, which belonged to his free tenement in Broomhope;⁴ and in 1291, Gilbert de Umframvill, at the Midsummer Assizes, claimed that his liberty of pleading by his justices, etc., extended to Broomhope and Stele.⁵ Five years later the Subsidy Roll shows the rateable value of Buteland to have been £8 16s. 9d. at that time.

BOTLAND SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.

		£	s.	d.		s.	d.
Summa bonorum	Petri filii Gilberti	1	11	7	unde regi	2	10½
„	Johannis filii Steffani	0	11	9	„	1	0¼
„	Johannis de Wardelaw	1	13	0	„	3	0
„	Roberti de cadem	1	13	0	„	3	0
„	Thomae de Ray	1	15	9	„	3	3
„	Alexandri del Gren	0	15	4	„	1	4¾
„	Johannis Frere	0	16	4	„	1	6
	Summa hujus villae, £8 16s. 9d. Unde regi, 16s. 1d.						

Broomhope was one of the estates of which John de Lisle of Woodburn died seised,⁶ and in 1367 Robert de Lisle of Woodburn being at Newton hall gave to his son Robert de Lisle and his wife Mary his lands in Kirkharle and Broomhope.⁷ In an inquisition taken in 1395 it was found that Sir John de Felton and Elizabeth, his wife, died seised of the manor of South Boteland, as well as of Edlingham, Matfen, Nafferton, and a place in Redesdale called 'the Stele';⁸ seven years later their son John died,

¹ Rome Hall, *Arch. Ael.* vol. vii. p. 5.

² In 1285 Richard de Boteland was witness in a deed made between the prioress of Lambley and the prior of Hexham, and he was one of the jurors in the inquisition upon whose verdict the Great Charter of *Inspeximus* was granted to Hexham priory in 1296. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 97, 108.

³ Dugdale, *Baronetage*, vol. i. p. 505; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. 20 n.

⁴ *Assize Roll*, Page, p. 34; Surt. Soc.

⁵ *Abbr. Placit.* 227; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. 24 n.

⁶ *Lansdowne MS.* 326, fo. 96, No. 11; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 169 n.

⁷ *Harleian MS.* 2101, fo. 245; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. 169 n.

⁸ *Inq. p.m.* 19 Ric. II. No. 26; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 260.

seised of two parts of South Boteland, the Steel, and Edlingham, etc.¹ Sir Humphrey Lisle being at Broomhope, 30th April, 1440, gave the hamlet called Bromhope, with lands in Buteland and Redesmouth, to William Reed of Troughend,² and in or before the following year Johanna, countess of Westmorland, died seised of lands in Buteland and Bywell.³

In 1473-4 Cuthbert Newton, bailiff of the manor of Prudhoe, accounts for 6s. 8d. due from the lands and tenements in Buteland lately in the possession of John Felton, but then of Edward Hastings, which was returned as an allowance for making the hedge of the Royerde (*factura heye del Royerde*).⁴ At an inquisition taken at Rothbury, 17th November, 1516, it was found that Sir Humphrey Lisle had died seised of Buteland and Redesmouth, as well as of the manor of Felton;⁵ and the Feodary's Book records that in 1568 W. Heron held lands in Buteland.⁶ The free tenants who answered for lands at Buteland in the court of Prudhoe in 1586 were Edward Shafto, the heirs of Robert Ord, and the heirs of John Fylton; at the same time John Robson held a cottage at Easter Buteland as tenant at will.⁷

At the beginning of the seventeenth century, Buteland became the property and seat of a cadet line of the Widdrington family, whose estate was built up by purchases from several proprietors. On 3rd May, 1608, Benjamin Widdrington, esq., of Little Swinburn, purchased from William Shafto of Bavington four farmholds in Buteland; on 15th August, 1623, being then of Buteland, he purchased Hindhaugh, Broomhope,⁸ Longlee, Felling Close, and the Steel (with Stidley hill in Corsenside) from Percival Reed of Troughend, gent. He was succeeded by Henry Widdrington, who 20th September, 1625, purchased from Roger Widdrington of Cartington, esq., two farms or messuages in Buteland, together with a rent of 8 groats from two tenements then in the tenure of Benjamin Widdrington, late payable and belonging to the lords of Tecket. He also purchased, 14th February, 1637, from Robert Ord of Birkes, co. Durham, esq., two other

¹ *Inq. p.m.* 4 Hen. IV. No. 31; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. pp. 263, 264.

² *Lansdowne MS.* 326, fo. 98; *Rev. John Hodgson's MSS.* (P 51), (T 9).

³ *Inq. p.m.* 19 Hen. VI. No. 42; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 273.

⁴ *Bailiffs' Accounts; The Duke of Northumberland's MSS.*

⁵ *Harleian MS.* 2101; *Cole's Escheats in Harleian MS.* 759, p. 74; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 170.

⁶ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. lxxvii.

⁷ *Stockdale's Survey; The Duke of Northumberland's MSS.*

⁸ In 1552 the 'Hyndehaugh ford' was ordered to be watched with the inhabitants of 'Bromhope,' and the 'Steyll' with two men nightly. *The Order of the Watch; Nicolson, Border Laws*, p. 179.

messuages or farms in Buteland called Lee Orchard and White Walls (or Water.)¹ The Widdringtons also possessed Broomhope mill.

In 1663 Henry Widdrington of Buteland was rated for the two Bute-lands (North and South) at £100, for the Steel at £20, and for Hindhaugh, Broomhope, Calf's Close, and Felling, at £40; he died before 1668, leaving two daughters and co-heiresses, Mary and Dorothy, of whom Mary became wife of Francis Sutton, and on 7th January, 1669, sold to Sir Francis Radcliffe her moiety of her father's estates. This, on the forfeiture of the Radcliffe estates in 1715, became the property of Greenwich hospital.

The date of the division of the estates between the purchaser and Henry Widdrington's other co-heiress has not been ascertained; but the hospital moiety consisted of the homestead of Buteland, which stands 'on very high ground, exposed to every wind that blows': a farm of over 600 acres of land, mostly of inferior quality (save on the south side, where good crops of corn and turnips have been grown), and 100/130 parts of the stinted pasture called Buteland fell. The commissioners, about the end of the last or beginning of this century, purchased from the trustees of William Lowes, for £500, Broomhope mill, with the 5 acres of land attached. The mill was ill-constructed and in bad repair, but appurtenant to it were 4/130 stints on the common. In this way, on the division of the common in 1806, the commissioners were entitled to 104/130 stints, or four-fifths of the whole, and were awarded 685 acres out of the 783 which it was found to contain. The commissioners also possessed, in Parkgate, Toddle bank, and Pasture woods, over 30 acres of woodland, partly of oak, ash, and birch, of natural growth, and oak, elm, ash, larch, fir, and poplar, planted in vacancies, in 1784 and 1796. The estate was held subject to a viscountal rent of 3s. 4d., a castle ward rent of 13s. 8d., and a cornage rent of 8d., payable to the duke of Northumberland, and a modus of 8d., at the rate of 1d. per ancient farm, payable to the vicar of Chollerton for tithe of hay and lint.² The estate, which comprised 1,327 acres, was sold by the commissioners in 1833 to Mr. Wm. Spencer, who three years later resold it to Mr. Cuthbert Dunn. Mr. Dunn bequeathed it to his four sons, three of whom sold or conveyed their shares to their brother George, whose representative sold the estate last year to Mr. John Henderson of Allendale Town for £18,000.³

¹ *Greenwich Hospital Papers*; *Derwentwater MSS.* vol. i.; *Buteland Deeds.*

² *Report of Greenwich Hospital Commissioners*, 1805.

³ *Newcastle Chronicle*, 19th November, 1896.

Dorothy, the other daughter, and co-heiress of Henry Widdrington, married a gentleman of her own name, and her moiety of the paternal estates included the homesteads of Broomhope, Steel, Hindhaugh, etc., with the wide and bleak fells adjacent to them. These places, under the operation of the Poor Law Act of Charles II., became a separate township. Up to 1700 it lay unenclosed, and undivided by any hedge or fence from the moors and fells of Chesterhope, Buteland, and Birtley, so 'that the cattle belonging to the several hamlets or villages of the same names and adjacent used to feed on the several moors or fells promiscuously without impounding or herding.' At that time a person called Heyford, who had taken a long lease of Broomhope, succeeded in getting the boundaries of the fells or moors of Broomhope, Hindhaugh, and Calf Close set out, and with the Steel they were reputed to be, or to contain, twelve messuages. The occupiers had been used to pay moduses to the Herons of Chipchase as impropiators of Birtley chapelry. After that family sold their estates to the Allgoods (who resold to Reed) a demand was made upon the tenant of Broomhope for tithes of the lands recently enclosed from the waste or moor; the tenants resisted, and a suit was brought by John Reed in the Court of Exchequer in 1743.¹ Evidence was produced that the tenements called the Steel, Broomhope, Hindhaugh, and Calf Close, had attached to them certain fells or moors known by the names of Steel fell, Broomhope fell, and Hindhaugh or Calf Close fell, from which intacks had been made from time to time, on which corn had been grown and reaped; that the cattle of Felling and Langley (which belonged to the owner of Broomhope) depastured on Broomhope fell; that Hindhaugh, Steel, and Broomhope, in 1695, belonged, as her own right, to Dorothy, wife of Mr. William Widdrington, and had continued in the same family ever since; that Calf Close was formerly the estate of Mr. Grey, and at that time of George or Joseph Sprunton.² The following abstracts from the depositions are of some interest:

John Davison of Leppen hall, yeoman, aged 80 years, deposed: That he knew Sir John Heron and Sir Charles Heron, who are both dead, but does not remember the time of their deaths. They and their ancestors were reputed to be owners of the tithes of the chapelry of Birtley, they and also Sir Cuthbert Heron named in the proceedings lived mostly in London or elsewhere greatly distant from Northumber-

¹ *Exchequer Depositions*, 17 Geo. I. Trinity Term, Northumberland, No. 2.

² In 1683 James Howard of Redesdale hall and Dorothy, his wife, in consideration of £52 10s. conveyed Calf Close to John Clennel of Middleton hall, gent., in trust for Mark Grey of the Rawfoot: Grey conveyed to Lyonel Moor in 1717, and he in 1724 to Joseph Sprunton. Miss Murray's *Title Deeds*. Joseph Sprunton polled for Calf Close in 1734 and 1748. *Poll Book*.

land, and entrusted the inspection and management of their estates to agents or stewards. He believes there may be 12 messuages in Steel, Broomhope, Felling, and Hindhaugh, and that Broomhope, Hindhaugh, and Calf Close fells were separated about 1700 by Mr. Heyford, farmer, of Broomhope.

George Hetherington of Risingham, yeoman, aged 80, deposed : About ten years ago he was bailiff of the manor of Redesdale for about three years under Charles Howard, esq., then lord of the manor. He has known the manor for about sixty years, and Broomhope fell, Hindhaugh fell, Steel fell, and Calf Close fell are in the said manor. About sixty years ago, according to his remembrance, coals were wrought from a place in Broomhope Moor, called Steel Cleugh by Lancelot Davison, and his wife and son, and he believes it was done by direction of the said Charles Howard, who was then lord of the manor ; there being an overcharge of water where the colliery was wrought, Davison was obliged to lay aside his design for working the same.

Robert Charlton of Tone Pit houses, yeoman, aged about 35, deposed : He has known the manor of Redesdale for twenty years ; when he first knew it Charles Howard, esq., lately deceased, was lord of the manor, and continued to his death about seven years ago. Broomhope fell, Hindhaugh fell, Steel fell, and Calf Close fell are in the said manor. About sixteen years ago Mr. Francis Wood agreed with the said Charles Howard (as this deponent was told by his father now deceased, who was Wood's agent) for sinking for coals in Steel fell, and on a fell contiguous to Steel fell, and in the same manor, called Chesterhope fell. Wood met with no interruption from the farmers of the Steel, but on the contrary they once bought their coals at his pits, but left off doing so because they disapproved of the measure by which they were sold. Wood left off working the colliery because it was not so good as he had expected, and was not a profitable undertaking. This deponent can the better depose therein, for he was banksman to Wood, and kept an account of the coals wrought and sold.

John Robson deposed : That Broomhope now belongs to John Hewitt of Morpeth, gent., to whom it was devised by Michael Widdrington, late of Morpeth, gent., deceased. That there are several ancient furrows or tillage both in the inground and outground (at Broomhope) which this deponent never saw in tillage, and does not believe that any one living has seen them so.

George Reed deposed : That he knew Michael Widdrington, lately deceased, and also John Hewitt, the present owner of the Steel.

William Charlton of Low Stead, yeoman, aged about 48, deposed : That in 1714 his father William Charlton, deceased, became tenant or farmer of all tithes of corn or grain in the chapelry of Birtley, except the grounds called Willshurst (*sic*) under Cuthbert Wilson of Walwick, then steward or agent for George Hawksley (Huxley) and Henrietta Maria, his wife, and so continued in possession of the tithes for seven years. On entering as farmer of the tithes, he and the deponent, his son, made diligent enquiry what lands in the said chapelry were liable to pay the said tithes, and were informed by Humphrey Milburn, Cuthbert Heron, Reginald Milburn, all of Birtley, and by several others now deceased, that the tenants of the Steel, Broomhope, Hindhaugh, and Calf Close were not liable for their said farms or tenements nor chargeable therewith ; accordingly he never demanded the same.

Thomas Reed of Aydon, gentleman, aged about 68 years, deposed : The Steel fell and Broomhope fell were open to certain moors or wastes belonging to neighbouring townships or hamlets called Craig or Chesterhope ; this caused several suits between the owners of the said townships and Mr. Robert Widdrington, deceased, the former owner of the Steel and Broomhope, ending in a compromise. The deponent produced a deed¹ for settling the boundaries between the Steel and Craig and Chesterhope, prepared and executed by the said Robert Widdrington as owner of the Steel, and by this deponent, one John Forster and one John Reed as owners of land in the Craig and Chesterhope. He believes that Hindhaugh, Steel, Broomhope, and the Felling were not always the estate of the same persons, nor always belonged to the Widdringtons, but that Steel, Broomhope, and Felling belonged to the deponent's grandfather,² but how the Widdringtons became entitled thereto he knows not. He does not believe that Calf Close ever belonged to the Widdringtons, or to the owner of Hindhaugh, Steel, and Broomhope, but that it formerly belonged to one Grey, then to one Moor, and now to one Joseph Sprunton.

¹ Deed dated 23rd November, 1716.

² Reed's grandfather may have been leaseholder but not owner.

WIDDRINGTON OF BUTELAND AND BROOMHOPE.

HENRY WIDDRINGTON of Buteland, said to be second son of Sir Ralph — ? (Ann, daughter of Roger Widdrington (b); living 1663; dead before 1668. Lawson of Heaton).

Mary, daughter and co-heiress. = Francis Sutton; joined with wife, 16th June, 1668, in sale of her moiety of Buteland to John Taylor.	Dorothy, daughter and co-heiress; living a widow, 31st Aug., 1702 (a).	= William Widdrington of Buteland, <i>jure uxoris</i> ; mentioned in will of uncle John Widdrington of Stonecroft, 4th June, 1664 (b); living 18th May, 1687 (a).
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Henry Widdrington of Buteland, son and heir, party to release dated 18th May, 1687 (a); slain by William Charlton, 21st Feb., 1709/10, and buried at Bellingham.	= Elizabeth ..., survived her husband, and prosecuted his murderer, 21st Feb., 1709/10 (a).	Robert Widdrington of Buller's Green, second son, was of full age before 18th May, 1687 (a); in 1710 brother and heir of Henry Widdrington (a); will dated 10th Feb., 1731; devised his lands at Broomhope, Steel, Hindhaugh, etc., to his brother Michael (a).	Edward; buried at Kirkwhelpington, 9th June, 1692 (c).
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Michael Widdrington of Buller's Green; will dated 16th July, 1741; devised his lands at Broomhope, Steel, Hindhaugh, etc., to his nephew John Hewitt (a).	Ann = ... Hewitt.	Margaret; wife of James Robinson of Whitley; named in will of brother Michael. = Bourne.
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John Hewitt of Buller's Green; nephew, devisee, and executor of Michael Widdrington; sold Broomhope, Steel, Hindhaugh, etc., 26th and 27th Mar., 1744, to William Lowes of Newcastle.	Elizabeth Hewitt; to whom her uncle Michael Widdrington left his house in Buller's Green and £30 a year out of his other real estate.	Widdrington Bourne. } John Bourne, born <i>circa</i> } July, 1726. } Joseph. } Dorothy. }	All mentioned in the will of their uncle Michael Widdrington.
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(a) Miss Murray's *Title Deeds*.

(b) Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. p. 237.

(c) *Kirkwhelpington Register*.

(d) E. Charlton. *Arch. Ael.* vol. vi. 30 n.

Michael Widdrington left his estates to his nephew John Hewitt of Morpeth, who, 26th and 27th March, 1744,¹ conveyed them to William Lowes of Newcastle and Ridley-hall. Under the provisions of the will (dated 27th December, 1795) of John Lowes, the Ridley-hall and Broomhope estates ultimately devolved upon his kinsman John Davidson of Ridley-hall, at whose death the Steel and Whitfield went to his widow, Mrs. Susan Hussey Elizabeth Davidson, and Broomhope, Calf Close, and Hindhaugh, to his cousins, the Misses Davidson and their sister, Mrs. Richard C. Askew. Mrs. Davidson left her share, comprising about 840 acres, to her kinsman, the earl of Strathmore, who in 1888 sold it to the firm of Sir William Armstrong & Co. The Misses Davidson gave their share, consisting of about 480 acres, comprising Broomhope, Calf Close, and Hindhaugh, to Lord James Murray, the father of the present owner, Miss Murray of Otterburn.

At the Steel farm house, which lies deep in the valley of the Broomhope burn, on a door head are the letters and figures $\frac{M. W.}{1733}$; the initials of Michael Widdrington a former owner. Near by is the place used for testing the Armstrong guns.

¹ Miss Murray's *Title Deeds*.

High upon the fell on the right bank of the burn stand the homesteads of Broomhope and Calf Close, the latter consisting only of one cottage and some heather-thatched sheds, whilst Hindhaugh lies on the sunny and sheltered haugh land on the south side of the Rede.

In a nook formed by the junction of the Heugh burn with the North Tyne at the south-west corner of Buteland is an estate of 290 acres,¹ belonging to the duke of Northumberland, known as the Countess park. As it had neither stintage upon, nor portion of, Buteland fell or common lands, it is probable that it was originally a fraction, detached in a manner now unknown, from the township of Birtley. It probably represents the ancient 'park, a league about,' in which in 1307 were 'wild beasts.'²

A survey made in 1727 speaks of the demesne called Countess park, where 'the heirs of William Ramsay³ of Newcastle, goldsmith, hold the herbage (sometime in the occupation of Sir John Fenwick to keep roe deer) containing 177 acres, full of ramble wood, with sufficient common of pasture.'

At Redesmouth, near the spot where the Rede flows into the North Tyne, is a house and estate which for many generations belonged to a cadet line of the clan or 'grayne' of Charlton, distinguished as the Charltons of the Bower. John Charlton of the Bower was one of the headsmen who in 1559 answered the summons of Sir John Forster to appear at Chipchase to enter into bonds with him to keep the peace. Later he was a thorn in the side of Lord Eure, the lord warden, who in his answer (made to Lord Burghley, 8th June, 1597) to certain accusations presented by the gentlemen jurors in 1596 to the queen's commissioners, describes 'John Charleton of the Bower' as a great thief in his garrison at Hexham 'now fled again "for theif," and we hear credibly again returned and tolerated in the Marches.' He further reports :

John Charletoune, kinsman and follower to Edward Charletoune, laird of Hesleside, who is a secret follower of Mr. Fenwick of Wallington, was charged with March treasons in Tindale in Sir John Forster's time, and after long imprisonment by me, brought to the bar both at a warden court and the gaol delivery, where Henry Woodrington and William Fenwick of Wallington were jurors, and being acquitted both

¹ It comprises 238 acres of woods and a farm of 52 acres.

² Cf. *supra*, p. 355.

³ William Ramsay, senior, of Newcastle, goldsmith and alderman, was admitted to his freedom in 1656. He married a daughter of William Robinson, goldsmith; and dying in 1698, was buried at All Saints, Newcastle. The William Ramsay mentioned in the text was probably his son, who was second husband of Elizabeth, widow of William Fenwick of Stanton, and daughter of Robert Ellison of Hebburn. He seems to have been residing at Brinkburn, 2nd October, 1701, and therefore could not be the 'Mr. Ramsha of Countess park,' who was buried at Chollerton, 4th January, 1696/7. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. ii. pp. 113, 114; *Arch. Ael.* vol. xvi. pp. 260, 400, etc.

times, I took good bonds for his behaviour, and sent him to serve in Tindale in the queen's pay. My reasons were: he married in Sir John's time a daughter of Anthon's Edwards (Armstrong, living at Williava on the West March, a great thief and maintainer of many others about him, and has married his daughters in 'the waters of Tyne.' Charleton himself had divers 'lewed' and evil persons of name as followers, and lived in a 'waist place distant from greate plenishing,' where he might with the Scots greatly hurt his neighbours, but if honest, do good service. Thus I thought 'to tye him to the queen' by the pay, but 'the fellowe returned to his former follie,' was taken by me, escaped by the gaoler's negligence, and joined his father-in-law and the Scottish Armstrongs. But his father-in-law making means to me for his return, and that he would keep quiet, having secretly satisfied the parties offended, I chose, rather than drive him to join the Scot, to let him return home, he being neither indicted of murder or burglary, nor a notorious thief, as they report.¹

At the Newcastle Assizes of 1626, John and Thomas Charlton, the two sons of Ellen Charlton of the Bower, were tried for sheep stealing;² and two years later the former, 'a fugitive and notorious theife,' was charged with stealing three cattle at Lesbury, a mare and sheep at Little Swinburn, and also oxen belonging to Nicholas Errington of Keepwick. In 1629, having been taken in the exercise of their profession of cattle lifting, they were sentenced to death; and though their mother petitioned and succeeded in obtaining the royal pardon, the sentence was carried into execution before the pardon was received.³

There can be little doubt that William Charlton of the Bower, who purchased that estate 14th March, 1648, from Sir John Delaval of Dissington,⁴ was a near kinsman of the lady, who had interest sufficiently powerful to gain the king's ear. He was possessed of considerable landed estates, being rated, in 1663, for the Bower, the Eales, Upper and Nether Blakelaw, and Redesmouth;⁵ and on 2nd July, 1664, he purchased from Theophilus, earl of Suffolk, for the sum of £441 1s. 8d., the estates of Bellingham mill, Holt (?) Close, Whitcheater, Dally castle, and a tenement in Wark.⁶ By his will, dated at the Bower, 17th December, 1668, after commending his 'soul unto Almighty God, my Saviour and Redeemer in and by the merit of Jesus Christ,' in whom he trusted and believed assuredly to be saved, he gave his lands to his eldest son George, then under age, bequeathing him to the care

¹ *Border Papers*, Bain. vol. ii. p. 339.

² *Arch. Acl.* 4to series, vol. i. p. 158.

³ Sadler, *State Papers*, i. 613. Charlton, *Memorials of North Tyndale*, pp. 79-85.

⁴ Sir John Delaval had purchased the Bower, 20th November, 1635, from Theophilus, earl of Suffolk: it was then held by Edward Charlton by lease, dated 3rd May, 1627, at the rent of 20s. a year. Sir John Haggerston's *Title Deeds*.

⁵ It is not known when the Charltons became possessed of Redesmouth, but John Charlton of Redesmouth is mentioned in Hexham Court Book of 1607, and there was formerly a monumental inscription within, and now outside of, the church of Bellingham, a portion of which was deciphered by the Rev. John Hodgson:

CHARL | TON · OF · REA | DSMOUTH | WAS BURIED | THE · 22 FA | ANNO · DNI | 1628 | M.C.

⁶ Sir John Haggerston's *Title Deeds*.

of Humphrey Mitford of Mitford, esq. He names two younger sons and four daughters, and gives small legacies to his brother-(in-law) Matthew Robson, his brother-(in-law) Richard Gibson, Mrs. Agnes Doffinby, Miss Ann, Mr. Thomas, and Mr. Major Allgood, and forty shillings a year to William Charlton of the 'Heug,' and Mary, his wife.¹

In the beginning of the following century the hot blood of the race again brought the head of this family within the meshes of the law. The following document tells its own story :

The information of William Laidley of Emlip, touching the murder of Mr. Henry Witherington, late of Bellingham, February 28th, 1709/10, saith that on Tuesday, 21st February instant, this informant was travelling upon the highway leading from Bellingham to Reedswood, that in a wood called Reedwood Scroggs, near the highway, he heard a noise at some small distance, and saw a man running from a place where some men's cloaths were lying in the said wood towards Reedswood, who had either a hat and a periwig in his hand, or a periwig only, and so came to a place where a man was lying, and took him in his arms. This informant did not see the man who was lying on the ground till the other man took him up and asked him where he was wounded, but this informant did not hear the man who was lying on the ground return any answer. Whereupon this informant asked what was the matter, but the said man leaving the hat and periwig with him who was lying on the ground went back to the same place from whence he brought the hat and periwig, and brought a coat, and asked the other if he would have on his coat, but this informant did not hear any answer given. Then the man who brought the hat, coat, etc., called this informant to come near, and this informant leaving his mare with his brother went towards them with what speed he could, and when this informant came there did see the man who was lying on the ground was Mr. Henry Witherington, but did not know then who was the other, but he had blood on his face, and he saw him take up a long sword² which was lying near the said Henry Witherington, and put it into the scabbard, and gird it about him, and asked this informant who it was with him, and desired this informant to send him to the Doddheaps to tell the people who were at a horse race there, and desired this informant to take up the man, meaning the said Henry Witherington, and put him on his coat, but this informant after having seen the said Henry Witherington being dead, as he thought, told the other he was dead, upon which the said man did run to his horse, which was tyed to a tree as this informant remembers, and this informant went likewise to his own mare, by which time the other was mounted, and come a little past the place where the said Witherington was lying, and looking back spake to this informant, and desired him to go to the man and help him on with his coat, or rather help him up and put on his coat. And this informant did run to the said Henry Witherington again, and having seen him told the man it was too late, for he was dead, this deponent believing him to be so. Whereupon the man rode away towards Reedswood, but this informant did run to his mare, and rode towards a place called Doddheaps, where was a great company of men, and shouted to them, and immediately they came and went to the place where the said Henry Witherington was lying not quite dead, but could not live long, as this informant thought, and after the company came this informant saw a wound upon the left breast of the said Henry Witherington. And it was said by some of the company to be done by one William Charlton of Reedsmouth, in the said county, gent. And this informant, having never seen the said William Charlton that he knew him in his life, but once before that time, after having recollected his memory, did believe it to be the said William Charlton he had seen a little before with the said Henry Witherington as aforesaid. And since that time one William Dodd of Cariteth told this informant that the said William Charlton did confess to this said Dodd he was the man this informant came to as above.³

¹ Sir John Haggerston's *Title Deeds*.

² In Sir John Haggerston's possession is a sword which came from Redesmouth house, and is traditionally said to have been that by which 'Bowrie' slew Widdrington.

³ The Rev. John Hodgson's *Collection*.

Bowrie fled and found shelter at Wharmley, under the roof of Nicholas Leadbitter, and again the royal prerogative was invoked, when he was more fortunate than his collateral ancestors, for the pardon granted by Queen Anne under the great seal did not arrive too late. The life thus preserved was adventured, in 1715, at Preston,¹ and he was resolved to strike a blow for the Stuarts in 1745; but, as it is said, with the connivance of his friends, he was laid in gaol, and so kept out of mischief. He was living and at liberty, 17th July, 1750, when in a Jacobite letter he is called 'our generous and worthy friend, Bowrie,' but was dead before 3rd October, 1752. He was succeeded in his estates by his nephew Edward Charlton; his natural daughters, who had been brought up by his sister-in-law, lived to an advanced age in Hexham, staunch Jacobites to the last.

Bowrie's brother, Edward Charlton, a physician in Hexham, was also concerned in the rebellion, and was apprehended, being also charged with threatening to shoot certain individuals who had been bound over to give evidence. At the Easter Sessions of 1719 the following expenses were allowed to the bailiff: 'The expenses I was at about making search after Doctor Charlton imprimis at Hexham, 2s.; more at ye adjournement at Newcastle, 5s.; more another time after ye doctor and others, 3s.'

In 1723 William Charlton of Redesmouth registered a capital messuage called Redesmouth, Whitcheater, Bellingham mill, the lordship of Bellingham, a fulling mill at Redesmouth, the Bower, Dallicastle, Crem mills, Crag, Upper Blacklaw, Coldcoats, Nether Blacklaw, Conheath, Bellingham demesne, etc., subject to the dower of Mary Charlton, his mother.

Several members of the Charlton family were educated at Douay. Dr. Charlton's grandson, Edward Charlton, left the college early in 1783 and went to Paris to 'spatiate' or enter on the world before returning to the parental roof in November of the same year. The following account of the moneys furnished or paid by the house for his expenses has been preserved at Downside :

¹ The standard of insurrection was raised at Greenrig on the 6th October, 1715. On the 1st of the same month Edward Charlton evidently knowing that both his sons were steeped in the plot conveyed his estates of Redesmouth, the Bower, Dally castle, Whitcheater, Upper and Nether Blakelaw, Caldcoats, etc., to Ralph Brandling of Newham, and others, in trust for his infant grandchild, Edward Francis, the new born son of Doctor Edward Charlton of Walwick Grange. The settlement is very full, and reserves to the grantor a power of revocation, in exercise of which, on the 29th of the same month he executed a short deed revoking the disposition made by the settlement, and appointed that the estates should be held in trust for William Charlton, his eldest son and heir. Sir John Haggerston's *Title Deeds*,

1783, November. To a coach for Mr. Charlton, 1s. 6d.; to ye carriage of his trunk, 1s.; to Mr. Charlton in cash, £6 6s.; to letters at sundry times, 5s.; to dinner on his arrival, 7s.; to dinner on Monday, 6s. 6d.; to lodgings, etc., at Jacques, 8s.; to journey to Kelordan (to do his devoir to his mother then staying there), £2 1s. 6d.; to a handglass for Mrs. Charlton, 16s.; to a doz. of handkerchiefs and making for Mrs. Charlton, £4 1s. 6d.; to 6 pair of stockings, £1 5s.; to his place to Newcastle, £3 11s.; to a pair of boots, £1 8s.; to a pair of spurs, 7s. 6d.; to a pair of buckles, £1 6s.; to a pair of straps for trunks, 4s. 6d.; to lodgings at No. 20, 15s.; to a pair of slippers, 7s. 6d.; to hairdresser at Jacques, 2s. 6d.; to a pair of shoes, 7s.; to ye tailor's bill, £15; to a razor case, etc., for a present for Mons^r L'Abbe, £1 1s.

In 1785 Edward Charlton of Redesmouth registered the mansion house, mill, etc., at Redesmouth, Coastley, East Greenridge, Hall Shield, Whinnetley, Upper Ardley, Cookshouse, lands in Corsenside, etc.¹

In 1805 the Redesmouth estate received an allotment of 98 acres in satisfaction of its right to 26/130 stints on Buteland common. On the death of 'the humane and hospitable' Mr. Edward Charlton, the last male heir of this ancient family, in 1841 the estate under the provisions of his will passed to his nephew, Sir Edward Haggerston, bart., of Ellingham, and now belongs to Sir John Haggerston, bart.

Near Redesmouth house was a fulling mill, concerning which, at the Quarter Sessions held at Morpeth in January, 1698, a petition was presented from Edward Nichols of Redesmouth, fuller and dyer, asking for a certificate so that he might obtain a 'brief to collect the charitable benevolence of all well disposing Christians.' He says :

'Your petitioner for this several yeares last past has followed the said trade of fuller and dyer very laboriously. and lived in good credit and repute amongst his neighbours till by the providence of God upon the 11th November last past about twelve o'clock in the night broke forth a sudden and most violent fire in the work house of your said petitioner, which in a little time consumed all the said house, etc.' Forty of his neighbours supported the petition with their signatures, amongst whom were John Bland, minister of Chollerton and Birtley; Edward Charlton of Hesleyside; Henry Widdrington and Robert Widdrington, both of Buteland; John Robson of Pikestone; John Shafto.²

At the beginning of the eighteenth century a bridge over the Rede was erected at Redesmouth 'for the preservation of people's lives and for benefit to trade, particularly to the town of Hexham,' but before it was finished a flood in 1715 carried away the arch, the replacement of which increased the total cost of the bridge to £243 10s.³

¹ *Register of Roman Catholic Estates.*

² *Sessions Records.*

³ *Ibid.*

CHARLTON OF THE BOWER AND OF REDESMOUTH.

WILLIAM CHARLTON of the Bower and of Redesmouth; will dated =
17th Dec., 1668; proved at Durham, 16th Nov., 1670 (a).

George Charlton of the Bower and of Redesmouth, son and heir; under age 17th Dec., 1668 (a); died <i>s.p.</i>	Edward Charlton of the Bower and of Redesmouth, second son; living 29th Oct., 1715.	Mary; registered her dower, 1723.	Cuthbert Charlton, third son; named in father's will.	Elinor, eldest daughter. Ann. Catherine [? married ... Hayles of Newcastle; if so, her will is dated 20th April, 1743 (k)]. Bridget. (All named in father's will.)
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William Charlton of Redesmouth, son and heir, generally known as 'Bowrie'; purchased Brighouse in Corsenside, 20th July, 1736, from Henry Rawling; will dated 11th Aug., 1750; proved 3rd Oct., 1752 (a).*	Edward Charlton of Hexham, M.D.; bond of marriage, 24th March, 1714/5; buried at Hexham, 17th Aug., 1744 (h) (i); will dated 1st Aug., 1744; proved at York, 28th Feb., 1744/5 (g).	Elizabeth, widow of Edward Errington of Walwick Grange.†	Bridget; married William Smith. Anne; married John Edmestone. Elizabeth; buried 18th Feb., 1688 (h). Elizabeth; married 14th July, 1729, Ralph Leadbitter (i). Margaret; married Philip Jefferson. (All named in their brother William Charlton's will in 1750.)
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Margaret Charlton } to each of
Mary Charlton } whom their
father gave £1,000; resided in
Hexham, and continued ardent
Jacobites to old age.

Edward Charlton of Redesmouth, baptised 2nd May, 1715 (b); educated at Douay, admitted, 1732 (f); nephew, heir, and devisee of William Charlton; died 22nd April, 1764; will dated 19th April, 1764; proved at York, 22nd Jan., 1765 (a).	Jane, daughter of Joseph Lambert of Gateshead, mercer; born at Gateshead, 28th Dec., 1732 (g); settlement before marriage, 22nd and 23rd Oct., 1759 (a); died 23rd Feb., 1793; buried at Bellingham (e); will dated at Sandhoe, 25th April, 1792 (a).	Robert Charlton, baptised 24th Oct., 1716 (b); died in infancy.	William Charlton, baptised 6th May, 1720 (b); executor to will of brother Edward; died and was buried at Bath in 1776.	Thomas, son of Edward Charlton and Elizabeth Haughton, his wife; baptised 15th Feb., 1721 (i).
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Robert Charlton, baptised 1st Nov., 1722 (b), educated at Douay and left that college 4th May, 1741 (f).	Elizabeth [daughter and heiress of ... Macclesfield of Chesterton in Derbyshire (c)].	John Charlton, sub-prior of Douay; admitted 1732; professed 1736; died 1783 (f).	Elizabeth, baptised 4th June, 1717 (b); died in infancy. Elizabeth, baptised 4th June, 1718 (b).† Mary, baptised 29th May, 1719 (b).‡ Ann; died 21st Nov., 1757, aged 30 (c).
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William, born 17th Sept., 1760; buried at Gateshead, ... Feb., 1761 (c).	Edward Charlton of Redesmouth, born 15th Jan., 1764 (c); educated at Douay, admitted 1780 (f); resided for many years at Sandhoe; died 31st May, 1841, <i>s.p.</i> ; buried at Roman Catholic cemetery, Hexham; will dated at Sandhoe, 4th Feb., 1839 (a).	Ann Mary, daughter of Nicholas Leadbitter of Warden; married at Warden and Hexham, ... Feb., 1830.	Winifred, born 11th Dec., 1761; married 29th July, 1783, Thomas Haggerston; settlement before marriage, 28th July, 1783 (a). ↓	Jane, born 26th Nov., 1762; married ... July, 1797, George Gibson of Stagshaw Closehouse; died <i>s.p.</i>
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(a) Sir John Haggerston's *Title Deeds*.

(b) *Warden Register*.

(c) *Bell Collection*.

(f) Communicated by the Benedictines of Downside to Mr. Wm. L. Charlton of the Reenes in a letter in 1888.

* Amongst the family pictures at Ellingham are portraits in oil, believed to be those of William Charlton (Bowrie), of his brother Dr. Edward Charlton of Hexham, and of Jane, widow of Edward Charlton of Redesmouth. There are also portraits in oil of the last Mr. Edward Charlton of Redesmouth and of his wife.

† Her parentage is not undisputed; the Rev. John Hodgson calls her daughter of William Haig of Kirk in Lancashire. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 415. Another authority says she was daughter of William Dalton of Thornham in Lancashire; and the Hexham Roman Catholic register, recording the baptism of her son Thomas, calls her Elizabeth Haughton.

‡ One of these ladies married Hodgson of Lintz; the other, Reavely of London.

(g) Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

(h) *Hexham Register*.

(i) *Hexham Roman Catholic Register*.

THE CHAPELRY OF KIRKHEATON.

The extra-parochial township of Kirkheaton is oblong in shape with a greatest length of three miles and a quarter from east to west and a breadth from north to south of a little over a mile. It comprises 2,060 acres of partly arable but mostly pasture land, which is divided from the parish of Kirkwhelpington on the north by the river Blyth (here a very small rivulet taking its rise on the fell near Black hill), and bounded by Bolam on the east, Stamfordham on the south, St. John Lee on the west and Thockrington on the north-west. The eastern portion of the township is traversed obliquely by the site of the ancient road called the Devil's causeway, on either side of which are signs and remains of old coal workings. The population at the last census was 133,¹ grouped in the hamlet or village of Kirkheaton and in the outlying homesteads of Blackhill, Bog-hall, Brandy-hall, Fairshaw, Mount Hooley, and Toft-hall.

The earliest notices of Kirkheaton are obtained from the Subsidy Roll of 1296 and the *inspeximus* of the possessions of Hexham priory in 1298. The latter records that the prior and convent held the chapel of Little Heton, together with the other chapels dependent upon Chollerton, by grant from Odinel de Umframvill, and the manor of Little Heton and Caldstrother with its appurtenances. The priory also had the homage of John de Cambhou for his lands in those places by the grant of Alina de Bolam, James de Caus, and Alicia his wife.² These two ladies (of whom Alina subsequently became the wife of John de Caus) were the daughters and co-heiresses of Emma de Umframvill (generally called Emma de Aydon) by her first marriage with Walter de Bolam.³

The association of the manor (or as it was more generally termed the hamlet) of Caldstrother with Kirkheaton continued until the beginning of the sixteenth century, after which period, so far as is known, the name dropped out of use. The places have separate returns upon the Subsidy Roll of 1296.

¹ The Census Returns are: 1801, 149; 1811, 153; 1821, 140; 1831, 182; 1841, 164; 1851, 153; 1861, 161; 1871, 154; 1881, 170; 1891, 133.

² *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 111, 116.

³ *Supra*, p. 202.

		KYRKE HETON SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296. ¹				℥	s.	d.		s.	d.
Summa bonorum	Roberti clerici	...	...	...	...	0	16	0	unde regi	1	5½
"	Gilberti de Walhou	...	...	...	...	0	11	0	"	1	0
"	Willelmi filii Milonis	...	...	...	...	1	6	0	"	2	4½
"	Willelmi Russel	...	...	...	...	0	13	0	"	1	2¼
"	Adae de Aula	...	...	...	...	1	11	0	"	2	9¾
"	Adae filii Reginaldi	...	...	...	...	1	13	0	"	3	0
"	Agneti uxoris Milonis	...	...	...	...	1	14	0	"	3	1
"	Willelmi filii Adae	...	...	...	...	2	4	6	"	4	0½
"	Thomae filii Adae	...	...	...	...	1	16	0	"	3	3¼
"	Henrici praepositi	...	...	...	...	2	12	8	"	4	9½
"	Johannis de Eschewike	...	...	...	...	2	6	0	"	4	2¼
"	Petri fabri	...	...	...	...	1	3	0	"	2	1
"	Ricardi filii Hugonis	...	...	...	...	2	5	0	"	4	1
"	Hugonis filii Adae	...	...	...	...	31	13	6	"	3	0½
"	Gilberti de Goued'	...	...	...	...	2	14	4	"	4	11½
		Summa hujus villae, £24 19s. od.				Unde regi, 45s. 4½d.					
		CALDESTROYER SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.				℥	s.	d.		s.	d.
Summa bonorum	Roberti molendinarii	...	...	...	...	0	16	0	unde regi	1	5½
"	Davidis de Mainwel	...	...	...	...	3	0	2	"	5	5¾
"	Johannis de Caldstroyer	...	...	...	...	0	12	0	"	1	1¼
"	Ricardi Twystreg'	...	...	...	...	2	3	4	"	3	10¾
"	Thomae filii Willelmi...	...	...	...	...	0	14	0	"	1	3¼
"	Adae filii Willelmi	...	...	...	...	3	4	6	"	5	10¾
		Summa hujus villae, £10 10s. od.				Unde domino regi, 19s. 1¼d.					

On the 29th April, 1314, the prior and convent obtained a licence from Edward II. to acquire from John de Cambhou the moiety of the manor of Little Heaton,² having evidently bought out the rights reserved to that proprietor in the grant from the de Bolams. And on the 12th February, 1323, they again obtained a licence from the king to acquire from William Hecson 2 tofts and 9 acres, from Gilbert de Babynton 1 toft and 9 acres, and from Robert, son of Hugh de Cambhowe, 2 tofts, 10 acres and 8 acres of land, all in Kirkheaton.³

Before the date of the *inspeximus* the family of Middleton held lands at Caldstroyer, for in the inquisition taken in 1290, after the death of Gilbert de Middleton, it was found that he had died seised of lands there as well as at Swinburn and at Hartley,⁴ and in 1318 Edward II. granted to Thomas de Heton the manor of Breredon, the vill of Hartley, and a toft with 10

¹ KIRCHETON SUBSIDY ROLL, 1336. Robertus Edson, 6s.; Johannes Sernan (?), 4s.; Simon Bernard, 6s. 8d.; Adam filius Christianae, 4s. 6d.; Johannes taillour, 3s. 4d.; Willelmus filius Christianae, 5s.; Adam de Halyden, 3s.; Johannes punder, 3s. 2d.; Johannes filius Christianae, 6s. 8d. Summa, 42s. 4d.

² *Cal. Rot. Pat.* 7 Edw. II. m. 14; *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 129.

³ *Cal. Rot. Pat.* 16 Edw. II. m. 4; *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 132.

⁴ *Inq. p.m.* 19 Edw. I. No. 5; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 50.

acres of land in Chuldstrothre, which had belonged to Gilbert Middleton the rebel;¹ this grant was confirmed fifteen years later by Edward III.²

In 1318 John de Middleton was possessor of lands in West Heaton and Caldstrother;³ he had been implicated in the rebellion of his kinsman Gilbert, and in 1333 John de Crumbwell, constable of the Tower of London (who for his services of presiding officer at the trials for treason of the two Middletons had obtained a considerable portion of their estates),⁴ was found to have died seised of lands in Caldstrother.⁵ In 1373 Sir John Strivelyn of Belsay (who in 1335 had obtained a grant from Edward III. of all the lands which had belonged to John Middleton the rebel⁶) by the following deeds⁷ entailed certain lands in Caldstrother, 'which is a hamlet of Kirkheaton.'

Johannes de Striuelyn dominus de Belsow et Jacobus (*sic*) uxor mea . . . Johanni de Farinlawe omnia terras et tenementa nostra quae quondam fuerunt Thomae de Becheburne in villa de Bradford et in Caldstrothire quod est hamelettum de Kyrkhetone . . . Hiis testibus: Domino Alano Hepscotes tunc vicario ecclesiae de Bolome, Johanne de Walyngtone, Thoma de Trewyk, Roberto Hedewyne, Patricio de Midiltone, Domino Willilmo de Multone, etc. Datum apud Belsowe die veneris prox. post festum Assumpcionis B.M., anno domini M.CCC. lxxiiij. One seal present. On a shield *three covered cups between seven cross crosslets*.⁸ Crest: *two horns enclosing a covered cup*. S · IOHIS DE STREVELYN.

Johannes de Farinlawe . . . Johanni de Striuelyn et Jacobo uxori eius omnia terras et tenem., quae habui de dono et feoffamento praed. Johannis et Jacobi in Caldstrother quod est hamelettum de Kyrkheton . . . ad terminum vitae eorundem et alterius eorum diucius viventis. Remainder to Thomas de Becheburne, and failing issue of Thomas then to his right heirs. Same date and witnesses. Seal gone.

Sir John de Strivelyn died without issue on the 15th August, 1378, and the inquest⁹ after his death found him enfeoffed, conjointly with his second wife (who was Jane, third daughter of Richard de Emeldon), of Belsay and many other estates, amongst which were 2 messuages and 8 acres of land in Caldstrother, and 1 messuage and 24 acres of land in Kirkheaton.¹⁰ Part of the estates, under an entail created in 1371, reverted to the family of their ancient owners in the person of Sir John de Middleton, who died 9th August, 1396,¹¹ seised conjointly with Christiana, his wife, of Belsay, a tenement and

¹ *Cal. Rot. Pat.* 12 Edw. II. m. 27; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. pp. 365, 367.

² *Cal. Rot. Pat.* 7 Edw. III. m. 22; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. pp. 367, 368; *cf.* Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 354.

³ *Cal. Inq. ad quod damnum*, 12 Edw. II. No. 121; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 398.

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 356.

⁵ *Inq. p.m.* 7 Edw. III. No. 79; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 70.

⁶ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 356. ⁷ Deeds belonging to the Rev. W. Greenwell.

⁸ The arms of Strivelyn; *cf.* Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 353.

⁹ *Inq. p.m.* 2 Ric. II. No. 49; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 250. *Cf.* pt. ii. vol. i. p. 357.

¹⁰ On 1st February, 1377, Jordan, son of Agnes de Kirkheton, had a grant of lands in Hetherslaw from Sir William Heron, knight. There was a remainder to Odelin and Lionel, other sons of Agnes de Kirkheton. The Rev. John Hodgson's *Collection*.

¹¹ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. pp. 354, 363.

24 acres of land in Kirkheaton worth 6s. 8d. a year, 100 acres of land in the field of Caldstrother worth 10s. a year, and a tenement with common of pasture in Thockrington, etc.¹ Kirkheaton and Caldstrother are again mentioned in the inquest taken in 1421 after the death of Christiana, widow of Sir John de Middleton.²

Amongst the many estates found, by an inquest taken in 1411, to have been in the possession of Elizabeth, wife of John Fenwick, were the manor of Fenwick and lands in Caldstrother;³ and lands in Kirkheaton were included in the entail made in 1443 by Sir William Swinburne.⁴

When the survey of the possessions of the priory, contained in the Black Book of Hexham, was made in 1479, there were at Kirkheaton and Caldstrother seven tenants who held of the prior, by homage and suit of court, thirty-three who held husbandlands, and eight cottagers. The first class is headed by the name of Sir John de Strivelyn (who had been dead a hundred years); the others were Thomas Horsley, John Kemp, John de Marlaye, Thomas de Becheburne, John of Dalton, and Sir Thomas Ilderton, knight. Each of the husbandlands comprised 34 acres, save that of Richard Atkinson, which was 25 acres. The cottagers each had from 3 to 7 acres of land; one had as much as 13 acres, but it lay waste; originally, every cottager had 7 acres.⁵

On the 20th March, 1505-6, Sir Thomas Ilderton of Ilderton, knight, son and heir of Thomas Ilderton, lately deceased, granted to Thomas Shafftow, gentleman, 'a messuage or tenement called Twessege, etc., lying between Great Heton (Capheaton) and Kirkheaton, and also all those lands, etc., in the vill territory, and fields of Caldstroder, as they all descended to me by hereditary right from my father, Thomas Ilderton.' He appoints William Musgrave the younger and George Anderson of Kirkheaton, yeoman, his attorneys. He appends 'sigillum meum ad arma,' *three water bougets*, and as his 'seal is unknown to many, the seal of office of the mayoralty of Newcastle is also affixed.'⁶

¹ *Inq. p.m.* 20 Ric. II. No. 37; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. pp. 260, 261, and pt. ii. vol. i. p. 354.

² *Inq. p.m.* 9 Hen. V. No. 54; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 268.

³ *Inq. p.m.* 13 Hen. IV. No. 20; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 267.

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 232.

⁵ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. pp. 36, 37.

⁶ A deed belonging to the Rev. William Greenwell. The witnesses were Sir Hunfrid Lysle, knight, sheriff of Northumberland, Robert Anesley, Robert Ilderton, Robert Johnson, chaplain. The seal armorial is of Thomas Ilderton, but earlier than 1506, possibly of Sir Thomas Ilderton's grandfather.

Three out of the five fully-armed men of Kirkheaton who attended the muster of 1538 bore the surname of Musgrave,¹ and were probably kinsmen or connections of the gentle family of that name, which, in the 15th century, owned the neighbouring estate of Ryal.²

KIRKHEATON MUSTER ROLL, 1538.³

Wyllm Musgrofe, John Musgrofe, Rychard Musgrofe, Roberd Tomson, John Downe, able with horse and harness. John Trumble, Robert Johnson, Rog. Potts, Thomas Redmayn, Thomas Robson, John Robson, Wyllm Nycolson, Lancelott Barron, Wyllm Mawer, Malho Howbourn, nailther with horse nor harness.

In 1551 William Swinburne of Capheaton died seised of lands in Little Heaton, held in socage of the manor of Hexham.⁴ On the 1st August, 1546, Sir Roger Fenwick of Wallington, in consideration of the sum of £108, conveyed to Christopher Mitford of Newcastle all his lands in the fields of Old and New Heaton,⁵ and in 1568 John Mitford held Seghill, Branton, half of Heaton, Ryal, Kearsley, with lands in Ingo, etc.⁶ At the same period the lands of the suppressed monastery of Hexham (which, at the dissolution, were worth £7 a year) were in the Crown.⁷

On the 2nd October, 1605, the coal mines within the parish of Kirkheaton, late belonging to the dissolved monastery of Hexham, were (*inter alia*) granted by James I. to John Halsey and Robert Morgan, who, on the 22nd February, 1605/6, in consideration of a certain sum of money, conveyed the same (by deed of bargain and sale enrolled in Chancery) to Sir John Fenwick, knight. The royalty thus obtained was, under the description of Kirkheaton colliery, conveyed in 1689 by Sir John Fenwick of Wallington, together with his other estates, to Sir William Blackett.⁸

In 1663 the lands of the township were held by Mr. Matthew Herou, who was rated for six-sevenths, and by John Atkinson, who was rated for one-seventh: the latter may have been descended from the Richard Atkinson, who is stated, by the Black Book of Hexham, to have held one husbandland in 1479.⁹

¹ At the dissolution of the monasteries, William Musgrave held of the convent in Kirkheaton eight tenements, 15 acres of meadow called Law Inges, and 45 acres of land, with common of pasture on Hyndes fell, for all of which he paid a rent of £14 6s. 8d. *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 163.

² William Fenwick of Fenwick married Joan, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Musgrave of Ryal. He died before 3rd July, 1485, leaving her a widow with a son and heir, John Fenwick of Fenwick, Wallington, and Ryal. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 255.

³ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iv. p. 174.

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 217 n.

⁵ *Ibid.* p. 255.

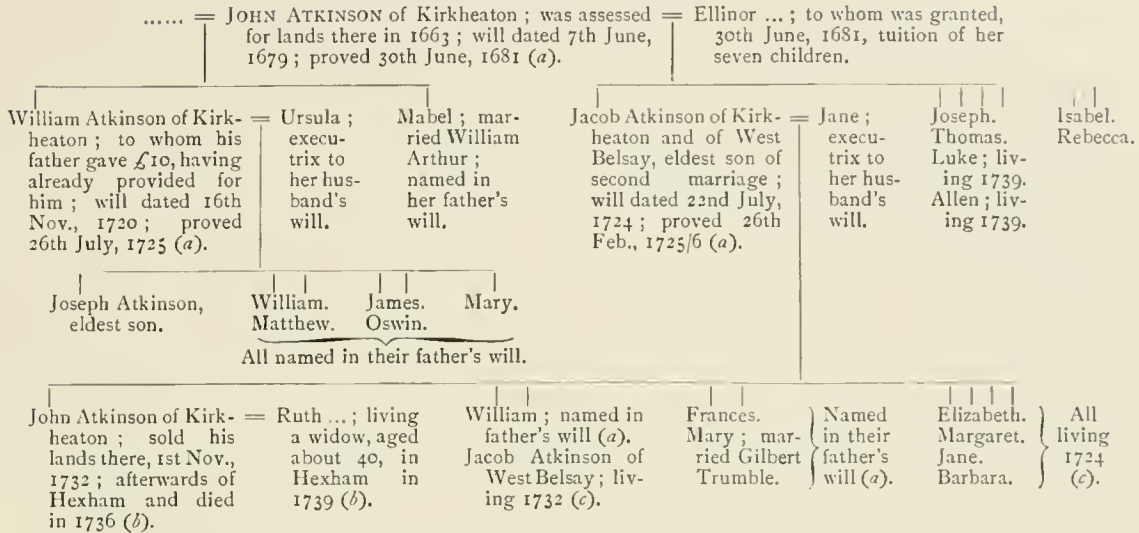
⁶ *Feodary's Book*: Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. lxxvi.

⁷ *Ibid.* p. lxi.

⁸ *Ibid.* pt. ii. vol. i. p. 259.

⁹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 36.

ATKINSON OF KIRKHEATON.*



(a) Raine, *Test. Ebor.* (b) *Exchequer Depositions*, 13 Geo. II. Northumberland, No. 17. (c) Miss Hedley's *Title Deeds*.

* In 1722 Luke Atkinson of Whitehouse and Jacob Atkinson of Belsay voted for freehold lands in Kirkheaton, and in 1734 and 1748 Luke Atkinson of Acomb voted for lands in the same place. *Poll Book*.

The township remained undivided until 1722, when, by lease and release dated 13th and 14th July the three sisters and co-heiresses of Bertram Stote, who were entitled to the six-sevenths part of the township, conveyed to Jacob Atkinson of West Belsay *alias* Knottery Heughe, in satisfaction of his seventh part, the parcels of ground known as Fawcett, Whitfield, Blakelaw, Hinds fell, and Back Croft, comprising by estimation 279 acres, together with certain dwelling houses, etc., in the town of Kirkheaton.¹

Jacob Atkinson's son, John Atkinson, after mortgaging, finally in 1732 sold his estates at Kirkheaton for the sum of £1,700 to Lancelot Allgood of the Riding, but the purchaser's title was contested after Atkinson's death by Joshua Douglas of Newcastle, who, as a creditor of the vendor, in 1738 began a suit in the Court of Exchequer against Hester Allgood, widow, Mary and Hester Allgood, spinsters, and Ruth, widow of John Atkinson.² In a partition made between the two co-heiresses in 1764 the Kirkheaton estate fell to Esther Allgood, who in that year married William Hunter of Hexham. Mrs. Hunter, by will dated 29th October, 1793, gave her lands to her four children, Allgood, William, Isaac, and Mary Hunter. The estate ultimately vested in the last mentioned, who was the survivor, and under her will dated 23rd April, 1825, it passed to her cousin, George Bainbridge of the Riding. The latter, in 1828, sold his Kirkheaton estate

¹ Miss Hedley's *Title Deeds*.

² *Exchequer Depositions*, 13 George II. Northumberland, No. 17.

to Messrs. John, George, and Thomas Hedley of Fenwick,¹ and it now belongs to Mr. George Hedley's daughter, Miss Hedley of Sunnyside.²

The lands at Kirkheaton, which were rated to Matthew Heron in 1663, were purchased by Sir Richard Stote of Newcastle, and at his death in 1682 descended to his only surviving son, Bertram Stote. The latter died in 1707, leaving as co-heiresses three sisters, Margaret, Frances, and Dorothy, then unmarried, in whom his lands vested. The last survivor of these ladies was Dorothy, widow of the Hon. Dixie Windsor, who died intestate and without issue 26th December, 1756, whereupon possession of her estates was taken by Sir Robert Bewick of Close-house and John Craster of Craster, who claimed, as descendants of her great-great-grandfather, Cuthbert Bewick of Newcastle, to be the heirs-at-law. Their rights were immediately challenged by the Crown³ and by Sir Walter Blackett respectively, and subsequently their possession was contested by Stote Manby of Louth, in Lincolnshire, who claimed to be, and probably was, a great-grandson of Dorothy Windsor's uncle, Cuthbert Stote, rector of Tollerton, Nottinghamshire, whose daughter had eloped with a servant or tradesman named William Manby. He brought an action of ejectment at the Northumberland Assizes in 1781,⁴ and obtained a verdict, but being threatened with an appeal to the High Courts, and being a poor man, compromised his claim, and accepted a sum of money with a perpetual rent charge of £300 a year.

Stote Manby's grandson, William Stote Manby, being dissatisfied with the arrangement, attempted to revive the claim, and at the Northumberland Spring Assizes of 1855 brought an action, but he failed to recover any portion of what had long been called the Bewick and Craster estates.⁵ His suit was pleaded by Samuel Warren, who had a few years before published his novel of *Ten Thousand a Year*, of which the plot and some of the adventures of the hero, Tittlebat Titmouse, bore such resemblance to the suit and circumstances of William Stote Manby as to induce the widespread belief that the story was founded on the case.

¹ Allgood, William, and Mary Hunter, in 1798, mortgaged the estate to John and Joseph Hedley of Whitcheater, who were uncles of the purchasers of 1828. ² Miss Hedley's *Title Deeds*.

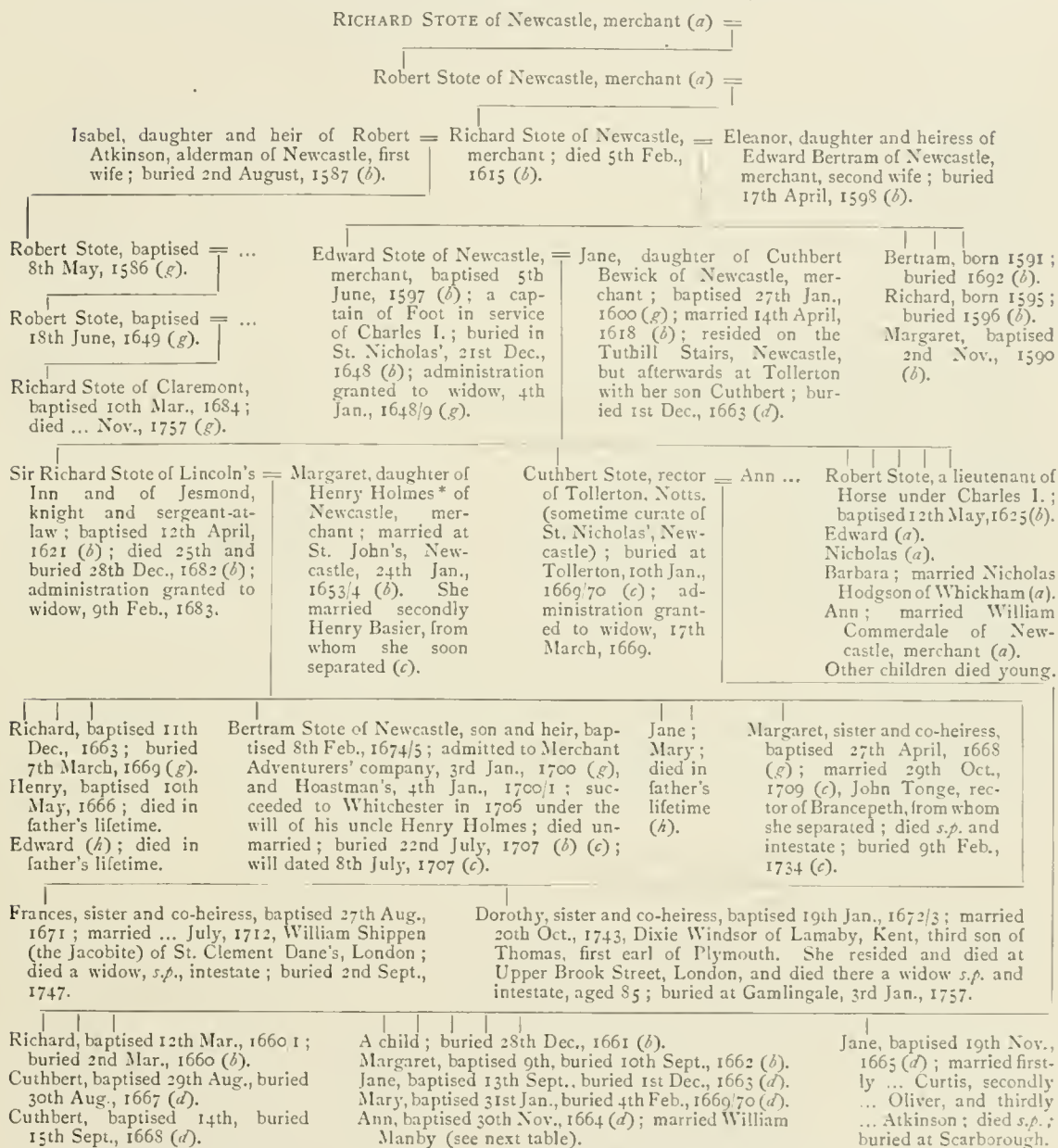
³ There were proceedings in the Court of Exchequer, 1757-1760, *Stote v. the earl of Northumberland*; and *Craster v. Sir William Blackett, bart.*, and Lord Carlisle, which related to the estates of Mrs. Windsor, which were claimed by Viscount Windsor and Mr. Craster as next of kin. Portions of the estate as escheats were claimed by the earl of Carlisle, as lord of the manor of Long Benton, by Sir William Blackett, as lord of the manor of Anick Grange, and by the earl of Northumberland.

⁴ Cf. *Newcastle Chronicle*, August, 1781; *Newcastle Monthly Chronicle*, January, 1889, p. 30.

⁵ The estates comprised Kirkheaton, 1,759 acres; Long Benton, 1,056 acres; Willington, 296 acres; Jesmond, 89 acres, with an allotment of Killingworth Moor.

STOTE OF STOTE'S HALL AND OF KIRKHEATON.

ARMS: *Quarterly. 1 and 4, gules; a lion rampant ermineois. 2 and 3, or; an orle az.; a mullet pierced of the last.*
 CREST: *A demi-lion ermineois, charged with a crescent, holding a mullet pierced. Visitation.*



(a) Herald's *Visitation*.

(b) *St. Nicholas' Register* and M.I.

(c) Pedigree in *Bell Collection*.

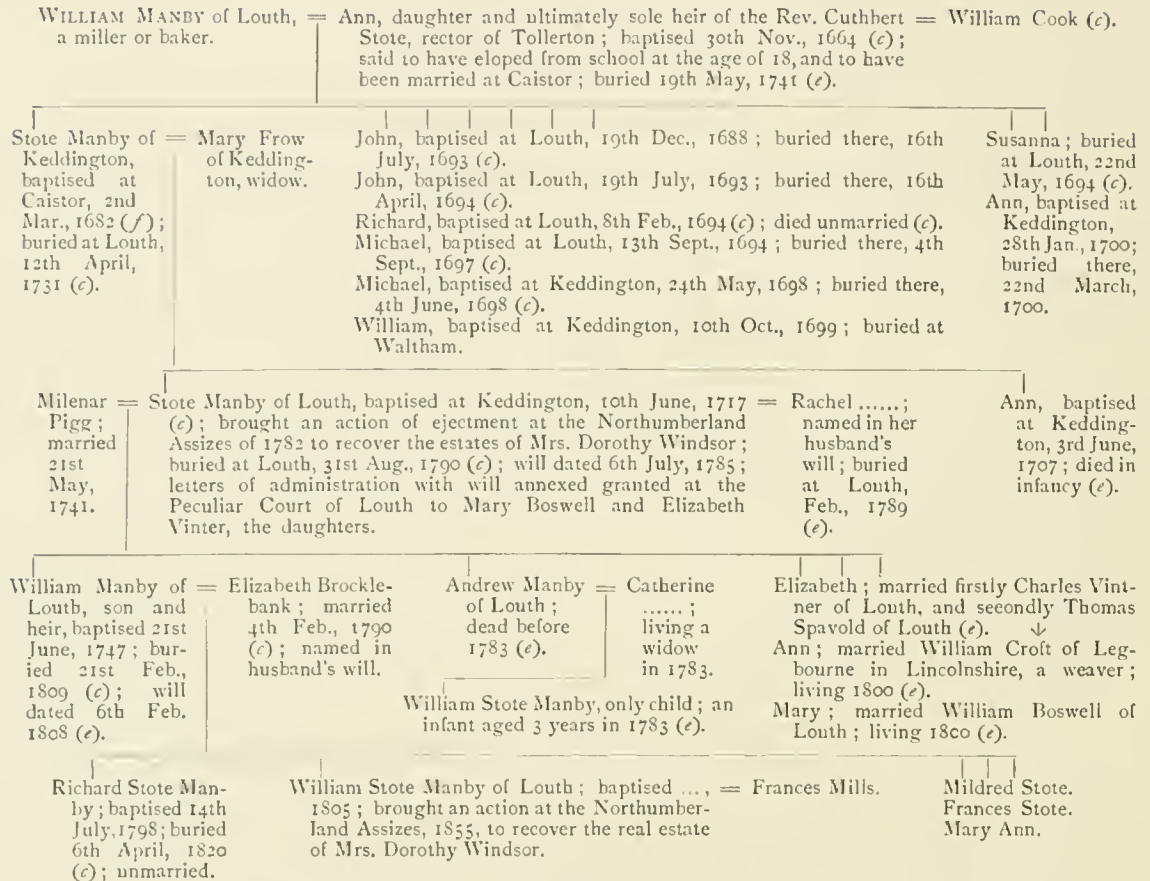
(d) *Tollerton Register*, quoted in (e).

(g) *Sharp MSS. Pedigrees*, vol. ii.

(h) Case, submitted for counsel's opinion, 17th June, 1761. Rev. John Hodgson's *Collection*.

* 1671, 19th and 20th February. Sir Richard Stote and Henry Holmes had lease and release of the manor and estate of Whitchester from Thomas Lord Windsor, who had obtained it in marriage with Ursula, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Widdrington. *Abstract of Tille, Bowes' MSS.*

STOTE MANBY OF LOUTH.



(c) Pedigree in *Bell Collection*.
(e) Miss Hedley's *Title Deeds*.

(f) Newcastle Assizes, *Manby v. Craster*. *Newcastle Journal*, 3rd March, 1855.

THE CHAPEL.

Probably through its connection with the priory of Hexham, Kirkheaton seems to have early lost its connection with the parish of Chollerton, of which it was originally a detached chapelry; and since the Reformation it has been regarded as extra-parochial. Its tithes,¹ out of which the ministers should have been supported, remained in the Crown until 19th November, 1632, when, at the request of Sir John Heydon, knight, keeper of the ordnance,

¹ 9th May, 1568. The tithes of Kirkheaton were granted (leased) to John Errington by Queen Elizabeth. *Rec. Aud. Land Revenue Office*, iii. p. 177.

ammunition, and other stores, they were granted under the great seal by Charles I. to Charles Harbord, Philip Eden, and others.¹ They were acquired by the Stote family, whose successors, Messrs. Bewick and Craster, in 1841, sold the tithes arising from their portion of the chapelry to Messrs. John, George, and Thomas Hedley. After the passing of the Tithes Commutation Act, the owners of the respective estates merged the tithes in their lands.²

It is not known whether the ancient chapel³ remained until the eighteenth century, but, in answer to a query, Archdeacon Sharp writes that he never could learn what the ecclesiastical status of Kirkheaton was, 'neither the bishop nor I have anything to do there, nor is it in our books.'⁴ In 1753 a new building was erected on the old site by Mrs. Dorothy Windsor, and the only objects which can claim to be of an earlier date are four grotesque heads at the angles of the nave, under the water table. The benefice is a donative in the gift of the Bewick family, and the chapel possesses a plated paten or plate, on which are engraved the crests of Craster and Bewick, and the inscription, 'Kirkheaton chapel,' and also a silver communion cup made in London in 1774. The illustration shows the chapel as it appeared in 1828.



MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Humphrey Brown, sen., of Kirkheaton, his wife, four daughters, and one grand-daughter, who were buried here on the dates and in the order following, viz.: The Rev. Humphrey Brown, sen., for many years minister of this church and of Thockrington, died May 5th, 1815, aged 79 years. Hannah Brown died April 28th, 1822, aged 28 years. Isabella, wife of the Rev. H. Brown, sen., died May 18th, 1824, aged 67 years. Jane Brown died December 18th, 1845, aged 45 years. Sarah Shafto, daughter of the Rev. Humphrey Brown, jun., died May 6th, 1856, aged 12 years. Isabella Brown died August 15th, 1859, aged 63 years. The Rev. Humphrey Brown, jun., also for several years incumbent of this church and of Thockrington, died December 20th, 1860, aged 70 years. Elizabeth Brown died 7th July, 1871, aged 79 years.

¹ Miss Hedley's *Title Deeds*.

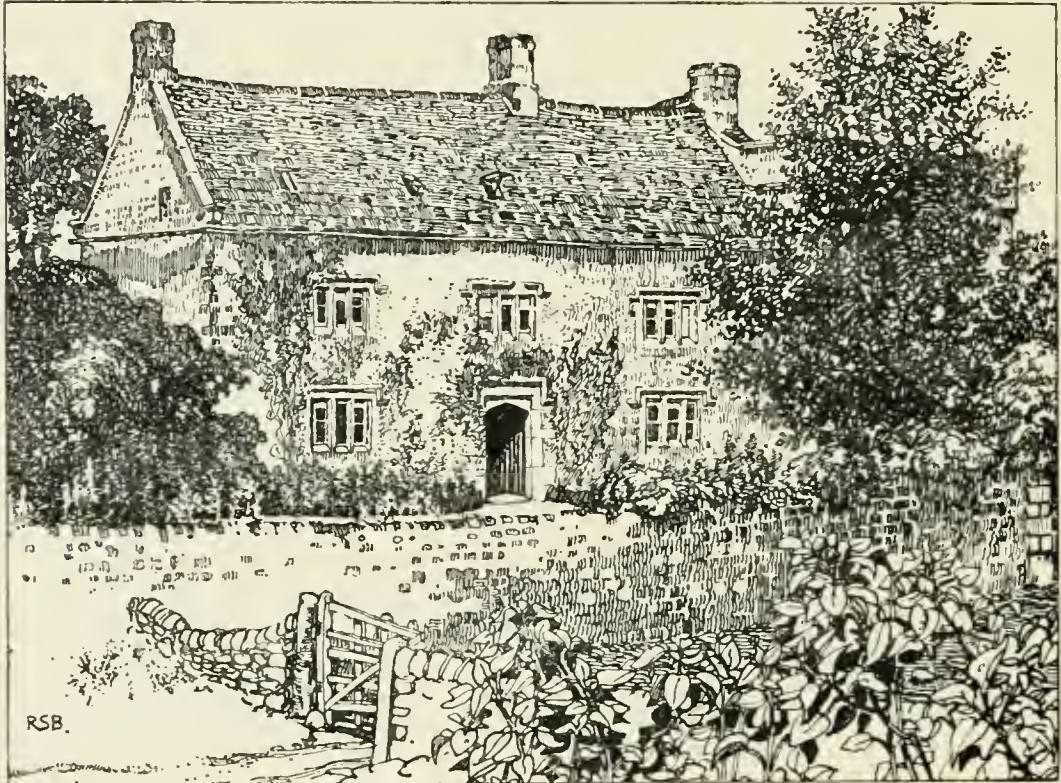
² *Ibid.*

³ In 1553 the following goods belonged to 'Churche Hetton: one challes of tenne, one vestment, one albe, ij alterclothes, one bell.' *Proceedings of Bishop Barnes, etc.* Raine, appendix iv. p. 1.

⁴ Hodgson-Hinde, *Inedited Contributions to the History of Northumberland*, p. 64.

CHAPLAINS.

1770. Humphrey Brown, senior, signs Register Book, 22nd April, 1770; also curate of Thockrington.
 1815. Humphrey Brown, junior; also curate of Thockrington, died 20th December, 1860.
 1862. James Irwin.
 1865. T. Harris, sometime chaplain of Rigo and dean of Honolulu.
 1869 (*circa*). Christopher Taylor, B.A.
 Joseph Bennett, M.A., also incumbent of Thockrington, died 16th February, 1878, aged 74 years.
 1878. Constantine O'Donel, also incumbent of Thockrington, buried 8th January, 1890, aged 69.
 1890. H. A. Bettison, also incumbent of Thockrington.



THE MANOR HOUSE OF KIRKHEATON.

At the present time a farm at Kirkheaton, made up of smaller farms or parcels called Black hill, Fawcett, Hinds fell, and Backcroft, comprising about 300 acres, belongs to Miss Hedley; and the trustees of the will of the late Mr. Calverley Bewick of Close house own the remainder of the township, together with the seventeenth-century manor house of the Herons, now occupied as a parsonage house by the chaplain.¹

¹ Besides the chapel of the Church of England there is a small Wesleyan Methodist chapel.

THOCKRINGTON PARISH.

The parish of Thockrington, which has Watling Street on the west, the parishes of Corsenside and Kirkharle on the north, the parishes of Kirkharle and Kirkwhelpington on the east, and the chapelry and parishes of Kirkheaton, St. John Lee, and Chollerton on the south, has a greatest length of about four miles from north to south and a greatest breadth of about two and a half miles from east to west. It is divided into the four townships of Thockrington, Carrycoats, Sweethope, and Little Bavington, and consists almost wholly of grazing and pasture lands.

THOCKRINGTON TOWNSHIP.

The township of Thockrington, containing 2,451 acres,¹ at the last census had a population of 35,² grouped in the homesteads of Thockrington, North Hough, Hetchester, Quarry house, and Cragend, but it was once much more populous.

Near Quarry house, on Limestone Rigg, is a pre-historic camp roughly six-sided in shape, with complete double ramparts and traces of a third. Its inner defence has a circumference of 281½ feet, and within it are remains of hut-circles. About 60 yards from the north-east corner of the entrenchment there is an unusual adjunct in an avenue consisting of two parallel rows of stones, which, beginning on the brow of the limestone escarpment, may be traced eastward for a distance of 300 yards; a paved and walled well exists near the camp.³ Near Hetchester, at an elevation of 700 feet above sea-level, are the remains of another camp.

An early possession of the Umframvills, the vill and church of Thockrington, was, in the thirteenth century, acquired from Richard de Umframvill by the church of York, as compensation for his having violated the liberty and peace of the priory of Hexham, and for having inflicted injury upon the archbishop's land. The deed of gift is addressed to the brethren of the

¹ Comprising 17 acres of public roads.

² The Census Returns are: 1801, 51; 1811, 39; 1821, 48; 1831, 71; 1841, 42; 1851, 36; 1861, 47; 1871, 57; 1881, 57; 1891, 35.

³ R. C. Hedley, *Arch. Acl.* vol. xii. p. 156, where there is a plan.

hospital of St. John of Jerusalem and others, free tenants in Thockrington. By another deed, also addressed to the Hospitallers and other free tenants, Malcolm, son of Waldeve, at the request of his lord the aforesaid Richard de Umframvill, quit-claimed to the archbishop all his right in the vill, and in testimony attached to it the seal of Adam de Maxton. The archbishop at once assigned the church as an endowment of a prebend in his cathedral, then held by Lawrence de St. Nicholas, sub-deacon and canon of York; and that no dispute might afterwards arise, he obtained a confirmation from Richard de Marisco, bishop of Durham, a resignation of the benefice from Richard de Aubeny, the last rector of the parish, and, finally, on 9th June, 1226, a papal licence from Honorius II.¹

This appropriation of the church, unique in the ecclesiastical annals of the county, after continuing 625 years, only ended on the death of Sir Robert Affleck in 1851, the last prebendary of Thockrington who enjoyed the emoluments of the prebend.

PREBENDARIES OF THOCKRINGTON.²

Lawrence de St. Nicholas held the prebend in 1226.

William Peirey resigned it in 1295.

John de Warrena, Jan. 2nd, 1295-96.

Walter de Wodehouse, Sept. 1st, 1347.

Edmund de Morteyn, Nov. 21st, 1347.

Richard de Retford, May 1st, 1364.

John de Irford, June 20th, 1369.

John de Brydd, his appointment was ratified by the king, June 27th, 1380.

Robert de Dalton, his appointment was ratified by the king, April 18th, 1382.

Thomas de Dalby, Feb. 28th, 1389-90. He was also archdeacon of Richmond.³ Will dated May 16th, 1400; died May 19th, 1400; buried in the nave of York minster.⁴

Robert de Wolveden, May 22nd, 1400. Will dated Sept. 4th, 1432.⁵

Robert de Oxton, March 21st, 1400/1.

William Cawood, Sept. 6th, 1408, rector of Warton.

Will dated Feb. 3rd; proved March 23rd, 1419.⁶

Richard Colhome, Oct. 14th, 1414.

Thomas Greenwood, March 1st, 1415-16, vicar of Kendal. Will dated April 20th, 1421; died May 2nd, 1421; buried in York minster.⁷

William Peleson, March 1st, 1416-17.

Stephen Wilton, Oct. 17th, 1434.

Richard Tone, Nov. 9th, 1441.

Thomas Tanfield, Jan. 31st, 1448/9, rector of Gateshead. Will dated Jan. 2nd, 1474/5.⁸

Thomas Gouge, April 22nd, 1451.

Robert Morton, April 30th, 1462. He became archdeacon of York and of Worcester.

Thomas Toly, June 26th, 1467.

Henry Gillow, June 24th, 1476, rector of Houghton-le-Spring. Will dated Feb. 8th, 1482/3.⁹

Ralph Bird, June 11th, 1479. Will dated March 25th, 1483; buried in York minster in the chapel of the Blessed Virgin and Holy Angels.¹⁰

John Hert, April 22nd, 1483, precentor of York and vicar of St. Martin's, Coney Street. Will dated Oct. 21st, 1495; buried in York minster.¹¹

Christopher Urswick, May 17th, 1487.

William Apilton, Oct. 29th, 1493.

¹ *Archbishop Gray's Register*, Raine, pp. 146-148, 155. Surt. Soc.

² Le Neve, *Fasti*. Oxford, 1854, vol. iii. pp. 217, 218.

³ 1389, 18th February. Thomas de Dalby exchanged his stall of Welton at Lincoln for the prebend of Thockrington. *York Wills*, Raine, vol. iii. p. 9 n; Surt. Soc.

⁴ *Ibid.* vol. i. p. 261-264.

⁵ *Ibid.* vol. iii. p. 91; Surt. Soc.

⁶ *Ibid.* vol. i. p. 395.

⁷ *Ibid.* vol. iii. p. 61 n.

⁸ *Ibid.* vol. iii. p. 214 n.

⁹ *Ibid.* vol. iii. p. 281.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* vol. iii. p. 282.

¹¹ *Ibid.* vol. iv. p. 113 n.

William Sheffield, June 21st, 1494, son of Sir Robert Sheffield of Lincolnshire. He became dean of York; buried in York minster. Will dated Oct. 25th, 1496.¹
 John Curwen, Jan. 23rd, 1496-7.
 Nicholas Myles, Aug. 23rd, 1510.
 William Bourbank, May 13th, 1524.
 William Mooke or Mike, April 12th, 1531; rector of Welbourn, Lincolnshire, where he died on May 30th, 1545, and is buried in the chancel.²
 William Robinson, April 20th, 1545.³
 Anthony Blake, collated *circa* 1562 or 1563.
 Christopher Ashbourne, Aug. 27th, 1570.
 James Crosthwait, April 1st, 1573.
 Henry Wright, July 5th, 1580.
 Henry Ridley, April 11th, 1583.
 Thomas Burton, Oct. 3rd, 1587.
 John Thornburgh or Thorneborough, March 17th, 1589. He was also dean of York, and afterwards bishop of Worcester.⁴

George Meriton, May 5th, 1617. He was also dean of York.
 John Scot, Jan. 31st, 1624. He became dean of York.⁵
 Gilbert Ironside, Oct. 13th, 1660. He was afterwards bishop of Bristol.⁶
 Richard Sykes, Oct. 7th, 1662.
 Elias Micklethwaite, April 28th, 1670.
 Elias Micklethwaite, junior, Feb. 28th, 1680/1.⁷
 William Elsley, July 31st, 1721.⁸
 John Witton, Aug. 30th, 1740, on the death of William Elsley.⁹
 Sir William Lowther, bart., Oct. 16th, 1754, on the death of John Witton.¹⁰
 Bernard Foord, Oct. 1st, 1788, on the death of Sir William Lowther, bart.
 Sir Robert Affleck, bart., May 8th, 1802, on the death of Bernard Foord, died May 7th, 1851.¹¹

For the moiety granted to the king by the clergy in 1312 in return to the writ *Levari facias*, Thockrington contributed 34s. 4d.,¹² and for the subsidy of a ninth and fifteenth granted in 1340 it was assessed at £10 4s. 2d.¹³ The following document shows how the prebendaries farmed their estates :

¹ *York Wills*, Raine, vol. iv. p. 118 n. ² *Ibid.* vol. v. p. 242 n.

³ William Robinson graduated B.A. March 12th, 1540/1; M.A. May 8th, 1543. Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses*.

⁴ John Thornborowe, son of Giles Thornborowe of Salisbury, Magdalen college, Oxon., matriculated 1571, aged 20, B.A. 1573, M.A. 1575, B.D. 1582. Chaplain to Queen Elizabeth, bishop of Limerick 1593, of Bristol 1603-1617, of Worcester 1617 to his death in 1641. *Ibid.*

⁵ John Scott of Queen's college, Oxon., B.A. 1614, M.A. 1618, vicar of St. Lawrence, Appleby, 1623. *Ibid.*

⁶ Son of Gilbert Ironside, rector of Winterbourne, Steepleton, Dorset. Educated at Steepleton and Wadham college, Oxon. Matriculated November 14th, 1650, B.A. 1653, M.A. 1655, fellow 1656, bishop of Bristol 1689, of Hereford 1691 until his death Aug. 27th, 1701, aged 69. *Ibid.*

⁷ Elias Micklethwaite, son of Elias Micklethwaite, clerk, was baptised at Marston, March 16th, 1651/2, of Sidney Sussex college, Cambridge. B.A. 1673, M.A. 1676, incorporated Oxon. July 11th, 1676, vicar of Terrington, Yorks., 1682. Will dated July 12th, 1720; proved March 29th, 1721. *Ibid.*

⁸ William Elsley, B.A. from St. John college, Cambridge, 1692, M.A. 1698, incorporated Oxon. July 13th, 1703, rector of Ryther, Yorks., 1704. *Ibid.*

⁹ John Witton of Lupset, son of Richard Witton of Lupset, by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Wilfred Lawson of Brunton; baptised at Wakefield, 17th December, 1691; was fellow of Trinity college, Cambridge; and died at Birthwaite, 1st September, 1754. Dugdale's *Visitacion*: Clay, p. 107; *cf.* vol. ii. p. 96.

¹⁰ Sir William Lowther of Trinity college, Cambridge, B.A. 1730, M.A. 1734, incorporated Oxon. 1734, created a baronet Aug. 22nd, 1764, rector of Swillington, and vicar of Welton, Yorks.; died June 15th, 1788. Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses*.

¹¹ Sir Robert Affleck, fourth baronet, of Christ college, Oxon. Matriculated June 26th, 1783, aged 18, B.A. 1787, M.A. 1790. *Ibid.* ¹² *Bishop Kellawe's Register*, vol. i. p. 281.

¹³ *Exchequer Lay Subsidy*, 14 Edw. III. (1340). Assessment of the ninth and the fifteenth. 'Ecclesia de Thokeryngton. De ix^a garbarum vellerum et agnorum de parochia ecclesie de Thokeryngton taxata ad x^{li} iiii^s ii^d et commissa Thomae Fossoure, Ricardo Butland, Willielmo Fayt, Johanni de Swethop, Willielmo filio Willielmi de Babynton et totae parochie ad respondendum domino regi de summa quae est x^{li} iiii^s ii^d.' *Nonarum Inquisitiones*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. xxxviii.

This indenture maid in the fest of Saynt Marce th' evaungelist, the yere of our Lord God a thousand fyve hundreth and fyve yeres, betwix Mr. John Curwen, clerk, prebendary of the prebend of Tokeryngton, in the counte of Northumberland for tyme beyng, in that one party, and Sir Thomas Cartyngton, Sir Thomas Man, Sir Robert Barresford, prestes, Cuthbert Shaftow, Alexander Shaftow, and William Shaftow, gentilmen, on that oder party, witnessyth that the said Mr. John Curwen hayth graunted and to ferme lattyn unto the said Sir Thomas, etc., the prebend of Thokeryngton aforesaid, with all maner alterage, profectes, oblacions, tythes, proventes, ryghtes, and commoditez, excepte jurisdictioni spirituell; to have and hold unto th' end and terme of xxv yers, payng yerely to the said Mr. John Curwen, his successors and assignez, evere yere xliiii^s in the cathedrall church of Yorke.¹

And the said Sir Thomas, etc., shall fynd an able prest on ther proper costes and expenses, continually duryng the said terme to celebrate divine service in the chirch of Thokeryngton, and to minstre sacramentez and sacramentallz in the same, and also to discharge the said Mr. John Curwen and his successors of all charges and the reparacions belongyng to ye chauncell of ye church of Tokeryngton, housez and all other beyldinges ther. And the said Sir Thomas, etc., promises and byndes theym by thes presentes in xxth within sex yeres, on yer proper costes and expenses to beyld a sufficient stone hous in Thokeryngton for the defence of the preste and ye fermer and ther guddes ther for the tyme beyng, aganest the Scottes and other adversaries; the said stone house sufficiently to be beldid upon the acres which is the prebendaris owne grounde without the church yerd; which so belded the said fermers shall sufficiently repereth and uphold of ther proper costes and expenses the same duryng the terme of ther yeres as concernyng this dimission, and so leve it sufficiently repared and upholdyn. Also the said Mr. John Curwen promizez and grauntez that after the said sufficient stone house be belded and sufficiently repared, and the yeres of this indenture expired, the said Sir Thomas, etc., and ther assignez to have the said prebend to ferme afore any other person or persons paynge als mych as any oder man will pay, all fraud and collusion set aparte, the consent of the said chapter at that tyme had. Alwa provided if it fortune, as God defend, that in any of ye yeres comprised in this indenture or to come, as is aforesaid, it shall happyn to be land of ware betwix England and Scotland, that then the said Mr. John Curwen woll and grauntes that yere or yeres which shall so fortune to be wer shall not be reputed ne counted in ye nombr of ye said xxvth yeres bot as in this graunte and dimision subducte and allway ye yeres in this indentor expressed or to come as is aforesaid to be reputed and takyn as in land of pease. And if that happyn, the said xliiiij^s to be uncontente or not paid in the hole or any parte thereof be the space of xxi dais through the faute and negligence of the said fermors, that then it shall be lefull to the said Mr. John Curwen to re-enter to ye said prebend and to distrene all maner of such gudes as there may be fonde, and them so streined, to have, occupy, and reteine withoute redamacion or agane standyng. And thefall (?) ye said Sir Thomas, etc., be holdyn and bounde be ther wrytyng obligatory in lxth of lawfull money of England; beryng dat viii day of Aprill, the yere of the reagne of Kyng Henry ye viith xxth. Confirmed by Chapter, April 8th, 1505.²

THOCKRINGTON CHURCH.

Thockrington church is built upon the crest of a bold spur of the Great Whin sill, and from its exposed and commanding position forms a land mark for miles around. The view is extensive and varied, embracing the distant Cumbrian and Border hills, the vales of the North Tyne and Erring burn, Hallington reservoirs, and the course of the Roman Wall from Hunnum to Borcovicus.

¹ In the eighteenth century the rent of the prebend was to be paid by the farmer half-yearly at Michaelmas and Lady day, on the tomb in York cathedral called Foxey or Haxby's tomb. Lease of tithes dated 25th March, 1785, from Sir William Lowther, prebendary of Thockrington, to Gawen Aynsley of Little Harle. Mr. H. T. Morton's *Title Deeds*.

² *Act, Dec. et Cap. Ebor.* 1504-1543, 3 b.

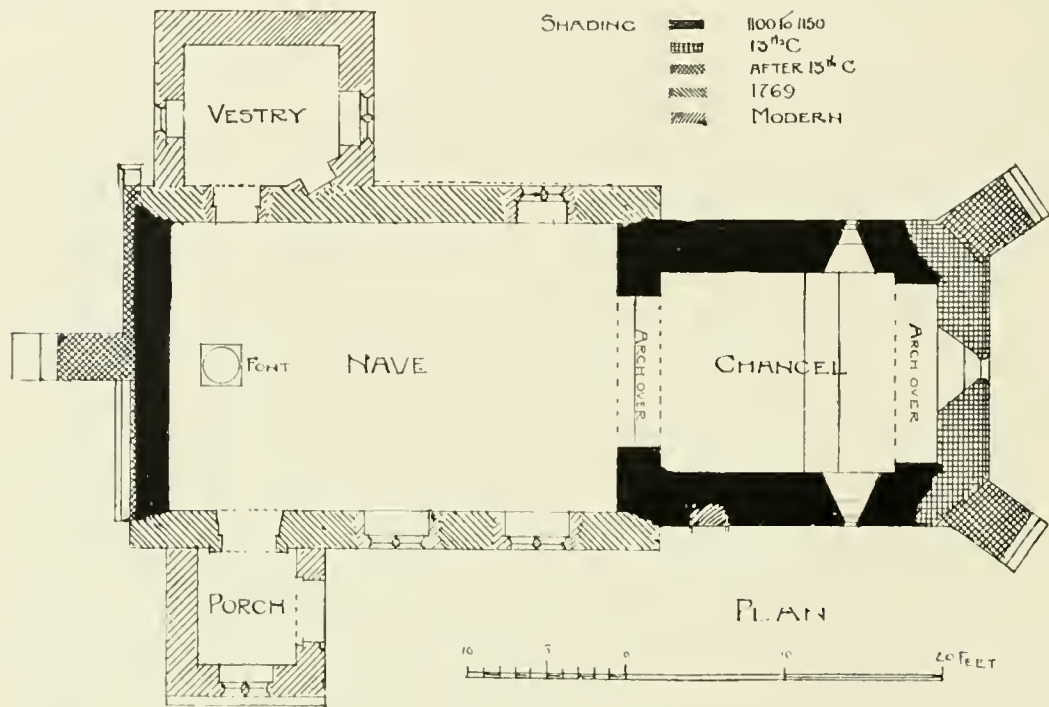
The church is one of the oldest in the county, and possesses like Warkworth, Heddon, Seaton Delaval, Old Bewick, and Kirk Newton, the infrequent feature of a vaulted chancel. The earliest remaining features are the chancel, the west wall of the nave, and a few courses of masonry on the exterior face of the north wall of the nave, all of which appear to have been executed in the first half of the twelfth century.



THOCKRINGTON CHURCH (from the South-east).

With the exception of the chancel, the fabric has been subject to several 'restorations.' These have completely destroyed the character of the masonry, and as there are no distinctive architectural features, it is difficult to suggest the precise date of the work which followed that of the Norman period. The first change seems to have been the contraction of the chancel by the removal of its eastern part, where it probably had an apsidal termination. This removal was possibly caused by the failure of its foundations through the nature of the ground, which falls rapidly to the east. A wall was then built on the east side of the arch which opened into the apse, and in it was inserted a small pointed light. At a later period were

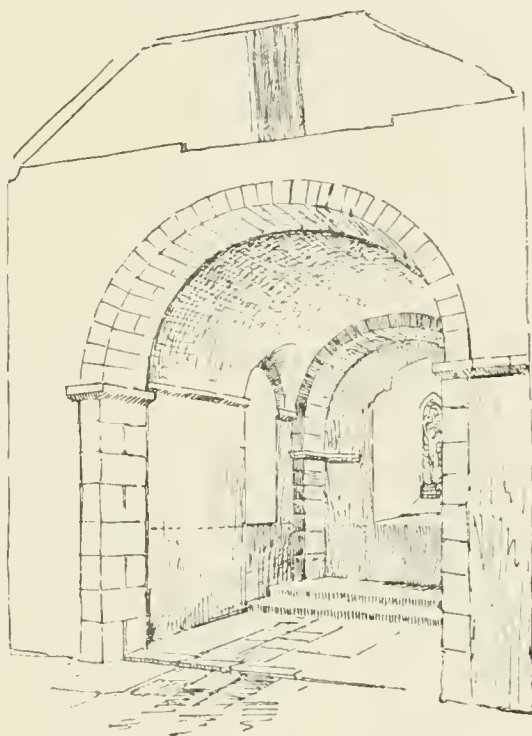
added the sturdy buttresses at the east end, and a similarly massive buttress in the centre of the west gable. There can be little doubt that the west buttress, which has a considerable projection and is in a very unusual position, was a matter of structural necessity. It may possibly cover a Norman window.



PLAN OF THOCKRINGTON CHURCH.

The double bell-cot which surmounts the west gable has the appearance of being 'made up' with ancient masonry. Wallis, the historian (1769), speaks of a then recent restoration which, judging from the character of the south door, seems to have included the rebuilding of the north and south walls of the nave. They are of superior masonry and only 2 feet thick, whereas those built during the twelfth century are 3 feet 6 inches in thickness. Further alterations were made in 1864, when the vestry was erected; and in 1873, when new windows were inserted in the nave, and a south porch was added. The two original Norman windows in the chancel, one on the north and the other on the south side, have round heads worked from a single stone on the exterior; they have widely splayed jambs and heads internally. A built-up priest's door is visible on the south side of the chancel.

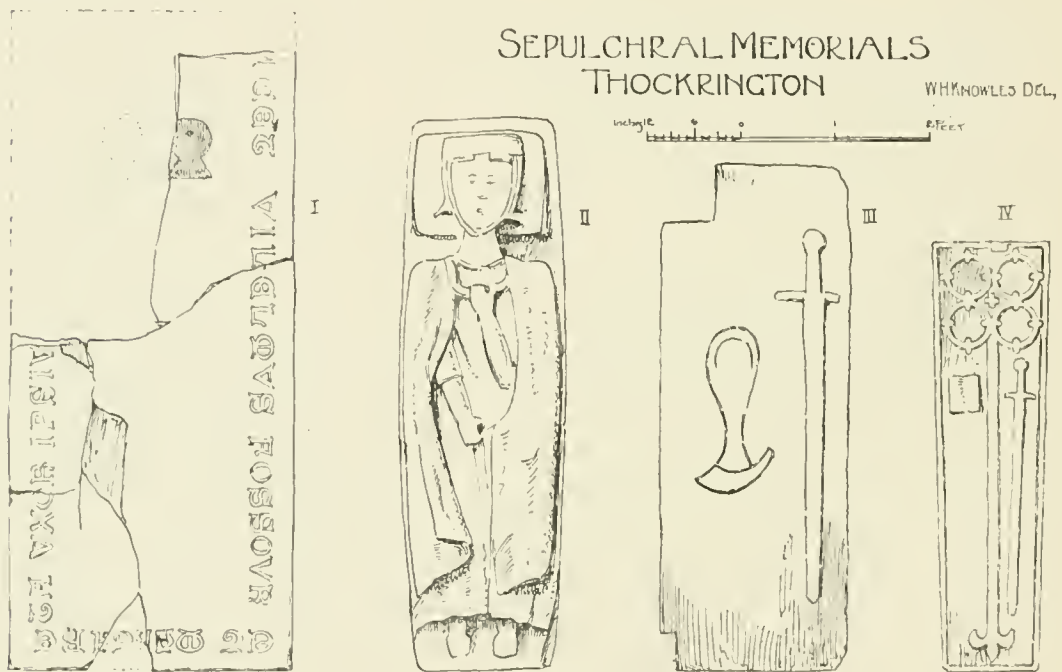
The chancel has a slightly segmental vaulted ceiling, which is pierced by the internal splay of the heads of the two original windows. The vault springs from a string course, which is chamfered on the under side. The chancel arch is of one course of voussoirs with plain angles and soffit; it springs from a plain impost chamfered on the under side, which is continued as a string along the east wall of the nave, as is shown on the sketch. There is another arch similar to that just described at the extreme east end; it measures 2 feet 8 inches on the soffit, and also springs from an impost similar to that of the chancel arch already described, though it is a foot lower. This impost is returned on the north side along the east wall, but on the south side it abuts against it. This arch, like those at Heddon and Seaton Delaval, is probably a sanctuary arch.¹ The font, a bowl standing on a circular shaft, is ancient, but it has been so much chiselled over that it is impossible to assign a precise date. There is no trace of a piscina or aumbry, nor are there any arch stones or capitals of earlier work on the site.



In the churchyard near the east end of the church there are lying some broken fragments of a limestone matrix of a brass of the thirteenth century. The casements are for two busts; and there is an inscription in Lombardic characters round the edge of the slab, and which reads: '[Hic ja]cet Vilelmus Fossour et Ma[rga]reta uxor ipsiu[s orate pro eis].' From this William Fossour probably descended John Fossour, prior of Durham, 1342-1374. A second slab has a bugle (a forester's badge) and a sword incised upon it. In the interior of the church there is a much mutilated effigy of a lady, whose head rests on a single cushion. She wears a wimple, and a curious head-dress carried across the forehead and down the sides of

¹ There is a low chamber above the vaulting.

the face: all, however, are much damaged. The tight sleeves of a close-fitting gown are distinguishable, and over all is worn a long mantle fastened across the breast with a cord, the ends of which are pendent; the left hand clasps the mantle cord at the breast, and the right hand passes across the body and holds the mantle, which is slightly gathered up on the left side. The feet are broken off. The effigy is probably of fourteenth-century date. There is also a very good monumental slab, having a cross the head of which is formed by four circles strapped together; on the dexter side is a book, and on the sinister a sword in high relief.



The socketted base of the churchyard cross still remains, and another stone, on either side of which is carved a leg of some monster, is lying in the churchyard.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

. . . . also the remains of George Shafto Delaval of Bavington hall, esq., who died on the 11th day of January, 1782. Also Eleanor Louisa, daughter of the said Sir Cuthbert Shafto, who died on the 11th day of August, 1803. And also the said Sir Cuthbert Shafto, who died on the 26th day of November, 1812, aged 76 years. Also William Shafto, brother of the said Sir Cuthbert Shafto, who died on the 22nd day of April, 1833, aged 81 years.¹

¹ The top of this grave cover and epitaph is concealed by the step at the communion rails.

In memory of James Delaval Shafto of Bavington, son of Robert Ingram Shafto, who died August 12th, 1857, aged 28 years.

Charles Cuthbert Shafto, died December 22nd, 1866, aged 71 years. Sarah George, daughter of the late William G. Shafto, died April 24th, 1876, aged 46 years.

Here lyeth the body of the Rev. Mr. John Crozier, minister of the Presbyterian dissenting congregation at Bavington . . . , died 175... , aged 66.

Erected to the memory of the Rev. Alexander Trotter, A.M., the faithful and beloved pastor of the Presbyterian congregation of Great Bavington for 28 years. He departed this life on the 14th of August, 1852, aged 70 years.

REGISTERS, ETC.

The register is a transcript made in 1820 from the original by Thomas Scurr, the curate ; it begins in 1715 and includes entries of Kirkheaton chapelry.

- 1715, November 22nd. Robert, son of Robert Hepple of Little Bavington, baptised.
 172... , February 13th. Robert, son of William Heron of Thockrington, baptised.
 1730/1, March 14th. Christopher, son of Christopher Reed of Carrycoats White house, baptised.
 173... , January 30th. Parcival, son of George Hedley of Hawick, parish of Kirkharle, baptised.
 1744, November 7th. Robert Coatsworth and Ann Kirsop, both of this parish, married.
 1745, October 17th. Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Coatsworth of Thockrington, baptised.
 1746, April 10th. Martha, wife of William Heron of Sweethope, buried.
 1746, November 6th. Mr. Charles Shafto of Newcastle, formerly of Carrycoats, buried.
 1747, October 27th. Esther, wife of Robert Hepple of Thockrington, buried.
 1749, August 15th. Mrs. Mary Shafto, a widow, of Hexham, buried.
 1750, April 22nd. William, son of Cuthbert Elrington of this town, baptised.
 1750, November 5th. John Reed of this parish and Jane Partis of the parish of Chollerton, married.
 1764, October 21st. Christopher Reed of Waterfalls, buried.
 1766, November 26th. Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Swainston and Elizabeth Brown of Little Bavington, baptised.
 1770, May 13th. Mrs. Theodosia Ingram of Humshaugh, widow, buried.
 1770, November 12th. David Ramsay of the parish of Chollerton and Elizabeth Riddell of this chapelry, married.
 1770, December 13th. Hannah, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Brown and Ma . . . , his wife, of Little Bavington, baptised.
 1771, August 3rd. Cuthbert Elrington of Parkhouse, buried.
 1772, October 4th. Rachel Reed of Carrycoats White house, widow, buried.
 1774, March 14th. Captain Matthew Shafto of Hexham, buried.
 1779, February 10th. Robert Coatsworth of Homilton, buried.
 1784, May 25th. Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Allen Shafto, and Phillis, his wife, of Swinburn, buried.
 1788, September 11th. Ann Coatsworth, widow, of West Harle, buried.
 1789, April 15th. James Bewick of Blackheddon, widower, buried.
 1790, September 27th. Humphrey, son of Rev. Mr. Brown and Isabella, his wife, baptised.
 1802, January 12th. Rev. James Rutherford, minister of Great Bavington, buried.
 1805, January 12th. Mrs. Isabel Scott, wife of Mr. Robert Scott of Hedchester, buried.
 1806, May 17th. Mrs. Margaret Rutherford, sister of the late Rev. Mr. Rutherford, minister of the dissenting meeting house at Great Bavington, buried.
 1808, August 18th. John Reed of Humshaugh, brother of the late Christopher Reed of Thockrington, buried.
 1815, May 5th. Rev. Humphrey Brown of Kirkheaton, aged 79, buried.
 1838, September 15th. Violet Ridley of Sweethope mill, aged 101 years, buried.
 1842, December 9th. Humphrey Brown of Kirkheaton, clergyman, and Jemima Shafto of Bavington hall, widow, daughter of John Stannard, farmer, married.

VISITATIONS.

The Oliverian Survey made in 1650 says: That the parish of Thockerington is a rectorye holden of the late dean and chapter of Yorke, and farmed by William Shaftoe, esq., att the rent of five pounds six shillings and eight pence per annum, and the place vacant, and noe minister to supply the cure.¹

1720, April. Office against Robert Grey and Susanna Errington for antenuptial fornication. Grey proves that he was married by Mr. Edward Tweedale, curate of Corsenside and Thockerington, in a private room at Woodheads, parish of St. John Lee, at four in the afternoon without banns or licence.

1725. Office against William Clark of the chapelry of Kirkheaton and Elizabeth Oliver of Hexham for fornication. They brought a witness to prove themselves married in the parish of Thockerington by Mr. James Laing without banns or licence in a public house.²

Archdeacon Sharpe says of Thockerington: It is part of the archbishop of York's diocese in Northumberland, but with this difference from that part of it called Hexhanshire, that it is a prebendal peculiar of his grace's diocese, within Northumberland. He governs the parishes in Hexhanshire by a commissary, having jurisdiction in that peculiar. But the prebendary of Thockerington hath all the ordinary jurisdiction at Thockerington; grants licences matrimonial, holds courts of visitation and excommunication, probates of wills, and grants administration; yet he and his church and parish are subject to a *diocesan*, not a provincial, visitation from the archbishop, as the other prebendal peculiars in Yorkshire are, of which there are many.³

1762. Value of curacy (of Thockerington) Gawen Aynsley, esq., who has the tythes (by lease) pays the curate yearly £13 6s. 8d., George Delaval, esq., to whom the principal part of the parish belongs, about seven years ago gave £200 to the church which got ye queen's bounty and a lot, in all £600, which with £60 borrowed made a purchase of a freehold estate now let to a good tenant at the yearly rent of £20; surplice fees about £1 10s., £35 16s. 8d.; deduct interest on £60, £2 16s.⁴

MINISTERS.

The following is a very imperfect list of ministers, of whom the earlier ones officiated for the absence prebendaries, and the later ones were perpetual curates of the parish:

1660 (*circa*). . . . Taylor: he forebore preaching for several years after being ejected, but at length being under trouble of mind he returned again to his work.⁵

1718. Edward Tweddle: as minister he joined with the 24 of the parish in a petition to Quarter Sessions held at Midsummer, 1718, respecting the settlement of a pauper in which it is recited that there were but '37 farms' in the whole parish, and most of the inhabitants were farmers.⁶ He was also curate of St. John Lee and of Corsenside.

1770-1815. Humphrey Brown; also chaplain at Kirkheaton; he voted in 1774 for Thockerington glebe.

1815-1822. Thomas Scurr, St. Bees college; afterwards vicar of Ninebanks.

1828-1834. James Urwin; also chaplain at Kirkheaton.

1834-1860. Humphrey Brown (the son); also chaplain at Kirkheaton.

1861-1863. J. Urwin.

1864-1866. W. T. Shields.

1869-1874. Christopher Taylor; also chaplain at Kirkheaton.

1875-1878. Joseph Bennet, M.A.; also chaplain at Kirkheaton; died 16th February, 1878, aged 74.

1878-1887. Constantine O'Donel of Trinity college, Dublin, B.A. 1848, incumbent of St. Peter's in the Forest 1851-1871; also chaplain at Kirkheaton; died January, 1890.

1890. H. A. Bettison, curate of Otterburn 1879-1890; also chaplain at Kirkheaton.

¹ *Arch. Ael.* 4to series, vol. iii. p. 7.

² Canon Raine's *Extracts from York Faculty Book*.

³ *Inedited Contributions to the History of Northumberland*, Hodgson-Hinde, p. 64.

⁴ Note by Archdeacon Sharpe; Canon Raine's interleaved copy of Randal's *State of the Churches*.

⁵ Calamy, *Account*, vol. ii. p. 513.

⁶ *Sessions Records*.

On the death, in 1851, of Sir Robert Affleck, the prebend of Thockrington was suspended, and the emoluments passed to the Ecclesiastical commissioners. Mr. Brown, the curate of Thockrington, petitioned for a grant of the tithes of the prebend as an augmentation of his cure of which the gross income was about £60 and the net income little more than £50. Mr. Brown was then 63 years of age, and though the prayer of his petition was eventually granted he did not survive to obtain any benefit, for it was not until 1865 that the tithe rent charge of £134 9s. 8d., formerly belonging to the prebend, was granted as an endowment for the curacy.¹

Though the church was granted to the prebend, Archbishop Gray reserved to himself and his successors the vill and manor, which, in 1232, he let on a twelve years' lease at a yearly rent of 12 marks to John Fossator. Out of the lease was excepted the great meadow and the tallage of the men of the archbishop, and provision was made that in case of war or defect of the archbishop, Fossator should be entitled to compensation 'by the judgment of just and lawful men'; he was also to receive a reasonable fine in case any of the men of the place annoyed or injured him; he bound himself to make the allotted suit and to defend himself before the king's justices, sheriff, and bailiffs, to observe the conditions of the lease, and to be subject to the prior of Hexham without appeal, under sentence of excommunication and interdict.²

Having arranged the difficulties within the manor, the archbishop addressed himself to the rectification of its boundaries by making an agreement with the abbot and convent of Newminster for the delimitation of the frontier line between Thockrington and Sweethope which belonged to the church of York, and the grange of Filaton which belonged to Newminster, about which disputes³ had arisen, 'it not being known how much of the moor which lay between these places belongs to the vill and what to the grange.' 'That peace shall be maintained in the future the following boundaries set out by honest and faithful men are to be observed':

These boundaries begin at Rikemldepol, ascending to Rucsceleshou, and dividing the summit of the said Rucsceleshou towards the west as far as to the Score, and so by the Score as far as Bruneseid; and so from Bruneseid descending in a straight line as far as Merleche, on the west side of Upper

¹ *London Gazette*, December 10th, 1865. Though the benefice was in 1866 declared to be a rectory (*cf. London Gazette*, November 20th, 1866), it is conceived that its legal status is that of a perpetual curacy endowed with rectorial tithes. *Cf. supra*, p. 129 n.

² *Archbishop Gray's Register*, Raine, pp. 146-148; Surt. Soc. No. 56.

³ There was a suit at the Assizes of 1269, in which the abbot and convent were charged with unjustly disseising Robert, son of Elias of Thockrington, of his common of pasture. *Northumberland Assize Roll*, Page, p. 150; Surt. Soc.

Heseleside. The whole moor lying between these places and the vills of Thokerington and Swethop belong to the same vills and are to remain so for ever, so that the abbot and convent shall have no right or common in the said moor. The whole of the moor lying between the said boundaries and the aforesaid grange are to belong and remain to the said grange for ever. Witnesses: Dominus William, archdeacon of Richmond; Peter de Fikolden, succentor of York; Masters Roger de Schiffing, canon of Beverley; Richard de Lincoln, canon of Suwill (Southwell); John, then prior of Hextildesham; Hugo de Bolbek, John de Hawlton, Peter de Vallibus, Robert de Cambou, Robert de Riperiis, then senescall of my lord of York; Richard de Boyvill, senescall of the lord of the hospital [of St. John of Jerusalem].¹

This agreement was confirmed by a charter to which John Fossor and Robert, son of Elias, and John his brother, were parties.² In 1269, Archbishop Gifford, being at Alwinton (Allendale) at Martinmas, granted a lease of the manor of Thokerington, with its appurtenances, except the great meadow of Hameldon, for six years to Walter de Swethope, at the rent of 20 marks.³ In 1274, William of Thokerington, chaplain, having purchased from divers persons lands of the fee of the archbishop in the vill of Thokerington, viz., from Robert, son of Elyas, 17 acres and a toft; of Sir Walter de Swethope, 6 acres and a toft; of Stephen de Chales, 3 acres; of Mathilda, Alicia, and Gunnania, daughters of the said Stephen, 10 acres; obtained from the archbishop a confirmation, for which he paid the sum of £5.⁴ This same Robert, son of Elias, was also defendant in an action brought at the Assizes of 1279 by Emma, widow of John Clerk (clericus) of Newcastle, to recover the third part of a messuage and 26 acres of land, etc., in Thockrington, which she claimed for her dower. She also brought actions against William de Thockrington and John de Swinburn to recover other lands.⁵

Several small suits relating to Thockrington are entered in the De Banco Rolls in the early part of the reign of Edward I. Agnes, the widow of Thomas Hydega, claimed her dower of one-third in three messuages and two marcates held by John le Clerck of Newcastle.⁶ The prior of the Hospitallers in England sought to establish his right to common of pasture against Walter de Swethope and the abbot of Newminster; and⁷ Thomas de

¹ *Archbishop Gray's Register*, Raine, p. 290; Surt. Soc. No. 56.

² *Newminster Chartulary*, Fowler, p. 66; Surt. Soc.

³ *York Registers*, Gifford, 108; Raine, *Transcript*, p. 103. ⁴ *Ibid.* Gifford, 117; Raine, *Transcript*, p. 105.

⁵ *Northumberland Assize Roll*, Page, 7 Edw. I. p. 229; Surt. Soc.

⁶ 'Agnes quae fuit uxor Thomae Hydega per attorn. suum optulit se iij die versus Johannem le Clerck de Novo Castro sup. Tynam de placito terciæ partis trium mes. et duarum marcatarum redd. cum pert. in Thokerington quam clamat in dotem, etc. Et ipse non venit. Et habuit diem per esson. suum ad hunc diem Judicium Praedicta terciæ pars capitur in manum dni regis. Et dies, etc. Et ipsi summ. quod sint a die Sci. Trinitatis in xv dies,' etc. *De Banco Rolls*, 3 Edw. I. Easter, m. 33.

⁷ 'Idem (Gwyhard de Charron et Will. de Norburth) con. ad assisam novae disseisinæ cap. quam Prior Hosp. Sci. Johannis Jerus. in Anglia arr. versus Walterum de Swethop et abbatem de Novo Monasterio de communa pasturæ in Thocrynton.' *De Banco Rolls*, 3 Edw. I. m. 18.

Faulkner had a similar contention with Roger, abbot of Newminster, and others.¹ A messuage with 33 acres of arable and 6 acres of meadow, then in the possession of Richard de La Leye and Isolda his wife, was claimed by Richard, son of Adam of Little Bavington and Alicia his wife.²

THOCKRINGTON SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.³

		ℓ	s.	d.		s.	d.
Summa bonorum	Ricardi Bul	0	13	4	unde regi	1	2½
"	Alani filii Thomae	1	8	8	"	2	7½
"	Symonis filii Thomae	1	2	4	"	2	0¼
"	Willelmi de Haliden	1	2	4	"	2	0¼
"	Adae filii Steffani	4	13	0	"	8	5½
"	Willelmi de Goseford	4	13	2	"	8	5¾
"	Nicholai de Yetham	7	7	6	"	14	3¾
"	Johannis clerici	1	7	6	"	2	5¾
"	Willelmi Werst	2	18	2	"	5	3½
"	Thomae Faukynneuer ⁴	0	13	4	"	1	2½
"	Isoldae viduae	0	17	7	"	1	7¼
"	Thomae Cautelad	2	13	10	"	4	10¾
"	Johannis de Redisdal	2	13	10	"	4	10¾
"	Rogeri del Law	2	13	10	"	4	10¾
"	Johannis filii Thomae... ..	2	0	4	"	3	8
"	Willelmi de Law	2	0	4	"	3	8
"	Andreae molendinarii... ..	1	3	0	"	2	1
"	Eliae de Errington	0	13	10	"	1	3
Summa hujus villae, ℓ41 5s. 9d.		Unde domino regi,		75s. 1d.			

In 1368 Archbishop Thoresby, being at Thorp, granted a lease of the manor to Roger Widdrington by the following instrument :

This indenture, made between the most reverend father in Christ, the lord, Lord John, etc., on the one part, and Roger de Wytheryngton on the other, witnesses, that the same reverend father has granted and to farm let to the same Roger, his manor, of Thokeryngton, with all its appurtenances, for the term of ten years next following, saving to the same reverend father, homages, wards, reliefs from his tenants there. Rendering thence yearly ℓ8 sterling. And it is to be known that the aforesaid Roger, at his own proper costs, shall make one new water mill within two years next following, and the said reverend father shall find timber for the said mill, and shall release to the said Roger ℓ4. Dated at Thorp, April 24th, 1368.⁴

The family of Fossor, which was settled in the parish of Thockrington at an early period, became of some standing in that part of the county, and was afterwards seated, towards the end of the fourteenth century, in the

¹ 'Idem con. ad ass. novae disseisinae cap. quam Thomas le Faukener arr. versus Rogerum abbatem de Novo Monasterio et alios de communa pasturae in Thocrinton.' *De Banco Rolls*, 8 Edw. 1. m. 6.

² 'Idem con. ad ass. mortis antecessoris cap. quam Ricardus filius Adae de parva Babinton et Alicia uxor ejus arr. versus Ricardum de la Leye et Isoldam uxorem ejus de uno mes. 30 et 3 acr. terrae et 6 acr. prati cum pert. in Thokerington.' *Ibid.* 14 Edw. 1. m. 3.

³ Thokryngton Subsidy Roll, 1336 : Andreas Bull, 4s. 6d. ; Johannes filius Willelmi, 3s. 5d. ; Johannes Paslay, 3s. 1d. ; Willelmus Tayt, 3s. ; Johannes filius Nicholai, 3s. 4d. ; Adam Wyndswift, 4s. 10d. ; Johannes Morgan, 3s. 6d. ; Robertus de Musgrave, 4s. 4d. Summa, 30s.

⁴ Lease of the manor of Tocherington. *York Registers*, Thoresby, 305, b ; Raine, *Transcript*, p. 263.

county of Durham. The Durham branch of the family remained there, in the rank of the smaller gentry, and in possession of a moderate estate, principally acquired through marriage, until near the end of the eighteenth century. The name Fossour or Fossor, which ultimately resolved itself into Forcer, originated in 'fossator,' a ditcher, an occupation which it would scarcely be thought would have resulted in producing landed property of considerable extent. It may be paralleled by what occurred in the neighbouring county of Durham, where the family of Blakiston, which became wealthy proprietors and of knightly rank, commenced with a cow-herd.

The earliest person of the name who has been recorded was Ricardus fossator, who had a grant of land in Swinburn early in the thirteenth century, from Radulf de Gunwarton, and confirmed by the lord of the barony, Hugo de Baillol. This he afterwards made over to Newminster abbey. Johannes fossator, who occurs as a party to an agreement between Archbishop Gray and the monks of Newminster about the boundaries of Thockrington and Filton, towards the middle of the same century, may have been a son of Richard. William Fossor, whose relationship to the preceding persons is unknown, gave to his son Roger, about 1280, a parcel of land, called Coppisgrene in the vill of Thockrington. The deed of gift is recited and the grant confirmed by Thomas Fossor, the son and heir of William, in a charter which has the same witnesses as those to his father's deed, showing that both must have been executed at the same time. A daughter of this Thomas, named Agnes, was married in 1342 to Adam, son of William de Acton, the wealthy Newcastle merchant, who made a settlement of five marcs yearly upon them out of land at Newbiggin in the parish of Woodhorn. This Thomas Fossor was probably the same man who in 1333 was appointed one of his commissioners by John de Warena, canon of York and prebendary and rector of Thockrington. John Fossor, possibly a brother of Thomas, became prior of Durham in 1341, and held that office until his death in 1374, having been one of the most eminent men who occupied the prior's chair. Another John Fossor, who may have been a nephew of the prior, and through whom he may have settled in the county of Durham, became possessed of land there in 1370, when Thomas de Coxside, who calls him 'consanguineus,' granted him a moiety of his lands in Seton and Seham. He died in 1379, when custody of his lands was granted by Bishop Hatfield to John de Popham during the minority of his son. This son, also named John, married Johanna, daughter

and heiress of William de Kellawe of Herbarowes, by which marriage he obtained an estate there and another at Kellawe, from which place his wife's family had taken its name. Their descendants remained in possession of these and other smaller properties until the death, without issue, of Basil Forcer in 1782.

Universis Christi fidelibus . . . Thomas Fossure de Thokeringtone filius et heres Willelmi Fossure de Thokeringtone . . . Noveritinio, vestra quod cum praedictus Willelmus pater meus dedisset . . . Rogero Fossure fratri meo totum illud toftum cum gardino quod vocatur Coppisgrene et viginti acras terrae arabilis et tres acras prati in villa et campo de Thokeringtone (William Fossor's charter recited and particulars of land stated, viz.) $1\frac{1}{2}$ acram super le Battys inter terram Symonis filii Thomae . . . et terram Andreae Bulle . . . i acram apud le Poteside inter terram Adae de Kirkelande . . . et terram Johannis praepositi . . . i acram apud Whiteside juxta terram Nicholai de Yetham, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram super le Ernyshope juxta terram Johannis filii praepositi, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram apud Laytehalle juxta terram Magistri de Chibburne, i rodam apud Botirlaw juxta terram Nicholai de Yetham, i rodam apud Milkewelside juxta terram Johannis de Redesdale, i rodam apud Thristilflate juxta terram Nich. de Yetham, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram apud le Milnedame juxta terram ejusdem Nicholai, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram terrae juxta communem moram, i acram apud Hutirlawe juxta terram praedicti Nicholai, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram apud Homyldonheudis juxta terram Nicholai memorati, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram super Homyldonendis ex parte boreali, et i rodam in le northbanke de Homildon, i rodam in le estbanke de Homyldon, et $1\frac{1}{2}$ acram apud Holden juxta terram Johannis filii praepositi, i rodam apud Longdyke juxta terram ejusdem Johannis, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram apud Helleknowle, i rodam sub Helleknowll et i acram super Opynlawe, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram apud le toftis juxta terram Johannis filii praepositi, i acram juxta crucem versus Swethope, i acram apud Hundcastelle abutantem super le Crokidrodid, i acram apud Bellislaw, i rodam apud Sippewelside juxta terram Willelmi Dellau, et i acram ibidem et i aliam acram ibidem abutantem super Blaclau, et $\frac{1}{2}$ acram apud Manichestirs sub le Cambe, et $\frac{1}{2}$ acram ibidem et i rodam sub le Westbothe juxta terram Symonis filii Ranulphi, i aliam rodam ibidem, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram abutantem super Cromflate, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram apud Moreflate, et i acram prati apud Manychestirs, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram prati in Feldirleche, $\frac{1}{2}$ acram prati apud Holden, et i acram prati apud Blaclau. To hold for life rendering yearly 5s. Witnesses: Sir Robert de Insula miles, William de Swepthope, Walter de Hauwyke, Gilbert de Babyngton, John de Esschynden, Hugh de Whelpington. Thomas Fossor confirms the grant. The same witnesses as to his father's deed.

Noverint universi per praesentes quod ego Johannes de Warena canonicus ecclesiae Beati Petri Ebor., rector ac praebendarius ecclesiae de Thokrington, Dunelm. dioceseoss in omnibus negociis motis seu movendis me et ecclesiam meam praedictam qualitercumque tangentibus coram quibuscumque iudicibus ordinariis delegatis et eorum commissariis contra quoscumque adversarios meos quibuscumque diebus et locis quociens me abesse vel adesse contigerit, dilectos michi in Christo dominum Adam de Colwell capellanum et Thomam Fossor de Thokrington meos veros et legitimos procuratores conjunctim et divisim . . . facio et constituo per praesentes . . . Datum apud Ebor. xiii Kal. Aprilis anno dni M.CCC tricesimo tercio.

Pateat universis per presentes quod ego Robertus de Ogle remisi . . . Johanni filio et heredi Thomae Fossour omnimodas actiones tam debiti quam compoti . . . Ita quod nec ego, etc. In cujus rei testimonium . . . sigillum, etc. Datum apud Ogle die lunae prox. ante festum Sancti Michaelis Archangeli anno dni millesimo ccc sexagesimo.

Round seal, $\frac{7}{8}$ inch diameter, shield, arms, fess between 3 crescents, a helmet on sinister point of shield, out of which issues a tree S + ROBERTI . DE + OGGLE +

Sciant praesentes . . . Willelmus de Actone (called senior in another deed) de Novo Castro super Tynam . . . Adae de Actone et Agneti filiae Thomae Fossour de Thokeryngtone v marcatas annui redditus exeuntes de tota illa terra mea cum aedificiis et pertinentiis suis in Neubigging juxta Wodborne, quae est inter terram Johannis de Wangforde . . . et mesuagium Johannis Short . . . et de toto illo tenemento meo cum pert. in eadem villa, quod est inter rivulum in medio villae . . . et vicum qui vocatur le Marketstede . . . et de una acra terrae arabilis . . . in quatuor silionibus, ac eciam de omnibus aliis terris et tenementis meis cum pert. in eadem villa. To Adam and Agnes and the heirs of their

bodies begotten for ever. Power to distrain. In case of their death without issue the rent to cease. Testes. : Dns Willelmus de Felton, tunc vicecomes Northumbriae ; Robertus de Cressewelle, Robertus de Seton, Johannes de Seton, Johannes de Wangeford, Symon Mauger. At Newbiggen, Sunday in vigil of St. Martin in winter, 1342. Seal, a cross between four lions rampant.

Another deed to the same effect dated Martinmas, 1342. Witnesses : Robert de Setone, John de Setone, John de Killyngwood, Symon Mauger, John de Wangford.¹

In 1396 it was found that John and Christiana de Middleton had held a tenement with common of pasture in Thockrington.² In 1425 John de Strother of Wallington died seised of lands in Thockrington, Bavington, and Sweethope,³ and in 1483 Roger Thornton died seised of lands in Thockrington and Little Bavington.⁴

Of the lands held in Thockrington by the Hospitallers, to which allusion was made in the conveyance of the church and vill at the beginning of the thirteenth century, no notices have been found, either in the report made in 1338 by the prior, Philip de Thame, to Elyas de Villa Nova, the grand-master of the order, or in the records ; but in a survey made after the dissolution, it is stated that the order possessed twenty shillings a year from, or out of, lands and tenements in Thockrington, Little Bavington, and Ryal, then held under a lease granted by the prior to Edward Shafto.⁵

Neither the circumstances nor the period of the conveyance of the manor from the archbishop to the Shafto family are known, but the following lease, granted in 1518 by Cardinal Wolsey, when archbishop of York, shows that it had not then been alienated :

29th September, 9 Hen. VIII. Lease from Cardinal Wolsey to Cuthbert Shaftow of Hexham of the manor of Tokerington with the demayne landdis thar unto pertenynge with the appertenauncez lieng within the regalitie of Hexham for the terme of 99 yeres, yelding yerely fyve poundes sterling. Provided alway that if it happ to be werr betwixt the realmez of Yngland and Scotland, and be reason tharof the said manour with the demayn landdes or the most part of thame to lye then waist, and all the tyme of the said werr the said Cuthbert, and his assignes to pay fowr pounddes sterling yerely. Confirmed by the Dean and Chapter, 6th December, 1518.

Fifty years later Thockrington was one of the estates held by John Shafto ;⁶ and William Shafto, esq., who was rated at £140, is the sole proprietor entered in the rate book of 1663.⁷

¹ Deeds belonging to the Rev. William Greenwell, Nos. 1, 2, and 3.

² *Inq. p.m.* 20 Ric. II. No. 37 ; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 261.

³ *Inq. p.m.* 3 Hen. VI. No. 15 ; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 270.

⁴ *Inq. p.m.* 1 Ric. III. No. 27 ; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 279.

⁵ *Arch. Acl.* vol. xvii. p. 278.

⁶ *Feodary's Book*, p. lxvi. ; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii.

⁷ Thockrington sent nine horsemen to the muster taken upon the Moot-law, 26th May, 1580. *Cal. Border Papers*, Bain, vol. i. p. 21. Amongst the bills filed at Jedbergh, 8th June, 1601, for offences against Border law was one of William Hall of Middle Knowes, upon Thomas Forster of Thockrington and John Armstrong of Chollerton, sworn by the laird of Fernyherst's servant, to 3 oxen, a dagger, 'blewe bonnett,' and plough bridle to 3s. (*sic*) sterling. *Ibid.* vol. ii. p. 754.

In a survey, made in 1716, of the estates forfeited to the Crown by William Shafto of Little Bavington, Thockrington is described as being then in three divisions, of which the north side,¹ comprising four houses, barns, stack yards, and lands, with pasturage for 154 steers, was let at a rent of £105 10s. to four tenants, viz., Joseph and William English, John Lawson, and William Harle; the east side, comprising six houses, barns, stack yards, and lands, with pasturage for 60 steers, was let at £84 a year to six tenants named George Atkinson, George Harle, Mary Buge, Jesse Steel, David and Roger Barker; the west side, comprising four houses, barns, stack yards, and lands, with pasturage for 60 steers, was let at £83 a year to four tenants named John Brown, William Bewick, Thomas Bird, and William Maughan. There was also a close called the Lord's mead, which was let to John Brown at £5 a year. The gross rental amounted to £277, out of which a quit rent of £4 10s. was payable to the Crown.² Ever since that time Thockrington has continued to form a portion of the Shafto estates, and now comprises the hamlet of Thockrington,³ which consists of one farm house with its buildings and two cottages, with the outlying homesteads of Hetchester, Quarry-house, and North Heugh. In the north-east angle of the township, near Plashetts, lead ore has formerly been wrought.⁴

CARRYCOATS TOWNSHIP.

Immediately to the east of Watling Street, on rocky ground surrounded by sycamore and other trees, is the small hamlet of Carrycoats, which gives its name to a township of 1,721 acres comprised in one estate.⁵ At the last census it had a population of 37.⁶

¹ The fields in the north side were named Park mead bog, Night fold meadow, Mill flat, Dodrige, Blackhill, Huckstall, Delphs meadow, Pools wash, etc.; those in the east side Kellhill, Whitfield, Staneford lands, Greenwell bog, etc. ² *Forfeited Estates Papers*, S, 28.

³ To the north of the farm house are the ruins of a bastle house, which has a pointed doorway and channels in the thickness of the walls for the door bolts. There have been several enclosures (now marked by grass-grown mounds) still known as 'the night folds,' in which it is said the cattle continued to be folded every night up to the middle of the eighteenth century.

⁴ 17th February, 1735/6. Lease from George Delaval, esq., to John Lee of Calf gapp, William Cragg of Hunt-rod, William Armstrong of Sinderhope, and others, to work for lead ore at Northheugh cragg in the north side of Thockrington; every seventh bing of lead to be delivered to the lessor. Original with Mrs. George Dalston Shafto. In 1828 the lead mine here was wrought by Messrs. Milner and Featherston, who did not find it productive. Parsons and White, *Northumberland and Durham*.

⁵ The estate is divided into the following farms: Whiteside, 480 acres; Whitehouse, 850 acres; Waterfalls, 500 acres; Craigback, 100 acres.

⁶ The Census Returns are: 1801, 46; 1811, 51; 1821, 50; 1831, 42; 1841, 51; 1851, 45; 1861, 41; 1871, 61; 1881, 58; 1891, 37.

It represents the chief portion of a manor and estate of Filton, granted by Odinell de Umframvill to the abbot and convent of Newminster, a gift confirmed by other members of the same family. It was contained within these boundaries: 'on the north, from Scalingford, and thence by the long moss as far as Richildpnl, and then on the east by a leche to Todholes, and thence to Dryburn, and as Dryburn goes to the boundaries of Swyneburn, and turns back as far as Derestrete and back to Scalingford.' They also got by the same charter one portion out of the field of Thockrington for common pasture up to Smaleburn, and as Smaleburn issues from the moss and flows to Dryburn; a peat moss for fuel, and the right of making a mill pond there if so they required. For this the monks were to pay to him and his heirs a rent of three marcs of silver, at two terms, 20s. at the feast of St. Cuthbert in Lent, and 20s. at the same saint's feast in September.¹ Though the name of Carricot only appears in one of the several charters in the Newminster chartulary which relate to Filton, it has in the course of time supplanted that under which the estate was given and held, and Filton is now only named when applied to the rounded tree-crested hill which rises to the height of 940 feet above sea-level standing east from Tone. It was, however, still in use in 1828 when Greenwood's map of the county was published, where the wide moor which stretches north-east of Carrycoats is called Filton Moor.

In the great survey of the Borders, made in 1522 by Sir Robert Bowes and Sir Ralph Ellerker, it is said:

There ys also within the said wast grounds an other pasture called Fylton More which ys of the kynges majestie's inherytaunce of thaugmentacions of his grace's crowne as parcell of the said late suppressed monastery of Newemynster, and is arented to twenty nobles by yere; the soyll or gronde of that pasture is good and comodious consyderinge the highe and wyld country where yt lyeth. And yt is devyded into four partes or fermeholdes, every one of them at £1 13s. 4d. by yere, whereof twoo partes be in thandes and occupacion of one Cuthbert Shaftoo, gent., and upon eyther of those partes the said Cuthbertes Shaftoo's father buylded a stone house, thone of which houses ys called Carrycotes. and thother the Whyte house in Fylton More beinge occupied at this present onely with herdes.

And an other quarter of the same pasture of Fylton More the tenour of John Heron, havynge as yet none habytacion thereof, but occupied wyth herdes in somerynge of cattall and gettinge of haye of the same, and in wynter lyeth waste. Albeyt the said John Heron ys mynded (as he sayth) to buylde a stone house upon his said parte at a place called Towland as his power may extend thereunto.

And the fourth parte or quarter of the said Fylton More ys in the tenor of one Rauffe Wetheryngton,²

¹ *Newminster Chartulary*, Fowler, pp. 62, 63; Surt. Soc.

² 9 July, 1567. Lease from the Crown to Roger Widdrington for 50 years of a parcel of land with the tenement called Kyllie Quarter, containing by estimation a fourth part of Filton Moor, etc., then in the tenure of the said Roger Widdrington, and lately belonging to the monastery of Newminster. There was a reservation to the Crown of great timber and underwood, mines and quarries, but the grantee was to have 'sufficient house boote, heidge boote, feire boote, plonche boote, and carte boote.' Widdrington was within six years to build a substantial house of stone and timber, commonly called a baste house,

gent., and occupied in sumerynge for pasture in forme aforesaid without any inhabytacion or housyngre there upon save a sheall house for his herde in somer. And in winter yt lyeth waste.¹

The vill does not appear in the Muster Roll of 1538, but in the list of fortalices made in 1541 the two bastle houses built by 'Cuthbert Shafto's father,' are thus described :

At Fylton More is a bastell house called the Whyte house of the kinge's majestie's inheritance, parcell of the augmentation of his grace's crowne belonging to the late suppressed monastery of Neweminster, in measurable good repacions. At Carre Cottes in the said Fylton More is an other bastel house, of the same inherytance, in measurable good repacions.²

As in many other cases the leaseholders seem to have enfranchised the lands held under lease. The portion held by the Widdrington family was the subject of a conveyance dated 31st August, 1654, from Henry Widdrington of Blackheddon to Francis Widdrington of West Harle and to William Widdrington, brother of Francis.³ Filton Quarter *alias* White-house, and apparently Carrycoats as well, were at the date of the deed in the possession of Ann Widdrington, widow. On the 11th November, 1661, William and Francis Widdrington conveyed Carrycoats and White-house to Charles Shafto of Kirkheaton, with whose descendants, direct and collateral, the estate remained for two centuries.⁴ On the death of Mrs. Johnson, in 1837, Carrycoats, under the entail created by her will, came successively to William Gascoign Shafto and his only daughter, Mrs. George. The latter, under the belief that the entail was still subsisting, made an informal will attested by two witnesses in the following words :

Grosvenor house, Leamington, May 25th, 1874.

I, Sarah George, do bequeath to Augustus King George all that I have power over, namely, plate, linen, china, pictures, jewellery, and lace, the half of all valued to be given to Herbert George, son of Frederick George. The servants in the house who have been a year with me to receive £10 and clothing divided among them, also all kitchen utensils. (Signed) SARAH GEORGE.

Mr. George Dalston Shafto took possession of the real estate, but his succession was disputed by Mr. Augustus King George and Mr. H. George, the legatees named in the will, and proceedings were commenced in the Court of Chancery. Ultimately a compromise was agreed upon as the result of which the estate was sold for £41,500 to Miss Todd of Newbrough, and the proceeds divided between the claimants. Miss Todd, by will dated 14th April, 1881, bequeathed Carrycoats to the present owner, Mr. Thomas Sample.

with all edifices proper for its defence, and he was to provide a horse, with war accoutrements, to serve in the northern parts when required. The rent was 53s. 4d., and at the expiration of the lease a new lease would be granted by Letters Patent to Roger Widdrington's eldest son. *Land Revenue Records Office*, 2 B, fol. 54. ¹ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 227.

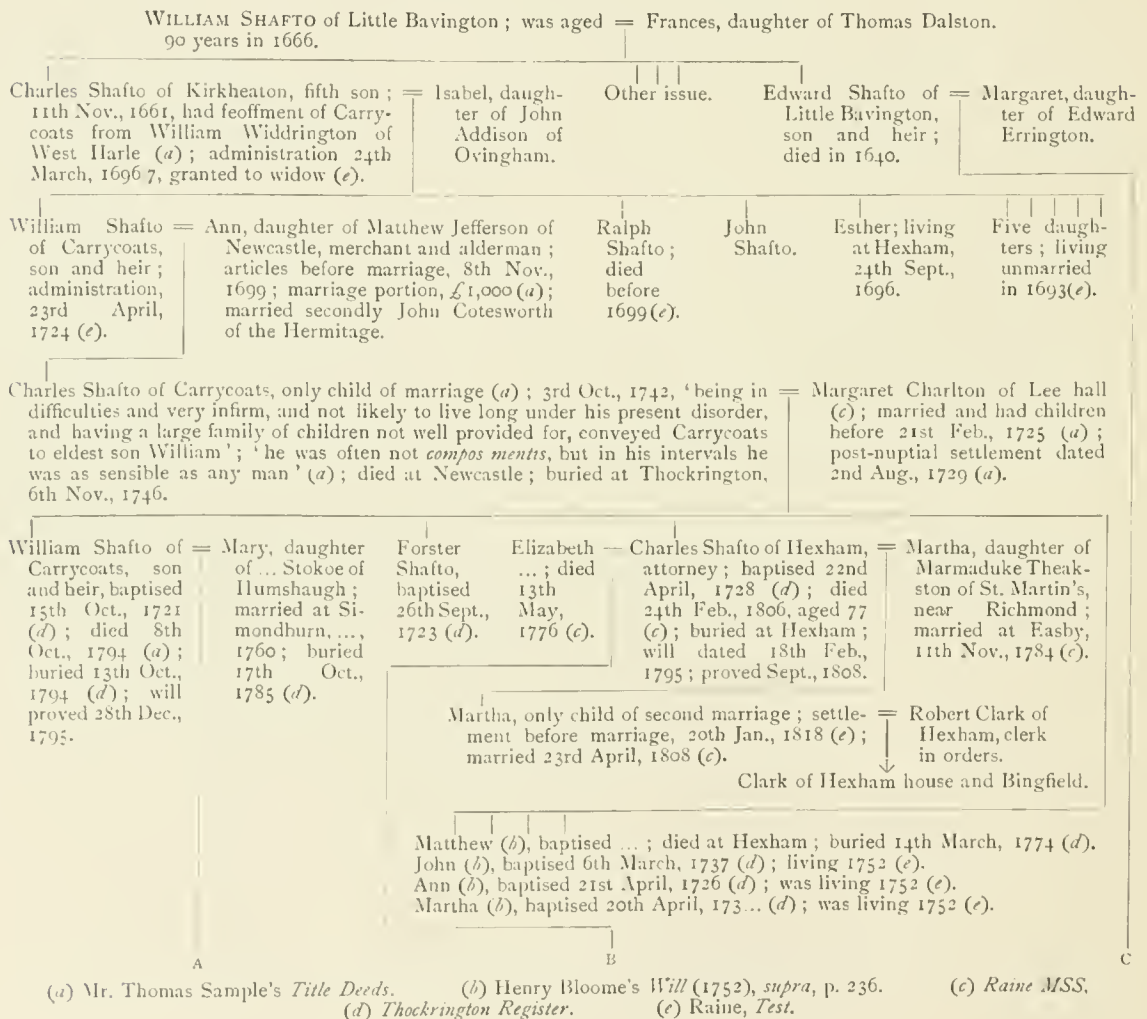
² Bates, *Border Holds*, vol. i. p. 46.

³ Mr. Thomas Sample's *Tittle Deeds*.

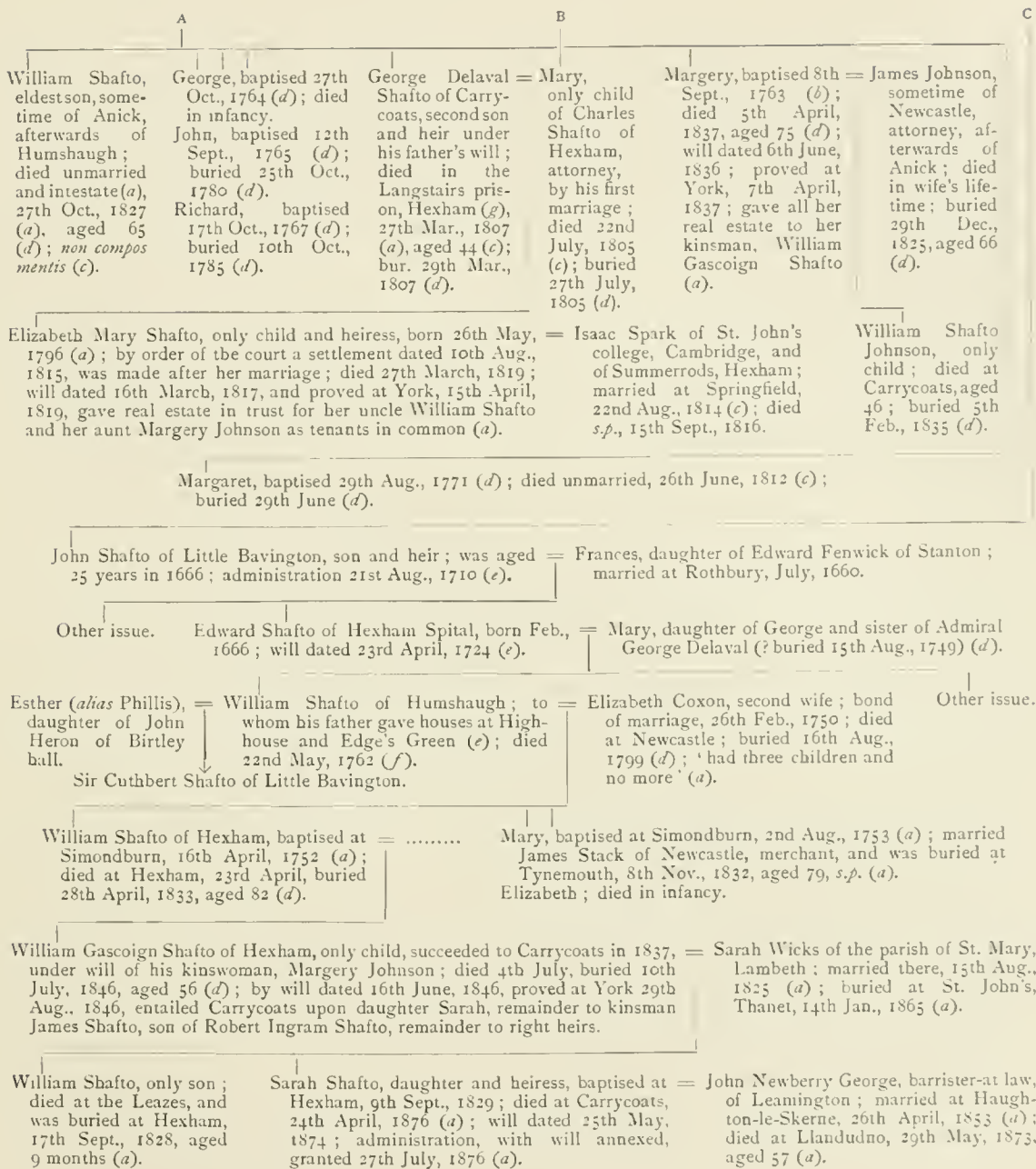
⁴ *Ibid.*

On the moors which stretch between Carrycoats hall and the hill on the northern boundary of the township called Green crag, the Swin or Dry burn takes its rise. At a place called the Water-falls,¹ now represented by a single cottage, was enacted the opening scene of that ill-concerted drama, around which generous and romantic sentiment still loves to linger; there at the top of the hill on 6th October, 1715, Tom Forster of Adderstone, with a small troop of Jacobites, awaited by appointment the arrival of the chivalrous earl of Derwentwater, when the standard was unfurled which was to lead the one commander to an honourable death on the scaffold and the other to an inglorious exile.

SHAFTO OF CARRYCOATS.



¹ Cf. Bates, *Northumberland*, p. 258.



(a) Mr. Thomas Sample's *Title Deeds*.
 (b) Henry Bloome's *Will* (1752), *supra*, p. 236.
 (c) *Raine MSS*.
 (d) *Thockrington Register*.

(e) *Raine, Test*.
 (f) *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1762.
 (g) *Raine, Life of Rev. John Hodgson*, vol. i. p. 150.

SWEETHOPE TOWNSHIP.

The township of Sweethope, comprising 1,024 acres of hill and pasture land, at the last census had a population of only eight persons.¹ It is separated from Carrvcoats on the west, Thockrington on the south, and West Harle on the east by artificial lines, but its northern boundary, which is also that of the parish of Thockrington, is well defined by the river Wansbeck, which enters and issues from Sweethope lough. This lake, which covers an area of 180 acres, was formed at the cost of £750.²

On the eastern boundary of the township between Sweethope crag and Plashetts are the remains of a camp, and on the margin at the west end of the lough was found by Sir Walter C. Trevelyan's gamekeeper, a cinerary urn, of which only the overhanging rim has been preserved.³ The vessel had been of a large size, probably not less than 16 inches high, and the rim, which is ornamented, is 3 inches deep.⁴

In the thirteenth century Sweethope was held as of the manor of Thockrington at the fourth part of a knight's fee, by a family which took its name from the place.⁵ Of this family the earliest member of whom anything is known is William, who was dead before 30th May, 1231, when Archbishop Gray granted the custody of the lands and the marriage of his heir to Sir Peter de Vaux.⁶ The heir was probably that Walter de Sweethope to whom Henry III. at the instance of his daughter Margaret, queen of Scotland, on the 10th April, 1268, granted freedom for life from service at Assizes, juries, etc., and from the duties of coroner, escheator, forester, verdurer, agistator, or bailiff.⁷ In 1271 he was concerned in an abduction case, for on the 22nd August of that year he captured on Milburn Moor, Dionisia, daughter of John de Witton and the well-to-do widow of Gilbert de Ba of Bitchfield; he carried her to Roxburgh and vainly endeavoured to make her marry his son.⁸

¹ The Census Returns are: 1801, 27; 1811, 32; 1821, 25; 1831, 18; 1841, 9; 1851, 10; 1861, 11; 1871, 12; 1881, 8; 1891, 8.

² *Ex. inf.* Mr. Thomas Gow.

³ It is now in the British Museum.

⁴ In April, 1842, in levelling the ground for the newly built farm house at Sweethope, there was discovered, about 4 feet below the surface, a cist, 3 feet in length, 22 inches in breadth, and 17 inches in height, which contained the fragments of a scull and the thigh bones of a fully grown person. At the same time, a few yards to the south, was found an iron spear, 13 inches in length, from the point to the shoulder measuring 8 inches. Letter from Mr. Arthur Trevelyan to the Rev. John Hodgson.

⁵ *York Registers*, Gifford, 8 b.

⁶ *Kirby's Inquests*, Skaife, p. 387; Surt. Soc.

⁷ *Cal. Doc. Rel. Scotland*, Bain, vol. i. p. 489.

⁸ *Assize Roll*, 7 Edw. I. Page; Surt. Soc. pp. 350, 369; cf. Bates, *History of Northumberland*, p. 145.

On 3rd July, 1275, Archbishop Gifford being then at Shirburn issued a commission making Sir Walter de Sweethope, knight, and Robert de Boteland his justices to deliver Hexham gaol.¹ In 1296 William de Sweethope possessed about five-sevenths of the vill, and in 1303 he (or another of the same name) did homage for his lands in Sweethope.²

		SWETOPPE SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296. £ s. d.			s. d.	
Summa bonorum	Thomae Morgan	...	0	18	6	unde regi 1 8¼
„	Batis	...	0	12	0	„ 1 1
„	Willelmi Noticii	...	0	12	4	„ 1 1¼
„	Willelmi de Swetoppe	...	4	19	2	„ 9 0¾
Summa hujus villae, £7 2s. Unde domino regi, 12s. 11d.						

In 1301 William de Sweethope was joined with Nicholas de Yetham in a commission of gaol delivery issued by Archbishop Corbridge,³ and in 1318 Warin de Sweethope was appointed bailiff of Hexham.⁴

SWEETHOPE OF SWEETHOPE.

WILLIAM DE SWEETHOPE; died before 30th May, 1231 =

Sir Walter de Sweethope, knight; seneschal to Gilbert Umframvill, earl of Angus (a); =
under age 30th May, 1231; in 1260 was granted a lease of the manor of Thock-
rington by Archbishop Gifford (b); was living 1279 (d).

William de Sweethope; in 1296 was rated for his lands =
in Sweethope, and did homage in 1303.

Richard. } Both living in
John. } 1279 (d).

Walter de Sweethope; in 1351, with his wife, quit-claimed to Robert, son and heir of =
Robert de Friseby, all their rights in certain lands and the water corn mill in Brad-
ford, near Hexham, which Robert, son of Robert de Halywell, formerly had by
grant of Robert de Friseby, the father (c).

Johanna. }
Warin de Sweethope,
of Bitchfield, clerk;
living 1334.

William de Sweethope; by rebellion, forfeited
his lands to the Crown before 1358.

Walter de Sweethope, clerk; was ordered deacon
17th Dec., 1334; vicar of Middleham, 1342.

(a) *Swinburne Charters*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 13. (b) *York Registers*, Gifford. 108; Raine, *Transcript*, p. 103. (c) *Lansdowne MSS.* 326, 122; Raine, *Transcript*, p. 390. (d) *Assize Rolls*, Edw. I. Page, pp. 350, 369; Surtees Soc.

Pateat vniuersis, etc., quod ego Willelmus de Edmansley teneor et per praesens scriptum firmiter obiigatus sum Willelmo de Swethop in xx libris xvj sol. et viij den. sterl. causa matrimonii contrahendi cum Johanna filia mea, solvendis eidem Willelmo de Swethop vel suo certo attornato hoc scriptum deferenti apud Edmansley terminis subscriptis, viz., ad festum Nat. S. Johannis Bapt. prox. futurum quinquaginta solidos et ad fest. S. Cuthberti in Marcio tunc prox. sequens quinq. sol. et ad fest. S. Cuthberti in Septembri ex tunc prox. sequens quinq. sol. et ad fest. S. Cuthberti in Marcio ex tunc prox. sequens xxxij sol. et iij den. et ad fest. S. Cuthberti in Sept. ex tunc prox. sequens xxxij sol. et iij den. Ad quas quidem soluciones diebus et loco supra dictis bene fideliter ut praemittitur faciendas obligo me heredes et executores meos et omnia bona mea mobilia et immobilia ubicumque fuerint inventa. In cujus rei test. praesenti scripti meo sigillum meum apposui. Datum apud Edmansley die dominico prox. post fest. Epiphaniae anno dni millesimo ccc^{mo}, quadagesimo octavo. [Seal gone.]*

* Deed in the possession of the Rev. William Greenwell.

At the ordination held at Corbridge, 17th December, 1334, by Richard Kellawe, bishop of Durham, Walter de Sweethope was ordered deacon on a

¹ *York Registers*, Gifford, 121 b.

² *Kirby's Inquest*, Skaife, p. 387 n.; Surt. Soc.: cf. *supra*, p. 223.

³ *York Registers*, Corbridge, 78 b.

⁴ Vol. iii. p. 65.

title given by Warin de Sweethope of Bitchfield;¹ eight years later he was instituted vicar of Middleham.² About the same time another of the family took holy orders, for in 1341 William de Sweethope was ordained acolyte by Boniface, bishop of Corbania, who was acting for the bishop of Durham.³

The last entry in the records concerning the family is in 1358, when Edward III. granted to John Darrayns in fee all the lands in Sweethope and Crookden which were William de Sweethope's who had been in rebellion.⁴ In 1359 the manor of Sweethope was in the possession of Alan de Strother of Lyham, and in 1424 it was still in the possession of his descendants, the Strothers of Wallington,⁵ from whom it passed in marriage to the Fenwicks.

In 1522 it was ordered that the night watch against thieves should be kept by two men between Thockrington and Sweethope,⁶ and in the list of fortalices made in 1541, it is recorded that 'At Swetehope is an other bastell house of th'inherytance of S^r John Fenwyke, knight, in good reparacions.'⁷ The estate was assessed at £50 to Sir William Fenwick in 1663, and was in 1689 conveyed with his other estates by Sir John Fenwick to Sir William Blackett,⁸ whose grandson, Sir Walter (Calverley) Blackett, gave it by will to his nephew, Sir John Trevelyan (died 1846).⁹ Sir John's grandson, the late Sir Walter Calverley Trevelyan, bart., who died in 1879, left it to the Rev. Wm. Pitt Trevelyan with remainder to his eldest son, the Rev. William Bouverie Trevelyan, who in 1891 sold it, with the adjoining estate of Hawick, to the present owner, Mr. Henry Thomas Morton of Twizel house, near Belford.¹⁰

At the east end of the lake is a cattle shed with one or two ash or sycamore trees, near which stood a small water corn mill, washed away in a flood caused by the heavy rainfall of June, 1770.¹¹

¹ *Bishop Kellawe's Register*, vol. iii. pp. 156, 163, 194. ² *Ibid.* vol. iii. p. 438. ³ *Ibid.* vol. iii. p. 106.

⁴ *Cal. Rot. Pat.* 32 Edw. III. mem. 19; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 374.

⁵ *Inq. p.m.* 4 Ric. II. No. 52; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. pp. 241, 252; *Inq. p.m.* 3 Hen. VI. No. 15; *ibid.* p. 270.

⁶ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. ii. p. 240.

The passages from Thokrington to Swetopp to be watched with twelve [? two] men nightly of the inhabitants of Fenwicke, Estmatfen, Ryell, Euggo, Kyrslorye, Church Hetton, and Wallrigge; setters and searchers, Oswald Wetherington, Symond Shaftoo, Persevall Shaftoo, and Persevall Pasto [? Shafto].

From Swetopp to Hawicke to be watched with four men nightly of the inhabitants of Swetopp, Hawicke, Church-harle, and Mykle Bayngton; Matthew Loreyn and George Shaftoo to be setters and searchers of the watch. Overseers of these two watches, Robert Loreyn and Randolf Fenwyke. Orders of the Watches, 6 Edw. VI. Nicolson, *Border Laws*, p. 185.

⁷ Bates, *Border Holds*, vol. i. p. 46.

⁸ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 259. ⁹ *Cf.* Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 260.

¹¹ The estate is subject to a tithe rent charge of £13 18s. 10d., which now belongs, and is paid to the incumbent of Thockrington. ¹¹ Newcastle papers; Richardson's *Table Book*, 28th June, 1770.

LITTLE BAVINGTON TOWNSHIP.

The township of Little Bavington comprises 1,815¹ acres, all in grass, broken by belts of trees, and some larger plantations, near Bavington hall. On some of the higher points there remain the 'follies' or sham ruins erected in the last century. In the park is a sheet of water called Bavington Carr, covering about 6 acres. At the last census the population was 47,² residing in the hall and small hamlet of Little Bavington, and in the outlying farms of Bavington Hill-head, Steel-rigg, Cock-law walls, and Moss-barns.

Little Bavington was, as well as Great Bavington, a manor of the Umframvill barony of Prudhoe, but as early as the reign of Henry I. three-quarters of it had been granted to feudal tenants. In 1235 a moiety was held by Robert Bataill by the service of half a knight's fee, and a quarter by Bernard de Babington somewhat strangely as the fifth of a fee.³ At a time characterised at the end of the thirteenth century as being then beyond the memory of man, Gilbert de Wircestre had given to the priory of Hexham two tofts in Little Bavington, with 3½ acres and common of pasture for 15 cattle, 60 sheep, and 2 horses. The same house also held there a toft and 6 acres as a benefaction from Stephen Bataille.⁴ At the Assizes of 1269, Thomas de Fenwyk complained that the men of Little Bavington had encroached on his manor of Great Heton (Capheaton). According to him the correct boundary between the two manors was 'on the south part of Blakemers, as the old dyke stretched between the tillage land and the moor to the west of Serivenshead, and then northwards to the Scruelderburn.' This claim meant taking 40 acres from Robert Bataylle, 14 from Thomas de Byticum, 10 from Stephen de Parva Babinton, and 14 from Adam, son of Bernard. The case was, however, withdrawn on the defendants agreeing to pay Fenwick 4 marks, three of which he had to give to the Crown for a licence legalising the arrangement.⁵

¹ Including 23 acres of public roads.

² The Census Returns are: 1801, 58; 1811, 36; 1821, 78; 1831, 72; 1841, 91; 1851, 82; 1861, 67; 1871, 73; 1881, 72; 1891, 47.

³ 'Feoda de Humfravill Robertus Bataille dim. feodum. Bernardus de Babington quintam partem.' Bolebec's Return for the aid of 1235 in Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. i. p. 227. 'Robertus Batayll tenet medietatem de Parva Babington per dim. feodum de veteri feoffamento. Bernardus de Babington tenet quartam partem ejusdem per quintam partem unius feodi de veteri feoffamento.' *Testa de Nevill*, *ibid.* pt. iii. vol. i. p. 207.

⁴ *Inspeimus* of Edward I. in *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 112.

⁵ *Northumberland Assize Rolls*, pp. 185, 186, Surt. Soc. Publ.

Like so many other small villages in Northumberland, Little Bavington had its chapel and its chaplain. Richard, who was chaplain in 1293, complained at the Assizes of that year that a sheep had been stolen from him.¹ He seems to have been succeeded by Edmund, whose name appears upon the Subsidy Roll of 1296.

PARVA BAVINGTON SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.

		ℓ	s.	d.		s.	d.
Summa honorum	Willelmi Mastun	1	6	2	unde regi	2	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Thomae de Hertford...	2	4	4	"	4	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Alexandri de Babington	2	5	4	"	4	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Ricardi filii Willelmi...	0	12	4	"	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Thomae molendinarii	0	13	4	"	1	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
"	Edmundi capellani	0	17	10	"	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Andrae filii Willelmi...	0	12	8	"	1	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
"	Gilberti de Babington	3	17	8	"	7	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
"	Eliae de Hertford	0	14	4	"	1	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
"	Ricardi de Babington	2	19	8	"	5	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
"	Willelmi filii Bernardi	0	18	0	"	1	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Summa hujus villae, ℓ17 1s. 8d. Unde domino regi, 31s. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.							

In 1300 William Batayl de Babyngton and Richard, son of Adam de Babyngton (the owners probably of the moiety and the quarter of the manor), together with William de Schaftowe and Isabel his wife, Gilbert,² son of Stephen de Babyngton, Adam, son of Stephen de Throkerington and Alice his wife, Margaret, widow of Robert Batayl de Babyngton, and Robert de Pele, chaplain, took proceedings against William, son of William de Kyrkerherle, and others, respecting certain tenements in Little Bavington.³

This mention of William de Schaftowe seems the first known connection between Little Bavington and the ancient family deriving its name from the hamlet of Shafto in the parish of Hartburn, with whom it was destined to be so long associated. Already in 1240-45 Robert de Shaftowe bore the arms *gules, on a bend argent three mullets azure*. Gilbert and John Shaftowe witnessed the charter by which the Swinburnes acquired Capheaton in 1274.

William de Schaftowe had married Isabel, the eldest daughter of William Bataill de Babington. Her father granted certain tenements at Little Bavington and a rent charge of 26s. on the mill, then held by Thomas the miller, and his other lands to his brother Richard, and her uncle settled

¹ *Assize Rolls*, 21 Edw. I.

² Gilbert de Babington held in 1320 110 acres and 4 messuages in Little Bavington of the barony of Prudhoe by service of 4s. a year; the usual value was 6s. 8d. *Inq. ad quod damn.* 14 Edw. II. No. 188.

³ *Rot. Pat.* 28 Edw. I. m. 8.

these on her husband and herself and their issue, with remainder to her own heirs. On William Bataill's death, Isabel and her sisters Mathilda and Jane succeeded to his property, and after her husband's death Isabel demised a portion of her share, consisting of 3 tofts, 20 acres, and one-third of the mill to Thomas de Shaftowe and Katherine his wife, and the remaining 20 acres to Agnes, daughter of William de Shaftowe, probably her stepdaughter. In course of time the shares of the other sisters devolved respectively on Robert Galon of Newcastle and Mary his wife, and on Robert de Throcklawe and Margaret his wife, and Mary and Idonea, daughters of William de Echewyk.

At the Assizes of 1335 Isabel de Schafthowe produced the charters from her father and uncle, and demanded restitution of the tenements and rent charge, according to the provision of the settlement. Robert Galon and his wife did not appear; their bailiff, John de Herle, was consequently attached by John Bruntyng and his son William, and judgment was given against them by default. As Thomas de Shaftowe acted as attorney for Isabel, the suit would appear to be collusive so far as the third in which he was interested was concerned.¹

BABBYNGTON PARVA SUBSIDY ROLL, 1336.

Gilbertus de Babbyngton, 5s.; Willelmus de Babbyngton, 3s. 4d.; Johannes Hird, 2s. 9d.; Johannes de Herll, 5s.; Robertus filius Elye, 5s.; Johannes molendinarius, 2s. 3d. Summa, 23s. 4d.

The original document (from which the following imperfect translation² was made in 1777) has not been found:

Be it known as well to the present as those to come that we, Odnell Schaftowe and John Battell, gentlemen, have given, granted, and by this our present charter affirmed, unto Thomas Schaftowe, son and heir of the said Odnell, and Matilda daughter of the said John, all those our lands and tenements, rents and fines, with their appurtenances, which we have thereupon in heritage in the vill and territories of Little Bayyngton, with the inclosures as lying and separately divided; to wit, as the Ox-close (or Pasture) descends . . .³ to the king's way which is called Morpeth Way, and so that way eastwards to a little dry ditch which is called the . . . syke, which is the boundary of Great Bayyngton and Kirkherth (*sic*), and from thence southwards and by right boundary marks to Brockkwell or . . . , and so descending by Sweleton even to the foot of the Little Law, and from thence turning . . . and by south even to and at . . . , and so by the Middle Wood and foot of Blak-lawe, and from thence by right boundary marks and dry ditches even and as the water falls of that part to the . . . of Karrys, and so by equal boundary marks northwards of . . . Law to Groudfords, and the old stand there for their cattle, and from thence even to the said divisions. To have and to hold all the aforesaid lands and tenements, rents and fines, with all their appurtenances abovesaid, unto the said Thomas and Matilda his wife, and to the heirs of the bodies of the said Thomas and Matilda lawfully issuing, of the chief lord

¹ *Assize Rolls*, 9 Edw. 111.

² In the possession of Mrs. George Dalston Shafto.

³ Gaps in the translation.

of the fee . . . to be paid at the feast of St. Cuthbert in autumn, and suit of court of Prodhowe twice in a year without any other suits or exactions or fines whatsoever. And lastly, we the said Odnell and John and our heirs, all the said lands and tenements, rents and fines, with their appurtenances in Babyngton, together with the inclosures aforesaid, to the said Thomas and Matilda and the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten as aforesaid, against all nations with warrant and for ever defend. In witness whereof to this our present writing we have affixed our seals of arms in the presence of Sir John Fenwyk, then sheriff of Northumberland, Sir Robert of Fawdon, knights; Warren of Swethope; John Gray of Denome; Thomas of Hell (? Harle); John of Peryth, vicar of Whelpyngton; John of Heddon, vicar of Collerton (Chollerton); and others. Dated at Bavyngton aforesaid on Monday next after the feast of the Holy Trinity in the thirteenth year of the reign of King Edward the Third after the Conquest (1339).

In 1346 the Bataill moiety of Little Bavington was held by William de Schaftow, Robert de Throclaw, Alan del More, and John de Cambow; the Babington portion (now called a moiety, though still only rated as the fifth of a knight's fee) by William, son of William de Babyngton. A tower at Babington, held by Robert Langwath, occurs in the list of Border fortalices of 1415. By 1427 Thomas, son and heir of Thomas Shaftowe, owned half the Bataill moiety.

The property of Hexham priory at Little Bavington is particularised in 1479 as consisting of 2 tofts (those, no doubt, given by Gilbert de Wircestre), built at the west end of the village on the north side, and occupying the estimated area of an acre, and of 1 toft (probably that given by Stephen Bataille) lying waste, with a garden at the east end of the village on the north side; together with 3 acres at the Toftes, $\frac{1}{2}$ acre at the Honylandes, 1 acre at the Harewell, $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres at the Chestres near Gibbiskilne, $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres at Gosecroft, 2 acres at Godilawe, and a rood at the Morilandes, making up the total of $9\frac{1}{2}$ acres recorded in the *inspeximus* of Edward I. This was then all rented by William de Schafthow of Babyngton as tenant at will, paying annually 2s. to the almoner of the priory.¹ In 1485 William and Edward Shafto, together with John Cartington, granted a windmill in Meresfen to the abbot and convent of Newminster, and appointed George Shafto to give possession.²

LITIL BAVYNGTON MUSTER ROLL, 1538.³

Cuthbert Schafto, John Schafto, Gerg Schafto, John Mure, Wyllim Dennand, Paul Walles, Oswald Tweddale, Andro Foster, Georg Johnson, Robert Dennand, able with hors and harnes. John Nicolson, Thomas Rams', Andro Watson, John Carutheors, Quintyn Johnson, David Harle, Thomas Newson, George Man, George Tweddale, Ric. Newsn', Rolland Brown, John Atcheson, John Newton, Willm Nichelson, Georg Michelson, Ric. Aydene, George Michelson, Ric. Michalson, John Vsher, David Elwod, Willm Wodman, Thomas Forestanchawe, neither hors nor harnes.

¹ *Hexham Priory*, Raine, vol. ii. p. 37.

² *Newminster Chartulary*, Fowler, p. 257; Surt. Soc.

³ *Arch. Acl.* vol. iv. (quarto series) p. 177.

In the first half of the sixteenth century Mark Shafto,¹ a younger son of Edward Shafto of Little Bavington, became a wealthy and influential citizen of Newcastle, of which he was mayor in 1548. He founded a line which soon overtopped the main stem in importance and is now represented by the family of Shafto of Whitworth, in the county of Durham. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, John Shafto (nephew of Mark and grandson of Edward) in addition to Little Bavington, held West Harle, Hallington Mains, and the third part of Brenckley, with lands in Thockrington, Great Bavington, Buteland, Kirkheaton, and Benwell.² The will of his younger son William, who appears to have farmed the tithes of Ponteland, remains in the Registry of York.

1599, 14th July. Will of William Shaftoe of Litle Bavington. To be buried in the church of Thockrington within the chancel. I put my cosin, Mr. Henrie Woodrington, in trust for my nephewes the sonnes of my brother Edwarde, late of Bavington, for my lands in Pontiland. To my daughter Margerie lx shepe, and I bestowe hir in mariage upone Edward, son of Reynolde Shaftoe of Thockeryngton. In consideration of the saide marriage, I bestowe the landes in Mikle Bavington, which was Reynold Shaftoe's father's, with the consent of my sister Margerie Shaftoe. To my nephew, John Errington, a graye meare, and £15, which Thomas Crawston, a Scottish man, is owing me, for a baye stoned horse. To my nephewes John and Thomas Errington, my tythes in Ponteland parishe. To the said John Errington certaine bills in my trunke concerninge Marke Ogle. My cosin, Mr. Robert Wooderington, my sister Agnes Robinsone. (Proved Sept. 20th, 1602, by Marke Day, rector of Bothal).³

William Shafto (who in 1666 had reached the patriarchal age of 90) ranged himself on the side of the Commonwealth during the Civil Wars, and in 1650 was appointed one of the commissioners in the enquiry concerning ecclesiastical livings in Northumberland, generally quoted as the Oliverian Survey.⁴ In 1663 he was rated at £160 a year for Little Bavington, and at £80 a year for lands in Great Bavington. His third son, John Shafto, vicar of Warden, was the founder of Haydon Bridge school. His grandson and successor, John Shafto, is said to have gone abroad at the Restoration and to have remained until the general pardon: this action and a frown, which was habitual to him, have been handed down in the following verse:

There's honest John of Bavington,
A man of good account,
Went over seas, came back again,
And scowled as he was wont.

¹ His will is printed in *Durham Wills*, Greenwell, vol. ii. p. 223; Surt. Soc.; and a pedigree of his descendants in Surtees, *Durham*, vol. ii. p. 220.

² *Feodary's Book*; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. p. lxvi.

³ Cf. *Durham Wills*, Greenwell, vol. ii. p. 249; Surt. Soc.

⁴ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. iii. vol. iii. pp. 1. and liv.

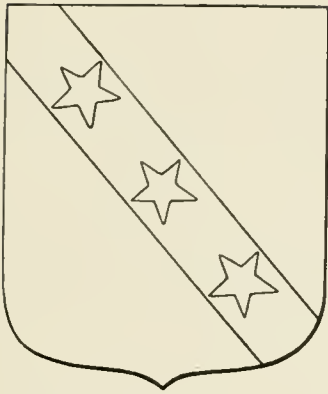
'Honest John's' son, William Shafto, was admitted to Gray's Inn in 1682; he turned Jacobite and took his only son with him into the rising of 1715. They are noticed in Patten's *History of the Rebellion*:

William Shafto of Bavington, formerly a justice of the peace for the county of Northumberland, has a plentiful estate there; he was brought in to the Rebellion through the instigation of his lady and Mr. John Shafto, who was shot at Preston. He was once a papist, but returned to the Church of England. He is a gentleman of easy temper, and so too easily prevailed with to join in the Rebellion. I shall add a story of him, when in Newgate with Mr. John Hall, who was afterwards executed, which has something diverting in it. He says seriously to Mr. Hall, 'Cousin Jack, I am thinking on what is told us that God will visit the sins of the fathers unto the third and fourth generation. I am of opinion that it is so with us; for your grandfather and mine got most of their estates as sequestrators,¹ and now we must lose them again for being rebels.'²

The estates forfeited to the Crown by the attainder of William Shafto in 1715 were in the October of the following year surveyed by Henry Gibbs the official of the commissioners and trustees of forfeited estates, and comprised Little Bavington with a rental of £317 a year, Great Bavington with a rental of £120, and Thockrington with a rental of £277; but they were subject to various claims and charges, amongst which were a mortgage of £2,000, made 16..... to Mr Howard of Lambspring, in Germany, and £300 borrowed on 31st May, 1715, from Henry Collingwood of Westerheugh, near Brinkburn. During the sequestration Edward Shafto of Hexham Spittal, next brother of William Shafto (and brother-in-law of Admiral George Delaval, who subsequently purchased the estates), sent in a proposal to the commissioners to rent the house, gardens, part of the demesne land, and the fourth part of the town of Little Bavington. He alleged 'that the house and gardens are much out of repair, and will require a considerable expense to put them into repair and keep them so.' He offered to pay a rent of £105 a year 'provided I can be forthwith lett into the possession thereof, to the end I may take care of the repairs (before the house and gardens run away any further to ruin) and not loose this year's profits of the land for want of cultivation.'

¹ 1652, 7th Sept. Order of the commissioners for sequestrations: that William Shafto be one of the commissioners for Northumberland. *Royalist Composition Papers*, vol. G. 29, p. 60.

² Patten, *Hist. of Rebellion*, p. 113.



SHAFTO OF LITTLE BAVINGTON.*

ARMS: *Gules, on a bend argent three mullets az.* Roll, 1240-45.
Visitation, 1666.

ROBERT DE SHAFTOWE, 1240-45.

William de Schafthowe of Little = Isabel, daughter of William Bataill
Bavington, 1300. de Babinton.

Odnell Schafthowe; in 1339 settled his lands at Little Bavington on his son
Thomas Schaftowe.

Thomas Schaftowe = Matilda, daughter and heiress of John Battell; married
circa 1339.

Thomas Schaftow =

Thomas Schaftow of Little Bavington, son and heir, 1427.

WILLIAM SHAFTO (*a*) in 1479 held lands in Little Bavington; = daughter and heiress
in 1485 granted the mill of Meresfen to Newminster abbey. of ... Bavington of Little
Newminster Chartulary, pp. 257, 258, 259. Bavington (*a*).

James Shafto (*a*) = daughter of
... Fenwick (*a*).
Ralph Shafto (*a*).
Gilbert Shafto (*a*).
Edward Shafto (*a*) of Little
Bavington; in 1485 joined
his father in a grant to
Newminster abbey.
Elizabeth, daughter of
Thomas Swinburn of
Nafferton (*a*).

Isabel, daughter of Roger Bertram of Brenkley (*a*).
= Cuthbert Shafto = ... Alexander.
of Little Bavington, son and heir.
Ann, daughter of Thomas Fenwick of Little Harle.
Mark Shafto.
↓
From whom Shafto of Benwell and Whitworth (*r*).

Simon = ... , daughter of Ralph Widdrington (*r*).
Randolph = ... , daughter of ... Carnaby of Halton.
Leonard, or Edward (*r*).
Henry Shafto was = Elizabeth, sister of
apprenticed to Mark Shafto, 11th Nov., 1526 (*o*). William Selhy.

Margaret; married ... Baxter of Corbridge.
Jane; married Thomas Fenwick of Little Harle.
Isabel; married John Bradford of Bradford.
Anne; married John Ogle of Ogle castle.

John Shafto of Little Bavington, son and heir; a commissioner for enclosures upon the Middle Marches in 1552 (*n*).
= Anne, daughter of Sir William Ellerker of Widdrington.
George Ambrose Edward.
Agnes; married firstly Thomas Carnaby and secondly Martin Turpin.
Barbara; married George Errington (of the Denton family).
Fortune; married Thomas Errington.
Grace; married Cuthbert Musgrave.
Mally; married Roger Heron of Birtley.

John Shafto of Little Bavington, son and heir; died *s.p.*
Edward Shafto of Little Bavington; administration granted to widow, 25th Mar., 1593, all his children being then under age (*c*); inventory, 28th Sept., 1593.
= Margery, daughter of Sir George Heron of Chipchase.
Luke.
William Shafto = Eleanor.
of Little Bavington; will dated 6th Oct., 1599 (*c*).
Jane. Mary. Dorothy. Grace.

(*a*) *Heralds' Visitation*.

(*c*) *Raine, Test*.

(*n*) *Nicolson, Border Laws*, p. 223.

(*o*) *Books of Merchant Adventurers' Company of Newcastle*.

(*r*) *Surtees, Durham*, vol. iii. p. 294.

* A pedigree which purports to show thirteen generations of the ancestors of William Shafto who married the heiress of Little Bavington, transcribed from a MS. in the library of Miss Currer of Eshton-hall, in Craven, was printed by the Rev. John Hodgson in *Arch. Ael.* quarto series, vol. ii. p. 415.

A					
William Shafto of Little Bavington; aged 90 years in 1666; a sequestrator under Cromwell and a captain in the army of the Commonwealth; in 1663 was rated of Little Bavington, Thockrington, and for a moiety of Great Bavington; will dated 14th Jan., 1657.	= Frances, daughter of Thomas Dalston of ... in Cumberland.	Thomas Shafto of Thockrington.	= Anne, daughter of Henry Heron.	Marmaduke Shafto; in 1607 was apprenticed to a member of the Skinners' company, London.	Grace; married Guy Aynsley of Shafto. Isabella. Ann. Barbara. Fortune.
Edward Shafto, son and heir; died in father's lifetime in 1640 (a).	= Margaret, daughter of Edward Errington.	George Shafto of Bavington; entered pedigree at the Visitation of 1666 (a); afterwards of Little Harle.	= Margaret, daughter of Robert Goodgin of Skipton in Craven.	John Shafto, clerk in orders; vicar of Warden, 1643-1697; the founder of Haydon Bridge school; died at Carrycoats; will dated 30th May, 1693; proved 9th Jan., 1695 6 (c).	= Margaret Errington.
		Edward Shafto, only son; was aged 18 in 1666. Mary; living unmarried in 1666. Frances; married Roger Preston of Skipton. Margaret. Ann. Katherine. } Living unmarried in 1666.		Daniel Shafto of Hexham, only surviving child; buried 8th Nov., 1718 (h); will dated 31st Oct., 1718 (c).	
	Dalston Shafto; was rated for lands in Shafto in 1663.	Charles Shafto. ↓ From whom Shafto of Carrycoats.		Mary; married Cuthbert Fenwick of Great Bavington. Catherine; married John Heron of Chipchase. Frances; married John Aynsley. Jane; married Ephraim Cresswell. Margery; married John Darlington of Tanfield. Grace; married Cuthbert Ramsay of Beukley.	
Frances, daughter of Edward Fenwick of Stanton; married at Rothbury, July, 1660; died Aug., 1704.			= John Shafto of Little Bavington, son and heir; was aged 25 in 1666; died January, 1709; administration granted to his son William, 21st Aug., 1710 (b).		= Ann Bates, widow; bond of marriage, 8th Nov., 1707
William Shaftoe of Little Bavington, son and heir; aged 3 years in 1666; admitted to Gray's Inn, 27th May, 1682; attainted for joining the rebellion in 1715; died abroad before 17th March, 1719.	= Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas Riddell of Swinburn; settlement before marriage, 25th Jan., 1695; resided and died in Newcastle, Nov., 1747 (f).	Edward Shafto; some-time of Hexham Spital; born ... Feb., 1665/6 (said to have married firstly a daughter of ... Horsley of Horsley, who died s.p.); will dated 23rd April, 1724; proved 1725 (c).	= Mary, daughter of George Delaval of Dissington and sister of Admiral Admiral George Delaval of Little Bavington; bond of marriage, 21st Feb., 1700 (c); executrix to husband's will.	John Shafto; apprenticed to Thomas Hutchinson, 1st Aug., 1685 (o).	... Shafto; married Jesse Jenkinson. The will of their son Jesse Jenkinson of Hexham, dated 4th Jan., 1748/9, was proved at York, 8th Sept., 1750, by her cousin and executor, George Delaval (c).
John Shafto of Hexham, son and heir, was in the service of the duke of Brunswick-Wolfenbuttel as a page; was attainted with his father in 1715; died at Hexham 27th, and was buried there 29th June, 1773 (h) (i); will dated 27th Oct., 1772 (c).					
John, born at Halton; baptised at Corbridge, 20th Jan., 1701/2; living 1719.		Robert Shafto of Hexham; succeeded to Little Bavington at death of his brother George Delaval; bur. 8th Jan., 1788 (b); will dated 12th May, 1785.	= Jane ...; will dated 19th Mar., 1788.	Delaval Shafto, collector of salt dues at Elsdon; said to have married at Stella before 1743, Mary, daughter of Philip Hodgson of Tone.	Edward Shafto, baptised 10th Aug., 1713; buried 17th Sept., 1715 (h).
George Shafto, born at Halton; baptised at Corbridge, 28th Jan., 1702/3; succeeded to the Little Bavington estate under the will of his uncle Admiral George Delaval, whose name he assumed; high sheriff, 1740; M.P., 1757-1774; buried 13th Jan., 1782 (b); will dated 9th Dec., 1772; proved ...				Jesse Shafto, born at Lamb Shiel, near Hexham; baptised 30th Aug., 1711 (h); a captain in the army; died s.p.	
(a) <i>Heralds' Visitation.</i>	(b) <i>Hexham Register.</i>	(c) <i>Books of Merchant Adventurers' Company of Newcastle.</i>	(d) <i>Hexham Register.</i>	(e) <i>Newcastle Courant</i> , 3rd July, 1773.	(f) <i>Newcastle Courant</i> , 14th Nov., 1747
(b) <i>Thockrington Register.</i>	(c) <i>Raine, Test. Ebor.</i>				

B
I

Phillis, *alias* Esther, daughter of John Heron of Birtley hall; settlement before marriage, 21st Nov., 1734; married at Birtley chapel, 5th Dec., 1734; died ..., 1736 (*d*). = William Shafto of Humshaugh, and of High house and Edge Green in Haltwhistle; died 22nd May, 1762 (*e*). = Elizabeth Coxon, second wife; bond of marriage, 26th Feb., 1750; buried 16th Aug., 1799 (*b*).
(See pedigree of Shafto of Carrycoats.)

Sarah, daughter of ... Ingram of Beverley; married at St. John's, York, 31st May, 1764; died at Humshaugh; buried 4th April, 1775 (*b*). = Sir Cuthbert Shafto of Little Bavington, son and heir, born at Birtley hall, and baptised at Birtley, 4th Sept., 1736 (*d*); a captain in 75th Regiment; succeeded to Little Bavington in 1785, at death of his uncle Robert Shafto; knighted 9th Dec., 1795; high sheriff, 1795; died 26th Nov., buried 6th Dec., 1812, aged 76 (*b*); will dated 4th Nov., 1812, proved at York, 1813. = Mary, daughter of William Swinburn of Hexham; died at Hexham, 15th June, 1840, aged 86.

William Henry Shafto of Plymouth, born 27th Sept., 1786; baptised 18th June, 1789 (<i>b</i>); lieutenant 16th Foot; a captain in the Renfrewshire Militia; died <i>circa</i> 1876.	= Mary Nield.	Cuthbert, baptised and buried 1789 (<i>b</i>). Cuthbert, baptised 1791; buried 1795 (<i>b</i>). Alexander, baptised and buried 1793 (<i>b</i>). Francis; buried 17th Jan., 1785 (<i>b</i>). Henry; died an infant, 23rd July, 1786, at Aykley Heads, near Durham. ... Shafto; lieutenant Sussex Militia; died at Hull, 22nd Oct., 1807.	Charles Cuthbert Shafto of Morpeth, baptised 12th July, 1797 (<i>b</i>); an officer in Northumberland Militia; succeeded to Little Bavington in 1857 under the will of his nephew James Delaval Shafto; buried 28th Dec., 1866, aged 71 (<i>b</i>).	Charlotte, bapt. ...; bur. 19th Dec., 1787 (<i>b</i>). Eleanor Louisa, born 28th Aug., 1787; bur. 22nd Aug., 1803 (<i>b</i>). Caroline Mathilda, bapt. 14th Nov., 1788 (<i>b</i>); died 23rd Feb., 1876. Isabella Eliza, baptised 21st Oct., 1790 (<i>b</i>); married 17th June, 1815, William Clayton of Langcliffe, and died at York. Isabella, baptised 12th July, 1797 (<i>b</i>). Sarah Hussey; married 18th May, Rev. Henry Prowse Jones.
.....; daughter and heiress of ... = William Henry Shafto of Little Bavington, son and heir; succeeded to estate on death of his uncle Charles Cuthbert Shafto; living 1897; has had issue two daughters only.				
Evelyne Shafto; died unmarried.		Ada Shafto; married Sylvester James Green; living 1897.		

George Dalston Shafto of Little Bavington, son and heir, born at Sandhoe; baptised at Corbridge, 5th Dec., 1766; had two sons only, who both died in his lifetime (*d*); buried 19th June, 1826, aged 59 (*b*). = Anne, or Hester, daughter of William Charlton of Lee hall and of Alnwick; eloped from Alnwick, and was married in Edinburgh, 30th Nov., 1785 (*k*); buried 26th March, 1816, aged 49 (*b*).

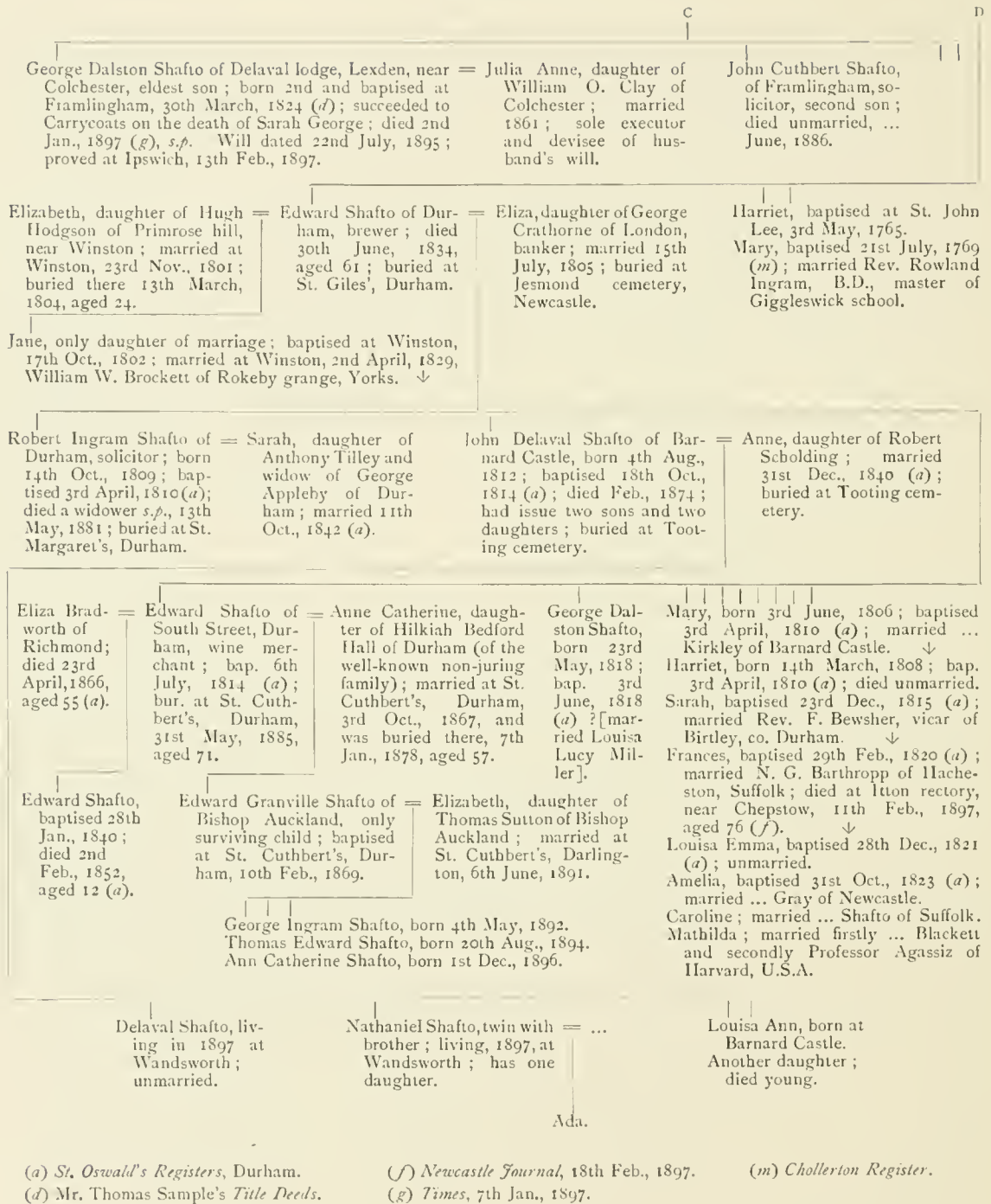
George John Shafto, son and heir; died 3rd June, 1795, aged 7, and was buried at Alnwick.
 William Henry Shafto; buried at Alnwick, 24th Aug., 1791 (*d*).

Delaval Shafto of Morpeth, baptised 11th Feb., 1768 (<i>m</i>); a deaf mute; buried 9th Dec., 1824, aged 56 (<i>b</i>), unmarried.	Robert Ingram Shafto of Bishopwearmouth, solicitor, baptised 3rd Dec., 1770 (<i>m</i>); succeeded to Little Bavington on death of brother George Dalston Shafto in 1826; died 13th April, 1848, aged 78 (<i>b</i>), and was buried in the chancel of Thockrington; had issue two sons only (<i>d</i>).	= Ann, daughter of John Brown of Hexham; married 26th June, 1827 (<i>b</i>); as a widow resided at Hallywell dean, Hexham. She remarried William Charlton of Hexham and Greenwich, and died <i>circa</i> 1870.
James Delaval Shafto of Little Bavington, son and heir; a lieutenant in the Royal Horse Guards; drowned when bathing in river Thames at Windsor, 12th Aug., 1857; buried 19th Aug., 1857, aged 28 (<i>b</i>); will dated 8th Aug., 1851; proved at York, 1857. Robert; buried 16th Jan., 1831, aged 5 months (<i>b</i>).		

Ann Warner of Framlingham, Suffolk; married there 19th Mar., 1802 (<i>d</i>); buried at Parham, Suffolk, 19th Mar., 1819, aged 40 (<i>d</i>).	= John Shafto of Broadwater, Framlingham, Suffolk; baptised 16th April, 1772 (<i>m</i>); a captain in the Suffolk Militia; died at Framlingham, 10th April, and buried at Parham, Suffolk, 18th April, 1839, aged 67 (<i>d</i>).	= Jemima Stannard of Woodbridge, Suffolk; married there, 28th Nov., 1823 (<i>d</i>). She remarried Rev. Humphrey Brown, of Kirkheaton.
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(*b*) *Thockrington Register*. (*e*) *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1762. (*m*) *Chollerton Register*.
 (*d*) Mr. Thomas Sample's *Title Deeds*. (*k*) *Newcastle Magazine*, Dec., 1785.

C
D

(a) *St. Oswald's Registers*, Durham.(d) Mr. Thomas Sample's *Title Deeds*.(f) *Newcastle Journal*, 18th Feb., 1897.(g) *Times*, 7th Jan., 1897.(m) *Chollerton Register*.

EVIDENCES TO SHAFTO PEDIGREE.

1593, 25th March. Administration of the goods of Edward Shafto of Bavington granted to Margery, his wife. William, Thomas, Marmaduke, Grace, Isabella, Anne, Barbara, and Fortune, his children, being under age. Raine, *Test. Dunelm.*

1597, 11th April. *Inq. p.m.*, Edward Shafto, esq.; taken at a knight's court of the earl of Northumberland, held at Ovingham. He was found to have died seised of the capital messuage or tower and of the manor of Little Bavington: 200 acres of arable land, 100 acres of meadow, and . . . acres of pasture, being the demense lands and of 9 tenements in Little Bavington; three messuages or husband lands in Great Bavington, and certain lands and tenements in Buteland, late John Felton's. All which manors, lands, etc., were held of the earl of Northumberland by knight service, etc. William Shafto was found to be son and the next heir. *The Duke of Northumberland's MSS.*

1641/2, 10th February. 15 score of sheep to the value of £100, belonging to William Swinburn of Nafferton, were sequestered by Mr. William Shafto for the Scottish army, and were afterwards taken off the ground by Mr. Edward Shafto and Mr. Cuthbert Fenwick. Hodgson, *Northumberland*, pt. ii. vol. i. p. 219 n.

Though Edward Shafto, eldest son of William Shafto of Bavington, is recorded by the *Heralds' Visitation* to have died in 1640, the following document remaining amongst the family papers makes that date doubtful: 'To Edw. Shaftoe, esquire, captain of ye Trayned band-horse. By virtue of an ordinance of parliament, authorizing mee, Algernoun, earle of Northumberland, to bee lieutenant of the county of Northumberland, I doe hereby nominate and appoint you, Edward Shaftoe, esquire, to bee captaine of that troope of the Trayne band-horse within the said county of Northumberland, and doe give further warrant hereby unto you to assemble, muster, exercise, and leade the said troope att all such times and to all such places as by warrant from mee, or in my absence from my deputy lieutenants, or anyone of them, you shalbe from time to time in that behalfe directed. Willing and commanding all inferior officers and souldiers of the said troope to bee attending, ayding, and assisting unto you for the better furtheraunce of this service by the said ordinance required. Given under my hand and seale at armes this 6 Sept., 1645. Noverint NORTHUMBERLAND.' From the original in the possession of Mrs. George Dalston Shafto.

1652, 14th October. Lancelot Errington of Aydon castle, and John Shafto, clerk, and Margaret his wife, beg an order to the county committee to examine their title to a rent charge of £10 on lands in Wharmley, granted to them for £100, by Henry Errington, in 1647, before his delinquency. *Royalist Composition Papers*, vol. G. p. 359.

1693, 30th May. John Shaftoe of Nether Warden, clerk. To the chapelry of Haydon. £20 per ann. to be paid out of my lands at Mousin, for the use of the grammar school £10, and for the poor £10. Also £20 per ann. out of my mortgages on the lands of Sir John Heron, bart., lately decd., in the same order. £10 per ann. as an augmentation to the parish church of Slaly. I appoint Mr. Archdeacon (&) Mr. John Rowell executors for all the said money for charitable uses. John Bacon of Staward, esq., John Atkinson of Haydon Bridge, and Nic. Maughan of Tedcastle, yeomen, trustees of the money for the school and poor of Haydon. Nephew Mr. Ralph Shaftoe of Carrycoates £800. Nephew Mr. John Shafto, son of my brother Mr. Chas. Shafto of Carrycoates £200. To my brother Chas. Shafto's five unmarried daus. £800. John Atkinson of Haydon Bridge, my clerk and servant, £400 to distribute among his three children, John, Mary, & Margaret. Son Daniel Shafto my lands at Mousin. £120 to my loving brothers Mr. Chas. Shafto of Carrycoates, & John Shafto of Bavington, esq., they executors. To Anne, daughter of Wm. Errington, of Bradley, etc., £100. Codicil, 1692/3, 12th January; to my nephew Wm. Shaftoe of Carrycoates, sen., £500.

1695, 25th January. Settlement made on the marriage of William Shafto with Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Riddell, whereby the estates were limited to the issue male of the intended marriage; remainder to Edward Shafto, next brother of the said William Shafto; remainder to John Shafto, third brother of the said William; remainder to Edward Shafto, son of George Shafto, late of Little Harle, gentleman; remainder to Daniel Shafto, son of John Shafto, clerk; remainder to Charles Shafto of Carrycoates, etc. *Forfeited Estates Papers*, S, 17.

1700, 22nd September. Edward Shafto, shopkeeper, buried. *Hexham Register*. The inventory of his effects, made 23rd September, has been preserved, and is given as a curiosity: His purse and apparrell, £2; two sett of shopp boxes with goods, £1; six sett of boxes with goods, £4; nine runletts with brandy, £2; oyle and sope, 12s.; a box with merchant goods, 5s.; oyles, electuaries, and waters, £5 1s.; mortar, plaisters, and threed, 10s. 6d.; bookes, 10s.; two chests with pipes and hopps, 10s.; three bedsteads with furniture, £2; six chaires and three tables, 10s.; a cupboard and drayers, 15s.; brasse and pewter, £1 1s. 6d.; iron utensils, 6s. 8d.; a chest, trunk, and other utensills, 12s. 10d. The sum total, £21 14s. 6d., from which are deducted for funeral expenses, £2 2s. 6d. Desperate debts amont to £3. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

To William Swinburne, esq., att Capheaton: These. Sr. It having pleased God to take to himselfe the soule of my dear wife, these are to desire your company and lady's at Little Bavington on Sunday next by tenn of the clock, and thence to accompany her corps to the place of interment, which will oblige your sorrowfull friend, Joⁿ. Shaftoe. Little Bavington, August 31st, 1704. From original at Capheaton; Rev. John Hodgson's *Collection*.

At the Midsummer Sessions of 1711, held at Hexham, James Ogle presented the following petition to the bench: 'That your petitioner was hired servant to William Shafto, now of Bavington, esq., for one year, which long since expired, at the yearly wages of three pounds per annum, to be paid in money, and the said Mr. William Shafto, by agreement at the time of your petitioner's hiring, was to give him a livery, or the value of it in money, which he has not done, which livery, with lining and making and the like, could not be less than thirty shillings; and your petitioner further saith that during the said year's service with the said Mr. Shafto, he lent and laid out for the said Mr. Shafto one and thirty shillings and six pence. All which said sums, amounting in the whole to £6 1s. 6d., are now in arrear and unpaid, save one mare which your petitioner had of the said Mr. Shafto, valued by him at £3 5s., in part of payment,' etc. [Mr. Shafto was ordered to pay, or a warrant would be issued.] *Sessions Records*.

In 1718 the high constable of the north-east division of Tindale ward certified that he could not find in his division any person concerned in the late rebellion; but that John Shafto, son of William Shafto, late of Bavington, had been at Swinburn, but upon diligent search could not be found. On the 18th of April, in the following year, the same constable reported that he had apprehended John Shafto and Thomas Riddell of Swinburn, and had carried them before 'Justice Dalivel.' *Sessions Records*.

1719/20, February 16th. Will of John Shafto of Hexham, gent. To my son, Charles, my garden in Hexham and my close near Carlisle. To my wife, Elizabeth, my household goods and close in Hexham called Whitesmocks. My son, Edward Shafto; my sons minors. To my wife, the use of my pew in the new gallery for life. Raine, *Test. Ebor*.

1724, April 23rd. Will of Edward Shafto of Little Bavington, gent. To my son, George Shafto *alias* Delaval. £10. To my sons, Robert, Delaval, and Jesse Shafto, my lands, etc., at Low-house and the Lang-sike, in the parish of Haltwhistle. To my son, William Shafto, my houses, etc., called High-house and Edges-green, in the parish of Haltwhistle. Residue to my wife, Mary, she executor. Raine, *Test. Ebor*.

1772, 27th October. Will of John Shafto of Hexham, esq. To my cousin, Thomas Riddell of Swinburn castle, esq., £5 5s. for a mourning ring. To my godson, Thomas Maxwell, son of Thomas Maxwell, late of Kirkconnel in North Britain, esq., deceased, £50. To my godson, Robert Charlton of London, druggist, £10. To my cousins, William and Mary Shafto, children of my cousin William Shafto, late of Humshaugh, gent., deceased, £50 each when 21 or married; and I desire my cousin, Ralph Riddell of Cheeseburn Grange, esq., to pay interest at 4 per cent., if they die the £100 to go to the said Ralph Riddell, Mary Maxwell, relict of James Maxwell, esq., Dorothy Riddell of Swinburn castle, spinster, and Barbara, wife of James Nelson of Fairhurst, esq. To my said cousin, Dorothy Riddell, £400. To the said Ralph Riddell and my friend William Kirsopp of Hexham, gent., £130. To the said Ralph Riddell, £100. To my cousin, Thomas Riddell, esq., my silver tankard. To my friend, William Fenwick of Bywell, esq., my silver salver, on which is engraved the arms of the Nevells and Fenwicks. To my friend, Thomas Jefferson, surgeon, my large silver tobacco box. To my friend, William Kirsopp of Hexham, my small silver tobacco box. The rest of my plate to my cousins, Ralph Riddell, Mary Maxwell, Dorothy Riddell, and Barbara Nelson. Mourning rings to be given at my funeral to my friends and acquaintances, William Fenwick, William Kirsopp, Thomas Jefferson, and Mr. John Gibson of Great Whittington. Residue to my cousins, Mary Maxwell and Dorothy Riddell, they executors. Proved 28th September, 1773. Raine, *Test. Ebor*.

1772, 9th Dec. Will of George Delaval of Bavington, esq. All my real estates to Sir John Hussey Delaval of Seaton, bart., in trust for the use of my brother, Robert Shafto, during his life; then to my nephew, Cuthbert Shafto, for life; then to George Dalston Shafto, eldest son of my said nephew, Cuthbert Shafto, in tail male; then to Delaval Shafto, second son of my nephew, Cuthbert Shafto, in tail male; then to Robert Shafto, third son of my nephew, Cuthbert Shafto, in tail male; then to John Shafto, fourth son of said Cuthbert Shafto, in tail male; then to my nephew, William Shafto, in tail male; then to Sir John Hussey Delaval. The widow of my late brother, William Shafto. To my niece, the sister of the said William Shafto, £200. Residue to my nephew, Cuthbert Shafto, he executor. Trustees, Chr. Fawcett of Durham, esq., and Mat. Waters of Wallsend, esq. (Provision against forfeiture of the estates.) Raine, *Test. Ebor*.

1775, 1st August. Will of William Shafto of Colwell, Northumberland, husbandman. To my wife, Elizabeth, £50 per annum. My sons, Thomas and William, my daughter, Mary, widow of William Taylor, and William and Cutbber Taylor, her sons. My daughters Elizabeth Nicholson and Frances Foster. To my daughter, Ann Shafto, £70. My grandson, William Shafto, of Ladywell farm, £500. Residue to my sons, Thomas and William, they executors. Proved 4th April, 1776. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

1785, 12th May. Will of Robert Shafto of Bavington. All to my dearly beloved wife, Jane Shafto; she and William Barkley of Middle Temple, London, executors.

1788, 19th March. Will of Jane Shafto of Hexham, widow of Robert Shafto, formerly of Bavington and lately of Hexham, esquire. My plate, linen, furniture, and wearing apparel to my good friend Elizabeth, wife of Nicholas Lee of Hexham, surgeon, for her own use absolutely. The residue of my estate to my grand-children the sons and daughters of my late daughter Elizabeth Robson, deceased. The said Elizabeth Lee sole executor. Proved 10th November, 1788. Raine, *Test. Ebor.*

Rental of Mr. Cuthbert Shafto's estates for half-year ending May-day, 1794. Thockrington West-side, £130, and Thockrington East-side, £95; Laird's closes, £10 10s.; Quarry-house, £73 15s.; Nore-heugh, £107 10s.; Hedchester, £57 10s.; Kempwell, £27 10s.; Great Bavington, £90; Ladywell, £52 10s.; Hill-head, £75; Steel-ridge, £62 10s.; Cocklaywalls, £75; Barns, £35; Mount, £35; Humbleton, £75; Mill-closes, £5. Total, £1,006 15s.

1851, 9th July. By indenture of this date James Delaval Shafto of Little Bavington barred the entail of the estates.

1851, 8th August. Will of James Delaval Shafto of Bavington. To George Dalston Shafto, eldest son, and to John Cutbber Shafto, second son of my late uncle, John Shafto, deceased, £50 a year apiece. To Robert Ingram Shafto, eldest son, and to each of the other sons of my late uncle, Edward Shafto, deceased, £30 a year apiece, charged on lands in parishes of Thockrington and Kirkwhelpington. Ann Shafto, widow of my late father, Robert Ingram Shafto, enjoys annuity of £300 a year. I give all my manors and lands within the townships of Great and Little Bavington and Thockrington in trust to the use of my uncle, Charles Cutbber Shafto of Morpeth; remainder to my uncle, William Henry Shafto of Plymouth; remainder to William Henry Shafto, son of my said uncle, William Henry Shafto, in tail male; remainder to my cousin, the above-named George Dalston Shafto; remainder to his brother, the above-named John Cutbber Shafto; remainder to my cousin, Robert Ingram Shafto, and the second, third, and fourth sons of my uncle, Edward Shafto, deceased, in tail male; remainder to our right heirs. Trustees, my uncle, Charles Cutbber Shafto of Morpeth, and William Snowball of Sunderland, gent. Will proved at York, 19th September, 1857, and at London, 28th September, 1857. Effects sworn under £450.

In the *Parliamentary Return of Owners of Land*, made in 1873, the estates of Mr. William Henry Shafto of Little Bavington are stated to comprise 4,640 acres, with an estimated rental of £3,425.

The estates were put up for sale by auction¹ at Essex house in London, on Thursday, 17th March, 1719/20, and were purchased on behalf of George Delaval, esq., of Seaton Delaval, to whom they were conveyed by indenture dated 20th July, 1720. The premises were sold 'during a continuance of an estate in tail male, vested in John Shafto, the son of William Shafto, with a reversion in fee expectant on the death of Edward Shafto, and of John Shafto, his son; and on failure of issue male of the said John, subject as to the manors of Thockrington and Great Bavington to a rent charge of £150 per annum, tax free, payable to Elizabeth Shafto, widow of the said William, in lieu of her jointure.' The consideration money was £4,945 17s. 1d.²

¹ Bavington hall, etc., and 932 acres of land were let for £190 a year; Bavington Hill-head, with 232 acres, was let for £54; Steel Rigg farm, with 179 acres, at £63, Bavington mill at £10, etc.

² *Forfeited Estates Papers*, S, 20; S, 23; S, 25; S, 28.

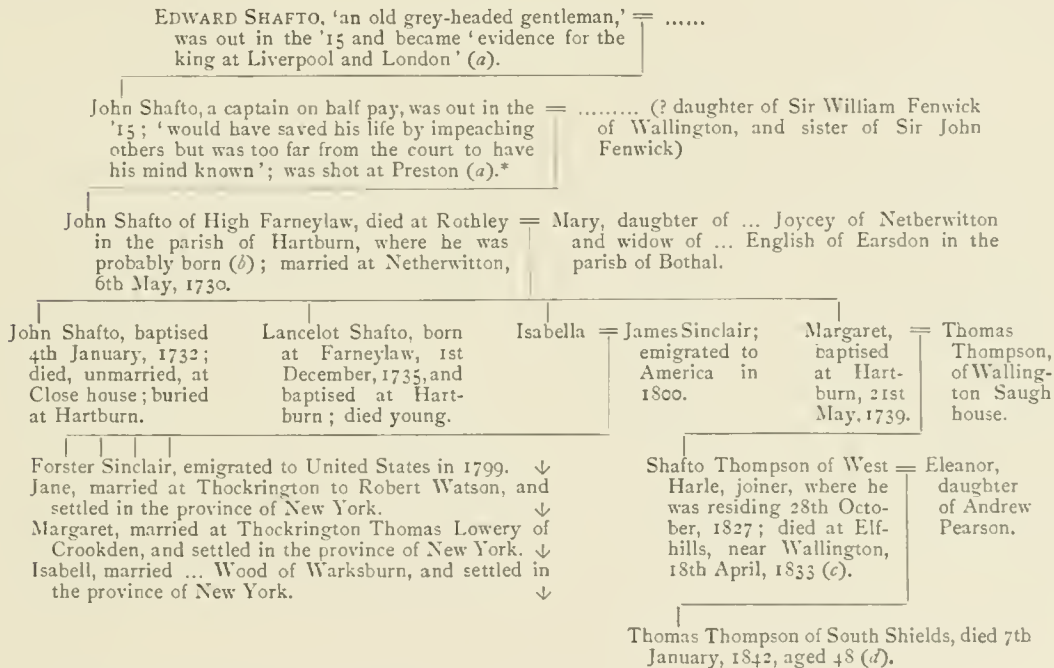
The purchaser, Admiral George Delaval, was a man of more than local celebrity; a younger son of George Delaval of Dissington, and Margaret his wife, daughter of Edward Grey of Bitchfield, he entered the Royal Navy, of which his kinsman, Admiral Sir Ralph Delaval, was then a distinguished officer. He was employed in embassies to Portugal and Morocco, and amassed such great wealth as to purchase from his impoverished kinsman, Sir John Delaval, the ancient estates of the family, and to commence to build, from the design of Sir John Vanbrugh, the stately mansion of Seaton Delaval. He did not live long to enjoy the Little Bavington estates, for he died in consequence of a fall from his horse, June 22nd, 1723.¹ Dying unmarried, he gave Seaton Delaval to his nephew, Francis Blake Delaval, son of his elder brother, Edward Delaval of Dissington, and Little Bavington to George Shafto, a son of his sister Mary, wife of the Edward Shafto already mentioned. George Shafto was enjoined to, and did assume the name of Delaval. He was one of the representatives of the county in the last parliament of George II. and the first and second parliaments of George III.

The present house at Little Bavington was probably built or begun by Admiral Delaval. It is sheltered from the west, north, and east by plantations, and has before it an undulating park; it is a structure three stories in height, with entrance doors in the centre of both north and south elevations, which have massive quoins and voussoirs below a moulded pediment. On either side of the door are three windows, and on the first and second floor seven windows above those below, all with a moulded stone architrave. The wall is covered with stucco. The main structure is oblong in plan, and has a wing projecting from the north-east corner. In the angle thus formed between the main building and the wing a low brick building of two stories is enclosed, which appears to be of an earlier period. The house contains nothing of interest save some carved chimney-pieces, and some family portraits and hunting pieces by unknown artists. The finest of the portraits is that of a gentleman of the time of Elizabeth or James I.; his right hand rests upon an astronomical instrument and his left hand upon the hilt of his sword; a shield bearing the Shafto arms is in the upper left hand corner. The original of another portrait is said to have been Captain John Shafto, shot at Preston. There are full or three-quarter length portraits of

¹ Rev. E. H. Adamson, *Arch. Ael.* vol. xii. p. 223.

Admiral George Delaval, of his niece (?), Lady Milbank, and her husband, Sir Ralph Milbank. Other portraits represent Mr. George Delaval (died 1782), Mr. Robert Ingram Shafto, third son of Sir Cuthbert Shafto, Mr. James Delaval Shafto, who was drowned in 1857, and silhouettes of Mr. William Shafto of Humshaugh and Mr. Delaval Shafto, respectively the half brother and second son of Sir Cuthbert Shafto.

Two other members of the family were out in the rebellion of 1715, viz., Edward Shafto, described as 'an old grey-headed gentleman,' and his son, Captain John Shafto. It is believed that this Edward Shafto may be identified with Edward, son of George Shafto of Bavington, who entered the family pedigree at the *Heralds' Visitation* of 1666: if this be so he was, in 1715, sixty-seven years of age. His descendants are shown in the following table.



(a) Patten, *History of the Rebellion*, p. 114.

(b) 10th March, 1694, John, son of Mr. John Shafto of Rothley, bap. *Hartburn Register*.

(c) Local paper; Richardson, *Table Book*, vol. iv. p. 147.

(d) *Ibid.* vol. v. p. 342.

* The *Register* of Walton-le-dale (the parish church adjoining the bridge of Preston) has been searched for a record of Captain Shafto's burial, but the only notice found is the following: '1715. One captain and three other soldiers of His Majesty's forces buried the same day the rebels surrendered Preston and yielded themselves prisoners of war, November 14th.'

APPENDIX I.

REFERENCES TO GEOLOGICAL PAPERS (*Continued from Vol. III.*).

1. Tate (George)
and Rupert Jones ... Description of Entomostraca, etc. (*Beyrichia Tatei*, Brunton). *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club*, vol. 5, p. 88 1863
2. Lebour (Prof. G. A.) ... The Geology of Redesdale Ironstone District. *Trans. North of England Inst. Engineers* 1873
3. Do. ... Range of *Saccamina Carteri*. *Geol. Mag.* vol. xiii. p. 135... .. 1876
4. Brady (H. B.) ... Monograph of Carboniferous Entomostraca. *Palæontological Soc.* 1876
5. Miller (Hugh) ... Northumberland Escarpments. *Geol. Mag.* vol. xiii. p. 23 1876
6. Do. ... Glacial Origin of Lake Basins. *Geol. Mag.* vol. xiii. pp. 286 and 451 1876
7. Lebour (Prof. G. A.) ... On the Terms Bernician and Tuedian. *Geol. Mag.* vol. xiv. p. 19... 1877
8. Miller (Hugh) ... Tynedale Escarpments. *Trans. Nat. Hist. Northd. and Durham*, vol. vii. 1880
9. Do. ... River Terracing (North Tyne near Chipchase and Wark). *Roy. Phys. Soc. Edin.* pp. 277 and 286 1883
10. Vine ... Entomostraca and Foraminifera from Northern Shales (Redesdale Ironstone) 1884
11. Miller (Hugh) ... On Boulder Glaciation. *Roy. Phys. Soc. Edin.* 1885

(3) No. 996.—GUNNERTON FELL.

TOWNSHIP OF GUNNERTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.

Sheet 77 of Ordnance Map.

Boring on Gunnerton Fell to the north of the Dyke, by order of Mr. Richard Peck, 1734.

			Fs.	Ft.	In.	Fs.	Ft.	In.				Fs.	Ft.	In.	Fs.	Ft.	In.	
Soil and sandy clay, with small sipings of water ...	7	0	6						Brought forward ...	12	2	10						
Grey sandy stone ...	0	1	6						Coal, with water (the water fell 3 fathoms in the bore- hole) ...	0	0	3						
Black grey metal ...	1	3	0						Grey metal, with small scars of coal ...	0	1	8						
Blue grey stone of a lime- stone nature, with water...	0	2	10						White post ...	0	2	6						
White post ...	0	3	0						Black grey metal ...	0	2	4						
Open white post, mixed with whin ...	0	2	0						Coal ...	0	2	2						
White post girdles, with grey partings ...	2	2	0						Black grey thill ...	0	0	3						
Carried forward ...	12	2	10						Total ...				14	0	0			

(4) No. 1,243.—KIRKHEATON.

TOWNSHIP OF KIRKHEATON, NORTHUMBERLAND.

Sheet 78 of Ordnance Map. Lat. 55° 5' 49". Long. 1° 56' 15".

First place bored at Kirkheaton estate, about 50 yards to the west of Bog Hall, 1763. Approximate surface level 595 feet above sea (Ordnance datum).

			Fs.	Ft.	In.	Fs.	Ft.	In.				Ft.	In.	Fs.	Ft.	In.	Fs.	Ft.	In.	
Soil and yellow clay ...	0	5	0						Brought forward ...	1	10	5	4	2	4	2	0			
Gravel and sand, with water	0	3	6						Black grey metal, scared with coal ...	0	2									
Blue stony clay ...	2	5	0						Coal ...	2	0									
Grey metal, with scars of coal... ...	0	0	6							0	4	0								
Grey metal stone ...	0	5	6					4	2	0										
Brown and grey scamy post	3	5	0						Soft grey scamy stone ...	0	1	2								
Grey post, with metal partings	0	4	0						Grey post, with water ...	0	2	0								
Blue grey metal ...	0	1	8						Strong white post, mixed with whin and water ...	0	2	0								
Coal, foul ...	0	3							Whin or strong limestone ...	0	1	0								
Coal, foul, scared with grey metal ...	0	11							Grey post ...	0	2	0								
Black grey metal, mixed with coal ...	0	5							Whin... ...	0	0	7								
Coal, with scars ...	0	3							In grey post girdles, with metal partings ...	0	3	8								
Carried forward ...	1	10	5	4	2	4	2	0	Total ...				12	4	7*					

* Approximate sea-level 518½ feet below this.

(5) No. 1,247.—KIRKHEATON.

TOWNSHIP OF KIRKHEATON, NORTHUMBERLAND.

Sheet 78 of Ordnance Map. Lat. 55° 6' 8". Long. 1° 56' 42".

Fifth place at Blythside, about 100 yards east from the ford. Approximate surface level 560 feet above sea (Ordnance datum).

	Fs.	Ft.	In.	Fs.	Ft.	In.		Fs.	Ft.	In.	Fs.	Ft.	In.	
Soil and gravelly clay ...	0	4	3					Brought forward ...	4	2	0	5	1	10
Sand and gravel, with water	0	0	9					Grey metal stone ...	0	5	0			
Stony clay ...	3	2	3					White and grey post, with strong girdles, scamy part- ings, and water ...	3	1	0			
Brown post stone ...	0	1	4					Black grey metal stone ...	1	5	8			
Stony clay ...	0	4	0					In strong white and grey post ...	0	2	6			
Whin tumbler ...	0	1	0								10	4	2	
Stony clay ...	0	0	3											
				5	1	10								
Grey metal stone ...	0	4	0											
Brown and grey post, with metal partings and water	3	4	0											
Carried forward ...	4	2	0	5	1	10		Total ...			16	0	0*	

(6) No. 1,249.—KIRKHEATON.

TOWNSHIP OF KIRKHEATON, NORTHUMBERLAND.

Sheet 78 of Ordnance Map.

Account of the Strata sunk through at Kirkheaton Colliery, Northumberland. Approximate surface level 60 feet above sea (Ordnance datum).

	Fs.	Ft.	In.	Fs.	Ft.	In.		Fs.	Ft.	In.	Fs.	Ft.	In.
Outset ...	0	5	0					Brought forward ...			8	0	1
Soil and clay ...	1	1	0					Dark thill stone ...	0	5	0		
Blue metal ...	1	0	1					Very strong white post, with pebbles ...	4	3	7		
Limestone, with partings and water ...	3	4	0					Stone and coal ...	0	1	4		
Dark metal stone ...	1	1	0										
Coal, splint at top ...	0	1	0					Coal, kiln ...	0	10			
				8	0	1		Coal, fine ...	1	8			
											0	2	6
											6	0	5
Carried forward ...				8	0	1		Total ...			14	0	6

* Approximate sea-level 464 feet below this.

(7) No. 1,295.—LITTLE BAVINGTON.

TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE BAVINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.

Sheet 78 of Ordnance Map. Lat. 55° 6' 25". Long. 2° 0' 24".

Account of Strata bored through in a Quarry, near Bavington Hall, Little Bavington, by William Coulson, 1873. Approximate surface level 690 feet above sea (Ordnance datum).

	Fs.	Ft.	In.	Fs.	Ft.	In.		Fs.	Ft.	In.	Fs.	Ft.	In.
Made ground ...	...	0	3	1									
Coal, soft ...	...	0	0	4									
Light grey shale ...	...	0	4	10									
Coal, with water ...	...	0	0	4									
					1	2	7						
Dark grey shale ...	...	0	2	10									
Light grey shale ...	...	0	4	8									
Blue limestone, with water...	...	0	2	7									
Strong grey shale ...	...	1	3	0									
Dark grey shale ...	...	1	0	0									
Grey post and ironstone girdles, with water ...	...	2	0	3									
Strong dark shale ...	...	2	4	0									
Coal ...	...	0	0	6									
					8	5	10						
Grey shale and post girdles	...	0	3	7									
Dark shale and post girdles	...	0	3	4									
Whin stone or limestone ...	...	0	1	3									
Carried forward ...	1	2	2	10	2	5							
Brought forward ...	1	2	2	10	2	5							
White post, with ironstone balls ...	...	0	2	10									
Grey shale, with post girdles	...	2	1	5									
Hard grey post, with water	...	0	1	8									
Mild white post ...	...	0	4	3									
Dark grey shale ...	...	0	5	6									
Mild grey post ...	...	2	3	5									
Dark grey shale, with iron- stone girdles ...	...	2	4	3									
Hard grey limestone ...	...	0	5	0									
Dark grey shale ...	...	0	3	11									
Grey post, with shale partings	...	3	4	2									
Dark grey shale ...	...	2	0	0									
Into hard blue limestone ...	...	3	0	0									
					21	2	7						
Total ...	...	...	...	31	5	0*							

* Approximate sea-level 499 feet below this.

INDEX.

In references to female names the surname in parentheses is that of the husband's family.

The names in the pedigree tables are not indexed in detail.

The point at which the history proper of a township or grieveship commences is indicated by the use of small capitals.

A.

- Abbey hagg, tenement in West Quarter, 15.
 Abbot, J. G. (1864), purchases Tone and Cowden estates, 300.
 Abel (1243), rector of Simonburn, witness, 330 n.
 Ackewoode, Acwde, Akewood, Akwod. *See* Oakwood.
 Ackworth, bequest to school, 108.
 Acomb, or West Acomb, in parish of St. John Lee, 1, 125; contribution to muster, 13, 136, 136 n; position and acreage, 135; TOWNSHIP, 135; census returns, 135 n; pronunciation of name, 135 n; ravaged by Scots, 137; petition by tenants, 137-8; disputes as to right of common, 138; proprietors in 1663, 139; the fell or moor, 140; mill at, 141; farms of, 143; details of the Hermitage, 143-8.
 Acomb, Richard de (1385), charge against, 201.
 — John (1410), tenant, 12 n.
 Acton, Adam de (1342), marriage, 400; grant of land to, 400-1.
 — (Widdrington), Catherine (1367), marriage, 224 n.
 — (*née* Musgrave), Mary (1340), acquires West Swinburn manor, 276, 279.
 — (*née* Embleton), Maud (1324), marriage, 224 n.
 — Richard de (1324), suit by, 224; marriage, 224 n.
 — William de (1339), gifts to son, 279; (1340), acquires West Swinburn manor, 276, 279; marriage, 279; seal of, 279 n.
 Acton burn, tributary of the Allen, 74.
 Acton homestead, in Forest grieveship, 104 n.
 Acton Moor, position of, 109.
 Adam, bailiff of Barrasford, 313; son of Bernard (1269), defendant in suit, 411.
 Adamnan's *Life of St. Columba* quoted, 178 n.
 Adamson (? Ruthven), Esther (1681), marriage, 268.
 — Joseph (1748), his holding in Allendale, 83.
 — Robert, M.A. (1662), vicar of Chollerton, 267-8; marriage, 268.
 — Thomas (1782), burial, 29; (1826), freeholder in Spital Shield, 61 n.
 — William (1785), possessions in Spital Shield, 61.
 Adderton, Joseph (1752), tenant, 5.
 Addison (Shafto), Isabel, 406.
 — John (1715), estate in Ovingham, 174.
 Affleck, Sir Robert (d. 1851), last prebendary of Thockrington, 388-9; death, 388, 397.
 Agassiz, Professor, of Harvard, marriage, 420.
 Agricola, work attributed to, 162, 162 n.
 Airey, John (1722), named in will, 146.
 Aiston, John (1752), tenant, 5.
 Akeon, Henry de (1323), serves on jury, 292.
 Aken, Mary (1752), tenant, 5.
 Akewood, forest of, 39; rental, 136.
 Albin, George (1650), fined, 157 n.
 Alburgh, W. de, 150.
 Aldecraw, Robert (1303), suit against, 156.
 Alder, Thomas (1716), marriage, 133.
 Alexander III. (1259), king of Scotland, 255; his connection with Tynedale, 257; license for Chipchase mill-dam, 331 n.
 Alexander IV., Pope, bull as to chapels, 129.
 Alexander, Richard son of (1229), lands, 59.
 Alio, identified with Old Town, 94.
 Allanson, Rev. Peter, O.S.B. (d. 1875), Roman Catholic chaplain at Swinburn, 283 n.
 Allen, river, tributaries and course, 74, 109.
 Allen smelt mill, particulars of, 90.
 Allen, West, or Ninebanks, in Allendale parish, 1, 76-7; chapel of, 78, 110-11; great tithes sold to Sir John Fenwick, 83; chapel dues, 84; GRIEVESHIP of, 109; topographical notes, 109; muster roll, 109; associated with 'bounds of Hexhamshire,' 110; principal proprietors, 110; assigned to Ninebanks chapel, 111; benefice endowed, 111 n; enquiry as to tithes, 114-5; holdings of yeoman families, 121; minor estates, 121-2. *See also* Ninebanks.
 Allendale parish, grieveships comprised in, 1, 76; boundaries, 74, 76; topographical features, 74; significance of name, 74; population, 74 n; status of tenants, 75; Scottish raids, 75 n; witch panic, 76; divisions and sub-divisions, 76-7; acreage, 76; viewed from Little Swinburn, 302.
 Allendale, East, muster of tenants, 74-5; one of the original grieveships, 76-7.
 Allendale church, position of, 77; early history, 77; dedicated to St. Mary, 77; endowment, 77; Ritschell's notes on, 78; illustration, 78; architectural details, 78-9; the modern structure, 79; peculiar customs in connection with, 79; now dedicated to St. Cuthbert, 79 n; manor court enquiry concerning, 79; perpetual curates of, 80-1; visitations, 82-5; great tithes sold to Sir John Fenwick, 83; chapel dues, 84; registers, 85-6; silver communion cup, 86; monumental inscriptions, 86-7; charities, 87; endowments, 89; commission as to tithes, 114-5.
 Allendale common, divided by Act of Parliament, 52, 72; nature of division, 72-3.
 Allendale mill, restrictions as to its use, 49.
 Allendale Town, or 'Allenton,' 1; park of, 34; divisions of, 76-7; bequests to poor of, 80 n, 87, 87 n, 95; GRIEVESHIP situation, 88; pre-historic evidences, 88; chalybeate spring at, 88 n; Methodist chapels at, 88-9; half-yearly fairs at, 88; bridge at, 89; Quakers' meeting house at, 89; educational endowments, 90; turnpike, 102 n.
 Allenheads, school at, 90; altitude of, 101; lead mining industry, 101, 101 n, 102; gun-testing range at, 102; turnpike, 102 n.
 Allenheads chapel, 99-100; rebuilt, 100; curates of, 100. 'Allenton.' *See* Allendale Town.
 Allgood, Miss Ann (1668), bequest to, 372.
 — Barbara (1752), tenant, 5.
 — (*née* Hunter), Elizabeth (d. 1864), monumental inscription, 132; parentage, 148.
 — (Hunter), Esther (1738), suit against, 381; marriage, 381; provisions of will, 381.
 — George (1655), acts as arbitrator, 138; possessions (1663), 17.
 — James (1790) of Nunwick, marriage, 347.

- Allgood, Jane (1738/9), marriage, 269.
 — Lancelot (1738/9), tenant, 5; supervisor of will, 61; marriage, 269; value of his corn tithes, 271; inter-common rights in Birtley, 357; estates, 381.
 — Major (1747), agreement with Wall tenants, 171; acts as arbitrator, 236, 328 n.
 — (Widdrington), Margaret (d. 1777), marriage, 213, 237; portrait at Nunwick, 213 n; marriage settlement, 214, 237; death, 214.
 — Mary (1738), suit against, 381.
 — (*née* Reed), Mary Neville (d. 1816), epitaph, 349.
 — Miss (1897), of the Hermitage, estates of, 143, 148.
 — Robert (1718), acquires Chipchase, 339; letter to the clerk of the peace, 346.
 — Robert Lancelot (1826) of Nunwick, 148; value of his corn tithes, 271-2; marriage, 348.
 — Thomas (1668), bequest, 372; (1694), tithe farmer, 107.
 Allison, Joseph (1716), marriage, 105.
 Alrbarne, tenement, value of, 59.
 Alsop (Watson), Hannah (1776), marriage, 105, 108.
 — (Watson), Lydia (d. 1810), marriage, 105.
 Alsopp, Charles (1717), fined, 108.
 Alston, turnpike from, 102 n.
 Alston Moor, bequests to poor of, 87.
 Alwentdaill, Alwentona. *See* Allendale.
 Amundevilla, John de (1220), witness, 325.
 Anabaptist chapel at Dye-house, 43.
 Anderson (Heron), Anne, twice married, 340.
 — (Riddell), Barbara (d. 1627), marriage, 284.
 — Bartholomew (1703), action against, 214.
 — George (1505), acts under power of attorney, 379.
 — Henry Percy (1869), marriage, 206.
 — Robert (1628), mortgagee, 231.
 Andrew (Caldcleugh), Isabel (d. 1785), marriage, 124.
 — Thomas (1737), assessed, 221-2.
 Andrews, Ann (1752), bequest to, 236 n.
 — Bower (1716), baptism, 235.
 — Gerard (1719), baptism, 235.
 — Robert (d. 1764), tenant, 5; bequests to poor, 134, 235; will of, 235; purchases Todridge, 237.
 — Thomas (1752), tenant, 6.
 Andrews of Hexham and Bingfield, family of, genealogy of, 235; estates of, 236.
 'Angel,' the, inn at Corbridge, 210.
 Angus, Gilbert, earl of (1250), acquires manor of Chollerton, 254, 256.
 — Robert Umframvill, earl of (1307), obtains licence for market and fair, 315.
 Angus (Wear), Ann, marriage, 29.
 — Catherine (1770), marriage, 29.
 — George (1715), entered as non-juror, 154.
 — Hannah (1706), bequest to, 42; (Clark), (1769), marriage, 29.
 — Henry (1774), marriage, 29.
 — Isabel (1706), executrix, 42.
 — John (1707), trustee, 42.
 — Joseph (1722), bequest to, 42; holdings of, 42 n.
 — Mary (1706), bequest to, 42.
 — Richard (1825), mortgagee, 30.
 — Sarah (1706), bequest to, 42.
 — Titus (1707), abstract of will, 42; witness, 58.
 — William (1706), bequest, 42; in Juniper, 43; (1770), marriage, 29; (1896), purchases Hesleywell, 68.
 Anick, in parish of St. John Lee, 1, 125; bequest to poor of, 134, 235; disputes as to commons, 138; hamlet of, 154; TOWNSHIP, 149; early history, 149-52; amalgamated for census with Sandhoe, 149 n, 150 n, 198; area and census returns, 150; survey, 151-2; proprietors in 1663, 152; a refuge for Jacobites, 154; rateable value, 191; Red-house farm, 192.
 Anick Grange, in parish of St. John Lee, 1, 125; a distinct manor, 149; position of, 149-50; amalgamated for census with Sandhoe, 149 n, 150 n, 198; area and census returns, 150; present owner, 154.
 Annandale, Alex. Bowie (1888), of Bingfield, 232.
 — William (1841), purchases estate in Bingfield, 232.
 Anne, Michael (1697), bequest to, 36 n.
 Apilton, W. (1493), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
 Appleby, rebel forces at, 80.
 Applegarth, John (1745), marriage, 105.
 Appleton, Thomas de (d. 1345), prior of Hexham, 11.
 Appletree Shield, in Ninebanks, 116, 121, 123 n.
 Arbuthnot, Arthur, (1868), marriage, 206.
 — (Heron), Elizabeth (1758), marriage 342.
 Archdeacon, Mr. (1693), executor, 421.
 Archer, Mr., drawings by, 183, 183 n, 316.
 Architecture: descriptions of Whitley chapel, 25; Linnels bridge, 32; Dotland park, 40; Allendale chapel, 78; Ninebanks tower, 112; St. John Lee chapel, 130; Roman bridge, 164; Cocklaw tower, 180; Chollerton church, 262; Great Swinburn, 282; Little Swinburn tower, 303; Chipchase: tower, 333; manor house, 337; chapel, 349. Birtley church, 357; Thockrington church, 391.
 Ardley, Low, farm in Middle Quarter, 54; owner, 55.
 Ardley Stob, 54; owners, 55; in dispute, 58.
 Armstrong, Alexander (1479), party to petition, 128; (1538), a trooper, 136.
 — Andrew (1500), a trooper, 8 n; (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138.
 — Ann (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139; (1673), a witchfinder, 76; (*née* Hunter), marriage, 51; will, 51 n.
 — Charles (1626), possessions of, 44.
 — Christian (1663), owner of Acomb mill, 139, 141.
 — Dominic (1670), guardian, 67.
 — Edward (1542), order of court against, 49; (1608), holdings of, 21, 64-5; (1615), of Newcastle, witness, 152.
 — Elizabeth (1752), tenant, 6; (1769), administratrix, 67; (*née* Ord) (1770), wills the Holmes, 53.
 — Francis (1752), tenant, 6.
 — George (1547), of Lillswood, 64; of Eadsbush, 67; (1626), possessions of, 44; (1663), proprietor in Sandhoe, 211.
 — Gerald (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138.
 — (Shield), Grace (1695), marriage, 95.
 — Henry (1693), bequest to, 260.
 — Jane (1626), holding in Harwood Shield, 69; (*née* Johnson) (1668), bequest to, 60; (1722), administratrix, 173; (Mewburn), (1736), marriage, 142.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 75, 136, 136 n; (1601), of Chollerton, action against, 402 n; (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138-9; (1694), of Ninebanks, tenant in Acomb, 140 n; (1715), of Anick, entered as non-juror, 154; (1722), tenant of Wall mill, 171; (d. 1725), of Ninebanks, burial, 86; (d. 1731), of Park-house, death, 67; (1779), tenant in Acomb, 140; (1800), of Park-house, copyholder, 67.
 — Lancelot (1608), holding of, 69.
 — Mary (d. 1745/6), parentage, 57; (*nuper* Fairless) (1747), third marriage, 97.
 — Matthew (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138.
 — Nicholas (1538), a trooper, 136; (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138.

- Armstrong, Richard (1538), a trooper, 136; (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139; Ord (d. 1746), parentage, 57.
 — Robert (1538), a trooper, 136; (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138; charitable bequest by, 88 n.
 — Rowland (1537), a trooper, 137 n.
 — Simon (d. 1728), tenant, 140 n; marriage, 142.
 — Teasdale (d. 1758), marriage and death, 51.
 — Thomas (1479), of Beaufront, party to petition, 128; (1500), a trooper, 8 n, 75, 136; (1547), owner of Ordley hall, 44; (1750), marriage, 119; (1755), sells the Monk wood, 97.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 75, 136, 136 n.; (1547), holding of, 69; holds Acomb mill, 136, 141; setter and searcher, 137 n.; (1626), possessions of, 44; (d. 1670), estate of, 67-8; (1752), tenant, 6; (1757), of Elrington, named in will, 143; (d. 1759), of Hexham, marriage, 57; (1768), of Park-house, administration, 67; (1779), tenant in Acomb, 140; (1812), bequest to, 28.
 — Sir William, & Co., mines and lands, 248, 363, 369.
 Armstrong guns, testing ranges, 102, 369.
 'Armytage,' See Hermitage.
 Arnison, Christopher (d. 1835), epitaph, 86.
 — Jane (d. 1878), monumental inscription, 86.
 — William Campbell (d. 1883), surgeon, epitaph, 86.
 Arrowsmith, Rev. John Hixon (d. 1865), vicar of Kirkharle, monumental inscription, 266.
 Ash, Roger (1540), freeholder in Binglefield, 225.
 Ashbourne, C. (1570), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
 Ashes, Low, copyhold farm, acreage, 121.
 Aske, Richard de (1355), bailiff, 34; a witness, 202.
 Askew (*née* Davidson), Mrs., lands at Broomhope, 369.
 'Assart,' the term explained, 39 n.
 Asse-hurst, tenement in Birtley, 356.
 Assheton, Wm. (1595), vicar of Bywell St. Andrew, 189.
 Astell, Peter (1690), witness to indenture, 146.
 Atcheson, Ralph (1597), appraiser, 295.
 Atchinson, Ralph (1595), witness, 294 n.
 Atkinson of Kingswood and Newbiggin, pedigree, 38.
 Atkinson of Kirkheaton, family of, genealogy, 381.
 Atkinson (Tulip), Bridget (1804), marriage, 159.
 — Elizabeth (1689), bequest to, 120; (Carr) (1730), marriage, 134.
 — George (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403; (1752), of Hexham, 6.
 — Henry (1752), tenant, 6.
 — (Stote), Isabel (d. 1587), marriage, 383.
 — (Riddell), Isabel (d. 1614), marriage, 284.
 — Jacob (1725), estates conveyed to, 381.
 — John (1663), holdings of, 380; (1693), of Haydon Bridge, trustee, 421; (d. 1736), sells estates, 381; (1780), curate of Birtley, 360; (1862), sells estates at Hallington, 244.
 — John Cooper (1689), bequest to, 120.
 — Joseph (1682), sells estate, 232; (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Captain Leonard (1807), estates of, 37, 45-6.
 — Luke (1722), freeholder in Kirkheaton, 381.
 — Margaret (1693), bequest to, 421.
 — Mary (1693), bequest to, 421.
 — Richard (1479), tenant, 379-80.
 — Ruth (1738), suit against, 381.
 — William (1752), tenant, 6.
 Aubeny, Richard de (1220), rector of Thockrington, 388.
 Awden, Christopher (1538), a trooper, 75.
 — George (1538), a trooper, 75, 157.
 Aydon, Emma de (1207), King's ward, twice married, 199, 200 n, 376; death, 200.
 Aydon, acquired by Peter de Vaux, 200.
 Aydon Shield, 48, 52; Aydon hills, 53.
 Aynsley of Hexham, family of, estates of, 237.
 Aynsley, Gawen (1785), leases of tithes, 390 n, 396.
 — Guy, marriage, 418.
 — John (1702), exchanges possessions, 228, 237; (1748), of Hexham, provisions of will, 230; (1752) tenant, 6; marriage, 418.
 — Lionel, marriage, 20.
 — (Reed), Mary (d. 1747), marriage, 347.
 — Robert (1505), witness, 379 n.
- B.
- Ba (*née* de Witton), Dionisia de (1271), abducted, 408.
 Baard, Ralph (1210), witness, 325.
 Babington, Babynton. See Bavington.
 Backcroft, farm at Kirkheaton, 386.
 Backhouse, Edward (1873), biographical notes, 3.
 Backstone Cleugh, fissure, 73.
 Bacon of Staward, family of, 75, 94.
 Bacon, Cecilia (1696), educational benefaction, 90.
 — Elizabeth (1680), baptism, 86.
 — Frances (b. 1709), baptism, 133; (1779), tithes owner, 140.
 — Francis (d. 1697), burial, 86.
 — George (d. 1670), benefactions, 26; epitaph, 86; marriage, 119; mortgagee, 117.
 — Isabel (1779), tithes owner, 140.
 — (Bland), Johanna (1672), marriage, 85.
 — John (1726), of Staward, 98 n; trustee, 421; (1733), of Newbrough, trustee, 120.
 — Joseph (d. 1674), burial, 85.
 — William (1748), gift to Allendale church, 83.
 Bage, Mary (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403.
 Bagraw, estate of, 2; dependency of Coastley, 9; successive owners, 11, 13, 14-16; tenure, 11.
 Bainbridge, George (1825), succeeds to estate in Kirkheaton, 381.
 Baldwyn, William (1296), pays subsidy, 277.
 Balliol, Hugh de (1220), grants to Hexham priory, 303; witness, 325; confirms grant to Newminster, 326.
 — Robert de (1356), sheriff, witness, 201.
 Balliol barony, members, 245, 273, 304, 320, 400; tenants of, 303.
 Balls Leazes, tenement in Sandhoe, 152.
 Baptists, congregation at Hexham, 55.
 Barber (Dobson), Catherine (1649), marriage, 80.
 — David (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 13.
 — (Coppin), Mary (d. 1862), marriage, 234.
 — Roger (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403.
 — William (1775), petition by, 89 n.
 Barker-house, homestead, 55; held by Ord family, 55-6.
 Barkley, William (1785), executor, 423.
 Barnes, Stephen (1725), trustee, 192.
 — William (1792), curate of Birtley, 360.
 Barnhouse, the Heron estates in, 339.
 Barns, near Bavington, rental, 423.
 Barnsteads, the Heron estates in, 339.
 Barras, John (1816), marriage, 4.
 Barrasford, Adam de (1296), pays subsidy, 355.
 — Agnes de (1255), assaulted, 313.
 — Jordan de (1479), tenant, 303.
 — Sir Robert (1505), party to deed, 390.
 Barrasford, certain lands in manor of Anick Grange, 149; in parish of Chollerton, 245; part of Umframvill barony, 245, 253, 314; corn tithes, 269, 270-1; TOWNSHIP, 310; acreage, 310; survey *temp.* Eliz., quoted, 310; census returns, 311 n; camp and pre-

- historic remains, 311-2; description and illustration of Gunner Peak camp, 312-3; early history, 313; hut circles (illustration), 314; Scottish ravages, 314; subsidy rolls, 315, 315 n; priory lands, 315; market and fair granted, 315; list of tenants, 317; present owners, 318.
- Barron, Lancelot (1538), a trooper, 380.
— (*née* Heron), Mary (d. 1804), genealogical notes, 346.
— Captain Robert (d. 1789), marriage, 342.
- Barrows, examples of, 253, 272-3, 289 n, 351-3. *See* cists and pre-historic remains.
- Barthropp, N. G. (1860), marriage, 420.
- Barton, Sir Henry de (1355), auditor of Hexham manor, 34, 150.
- Bartram, John (1663), possession of, 70.
- Barun, Adam (1296), pays subsidy, 315.
- Basier (*née* Holmes), Margaret, twice married, 383.
- Bassenwhet, Archibald (1538), a trooper, 157.
— John (1568), holdings of, 26 n.
- Battle-houses. *See* Towers.
- Bataill (Shafto), Isabel, history, 412, 417; inheritance, 413.
— Jane (1320), her inheritance, 413.
— John (1339), conveyance by, 413-4.
— Margaret (1300), party to suit, 412.
— (Shafto), Matilda, inheritance, 413; marriage, 417.
— Richard (1320), grants of land to, 412.
— Robert (1235), suit against, 411.
— Stephen, benefactions to Hexham priory, 411, 414.
— William de (1300), suit by, 412; death, 413.
- 'Batching,' the term explained, 42 n.
- Bateman, Richard (1753), marriage, 243.
- Bates (Shafto), Ann (1707), marriage, 418.
— Cuthbert (d. 1767), burial, 269.
— John (1752), of Aydon, 6.
— John Moore (1800), studies in Gaelic, 209 n.
— (Watson), Margaret (1740), marriage, 269.
— Mary (1752), wife of J. M. Bates, 6.
— Thomas (1582), survey of Northumberland, 32 n, 207; (1806), of Halton, commissioner in division of Hexham common, 72; estates in Wall, 175.
— William (1791), commissioner in division of Hexham common, 72; (1815), farms Chollerton, 265 n.
- Batesbill, appurtenance of Ninebanks, acreage, 121.
- Bateson (Keenleyside), Ann, bequest to, 121.
— Christopher (1608), of Greenley Cleugh, 121
— Jane (1694), executrix, 121.
— John (1538), trooper, 110; (d. *circa* 1698), will of, 121.
— Marmaduke (1608), of Woodmas Walls, 121.
— Matthew (1694), bequest to, 121.
— William (1538), a trooper, 109; (1547), holdings in West Allen, 121; (1694), bequest to, 121.
- Bathurst, Sir Fred. H. (d. 1881), marriage, etc., 194, 205 n.
— Sir F. T. H. (1893), estates, 193; marriage, 194
- Baty, Isaac (1873), lands at Short Knowes, 310 n.
- Bavington, Alexander de (1296), pays subsidy, 412.
— Alice de (1301), party to suits, 239, 399.
— Bernard de (1235), holdings of, 411.
— Gilbert de (1323), holdings of, 377; witness, 401; pays subsidy, 412; party to suit, 412.
— Isabella de (1322), party to suit, 239.
— John de (1301), possessions in dispute, 239.
— Richard de (1296), suits, 399, 412.
— Simon de (1322), suit by, 239.
— Stephen de (1269), defendant in suit, 411.
— William de (1347), witness, 332 n, 333 n; pays subsidy, 413; lands in Little Bavington, 414.
- Bavington, Little, in Thockrington parish, 387; acreage and population, 411, 411 n; outlying farms, 411; a member of Umframvill barony, 411; Hexham priory lands, 411, 414; subsidy roll, 412-3; the tower, 414; connection with Shafto family, 412-25; chapel at, 412; forfeited to the crown, 416; purchased by Admiral Delaval, 423; description of mansion house, 424.
- Bavington Carr, position of, 411.
- Bavington, Great, geology, 249; rental, 416, 423.
- Bavington Hill-head, farmstead, 411, 423 n.
- Bavington mill, rental, 423 n.
- Baxter (*née* Watson), Ann, bequest to, 108.
— Anthony (1576), ecclesiastical court suit, 115.
— Anthony (1752), tenant, 6.
— Jane (d. 1724), burial, 86, 99 n.
— (Forest) Margaret, marriage, 63.
— (Rowland) Margaret, marriage, 41.
— Thomas (1385), charge against, 201; (1752), tenant, 6.
- Bayeux, Odo de (1066), an alien bishop, 273.
- Beacon, in Hexham township, 2; known as Beacon-house and Beacon Grange, 4; successive owners, 4-5.
- Beadland, Francis (1713), bequest to, 21.
- Beanridge, estate of, registered, 192; rental, 192.
- Beaufront, plates, 198, 209; tower, 198; early history, 198-205; styled a manor, 198, 200; abstracts from charters, 202; old pronunciation of name, 202 n.
- Beaufront Hill-head, registered, 191; acreage, 193.
- Beaufront Wood-head, 198; domestic chapel, 198 n.
- Beaumont, Diana (1800), holdings of, 51 n, 71.
— Matilda (1296), pays subsidy, 320.
— Mr. (1845), possessions in Allenheads, 101.
— Patrick de (1336), pays subsidy, 258.
— Thomas Richard (1800), freeholder, 71.
— T. W. (1825), sells Gunnerton manor, 329.
— W. C. B. (1897), possessions of, 18, 52-3, 66, 68, 70-1, 122, 129, 154.
- Beaumont house, a farm of Chollerton, 258, 259, 261.
- Beck, John (1776), bequest to, 93.
- Bedale, Roger de (1256), witness, 331 n.
- Bede, the Venerable, his description of Eagle's Nest, 127 n; battle of Hefenfelth, 177-8; the story of St. Oswald's cross, 179-80.
- Bee, of Ninebanks, family of, possessions of, 95, 97; arms of, 113; wills and evidences in lieu of pedigree, 116-7; devolution of estates of, 118.
— (Eden), Ann, 116; inherits brother's estates, 117-8; marriage, 118; (Dares), (1680), marriage, etc., 86.
— (Hawdon), Barbary (1669), marriage, etc., 85, 117.
— Christopher (1538), a trooper, 109; (1547), grievance of Keenley, 110, 116.
— Francis (d. 1681), marriage and death, 86.
— Jane (1614), tuition of, 116; marriages, 117-8, 297; inherits brother's estates, 117.
— Matthew (d. 1599), suits about lead mines, 114, 116; and tithes, 114-5; estates, 116; death, 118; (d. 1696), burial, 86.
— Nicholas (1538), a trooper, 75.
— Peter (1538), a trooper, 110.
— Thomas (1538), a trooper, 75, 109; (1576), injunction against, 115; (d. 1662), burial, 85; lands, 117; (d. 1664), burial, 85; lands, 117; (d. 1673), burial, 85.
— William (1538), a trooper, 75.
- Beechburn, Thomas de (1373), holdings of, 378-9.
- Beer mill, in Allendale, 93.
- Beies close, in Allendale, 116.
- Bek, Anthony (1310-16), bishop of Durham, 257.
- Beldon burn, affluent of the Derwent, 69, 73.
- Bell, Ann (1732), tenant, 6.
— Christopher (1752), tenant, 6.

- Bell, Cuthbert (1752), of Hexham, 6.
 — Daniel (*circa* 1800), marriage, 119.
 — Elizabeth (1752), of Hexham, 6.
 — George (1602), executor, 172; (1653), tenant, 150; (1752), tenant, 6; (1897), estates of, 17, 46.
 — Gerard (1538), a trooper, 258.
 — (Watson), Hannah (d. 1808), marriage, 105.
 — Henry (1897), estates of, 17, 46.
 — James (1552), setter and searcher, 170.
 — John (1296), pays subsidy, 315; (1538), a trooper, 157; (1552), setter and searcher, 196 n; (1699), of Windy side, 120; (1752), tenant of Hexham, 6; (1770), trustee, 58.
 — Joseph (1752), of Echester, 6.
 — (Johnson), Mary, marriage and epitaph, 29.
 — Ralph (1538), a trooper, 258.
 — Robert (d. 1700), inventory of goods of, 5 n; (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Thomas (1653), tenant, 190.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 157; (1713), holds lease of Yarridge, 18; (1752), of High Shield, 5, 6; (1775), petition by, 89 n.
- Bellacis, Richard (1538), acquires Hallington, 240.
 Bellingham, John (1542), order of court against, 49.
 — Nicholas (1496), acquires the Hermitage, 144.
 — William, of (1298), tried for robbery, 109 n.
- Bellingham demesne, registered, 373.
 Bellingham mill, 371; registered, 373.
 Bellomonte. *See* Beaumont.
- Bells Leazes, tenement, in dispute, 152.
- Belshow, Thomas de (1317), witness to deed, 292 n.
- Bennet, George (1716), tenant in Barrasford, 317, 318 n.
 — Joseph, jun. (1875), curate of Thockington, 396.
 — Thomas (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317.
- Bentham (Dobson), Anne (1720), bequest to, 131 n.
 — Cornelius (1720), will of, 131 n.
 — (Farbridge), Isabel (1720), named in will, 131 n.
 — Leonard (d. 1720), minister of St. John Lee, 131; will of, 131 n; monumental inscription, 132.
 — Phillis (1770), bequest to, 131 n.
 — William (d. 1774), will, 131 n; burial, 134.
- Benton, Little, part of Wirecester barony, 273.
- Benton, Eustace de (1200), witness, 303 n.
 — Gervais de (1184), witness, 274 n, 303 n.
- Bendridge, estate of, 36 n. *See* Beanridge.
- Bercarius, Henry (1336), pays subsidy, 308.
 — Nicholas (1336), pays subsidy, 308.
- Berethun, deacon to St. John of Beverley, 127 n.
- Berkley, Lord (1780), 187.
- Bernard, prior of Hexham (1243), 330, 348.
 — Simon (1336), pays subsidy, 377 n.
- Bernicia, kingdom of, ruled by Cadwalla, 178;
 Oswald's kingship, 179.
- Berry, Matthew, of Newcastle, and his children, 260.
 — Mrs. (d. 1691), sister to Mr. Carnaby, burial, 268.
- Bertram, Adam (1236), rights in Coastley mill, 9, 16;
 grants to Archbishop Gray, 197.
 — (Stote), Eleanor, (d. 1598), marriage, 383.
 — (Shafto), Isabel, marriage, 417.
 — Sir John (1428), a trustee for Chipchase, 338-9; gives power of attorney, 343.
 — Robert (1212), acquires Coastley, 9.
 — Roger (1298), gifts to priory, 9; witness, 325.
 — Varedus, holdings of, 9 n.
- Bertram, family of, possessions of, 9-10.
- Bettison, H. A. (1890), chaplain of Kirkheaton, 386;
 incumbent of Thockington, 396.
- Beuckley, freehold estate, in 1608 associated with Acomb, 136; entail of, 186, 212; registered, 192;
 rental, etc., 192, 197, 221; acreage, 193 n; early history, 197; absorbed in Errington estates, 197; course of Roman road to, 217.
- Beufrere, Alan (1296), pays subsidy, 315.
 — William (1296), pays subsidy, 315.
- Bewcastle, acquired by John de Swinburn, 306.
- Bewclay, Boclive, Bokley, Bucklif, Buckliffe, Bucliffe, Buckell, Bukeley. *See* Beuckley.
- Bewick, Calverley (1896), trustees of lands, 386.
 — Cuthbert, descendants of, 382.
 — George (1651), baptism, 144 n.
 — James (d. 1789), burial, 395.
 — (Stote), Jane (1663), marriage, 383.
 — Joseph (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Sir Robert (1756), obtains estate in Kirkheaton, 382.
 — Stephen (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Thomas (1597), witness, 203.
 — William (1716), tenant in Thockington, 403.
- Bewick, family of, estates of, 382, 385, 386.
- Bewsher, Rev. F., Birtley (Durham), marriage, 420.
- Bickerstaff (*nupes* Clark), Jane (d. 1694), second marriage, 241 n.
 — Philip (1677), purchases Hallington and Hallington mill, 241; biographical notes, 241 n.
- Biddleston, Robert de (1297), juror, 322 n.
- Bindlosse (Heron), Jane, marriage, 344.
- Bingfield, Alice de (1290), suit by, 223.
 — Emma de (1310), second marriage, 223.
 — Robert de (1301), in possession of Bingfield, 223.
 — Roger de (1229), alluded to, 223.
 — Simon de (1303), juror, 223 n.
- Bingfield, in parish of St. John Lee, 1, 125; bequest to poor of, 134; a member of Anick grange manor, 149; Roman road to, 217; acreage and population, 220; TOWNSHIP, 220; principal residence and farmsteads, 220; chapel of St. Mary, 221; great tithes, 222; school-house, 223; early history, 223; moiety held by Hexham priory, 224-6; contribution to subsidy, 224; surveys, 225; muster roll, 225; old manor house, 226 n; connection of Errington family with, 226-8, 230-1; proprietors, 222, 230-1, 234; the Widdrington lands, 231; Story's lands, 237.
- Bingfield Comb, farmstead in Bingfield township, 220; assessment, 221; acreage, 220, 230; owner, 230.
- Bingfield East Quarter, 221-2, 220.
- Bingfield East Side, 222, 232.
- Bingfield hall, assessment of, 221.
- Bingfield lodge, otherwise Law house, 237.
- Bingfield North and West farms, 222; owners, 236.
- Binks (Caldcleugh), Mary, marriage, 124.
- Birch-nook (1673), home of a witch-finder, 76.
- Bird, Anne (d. 1852), monumental inscription, 266.
 — Anne Jane (d. 1866), monumental inscription, 266.
 — Christopher, of Westmorland (d. 1814), epitaph, 266; Rev. Christopher (d. 1867), perpetual curate of Allendale, 81; epitaph, 266; vicar of High Hoyland and Chollerton, 267; purchases advowson of Chollerton, 267 n; value of his corn tithes, 271; value of his benefice, 272; purchases Gunnerton, 329; Rev. Christopher, the younger (d. 1896), vicar of Chollerton and High Hoyland, death, 268.
 — (*née* Coppin), Isabella, marriage, 234.
 — Margaret (d. 1822), monumental inscription, 266.
 — Ralph (1483), prebendary of Throckington, 388.
 — Robert (1538), a trooper, 157.
 — Thomas (1716), tenant in Throckington, 403.
- Birds to be found at Hallington, 244 n.
- Birk, Edward (1538), a trooper, 136.
- Birkeburn, associated with Kirkeburn, 135, 141, 143.

- Birkfield, tenement, 42.
 Birkin Path, in Allendale, acreage, 116, 121.
 Birks, in Low Quarter, 32; owners, 32 n, 36, 37.
 Birks, East and West, estates of, 36.
 Birtley, Benedict de (1336), pays subsidy, 355 n.
 — Dame Isabel de, genealogical evidences, 325.
 Birtley, certain lands within manor of Anick grange, 149; course of a 'drove' road through, 216; pre-historic camps at, 218; in parish of Chollerton, 245; a member of Umframvill barony, 245, 253, 354; disposal of common rights, 254; granted to Herons, 343; TOWNSHIP, 351; position and acreage, 351; extract from Elizabethan survey, 351; pie-historic remains, illustrations, 351-4; subsidy roll, 354-5; contribution to muster, 355; list of tenants, 356; common rights, 357; holy well, 354.
 Birtley chapel, a dependent of Chollerton, 357; granted to Hexham priory, 253, 357-9; tithes, 269, 339, 358; structure, 358; the chancel arch (illustration), 358; pre-Conquest sepulchral stone (illustration), 358-9; monumental inscriptions, 359; registers, 359-61; list of curates, 360; patronage assigned to duke of Northumberland, 360.
 Birtley-hall and demesne, 356; illustration, etc., 361.
 Birtley Shield, homestead, 356-7; camp at, 351.
 Birtley West farm, camp at, 351.
 Birtley wood, slag and scoriae, 354.
 Bishopfield, in Allendale, owners, 95, 116-7.
 Bishop's Leazes, grazing rights in dispute, 138.
 Bishop's Rig, parcel of land, 151 n.
 Bitelstayn, Robert (1538), a trooper, 75.
 Black Bank mill, in Allendale, holders of, 94.
 Black bog, pasture in Birtley, 356.
 Black-hall, estate of, 26 n, 46; position of, 41-2; passes to Featherstone family, 42; present owner, 42.
 Black-hill, farmstead in Sandhoc, 198.
 Black-hill, homestead in Chipchase, 350.
 Black Pasture quarry, near Brunton bank, 164 n.
 Black Sike, 73.
 Blackcleugh, estate of, 103, 123 n.
 Blackdene, 5.
 Blackett, Calverley (1746), gift to Whitley chapel, 27.
 — Sir Edward (1762), possessions of, 140; alluded to 148; pew in St. Oswald's, 176 n.
 — Sir Edward (1892), exchanges estates, 158.
 — (*née* Shield), Elizabeth (1776), bequest to, 93.
 — Jane (d. *circa* 1831), bequests by and to, 87, 93.
 — John (1739), suit by, 237.
 — Nicholas (1676), burial, 133.
 — Osith (1776), bequest to, 93.
 — (Lee), Sophia Wentworth, marriage, 132 n.
 — Sir Thomas, bart. (1781), lord of Hexham manor, 22; tithes held by, 140.
 — Sir Walter (1755), lord of manor, 1 n, 2; share of common, 6; benefactions to Whitley, 27-8; lay rector of Allendale, 83-4; benefaction to Birtley chapel, (1765), 360; claims part of Stote estates, 382.
 — Sir Walter Calverley, wills Sweethope estate, 410.
 — Walter (1762), corn tithes, 271; Gunnerton, 328.
 — William (b. 1676), of Fallowfield, baptism, 133.
 — Sir William (1689), leases Yarridge, 18; lay rector of Allendale, 83; benefactions, 100; purchases Stagshaw Close and other estates, 208, 327, 380, 410; alluded to, 99, 171; (1760), suit against, 382 n.
 Blackett of Matfen, family estates of, 158.
 Blackett estate, descent of, 329.
 Blackett-Ord, A. J. (1897), owner of Ninebanks, etc., 97, 121.
 Black-hall, the Heron estate in, 339.
 Black-hill, homestead in Kirkheaton, 376, 386.
 Blacklock, Edward (1538), a trooper, 21.
 — Nicholas (1538), a trooper, 21.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 21.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 21.
 Blackoe, John (1676), marriage, 133.
 Blueberry Cleugh, fissure, 73.
 Blair, John (1825), surrenders estates, 30.
 Blake, Anth. (1563), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
 — (Howard), Eleanor (1712), marriage, 227.
 — (Reed), Sarah (d. 1771), marriage, 243, 347.
 Blake, Reed & Co., suspend payment, 348.
 Blakelaw, tenement in Kirkheaton, 381.
 Blakiston family, origin of, 400.
 Blanchland, Walter of (1278), chantry chaplain of West Swinburn, 276; pays subsidy, 277.
 — William of (1330), chaplain at West Swinburn, 278.
 Blanchland mill, restrictions as to its use, 49.
 Bland (Hill), Elizabeth, marriage, 75.
 — Henry (1672), marriage, 85.
 — (Jackson), Jane (1734), marriage, 269.
 — John (d. 1733), vicar of Chollerton, 267; marriage, 267 n; party to petition, 374.
 Blenkinsop, George (1763), owner of Hackford, 67.
 — (*née* Carnaby), Mary (1594), administers brother's estate, 212.
 Bleschet, Ralph (1296), pays subsidy, 307.
 Bleumonte, William de (1376), pays subsidy, 258.
 Bloome, Henry (d. 1752), marriage, 145, 235-6; will of, 236 n.
 Blount (Riddell), Elizabeth (d. 1849), marriage, 286.
 — (Riddell), Mary Catherine (d. 1888), marriage, 287.
 — Sir Walter (1792), marriage, 286.
 Blue Crag camp, position of, 216, 289 n.
 Blunt, Roger (1307), tenant of Hamburn, 59.
 Blyth, the river, source 376.
 Boag, Hugh (1752), commissioner in division of commons, 2.
 Boat-house, tenement, 147.
 Boat-house east close, freehold estate, acreage, 193 n.
 Boceland, Ellen de (1322), suit against, 239.
 — Robert de (1290), arbitrator in suit, 150, 156, 223; action against, 239. *See* Buteland.
 Boggle-hole, willed to Anthony Gregson, 299.
 Bog-hall, homestead in Kirkheaton, 376.
 Boghill pit, geology, 249.
 Bogshield, geological features, 252.
 Bokland, G. de (1229), witness, 59. *See* Buteland.
 Bolam, Abraham (1812), bequest to, 28.
 — (de Caus), Alina de, parentage and marriage, 376.
 — Archibald (1822), freeholder, 71 n.
 — John (1832), of Grousey-house, 68.
 — Walter de, husband of Emma de Aydon, 199, 200.
 Bolbeck, Hugh de (1236), sheriff, 254 n; witness to deed, 305 n, 398.
 Boswell (*née* Manby), Mary (1800), executrix, 384.
 — William (1790), marriage, 384.
 Botestile Leases, tenement, 14-5.
 Botland, Richard de (1272), witness, 331 n; action against, 354; holds Broomhope, 364.
 — Robert (1256), suit against, 364; (1275), a justice, 409.
 — *See* Buteland.
 Bourbank, Wm. (1524), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
 Bourne, John (b. *circa* 1726), parentage, 369.
 — Widdrington (1740), parentage, 369.
 Boutflower, William (1752), commissioner, 2.

- Bow-bridge, at Allendale Town, 89.
 Bowbrigg, held by Bee family, 117.
 Bower, the, estate of the Charltons, 371, 373.
 Boves (*nuper* Heron), Anne, twice married, 340.
 — Dr. (1716), witness to baptism, 235.
 — Henry (1596), marriage, 340.
 — Jane, (1716), witness to baptism, 235.
 — Sir Robert (1540), king's receiver, 241; his surveys quoted, 280, 339, 361, 404-5.
 — Sir William (1596), 280.
 Bowett, archbishop of York (1411), 13, 22.
 Bowman, Appleby (1725), marriage, 105.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 109.
 — Richard (1538), a trooper, 109.
 — Robert (1538), a trooper, 109, 110; (1663), owner of Riddlehamhope, 70.
 Bowrey (Longridge), Catherine (1710), marriages, 233.
 Boycott (Smyth), Louisa (1807), marriage, 194.
 Boyvill, Richard de (1232), seneschal, witness, 398.
 Bradescroft, tenement in, 59.
 Bradford, John, marriage, 417.
 Bradford, Thomas, M.D. (1748), marriage, 189.
 Bradley, an appurtenance of Ninebanks, 116.
 Bradworth (Shafto), Elizabeth (d. 1866), marriage, 420.
 Brady (Watson), Alice, marriage, 106.
 — (Watson), Hannah, marriage, 106.
 — William (1597), witness, 203.
 Braidwood, Hannah (1699), bequest to 90 n.
 — Henry (1538), a trooper, 13, 110.
 — J. (1670), proctor of Allendale, 79.
 — James (1699), executor, 90 n.
 — Thomas (1699), bequest to, 90 n.
 Brandling (Riddell), Dorothy, marriage, 284.
 — Ralph (1715), estates conveyed to, 373 n.
 Brandy-hall, homestead in Kirkheaton, 376.
 Brearcliffe (? Braidcliffe), William, murdered on Gunner-ton fell, 327.
 Breminium, iter from, 215; pretorian gates at, 218.
 Breredon, manor of, granted to Thomas de Heton, 377.
 Brett, Major-General Robert, marriage, 348.
 Brewery field, freehold estate, acreage, 193 n.
 Brides-hill, endowed and free school at, 89, 90; possessions of school trustees, 95; legacy devised to, 119.
 Bridge Eale, past and present owners, 95, 95 n.
 Bridge-end (Allendale), hamlet of, 89.
 Bridge-end field, freehold estate, acreage, 193 n.
 Brigley, appurtenance of Ninebanks, 116.
 Brinkeley, estate of, 36 n.
 Brisco, John (1832), possessions in Ordley, 45.
 — William (1832), possessions of, 45.
 Brito, W. (1229), witness 59; has grant of lands in Eggescliff, 325.
 Broad Lee, acreage, 329.
 Broadgate, homestead in Forest grieveship, 104 n.
 Broadlee, estate in West Allen, 123 n.
 Broadside, division of Allendale, 1, 77, 93.
 Broadwell-house, farmstead, position of, 71.
 Broadwood, James (1717), charitable bequest by, 87 n; fined, 108. *See* Braidwood.
 Broadwood-hall, homestead in Allendale, 90 n.
 Brockett, William (1829), marriage, 420.
 Brocklebank (Manby), Elizabeth (1790), 384.
 Bronze Period, remains of, at Grindstone Law, 220; at Stagshaw Close-house, 207. *See also* Prehistoric remains.
 Brook (Heron), Anne, marriage, 344.
 Brooksbank (*née* Hunter), Anne (d. 1853), monumental inscription, 132; parentage, 148.
 — Joseph (1832), marriage, 134.
 Brooksbank Stamp (1821), of the Hermitage, 148.
 Broomhope, section of Wailing Street at, 215, 216; in Chollerton parish, 245; TOWNSHIP, 363; boundaries, 363; acreage and census returns, 363 n; early owners. 364; held by the Lises, 364-5; the mill, 366; other owners, 367, 369.
 Broomhope mill, held by the Widdringtons, 366.
 Broomyhaugh, tenement in Birtley, 356.
 Brough, Jane (1752), tenant, 6.
 Brown, Abraham (d. 1812), curate of Whitley chapel, 28; benefactions to poor, 30; holdings of, 30 n.
 — Alexander (1741), arbitrator, 171 n, 328 n.
 — Alice (d. 1780), monumental inscription, 28.
 — (Shafto), Ann (d. *circa* 1870), twice married, 419.
 — Dr. Charles (1784), of Newcastle, witness, 299.
 — David (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Elizabeth (1766), baptism, 395; (d. 1871), monumental inscription, 385.
 — Gilbert (1800), inherits farmholds, 25.
 — Hannah (1770), baptism, 395; (d. 1822), monumental inscription, 385.
 — Rev. Humphrey, sen. (d. 1815), monumental inscription, 385; chaplain of Kirkheaton, 386; burial, 395; minister of Thockrington, 396; Rev. Humphrey, jun. (d. *circa* 1861), epitaph, 385; chaplain of Kirkheaton, 386; baptism, 395; marriage, 395; minister of Thockrington, 396-7.
 — Isabella (d. 1824), monumental inscription, 385; (d. 1859), monumental inscription, 385.
 — Jane (d. 1845), monumental inscription, 385.
 — (Heron) Jane, twice married, 345.
 — (*née* Stannard), Jemima (1823), twice married, 419.
 — John (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403; (1752), commissioner in division of commons, 2; (1752), tenant, 6.
 — (*née* Kell), Mabel (1685), named in will, 172.
 — Richard (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Robert (1734), freeholder, 16 n.
 — Captain Samuel, R.N. (1826), bridge erected by, 9 n.
 — Sarah Shafto (d. 1856), monumental inscription, 385.
 — Thomas (1538), trooper, 184; (1752), of Hexham, 6.
 — William (1293), found guilty of robbery, 109 n; (1538), a trooper, 109, 225; (1742), possessions of, 25.
 Bruce, Dr., *Roman Wall*, quoted, 162-3, 164 n.
 — Robert de (1220), witness, 325.
 Brumell (*née* Jefferson), Elizabeth (1740), marriage, 236.
 — John (1774), marriage, 236.
 — Mr. (1737), assessed, 221-2.
 Brungelflet, William de (1303), suit against, 156.
 Brunton, John (1751), curate of Birtley, 360.
 Brunton, acquired by Peter de Vaux, 200.
 Brunton house, held by Dawson family, 174; remains of Roman Wall at, 160, 162-4, 173, 173 n; altar from Hefenfelth, 179.
 Brunton, Low, *alias* Spaniel-hall, estate of, 175.
 Bruntynge, John (1335), involved in suit, 413.
 — William (1335), involved in suit, 413.
 Brydd, J. de (1380), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
 Buckle (Atkinson), Maud, marriage, 38.
 Bull, Adam (1296), pays subsidy, 315.
 — Andrew (1336), pays subsidy, 399 n; holding, 401.
 — Richard (1296), pays subsidy, 399.
 Bullock, Robert (d. 1794), burial, 134; trustee, 143.
 Bulls hill, homestead in Allendale, 90 n.
 Bunting, Abraham (1752), tenant, 7.
 Burdas, Thomas ((1670), proctor of Allendale, 79.
 Burdess, Gilbert (1538), trooper, 225.
 Burdon, Walter (1297), juror, 322.
 Burdus, Thomas (1538), a trooper, 75.

- Burgo, Christian de (1288), grant of land to, 291.
 — John de (1288), grant of land to, 291.
 Burleigh, Catherine (1762), executrix, 69 n.
 — Hercules (1722), holdings of, 64; will proved, 69 n.
 — Mary (1762), dower of, 69.
 — William (1762), estates sold, 69.
 Burn, Richard (1836), marriage, 206.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 110.
 Burn-mouth, homestead in Chipchase, 350.
 Burn Tongues, mill at, 91; hamlet, 97 n, 120.
 Burnand, Benjamin (d. 1709), burial, 99 n.
 — Nathaniel, silenced vicar of Brampton, 99-100.
 Burnfoot, Quakers meeting house at, 89 n.
 Burnlaw, homestead, position of, 96.
 Burnridge, estate, position of, 61, 64.
 Burradon, Walter de (1297), juror, 322.
 Burrell, Martha (1752), of Broom Park, 6.
 Burroughs, Samuel (1741), tenant in Gunnerton, 328.
 Burton, Thomas (1587), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
 Bush house. *See* Eadsbush.
 Buteland, Robert (1538), holding in Sandhoe, 207; trooper, 225.
 Buteland, in the parish of Chollerlton, 245; disposal of common rights, 254; TOWNSHIP, 363; acreage and census returns, 363 n; pre-historic remains, 363; mine workings, 363; camps, 364; subsidy roll, 364; lands held by Lisles, 364-5; by the Widdringtons, 365-6; passes to Greenwich hospital, 366; division of common, 366, 370, 374; present owner, 366; North and South, rateable value, 366. *See* Boceland and Boteland.
 Butler, Lieut.-Col. Henry Thomas (d. 1881), parentage, 159; (1876), sells estates in Wall, 175.
 — Thomas (1840), marriage, 159.
 Butshill, tenement, 116.
 Byerley, Christopher (1638), surrenders estates, 117.
 — Jane (1638), surrenders estates, 117.
 Byers (*née* Kell), Anne (1689), tutrix, 172.
 Byticum, Thomas de (1269), defendant in suit, 411.
- C.
- Cacciola-Trevelyan, Mrs., of Taormina (1897), her estate in Hallington, 244.
 Caeden, Richard de (1336), pays subsidy, 292.
 Cadamo, Walter de (1210), witness, 325.
 Cadeiou, Thurkill de (before 1298), grants to Hexham priory, 326.
 Cadwalla, King (d. 634), slain at Denisesburn, 45, 178; routed at Hefenfelth, 177-8; known as Catgublaun, king of Guenedota, 177 n.
 Caecilius Clemens, name on centurial stone, 164.
 Cairns. *See* Barrows.
 Caldeleugh of Caldeleugh and Durham, family of, genealogy, 123-4.
 Caldeleugh, chapel, 100, 123; altitude, 123.
 Caldstrother, John de (1296), pays subsidy, 377.
 Caldstrother, held by Hexham priory, 376; associated with Kirkheaton, 376; subsidy roll, 377; history and owners, 377-9.
 Calf Close, in Broomhope, 366, 370; fells, 367-8.
 Cambe, Gilbert (1333), excommunicated, 70.
 Camboe, Isabel (1293), possessions of, 291.
 — John de (1310), witness, 313; tenant, 376-7.
 — Robert de (1232), witness, 398; (1323), holdings, 377.
 — Walter de (1293), sheriff, possessions of, 291.
 Campbell (*née* Clavering), Mrs. H. A. (1897), estates of, 37, 41, 61, 64.
 Campion, Robert (1749), party to petition, 43.
 Camps: Birtley Shield-dene, 351; Birtley west farm, 351; Blue crag, 216; Buteland and Broomhope, 363-4; Camp hill, 216, 320; Carryhouse, 351; Colwell, 289; Countess park, 363; Cowden, 301; Folly farm, 302; Green crag, 216; Gunner Peak, 312-3; Gunnerton, 218; Hetchester, 387; High Shield green, 351; Male Knock, 352; Old Town, 94; Pity Me (Gunnerton), 216, 320; Portgate, 163, 219; Quarry-house (Thockrington), 387; Reaver crag, 216, 311; near Sweethope, 408.
 Canot, Dorothy (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139.
 Cant, George (1716), tenant in Barrasford, 317, 318 n.
 — John (1727), tenant in Barrasford, 317, 318 n.
 — Thomas (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317.
 Capheaton, manor of, purchased by Allan de Swinburn, 257, 275; encroached upon, 411.
 Capon, William (1243), chaplain, witness, 330 n.
 Capper of Bingfield, family of, genealogy, 229.
 Carelgate (Carlisle road), significance of name, 215.
 Carey (*née* Shield), Mary (1790), bequest to, 93.
 — Sir Robert (1592), of Widdrington, 280.
 Carleton (Thirwall), Frances, marriage, 35.
 Carlin (Heron), Ann (d. 1812), marriage, 345.
 Carlisle, earl of (1757), suit against, 382 n.
 Carnaby of Nubhock, genealogy, 19.
 Carnaby of Hexham, Tossou, Todburn, and Shawdon, genealogy, 20.
 Carnaby, Agnes (1608), possessions of, 196, 203-4.
 — (Dent), Ann, marriage, 134; (Errington), (1547), marriage, 188; (Heron), (1629), marriage, 341; (1693), bequest to, 260.
 — Christopher (d. *circa* 1583), acquires the Hermitage, 144; possessions at death, 203.
 — Cuthbert (1547), of Nubhock, 19; (1576), arbitrator, 32 n, 115, 208.
 — David (1574), arbitrator, 115; witness, 114-5; inherits Anick Grange, 149; acquires lease of Beaufront, 202; possessions at death, 203; acquires pictures of Beaumont house, 258.
 — (Errington), Dorothy (1583), marriage, 186, 188.
 — Francis (d. 1725), owner of West Greenridge, 24.
 — George (1547), his lands in Portgate, 212.
 — Isabella (1597), involved in matrimonial suit, 203-4.
 — Jane (1693), bequest to, 259, 261.
 — John (d. *circa* 1584), possessions at death, 203; (1653), of the Hermitage, 144; (1693), of Halton, bequest, 259; bonds, 261.
 — Lady (1547), executrix, 19; lands, 136, 143.
 — Lancelot (1606), defendant in suit, 212.
 — Magdalen (1628), party to conveyance, 212.
 — Margaret (1535), has grant of Anick Grange, 149.
 — Mark (1587), of Anick Grange, 205.
 — (Blenkinsop), Mary (1594), administers brother's estate, 212.
 — Mary (1693), of Chollerlton, bequest to, 260.
 — Nicholas (*circa* 1550), marriage, 188; (1602), of Rudehester, disputes succession, 205; remainder man in entail, 212 n; acquires Beaumont house and Beaufront, 258.
 — Odel (1547), lands in Portgate, 212.
 — Ralph (1651), of Halton, sponsor, 144 n; (d. 1694/5), of Chollerlton, will of, 259; inventory of goods of, 260-1; burial, 268; of Shawdon (d. 1842), his abnormal stature, 20 n.
 — Sir Reginald (1538), estates of, 18, 22, 34, 40, 149; executors of, 19; order to shire tenants, 49; directs muster, 109; witness, 115; lands in Sandhoe, 208; (1594), named in will, 212 n.

- Carnaby, Richard (1642), purchases annuity, 158, 190; (1693), gives bond, 261.
 — Roger (1594), of Portgate, estate administered, 212.
 — Thomas (1608), residence of, 144; (1655), marriage, 341; marriage, 417.
 — Tristram (1594), named in will, 212 n.
 — William (1542) of Nubbock, order of court against, 49; (1567), lands in Sandhoe, 208; (1631), of Portgate, 212; (1651), baptism, 144 n.
- Carnaby of Langley, family of, 8; identity, 19.
- Carnegie, Robert (1752), marriage, 298.
- Carpenter, William (1336), pays subsidy, 355 n.
- Carr (*née* Robson), Ann (1698), bequest to, 120.
 — Ann (1703), heiress, parentage, 44; (1710), of Langley, bequest to, 68; (1752), of Newcastle, tenant, 6; (1800), of Dotland, burial place of, 28.
 — Benony (1697), trustee, 36 n; estates surrendered to, 191.
 — Elizabeth (1703), bequest to, 24; (1719), bequest to, 68; (1800), copyhold tenant, 68.
 — George, of Hexham, marriage, 362; (d. 1719), of Langley, will of, 68; (d. 1745), will of, 68; (d. 1769), burial and descendants, 41 n; (1770), parentage, 41 n; (d. 1805), monumental inscription, 28; (d. 1868), monumental inscription, 28.
 — Hannah (d. 1806), monumental inscription, 28; (d. 1829), monumental inscription, 28.
 — Henry (1710), bequest to, 68; (1730), of Slaley, marriage, 134; (1752), tenant, 6; Henry Thomas (1700), marriage, 145.
 — Jane (1744), bequest to, 68.
 — John (1694), prosecution by, 107; deputy in surrender, 191; (d. 1702), marriage, 44; (d. 1710), will of, 68; (1752), tenant, 6; (d. 1789), epitaph, 28; (d. 1831), epitaph, 28; death, 41 n; (d. 1844), epitaph, 28.
 — Joseph, B.D. (d. 1806), perpetual curate of Allendale, 81; epitaph, 87; curate of Allenheads, 100.
 — Margaret (1720), office against, 134.
 — Mark (1773), marriage, 134.
 — Mary (1710), bequest to, 68; (*née* Johnson), (1712), 60; (1779), tenant in Acomb, 140; (d. 1809), monumental inscription, 28.
 — Matthew (1762), tenant, 6, 7; (1779), tenant in Acomb, 140; (1829), of Newcastle, marriage, 134.
 — Rev. Ralph (1779), lands, 140; marriage, 148.
 — Richard (1630), marriage, 14, 15; bailiff, 15.
 — Robert (1744), bequest to, 58.
 — Thomas (1722), trustee, 60; (1744), bequest to, 68; (1829), his burial place, 28.
 — Thomasine (d. 1793), death, 28.
 — (Johnson), Thomasine (1818), marriage, 29 n.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 225; (1700), of Hexham, marriage, 119; (1741), of Etal, commissioner, 328 n; (1741), of Eshott, commissioner, 328 n.
- Carr of Eshott, family of, purchase Beacon estate, 5.
- Carr of Slaley, family of, alluded to, 41 n.
- Carr-hill, near Acomb, 135.
- Carr Shield, school, 90; farm, 116, 121; chapel, 123.
- Carrick (Watson), Mary (d. 1891), marriage, 106.
- Carruthers, Edward (1597), appraiser, 295.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 293; (1594), witness, 294 n.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 293.
- Carrycoats, in Throckington parish, 387; TOWNSHIP, 403; acreage and census returns, 403; farms, 403 n; survey, quoted, 404-5; bastle house, 405; Widrington estate, 405; conveyed to Charles Shafto, 405; present owner, 405. *See also* Filton.
- Carrycoats Whitehouse, owners, 405.
- Carryhouse, camp at, 351; tenement, 356.
- Carryhouse, High and Low, homesteads in Birtley, 357.
- Cartclough. *See* Caldcleugh.
- Carter, William (1752), tenant, 6.
- Cartington, Elizabeth (1729), burial, 133.
 — John (1485), party to benefaction, 414.
 — Sir Thomas (1505), party to deed, 390.
- 'Cat-fires,' used at Allenheads, 102.
- Cataract (Catterick Bridge), union of roads at, 215.
- Catheugh, farm in Barrasford, 311, 318 n.
- Catreen, homestead in Birtley, 357.
- Catton, Allendale parish, 1, 76-7; bequest to poor of, 80 n, 87 n, 95; school at, 90; King's mill at, 90-1; GRIEVESHIP, 93-5; beacon at, 93, 93 n; known as 'Catteden,' 93; raided, 93; owners in 1663, 94; acreage, 94.
- Caus, Alicia de, 376.
 — James de, marriage, 376.
- Causey hill, Hexham, school lands at, 5.
- Cautelad, Thomas (1296), pays subsidy, 399.
- Cawood, William (d. 1419), prebendary of Throckington, 388.
- Census Returns: Acomb, 135 n; Allendale parish, 74 n; Anick and Anick Grange, 150 n; Barrasford, 311 n; Bavington (Little) 411 n; Bingfield, 220 n; Birtley, 351 n; Buteland and Broomhope, 363 n; Carrycoats, 403; Chipchase (reference to), 329 n; Cholerton, 253; Cocklaw, 175 n; Fallowfield, 155 n; Gunnerton, 319 n; Hallington, 238 n; High Quarter, 64 n; Kirkheaton, 376 n; Low Quarter, 31 n; Middle Quarter, 48 n; Portgate, 211 n; Sandhoe, 198 n; Sweethope, 408 n; Swinburn (Great) and Colwell, 272 n; Swinburn (Little), 302 n; Throckington, 387 n; Wall, 160 n; West Quarter, 8 n.
- Cestre, Dionisia de (1301), complainant in suit, 156.
 — Robert de (1301), complainant in suit, 156.
- Chalart, Robert de (1317), chaplain, 292.
- Chales, Alicia (1274), holding in Thockrington, 398.
 — Gunnania (1274), holding in Thockrington, 398.
 — Matilda (1274), holding in Thockrington, 398.
 — Stephen de (1274), holding in Thockrington, 398.
- Challoner, Ann (1719), sponsor, 235.
- Chalto, Roger (1663), holdings in Chollerton, 259.
- Chalybeate springs, 88 n, 328 n, 354.
- Chambers-close, tenement, 147.
- Chambre, Walter de (1380), vicar of Chollerton, 267.
- Champley, Edward (1693), gives bond, 261.
- Chantry: at West Swinburn, 275; at Chipchase, 330.
- Chantry lands at Allendale, 83.
- Chapel-house, farmstead in Keenley, 97 n.
- Chareheads, homestead in West Allen, 121, 123 n.
- Charities: at Whitley chapel, 30; at Allendale, 87; St. John Lee, 134.
- Charlton of the Bower and Redesmouth, genealogy and history, 375.
 — estates, 24, 33, 36, 371, 374.
 — monumental inscription at Bellingham (1628), 371 n.
- Charlton of Hlesleyside, family estates, 231.
- Charlton, Adam de (1297), lands in Gunnerton, 321.
 — Alexander (1297), inheritance of, 321.
 — Ann (1694), executrix, 139; (*née* Brown), (d. *circa* 1870), twice married, 419.
 — (Shafto), Anne or Hester (d. 1816), marriage, 419.
 — Aycusa (1200), tenements of, 321-2.
 — (Wears), Catherine (1711), marriage, 269.
 — Cuthbert, marriage, 340.
 — Edward (1668), in possession of the Bower, 371 n; (d. 1724), trustee, 36; (d. 1744), concerned in rebellion, 373; supposed portrait of, 375 n; (1800),

- of Hexham, estates of, 6, 24, 55; pew in St. Oswald's, 176 n.; (d. 1841), of Sandhoe, holds Tone and Healey in trust, 299; portrait of, 375 n; his education, 374; registers estates, 374.
- Elizabeth (1650), marriage, 231.
- Forster (1735), trustee, 61.
- George (1694), bequest to, 139; (1770), of Gateshead, 131 n, 154; (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
- Hugh (1297), inheritance of, 321; (1752) tenant, 6.
- Isabel (1752), of Whitfield, 6.
- Jane (1694), tenant in Acomb, 140 n.
- John (1559), of the Bower, accusations against, 370; tried and executed, 371; (1626) tenant in Acomb, 138; will of, 139; (1694) tenant in Acomb, 140 n.
- Joseph (1897), of Capheaton, estates of, 65.
- (*mæ* Johnson), Margaret (1668), bequest to, 60.
- (Shafto), Margaret (1729), marriage, 406.
- Margaret (1694), bequest to, 139.
- Michael (1765), trustee, 154.
- Robert (1743), depositions by, 368; (1772) of London, bequest to, 422.
- Thomas (1626), executed for sheep stealing, 371; (1663), proprietor in Anick, 152; (1694), bequest to, 139.
- William (1297), inheritance of, 321; (1646) of Acomb, estate surrendered to, 55; (1648) purchases the Bower, 371; (1656) of Hlesleyside (and of Spital), marriage, 231; estates of, 231-2, 236; (1694) of Acomb, bequest to, 139; (1716) of Hlesleyside, leaseholder in Barrasford, 317, 318 n; (1740) executor, 154; (1743) of Low Stead, depositions by, 368; (1744) marriage, 269; (1752) estates, 24, 36, 373; known as 'Bowrie,' 372-3; homicide by, 372-3; parentage, 373; supposed portrait of, 375 n; (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
- Charron, G. de (1275), 398 n.
- Chastowe, David (1538), a trooper, 293.
- Chatoe, Henry (1693), gives bond, 261.
- Roger (1693), gives bond, 261.
- Chatter, George (1653), tenant, 190.
- Thomas (1594), of Newton hall, witness, 294 n.
- Chester, Robert of (1479), party to petition, 128.
- William, charitable bequest by, 88 n.
- Chester-wood, leasehold estate, 56.
- Chesterhope, disposal of common rights, 254; willed to Anthony Gregson, 299; priory lands, 320.
- Chesterhope fell, coal workings at, 368.
- Cheviot 'forest,' application of term, 98 n.
- Cheviot, homestead near Hallyington, early British remains at, 238; present owner, 244.
- 'Cheviot,' poetical fragment, quoted, 145.
- Chicken, Alice (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139.
- George (1693), gives bond, 261.
- Hob (1536), a trooper, 136 n.
- James (1655), tenant in Acomb, 138-9.
- John (1538), a trooper, 136; (1547) grieve, 136; (1663) tenant in Acomb, 138-9.
- Richard (1538), a trooper, 136.
- Robert (1538), a trooper, 136; (1626) tenant in Acomb, 138.
- William (1538), a trooper, 136.
- Childen manor, held by Geo. Heron (1592), 343.
- Chilton, estate of, acquired by William Riddell, 288.
- Chipchase, Edulf (1220), his holding in Chipchase, 331.
- Huloc (1220), his holding in Chipchase, 331.
- Richard of (1256), tried and hanged for murder, 330-1.
- Robert (1256), grant of land to, 331.
- Waldef (1256), grant of land to, 331.
- Chipchase, a member of Umframvill barony, 245, 253, 330; geological features, 248, 251; TOWNSHIP, 329; formation, acreage, and boundaries, 329; discovery of ancient weapons at, 330; connection of the Lises with, 330-3; subsidy roll, 332; successive owners, 330, 339, 346, 348; homesteads, 350; the tower, 333-9.
- Chipchase castle, viewed from the south, 175, 226; illustration, 329; description of the tower (six plates), 329-339; manor house, 337-8; early history, 338; survey quoted, 339.
- Chipchase chapel, chantry founded, 330, 340; supposed site of, 348; dependent on Chollerton, 253, 348; the present structure and epitaphs, 349-50; value of corn tithes, 269, 349, 358.
- Chipchase Park-house, discovery of spear heads, 330.
- Chipchase-Strother, homestead in township, 350.
- Chirton, part of Wirecester barony, 273.
- Chishill-ways, farm in Barrasford, 318 n.
- Chisholm, John (1752), tenant, 6.
- Chollerford bridge, probable date, 169; destroyed by flood, 169; the modern structure, 169; ancient grave near (illustration), 169.
- Chollerton, William de (1296), pays subsidy, 291.
- Chollerton parish, 245-375; course of Watling street, 245; townships enumerated, 245; geological features, 246-52.
- certain lands in manor of Anick grange, 149; a member of Umframvill barony, 245, 253; TOWNSHIP, 253; area and census returns, 253; discovery of a barrow at, 253; held by the Umframvills, 253 4; acquired by William de Swinburn, 254-5; a ferry-boat established, 256; subsidy roll, 258; muster roll, 258; successive owners, 259, 261; farmed by Roger Carnaby, 259-261.
- Cholmley (Hodgson), Adelin (1672), marriage, 298.
- Choster, Robert (1538), a trooper, 157.
- Christianity, its dawn in Northumbria, 176-7, 179.
- Cinder Kiln hill, deposits found at, 354.
- Cists, discovery of, 253, 272, 311, 351-3, 404 n. *See also* Pre-historic remains, 169, 207, 220, 238, 289 n, 311.
- Clapham, Henry, marriage, 106.
- Clarke of Hexham and Bingfield, genealogy of, 235.
- Clark, Clarke, or Clerk: Honour (*mæ* Andrews), (d. 1805), bequest to poor, 134; bequest to, 236 n.
- Emma (1279), suit by, 398.
- James (1752), tenant, 6.
- Jane (d. 1694), marriages, 241 n; (1752), tenant, 6.
- John (1279), lands in Thockrington, 398-9; (1670), auditor of Percy estates, 241 n; (d. 1748), curate of Chollerton, burial, 269; (1830), sells estates, 122.
- Joseph (1769), marriage, 29.
- Livingston (1897), estates of, 211, 236-7.
- (Forster), Mary, marriage, 63.
- Rev. Robert (d. 1824), marriage, 235, 406.
- Slaughter (1772), bequest to poor, 134.
- William (1725), office against, 396.
- William Henry (1839), lands in Bingfield, 222.
- Clavering, Charles John (1800), freeholder, 62.
- Sir Henry, possessions of, 32 n.
- John de (1385), grant of estates to, 11; Sir John (*circa* 1620), of Callaly, marriage, 285; (1752), tenant, 6.
- Rev. J. W. Napier- (1897), owner of Hackford, 67; of Stobby Lee, 69; of Riddlebamhope, 70.
- Misses, the (1897), possessions of, 37, 41, 61, 64.
- Ralph (1686), trustee, 36, 55; letter quoted, 288.
- Thomas (1776), grants land for chapel, 108.
- Sir Thomas John, bart. (1800), possessions of, 64.

- Claxton (Riddell), Eleanor (1528), marriages, 284, 287.
 — Robert (1448), party to deed, 224.
- Clay, Jesse, marriage, 106.
 — John del (1311), curate of St. John Lee, 131.
 — (Shafto), Julia Anne, marriage, 420.
 — William del (1282), prior of Hexham, 131.
- Clayton, John, estates in Wall, 175; acquires share of Errington estates, 193.
 — John Bertram (1897), owner of Fallowfield, 155; possessions in Wall, 175; purchases Cocklaw, 184 n.
 — Nathaniel George (1892), estates of, 158.
 — William (1815), marriage, 419.
- Clemitson, John, marriage, 106.
- Clennel (Errington), Isabel (1621), 226; marriage, 227.
 — John (1683), trustee, 367 n.
 — Thomas (Fenwick), marriage, 347.
 — Thomas (1741), commissioner, 328 n.
- Cleugh, the, in Allendale, 93.
 Cleugh bank, farmhold in Keenley, 97 n.
- Cliffehill, tenement of Bee family, 116.
- Clifford, John de (1332), sheriff, witness, 258 n.
 — John (1785), marriage, 286.
- Clos, James (1538), a trooper, 157.
- Close, Mrs. (1734), burial, 269.
 — Richard (1813), sub-curate of Whitley chapel, 28.
- Close, in 1664, purchased by Wm. Charlton, 371.
- Close-house. *See* Stagshaw.
- Close-house, homestead in Chipchase, 350.
- Coal (or Col) burn, course of, 272.
- Coal seams: in Allendale, 102; at Little Bavington, 450; at Codden, 173 n, 249; at Cowden, 427; at Fairshaw, 249; at Fallowfield, 155; at Fourlaws, 248, 250-1; at Gunnerton, 428; at Kirkheaton, 428-9. *See* Geology.
- Coanwood, Quakers' meeting house at, 108.
- Coasting hill, homestead in Forest grieveship, 104 n.
- Coastley, (*née* Surtees), Cecilia (1350), lands, etc., 10-12.
 — Elena de (1289), heir of, 10.
 — Johanna (1330), holdings of, 11.
 — John (d. 1337), possessions, 10, 11, 136; (d. 1350), death, 10; possessions of, 10, 11, 13.
 — Robert de (1289), 10.
 — Roger de (1295), contribution to subsidy, 9.
- Coastley, estate in West Quarter, 2; area and general features, 8, 9; early history, 9-16; muster roll, 13; mill at, 13, 15-16, 18; tithes of, 14, 18; registered, 374.
- Coastley-rawe, now Fore Street, Hexham, 11, 13, 18.
- Coastleyhope, tenement, 14; corn tithes, 14, 18.
- Coats, George (1791), marriage, 134.
 — (Watson), Hannah (d. 1785), marriage, 105.
- Cobb's Causey. *See* Devil's Causeway.
- Cocley, Cosceley, Cosely, Cosselay, Costeley. *See* Coastley.
- Cock-law walls, farmstead, 411, 423.
- Cockerleth, estate, position of, 41.
- Cockersfield, estate of, position of, 70; owners, 70.
- Cocklaw, in parish of St. John Lee, 1, 125; TOWNSHIP, 175; acreage and census returns, 175; muster roll, 184; connection of Errington family with, 184-5; principal homesteads, 184, 195-7; rateable value, 191; mill, 193; traversed by Roman road, 217.
- Cocklaw tower, description, with illustrations, 180-4; present owner, 184 n.
- Cocklaw East and West farms, acreage, 193.
- Cocklaw Walk-mill, registered, 192; acreage, 193.
- Cocklaw Hillhead, freehold estate, acreage, 193 n.
- Cocus, Adam (1336), pays subsidy, 315 n.
- Codden, early coal workings at, 173 n.
- Coen, Edward (1704), bequest to, 96
 — Hannah (1704), bequest to, 96.
- Coeshole, homestead in Allendale Town, 90 n.
- Cogin, R. (1701), curate of Allendale, 80.
- Coins, discovery of, 167, 312.
- Cokman, Richard (1538), a trooper, 40.
- Coldeleugh. *See* Caldeleugh.
- Colcotes, identified with Oldcotes, 95.
- Colden, associated with Chollerton, 254, 296 n.
- Coldlaw, 160, 173 n; early coal-workings, 173 n.
- Coldtown, willed to Anthony Gregson, 299.
- Coldwell, whin outcrop at, 249.
- Cole, Gilbert (1385), charge against, 201.
 — (Riddell), Jane (d. 1651), marriage, 284.
- Colecester, Gilbert de (*circa* 1260), a London tailor, 255.
- Colhome, Richard (1414), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- Collin, Thomas, solicitor, marriage, 20.
- Collingwood (Reed), Anne, marriage, 348.
 — Sir Cuthbert (1576), foreman of jury, 115.
 — Edward (1741), commissioner, 2, 328 n.
 — Henry (1715), mortgagee, 416.
 — William of Alnwick (1809), purchases Cowden, 300.
- Collinson, Matthew (1538), a trooper, 110.
- Colman, Bishop, his spread of Christianity, 179.
- Colmore, Clement (1614), marriage, 118.
 — Clement (1600), chancellor of Durham diocese, 118.
 — (*née* Bee), Jane, inherits brother's estates, 117-8.
- Colson, John (1538), a trooper, 258.
 — Robert (1538), a trooper, 258.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 258.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 258.
 — *See also* Coulson.
- Colston's almshouses, Bristol, sources of income, 242, 297 n.
- Colt Crag, course of Roman road at, 216; large reservoirs at, 252, 301; annexed to Birtley, 270; registered, 289; conveyed to Thomas Riddell, 296; position and acreage, 296; known as Coulter Crag, 301; present owner, 301.
- Colwell, Adam de (1317), conveys Colwell manor, 292.
 — Alma de (1336), gains Colwell manor, 293.
 — Idonea de (1336), gains Colwell manor, 293.
 — Ralph de (1200), witness, 304 n.
 — Richard de, 303.
 — Robert de (1240), grant to, 304.
 — Roger de (1296), pays subsidy, 307.
 — Thomas de (1296), pays subsidy, 292.
 — William de (1260), witness to deed, 305 n, 331 n.
- Colwell, a member of Hadston barony, 245, 272-3, 291; in parish of Chollerton, 245; geological features, 247-8; value of corn tithes, 269; tithes sold to Mercer's Company, 270-1; TOWNSHIP, 272; acreage and population, 272; the village, 272; position of, 289; priory possessions, 289, 293; subsidy roll, 291; successive owners, 291-3; muster roll, 293; present owner, 296.
- Colwell chapel, granted to Hexham priory, 253; dependency of Chollerton, 289; description of, 289; remains of (illustration), 290; destroyed by Scots, 290.
- Colwell Fell, homestead, 272.
- Colwell Moor, right of common in dispute, 293-4.
- 'Comach, Thos. de,' identified with Thos. de Swinburn, 326.
- Combyheugh, homestead in Chipchase township, 350.
- Commerdale, William, marriage, 383.
- Commons, East and West, survey and division of, 2; allotment holders, 5-8.

- Comogan, homestead in Chipchase township, 350.
 Comyn, John (1285), party to agreement, 257.
 Congleton (Blackoe) Ann, marriage, 133.
 Constantine, family of, coin of, 167.
 Conyers, John (1561), plaintiff in suit, 232 n.
 — (Riddell), Elizabeth (d. 1632), marriage, 284.
 Cook (Lee), Deborah, marriage, 134.
 — John (1385), charge against, 201; (1535), tenant in Gunnerton, 327; (1694), suit by, 107; (1752), tenant, 6; (1812), bequest to, 28.
 — Joseph (1752), tenant, 6; named in will, 19.
 — Richard (1693), gives bond, 261.
 — Thomas (1385), charge against, 201.
 — William (1385), charge against, 201; (1535), tenant in Gunnerton, 327.
 Cooks-house (Allendale), estate of, 97 n, 116-7.
 Cooks-house (Low Quarter), owners of, 24, 33 n, 36, 37; registered, 37, 375; position of, 54.
 Cookshelle. *See* Cockershiel.
 Cookson, Isaac (1738), silversmith; communion cups by, 86, 360.
 — (Cuthbert), Mary (d. 1893), marriage, 206.
 — William Isaac (1839), marriage, 206.
 Cooper, Nicholas (1538), a trooper, 225.
 Copeland, David de (1297), juror, 322 n.
 — John de (1297), juror, 322 n.
 Coppin, John (d. 1891), purchases estate in Bingsfield, 232-3.
 Coppin of Bingsfield, North Shields, and Blyth, family of, genealogy, 234.
 Coppisgrene, in Throekrington, 400-1.
 Corbania, Boniface bishop of (1334), holds ordination, 410.
 Corbet, Walter (1250), grants to Hexham priory, 293.
 Corbridge, Adam de (1337), a justice, 10 n, 71, 156, 239.
 — John (1337), a justice, 10 n, 156.
 — Thomas de, archbishop of York (d. 1303), grants of land by, 16, 64, 143; issues brief, 239; alluded to, 180; issues commission for gaol delivery, 409.
 Corbridge, land disputes at, 150; iter to, 215, 219. *See also* Watling Street.
 Corder, Alexander, marriage, 106.
 Corryhill, homestead in West Allen, 123.
 Corsenside, ironstone mines in, 248.
 Coten, Robert del (1348), suit against, 212.
 Cotesworth of the Hermitage, family of, genealogy, 145; evidences, 146-7.
 Cotesworth, or Coatsworth, Ann (*née* Jefferson), (1685), twice married, 236; (*nuper* Shafto), twice married, 145, 236, 406; (*née* Newton), (d. 1739), epitaph, 132; (d. 1788), burial, 395.
 — Edward Heslop (d. 1741), epitaph, 132.
 — Elizabeth (1725), twice married, 236; (1745), baptism, 395.
 — Hannah Walton (1699), bequest to, 90 n.
 — Jane (d. 1703), epitaph, 132; burial, 145; (Bloome), (d. 1751), party to agreement, 236; (1755), tenant, 6.
 — John (1662), suit by, 80; tenant of Caldcotes, 95; (1694), of South Shields and Acomb, 140 n; (1720), office against, 134; (d. 1725), epitaph, 132; marriage, 236.
 — Margaret (1699), bequest to, 90 n.
 — Mary (1699), bequest to, 90 n.
 — Robert (1663), possessions of, 94; (1699), bequest to, 90 n; (d. 1779), marriage and death, 395.
 — Thomas (1699), bequest to, 90 n.
 — William (1699), bequest to, 90 n.
 Cotton, William, marriage, 148.
 Coulson, Christopher (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317.
 — David (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317.
 — George (1736), marriage, 269.
 — Hugh (1479), tenant in Chollerton, 258.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 13; (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317; (1727), tenant in Barrasford, 317, 318 n.
 — Mary (b. 1738), baptism, 134.
 — William (1839), tenant in Bingsfield, 222.
 — *See also* Colson.
 Coulthard, Thomas (1757), perpetual curate of Allendale, 81; indicted, 85; holding, 140.
 — William (1699), of Over Bishopside, 95.
 Countess park, 356, 370; camp, 363.
 Coutances, Geoffrey de (1066), an alien bishop, 273.
 Coventry (Heron), Elizabeth (d. *circa* 1734), marriage, 342.
 — Emma de (1345), territorial claims by, 291.
 Cowden, camp at, 216, 301; old colliery at, 249; granted to Hexham priory, 300; owners, 300.
 Cowden Kirk, a curious rock at, 300.
 Cowell, Gilbert de (1343), conveys lands, 292-3.
 'Cowl,' coul, term explained, 24 n.
 Cowshill, in Weardale, turnpike to, 102 n.
 Cox, William (1653), bailiff, 190.
 Coxon (Shafto), Elizabeth (d. 1799), marriage, 407, 419.
 — Stephen (1722), freeholder in Baggraw, 16 n.
 Coxside, Thomas de (1370), grants of land by, 400.
 Cragend, homestead in Thockrington, 387.
 Craig, John (d. 1721), estates, 17; (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Richard (1716), of Dean Raw, 17.
 — Mary (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Roger (1716), possession of, 17.
 Craig house, at Allenheads, 101.
 Craigback, farm in Carrycotes, acreage, 403 n.
 Crane, Thomas (1410), witness, 13 n.
 Cranmere, Thomas (1547), holds Hamburn-hall, 60.
 Craster, John (1756), claims lands in Kirkheaton, 382.
 Craswell, James (1752), tenant, 6.
 Crathorne (Shafto), Eliza (1805), marriage, 420.
 Craven, George Augustus (d. 1836), marriage, 194, 205 n.
 — Walter Arthur Keppel (1836), parentage, 194.
 — William George (1875), parentage, 194.
 Crawford, Ralph (1538), a trooper, 225.
 Crowthall, family, monumental inscriptions at St. Peter's in the Forest, 101; owners of Stagshaw Close, 208.
 — William (1829), in possession of Park-house, 67.
 Crowthawe, George (1568), holdings of, 26 n.
 Crowthon, Thomas (1599), named in will, 415.
 Cressingham, Hugh de (1297), a justice, 307, 321, 323 n.
 Cresswell, Ephraim, marriage, 418.
 — Henry (1669), marriage, 133.
 — John (1694), holding of, 139.
 — Robert de (1342), witness, 402.
 Crewe, Lord, trustees of, lands of, 71 n.
 Crockton burn, tributary of the Allen, 74, 96.
 Croft, William (1790), marriage, 384.
 Crookden, the Sweethope estates in, 410.
 Crosby, Sir Warren (1706), marriage, 227.
 Cross Cleugh, fissure, 73.
 Crosses, Allendale, 88; Limestone brae, 122; Lady Cross bank, 135; St. Oswald's, 179; Thockrington, 394.
 Cross-house, appurtenance of Ninebanks, 116.
 Crosthwait, J. (1573), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
 Crouch, Gilbert (1653), purchases estates, 231, 295-6.
 Crow-coal, in Allendale, 102.
 Crowberry hall, farmhold in Park grieveship, 98 n.
 Crowberry, homestead in Forest grieveship, 104 n.
 Croxton, William de (1323), acts on jury, 292.
 Crozier, Cuthbert (1752), tenant, 6.

- Crozier, William (1752), tenant, 6.
 Crumbwell, John de (1333), of Belsay, 378; his lands in Caldstrother, 378.
 Culley, George (1795), estates of, 175.
 — Matthew, (1795), estates of, 175.
 Cup marked stones at Birtley, illustration, 353.
 Cupola banks and bridge, origin of names, 96 n.
 Curejambe (1256), suit against, 364.
 Currey, W. (1670), proctor of Allendale, 79; legacy, 87 n.
 Curry, John (1800), freeholder, 69.
 — William (d. 1814), copyholder in Lillswood, 65; family epitaphs at Whitley chapel, 28.
 Curtis burn, 252.
 Curwen, John (1497), prebendary of Thockrington, 389; party to deed, 390.
 Cuthbert of Beaufront, family of, genealogy, 206.
 Cuthbert, James Harold (1897), owns Beaufront, 205.
 — Mary (d. 1894), monumental inscription, 132.
 — William (1741), commissioner, 328 n; (d. 1781), owner of Nubbock, 22; (d. 1853), owner of Beaufront, 199, 206; (d. 1879), acreage of estates, 205 n.
 Cuthbertson (Heron), Ann (d. 1793), marriage, 345.
 — (Whinfield), Dorothy (d. 1774), 213-4.
 — (Fenwick), Elizabeth (d. 1837), marriage, 213.
 — George (1747), tenant in Wall, 171; (1752), of Newcastle, tenant, 6.
 — Henry (d. 1804), marriage, 213; law suits, 214.
 — John (1729), of Alnwick, marriage, 213.
 — (Rochester), Mary (d. 1799), 213-4.
 — William (d. 1814), parentage, 213.
- D.
- D'Abetot, Urse (1066), sheriff of Worcestershire, 273.
 Dacre, Jane (1693), bequest to, 260.
 — Sir Thomas (1526), arms of, at Ninehanks, 112-3.
 Dacres, Henry (1665), perpetual curate of Allendale, 80; marriages, 85-6.
 — (née Hawdon), Mary (d. 1675), 80, 85-6.
 — William (1666), baptism, 85.
 Dagleas, John (1706), marriage, 133.
 — John (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
 — Thomas (1747), tenant in Wall, 171.
 — Thomas (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
 Daglish, John (1774), tenant, 16 n.
 Dalby, Thomas de (1390), prebendary of Thockrington, 388, 388 n.
 Dale, John (1538), a trooper, 136.
 Dales, the, tenement, 49, 116.
 Dally castle, in Bellingham, 371, 374.
 Dalston (Shafto), Frances, marriage, 406, 418.
 Dalton (Riddell), Dorothy (d. 1721), marriage, 285.
 — (Charlton), Elizabeth, marriage, 373 n.
 — John de (1479), tenant, 379.
 — Robert de (1382), prebendary of Thockrington, 383.
 Dalton, in Stamfordham, moiety granted to Hexham priory, 320; in manor of Anick Grange, 149.
 Dalton, High and Low, in Middle Quarter, 53.
 Dalton Town-foot, estate of Johnson family, 60.
 Daneby, Adam de (1310), marriage, 223; suits, 224.
 Darlington, John, of Tanfield, marriage, 418.
 Darnell (Ord), Mary (d. 1749), marriage, 229.
 Darrayns, Robert (1339), witness, 279 n.
 Darrens, Esolda (1350), holding in Whittonstall, 201.
 — Wydo (1356), holding in Whittonstall, 201.
 David (1260), a chaplain, 255.
 David, king of Scotland, quartered at Corbridge, 127.
 Davis (Coppin), Isabella, marriage, 234.
 Davison (Riddell), Barbara (d. 1673), marriage, 285.
 — Christopher (1538), a trooper, 21.
 — (Mewburn), Elizabeth, marriage, 142.
 — John (1743), depositions by, 367; (1752), tenant, 6; (1795), inherits estates, 369.
 — Lancelot (1700), his coal-workings, 368.
 — Mary (d. 1795), monumental inscription, 28.
 — (Caldclough), Mary (1831), marriage, 124.
 — Matthew (1538), a trooper, 75.
 — Misses, possessions of, 369.
 — Nicholas (1538), a trooper, 225.
 — Robert (1736), office against, 176 n.
 — Susan Hussey Elizabeth (1795), her inheritance, 369.
 Dawson, of Brunton, genealogy, 174; evidences, 174; epitaphs, 132.
 Dawson, of Newcastle and Allendale, epitaphs, 87.
 Dawson, Abraham (1821), solicitor, of Newcastle, 87.
 — Alexander (1538), a trooper, 170.
 — Cuthbert (1666), a centenarian, depositions by, 92.
 — Edward (1626), tenant in Wall, 138; (1747), of Haltwhistle, tenant in Wall, 171; (1777), of Wall, commissioner, 317.
 — (postea Ord), Frances (1721), second marriage, 57.
 — Gerard, jun. (1538), a trooper, 170 n.
 — Giles (1719), witness to baptism, 235.
 — Henry (1538), a trooper, 75; (1634), alluded to, 195 n.
 — Jacob (d. 1827), monumental inscription, 87.
 — (née Johnson), Jane, bequest to, 61.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 157; (1663), proprietor in Wall, 171; (1719), of Woodhead, executor, 122; (d. 1769), of Brunton, burial, 124; tenant in Wall, 171; will, 174; (d. 1807), burial, 134; sells estates, 175; pew in St. Oswald's, 176 n.
 — (Coulson), Mary (1736), marriage, 269.
 — Patrick (1747), tenant in Wall, 171.
 — Philip (1538), a trooper, 75.
 — Robert (1601), named as tutor, 172; (1722), freeholder in Wall, 171; (d. 1728), monumental inscription, 132; (d. 1729), epitaph, 132; will, 174.
 — Roland (1538), a trooper, 75.
 — Sandor (1552), setter and searcher, 170.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 170.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 170 n; (1626), tenant in Wall, 138; (1670), proctor of Allendale, 79; (1694), tenant in Acomb, 140 n; (d. 1716), will of, 174.
 Day, Mark (1602), rector of Bothal, 415.
 Dees, Eleanor (b. 1812), baptism, 134.
 Delaval, Francis Blake, succeeds to Seaton Delaval, 424.
 — Admiral George (d. 1723), purchases estates, 416, 424; death, 424; portrait, 425.
 — George (Shafto) (d. 1782), commissioner in division of commons, 2; epitaph, 394; benefaction to Thockrington, 396; will, 422; portrait, 425.
 — Hugo (1296), juror, 322 n.
 — Sir John (1620), purchases and surrenders Whitley mill, 49-50; sells the Bower estate, 371; (1719), sells certain estates, 424.
 — Sir John Hussey, bart. (1772), remainder man, 422.
 — (Shafto), Mary (d. circa 1749), marriage, 407, 418.
 — Sir Ralph (1620), purchases Whitley mill, 49.
 — Admiral Sir Ralph, a distinguished officer, 424.
 — Robert (1297), juror, 322 n; (circa 1620), marriage, 284.
 Delicate-hall, tenement, 5-6; botany, 5 n.
 Dellau, William (1280), holding of, 401.
 Denaicle, John (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317.
 Denand, John (1552), setter and searcher, 245.

- Denning, Robert (1716), leaseholder in Barrasford, 317.
 Denisesburn, formerly identified with Erring burn, 45 ;
 death of Cadwalla at, 45, 178 ; now identified with
 Rowley burn, 46, 178.
 Denning, John (1538), a trooper, 225.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 225 ; (1720), marriage, 57.
 Dent, Adam de (1312), holding of, 306 n.
 — Robert (1730), marriage, 134.
 — William (1722), trustee, 146.
 Denton, Mr. (d. 1699), burial, 269.
 Denton, obtained by Sir John Widdrington, 224.
 Denum, Henry de (1332), suit against, 71.
 — William de (1320), justice, 223.
 Denyas, Thomas (1385), charge against, 201.
 Deor (Deira) Street, derivation of name, 215 n. *See*
 Watling Street.
 Derwentwater, Lord (1715), takes part in rebellion,
 80-1, 187, 406 ; commemorated by pillar on Watling
 Street, 216.
 Derwentwater estates, granted to Greenwich hospital, 50.
 Detchant, Henry de (1297), juror, 322 n.
 — Robert de (1297), juror, 322 n.
 Devil's Causeway, junction with Watling Street, 217 ;
 the Kirkheaton section, 376.
 Devil's Water, 25, 33, 42, 45, 178 ; source, 69 ; scenery,
 31, 64 ; smelt mills near, 101.
 Dickenson, Henry (1538), a trooper, 109.
 — Mary (1739), office against, 83.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 109.
 Dickinson, Anthony (1538), a trooper, 13.
 Dickson, John (1563), curate of Birtley, 82, 360 ;
 (1662), curate of Allendale, 80.
 Dinley (Dimley), homestead in Birtley, 357-8.
 'Dinnonts,' explanation of term, 121.
 Dinning, James (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Matthew (1663), tenant in Nether Rawgreen, 52.
 — William (1676), will of, 52.
 Dissington, Robert de (1479), holdings of, 180.
 Divelston, Robert de (1200), witness, 304 n.
 Dixon, Abraham (1720), marriage, 229.
 — (Brown), Alice (d. 1780), marriage and death, 28.
 — Bartholomew (1600), tenant, 69 ; (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Edward (d. 1593), curate of St. John Lee, 131 ;
 (1608), tenant of Stobby Lee, 69.
 — George (1637), owner of Hill-house, 68.
 — (*née* Coats), Hannah (d. 1785), second marriage, 105.
 — Henry, charity, 29.
 — James (1608), tenant of the Holmes, 53.
 — John (1795), pew in St. Oswald's, 176 n ; (1830),
 copyhold tenant, 65, 70.
 — (Ord), Margaret, marriage, 57.
 — (*née* Keenleyside), Mary, named in will, 122.
 — Rev. Mr. (1782), of Tone, burial, 269.
 — Peter (1826), of Aydon Shields and Hill-house, 68 ;
 (1897), possessions in Lillwood, 65.
 — Philip (1717), claims as creditor, 191.
 — Richard (1663), rated for Stobby Lee, 69.
 — Robert (1663), holding in Mollersteads, 50 ; (1715),
 benefactions to poor, 30 ; (1763), gift to church, 27 ;
 (1897), possessions and ancestry, 50, 70.
 — Walter (1752), tenant, 6.
 — William (1410), witness, 13 n ; (1626), in possession
 of Stobby Lee, 69 ; (1726), bequest to poor, 30.
 Dobson, Abraham (1649), perpetual curate of Allende-
 dale, 80.
 — (Carnaby), Ann (d. 1762), marriage, 30.
 — Cornelius (1770), bequest to, 131 n.
 — George (1839), tenant in Bingfield, 222.
 — Gerard (1773), executor, 157 n.
 Dobson, John (1584), vicar of Chollerlton, 267 ; (1752),
 tenant, 6 ; (1770), legacy, 131 n ; lands in Acomb,
 141 ; (1841), architect, designs Beaufront, 199.
 — Leonard (1770), bequest to, 131 n.
 — William (1663), proprietor in Wall, 171 ; (1770),
 legacy, 131 n, lands in Acomb, 141.
 Dodd family epitaphs at Whitley chapel, 28-9.
 Dodd, Agnes (1721), party to surrender, 172.
 — Christopher (1696), witness to will, 58.
 — George (1538), trooper, 225.
 — James (1552), setter and searcher, 245 ; (1659),
 holdings in Dotland, 41.
 — Joseph (1685), named in will, 172 ; (1694), tenant
 in Acomb, 140 n.
 — Matthew (1686), alluded to, 103.
 — Miss (1897), of Benton, possession of, 65.
 — Robert (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Robin (1538), a trooper, 110.
 — Thomas (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317 ; (1752),
 tenant, 6.
 — William (1709), witness, 372 ; (1721) surrenders Wall
 mill, 172 ; (1726), purchases estates, 41 ; (1752),
 tenant, 6.
 Dodington, estate of, 30 n.
 Doffinby, Agnes (1668), bequest to, 372.
 Dollman, Robert (1697), bequest to, 36 n.
 Don, Hugh (1538), a trooper, 40.
 — Richard (1538), a trooper, 40.
 Donkin, family of, Sandhoe, epitaphs, 132.
 Donkin, Barbara Colin (d. 1837), killed by lightning, 20.
 — John (1766), manager of mines, 192.
 — William (1801), marriage, 20.
 — and Elstob, brewery at Hexham Bridge end, 154.
 Donkin Rig, estate in Hartburn, 208.
 Donnismore, tenement in Bingfield, 225.
 Dotland, priory lands at, 39 ; mill, 39 ; muster roll,
 40 ; past owners, 37, 41 ; order to tenantry, 49 ; a
 member of Anick grange, 149.
 Dotland Fell-house, farm, destroyed by fire, 39.
 Dotland Moor, 17.
 Dotland park, a hunting seat of prior of Hexham, 40 ;
 architectural details, 40 ; owners, 41 ; order to
 tenantry, 49.
 Douglas (Waite), Alice (1699), marriage, 229.
 — George (1699), indicted, 46.
 — John (1706), lands in Bingfield, 229.
 — Joshua (1737), disputes estates, 381.
 — Lord (1327), in command of Scots, 102 n, 195 n.
 — (Errington), Mary (1700), marriage, 189, 241.
 Doves pool, homestead in Forest grieveship, 104 n.
 Downe, John (1538), a trooper, 380.
 Downs, Shafto (1752), tenant, 6.
 Dowson, Thomas (1752), tenant, 6.
 Draper, Isabel (1776), bequest to, 93.
 — Stephen (1256), suit against, 364.
 Dripintell (? Dripenstell), 9, 9 n.
Drosera rotundifolia, at Duke's house, 3 n.
 Dry burn, geological features, 251-2 ; source, 302, 406 ;
 course of, 404. *See also* Swin burn.
 Dryburn farm in West Allen, 109, 116, 121, 123 n ;
 probable site of West Allen chapel, 110 n.
 Dryden, John (1752) tenant, 6.
 Dryside, in Allendale, school, 90 ; farms, 95.
 Duel between Widdrington and Kerr (1599), 281 ;
 between Widdrington and Charlton (1710), 372.
 Duke's-house, residential estate near Hexham, 2, 3.
 Dukesfield, smelt mills at, 101.
 Dummrigg, tenement, 356 n.
 Dunn, Catherine (1693), bequest to, 259.

Duan, Cuthbert (1836), purchases estate, 366.
 — (Watson), Elizabeth, marriage, 106.
 — George (1860), estates conveyed to, 366.
 — Henry (1727), tenant in Barrasford, 317, 318 n.
 — Joseph (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
 — Robert (1336), pays subsidy, 292.
 — William (1336), pays subsidy, 324; (1727) tenant in Barrasford, 317, 318 n.
 Duns Moor, in Bingfield, tract of pasture land, 220, 225.
 Durham, William, bishop of (1721), ordination by, 81.
 — John Fossor, prior of (d. 1374), 393, 400.
 Dye-house. *See* Juniper.
 Dynand, Robert (1727), tenant in Barrasford, 318 n.

E.

Eachwick, Idonea de (1335), estate demised to, 413.
 — John de (1296), pays subsidy, 377.
 — Mary de (1335), estates demised to, 413.
 Eadsbush (Eddy's bush), position of, 67; identified with Edesmeadow, 67; present owner, 68.
 Eadwin, king, 64; defeated by Penda, 177.
 Eagles Nest, or 'mons aquilæ,' identity of, 127.
 Eaglescliffe, Alan de (1200), his holding, 325.
 Eales, the, estate of, 371.
 Eanfrid (d. 634), of Bernicia, slain by Cadwalla, 177.
 East common of Hexham, survey and division of, 2; botanical features, 3 n; allotment holders, 5-8.
 Easton, John (*circa* 1850), marriage, 120.
 Eastwood mill, restricted use of, 49.
 Ebor, John de, (1372), vicar of Chollerton, 267.
 Eden (*née* Bee), Anne, inherits brother's estate, 117-8.
 — Dorothy (1626), surrenders Ninebanks estates, 117.
 — Sir John (1763), surrenders land for chapel, 111; surrenders Ninebanks tower, 118.
 — John (1669), possessions, 97, 110; succeeds father, 117.
 — Philip (1632), receives grant of tithes, 385.
 — Robert (1626), surrenders Ninebanks estates, 117.
 Eden of Bishop Auckland, family of, possessions of, 118.
 Edesmeadow, identified with Eadsbush, 67.
 Edgar, son of Cospatrick (1138), raids by, 185 n.
 Edge-house, in Chollerton, 272.
 Edmonsley, William de (1300), party to deed, 409.
 Edmestone, John (1660), marriage, 375.
 Edmund, chaplain of Little Bavington (1296), 412.
 Edmundson, John Wigham, marriage, 106.
 Edson, Robert (1336), pays subsidy, 377 n.
 Edward I. grants to canons of Hexham, 40 n.
 — III., confirms territorial grants, 279, 378, 410.
 — Prince, tradition concerning, 47.
 Edwards, J. C., (1858), curate of Birtley, 360.
 Eggleston, Margaret (1663), tenant, 66.
 Eilaf, a secular priest, 150, 150 n.
 Ellerback bank, tenement, 15.
 Ellerington, Francis (1659), estates surrendered to, 117.
 — (*née* Bee), Margaret (1595), named in will, 116.
 — *See also* Elrington.
 Ellerker (Shafto), Anne, marriage, 417.
 — Sir Ralph (1541), survey quoted, 280, 339, 361, 404-5.
 Elliot, Ann (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Francis (1694), tenant in Acomb, 141.
 — Robert (1716), tenant in Barrasford, 317-8, 318 n; (1748), of Houghton Strother, tenant in Barrasford, 318 n; (1826), freeholder in Barrasford, 318 n.
 — Thomas (1310), hanged at Hexham, 128; subject of a miracle, 128, 128 n.
 — William (*alias* Will of the Steile), (1589), raids Catton, 94; (1752), tenant, 6; (1812), bequest to, 28.
 Ellis, Richard (1747), notes by, 36; (1752), tenant, 6.
 Ellison, Henry (1720), marriage, 145.
 — John (*circa* 1400), vicar of Chollerton, 267.
 Ellwood-house, in Chollerton parish, 318.
 Elpha-green, homestead in Forest grieveship, 104 n.
 Elrington, Cuthbert (d. 1771), burial, 395.
 — William de (1296), witness, 325; (1750), baptism, 395.
 — *See also* Ellerington.
 Elsley, W. (1721), prebendary of Thockrington, 389, 389n.
 Elwald, Alexander (1538), a trooper, 184.
 — Janet (1479), 128.
 — John (1479), 128.
 — Robert (1479), charged with being a Scot, 128.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 75.
 Embleton (Acton), Maud (1324), marriage, 224 n.
 Embley Sike, 73.
 Emeldon (Strivelyn), Jane (1378), estates of, 378.
 — Richard de (1323), acts on inquisition, 292.
 Emerson, Titus (d. 1873), perpetual curate of Allendale, 81; monumental inscription, 87.
 Emmerson, John (1690), marriage, 154.
 Emperington, Robert (1775), 89 n.
 English, John (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Joseph (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403.
 — Mary, twice married, 425.
 — William (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403.
 Erming Street, derivation of name, 215 n.
 Erneshow, miracle at, 127. *See also* St. John Lee.
 Erring burn, identified with Denisesburn, 45; course of, 125, 160, 175, 245, 247, 261, 272, 293.
 Errington of Anick, genealogy, 153.
 Errington of Bingfield, genealogy, 227.
 Errington of Errington and Beaufront, genealogy, 188-9; evidences, 189-193.
 Errington of Keepwick, family of, origin, 186.
 Errington of Nether Ardley and Dalton, genealogy, 54; evidences, 54.
 Errington of Portgate, genealogy of, 213.
 Errington, Sandhoe, genealogy of 194; estates of, 205.
 Errington (Errington), Agnes (1655), marriage, 188.
 — Ann (1595), a minor, 189; (1600), inheritance of, 190; (1602), administratrix, 190; (d. *circa* 1678), will of, 191; (1678), of Anick, executrix and tutrix, 153; (1686), of Durham, administratrix, 191; (1693), of Bradley, bequest to, 421; (1695), of Hexham, named in will, 191.
 — Anthony de (1303), concerned in suit, 156; dies without issue, 186; acts on jury, 292.
 — Barbara (1659), marriage, etc., 227, 231.
 — Benedict (1698), indicted, 33.
 — Catherine (1673), bequest to, 195 n.
 — Christopher (1538), trooper, 185, 225.
 — Cuthbert (1538), a trooper, 207.
 — David (1643), named in will, 190.
 — Dorothy (*née* Redshaw), (d. 1617), lands at death, 55; (*née* Widdrington), (d. *circa* 1643), marriage, 188; will, 190; (1643), will of, 190.
 — Edmund (1255), tried for wounding, 313.
 — Edward (1538), a trooper, 170, 170 n, 225; (1604), charged with robbery, 190; (1608), of Nether Ardley, 34; admitted heir, 55; junior (d. 1675), of Anick, 153; (d. 1676), party to suit, 139 n; proprietor in Anick, 152, 154; (b. 1685), baptism, 237 n; (*circa* 1670), of Portgate, bequest to, 214; (1720), of Corbridge, 192.
 — Elena (or Alina), (1320), monumental slab, 130; acquires moiety of Errington manor, 185-6.
 — Elias (1296), pays subsidy, 399.

- Errington, Elizabeth (1595), a minor, 189; (1659), of Nether Ardley, co-heiress, 55; (Oliver), (1666), marriage, 133; (1695), of Hexham, named in will, 191; (1702), of Beaufront, 191; (*postea* Charlton), (1714), marriage, 375; her parentage, 375 n. Ellen (1600), inheritance of, 190.
- Everille (1725), of London, annuity to, 192.
- Frances (*née* Howard), (d. 1705), proves husband's will, 228; (1720), of London, administratrix, 192; will, 192; (Fermor), (d. 1787), twice married, 195.
- Francis (1663), possessions in Dotland, 41.
- Frederick (1673), of Keepwick, proves will, 195 n.
- George (1568), possessions in Beuckley, 197; (1606), marriage, 35; of Linnel mill, 36; of Denton, marriage, 417.
- Gerard (1479), of Walwick, party to petition, 128; (d. 1651), possessions at death, 55.
- Gilbert (1547), acquires lease of Coldlaw, 13 n; lands in Errington, 185; marriage, 186; of Beaufront, 186, 205, 258; lands in Keepwick, 196; (1621), party to deed, 226 n; (1702), of Beaufront, 191; (d. 1725), of Portgate, will, 214; (1500), a trooper, 8 n.
- Helen (1597), administers husband's estate, 212.
- Henry (1536), tenant in Bingfield, 225; (1629), surrenders estate, 190; conveys Beaufront, 259; (d. 1695), estates sequestered, 158, 186, 190, 421; (d. 1819), tithe owner, 140-1; will, 143; pew in St. Oswald's, 176 n; executor, 192; freehold estate, 193 n; death, 193, 205; residence, 205; estates acquired by his trustees, 242.
- Humphrey (1582), builder of Linnels bridge, 32.
- Isabel (1725), of Hexham, a minor, 192; (Thirlwall), twice married, 35, 36.
- Jane (*née* Redshaw), (1587), marriage, 54; holdings, 55; (1659), of Nether Ardley, co-heiress, 55; (d. *circa* 1679), of Anick, marriage and will, 153; (1681), of Bingfield, indicted for assault, 237-8; (169-), of Newbiggin, bequest to, 36 n; (1595), named in will, 116.
- J. de (1302), justice, 156.
- John de (1278), witness to deed, 275 n; (1320), monumental slab, 130; acquires moiety of Errington manor, 185-6; (1380), of Portgate, marriage, 186, 202; charge against, 201; (1410), of Hexham, witness, 13 n; (1538), of Bingfield, trooper, 225; (1568), possessions in Beuckley, 197; obtains grant of Kirkheaton tithes, 384 n; (1590), of Beaufront, witness, 173 n; estate administered, 190; claims tithes, 204; holding in Sandhoe, 207; (1597), of Swinburn, claims tithes, 204; (1599), bequest of tithes to, 415; (d. *circa* 1633), possessions in Bingfield, 226; (1634), of Keepwick, apprenticed, 195 n; (d. 1645), possessions in dispute, 196; (d. 1655), a minor, 55; (b. 1671), of Anick, inheritance of, 153; (1673), of Keepwick, witness, 195 n; (1684), of Durham, estate administered, 191; (1699), surrenders Kirkburn mill, 141; (d. 1713), chief of Beaufront, 153; death, 186; admitted as a freeman of Newcastle, 191; (d. 1726), will of, 192; (d. 1741), will of, 192; (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 6; bequest to, 192; (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141; (1779), of Cooks-house, bequest to, 58; (d. 182-), school built by, 154; pew in St. Oswald's, 176 n; personal notes, 187; last male heir, 193; descent of his estates, 193, 205, 242; (*circa* 1880), marriage, 287.
- Sir John Stanley (d. 1893), dies without issue, 193, 205.
- Errington, Lancelot (1632), of Aydon, claims rent charge, 421; (1725), of Newcastle, bequest to, 192.
- Lionel (1538), a trooper, 184.
- (Bathurst), Louise Mary (d. 1840), marriage settlement, 205 n.
- Margaret (1595), administratrix, 153, 189; (Shafto), marriage, 406; (1643), marriage, 418; (1652), claims rent charge, 421; (1663), of Hexham, tenant, 66; (1672), of Keepwick, nuncupative will, 195 n; (1696), of Hexham, named in will, 191.
- Margery (1684), presented as a papist, 33 n.
- (*née* Levery), Maria (d. 1795), thrice married, 189.
- Marian (1600), administratrix, 190.
- Mary (1659), co-heiress, 55; (d. 1668), monument, 266; (Blackett), (1680), of Portgate, bequest to, 214; (1680), named in will, 172; (1697), of Newbiggin, bequest to, 34 n, 36 n; (Bradford), (d. 1749), bequest to, 192.
- (Smyth), Mary-Anne (d. 1807), marriage, 194.
- Matthew (1538), a trooper, 185.
- Michael (1726), executor, 192.
- Nicholas (1538), a trooper, 225; (1540), holdings in Bingfield, 226; (1547), holdings in Fallowfield, 157; socage tenant, 158; suit against, 173 n; freeholder in Errington and Cocklaw, 185; (1626), of Keepwick, witness, 204; his oxen stolen, 371; (1625), of Beaufront, named in will, 190; (1673), witness, 195 n; of Ponteland, marriage, 341.
- Owin (1538), a trooper, 258.
- Perpetua (1737), a nun, 192.
- Peter (1752), tenant, 6; bequest to, 192.
- Ralph (1228), early mention, 184-5; (1594), plaintiff in suit, 294 n; (1608), tenant in Harwood Shield, 69; (d. *circa* 1616), contests possessions, 196, 228; removes to Cleasby, 226, 228; (1637), estates conveyed to, 226; twice married, 227 n; mortgages lands, 231; (1643), named in will, 190; disputes possessions, 196; (d. 1696), of Newbiggin, will of, 34 n, 36 n.
- Richard (1538), a trooper, 18, 184; (1600), inheritance of, 190; (d. 1670), of Portgate, lands, 197; Portgate, 213; will, 214; (1836), disputes will, 58.
- Robert (1228), 184; (1320), appointed commissioner, 185, 239; inquisition, 185; (1332), lease disputed, 71, 202; (1479), party to petition, 128; (1547), holding in Portgate, 212; (1594), of Sandhoe, 153, 189-90; (1779), bequest to, 58.
- Roger (1332), suit as to inheritance, 71; (1538), a trooper, 185; (1600), estate, 190.
- Sir Rowland Stanley (d. 1875), assumes name of Errington, 193-4; inherits estates, 205.
- Susanna (1720), office against, 134, 396.
- Thomas (1320), 186; (1479), party to petition, 128; (1500), a trooper, 8 n, 184, 207; (1564), of Bingfield, value of his freeholds, 196, 225-6; sued at York, 293; (1597), a minor, 189-90; (1597), of Anick, administers estate, 190; (1599), bequest of tithes to, 415; (d. 1600), of Walwick grange, lands, 55; (1608), of the Hirst, copyhold tenant, 196; (1634), of Keepwick, named in will, 190; apprenticed, 195 n; (1648), of Kearsley, party to deed, 237; (d. 1673), inheritance of, 153; (d. 1677), bequests to poor, 134; will of, 228; value of holding, 230-1; monumental slab, 266; (d. 1680), will of, 153; (1680), a minor, 153; (d. 1689), indicted for assault, 237-8; death, 237 n; (1703), of Portgate, appeals against order of court, 214; (1717), of Capheaton, claims as creditor, 191; (d.

- 1748), sketch of his career, 186-7; estates forfeited, 187, 191, 241; will, 192; (1756), bequest to, 192.
- Errington, Valentine (1717), of Fourstones, claims as creditor, 191; will of, 192.
- William (1300), dies without issue, 186; (1373), high sheriff, 186; (1650), of Benwell, marriage, 341; (1660), a justice, 107; (1663), proprietor in Anick, 152; rateable value of holdings, 158, 191, 196; (1672), of Walwick Grange, 20; (1681), action for assault upon, 237-8; (d. 1696), of Hexham, will of, 191; (1721), of Apperley, bequest to, 60; (d. 1726), heir to brother, 186; registers estates, 191-2; (d. 1766), will disputed, 192-3.
- Errington (or West Errington), granted to Richard Carnaby, 158; homestead, 184; description, 184; acreage and rental, 184 n, 193; Scottish devastations, 185; muster roll, 185.
- Errington hall, mortgaged, 190-1.
- Errington Hillhead, farm, 184 n, 193; East and West farms, 193; Red-house, 184 n.
- Errington, Upper and Lower, earliest records, 185.
- Escot, Walter de (1297), summons jury, 322 n.
- Eshells, High and Low, owners, 61-2.
- Eshells Moor, acreage, 73; streams through, 73.
- Eshes, in West Allen, 116.
- Eslington, William de (1256), commits murder, 64.
- Esschynnden, John de (1280), witness, 401.
- Essendene, John de (1305), bailiff, 322 n.
- Michael de (1347), witness, 332 n.
- Essington, William de (1297), claims against, 321-2.
- Eston, John de (1392), vicar of Ponteland, enfeoffed of lands in Gunnerton, 326.
- Eure, Lord (1395), notes by, 226; warden of Middle Marches, 280, 370.
- Sir Ralph (1394), rents Pigdon, 343.
- Evans, David (1775), 89 n.
- Ewalds of Thorlieshope, raids by, 94.
- Ewart, James (1752), tenant, 6.
- Exeter, Mary, dowager countess of (1680), 241.
- Eyre, Mary Teresa (1784), claims Tone estates, 299.
- Eysdale (Riddell), Jane, marriage, 285.

F.

- Faber, John (1336), pays subsidy, 355 n.
- Patrick (1336), pays subsidy, 355 n.
- Fabris, Richard (1296), pays subsidy, 307.
- Fairbridge, Anthony (1663), named in will, 67.
- Barbara (1663), possessions in Dotland, 41.
- Jane (1678), bequest to, 67.
- Joseph (1800), copyhold tenant, 68.
- Robert (d. 1678), lands, 50, 67; death, 67; will, 67; (1720), executor, 67.
- Thomas (1618), lands in Hackford, 66-7; (d. 1718), will, 67; (1781), lands, 68.
- *See also* Fairbridge.
- Fairlamb, George (1752), tenant, 6.
- Matthew (1752), tenant, 6.
- Nicholas (1655), party to suit, 139 n; proprietor in Anick, 152; (1663), holding in Catton, 94.
- Fairless of Ninebanks tower, genealogy, 119-20; monumental inscriptions, 111; evidences, 120-1.
- Fairless, Ann (b. 1743), bequest to, 120.
- Edward (d. 1782), tenant of Ninebanks tower, 118; bequest to, 120; will proved, 122.
- Margaret (Goodwill), (1736), bequest to, 120; charitable bequest by, 88 n.
- Fairless, Mary (Winter), (1741), bequest to, 120; (Armstrong), (1747), purchases Monkwood, 97; (*née* Goodchild), (d. 1860), monumental inscription, 111; marriage, 120.
- Matthew (d. 1745), will of, 120; (d. 1793), monumental inscription, 111; bequest to, 120; (d. 1824), executor to father's will, 121.
- Thomas (1748), churchwarden of Allendale, 84.
- William, charitable bequest by, 88 n.
- Fairshaw, in Kirkheaton, coal workings, 249; homestead, 376.
- Fairweather, William (1752), tenant, 6.
- Falaker, John (1547), tenant of Monk, 97.
- Faller, Henry (1538), a trooper, 110.
- Robin (1538), a trooper, 110.
- Falconry, practised at Riddlehamhope, 70.
- Fallowdon, John de (1279), 277, 278 n.
- Fallowfield, Adam de (1356), witness to deed, 202.
- Alice de (1301), possessions at death, 156.
- John de (1322), lands of, 156, 158; suits, 156.
- Richard de (1322), juror, 156.
- Roger de (1336), pays subsidy, 355 n.
- Fallowfield, in parish of St. John Lee, 125; TOWNSHIP, 155-9; census returns and acreage, 155; lead workings, 155; the 'written rock' at, 155, 164; early history, 156; subsidy rolls, 157; successive owners, 155-8, 186; etymology of name, 157.
- Farbridge, Anthony, charity, 29. *See also* vol. iii.
- Cornelius (1770), bequest to, 131 n.
- (*née* Bentham), Isabel, bequest to, 131 n.
- John (1586), possessions in Catton, 94; (1726), marriage, 119.
- Robert, charity, 29.
- *See also* Fairbridge.
- Farbur, Adam le (1301), involved in dispute, 239.
- Maria le (1301), party to dispute, 239.
- Farddonn (Heron), Alice (1591), marriage, 361.
- Farinlawe, John de (1335), holdings of, 378.
- Farinside, Robert de (1228), sold as a neif, 185 n.
- Thomas de (1228), sold as a neif, 185 n.
- Farmer, Mary (1776), bequest to, 93.
- Farndale, John (1381), charge against, 201.
- Farney Side, copyhold farm, acreage, 121.
- Farneyrigg burn, geological features, 251.
- Farneyshield, near Ninebanks, 116, 121, 123 n.
- Faulkener, Thomas (d. 1890), incumbent St. John Lee, 132; monumental inscription, 132.
- Faulkner, Thomas de (1296), claims right to common pasture, 399.
- Faunes, William de (1302), holdings of, 355.
- Fawcett, C. J. F. (1897), his estates in Bingfield, 230.
- Christopher (1772), trustee, 422.
- John (1863), purchases estate in Bingfield, 230.
- Fawcett, farm in Kirkheaton, 306.
- Fawcett, homestead in Great Swinburn, 272.
- Fawcett hill, in Sandhoe township, 193, 198.
- Fawdon, Sir Robert, knight (1339), witness, 414.
- Fawside, homestead in Forest grieveship, 104 n.
- Fearon, Isaac (1785), curate of Birtley, 360.
- Featherstone of Black-hall, genealogy, 43.
- Featherstone, Alice (1739), office against, 83.
- Barbara (d. 1821), monumental inscription, 29.
- Cuthbert (1694), imprisoned, 107.
- John (d. 1808), monumental inscription, 29.
- Margaret, monumental inscription, 29.
- Ralph (1688), surrenders land for Friends' meeting house, 89; estates of, 121.
- Thomas, monumental inscription, 29.
- Wharton, monumental inscription, 29.

- Featherstonhalgh, Alexander (1410), witness, 13 n.
 — Thomas de (1322), bailiff of the liberty, 156; acts as justice, 223-4.
 Featherstonhaugh, John (1595), reviews muster, 209 n.
 — Ralph (1722), named in will, 146.
 Felling Close, estates of, 365-8.
 Felton, Elizabeth de (1395), possessions at death, 364.
 — Sir John de (1395), possessions at death, 364.
 — John de (d. *circa* 1402), death, 364; lands, 365.
 — Sir William de (1332), sheriff, witness, 258 n, 402.
 Fences, an Errington estate, 193 n.
 Fenns, the, near Dotland, tenement, 13, 15.
 Fenton (Clarke), Ann (1834), marriage, 235.
 Fenwick, Ambrose (1693), bequest to, 259.
 — (Shafto), Ann, marriage, 417.
 — (*née* Ridley), Barbara (d. 1598), 14.
 — Barnabas (1786), marriage, 213.
 — Cuthbert (1640), 421; (1675), baptism, 268; of Great Bavington, marriage, 418.
 — (Heron), Dorothy (d. 1684), marriage, 341.
 — Elizabeth (1411), estates of, 379; (1673), baptism, 268; (1725), bequest held in trust, 192; (Sorsby), (1744), marriage, 269; (*née* Ellison), second marriage, 370 n.
 — (Shafto), Frances (1660), marriage, 407, 418.
 — Grace (1651), sponsor, 144 n.
 — Henry (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Isabel (*née* Carnaby), (1608), lands, 196; matrimonial suit, 203-4; (Bland), (1703), marriage, 267 n.
 — Sir John (1339), sheriff, 414; (1541), possessions of, 410; (1632), grant from Crown, 17, 231; benefaction to Whitley chapel, 26; estates, 21, 41, 62, 69, 152, 208; tithes of East and West Allen, 83; lead mines, 158; conveys tithes of Wall, 174; sells lands in Binglefield, 226; in Chollerton, 259; tithes of Chollerton, 270-1; (1689), inheritance of, 326; conveys Gunnerton estates, 327; his deer park, 370; conveys Kirkheaton colliery, 380; conveys Sweethope estate, 410.
 — John (1485), of Fenwick, etc., parentage, 380 n; (1580), of Walker, marriage, 340; (1730), of Bywell, marriage, 189; (1752), of London, tenant, 6.
 — (Watson), Lucy, marriage, 106.
 — Mary (1693), of West Matfen, 259; (1663), rated, 18; of Dotland park, 41; (Hawdon), (1679), marriage, 133; (Soulsby), (d. 1771), marriage, 243.
 — Matthew (1597), involved in matrimonial suit, 203-4; holding in Acomb, 205.
 — Nicholas (1653), tenant, 190.
 — Oswald (1597), witness, 203.
 — Ralph (1693), of West Matfen, bequest to, 259.
 — Randolph (1522), overseer of watch, 410 n.
 — Reginald (1597), vicar of Whelpington, 203.
 — Sir Robert (1693), of Bywell, 259; gives bond, 261.
 — Robert (1693), of Stanton, 261; marriage, 268, 347; (d. 1733), of Woodhead, 134.
 — Sir Roger (1550), of Wallington, in possession of Gunnerton, 327; conveys estates, 380.
 — Roger (1597), of Bitchfield, 203-4; marriage, 340.
 — Thomas de (1274), sells Capheaton manor, 257; witness to deed, 305 n; suit by, 411; (1538), trooper, 258; (1594), of Chollerton, witness, 294 n; of Little Harle, marriage, 417.
 — Tristram (1618), bequest to, 344.
 — Sir William (1571), succeeds to Gunnerton, 327; marriage, 327; holdings in Birtley, 356; (1663), lands, 19, 24, 62, 110, 139, 152, 208, 231, 410; tithes of Wall, 171; donation to Whitley chapel, 26; repairs chancel of Chollerton, 270.
 Fenwick, William (d. *circa* 1485), of Fenwick, marriage, 380 n; (1595), reviews muster, 209 n; (1596), juror, (1655), of Hexham, an umpire, 138; (1662), of 370; Wallington, 103; sponsor, 144 n; (1693), of West Matfen, bequest to, 259; (1752), tenant, 6; (1772), of Bywell, bequest to, 422.
 Fenwick of Kenton, estates in Gunnerton, 327, 329.
 Fenwick of Wallington, estates of, 327.
 Ferals, Hugh (1538), a trooper, 75.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 75.
 Fermor, of Tusmore, pedigree, 195.
 Fermor, Richard (d. 1816), heir of Henry Errington, 193.
 — William (d. 1806), 189, 195, 205 n.
 Fern hill, freehold estate of, 135, 193 n.
 Fernshield, tenement of Bee family, 116.
 Fernside, tenement of Bee family, 116.
 Ferrallen, Robert (1538), a trooper, 75.
 Fernie, David (1749), party to petition, 43.
 Ferrauler, Anthony (1533), a trooper, 13.
 Ferrers, Edward (1666), seised of New mill, 92.
 Ferroler, John (1552), setter and searcher, 97.
 Fewster, George (1710), marriage, 86.
 Feyrhend, Adam (1296), pays subsidy, 307.
 Fikolden, Peter de (1232), witness, 398.
 Filton, William de (1296), pays subsidy, 291.
 Filton, manor of, boundaries defined, 397, 400; granted to Newminster, 404; bastle house, 405. *See also* Carrycoats.
 Fine-chambers hamlet, 41; meeting house, 43.
 Finlay (Heron), Margaret (d. 1753); marriage, 342.
 Fishburn (*née* Swinburn), Christiana de (1279), confirms endowment, 275; marriage, 276.
 — Cuthbert (1368), lands in West Swinburn, 276, 278-9.
 — Sir John de (1340), lands at West Swinburn, 276, 279.
 — Sylian de (1312), parentage, 276.
 — Thomas de (1279), of West Swinburn, 275-8; confirms chantry, 275; marriage, 276; descendants, 276; free warren, 277; (1312) parentage, 276.
 Fitzherbert (*née* Smyth), Mary Anne (d. 1837), her morganatic marriage with George IV, 187, 194.
 — Thomas (1775), marriage, 194.
 Flatford, part of Wirecester barony, 273.
 Fleakebrave, tenement in Birtley, 356.
 Fletcher, Edward (1694), tenant in Acomb, 140 n.
 Flint (Reed), Alicia (1858), marriage, 348.
 Foderingeye, Walter de (1270), principal of Balliol, 305.
 Fogget, estate in Low Quarter, 32.
 Folly farm, camp at, 302.
 Folly moss, geological features, 252.
 Fontibus, Wydo de (1220), witness, 325.
 Foord, B. (1788), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
 Forbes, John (1693), gives bond, 261; (1752) tenant, 6.
 Force, Duc de la (1845), marriage, 194.
 Forcer, Fossour. *See* Fossour.
 Forde (Capper), Julia (1860), marriage, 229.
 Fore Street, Hexham, formerly Coastley-rawe, 11, 13.
 Forest, Edward (1715), entered as non-juror, 154.
 — George (1633), curate of St. John Lee, 131, 270.
 — Martha (1752), tenant, 6.
 'Forest,' significance of the term, 98, 98 n.
 Forest grievance, in Allendale, 1, 76; bequest to poor of, 87 n, 88 n; value of holdings, 98; chapel of St. Peter, 99-101.
 Forestomdhaw, Michael (1538), a trooper, 258.
 Forster, Alexander (1676), trustee, 58.
 — General (1715), in command of rebels, 80-1, 406.
 — (Fenwick), Grace (1579), marriage, 327.
 — Clare (1510), grant of land by, 208.
 — (Errington?), Dorothy, marriage, 227.

- Forster, Frances (1775), named in will, 423.
 — James (1538), a trooper, 18, 253; (1800), freeholder, 52 n.
 — Jane, marriage, 63.
 — Sir John (d. 1602), possessions at death, 41, 71, 83, 152, 208, 270; action in ecclesiastical court, 115, 173 n, 269; purchases Chollerton tithes, 269; takes muster, 316, 355.
 — John (1743), holdings of, 368; (1800) freeholder in Hesley-well, 68.
 — Mary (Stapleton), (1616), marriage, 83; (*née* Carr) (1769), parentage, 41 n.
 — Matthew (1626), of Eshells, 62.
 — Mr. (1812), of Newcastle, bequest to, 28.
 — Reginald (1550), holdings in Sandhoe, 208.
 — Richard (1479), tenant of Anick mill, 151.
 — Rinyon (1608), tenant in Eshells, 62.
 — Robert, charity, 29. *See also* vol. iii.
 — Sarah (*née* Carr), parentage, 41 n.
 — Thomas (1410), witness, 13 n; (1538), a trooper, 18; (1601), action against, 402 n; (1741), commissioner, 323 n.
 — William (d. 1671), burial, 62; (1693) bond, 261.
 Forster of Eshells, Kentstone, and Corbridge, genealogy, 63.
 Fossor family of Thockrington, history of, 399-400.
 — (Acton), Agnes (1342), marriage, 400; grant of land to, 400-1.
 — Basil (d. 1782), of Herbarowes, 401.
 — (Hodgson), Jane (1685), marriage, 298.
 — Margaret (before 1300), monumental inscription, 393.
 — John (1232), holding in Thockrington, 397; party to charter, 398, 400; (d. 1374) prior of Durham, 393, 400; (d. 1379) possessions, 400; death, 400; (1400), marriage, 400; obtains estate at Kellawe, 401; (*circa* 1640) marriage, 285.
 — Richard (1240), grant of land to, 304-5, 400; grants to Newminster, 304, 320.
 — Roger (1280), gift of land to, 400-1.
 — Thomas (1300), witness, 332 n; confirms deed of gift, 400-1; appointed commissioner, 400.
 — William (*circa* 1280), monumental inscription, 393; gift to son, 400-1.
 Fot, Robert (1293), found guilty of robbery, 109 n.
 Fourlaws, course of Roman road at, 215; elevation of, 246; geological features, 248, 250-51.
 Fourbour, Mariota le (1301), claims for dower, 239.
 Fox, George (1653), visits Hexham and Gilsland, 104.
 — Thomas (1328), commissioner in suit, 239.
 — William (1410), tenant, 12 n.
 Framlington, William de (1297), summons jury, 322 n.
 Franches (?), Thomas (1596), pays subsidy, 332.
 Franklin, Richard (1336), pays subsidy, 355 n.
 Frawler meadows, homestead in Allendale town, 90 n.
 Frere, John (1296), pays subsidy, 364.
 Frosterley, Gunnerton estate in, 325, 325 n.
 Frotheringham (Heron), Elizabeth (d. 1697), 341.
 Frount, Adam (1302), suit against, 156.
 Frow (Manby), Mary, marriage, 384.
 Frowike, Ralph (1505), justice, 343.
 Fryer, John (1791), land surveyor, 72.
 Fulthorp, Roger de, 150.
 Fylton, John, heir of, tenant, 365. *See* Filton and Felton.
- G.
- Gairshield (High Quarter), estate, 70.
 Gallowsbank, Hexham, public brickyard at, 3.
 Galon, Mary (1350), possessions of, 413.
 Galon, Robert (1350), possessions of, 413.
 Gamell, Robert, son of (1295), tenant in Keepwick, 195.
 Gareshield, tenement of Bee family, 116.
 Garland, Thomas (1752), tenant, 6.
 Garrett-hill, homestead in Forest grieveship, 104 n.
 Garryshields. *See* Gairshield.
 'Gate,' application of the term, 215, 215 n.
 Gateshead, bequest to poor of, 146.
 Genealogies: Andrews of Hexham, 235; Atkinson of Newbiggen, 38; Atkinson of Kirkheaton, 381; Caldcleugh of Caldcleugh and Durham, 123; Capper of Bingfield, 229; Carnaby of Nubbock, 19; Carnaby of Hexham, 20; Charlton of the Bower and Redemouth, 375; Clarke of Hexham house and Bingfield, 235; Coppin of Bingfield, 234; Cotesworth of the Hermitage, 145; Cuthbert of Beaufront, 206; Dawson of Brunton, 174; Errington of Anick, 153; Errington of Bingfield, 227; Errington of Nether Ardley and Dalton, 54; Errington of Errington and Beaufront, 188; Errington of Sandhoe, 194; Errington of Portgate, 213; Fairless of Ninebanks, 119; Featherstone of Blackhall, 43; Fermor of Tusmore, 195; Forster of Eshells and Kentstone, 63; Gunnerton of Gunnerton, 325; Heron of Chipchase, 340; Heron of Cressy, 344; Heron of Heron's hill and Newcastle, 345; Heron of Birtley hall, 361; Hodgson of Tone, 298; Jurin of the Hermitage, 148; Lisle (de Insula), 333; Longridge of Newburn and Bingfield, 233; Manby, 384; Mewburn of Acomb, 142; Ord of Ardley and Barker-house, 57; Ord of Bingfield, 229; Reed of Chipchase, 347; Riddell of Swinburn castle and of Felton, 284; Ridley of Coastley, 14; Robson of Ninebanks, 119; Ruddock of Okerland, 4; Shafto of Carrycoats, 406; Shafto of Little Bavington, 417; Shafto of Hartburn, 425; Shield of East Allendale, 91; Soulsby of Hallington, 243; Stanley-Errington, 194; Stote of Stote's hall, 383-4; Sweethope of Sweethope, 409; Swinburn of East Swinburn, 309; Swinburn of West Swinburn, 276; Thirlwall of East Greenridge, 23; Thirlwall of Thirlwall and Newbiggen, 35; Thirlwall of Mollersteads, 51; Thirlwall of Nether Ardley and Dalton, 54; Tulip of Fallowfield, 159; Vaux of Beaufront, 202; Watson of Allendale and Newcastle, 105; Widdrington of Buteland and Morpeth, 369; Widdrington of Colt park, 213; Widdrington of Colwell, 294; Wilson and Atkinson of Kingswood and Newbiggin, 38.
 Geology and minerals (*see* general account of regality of Hexham, vol. iii. pp. 2-8): General account of parishes of Chollerton, Kirkheaton, and Thockrington, 246-52. Appendices, 426-30. Ochre and fullers earth found near Hexham, 4-5; silver obtained from lead ore in Allendale, 101; crow coal in Allendale, 102; witherite worked at Fallowfield, 155; Little Limestone attains greatest thickness at Fallowfield, 155; Five-yard, Redesdale, Dun, and other limestones, 247, 250, 387; *saccammina* found near Swinburn castle, 248; dip and strike valleys on North Tyne, 246-7; Bernician beds, 247; carboniferous strata, 247; Whin sill: at Gunnerton, 249; Coldwell, 249; Bavington, 249; Basalt: at Kirkheaton, 250; at Barrasford, 310; Redesdale iron stone worked by Sir William Armstrong & Co., 248, 363; glacial action: at Hallington and Great Swinburn, 250; at Reaver Crag, 310; drift at Gunnerton and Kirkheaton, 250; till near Colt

- Crag, 252; fault at Thockrington, 250-1; peat near Sweethope, 252; tarn at Sweethope, 252; sections in pits at Cowden, 427; at Gunnerton, 428; at Kirkheaton, 428-9; at Little Bavington, 450. *See also* Lead mines and Coal seams.
- George, Augustus King (1874), bequest, 405.
- Herbert (1874), legatee, 405.
- John Newberry (d. 1873), marriage, 407.
- (*née* Shaito), Sarah (d. 1876), contested will of, 405.
- Gerard (Rumney), Mary, marriage, 26 n.
- Gerberd, William (1297), king's clerk, 321.
- Gest, Grace (d. 1676), burial at the Hayrake, 103.
- Gibbs, Henry (1715), surveyor, 416.
- Gibson, Ann (d. 1816), monumental inscription, 132.
- Elizabeth (b. 1793), baptism, 198 n; (b. 1795), baptism, 198 n.
- George (1637), in possession of Stotsfold, 65; (1655), acts as arbitrator, 138; (d. 1725), imprisoned for high treason, 208; (1752), tenant, 4 n, 6; marriage, 38; (1797), marriage, 375; (d. 1816), monumental inscription, 132; (1817), sells Stagshaw Close house, 208.
- James (1752), of Great Whittington, 6; (d. 1795), of Stagshaw house, death, 198 n.
- Jasper (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141; (1793), purchases Houtley estate, 32 n; possessions of, 65 n; trustees of, 65; (d. 1818), monumental inscription, 132; his seat in St. John Lee church, 134.
- John (1538), a trooper, 170; (1590), of Hexham, witness, 173 n; (1772), of Great Whittington, bequest to, 422.
- Joseph (1752), tenant, 6.
- Joshua (1752), tenant, 6.
- Richard (1663), tenant in Stotsfold, 65; (1668), bequest to, 372; (1752), tenant, 6; (d. 1811), monumental inscription, 132.
- Robert (1590), of Hexham, witness, 173 n.
- Thomas (1547), tenant, 62; (1691), of Stonecroft, exchanges estates, 208; (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 6; (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
- Gibson of Stonecroft, connection with Beacon grange, 45.
- Gifford, Walter (1295), archbishop of York, grants to Hexham priory, 109, 170, 239; grants lease of Thockrington manor, 398; issues commission for gaol delivery, 409.
- Gilbert the smith, of Barrasford (1256), murdered, 330.
- Gill (Watson), Elizabeth, marriage, 106.
- Gill-house, farmhold in Keenley, 97 n.
- Gillow, Henry (1476), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- (Riddell), Mary T., marriage, 287.
- Girsgarth, a close in Allendale so named, 93.
- Glantington, Robert de (1297), juror, 322 n.
- Glassbrook, Rev. — (1876), chaplain at Swinburn, 283 n.
- Glendue, quarry, 3, 15; homestead, 5, 15.
- Gobyon, Hugh (1310), witness, 323.
- Gofton, Heron estates in, 339.
- Gold Island, limit of Chollerton parish, 245.
- Golightly (*née* Carr), Mary (1744), bequest to, 68.
- Goned, Gilbert de (1296), pays subsidy, 377.
- Good, William (1769), marriage, 362.
- Goodchild (Fairless), Mary (d. 1860), monumental inscription, 111; marriage, 120.
- Goodchilds, Jackson, & Co., of Sunderland, 121.
- Goodgin (Shaito), Margaret, marriage, 418.
- Goodrick, Richard (1595), reviews muster, 209 n.
- Gosforth, William de (1296), pays subsidy, 399.
- Gouge, Thos. (1451), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- Goulin, Margaret (1699), bequest to, 120.
- Goundry, George (1734), marriage, 105.
- Graham, Adam de (1200), witness, 3 n.
- (Heron), Elizabeth (d. 1683), marriage, 341.
- (Swinburn), Idonea de, marriage, 306, 309.
- James (1693), gives bond, 261.
- William (1752), tenant, 6.
- Grapier, Peter (1323), petitions the king for restoration of lands in Colwell, 292.
- Grasshill, lead mines at, 120.
- Grave-covers, etc., St. John Lee, 130; Chollerton, 265-6; Birtley, 359; Thockrington, 393-4.
- Gray and Grey, Mrs. Anne (1826), trustee, 348.
- George (1722), named in will, 146.
- Hannah (1752), tenant, 6.
- John (1323), acts on jury, 292; (1336), pays subsidy, 324; (1339), witness, 414; (1752), tenant, 6.
- (Delaval), Margaret, 424.
- (Heron), Margery (1612), marriage, 340.
- Mark (1683), estate of, 367, 367 n, 368.
- (Riddell), Mary, marriage, 285.
- Richard W. (1862), sells Chiphcase estate, 348.
- Robert (1720), office against, 396.
- (Forster), Sarah (d. 1854), marriage, 63.
- Thomas (1693), gives bond, 261.
- Walter, archbishop of York, grants of land by, 9, 16, 39, 170, 199; encourages agriculture, 39; charter of, 45, 59; grants to Hexham priory, 109, 143; purchases neifs, 185, 223; acquires Beuckley, 197; acquires rights in Hallington, 239; rectifies boundaries of Thockrington, 397; grants to Sir Peter de Vaux, 408.
- Graystead, tenement of Bee family, 116.
- Graystone, in Allendale, 116.
- Great Hurst, tenement in Birtley, 356.
- Green, Edmund (1538), a trooper, 40.
- George (1748), churchwarden of Allendale, 84; (1767), executor, 123.
- Hob (1500), a trooper, 8 n.
- Sylvester James, marriage, 419.
- Jeremiah (1779), petition by, 85.
- John (1767), executor, 123.
- William (1450), holds Lamburn-hall, 60; (1535), tenant in Aniek, 151; (1538), a trooper, 207; (1779), party to petition, 85.
- Green cleugh, 73.
- Green crag, camp on, 216.
- Green pits, homestead in Forest grieveship, 104 n.
- Greenfield, archbishop of York, 16, 25; visitation, 78; in conflict with Hexham priory, 128-9; orders visitation, 129, 176, 221; receives homage, 200.
- Greenfield, farm, in Wall, 160.
- Greenhill, lead-mines at, 120.
- Greenley cleugh, estate of, owners, 121.
- Greenridge, 22-5; dispute as to rent, 11, 23; burnt by the Scots, 22; early importance, 22; registered, 37; order to tenants, 49.
- Green-rigg, in Chollerton parish, geological features, 248, 251; willed to Anthony Gregson, 299; mustering place of rebels in 1715, 406.
- Greenrigg Moor, in Hexhamshire, 18.
- Greenshaw bank, tenement, 15; right of common, 15 n.
- Greenshield, tenement, 15.
- Greenwell (*née* Cotesworth), Margaret (1741), 147.
- Mark (1610), curate of Birtley, 360.
- William (1840), marriage, 124.
- Greenwich hospital commissioners estates of, 2, 16, 50-3, 65, 68, 366.

- Greenwood, Thomas (d. 1421), prebendary of Thockington, 388.
- Gregson, Anthony, of Low-linn (1830), estates of, 299.
- John, of Murton, marriage, 347.
- Gren, Alexander del (1296), pays subsidy, 364.
- Grey. *See* Gray.
- 'Grieveship,' similar to 'township,' 76.
- Griffin (*née* Levery). Maria (d. 1795), marriage, 189.
- Grimeshowe, Nicholas (1279), does fealty, 276.
- Grindle, Francis (1722), curate of Allenheads, 100.
- Grindstone Law, Grinston Law. *See* Grundstone Law.
- Griol, Edward (1629), tenant of Hexham manor, 15 n.
- Grottington, estate of, rateable value, 191, 221; registered, 192; acreage, 193, 193 n.
- Grottington West farm, 193; priory lands at, 196, 236.
- Grouse-house, farmstead, position of, 71.
- Grover, Eliza Harriet (1783), baptism, 269.
- Growley-field. *See* Steel.
- Grundstone Law, tumulus at, 220; assessment and acreage, 221, 222, 230; belongs to Hexham priory, 1479, 225; owner, 230.
- Guards Lane, in Hexhamshire, 46.
- Gunner Peak, geology, 249, 250; account of British village, with plan, 312-13.
- Gunner-well, farm in Barrasford, 318 n.
- Gunnerton of Gunnerton, genealogy and evidences, 325; seals of, 325.
- Gunnerton, Alan de (1296), pays subsidy, 307.
- (*née* Heron), Dame Christian, marriage, 325.
- John de (1278), witness to deed, 275 n.
- Sir John de (1279), coroner 320; lands 323.
- Nicholas de (1310), witness to deed, 278 n; pays subsidy, 320; his legitimacy disputed, 321; consequent enquiry, 321-3; conveys Gunnerton, 323.
- Peter de (d. *circa* 1310), party to conveyance, 274; grants to Newminster, 304, 320, 326; claims and quit-claims Gunnerton, 321, 323; murdered, 323-4.
- Peter de (1479), curate of St. John Lee, 131, 136.
- Ralph de (1184), concedes land in West Swinburn, 274; grants to Hexham priory, 300, 320, 326; possessions of, 303-4, 322; the first of his line, 320; grant of land by, 400; witness, 325.
- Robert de (1220), parentage and marriage, 320.
- Thomas de (1210), his inheritance, 325.
- William de (1243), witness, 330 n.
- Gunnerton, in Chollerton parish, 245; certain lands in manor of Anick Grange, 149; part of Balliol barony, 245, 320; coal seam, 248-9, 251, 428; tithes, 269; TOWNSHIP, 318; extract from survey, 318; acreage and census returns, 319; pre-historic remains, 319; camps, 218, 319-20; subsidy roll, 320; stone axe found, 320 n; manor in dispute, 321-3; sold to the Swinburns, 323; held by the Fenwicks, 327; mysterious murder at, 327; system of tenure, 328; owners, 328-9.
- Gunnerton burn, geological features, 247.
- Gunnerton chapel, a dependent of Chollerton, 270, 326; granted to Hexham priory, 253, 326; gable cross at, 326 n.
- Gunnerton Money hill, mediæval pottery found at, 319.
- Gurney, Joseph John, marriage, 106.
- Guire Coats (or Gyrcotes) in Allendale, 116, 121.
- Guy (Heron) Phillis (1739), marriage, 362.
- Gyll, Robert (1694), tenant of Acomb, 140 n.
- Hackford, in High Quarter, position of, 65-6; held by Ord family, 66; probable origin of name, 66; known as Woodside, 66; present owner, 67.
- Hackford, in West Quarter, dependency of Coastley, 9; tenure, 11; owners, 11, 13-14, 15 n; conveyed to Ridley family, 12 n, 13, 15.
- Hackford bank quarry, 3.
- Hackman Clewe, grazing rights in dispute, 138.
- Hadston barony, members of, 245, 273; held by Wircester, 273-4. *See also* Wircester barony.
- Hagg, the, farmhold in Park grieveship, 98 n.
- Haggerston, Sir Carnaby (d. 1831), marriage, 194.
- Sir Edward (1841), estates of, 374.
- Edward Robert (b. 1788), baptism, 198 n.
- Jane (b. 1784), baptism, 198 n.
- Sir John (1897), estates of East Greenridge, 24; Lamb-Shield, 33; High Ardley, 55; Redesmouth, 374.
- Mary (Hodgson), (d. 1663), marriage, 298; (d. 1857), marriage, 194.
- Ralph (d. 1679), burial, 133.
- Thomas (1783), marriage, 375; (b. 1785), baptism, 198 n.
- William Charles (b. 1791), baptism, 198 n.
- Haggerston of Ellingham, family of, estates devised to, 33, 374.
- Haig (Charlton) Elizabeth, marriage, 375 n.
- Haining, homestead in Allendale, 90 n.
- Haining (Cocklaw), estate of, 191-2, 193 n.
- Hair, T. H., drawing of Allendale chapel by, 78 n.
- Haliden, Halledon, Halydene. *See* Hallington.
- Hall (*née* Keenlyside), Ann (1746), bequest, 122.
- Anne (1770), bequest to, 131 n.
- (Shafto), Anne Catherine (d. 1878), marriage, 420.
- Elizabeth (1724), baptism, 269.
- George Rome, F.S.A. (d. 1895), 312, 358; epitaph, 359; incumbent of Birtley, 360.
- (*née* Errington), Jane (1643), named in will, 190.
- Jasper (1717), commissioner, 317.
- John (1643), marriage, 188; (*circa* 1710), executed, 416.
- Nicholas (1725), trustee, 192.
- Robert (1746), executor, 122.
- Thomas (1701), baptism, 269.
- William (1601), action by, 402 n.
- Hall-barns, Heron estates in, 339.
- Hall hill, Heron estates in, 339.
- Hall Shield, estate in West Quarter, 8, 18; part of Charlton estates, 33 n; sold, 36 n; registered, 374.
- Hallaburton, Stephen (1687), baptism, 268.
- Halliday, George (1538), a trooper, 225.
- John (1538), a trooper, 225.
- Hallington, Adam de (1336), pays subsidy, 377 n.
- John de, petition to, 150.
- William de (1296), pays subsidy, 399.
- Hallington, in parish of St. John Lee, 1, 125; connection with Acomb, 136; Errington estates in, 187; assessment, 222; TOWNSHIP, 238; prehistoric remains, 238; acreage and census, 238, 238 n; early history, 238-9; muster roll, 240; manor leased to Richard Bellacis, 240-1; to William Selby, 241; water reservoirs, 244; list of birds, 244; Errington, Soulsby, Trevelyan, and other owners, 241-3; characteristic features, 244; water works, 244.
- Hallington Demesne, Roman altars at, 238; description of house, 242; held by John Shafto, 415.
- Hallington homesteads and farms, 192, 193, 222, 242 n.

H.

Habitancum, course of Roman road at, 215; Pretorian gates at, 218.

- Hallington mill, assessment, 221; successive holders, 240-2; destroyed by a flood in 1716, 242.
- Halliwell flat, position of, 221 n.
- Hallpool, farm of, 174-5.
- Hally-well, farmstead, altitude of, 71.
- Halsey, John (1604), coal mines at Kirkheaton, 380.
- Halton, Sir John de (1321), justice, 223.
- Haltwhistle, John de, (1296), witness, 325.
— William de, (1296), witness, 325.
- Ham-burn, course of, 18, 31, 53, 55; mill on, 34, 59.
- Hamburn-hall, history, 59; present owner, 60.
- Hamilton, Jane (1717), claims as creditor, 191.
- Hammer Shield, homestead in Forest grieveship, 104.
- Handfasting⁷ in sixteenth century, 82.
- Hanging Shaws, a curious hill, 135 n; tenement, 173.
- Hangman's hill, altitude of, 135.
- Hannay, Gilbert (1385), charge against, 201.
- Hanwyke, Hugh de (1290), arbitrator in suit, 150.
- Harbörd, Charles (1632), receives grant of tithes, 385.
- Harbottle of Anick Grange, family of, notice of, 154.
- Harbottle, Ann (d. 1740), will of, 154; (d. 1811), monumental inscription, 132.
— Barbara (d. 1754), burial, 134; (1770), bequest to, 131 n, 154.
— Elizabeth (1712), bequest to, 154.
— George (1740), inheritance of, 154.
— John (1740), inheritance of, 154; (d. 1853), of Anick Grange, epitaph, 132.
— Mary (d. 1872), monumental inscription, 132.
— Michael (1752), tenant, 6.
— (d. 1768), burial, 134; will of, 154.
— (Bentham), Phillis (1720), marriage, 134.
— Phillis (1770), bequest to, 131 n, 154.
— Thomas (1586), tenant in Birtley, 356.
— William (1438), gives power of attorney, 343; (d. 1717), burial, 133; will of, 154; (d. 1791), bequest to, 131 n; death, 154; (d. 1809), monumental inscription, 132.
- Harbottle's Island, position of, 154.
- Harding, Sampson (1392), enfeoffed, 326.
— William (1429), releases rights in Gunnerton, 326.
- Hare (Carnaby), Ann (d. 1821), marriage, 20.
— Thomas (1305), suit against, 322, 322 n.
- Harlaw, estate of, rateable value, 191.
- Harle, George (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403.
— Thomas, marriage, 38; (1339) witness, 414.
— William (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403.
- Harlow Bower, farmhold in Keenley, 97 n.
- Harp, Archibald (1693), gives bond, 261.
- Harper, Justice (1575), umpire in arbitration, 115.
- Harrington (? Errington), Thomas (1536), 197.
- Harrison, C. W. (1897), estates of, 95 n.
— Edward (1693), gives bond, 261.
— Isaac (1800), copyhold tenant, 65.
— John (1693), gives bond, 261.
— J. H. (1897), estates of, 95 n.
— Mark (1604), robbed on Matfen Moor, 190.
— (Fairless), Mary (d. 1780), marriage, 119.
— Richard (d. 1805), curate of Birtley, 360.
— Robert (1756), bequest to, 192.
— Thomas (1897), estates of, 121.
— William (1473), of Birtley, 355; (1538) a trooper, 157.
- Harrop, Philip (1720), marriage, 105.
- Harseley, tenement of Bee family, 116.
- Harshaw, appurtenance of Ninebanks, 116.
- Harsudle-house, identity, 69.
- Hartborne, Richard (1564), tenant, 293.
- Hartheugh, tenement of Bee family, 116.
- Hartley, granted to Thos. de Heton, 377.
- Hartley Moor, position of, 109.
- Hartside, geological features, 248, 252.
- Harvey, Mr. (1783), of Newcastle, solicitor, 299.
- Harwood Shield, elevation of fell, 69; owner, 69.
- Hascard, George, D.D. (1680), trustee, 241.
- Hassal (Coppin), Mary (1814), marriage, 234.
- Hastings, Edward (1473), tenant in Buteland, 365.
- Hasty, James (1663), freeholder in Yarridge, 18.
- Hatcher (Heron), Ann, marriage, 344.
- Hatfield, Thomas de, bishop of Durham, 400.
- Hatfield (Yorkshire), battle at, 177 n.
- Hatherie park, position of, 305 n.
- Hatton, Sir Christopher (1580), receives grant of spiritualities of Hexham priory, 77; grant of tithes to, 83-4, 129; sells Chollerton tithes, 269.
— (Errington), Elizabeth (1643), marriage, 188.
- Haugh, the, at Gunnerton, acreage, 329.
- Haughton (Charlton), Elizabeth (1714), marriage, 375 n.
— Ralph de (1260), owner of Selburhalv, 256.
- Haughton Strother, granted to William de Swinburn, 257.
- Haulton, William de (1297), juror, 322 n.
- Hauwyke, Walter de (1280), witness, 401.
- Hawde, Lawrence (1538), a trooper, 157.
- Hawdon (Loves), Ann (1694), marriage, 86.
— Cuthbert (1538), a trooper, 157; (1547) holdings of, 94, 98.
— John (1669), of Allendale Town, marriage, 85; (1679) of Haltwhistle, 133.
— (Dacres), Mary (d. 1676), marriage, 80, 85; death, 86; (1699) bequest to, 90 n.
— Richard (d. 1598), holdings of, 94.
— William (1664), builds mill, 91; (1699) bequest to, 90 n.
- Hawkhope-Lee (Hawkup), farm at West Allen, 97, 110 n.
- Hawksteel, farmhold in Keenley, 97 n.
- Hawton, John de (1356), witness, 201.
— John de (1232), witness, 398.
— William de (1356), witness, 201.
— W. de (1200), witness, 304 n.
- Hawthorn, Robert (1868), trustees of, 208.
- Hawton-hill, tenement, 15.
- Haxby's tomb, in York minster, the appointed place for payment of certain rents, 390 n.
- Hay (Reed), Ann (1799), marriage, 300.
- Haydon Bridge school endowments, 421.
- Hayleazes, held by Wilson family, 96.
- Hayles (*née* Charlton), Catherine (1743), marriage, 375.
— Richard (1686), concerned in a quarrel, 36.
- Hayll, John (1538), a trooper, 75.
— Richard (1538), a trooper, 75.
- Haypesley, tenement of Bee family, 116.
- Hayrake, estate in Forest grieveship, 103; present proprietors, 104.
- Hays (? Kay), William (1832), freeholder in Barrasford, 318 n.
- Hazard (Caldeleugh), Margaret, marriage, 124.
- Hazeldean (Heselden), 193 n; associated with Sir Walter Scott's ballad, 196; identified with Knitel-hesel, 196; rental, 197; possession disputed, 228.
- Head, Ann (d. 1841), monumental inscription, 267.
— Arthur (d. 1712), schoolmaster, burial, 86.
— Rev. Oswald (d. 1820), vicar of Chollerton, monumental inscription, 267; incumbent of Birtley, 360.
- Heath, Thomas (1772), marriage, 243.
- Heathery burn, farmstead and moor, 71, 73; stream, 73.
- Heathery haugh, tenement, position of, 64.
- Heavenfield. *See* Hefenfelth.
- Hecson, William (1323), holdings of, 377.
- Hedchester. *See* Hetchester.

- Hedewyne, Robert (1373), witness, 378.
- Hedley (Cuthbert), Ann (d. 1828), marriage, 206.
- Anthony (1676), inheritance of, 58; (1806), subcurate of St. John Lee, 131 n.
- Edward (1538), trooper, 225; (d. 1808), burial, 134.
- George (1848), of Sunnyside, 4 n, 382, 385.
- Henry (1594), witness, 204 n.
- John (1828), estate in Kirkheaton, 382, 385.
- Joseph (1798), mortgagee, 382 n.
- (Carr), Mary, marriage, 134.
- Miss (1897), estates, 4, 382, 386.
- Percival (1730), baptism, 395.
- R. C. (1897), collection of antiquities, 238; excavations at Colwell chapel, 289.
- Robert (1693), gives bond, 261.
- Thomas (1538), tenant in Birtley, 356; (1693), gives bond, 261; (1828), Kirkheaton estate, 382, 385.
- Hefenfelth, battle of, scene of, 177, 238; Beda's evidence, 177-8, 238; referred to as 'Catscaul,' 177 n; consequences of Cadwalla's defeat and death, 178-9; Adamnan's evidence, 178 n; alluded to, 45, 125.
- Heigh, the, homestead, 46, 61-2; owners, 62-4.
- Helinly, Richard (1538), a trooper, 136.
- Hell's caldron, spring, position of, 221 n.
- Helmley, Thomas (1775), tenant, 16 n.
- Hemington, John (1752), bequest to, 236 n.
- Mary (1752), bequest to, 236 n; (*née* Bloome), (1753), bequest to, 236 n.
- Rev. Mr. (1752), bequest, 236 n; executor, 236 n.
- William (1752), bequest to, 236 n.
- Hemmel hill, near Acomb, 135.
- Hemsley (Leeke), Ann, marriage, 134.
- George (1538), a trooper, 136, 136 n.
- John (1538), a trooper, 137; (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138, 140 n.
- Thomas (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139, 139 n; (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
- Henderson, C. W. C. (1897), estates of, 143.
- Edward (1538), trooper, 225.
- Elizabeth (1700), of Newcastle, 154.
- George (1538), trooper, 184; (1700), merchant, 154.
- Gerard (1538), trooper, 225.
- Henry (1538), a trooper, 157.
- John (1897), of Allendale, purchases Buteland, 366.
- Robert (1538), a trooper, 184.
- Thomas (1538), a trooper, 184.
- William (1538), a trooper, 157, 184.
- Hening-rigge, tenement, 17 n.
- Henryson, Walter (1385), charge against, 201.
- Hepple, Edward (1820), inheritance of, 233.
- (Hall), Elizabeth (1836), possessions of, 233; (1868), sells estate in Bingfield, 233.
- Esther (d. 1747), burial, 395.
- John (1839), tenant in Bingfield, 222; (1860), succeeds his brother, 233.
- Joseph (1816), estates, 232; will, 233; (1820), inheritance of, 233; (1839), land in Bingfield, 222.
- Margaret (1752), tenant, 6.
- Robert (1715), baptism, 395.
- William, marriage, 19.
- Hepscote, Alan (1373), vicar of Bolam, 378.
- Heraldry: arms of (?) Acton, 402; Bee of Ninebanks, 113; Carnaby, 338; Dacre, 113; Errington of Errington, 188; Heron of Chipchase, 337, 340; Ilderton of Ilderton, 379; Lisle, 324 n; Mauduit, 324 n; Musgrave, 338; Sir Robert Ogle, 401; Riddell of Swinburn, 284; Shafto of Shafto and Little Bavington, 412, 417; Strivelyn of Belsay, 378; Stote of Newcastle and Kirkheaton, 383; Swinburn of East Swinburn, 305 n, 306, 308-10, 324 n; (?) Swinburn on grave cover at Choller-ton, 266; Thirlwall of Thirlwall, 35, 36; Thornton, 338; Tyndale, 324; Vanx, 324 n.
- Hergeroether, Rev. (1882), chaplain at Swinburn, 283 n.
- Hermitage, the, mansion house of, 126; position, name, history, and description, 143-148.
- Hernshou, hermitage at, 127. *See also* St. John Lee.
- Herle, Hugh de (1256), witness, 331 n.
- John de (1335), bailiff, 413; (1336), pays subsidy, 413.
- Robert de (1336), pays subsidy, 292.
- Heron of Chipchase, pedigree, 340-42; evidences, 342-344; history of family, 338-346.
- Heron of Cressy, pedigree, 344.
- Heron of Heron's hill, South Shields, and Newcastle, pedigree, 345.
- Heron of Birtley, pedigree, 361.
- Heron, Alexander (1415), in possession of Chipchase tower, 338, 343; conveys Chipchase in trust, 338-9.
- Andrew, acquires West Whelpington, 342-3.
- Anne (1699), bequest to, 21; (1752), tenant, 6; (1697), bequest to, 36 n; Anne (Shafto), marriage, 418.
- Anthony (1612), bequest to, 344.
- Bridget (1699), bequest to, 21.
- (*née* Poulteney), Catherine, party to deed, 339 n.
- (Gunnerton), Christian, marriage, 320, 325.
- Christopher (1538), a trooper, 157.
- Cuthbert (1596), has grant of Ford, 343; (1618), of Kirkheaton, lands in Bolam, 344; (1621), rebuilds Chipchase manor house, 337; office against, 359; (1714), tenant in Birtley, 368; (d. 1731), 346.
- Sir Cuthbert (d. 1688), of Chipchase, acquires holding in Choller-ton, 259; created baronet, 339; possessions of, 339; estates encumbered, 339.
- 'Sir' Cuthbert of Newcastle (d. 1825), genealogical notes, 345-6; claims baronetcy, 345.
- Dorothy (1618), bequest to, 344; (1651), sponsor, 144 n.
- Edward (1552), setter and searcher, 245.
- Elizabeth (1438), married by dispensation, 343; (1697), of Ingoe, bequest to, 36n; (1699), of the Paise, bequest to, 21; (d. 1702), of Ordley, inventory of goods, 44; (1789), mortgages moiety of Ninebanks, 119, 121; heiress of brother, 120; (Leadbitter), marriage, 22.
- (Shafto), Esther, *alias* Phillis, marriage, 407.
- Sir George (d. 1591), obtains grant of Birtley and Barrasford, 343.
- George (1552), keeper of Tynedale, overseer of watch, 245-6, 355; acts on commission, 207; (1622), of Kearsley, 259; (d. 1644), killed at Marston Moor, 339.
- Gerard (1443), of Chipchase, 343.
- (Fenwick), Hannah (1693), marriage, 268.
- 'Hennaritenery' (1688), baptism, 268.
- Sir Henry (d. 1748/9), conveys Chipchase, 339 n, 346; repairs Birtley chapel, 359.
- Isabel (Errington), (1630), marriage, 188; of Gateshead (1752), tenant, 6.
- Jane (*postea* Mewburn), 345; (1699), bequest to, 21; (1752), lands in Summerrods, 6.
- Sir John (1529), estates of, 343, 404; (d. 1692), will of, 344.
- John (1368), witness to deed, 279 n; possessions of, 342; holding in Thornton, 343; (1495), of Chipchase, acquires lease of Hallington, 240; (1533), of Chipchase, has grant of Carryhouse,

- 356 n; corn tithes, 358; (1586), tenant of the 'Hlead-house' at Barrasford, 316-7; lands in Rowchester, 343, 356; (d. *circa* 1618), will, 344; (1697), of Ingoe, bequest to, 36 n; (1698), of Todburn, indicted, 33; (d. 1699), of the Paise, will, 21; inventory, 21-2; (1739), of Hexham, executor, 21, 104; succeeds his father, 22; (1741), of Wall, surrenders holding, 173; (1763), of Ninebanks, surrenders land for chapel, 111; acquires Ninebanks tower, 118; marriage, 119; surrenders moiety of Ninebanks, 121; of Chipchase, marriage, 418.
- Heron, Katherine, of Ingoe (1697), bequest to, 36 n.
 — Margaret, of the Paise (d. 1705), burial, 22.
 — (Shafto), Margery (1593), 417, 421; (*née* Gray), (d. *circa* 1613), will of, 344; (1677), bequest to, 228.
 — Martha, of Sweethope (d. 1746), burial, 395.
 — Mary (1697), of Ingoe, bequest to, 36 n; (1699), of the Paise, named in will, 21.
 — Matthew (1663), possessions in Kirkheaton, 138o.
 — Norman (1516), lands of, 343.
 — (Shafto), Phillis (d. 1736), marriage, 419.
 — Ralph (1618), lands at Park end, 344.
 — Reginald (1612), bequest to, 344.
 — Richard (1721), trustee, 60.
 — Robert (1720), of Thockrington, baptism, 395; (1748), tenant, 16 n.
 — Sir Roger (1318), lands of, 292; (1477), of Ford, 343.
 — Roger (1368), a witness, 279 n; lets Pigdon, 343; (1552), setter and searcher, 246, 355; tenant in Barrasford, 316-7; of Birtley, marriage, 417.
 — Sharrock (1718), party to deed, 339 n.
 — Sissely (Cicily), (d. 1697), burial, 268.
 — Thomas (1623), lands in Heatherington, 344; (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139; Thomas, of Newcastle (d. 1830), genealogical notes, 346.
 — (Thirlwall), Thomasine, marriage, 35.
 — W. (1568), holdings in Buteland, 365.
 — Walter (1348), of Ford and Chipchase, marriage, 333.
 — Sir William (1348), of Ford, witness, 279 n; marriage, 332-3; rights in Chipchase, 333; party to indenture, 342-3; grants of lands by, 378 n.
 — William (1240), possessions in West Swinburn, 274; (1297), summons jury, 322 n; (1327), estates restored to, 308; (1576), of Hexham, depositions by, 115.
- Heron of the Paise, notice of family, 21.
 Heron barony. *See* Hadston.
- Hert, John (1495), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
 Hertford, Thomas de (1296), pays subsidy, 412.
 Hertweyton, Sir John de (1297), 322 n, 323 n.
 Heselrigg, Edmund de (1367), 224.
 Hesley Well, in West Allen, tenement, 116, 123 n.
 Hesley-well, in High Quarter, 67; owners, 68.
 Heslop, Clement (1538), a trooper, 157.
 — Edward (1689), of South Shields, 144, 146.
 — (Cotesworth), Elizabeth, bequest to, 144; marriage, 145; named in deed, 146.
 — George (1538), a trooper, 157; of the Hermitage (1651), admitted to Gray's Inn, 144.
 — Jane (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Katherine (1663), lands in Acomb, etc., 139, 144.
 — Robert (1690), witness to indenture, 146.
 — William (d. 1648), lands, 138; burial, 144.
- Hetchester, farm in Thockrington, 387, 423; camp, 387.
 Hetherington, George (1743), depositions by, 368.
 — John (d. 1674), reader at Allenheads chapel, 79 n, 100.
 Heton, Richard de (1296), pays subsidy, 315.
 — Robert de (1307), tenant in Hamburn, 59.
- Heton, Thomas de (1318), acquires estates, 377.
 Heugh burn, course of, 363, 370.
 Heugh, High and Low, homesteads in Birtley, 357.
 — North, a homestead in Thockrington, 387, 403, 423.
 Heveningham (Heron), Abigail, marriage, 344.
 Hew, John (1538), a trooper, 225.
 Hewardla, Thomas de (1385), charge against, 201.
 Hewitson, John, of Newcastle (*circa* 1800), marriage, 106; (1813), curate of Whitley Chapel, 28, 28 n.
 — Peter (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 157.
 — William (1700), bequest to, 80 n.
 Hewitt family, of Broomhope and Morpeth, 369.
 Hewll, Robert (1538), a trooper, 109.
 Hewson, William (1752), tenant, 6.
 Hexham, battle of, account of, 47, 48.
 Hexham bridge-end, hamlet of, 154.
 Hexham parish, 1-73; history of East and West Common, 2, 5-8; of Hexhamshire and Allendale Common, 71-73; detailed accounts of the four townships under their respective designations of Hexham township, 2; West Quarter, 8; Low Quarter, 31; Middle Quarter, 48; High Quarter, 64; Scottish ravages, 22, 75 n, 137, 185.
 Hexham, priors of: Thomas de Appleton, 11, 11 n; Bernard, 330, 348; William Clay, 131; Thomas Ferrou, (1457), 151; Edward Jay, (1534), 14, 203, 258; John (1350), 11, 23, 150, 398; William de Kerdale (1360), 11 n; John de Lazenby, (d. 1269), 254, 254 n, 305; Richard of York, 254 n; Thomas Smithson, 40; William (1209), 52.
 Hexham priory estates: Acomb, 136; Allendale, 77; Anick, 149-50; Barrasford, 315; Beaufront, 202; Bingfield, 224-6; Birtley, 357; Caldastrother, 376, 379; Catton, 93; Chipchase, 331, 349; Chollerton, 253-4, 258-9; Coastley, 9, 14; Colwell, 289, 293; Dotland, 39; Greenridge, 22; Gunnerton, 327; Hazeldean, 196; Keepwick, 195; Kirkheaton, 377, 379; Langhope, 9; Ninebanks, 109; Nubbock, 18; Oakwood, 143; Sandhoe, 205; Stagshaw Close, 207; Steel, the, 46; Stelden, 305; St. Oswald's, 180; Todridge, 236; Tone and Cowden, 296, 300; Wall, 170; West Swinburn, 274; Westwood forest, 16.
 Hexham township, area and boundaries, 2; details of estates in, 3-8; lists of persons who received allotments at the division of the East and West Common in 1752, 5-8.
 Hext', Simon de (1243), witness, 330 n.
 Heydon, Sir John, knight (1632), keeper of the ordnance, 384.
 Heyford, Mr. (1700), takes lease of Broomhope, 367.
 Higginson, Rev. J. (1828), chaplain of Swinburn, 283 n.
 High Balk, freehold estate, acreage, 193 n.
 High Green, estate in West Allen, 123 n.
 High Quarter, a township in Hexham parish, 1, 8, 25; gifts to poor, 30, 67; area and population, 64; estates, 64-71; grazing rights, 72-3.
 High Shield, in Hexham township, owners, 5.
 High Shield, in Allendale, estate, 122.
 High Shield-green, camp, 351.
 High Shield Rigg, *alias* the Paise, 21.
 High Side, rental and acreage, 16 n.
 High Wood, rental and acreage, 16 n.
 Highford, quarry, 3.
 Hill, Hercules (1665), marriage, 75.
 — John (1696), purchases share of Lillswold, 64.
 — (Errington), Maria (d. 1813), marriage, 189.
 — (Lampton), Mary, marriage, 133.

- Hill, the, tenement in Middle Quarter, 49.
 Hill-head in High Quarter, position of, 67; held by Dixon family, 68.
 Hilton, John (1737), bequest to, 192.
 Hindhaugh farmstead, northern limit of Chollerton parish, 245; connection with Widdringtons, 365-8; its fells, 367-8; present owner, 369.
 Hindley hill, in Allendale, owners of, 96.
 Hindley Wrae, conflux of streams, 74; farms, 96, 98 n.
 Hindmarsh, Robert (1385), charge against, 201.
 Hinds fell, farm at Kirkheaton, 381, 386.
 Hird, John (1336), pays subsidy, 413.
 Hirst, Edward (1538), holds lease of Beaufront, 202-3.
 Hobkirk (Armstrong), Ann, marriage, 142.
 — Archibald (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139; executor, 141.
 — John Archibald (1655), defendant, 139 n.
 Hodgson of Tone; genealogy, 298; history of family, 297, 301.
 Hodgson, Allan (d. 1772), value of tithes, 271; an ardent Jacobite, 297.
 — (Cutbbert), Ann (d. 1834), marriage, 206.
 — (Shafto), Elizabeth (1804), marriage, 420.
 — John (1670), of Burn-tongues, baptism, 85; (1699), amount owing to, 104; (*circa* 1730), of Durham, marriage, 43.
 — (Shafto), Mary (1743), marriage, 418.
 — Nicholas (1693), gives bond, 261; of Whickham, marriage, 383.
 Hogg, Robert (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139.
 Hogbird, Alan (1479), tenant in Chollerton, 258.
 Hole-house, Low Quarter, contingent to muster, 21; owners, 14, 32, 36, 46; registered, 37; position, 46; order to tenants, 49.
 Holford, Christopher (d. 1615), tenant in Anick, 152.
 Hollin Green, farmhold in Keenley, 97 n.
 Holloway, George (1747), tenant in Wall, 171.
 — Mary (1747), tenant in Wall, 171.
 Holly bush, in Allendale, owners of, 96.
 Holly Close, farmhold in Park grieveship, 98 n.
 Holly-hall, farmstead in Sandhoe, 198.
 Holmes (Cresswell), Ann, marriage, 133.
 — (Stote), Margaret (1653), twice married, 383.
 Holmes, in Allendale, Quaker burial ground, 98.
 Holmes, in Middle Quarter, 52; mill, 53; devised and sold, 58.
 Holywell burn, geological features, 247-8.
 Homel, Simon (1296), pays subsidy, 258.
 — William (1336), pays subsidy, 258.
 Homilton, near Bavington, geological features, 249; rental in 1794, 423.
 Homyll, Thomas (1538), a trooper, 40.
 Honorius II., Pope (1226), grants licence for prebend of Thockrington, 388.
 Hooley, Mount, a homestead in Kirkheaton, 376.
 Hope, Margaret (1752), tenant, 6.
 Hope house, in Allendale Town, 83, 90 n.
 Hopper, George (1687), marriage, 105.
 — Margaret (1750), executrix, 93.
 — (Watson), Sarah, marriage, 105.
 Hornby, Colonel (1897), estates of, 318, 329.
 — (*née* Bird), Margaret (d. 1853), epitaph, 267.
 — Wilfrid Bird (1897), vicar of Chollerton, 268.
 — Cuthbert and Robert (1552), make inventory of Northumberland churches, 269.
 — John (1597), witness, 203-4.
 — Thomas de (1332), archbishop's justice, 71; (1479), tenant, 379.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 109.
 Hospitallers, member of order (1310) hanged, revived, and pardoned, 128; reference to lands in Thockrington belonging to the preceptory of Chibburn, 401; lands in Thockrington, 398, 402.
 Houete, Thomas (1296), pays subsidy, 258.
 Houghton, John de (1323), serves on jury, 292.
 — Nicholas de (1323), serves on jury, 292.
 Housty, homestead in Allendale Town, 90 n.
 Houtley, Low Quarter, 32; owners, 32 n, 36.
 Howard of Bingfield and Overacres, history of family, 227-9; their improvidence, 228; lords of Redesdale, 368; estates, 367 n, 416.
 Howard, Edward (1338), tenant of South Riddleham, 70.
 — James (1677), marriage, 227; mortgages estates, 228; conveyance by, 367 n.
 — Mary (d. 1669), monumental slab, 266.
 Howburn, Matthew (1538), trooper, 380.
 Howeton, John (1385), office against, 201.
 Howey, Thomas (1717), claims as creditor, 191.
 Hubbock, Elizabeth (1752), tenant, 6.
 — George (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Jane (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Thomas (1752), tenant, 6.
 Huddleston, Elizabeth (1717), claims as creditor, 191.
 Hudles, John (1538), a trooper, 109.
 Hudshaw, Hexham school lands at, 5, 6.
 Hudson (Soulsby), Julia Elizabeth (d. 1829), marriage, 243.
 — Thomas (1742), curate of Whitley chapel and master of Hexham school, 28; (1752), tenant, 6.
 Hudspeth, John (1655), acts as arbitrator, 138.
 Hull, Richard (1538), a trooper, 75.
 Humble (Caldeleugh), Jane, marriage, 124.
 — (Errington), Margaret (d. 1667), marriage, 54.
 — Thomas (1663), possessions in Dotland, 41.
 Hume (Waite), Alice (1723), marriage, 230.
 Hunter, Allgood (1793), lands in Kirkheaton, 381, 382 n.
 — (Thirlwall), Ann, twice married, 51.
 — Anthony (1757), trustee, 51 n.
 — (*née* Coppin), Frances, marriage, 234.
 — Isaac (1793), his inheritance, 381.
 — John (1305), suit against, 322, 322 n; (1385) charge against, 201; (d. 1821) high sheriff, 148; family pew in St. John Lee, 134.
 — Margaret (1756), bequest to, 51 n.
 — Mary (1793), inheritance and estates, 381-2.
 — Richard (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Thomas (1410), witness to charter, 13 n.
 — William (1764), marriage, 381; (1793) estates, 381.
 Hunter of Medomsley, owner of the Hermitage, 148.
 Hunter Gap, in Keenley grieveship, 97 n.
 Hunterley house, estate, 36.
 Hunteroak, in Allendale, 117.
 Huntrods, in Forest grieveship, 104 n.
 Huntwell, in Forest grieveship, 104 n.
 Hurd, Robert (1538), a trooper, 75. *See* Ord.
 Hurst, Nicholas (1563), clerk, 82.
 Husband, Adam de (1296), pays subsidy, 258.
 Hut circles, examples of, 313, 352, 363, 387; illustration, 314. *See also* Pre-historic remains.
 Hutchinson, Ann (1663), holding, 50; (Ord) (1700) marriage, 229.
 — Cuthbert (1538), a trooper, 75; (1699) amount owing to, 104.
 — Elizabeth (1663), lands, 50; (1752) tenant, 6.
 — Hugh (1538), a trooper, 110; (1699) amount owing to, 104; charitable bequests, 87 n.
 — (*alias* Pearson), Janet (1563), suit against, 82.

Hutchinson, John (1538), a trooper, 109, 110; (1608) holdings in Mollersteads, 50; (1615) tenant in Anick, 152; (1699) trustee, 103.
 — Laurence (1663), proprietor in Sandhoe, 211.
 — (*née* Kell), Margaret (1680), named in will, 172.
 — Richard (1538), tenant in Sandhoe, 207.
 — Robert (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138.
 — Sampson (1663), proprietor in Anick, 152.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 75; (1626) tenant in Acomb, 138, 139 n; (1663) proprietor in Anick, 152; (1720) executor, 122; (1751) office against, 134.
 — William (1535), tenement in Anick, 151; (1538) a trooper, 109-10; (1692) bequests, 88 n, 89, 90.
 Hutley, Thomas (1538), a trooper, 293.
 Hutton, John, marriage, 19.
 — William, on Roman Wall, 161-2.
 Huxley, George (1718), party to deed, 339 n; lands of, 368; marriage, 341.
 — Henrietta Maria (Heron), (1718), party to deed, 339 n.
 Hydega, Agnes (1330), claims dower, 398.
 Hynd, John (1538), trooper, 258.

I.

Ikin (Lee), Mary Louisa, marriage, 132 n.
 Ilderton, Gerard (1547), holdings in Hallington, 240.
 — Robert (1505), witness, 379 n; (1752) tenant, 6.
 — Sir Thomas, knight (1479), lands in Kirkheaton, 379; armorial seal, 379.
 — Thomas (d. *circa* 1505), lands of, 379.
 Ingleby (*née* Johnson), Mary, bequest to, 60.
 Ingram, Rev. Rowland, M.A., marriage, 420.
 — (Shafto), Sarah (d. 1775), marriage, 419.
 — Theodosia (d. 1770), burial, 395.
 Inman, Lavinia Louisa (1856), epitaph, 267.
 Insula, de. *See* Lisle.
 Irford, Rd. de (1369), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
 Ironside, Gilbert (1660), prebendary of Thockrington, afterwards bishop of Bristol, 389, 389 n.
 Isaack, R. (1626), suit by, 137-8.

J.

Jackley. *See* Nubbock.
 Jackson, Charles F., marriage, 106.
 — Christopher (1538), a trooper, 258.
 — Edward (1776), bequest to, 93.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 110; (1752) tenant, 6.
 — (Ridley), Margaret (d. 1595), marriage, 14.
 — Rev. — (1734), marriage, 269.
 — Robert (1538), a trooper, 109.
 — Thomas (1695), will, 89 n; (1752), tenant, 6.
 — William (1749), party to petition, 43.
 Jacques, Rev. Joseph (1836), curate of Allendale, 81.
 James (Brooksbank), Susanna, marriage, 134.
 Jaques, Elizabeth (1752), tenant, 6.
 Jay, Edward (1538), last prior of Hexham, 203, 258.
 Jefferson, Ann (1699), marriages, 145, 236, 406.
 — (Featherstone), Barbara (d. 1821), marriage, 43.
 — John (d. 1701), estates, 236; death, 236 n.
 — Matthew (d. 1687) of Newcastle, alderman, estate in Bingfield, 232, 236; his three daughters, Ann, Elizabeth, and Mary, 236.
 — Philip (1663), tenant in Harwood Shield, 69; (1730) marriage, 375.
 — Robert (1752), tenant, 6.
 — Thomas (1752), surgeon, tenant, 6; bequest to, 422.
 Jenison, Ralph (1690), marriage, 341.
 Jenkinson, Jesse (1749), will proved, 418.
 — (Capper), Mary Ann (d. 1861), marriage, 229.

Jewitt, James (1839), tenant in Bingfield, 222.
 Johlin, John (1752), tenant, 7.
 'Jock o' the Side,' ballad, quoted, 169 n.
 'Jock of Hazeldean,' ballad, quoted, 196.
 John of Heddon, vicar of Chollerton, witness, 414.
 John the hermit, abode near St. Oswald's, 180.
 John, prior of Hexham, witness, 398.
 John, son of Elias (1269), party to deed, 398.
 Johnson of Lamburn-hall and Hexham White-hall, epitaphs, 29; abstracts of will, 60-61; lands, 66.
 Johnson, Alexander (d. 1735), will of, 61.
 — Ann (1752), tenant, 7.
 — Cuthbert (1538), a trooper, 109.
 — David (d. 1728), inheritance, 60; will of, 61.
 — Edmund (1752), tenant, 7.
 — Edward (1752), tenant, 6.
 — George (1747), under age, 171.
 — Henry (1668), lands in Dotland, 41; will, 60.
 — Herbert (d. 1736), will of, 61.
 — Isaac (1670), sells property, 146.
 — Isabel (1673), an alleged witch, 76.
 — James (1769), curate of Birtley, drowned in North Tyne, 360; (1793) purchases Loadman, 46 n; (d. 1825) marriage, 407.
 — Jane (1747), under age, 171.
 — John (1702), marriage, 54; will, 60; (1752) tenant, 7; (d. 1780) of White-hall, epitaph, 29; votes for Hamburn-hall, 66 n; (1800) of Whitley mill hill, 50 n, 61; (d. 1834), marriage, 29; epitaph, 29; lands at White-hall, 66 n.
 — Rev. John Fairbairn (1897), lands, 50, 55, 60, 66.
 — Margaret (1670), disposes of lease, 146.
 — Mary (1752), tenant, 7; (Watson) (1806), 106.
 — (Rickerby) (1712), marriage, 100.
 — Robert (1505), chaplain, witness, 379 n; (1538) a trooper, 380.
 — Samuel (1818), memorial window at Whitley chapel, 29; marriage, 29 n.
 — Sande (1538), a trooper, 75.
 — (Ord), Sarah (1700), marriage, 57; (1752) tenant, 7.
 — Thomas (d. 1828) of White-hall, epitaph, 29; lands in White-hall, 66 n; (d. 1862) of Hexham, epitaph, 29; holding in White-hall, 66 n.
 — (*née* Carr), Thomasina, memorial window at Whitley chapel, 29; marriage, 29 n.
 — William (d. 1875), epitaph, 29; lands, 60 n.
 Jolliforth, William (1547), identity of surname, 95.
 Joly, Robert (1336), pays subsidy, 332.
 Jones, Rev. Henry Prowse (1797), marriage, 419.
 — Ralph (1385), charge against, 201.
 Jowsey, family of, possessions of, 69.
 Joycey, Mary, twice married, 425.
 Juniper, farm in Allendale, 95.
 Juniper, hamlet (Low Quarter), position of, 41; subdivisions, 42; Dye-house chapel, 43.
 Jurin of the Hermitage, family of, homestead of, 148.
 Jurin, James, M.D. (d. 1750), sketch of career, 147; literary works, 147.

K.

Karkenpeth, appurtenance of Ninebanks, 116.
 Keenley, Gilbert, of (1293), outlawed, 109 n.
 Keenley, in Allendale, 1, 76-7; bequest to poor of, 87 n, 88 n, 120; school at, 90; GRIEVESHIP, 96; acreage, 96; owners, 97; hamlets and homesteads of, 97 n.
 Keenley peth, in Allendale, owners of, 96.
 Keenleyfield, tenement in West Allen, 122.
 Keenlyside, John (1715) of Chairheads, named in will, 122; (1717) of Wolfcleugh, noncupative will of, 122.

- Keenlyside, William (1759) of Fostersteads, probate of will, 123.
 Keenlyside of Keenlyside. For other names see abstracts of wills, 122-3.
 Keenlyside gate, in Allendale, 116.
 Keenlyside, in West Allen, 122.
 Keepwick, holders of, 185-6; rateable value, 191; registered, 192; rental and acreage, 192, 193 n, 196; burnt by the Scots, 195; muster roll, 196; absorbed in Errington estates, 196; night watch at, 196 n.
 Keepwick corn mill, registered, 192.
 Kell, Alexander, junior (1538), a trooper, 170 n, 225.
 — Edward (1538), a trooper, 136, 170; (1626) tenant in Wall, 138; value of holding, 171; will, 172; (d. 1680) will of, 172; acquires corn tithes, 174; (1740) admitted heir, 173; (1752) tenant, 7, 171.
 — George (1538), a trooper, 18, 170 n; (1626) tenant in Wall, 138; value of holding, 171; named in will, 172; (1694) tenant in Acomb, 140 n.
 — James (1538), a trooper, 170, 170 n.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 225; (1663) tenant in Acomb, 139, 139 n; named in will, 172; (1736) chapel warden at Binghamfield, 221.
 — Joshua (1782), tenant in Wall, 171; executor, 173.
 — Matthew (1626), tenant in Wall, 138; holding, 171.
 — Percival (1538), a trooper, 170 n.
 — Robert (1538), a trooper, 225; (1626) tenant in Wall, 138; (1722) freeholder in Wall, 171; named in will, 172; will of, 173.
 — Roland (1538), a trooper, 170, 225.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 170, 225, 240; (1626) tenant in Wall, 138; value of holding, 171; (1663) tenant in Acomb, 139; will of, 172.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 184; (1626) tenement in Acomb, 138; (1693) of Chollerton, bequest to, 260.
 Kell of Wall. For other names see wills, 172-3.
 Kellawe, Richard de (1313), bishop of Durham, grants indulgence for the soul of Sir John Swinburn, 306.
 Keller lands, homestead in Allendale, 90 n.
 Kellingdon, John de (1392), enfeoffed, 326.
 Kelly (Longridge), Dorothy (d. 1764), marriage, 233.
 — John (1721), of Whorlton, marriage, 243.
 — Patrick (1700), of Corbridge, marriage, 57.
 Kemp, John (1479), tenant, 379.
 — Dorothy (1693), bequest to, 259.
 Kempwell, near Thockrington, rental of estate, 423.
 Kendale, John de (1410), a friar, assaulted, 326, 332 n.
 Keneley, Robert de (1240), acquires Langhope, 16.
 Keppercrawe, Alan (1296), pays subsidy, 320.
 Kerdale, William de (1360), prior of Hexham, 11 n.
 Kerr, George (1791), marriage, 234.
 — Sir Robert (1596), breaks into Swinburn castle, 281.
 — Thomas (1816), of Alnwick, value of tithes, 271-2; purchases Tone, 299; purchases Cowden, 300.
 Ketil, William (1296), pays subsidy, 354.
 Kierman (Cuthbert), Marie Theodosia, marriage, 206.
 Kilburn, a farm in Allendale, 95.
 Killyngwood, John de (1342), witness, 402.
 King's mill, in Allendale, holders of, 90-1, 94.
 Kingshaw Green, parcel of Hexham common, 3.
 Kingston, Roger de (1312), holding of, 305 n.
 Kirby, Thomas (1769), curate of Ninebanks, 111.
 Kirk close, surrendered, 141.
 Kirkburn mill, in Acomb, surrendered, 141.
 Kirkburn rivulet, known as Birkeburne, 141, 143.
 Kirkeby, John de (1296), sheriff, witness, 325.
 Kirkeland, Adam (1280), holding of, 401.
 Kirkely, John de (1297), juror, 322 n.
 Kirkharle, Cicely (1328), involved in suit, 239.
 Kirkharle, William (1328), involved in suit, 239, 412.
 Kirkhaulgh, John de (1296), witness, 325.
 Kirkheaton, Agnes de (1377), holdings of, 378 n.
 — Liell (1377), holdings of, 378 n.
 — Odinel de (1377), holdings of, 378 n.
 Kirkheaton chapel, tithes, 384-5; benefice in gift of Bewick family, 385; building and epitaphs, 385; list of chaplains, 86.
 Kirkheaton, chapelry of, physical features, 246, 250; a member of Anick Grange manor, 149; TOWNSHIP, 376; acreage and census returns, 376; earliest mention, 376; associated with Caldstrother, 376; subsidy roll, 377; tenants in 1479, 379; muster roll, 380; account of the Stote family, 380-2; Bewick and Craster estates, 382; the manor house (illustration), 386; farmholds, 386; Methodist chapel, 386 n.
 Kirkley, John de (1297), juror, 322 n; (1392) trustee, 326.
 — Thomas (1752), tenant, 7.
 Kirkley, estate of, 34 n, 36 n.
 Kirkley mill and Kirkley Thorn, rental, 192.
 Kirsop (Coatsworth), Ann (1744), marriage, 395.
 — or Kirsopp, Dorothy (1752), tenant, 7.
 — Edward (1538), a trooper, 157.
 — Elizabeth (d. 1760), burial, 134.
 — (née Carr), Elizabeth (1769), parentage, 41 n.
 — George (1538), a trooper, 184.
 — Isabel (1752), tenant, 7.
 — John (1752), tenant, 7.
 — Matthew (1752), tenant, 7.
 — Mr. (1897), owner of Glendue, 5.
 — Richard (1538), a trooper, 170 n.
 — Roland (1538), a trooper, 184.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 170; (1772) marriage, 159; tenant in Acomb, 141.
 — Wilkinson (1752), tenant, 7.
 — William (1752), tenant, 6; named in pedigree, 19; bequest to, 422.
 Kitchen, Elizabeth (d. 1756), epitaph, 267.
 — John (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
 — Stephen (d. 1747), epitaph, 267; his tenement in Gunnerton, 328, 329.
 Knag, John (1538), a trooper, 75.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 225.
 Knight, Henry, of Lowlinn (1831), estates of, 299.
 — Richard (1256), suit against, 364; (1616) purchases annuity out of Errington, 190.
 Knights cleugh, on Lillswood moor, 73.
 Knitelhesel. See Hazeldean.
 Knock Shield, homestead in Allendale, 104 n.
 Knock Shield burn, tributary of the Allen, 74.
 Knott, John (1756), executor, 192.
 Know-lawe, homestead in Allendale, 104 n.
 Kyllie Quarter, a division of Filton, 404 n.

L.

- Lady Cross bank, remains of old sanctuary cross at, 135.
 Lady's well, or Margaret's well, at Gunnerton, 326 n.
 Ladywell, near Bavington, rental of farm, 423.
 Laidley, William (1709), witness, 372.
 Laidman, William (1764), curate of Ninebanks, 111.
 Laing, James (1725), curate of Allendale, 81; office against, 83; witness, 396; (1811) marriage, 345.
 Laird's Closes, near Bavington, rental of lands, 423.
 Lamb (Charlton), Margaret (1744), marriage, 269.
 — Thomas (1663), proprietor in Wall, 171.
 — William (1296), pays subsidy, 258.
 Lamb-Shield, a farm in Low Quarter, 32, 33, 36-7.
 Lamb Shield Lane, parcel of Hexham common, 3.

- Lambert, Cuthbert (1720), marriage, 119; bequest, 120.
 — Frances (1720) of Hexham, bequest to, 120.
 — Jane (1700), bequest to, 80 n; (Charlton) (d. 1793), marriage and death, 375; supposed portrait of, 375 n.
 — John (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139, 140 n.
 — Joseph (1750), purchases estates, 33, 36.
 — Richard (1695), named in will, 191.
 Lambley, prioress of, party to deed, 364 n.
 Lambrigg sike on Kshells moor, 73.
 Lambton, Henry (1683), of Lambton (co. Durham), 191.
 — (Ruddock), Margaret (d. 1788), marriage, 4.
 — (Carr), Phoebe Dawson (1829), marriage, 134.
 — Sir William (1626), mortgagee, 190.
 Lampton, Nicholas (1719), baptism, 133.
 — Ralph (1673), marriage, 133.
 Lancaster, Thomas (1754), bequest to, 84.
 Langhope, in West Quarter, 2; dependency of Coastley, 9, 11; tenure, 11; held by Ridley family, 12 n, 13-4; early history and later owners, 15, 16, 18.
 Langley (Hodgson), Ann, marriage, 298.
 — Colonel (1870), marriage, 287.
 Langley (or Langlee), in High Quarter, held by Ord family, 68.
 Langley, in Allendale, 90 n.
 Langrigg sike, in Hexhamshire, 73.
 Langton, Nicholas de (1303), suit against, 156; heir to brother, 157.
 — Richard de (1322), proprietor in Fallowfield, 156-7.
 Langwath, Robert (1415), holds Bavington tower, 414.
 Lattimer, John (1793), office against, 85.
 Laurent, W. de (1200), witness, 304 n.
 Laverock, Patrick (1434), lands in Coastley, etc., 13.
 — Sir Thomas (1479), chaplain and parish priest of St. John Lee, 128, 131.
 Law, Roger del (1296), Thockrington, pays subsidy, 399.
 — William de (1296), Thockrington, pays subsidy, 399.
 Law-house, in Bingfield, estate of, acreage, 222; identified with Story's lands, 237.
 Lawes, Anthony (*circa* 1530), marriage, 284.
 — Henry (*circa* 1530), marriage, 284; (1538) of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
 — Thomas (1716), of Eshells, a reputed papist, 62 n.
 Lawson (Riddell), Anne, marriage, 284.
 — (Hodgson), Isabella, marriage, 298.
 — John (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403.
 — William (1576), arbitrator, 115.
 Lay readers. *See* Readers.
 Lazenby, Prior John de (d. 1269), 254, 254 n, 305.
 Lazonby, Joseph (1730), of Hexham, bequest to, 58; (1755) holding in Sunnyside, 4 n.
 Lead mines and mining: influx of miners from Derbyshire into Allendale, 75; decay of industry, 74, 88; smelt mills at Allendale Town and Cupola bank, 90, 96; output at Allenheads, 100-1; old method of carrying ore, 101-2; method of paying miners, 102; mines in West Allendale, 114, 121; at Caldclough, 123; at Fallowfield, 155; at Thockrington, 403. *See* also vol. iii.
 Leadbitter (Lister), Agnes (1650), 131.
 — Ann Mary (Charlton) (1830), marriage, 375.
 — Elizabeth (1752), tenant, 7.
 — George (1752), tenant, 7.
 — John (1752), of Wharmley, tenant, 7.
 — Joseph (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Matthew (1752), of Warden, tenant, 7; marriage, 22.
 — Nicholas (1625), purchases lands in Warden, 131; (1752) tenant, 7; (1781) owner of the Paize, 22.
 — Ralph (1729), marriage, 375.
 — Thomas F. (1897), of London, owner of the Paize, 22.
 Leadbitter, William (1752), of Houtley, tenant, 7.
 Leadgate, in West Allendale, position of, 109.
 Leaton, Anthony (1800), holding in Hackford, 67.
 Leazes, residential estate in Hexham, 2, 17.
 Lebour, Professor (1897), geological evidence, 247-8.
 Leckefield, in Ninebanks, 116-7.
 Leconfield, Arthur (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317.
 Ledell, William (1552), bailiff of Chipchase, 245.
 Ledgard, Ann (1752), of Newcastle, tenant, 7.
 — Joseph (1735), acts as arbitrator, 236.
 Lee, Andrew (1479), holdings in Birtley, 358.
 — Ann (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Anthony (1752), of Newcastle, tenant, 7.
 — Archer (1791), of South Shields, marriage, 134.
 — Arthur (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138.
 — Barbary (1659), surrenders dower, 117.
 — (Fairless), Catherine (d. 1777), marriage, 119.
 — Rev. Charles (d. 1862), incumbent of St. John Lee and lecturer of Hexham, 132; marriage, 132 n; epitaph, 133; corn tithes in Chollerston, 271.
 — Christopher (1538), a trooper, 109; (1694) commissioner, 140; goods administered, 141.
 — Elizabeth (1595), proves will, 157 n; (1788) executrix of Jane Shafto, 423.
 — George (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139; administers estate, 141; (1747) tenant in Wall, 171; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Hugh (1615), tenant in Anick, 152.
 — Katherine (1595), of Fallowfield, co-executor, 157 n.
 — James (1752), of Newbrough, tenant, 7.
 — Jane (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 136; (1586) free tenant in Birtley, 356; (1663) proprietor in Acomb, 139, 140 n; estate administered, 141.
 — Margaret (1596), of Fallowfield, estate administered, 157 n.
 — Margery (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Mary (Hodgson) (1627), marriage, 298; (1773) will, 157 n.
 — Matthew (1538), of Acomb, a trooper, 136.
 — Nicholas (1595), co-executor, 157 n; (1663) tenant in Acomb, 139, 139 n; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 7, 423.
 — Parkin (1858), sells Ninebanks, 121.
 — Rev. Percy Thomas (1895), incumbent, Birtley, 360.
 — Richard (1538), a trooper, 136; (1626) tenant in Acomb, 138.
 — Rowland (1538) of Fallowfield, trooper, 157; will, 157 n; (1626) tenant in Acomb, 138; holding, 139.
 — Thomas (1536), tenement in Birtley, 358; (1626) tenant in Acomb, 138-9; executor, 157 n; (d. 1704) tenant in Acomb, 140 n; will of, 141; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 136, 207; holds lease of Beaufront, 202; (1595) of Fallowfield, will of, 157 n; (1626) proprietor in Wall, 171; in Acomb, 138, 139 n; (1655) *alias* 'Blyth Nook,' 139 n; (1670) of Wall, corn tithes, 174; (1694) tenant in Acomb, 140 n; will, 141; (1752) tenant, 7; (1800) purchases Ninebanks, 121; (1830) marriage, 132 n.
 Lee of Acomb. For other names see wills, etc., 141.
 Lee. *See* St. John Lee parish.
 Lee, in Low Quarter, position of, 41, 42.
 Leeke, Rev. Brian (d. 1812), curate of St. John Lee, 131; epitaphs of family, 133; marriage, 134; holds lands as curate of Bingfield, 140.
 Leeshall, in Allendale, 95.
 Legge, Christopher (1734), marriage, 145, 236.
 Lckee, Rebecca (1752), bequest to, 236 n.

- Lelhom, Thomas de (1337), a justice, 10 n, 156, 212, 239.
 Leshman, Henry (1496), vicar of Chollerton, 267.
 Levery (Errington), Maria (d. 1795), thrice married, 189.
 — Rose (1737), bequest to, 192.
 Leye, Isold de la (1296), holding in Thockrington, 399 ;
 pays subsidy, 399.
 — Richard de la (1296), holding in Thockrington, 399.
 Leyghe, Thomas (1538), of Acomb, a trooper, 136 n.
 Liall, Afan (1296), pays subsidy, 258.
 Liddell, Elizabeth (1608), holds Lillswood park, 64.
 — Frances (1713), bequest to, 21.
 — George (1722), of Ravensworth castle, 146.
 — Henry (1715), alluded to, 186 n ; (1720) mentioned
 in will, 146.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 40 ; (1800) owner of Hay-
 rake, 104.
 — Lancelot (1752), tenant, 7.
 — (Forster), Rebecca (1827), lands at Hayrake, 104.
 — Thomas (1690), of Ravensworth, 146.
 Liddell-hall, in Chollerton, 272.
 Lightfoot, William (1479), holdings in Birtley, 358.
 Lighton, Robert (1568), owner of Summerrods, 17.
 Lilburn, Robert (1732), lands in Gunnerton, 329.
 Lilla, thane of King Eadwin, 64.
 Lillswood, William de (1256), death of, 64.
 Lillswood, forest of, 45 ; identity, 46, 64 ; held by Ord
 family, 55 ; early history and later owners, 64-5 ;
 Methodist chapel at, 65.
 Lillswood Moor, acreage and elevation, 73.
 Limestone Brae, Quakers' meeting house, 89, 108 ; lead
 mine, 121 ; socket of cross, 122 ; owners, 122.
 Limestone Rigg, in Thockrington, camp, 387.
 Linburn (Lynchburne), in Bingfield, 232.
 Lincoln, Richard de (1232), canon of Southwell, wit-
 ness, 398.
 Lindley, Sir Henry, kt. (1604), sells Winter-house, 62.
 Linn burn, in Hexhamshire, 71, 73.
 Linnels bridge, illustration and description of, 32-3.
 Linnels mill, in Low Quarter, 32 ; known as Newbiggin
 mill, 32 ; owners, 33, 36, 37.
 Lishman, Richard (1752), tenant, 7.
 Lisle (de Insula) of Chipchase, pedigree, 333 ; history
 of family, 330-3.
 Lisle of Woodburn, ancestry and origin, 333.
 Lisle (Heron), Cecily de (1348), marriage, 332-3, 340 ;
 her estates, 342.
 — Elizabeth (1713), bequest to, 21.
 — Sir Humphrey (1440), possessions of, 365 ; (1505)
 sheriff of Northumberland, witness, 379 n.
 — Sir John de (1356), witness, 201, 258 ; becomes
 liegeman to William Swinburn, 257 ; succeeds to
 Chipchase estates, 332 ; possessions at death, 364.
 — John de (1410) of Tynedale, excommunicated and
 absolved, 326, 332 n.
 — Margaret de (de Vaux), marriage, 202, 212.
 — Margery de (*née* Umframvill), wife of Peter, 330.
 — Nicholas de (1347), his lands in Chipchase, 332.
 — Otwel (d. 1250), of Woodburn, 330 ; witness, 331 n.
 — Peter de (1243), holds Chipchase, 330 ; obtains
 privilege of chantry, 330, 348 ; grants of land, 331.
 — Robert de (1243), witness to deed, 275 n, 305 n ;
 obtains privilege of chantry, 330, 348 ; pays sub-
 sidy, 332 ; grant to Hexham priory, 331.
 — Robert de (1272) of Woodburn, rights in Ray,
 331 ; grants to his son, 364.
 — Sir Robert de (1348), witness, 292 n, 323 n, 325,
 342, 401 ; possessions in Chipchase, 332-3.
 Lislewood, Litsewood. *See* Lillswood.
 Lister (*née* Leadbitter), Agnes, 131.
 Lister, J. M. (1879), vicar of St. Peter's-in-the-Forest,
 100.
 Litterage, 55 ; old form of name, 65 ; present owner, 66.
 Little, George D. (1897), owner of the Steel, 69.
 — Nicholas (1538), a trooper, 18.
 — Robert (1840), purchases the Steel, 69.
 Loadman, in Low Quarter, 46.
 Loaning, the, in Allendale, 93.
 Logan, Andrew (1538), of Chollerton, a trooper, 258.
 Long (Heron), Dorothy, marriage, 344.
 — William (1538), of Colwell, a trooper, 293.
 Long Lee. *See* Langlee.
 Longlee, in Buteland and Broomhope, 67, 365.
 Longridge of Newburn and Bingfield, genealogy, 233.
 Longridge (*née* Mason), Ann (1830), estate of, 232 ;
 marriage, 233.
 — John (1839), landowner in Bingfield, 222.
 Longwell Moor, in Allendale, 109.
 Lookup (Whitfield), Eleanor, marriage, 133.
 — John (1663), proprietor in Wall, 171.
 Loraine (*née* Natrass), Isabel, second marriage, 4.
 — (*née* Errington), Jane (1720), administratrix, 192 ;
 (1750), executrix, 93.
 — Matthew (1522), setter and searcher, 410 n.
 — Robert (1522), overseer of watch, 410 n ; (d. 1761)
 of Beaufront, burial, 134.
 — Sir William (1719), 310 ; party to deed, 339 n ;
 (1808) proprietor of Little Swinburn, 302, 310.
 — Mr. (1734), of Chipchase Park-house, burial, 269.
 Loraine, family of, estates of, 310.
 Lough, sculptor, monument by, 81.
 Lough Brow, quarry, 3.
 Low Chapel. *See* St. Peter's-in-the-Forest.
 Low Green, farmhold in Park grieveship, 98 n.
 Low Mill, in Allendale, 83, 90 n.
 Low Quarter, township in Hexhamshire, 1, 8, 25 ;
 census, area, and rateable value, 31 ; estates
 enumerated, 32-48.
 Low Shield Green, pre-historic remains at, 353.
 Lowe, Rowland (1542), order of court against, 49.
 Lowery, Thomas, of Crookden, marriage, 425.
 Lowes, George (1694), marriage, 86.
 — Henry (1693), gives bond, 261.
 — John (1795), of Ridley-hall, provisions of will, 369.
 — Nicholas (1720), curate of Allendale, 81.
 — Robert (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — William (1744), of Ridley-hall, proprietor of Broom-
 hope, 366, 369.
 Lowther, Robert (d. 1853), curate of Birtley, 360 ;
 epitaph of family, 359.
 — Sir William (d. 1788), prebendary of Thockrington,
 389, 389 n ; leases tithes, 390 n.
 Lowthian (Toppin), Eleanor (1749), marriage, 81 ;
 executrix, 84.
 Lucy (*née* Swinburne), Margery (1293), marriage, 258.
 — Thomas de (1293), marriage, 276.
 Lumley, John (1694), of Wall, commissioner, 140.
 Lyant, Mr. (1720), vicar of Ovingham, 134.
 Lynn (*née* Robson), Mrs. Dorothy (1897), owner of
 Stotsfold, 65.
 — George (1795), of Southwick, marriage, 342.
 — (*née* Baron), Mary, marriage, 342, 346.

M.

- Macclesfield (Charlton), Elizabeth, marriage, 375.
 Macdonald, A., M.D. (1740), marriage, 229.
 — Allan, *alias* Shafto. *See sub* Shafto.

- Macdonald, Frances Margaret Hodgson (1783), bequest to, 299 n.
 — (Stanley - Errington), Julia Susanna (d. 1859), marriage, 194.
 — Mary (1783), bequest to, 299 n.
 Macdonald of Kinloch Moidart (d. 1746), executed at Carlisle, his children, 299.
 MacLauchlan, Henry, survey of Roman Wall, 163, 211 n.; survey of Watling Street, 215 n, 216 n, 217; description of camp at Pity Me, 319-20.
 Macubine, James (1702), curate of Allendale, 80.
 McAllum (Watson), Frances, marriage, 106.
 McArthur (Reed), Josephina, marriage, 348.
 Maiden Cross, near Hexham, tenement, 5.
 Mairs, Richard (1699), of Chipchase, baptism, 269.
 Maister (Reed), Mary Ann (1801), marriage, 347.
 Malcolm, son of Waldeve (1200), quit-claims rights in Thockrington, 388.
 Male Knock, camp at Birtley, 352.
 Mallory (Heron), Elizabeth (d. 1697), marriage, 341; bewitched, 341 n.
 — Henry (1643), named in will, 190.
 Mallow, homestead in Chipchase, 350. *See* Mollawe.
 Mallow burn, 249, 318, 329.
 Maltby, John de (1385), charge against, 201.
 Man, Sir Thomas (1505), party to deed, 390.
 Manby, family of, genealogy, 384; attempt to recover the Stote estates, 382-4.
 Maniwell, David de (1296), pays subsidy, 377.
 Manners, Robert de (1297), juror, 322 n.
 Mantell, Hugo (1385), charge against, 201.
 March, Benjamin (1770), bequest to, 131 n.
 — John (1689), of Newcastle, clerk, 146.
 — Sarah (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 Marches, Middle and West, raided by Scots, 75 n.
 Margaret, queen of Scotland, her wardrobe expenses, (*circa* 1259), 255; appoints William de Swinburne as her bailiff, 255; her influence with Henry III., 408.
 Margaret of Anjou, queen, tradition concerning, 47, 48.
 Margaret's Well or Lady's well, at Gunnerton, 326 n.
 Marisco, Richard de, bishop of Durham, 388.
 Markham, William Rice (1832), marriage, 159.
 Marley, Marlay, or Merlay, John de (1479), 379.
 — Roger de, marriage, 314.
 — of Picketree and Nubbock, connection with Carnaby family, 19.
 Marr (Coppin), Ann (d. 1767), marriage, 234.
 Marriot, Samuel (1752), of Morpeth, appointed commissioner, 2; of Okerland, 4; owner of Houtley, 32 n.; of Newcastle (1793), sells Houtley, 32 n.; sells Loadman, 46 n.
 Marshall, Ann (1717) claims as creditor, 191.
 — Archibald (1594), witness, 294 n.
 — Edward (1552), setter and searcher, 245.
 — George (1752), of Wall Town, tenant, 7.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 136; (1547) of Oakwood, tenant, 143; (1552) setter and searcher, 245.
 — Thomas (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 Martin, William (1800), acquires Litterage, 66.
 Marwood, Richard de (1336), pays subsidy, 324.
 Mascall, Francis (1733), of Eppleton, marriage, 347.
 Mason (Longridge), Ann (1830), estates of, 232; marriage, 233.
 — Rev. H. B. (1889), incumbent of Ninebanks 111.
 — John (1752), tenant, 7; (1830) marriage, 362.
 — Joseph (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Rev. R. E. (1873), incumbent of Allendale, 81.
 — Thomas (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7; (1796) of Fenwick, lands conveyed to, 232.
 Mastern, William (1296), pays subsidy, 412.
 Matfen, held by the Lises, 364.
 Mathews-house in Acomb, grazing rights, 138.
 Mauduit, Roger (1317), deprived of his prisoners, 278; arms, 324 n.
 Mauger, Simon (1342), witness, 402.
 Maugh, John (1339), suit against, 156.
 Maugham (Pearson), Ann (1677), marriage, 86.
 Maughan, John (1603), curate of St. John Lee, 131; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Nicholas (1693), trustee, 421.
 — William (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403.
 Mawer, Dr., vicar of Middleton Tyas, marriage, 145.
 — (*née* Watson), Hannah (d. 1765), death, 145 n.
 — William (1538), of Kirkheaton, a trooper, 380.
 Maxey (Heron), Dorothy, marriage, 344.
 Maxton, Adam de (thirteenth-century), seal of, 388.
 Maxwell, James (*circa* 1760), marriage, 286.
 — Mary (1772), of Kirkconnel, bequest to, 422.
 — Thomas (1772), bequest to, 422.
 Maynaw, Robt. (1336), of Gunnerton, pays subsidy, 324.
 Mayor, Mary (d. 1689), of Fallowfield-hall, burial, 133.
 Mayre, John (1725), of Gray's Inn, bequest to, 192.
 Medley, tenement of Bee family, 116.
 Meldred, Robert, son of (1138), raids by, 185 n.
 Melton, William, archbishop of York, 10; issues commissions, 71, 185, 211-2; lands in Fallowfield, 157; receives homage, 157, 200, 224.
 Melville, William (1796), of Thorp Perrow, assumes name of Milbank, 232.
 Meneuille. *See* Meynell.
 'Menke,' identified with Monk, 97.
 Mercers' company, endowments of lectureships, 222, 270.
 Meriton, Geo. (1617), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
 Merlyrigg, William (1336), pays subsidy, 308.
 Merry, William (1597), appraizer, 295.
 Merton, Walter de (1269), chancellor, 255.
 Messenger, Robert (1813), curate of Ninebanks, 111.
 Methodist chapels: Allendale, 88, 89, 93; Hexhamshire, 43, 65, 66; Kirkheaton, 386 n.
 Mewburn of Acomb, pedigree, 142; epitaphs, 133.
 Mewburn (Tulip), Ann (1794), marriage, 159.
 — James (1789), stipendiary curate of Birtley, 360.
 — (*unper* Heron), Jane, marriages, 345.
 — Simon (d. 1784), tenant, 7, 141, 171; marriage, 159.
 — William (*circa* 1740), of Newcastle, marriage, 345.
 Meynell, John de (1356), party to indenture, 201.
 — Simon de, associated with John the hermit, 180.
 — Thomas (1385), of Whittonstal, robbed by John Vaux, 201.
 — William de (1356), trustee for Beaufort, 202.
 Michelerolt, land in Chollerston, granted to Hexham priory, 254, 262; acreage, 272.
 Micklethwaite, Elias (1670), prebendary of Thockrington, 389; (1720) prebendary of Thockrington, 389, 389 n.
 Middle Quarter, township in Hexhamshire, 1, 8, 25; bequests to poor of, 30, 67; population and area, 48; details of estates and homesteads, 48-64; grazing rights of tenants, 72-3.
 Middlescote, tenement of Bee family, 116.
 Middleton, Christiana (d. 1421), lands in Colwell, Kirkheaton, and Belsay, 293, 378-9, 402; death, 379.
 — (*née* Errington), Frances (d. 1787), marriages, 195.
 — Gilbert (1279), confirms endowments of Swinburn chantry, 275; marriage, 276; lands in Swinburn and Kirkheaton, 275, 377; (1310) implicated in rebellion, 278-9, 307; kidnaps bishop-elect of Durham, 307.

- Middleton, John de (1310), of West Swinburn, acquires lands in West Swinburn, 276, 278; hung as a rebel, 278-9; possessions, 378; (1479) lord of Swinburn, holdings of, 305.
- Sir John de (d. 1396), lands in Colwell, 293; marriage and death, 308, 378; possessions at death, 378-9, 402.
- (*née* Swinburn), Juliana de (1279), confirms endowment of Swinburn chantry, 275; marriage, 276; described as the Lady Juliana, 277; grants Swinburn to her son, 278.
- (Heron), Katherine (d. 1738), marriage, 342.
- Patrick de (1373), witness, 378.
- Richard (1317), sold to the king, 278.
- Robert (1567), of Belsay, commissioner, 207.
- Thomas (1541), his inheritance, 302; (1618) party to conveyance of Portgate, 212.
- Sir Thomas Heron (1780), last baronet of Chipchase family, 345.
- William de (1323), serves on jury, 292; (1663) rated for Little Swinburn, 309; (d. *circa* 1763) marriage, 189, 195.
- Middleton, family of, lands, 275, 309, 377.
- Midsummer customs, 128 n.
- Mike, W. (d. 1545), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
- Milbank (Milbank), Dorothy, marriage, 232.
- Jane (1701), provisions of will, 232.
- John (1682), of Thorp Perrow, marriage, 232; (1735), lands in Bingfield, 232; assessed, 221-2.
- Lady, portrait at Bavington, 425.
- Sir Mark (1680), wills Cowden, 300.
- Mark (1775), provisions of will, 232.
- Sir Ralph (1752), tenant, 7; portrait, 425.
- Ralph (1787), sells Cowden estate, 300.
- William (1796), of Thorp Perrow, sells East Bingfield, 232.
- Milburn, Ambrose (1692), legacy to, 301.
- Gerard (1552), setter and searcher, 246, 355.
- Humphrey (1586), tenant in Birtley, 356, 368.
- Reginald (1583), tenant in Birtley, 356, 368.
- Richard (1538), of Bingfield, a trooper, 225.
- Robert (1586), tenant in Birtley, 356.
- William (1692), of Newcastle, wills Whiteside Law to his daughters Ann and Dorothy, 301.
- Military road, made by General Wade, 160, 175.
- Mill-house, held by Ord family, 66; tenement, 356 n.
- Mill Islands, Hexham, common lands, 3.
- Miller, Mary (1752), of Shincliff, tenant, 7.
- Thomas (1727), tenant in Barrasford, 317, 318 n.
- Mills (Manby), Frances, marriage, 384.
- Mills: Acomb, 136, 141, 186; Allendale, 49, 90-1, 93-4, 98; Allenheads, 65; Anick, 151; Barrasford, 311, 317, 318 n; Bellingham, 371, 373; Bingfield, 225, 230; Birtley, 356; Black-hall, 41-2, 49; Blanchland, 49; Broomhope, 366; Catton, 91, 94; Chipchase, 331 n; Coastley, 13, 15-6, 18; Cocklaw, 193; Dipton, 32, 46; Dotland, 39; Dukesfield, 26; Eastwood, 49; Fine Chambers, 41; Gunnerton, 323 n, 327; Hackford, 67; Hallington, 221, 240-3, 242 n; Hamburn, 34, 59; Keepwick, 186, 192, 205; Kirkburn, 141; Kirkley, 192; Linnels, 32-3; Newbiggin, 32-4, 59; Ninebanks, 116-7, 120; Redesmouth, 374; Ridley Green, 120; Steel, 26; Swinburn, 248, 250; Tyne, 16 n; Wall, 171-3; Whinnetly, 24; Whitley, 25, 28-9.
- Minsteracres, Hugh de (1323), serves on jury, 292.
- Mire-house, in Middle Quarter, 48, 52; owners, 52.
- Mitford (or Midford), Christopher (1551), of Newcastle, lands in Kirkheaton, 380.
- Elizabeth (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Humphrey (1668), of Mitford, made guardian, 372.
- Mitford, John, petition, 150; (1568), of Seghill, estates, 380.
- Margery (1452), widow of Wm. Mitford, lands, 212.
- William (1717), claims as creditor, 191.
- Moffitt, Ralph (1855), marriage, 234.
- Mohope burn, tributary of the Allen, 74.
- Mohopehead, tenement, 116, 123 n; acreage, 121.
- Molendinarius, Andrew (1296), of Thockrington, 399.
- John (1336), of Little Bavington, 413.
- Robert (1296), of Caldstrother, pays subsidy, 377.
- Thomas de (1296), of Little Bavington, 412.
- Walter (1336), of Chollerton, 258.
- Mollawe, Alicia de (1347), quit-claims right in Mollawe, 342.
- Stephen de (1336), pays subsidy, 324.
- Mollawe, tenement, near Chipchase, 343.
- Mollerstead, in Middle Quarter; owners, 50-1.
- Molyneux (*née* Levery), Maria (d. 1795), marriages, 189.
- Thomas (1780), marriage, 189.
- Monk, a tenement in Allendale, 97.
- Monkford, night watch at, 97.
- Monkhouse (Coppin), Elizabeth (1779), marriage, 234.
- Montague (Riddell), Mary (d. 1897), marriage, 287.
- Mooke, W. (d. 1545), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
- Moor (Watson), Esther (d. 1789), marriage, 105.
- Lionel (1717), conveyance to, 367-8.
- John (1538), a trooper, 109.
- Moor houses, in Allendale, 90 n.
- Mora, Richard de (1296), pays subsidy, 307.
- More, Alan del (1346), lands in Little Bavington, 414.
- Morgan, John (1336), pays subsidy, 399 n.
- Robert (1604), coal mines in Kirkheaton, 380.
- Thomas (1296), pays subsidy, 409.
- Morilegh, Juliana de. *See* Middleton, Juliana de.
- Morpeth, John (1747), tenant in Wall, 171; surrender of land to, 173.
- Morteyn, E. de (1347), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- Morton, Elizabeth (1741), annuity, 146; executrix, 147.
- Henry Thomas (1897), owner of Sweethope, 410.
- Robert (1462), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- Moscrop (Forster), Ann, marriage, 63.
- Moss-barns, farm in Little Bavington, 411.
- Moss-house, in Middle Quarter, 52.
- Mount Pleasant, in Sandhoe, 198.
- Mount Pleasant, in Allendale, 95.
- Mountney, Ursula (1643), bequests to poor, 134; named in will of Dorothy Errington, 190.
- Mowbray, George (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
- John (1605), provisions of will, 46; (1670) repairs Allendale chapel, 83.
- Margaret (1724), probate granted to, 104.
- Richard (1693), death, 86.
- Multon, William de (1373), witness, 378.
- Muncaster, Thomas (1708), marriage, 86.
- Murray, Lord James (1840), owner of Broomhope, 369.
- Miss, of Otterburn (1897), owner of Broomhope, 369.
- Murton, Thomas (1538), a trooper, 293.
- Muschamp, Stephen de (1297), juror, 322 n.
- Musgrave, Cuthbert, marriage, 417.
- Giles (1516), connection with Chipchase, 343.
- (Fenwick), Joan, of Ryal, marriage, 380 n.
- John (1538), of Kirkheaton, a trooper, 380.
- (Heron), Margaret, marriage, 340.
- (Acton), Mary (1339), marriage, 279.
- Richard (1538), a trooper, 380.
- Robert de (1328), suit by, 239; (1336) subsidy, 399 n.
- William (1505), power of attorney granted to, 379; (1538) a trooper, 380.
- Musgrave, family, lands in Ryal and Kirkheaton, 380.

- Muster rolls: Acomb, 136; Bingfield, 225; Chollerton, 258; Coastley, 13; Cocklaw, 184; Colwell, 293; Dotland, 40; East Allendale, 75; Errington, 185; Fallowfield, 157; Hallington, 240; Keepwick, 196; Kirkheaton, 380; Paise, 21; Sandhoe, 207; Wall, 170; West Allendale, 109; Yarrage, 18.
- Myles, Nich. (1510), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
- Mylner, Edward (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317.
- Mynsterton, Margery (1301), party to dispute, 239.
- William de (1301), his lands in dispute, 239.
- N.
- Nafferton, Robert de (1301), involved in dispute, 239.
- Nakedale (1547), part of Errington estates, 185.
- Nathres, Robert (1538), of Colwell, a trooper, 293.
- Natras (Lorraine), Isabel (d. 1832), twice married, 4.
- Natress, John (1800), copyholder in Lillswood, 65.
- Nelson, Barbara (1772), bequest to, 422.
- Nenci, Rev. R. (1897), chaplain at Swinburn, 283 n.
- Nessefeld, William de (1334), escheator, 279.
- Nether Mope, farm in Allendale, 121.
- Nettle hill, farmhold in Allendale, 98 n.
- Nevil (Reed), Mary (d. 1808), marriage, 347; epitaph, 349.
- Neville, George, archbishop of York (1499), 173 n.
- Nevin (Watson), Elizabeth (d. 1679), marriage, 105.
- John, of Sipton Shield, charitable bequest by, 88n.
- Michael (1699), amount owing to, 104.
- New-fold, homestead in Allendale, 104 n.
- New mill, in Allendale, connected with Shield family, 90-1, 98.
- Newbiggin, Edward (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
- George (1538), of Cocklaw, a trooper, 184.
- Gerard (1538), of Keepwick, a trooper, 196.
- Gilbert (1538), a trooper, 196.
- John (1538), a trooper, 184, 196.
- Roger (1538), of Keepwick, a trooper, 196.
- Thomas (1538), of Keepwick, a trooper, 196.
- Newbiggin, in Low Quarter, account of, 33, 38; early history, 34; productive woods, 33-4; pedigree of Thirlwall, 35; Thirlwall evidences, 36; pedigree of Wilson and Atkinson, 38.
- Newbiggin mill, identified with Linnels mill, 32; owners of, 34, 59.
- Newburn, Barbara and Sarah (1685), named in will, 172.
- Newcastle and Gateshead water company, reservoirs at Hallington, Swinburn, etc., 244, 252, 302, 310.
- Newham, Robert de (1256), witness, 331 n.
- Newlands and Rowley ward, notices of, 8, 25, 71.
- Newminster, acquires Tone and Filton, 296, 404; lands in Swinburn, 304, 320; in Gunnerton, 326; disputes with Archbishop Gray, 397, 400, and with freeholders, 398-9.
- Newton (Cotesworth), Ann (d. 1739), marriage, 145.
- Cuthbert (1473), bailiff of Prudhoe manor, 355, 365.
- Elizabeth (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- John (1763), of Allendale, office against, 84.
- Joseph (1748), his tenement in Allendale, 83.
- Thomas (1771), marriage, 235.
- William (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7; lands, 86.
- Nicholas-hall, a demolished homestead in Low Quarter, 46.
- Nichols, Edward (1698), petitions for a brief, 374.
- Nicholson, Anthony (1552), bailiff of Gunnerton, 245.
- Clement (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 109, 110.
- Cuthbert (1538), of Colwell, a trooper, 293.
- Edward (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
- Elizabeth (1775), named in will, 423.
- Nicholson, George (1552), setter and searcher, 245; trooper, 258; (1586) tenant in Barrasford, 317; (1594) witness, 294 n; (1694) tenant in Acomb, 140 n.
- (Featherstone), Jane Dunbar, marriage, 43.
- John (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317; (1747) tenant in Wall, 171; (1816) freeholder in Summerrods, 17.
- Patrick (1552), setter and searcher, 245.
- Richard (1538), of Bingfield, a trooper, 225.
- Robert (1538), a trooper, 240, 258; (1586) tenant in Barrasford, 317; (1694) tenant in Acomb, 140 n.
- Thomas (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317; (1716) tenant, 7; leaseholder in Barrasford, 317, 318 n; (1779) tenant in Acomb, 141.
- William (1538), a trooper, 380.
- Nield (Shafto), Mary, marriage, 419.
- 'Night-folds,' camp near Birtley, 351.
- Ninebanks, subsidy, 93; water corn mill at, 116-7. See also Allen, West.
- Ninebanks chapel, site of old chapel, 110 n, 110-1; list of incumbents, 111; epitaphs, 111.
- Ninebanks tower, description of, 111-4; photogravure and pen and ink sketch, 112; date of erection, 113-4.
- Nixon, Thomas (1734), named in will, 117.
- William (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Noble (Ridley), Agnes, marriage, 14.
- John (1538), of Coastley, a trooper, 13.
- Nook, the, in Allendale, acreage, 121.
- North Tyne, crossed by military road, 164; the Roman bridge, 164; geological features, 246-52; a ferry-boat established at Haughton (*circa* 1270), 256.
- Northumberland, Algernon George, 6th duke of (1897), lord of Stagshawbank fair, 210; proprietor of Barrasford, 318; of Birtley, 357; of Countess Park, 370.
- Algernon, K.G., 10th earl of (1663), proprietor of Barrasford, 317; lord lieutenant, 421.
- Henry, 6th earl of (1533), grants Carryhouse to John Heron, 356 n.
- Hugh, 1st duke of (1766), benefactions to Birtley chapel, 360.
- Northumberland, sheriffs of: Hugh de Bolbeck (1236), 254 n; Walter de Camboe (1295), 291; John de Kirkely (1236), 325; Hugh de Cressingham (1315), 307; John de Clifford (1332), 258 n; William de Felton (1332), 258 n, 402; Sir John Fenwick (1339), 414; Roger Widdrington (1343), 279; Robert Balliol (d. 1356), 201; William de Errington (1373), 186; John Heron (1494), 240; Sir Humphrey Lisle (1505), 379 n; Cuthbert Heron (1625), 359; Christopher Reed (d. 1770), 349; John Hunter (d. 1821), 148.
- Nubbock, granted to priory of Hexham, 14, 18; known as Jackley and Yokesley, 18, 19; held by Carnabys, 19; present owner, 19; division of commons, 22; order to tenants, 49.
- Nunsbrough, in Low Quarter, description of, 45.
- O.
- Oak-pool, in Allendale, bridge, 89; land-owners, 96.
- Oakey-dean burn, tributary of the Allen, 74.
- Oakwood, East and West, in Acomb, 143, 193, 193 n.
- O'Donel, Constantine (d. 1890), curate of Allenheads, 100; chaplain of Kirkheaton, 386; incumbent of Thockrington, 396.
- Ogle, Cuthbert (1547), holds Eadsbush, 67; (1697) of Kirkley, grants annuity, 34 n.
- George (1597), witness, 203.

- Ogle, John de (1297), juror, 322 n; (1597) witness, 204; (1608) holds Nether Mire-house, 52.
- Frances (1598), of Whitley mill, 49.
- George (d. 1547), tenant of Whitley mill, 48; death, 48; holding, 53; (1608) tenements, 62.
- Henry (1591), of Whitley mill, surrenders lands, 49.
- James (1711), petition by, 422.
- Sir John (1297), summons jury, 322 n; (1598) holding of, 49; of Ogle, marriage, 417.
- Mark (1599), named in will, 415; of Kirkley, marriage, 361.
- Richard de (1323), serves on jury, 292.
- Robert de (1342), charter with seal armorial, 401.
- Sarah (1749), of Newcastle, mortgagee, 36.
- Thomas (1260), witness to deed, 305 n; (1538) a trooper, 110; (1663) lands on Eshell, 62.
- Okerland, estate at Hexham, 2; successive owners, 4.
- Old Town, in Allendale, probable Roman origin, 94; camp, 94.
- Olivant, Margery (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Oliver, Francis (1666), marriage, 133.
- Hannah (1752), bequest to, 236 n.
- Jane (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- (Trueman), Margaret (1725), marriage, 83.
- Robert (1325), purchases wardship and marriage of John de Vaux, 200.
- William (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7; (1774) freeholder in Summerrods, 17.
- Ord of Ardley and Barker-house (for names see) family history, genealogy, and evidences, 56-8; possessions of, 53, 66.
- Ord of Bingfield, genealogy, and history, 229, 230.
- Ord of Whitfield, family origin, 229.
- Ord, Barbara (1713), bequest to, 21.
- Cuthbert (1547), lands in Stotsford, 65; (1800) lands in Lillswood, 65.
- Edward (1608), tenant of Hackford, 66.
- George (1500), a trooper, 8 n; (1610) tenant, 66.
- Henry (1547), owner of Lillswood, 64.
- James (1726), inherits Dotland, 41.
- John (1500), a trooper, 8 n; (1650) deed of gift to, 55 n; possessions of, 65, 66; acts as arbitrator, 138; (1676) of Brokenheugh, purchases estate, 55 n; deed of gift confirmed to, 56, 58; (1712) bequest to, 60; (1726) of Newcastle, will, 41; (1738) marriage, 63; (1752) of Newcastle, commissioner, 2; will, 41; (1825) mortgagee, 30.
- Ralph of the Holmes (1570), deposition, 114.
- Richard (d. 1696-7), of Barker-house, marriage, 54; lands, 55; provisions of will, 55-6, 58.
- Robert (1637), of Birks, sells lands in Buteland, 365.
- Sarab (*née* Carr), parentage, 41 n; (*née* Johnson) 60.
- (*nuper* Thirlwall), Susanna, marriages, 54.
- Thomas (1718), clerk of the peace, 346; (1734) freeholder in Bagraw, 16 n; (d. 1798) surgeon, holding of, 7; (1800) lands in Lillswood, 65.
- William (1755), purchases Monkwood, 97; (1858) purchases Ninebanks and Keenlyside, 121-2.
- Ordley, Robert (d. 1517), killed, 44.
- Ordley, hamlet and school-house, 43; known as 'Urde,' 44; early history and present owners, 44-5.
- Ornsby, George (d. 1712), curate of Allenheads, 86; burial, 100.
- Orton, Mr. (d. 1774), curate of Bingfield, burial, 269.
- O'Shaughnessy, John J. (1866), marriage, 287.
- Oswald, King, at St. Oswald's, 176; victory at Hefenfelth, 177-80.
- Ottercaps, granted to William de Swinburn, 255.
- Ourand, John (1296), pays subsidy, 291.
- Ouseley, a homestead in Allendale, 95.
- Owsledale, tenement of Bee family, 117.
- Ox Hill camps, 216, 289 n.
- Oxenrods, quarry, 3; position of, 46.
- Oxford and Mortimer, Henrietta Cavendish Holles, countess of (1752), lands at Hexham, 3 n, 7.
- Oxbird, John (1479), tenant of Bingfield mill, 225.
- Oxley, Henry (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Oxton, Robert (1401), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.

P.

- Pace-gate, homestead in Chipchase, 350.
- Pagan, of Bingfield (thirteenth century), 223.
- Page, Thomas (1538), a trooper, 240.
- Paize, the, hamlet, 21; muster roll, 21; owners, 21-2; commons divided, 22; order to tenants, 49.
- Park, Gilbert (1654), of Warton, marriage, 35.
- Robert (1716), trustee, 117.
- Park grieveship, in Allendale, 1, 76; bequests to poor of, 87, 87 n, 88 n; proprietors of, 98; acreage of, 98.
- Park-house, in High Quarter, position and owners, 67.
- Park-house, homestead in Chipchase, 350.
- Parker, Archbishop (1559), order as to 'readers,' 80.
- Jane (*née* Johnson), (1724), bequest to, 60; (1752) of the Shaw, tenant, 7.
- John (1775), petition by, 89 n.
- Richard (1618), curate of Hexhamshire, 28.
- Thomas (1752), of Whitesmocks, tenant, 7.
- Parkin (Caldclough), Isabel, marriage, 123.
- Parkside, homestead in Allendale, 90 n.
- Partis (Reed), Jane (1750), marriage, 395.
- Paslay, John (1336), of Thockrington, pays subsidy, 399 n.
- Pastor, Richard (1296), of Birtley, pays subsidy, 354.
- Patten, Robert (1706), curate of Allendale and chaplain to Jacobite forces, 80; biography, 80-1; his counterpart in fiction, 81.
- Pattinson, Pattison, and Patison, Gerard (1538), of Chollerton, a trooper, 258.
- Gilbert (1538), of Acomb, a trooper, 136.
- Henry (1538), of West Allendale, a trooper, 109.
- Janet (*née* Bee), (1595), named in will, 116.
- John (1538), a trooper, 75, 109; (1589) witness, 270.
- Margaret (1608), holds Allendale chantry lands, 83.
- Matthew (1538) of East Allendale, a trooper, 75.
- Richard (1538), of Acomb, a trooper, 136.
- Stephen (1538), of West Allendale, a trooper, 109.
- Thomas (1538), a trooper, 75, 170; (1752) of Caton, Lancashire, tenant, 7; (1694) tenant in Acomb, 140 n.
- Pawpert-nowse, tenement of Bee family, 116.
- Pawton, Bartholomew (1538), a trooper, 75.
- Pawtson, Robert (1538), a trooper, 258.
- Peacock, Captain Giles (1719), witness to baptism, 235.
- Peacock-house, position, 65; acreage and owner, 66.
- Pearson, Christopher (1670), of Bishopfield, baptism, 85.
- Jane (d. 1677), of the Spital, death, 86.
- George (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138; (1663) possessions, 94; (d. 1675) death, 85; (*circa* 1720) marriage, 38.
- *alias* Hutchinson, Janet (1563), marriage suit, 82.
- Lionel (1538), of Cocklaw, a trooper, 184.
- Mary (1677), of Bishopfield, baptism, 86.
- Michael (1752), of Newcastle, commissioner, 2; tenant in Wall, 171; (1779) tenant in Acomb, 141.
- Richard (1538), of Cocklaw, a trooper, 184.
- Robert (1538), a trooper, 184; (1626) tenant in Acomb, 138, 139, 140 n; (1663) tenant of Westburnhope, 71; (1665) baptism, 85.

- Pearson, Roger (1640), of Blackheddon, trustee, 231.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 184, 293; (1563), curious marriage suit, 82.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 293; (1663) possessions of, 94; (d. 1681) marriage and death, 86.
 Pearson, of Hexham Spital and Bishopfield, 95.
 Peart, Joseph (1733), trustee, 120.
 — (Robson), Mary (1762), marriage, &c., 119, 120.
 Peas-meadow, in Allendale, 104 n.
 Peasland plantation, evidence of glacial action, 250.
 Peck Riding, in Allendale, 98 n.
 Pedigrees. *See* Genealogies.
 Peek, Richard (1741), of Newbiggin, commissioner, 328 n.
 Peile, Benjamin (1756), the learned nonconformist minister of Hexham, lands, 7; on Roman inscriptions at Caerboran, 147; bequests to, 236 n; (1770) of Newcastle, trustee, 58.
 Pekefeld (parish of Stanhope), named in Gunnerton charters, 325, 325 n.
 Pele, Robert de (1300), chaplain, party to suit, 412.
 Peleson, Wm. (1417), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
 Penda, king of Mercia, defeats King Edwin at Haethfelth, 177.
 Percy (*nuper* Umframvill), Eva de (1274), marriage, 256.
 — William de (1274), marriage, 256.
 Perigord (Stanley), Maria Teresa de Tallyrand (1875), marriage, 194.
 Peryth, John of (1339), vicar of Kirkwelpington, 414.
 Petrel-field, East and West, homesteads, 5.
 Pethfoot, in Low Quarter, 42.
 Philipson, George (1608), tenements in West Allen, 121.
 — George Hare (1830), marriage, 38.
 — Henry (1538), a trooper, 75.
 — Hugh (1547), tenement of, 121.
 — Katherine (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Richard (1538), a trooper, 109.
 — Robert (1538), a trooper, 157.
 Phillips, Francis (1666) of New Mill, 92.
 Pickering, George (1755), of Nunwick, holding of, 4 n, 7.
 Pickup, Rev. Fred. (1893), curate of Ninebanks, 111.
 Piercy, William (1295), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
 Pietroot. *See* Pyetroot.
 Pigdon, or Pyke-den, a manor of the Herons, 343.
 Pigg, James (1817), owner of Barker-house, 56.
 — Matthew (1839), of Barker-house, 56.
 — (Manby), Milenar (1741), marriage, 384.
 Pingle, the, in Allendale, 122.
 Pithills, old outcrop workings near, 248.
 Pitland hill, in Birtley, 357.
 Pity Me camps, 216, 319; quarries, 320.
 Planetrees, remains of Roman Wall at, 160, 162.
 Plantagenet, Geoffrey, archbishop of York, 9; (d. *circa* 1212) 9; exchanges land, 16.
 Plummer (Ruddock), Mary (d. 1831), marriage, 4.
 Plunket (Riddell), Lady Henrietta, marriage, 287.
 Pods-bank, in Allendale, 90.
 Pole, Cardinal (1556), grants dispensation to Shafto, vicar of Choller-ton, 269.
 Ponteland, Peter de (1356), witness, 201.
 Poole, Barbara and Elizabeth (1824), devisees of William Ord of Ardley, 58.
 Porchet, Ralph de (1233), 45.
 Porter, Edward (1606), curate of Birtley, 360.
 Porteus, James (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 Portgate, in parish of St. John Lee, 1, 125; section of Roman Wall at, 161, 211 n; camp at, 163; subject of law suit, 193; TOWNSHIP, 211; acreage and census returns, 211; tower, 211 n; derivation of name, 211, 215; successive owners, 186, 212-14; part of Errington estates, 214; Leazes, 191, 212; East Field, acreage, 193 n.
 Portgate, in Allendale, 90 n.
 Poste, Alan (1296), pays subsidy, 277.
 Potter, William (1741), commissioner, 328 n.
 Potts, Frances (1698), co-heiress of Thomas Errington, 237 n.
 — John (1897), owner of Barker-house, 56.
 — Mary (1740), of Hexham, named in will, 154.
 — (Coats), Mary (1791), marriage, 134.
 — Peter (1680), mortgagee of Hallington estate, 241.
 — Robert (1786), of Warton, parentage, 213.
 — Roger (1538), a trooper, 380.
 — Thomas (1698), estates in Bingfield, 237 n.
 — Thomas of Warton (1730), marriage, 213.
 Poulteney (Heron), Catherine (1718), marriage, 342.
 Powrye, George (1597), clerk, minister at St. Oswald's, 204.
 Prath, Reginald (1251), knight, his estates at Haughton, the Huntland, and Knaresdale, 254.
 Pratt, Ann (1694), tenant of Acomb mill, 140 n; party to division, 141.
 — Dixon (1897), owner of High Holmes, 53.
 Pre-historic remains: at Allendale, implements and weapons, 88; at Chollerford bridge, flint implements, 169; at Stagshaw, urn, amulet, etc., 207; Cobb's causey, 217; at Hallington, whetstone, etc., 238; at Choller-ton, urn and flint flake, 253; at Great Swinburn, culture terraces and 'standing stone' (illustration), 272-3; at Barrasford, standing stones, stone tools, urns, shield boss, and silver disks, etc., 311-2; at Gunner Peak, British village and hut circles (plans), 313-4; at Gunnerton, a conical mound of unknown use known as Gunnerton Money-bills, 319; at Chipchase, bronze spear heads and axes, 330; at Birtley, hut circles, 351; querns (illustration), 352; cup-marked stones (illustration), 353; urns, weapons, etc., 352-3; culture terraces and iron workings, 354; in Broomhope, culture terraces and iron workings, 363; at Thockrington, hut circle and avenue of stones, 387; at Sweethope, urn, 408. *See also* Camps and Roman remains.
 Prestman, Adam (1296), pays subsidy, 354.
 Preston (Ord), Ann (1685), marriage, 229.
 Priestpopple, tenements in, 14, 15, 18, 116.
 Prior Thorns, near Hexham, 147.
 Prior's cleugh, in Swinburn, 305 n.
 Proctors, of Allendale, their ecclesiastical duties, 79; named, 115.
 Proctor, Rev. William (1826), lecturer of Berwick, 271.
 Proda, John (1538), of East Allendale, a trooper, 75.
 Prodin, Gerard (1538), of Coastley, a trooper, 13.
 Prujeon, Francis (1737), bequest to, 192.
 Pry, in Allendale, 104 n.
 Punchar-dun, Nicholas (1297), juror, 322 n.
 Puncheon, Dorothy (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 Punder, John (1336), pays subsidy, 377 n.
 Pye, Thomas (1648), of Morpeth, lands in Todridge, 236.
 Pyetroot, in Allendale, owners, 95, 95 n.

Q.

- Quakers, in Allendale, 83, 89, 96, 104; burial ground at the Holmes, 98; meeting houses at Alnwick and Embleton, 108.
 Quardelin, Alan (1279), tenant, 275, 276 n.

- Quarry-house, homestead in Thockrington, 387, 403, 423.
 Quarry-house, homestead in Swinburn, 272.
 'Quarters,' the designation of four townships of Hexham, 8; similar instances in the parishes of Bywell St. Andrew and Ryton, 8.
 Queen's cave, near Hexham, tradition, 48 n.
 Querns, found near Birtley (illustration), 352. *See also* Pre-historic remains.
 Quicksand ford, near Hexham, 14, 15.
- R.
- Radcliffe, Sir Cuthbert, 'chancellor' (1574), witness, 115.
 — Edward (1608), lands, 53, 70; (1683) 191.
 — Sir Edward (1650), estates, 17, 50, 53, 65, 70; benefactions, 26; sells Portgate, 212-3.
 — Francis (1623), acquires Linnels mill, 32; (1692) mortgage on Bingfield, 228.
 — Sir Francis (1654), purchases Coastley, 15; party to conveyance of Portgate, 213; mortgagee of Bingfield, 232; marriage, 285; purchases Bute-land, 366.
 — Lady Mary (1693), bequest to, 260.
 — Richard (1580), of Hexham, deponent, 270.
 — Thomas (1693), bequest to, 260; bond, 261.
 — William (1631), acquires Portgate, 212; (1693) bequest to, 260.
 Raine, Benjamin (1745), of Durham, marriage, 342.
 — Thomas (1673), marriage, 361.
 Rakeshield, in Allendale, 116-7.
 Ramsay family, share in Errington estates, 193, 195.
 Ramsay, Cuthbert, of Beukley, marriage, 418.
 — David (1770), marriage, 395.
 — (Cotesworth), Elizabeth, marriage, 146.
 — George (1640), trustee, 231.
 — (Cotesworth), Hannah (1699), marriage, 145.
 — William (d. 1698), goldsmith, biographical notes, 370.
 Ramshaw, John (1752), tenant, 7; Mr. (d. 1697), 268.
 Rankin (Cuthbert), Annie Beatrice (1887), 206.
 Ranyngton, Hugh de (1331), lands in Bingfield, 224.
 Ratchester, Robert (1552), setter and searcher, 196 n.
Ratione tenuræ roads, the term explained, 32 n.
 Rattenraw, in Hexhamshire, 60.
 Raunde, Thomas (1538), trooper, 225.
 Raven, Margaret (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 Rawe, John de (1385), charge against, 201.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 21.
 Rawes, John (1844), incumbent of Allendale, 81.
 Rawgreen, East and West, High and Low, 48, 52, 66.
 Rawlinson (Andrews), Anne (d. 1769), marriage, 235.
 Ray, Thomas de (1296), pays subsidy, 364.
 Raymes, Robert de (1348), witness, 333 n.
 Raynyl, William (1538), a trooper, 240.
 Readburnshield, in Allendale, 116-7.
 'Readers,' the ministers of Allendale so styled, 79; explanation and origin of the institution, 80, 80 n; how paid, 79.
 Reaver Crag, camp, 216; glacier action, 310.
 Red burn, course of, 135.
 Redchester, Reginald (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 Rede, river, crossed by Watling Street, 167 n; course, 363, 370.
 Redesdale, John de (1296), pays subsidy, 399; lands in Thockrington, 401.
 Redesmouth house, estate, account of, 370-1, 373-4; (1698) mill burnt, 374; bridge, erection of, 374.
 Redhead, Stephen (1597), witness, 203.
 Redheugh, in Allendale, 121.
 Redmayne, Thomas (1538), a trooper, 380.
 Redshaw and Readshaw, Cuthbert (d. 1584), 54, 70.
 — (Thirlwall) Dorothy (d. 1617), marriage, etc., 54, 55.
 — Isabella (1351), holds manor of Errington, 186.
 — Jacob (1776), of Wolsingham, bequest to, 93.
 — (Errington), Jane, marriage, 54; holdings of, 55, 70.
 — Richard (1410), witness, 13 n; (1547) 54, 66.
 — Roland (1500), a trooper, 8 n.
 — William (1351), lands, 186; (1410) witness, 13 n.
 Reed of Chipchase, pedigree, 347; epitaphs, 349.
 Reed, Reid, and Read, Archibald, of Bellingham, the founder of a family, epitaph, 347.
 — Christopher (1731), of Carrycoats, baptism, 395; (d. 1764) of Waterfalls, burial, 395; (d. 1770) of Chipchase, parentage, 347; a tithe holder, 271; epitaph, 349.
 — Edward (1594), of Errington, witness, 294 n; (1597) of Keepwick, a deponent, 204; (1698) bequest to, 120.
 — George (1743), depositions by, 368.
 — Henry (1597), witness, 204.
 — James (1597), appraiser, 295.
 — John (1698), of Catton Lee, 120; (1722) lands in Baggraw, 16 n; (1750) of Thockrington, marriage, 395; (d. 1754) trustee, 22; purchases Chipchase, 346; epitaph, 349; inter-common rights in Birtley, 357; suit by, 367; (1787) of Newcastle, purchases Cowden, 300; (d. 1808) of Humsbaugh, burial, 395; (d. 1842) of Chipchase, corn tithes, 271; lands in Gunnerton, 329; assignment to trustees, 348; appointed distributor of stamps, 348.
 — (Soulsby), Martha (d. 1779), marriage, 243.
 — Percival (1538), a trooper, 293; (1623) of Troughend, sells Broomhope, etc., 365.
 — Rachel (d. 1772), burial, 395.
 — Robert (1663), proprietor in Sandhoe, 211.
 — Roger (1597), of Keepwick, alleged marriage with Isabella Carnaby, 203-4.
 — Thomas (1748), lands at the Snape, 16 n; award by, 171 n; depositions by, 368.
 — William (1440), of Troughend, possessions of, 365; (1799), marriage, 300.
 Reedwood Scroggs, scene of a tragedy, 372.
 Reever hill farm, in Barrasford, 318 n.
 Reginald, shepherd of Colwell (1256), 291.
 'Rel,' identified with Ryall and Rye hill, 47.
 Rennoldson, Joseph (1801), marriage, 345.
 Renwick, James (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Matthew (1748), of Allendale, 84.
 — Robert (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 Reperiis, Robert de (1232), seneschal, witness, 398.
 Retford, Rd. de (1364), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
 Newcastle, James (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — John (1538), of Keepwick, a trooper, 196.
 — Miles (1538), of Keepwick, a trooper, 196.
 — Roger (1538), of Keepwick, a trooper, 196.
 Reymes (Tyndale), Lucy de, parentage, 325.
 Richard (1293), chaplain of Little Bavington, 412.
 Richard, son of Alan, of West Swinburn (1279), 275, 276, 277; implicated in rebellion, 279.
 Richardson, Edward (1538), a trooper, 109.
 — Elizabeth (Watson), (d. 1859) marriage, 105; (Watson) (1863) marriage, 106.
 — Henry, of Newcastle, marriage, 106.
 — Hob (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 110.
 — Hugh, marriage, 106.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 157; (1664) churchwarden, 92; (1769) of Ordley, 44; charitable bequest by, 88 n.
 — Matthew (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 75.
 — Nicholas (1772), curate of Ninebanks, 111.

- Richardson, Robert (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
 — (Swinburn), Sarah, marriage, 42.
 — Thomas (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 109.
 Richborough, terminus of Watling Street, 215.
 Richmond, Christopher (d. 1702), burial, 86.
 — Elizabeth (1726), of Crossgate, Durham, 98 n.
 — (Mewburn), Margaret, marriage, 142.
 Rickerby, — (1712), minister of Allenheads, 100.
 Riddell of Swinburn castle and Felton, pedigree, 284 ;
 evidences, 288 ; history of family, 283-9.
 Riddell, Dorothy (1772), bequest to, 422.
 — (Shafto), Elizabeth (d. 1747), marriage, 418, 421.
 — (Ramsay), Elizabeth (1770), marriage, 395.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 240.
 — J. G. (1897), estates of, 296, 301, 310, 318, 319, 329.
 — Mark, of Hunton (1721), issue, 286.
 — Ralph (1772), of Cheeseburn 286 ; trustee, 422
 — Ralph (1826), corn tithes, 271-2 ; purchases Little
 Swinburn, 310.
 — Thomas, of Fenham (d. 1704), purchases Swinburn
 and Colwell, 296 ; biographical declaration, 288 ;
 (d. 1733) a fugitive, 422 ; (d. *circa* 1789) tithes, 271 ;
 marriage, 282 ; demolishes castle at Swinburn and
 erects modern structure, 282 ; estates of, 296, 301 ;
 bequest, 422.
 — Thomas (1870), builds a chapel at Swinburn, 283.
 — William (d. 1698), of Gateshead, contemporary ac-
 count of pecuniary circumstances, 288.
 Riddlehambope, account of, 69-70.
 Riding, in Allendale, homestead, 90.
 Riding, the (St. John Lee), mansion house of, 126.
 Ridingfield, in Allendale, 116.
 Ridley, of Coastley, an ancient family, pedigree, 14 ;
 evidences and history, 12-15.
 Ridley of Westwood, family of, 17.
 Ridley, Anne (1757), bequest to, 143 ; (1719) named
 in will, 143.
 — Edward (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138 ; (1752) of
 Burn house, tenant, 7.
 — Elizabeth (1757), named in will, 143.
 — Gerard (1662), of the Hurst, marriage, 227.
 — Henry (1583), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
 — Jane (Errington) (1500), marriage, 188 ; (1757)
 named in will, 143.
 — (Heron), Joan (1491), married by dispensation, 340, 343.
 — John (1535), of Coastley, suit by, 5 ; setter and
 searcher, 9 ; (1550) marriage, 188 ; (d. 1579) ex-
 changes lands in Coastley, 14, 18 ; (1757) named
 in will, 143 ; (1775) mortgagee, 93 ; (1779) tenant
 in Acomb, 141 ; charitable bequest by, 87 n.
 — Lawrence (1538), of Coastley, a trooper, 13.
 — Margaret (*postea* Widdrington) (1610), marriage
 settlement, 15 ; (Thirwall) marriage, 35 ; (Carr)
 marriage, 44.
 — Matthew, of Ordley and Softley (d. 1643), possessions
 of, 44 ; (d. 1668) death, 44 ; (1700) bequest to,
 80 n ; (1741) commissioner, 328 n.
 — Nevill (1718), party to deed, 339 n.
 — Nicholas (1410), has grant of Coastley, etc., and
 founds a family, 12, 14 ; of Willimoteswick (d. 1586),
 possessions at death, 69 ; under sheriff, 115 ; acts
 as commissioner, 207, 226.
 — Peter (1626), of Ordley-hall, possessions of, 44.
 — Ralph (1752), of Newcastle, tenant, 7.
 — Richard (1713), inherits Acomb mill, 143 ; will, 143.
 — (Reed), Sarah, marriage, 347.
 — Thomas (1707), of Simonburn, marriage, 57 ;
 (d. *circa* 1719) of Acomb, will of, 143 ; (1779)
 tenant in Acomb, 141 ; (1782) of Anick, will of 143.
 Ridley, Violet of Sweethope (d. 1838), burial, 395.
 — William (1566), has grant of Westwood from the
 Crown, 17 n ; of Willimoteswick (d. 1599), lands in
 Harwood Shield, 69 ; (*circa* 1600) marriage, 341 ;
 1643) of Softley, inheritance, 44 ; (1646) estates
 surrendered to, 55 ; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 Ridley green, water corn mill at, 120.
 Rigge, W. P. (d. 1896), incumbent of St. John Lee, 132.
 Rise green, Allendale, 104 n.
 Ritschell, Rev. George (d. 1724), account of Whitley
 chapel, 26-7 ; of Allendale chapel, 77-8 ; of Allen-
 dale charities, 87-8 ; of West Allen chapel, 110.
 Ritson (Thirlwall), Margaret (d. 1698), marriage, 23.
 — Peter (1699), amount owing to, 104.
 Robert, son of Elias (1269), lands, etc., Thockrington,
 397-8.
 Roberts, Nicholas (1752), of Hexham abbey, tenant, 7.
 Robertson, Robert (1538), a trooper, 225.
 Robinson, Agnes (1599), named in will, 415.
 — Andrew (1538), of Bingfield, a trooper, 225.
 — Anthony (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 109.
 — (Watson), Bessie, marriage, 106.
 — Cuthbert (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 75.
 — (*nuper* Bee), Elizabeth (1741), administratrix, 117.
 — Gerard (1538), of Bingfield, a trooper, 225.
 — Jacob (1754), parish clerk of Allendale, office
 against, etc., 84, 85.
 — James (*circa* 1740), marriage, 369.
 — John (1410), tenant, 12 n ; (1538) a trooper, 75 ;
 (1777), office against, 85.
 — Robert (1538), a trooper, 170, 225.
 — Roger (1535), tenement in Anick, 151.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 225 ; (1538), of Colwell,
 witness, 294 n.
 — W. (1653), trustee, 295.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 169 ; (1545), prebendary
 of Thockrington, 389, 389n ; (1656) goldsmith, 370 n ;
 (1777) office against, 85.
 Robson of Ninebanks tower, pedigree, 119 ; evidences,
 120.
 Robson, Ann (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Clement (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 75.
 — Cuthbert (1586), tenant in Birtley, 356.
 — David (1538), of Yarridge, a trooper, 18.
 — Edmund (1538), of Coastley, a trooper, 13, 18 ;
 (1542) of Greenridge, order of court against, 49 ;
 (1586) tenant in Birtley, 356.
 — Edward (1693), of Whiteside Law, marriage, 268 ;
 (d. 1700) acquires moiety of Ninebanks and adds
 house to tower, 118 ; descendants, 119 ; will, 120 ;
 holding in Acomb, 140 n ; charitable bequest by,
 88 n.
 — (*née* Kell), Elizabeth (1719), named in will, 172 ;
 Heron (1748), marriage, 362.
 — Gerard (1538), of Keepwick, a trooper, 196.
 — George (1538), of Dotland, a trooper, 40.
 — Hector (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Humphrey (1586), tenant in Birtley, 356.
 — James (1586), tenant in Birtley, 356.
 — Jane, charitable bequest by, 88 n.
 — John, of Langlee (1479), 128 ; (1538) a trooper,
 380 ; (1552) bailiff of Birtley, 246, 355 ; (1586)
 tenant in Barrasford, 317 ; (1586) tenant in East
 Buteland, 365 ; (1586) tenant in Birtley, 356 ;
 (1698) of Pikestone, party to petition, 374 ; of
 Ninebanks (1700), supervisor of will, 80 n ; (1734)
 of Boothill mill, tenant, 16 n ; (1743) depositions
 by, 368 ; (1747) tenant in Wall, 171 ; (1800) of
 Allenheads mill, purchases Stotsfold, 65.

- Robson (*née* Errington), Margaret (1720), administratrix, 192.
 — (Milbank), Mary (1682), marriage, 232; (Mun-caster), (1708) marriage, 86.
 — Matthew (1668), bequest to, 372; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Nicholas (1693), gives bond, 261.
 — Richard (1839), tenant in Bingfield, 222.
 — Robert (1538), a trooper, 225, 258; (1626) lands in Wall, 138; (1716) carpenter, 242; (1839) lands in Bingfield, 222.
 — Roger (1537), a trooper, 136 n, 170, 207.
 — Thomas (1538), a trooper, 8 n, 170, 293, 380; of Low Shield Green (1717), a creditor of Thomas Errington, 191; (1884) memorial window to, 359.
 — Timothy (1682), alderman, estate in Bingfield, 232.
 — William (1538), a trooper, 225; (1552) setter and searcher, 245-6, 355; (1586) free tenant in Birtley, 356; (1626) tenant in Wall, 138; value of holding, 171; (1693) gives bond, 261; (1752) of Wallington, commissioner for dividing Hexham common, 2; (1752) of Hexham, 7; trustee, 131 n; (1884) erects memorial window at Birtley, 359.
- Rochester (Fairless), Dorothy (d. 1799), marriage, 119.
 — (*née* Cuthbertson), Mary (d. 1799), marriage, etc., 213-4.
- Roddam, Christopher (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 75.
 — Elizabeth, charitable bequest by, 88 n.
 — Hugh, charitable bequest by, 88 n.
 — John, of Swinhope (1696), marriage, 86.
 — John Joseph, of Stanhope, marriage, 106.
 — Joseph (1750), of Woolley, executor, 93.
 — Robert (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 75.
 — William (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 109.
- Rodfurthe, Henry (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
- Roger, abbot of Newminster, common rights at Thock-
 ington, 399.
- Roger's hill, in Gunnerton, origin of name, 328 n.
 Roger son of Pagan (1220), sells niefs, 223, 223 n.
- Rolland, Thomas (1500), a trooper, 8 n.
- Roman bridge across North Tyne, 164; the earlier structure, 165-6; illustration and plans, 165; details of construction, 166-8; coins, pottery, etc., found in excavations, 167.
- Roman remains: roads at Catton, 94; altar at St. John Lee, 130; altar at Brunton house, 173 n, 179; altars and slab at Hallington hall, 238; pillars at Chollerton, 263; altar at Chollerton (illustration), 264; centurial stone at St. Oswald's Hillhead, 164; Samian ware and coins at Chollerford, 167.
- Roman Wall, description of the section which crosses the parish of St. John Lee, 160-164.
- Romayne, archbishop (1294), grants of land by, 39; encouragement to agriculture, 39; cites prior and convent, 77; appoints commissions, 150, 223.
- Rookhope fell, in Weardale, cattle-gates on, 98 n.
- Ropehaugh, a homestead in Allendale, 104 n.
- Roper house, a homestead in Allendale, 90 n.
- Roseles, John de (1297), juror, 322 n.
- Roses Bower, course of Roman road at, 217.
- Roucheclive, William de (1279), witness to deed, 275 n.
- Rouhby, Doctor (1563), chancellor of York, 82.
- Round Meadows, a homestead in Allendale, 95.
- Routledge, William (1693), gives bond, 261.
- Rowantree Cleugh, fissure, 73.
- Rowchester, homestead in Chipchase, 333, 343, 350.
- Rowell, Alexander (1538), of Dotland, a trooper, 40.
 — Ann (1663), rated for the Paise, 21.
 — Anthony (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
- Rowell, Cuthbert (1621), a negligent rate-collector, 83.
 — Edward (1538), a trooper, 157; (1897) lands in Wall, 172.
 — (*née* Shield), Elizabeth (1595), executrix, 92.
 — George (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
 — Henry (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
 — Hugh (1694), of Sandhoe, commissioner, 140.
 — James (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
 — John (1693), executor, 421; of Hexham (1700), indicted for enclosing Stagshaw common, 191; (1752) of Matfen, tenant, 7.
 — Matthew (1746), bequest to, 122.
 — Nicholas (1751), churchwarden, office against, 134.
 — Philip (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — (*née* Kell), Sarah (1723), named in will, 173.
 — Weldon (1718), of Sandhoe, bequest to, 153.
- Rowell, family of Litterage, 66.
- Rowland (Errington), Elizabeth (d. 1616), marriage, 54.
 — John (d. 1658), inheritance of, 41.
 — Isabel (1663), possessions of, 41.
 — (*née* Kell), Katherine (1722), named in will, 173.
 — Thomas (1547), holdings of, 51; (1608) tenant, 62; (1626) marriage, 41.
 — William (1659), land in Dotland, 41; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Rowley, William de (1296), pays subsidy, 277.
- Rowley burn, an affluent of Devil's water, course of, 8, 25, 42, 45, 53, 62; known as Linn burn, 71.
- Rowley, an ancient manor in the High Quarter, history, 70-1.
- Rowley ward, extent and explanation of term, 8, 25, 71.
- Roxburgh, Peter of (1293), tried for robbery, 109 n.
 — William of (1293), tried for robbery, 109 n.
- Royal Banks, near Newbiggin, tradition concerning, 48.
- Ruddock of Okerland and Hexham, pedigree, 4.
- Rulestal, identified with the Steel, 46; granted to Hexham priory, 46.
- Rumney, Sarah (b. 1701), baptism, 26 n.
 — William (1699), schoolmaster, marriage, 26 n.
- Rupon, (?) John de (1336), pays subsidy, 308.
- Rushebasket, Adam de (1303), acquires Langhope and Nubbock, 16, 18.
- Rushworth, John (1653), of Lincoln's Inn, purchases lands at Colwell and Bingfield, 231, 295-6.
- Russell, William (1296), pays subsidy, 377.
- Rutherford, Aymer de (1306), marriage, 276-7.
 — (Errington), Grace, marriage, 186, 188.
 — Rev. James, minister at Great Bavington (d. 1802), burial, 395.
 — (*née* Errington), Jane (1640), bequest to, 190.
 — (*née* Swinburn), Juliana (1306), marriages, 276-7.
 — Margaret (d. 1806), of Great Bavington, burial, 395.
 — Thomas (1640), marriage, 188; named in will, 190.
 — William (1643), bequest to, 190.
- Ruthven (?), William (1681), marriage, 268.
- Rutter (Watson), Ann (d. 1726), marriage, 105.
 — William, junior (1732), attorney-at-law, 329 n.

S.

- Saccamina*, fossil found near Swinburn, 248.
- St. Columba, vision to St. Oswald, 178 n.
- St. Giles' hospital, Hexham, rent charge in Fallowfield, 156; in Portgate, 212.
- St. Helen's chapel. *See* Whitley chapel.
- St. John Baptist, the original dedication and designation of the church of St. John Lee, 128.
- St. John of Beverley, his hermitage in Acomb, 127, 143; alleged to be patron saint of St. John Lee, 128.

- St. John of Jerusalem, knights of, a fourteenth-century story of one of the brethren, 128; property in Thockrington, 388, 398, 401, 402. *See* Hospitallers.
- St. John Lee, church of, beauty of site, 127; identified with Eagle's Nest and Hershau, 127; the scene of miracles, 127; the explanation of its designation, 128; endowment and value of benefice, 94, 129; status of church and benefice, 129 n, 221; architectural details of old building (with illustrations), 130; list of incumbents, 131-2; ancient grave cover (illustration), 130; monumental inscriptions, 132-3; parish register, 133-4; visitations and charities, 134, 192.
- St. John Lee, history of the parish, 125-244; enumeration of townships, 1, 125; natural features, 125-7.
- St. Mary's Chare (1579), tenements belonging to John Ridley of Coastley, 14-5.
- St. Michael, 'cœmeterium' of, identified with Warden church, 127.
- St. Nicholas, Lawrence de (1226), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- St. Oswald, his cross erected at battle of Hefenfelth, 178-9; Beda's evidence, 179-80; and collect for feast of, 179 n.
- St. Oswald-on-the-Wall, church of, position of, 125, 175; repairs to, 129, 176; graveyard, 175; description of present structure, 176; subordinate to St. John Lee, 221.
- St. Oswald's Hill-head, centurial stone at, 164.
- St. Peter's-in-the-Forest, formerly designated the Low Chapel, account of, 99; list of incumbents, 100; epitaphs, 100-1; endowments of benefice, 100 n; school, 90.
- Salkeld (Thirlwall), Francis (d. 1696), marriage, 35.
— Thomas (*circa* 1600), marriage, 341.
- Salmon, Robert (1755), of Hexham, holdings of, 4 n, 7; (1779) tenant in Acomb, 141.
- Salmon-field, in Middle Quarter, 48, 52, 53.
- Salter, George (1610), grantee of lands in Chollerton, 259.
- Salvin (Riddell), Isabella (1803), twice married, 286.
— (Riddell), Margaret (1798), marriage, 286.
— Rebecca (1641), a creditor, 344.
- Sample, Thomas (1897), owner of Carrycoats, 405.
- Sampson, son of Sampson (1226), exchanges land, 16; of Wall (1295), tenant, 170.
- Sanderson of Healey, family obtains Tone estates, 299.
- Sanderson, Charles (1722), named in will, 146.
— John (1659), possessions in Dotland, 41.
— Thomas (1663), of Healey, estates, 42, 46.
— William (1663), possessions in Dotland, 41; (d. 1673) burial, 133; of Tone and Healey (1784), parentage, 299; contested succession, 299; assumes name of Hodgson, 299.
- Sandhoe, in parish of St. John Lee, history of, 1, 125; TOWNSHIP, 198, 211; bequest to poor of, 134, 235; amalgamated for census with Anick and Anick Grange, 149 n, 150 n, 198 n; area and population, 198; residential houses—Beaufront, 198; Sandhoe house, 205; Stagshaw Close house, 207; possessions of Hexham priory, 205, 207; 15th and 16th century surveys, 30, 207; muster roll, 207; proprietors in 1663, 211. *See also* Beaufront and Stagshaw.
- Sandhoe Low hall, acreage, 193 n.
- Sandon, Adom de (1303), suit against, 156.
- Sandy Sike, on Eshells moor, 73.
- Sandybraes, trials for lead, 250.
- Sapy, Robert de (1318), king's escheator, 308.
- Saunders (Capper), Ann (1830), marriage, 229.
- Saunderson, Rev. Nicholas (d. 1790), chaplain at Swinburn, 283 n.
- Savory (Mewburn), Elizabeth Fanny, marriage, 142.
- Sayer, Dorothy (1561), defendant in suit, 232 n.
— John (1651), defendant in suit, 232 n.
- 'Scalinga,' or shield, application of the term, 30.
- Scalingford, a boundary of Filton, 404.
- Schefeld, John de (1308), suit against, 323, 323 n.
- Schell, Anton, Bertilmay, Cuthbert, Edward, Henry, Hugh, John, Leonard, Matthew, Renne, Robert, William (1538), troopers, 75.
- Schiffling, Roger de (1232), witness, 398.
- Scholding (Shafto), Anne (1840), marriage, 420.
- Sclater, William (1385), charge against, 201.
- Scolacliffe (*née* Surtees), Alice, parentage, 12.
— John de (1400), the lost heir of Coastley, 12-3.
— Richard de (1397), in possession of Coastley, 12.
- Scotch-hall, homestead in Allendale, 90 n, 103.
- Scotch meadows, homestead in Allendale, 104 n.
- Scothalv, ferry landing in Chollerton, 256.
- Scottish forays: on Greenridge, 22; Allendale, 75 n; Catton, 93; on Acomb, 137; on Errington, 185; on Keepwick, 195; on Swinburn and Redpeth, 278; on Barrasford, 314; on Gunnerton, 324; retreat from Stanhope park through Allendale, 102.
- Scott (*née* Ridley), Ann, bequest to, 143.
— George (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7; (1897) owner of Bingfield lodge, 237.
— Isabel (d. 1805), of Hedcheater, burial, 395.
— John (1624), prebendary of Thockrington, 389, 389 n; (1770) of Stamfordham, surgeon, and his children, devisees of Elizabeth Armstrong, 58.
— Thomas (1853), purchases Bingfield lodge, 237.
— Walter (1297), juror, 322 n.
— William (1243), witness, 330 n; (1336) pays subsidy, 315 n; 409; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 7; (1779) of Stamfordham, inherits the Holmes, 53.
- Scrache, John (1296), of Gunnerton, pays subsidy, 320.
- Scurr, Jonathan (1843), incumbent of Ninebanks, 111; marriage, 362.
— Thomas (d. 1836), incumbent of Allendale, 81; epitaph, 87; curate of Thockrington, 395-6.
- Scurfield (Heron), Frances, marriage, 345.
- Seals: William de Acton, 279 n, 402; Eva de Gunnerton, 325; Peter de Gunnerton, 325; Sir Thomas Ilderton, 379; Robert de Lisle, 333 n; Robert de Ogle, 401; Sir John Strivelyn, 378; Adam de Swinburn, 308; Alan de Swinburn, 257 n; John de Swinburn, 305 n; Thomas de Swinburn, 324; William de Tyndale, 325.
- Selby (Errington), Elizabeth (1630), marriage, 188; (Shafto) marriage, 417.
— (Thirlwall), Margaret, marriage, 35.
— William (1598), acquires lease of Hallington, 241.
— Sir William (1650), sells lands in Bolam, 344.
- Sernan, John (1336), pays subsidy, 377 n.
- Seton, John and Robert de (1342), witnesses, 402.
- Sewingshields, the Heron estates in, 339.
- Sewingshields castle, held of the manor of Wark, 343.
- Shafto of Little Bavington, pedigree, 417; arms, 412; origin and history of family, 412-6; evidences to pedigree 421; epitaphs, 394; portraits, 424.
- Shafto of Carrycoats, pedigree, 406; epitaphs, 395.
- Shafto of parish of Hartburn, pedigree, 425.
- Shafto, Allan (b. *circa* 1745), *alias* Macdonald, claimant to Hodgson estates, 298-9; marriage, 362.
— Alexander (1505), party to deed, 390.
— (*née* Jefferson), Ann (1699), twice married, 145, 236, 406; (1752), of Carrycoats, bequest to, 236 n.

- Shafto, Arthur (1556), vicar of Chollerton and Stamfordham, 267; cited by his bishop, exhibits dispensation, will, etc., 269; (1677) serves on commission, 140; bequest to, 228; sells estate, 230; party to agreement, 232 n; witness, 238.
- Barbara (1643), named in will, 190.
- Charles (1661), of Kirkheaton, purchases Carrycoats, 405; (1752) bequest to, 236 n.
- Cuthbert (1500), freeholder in Bingley, 225; (1505) party to deed, 390; (1518) of Hexham, lessee of Thockrington manor, 402.
- Delaval (*circa* 1745), commits suicide, 297; asserted marriage, 297-8.
- Edward (1520), holding of, 402; (1586) free tenant in Buteland, 365; (1689) depositions by, 327-8; (1715) involved in rebellion, 425; his identity, 425; descendants of, 425.
- (Heron), Elizabeth (d. 1711), marriage, 362; (1717) baptism, 133; (d. 1722) burial, 269.
- (Forster), Frances, marriage, 63.
- Isabel (1643), named in will, 190.
- John (1568), estates of, 402, 415; (1578) of Stamfordham, bequest to, 269; (1677) of Gunnerton, bequest to, 228; party to agreement, 232 n; (d. *circa* 1693) vicar of Warden, founder of Haydon Bridge school, 415; will of, 421; (1698) party to petition, 374.
- Captain John (*circa* 1680), shot at Preston, 416, 424-5; supposed portrait of, 424; genealogy, 425.
- (Robson), Margery (1693), marriage, 268.
- (Clarke), Martha (d. 1814), marriage, 235; bequest to, 236 n.
- (Errington), Mary (d. 1668), marriage, 227; (d. 1749) sponsor, 235; burial, 395; (Shafto) (d. 1805), marriage, 407.
- Captain Matthew (1774), of Hexham, burial, 395.
- Percival (1522), setter and searcher, 410 n.
- Robert (1578), of Stamfordham, bequest to, 269.
- Sir Robert (1700), sergeant-at-law, party to agreement, 232 n.
- Simon (1522), setter and searcher, 410 n.
- Thomas (1505), lands in Kirkheaton, 379.
- William de (1321), justice 150, 224; (1505) party to deed, 390; (1608) of Bavington, tenant in Buteland, 365; (1663) estate of, 402; (d. *circa* 1724) of Carrycoats, marriage, 362; (d. *ante* 1719) marriage, 286, 421; attainted for rebellion, 403; career, 416; (1734) of Little Bavington, marriage, 362; (1747) tenant in Wall, 171.
- Shafto of Benwell, family of the Bavington stock, 417.
- Shanks, John, owner of Short Knowes estate, 310.
- Sharp, John (1764), archdeacon of Northumberland, causes Whitley and Ninebanks to be severed, 25, 110.
- Mary (1755), of Hexham, lands of, 4 n, 7.
- Thomas (1752), tenant, 7; (1746) archdeacon of Northumberland, reports on Whitley chapel, 27; on Chipchase chapel, 349; on Thockrington, 396.
- Captain W. G., marriage, 63.
- Sharplaw, William de (1320), serves on jury, 292.
- Shaw, George (1752), of Ingleton, tenant, 7.
- Thomas del (1335), suit by, 212.
- Sheffield, W. (1496), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
- Shemeld, William (1749), party to petition, 43.
- Shephard, William (1385), charge against, 201; marriage, 148.
- Sherman, Rev. C. P. (1897), vicar of St. John Lee, 132.
- Shield of Allendale, pedigree, 91; evidences and history of family, 91-3, 95.
- Shield, Anthony (1608), holds Allendale chantry lands, 83.
- (Roddam), Barbara (1696), of Swinhope, marriage, 86.
- Francis (1704), bequest to, 96; (1748) churchwarden of Allendale, 84.
- Jane (1723), of Allendale, office against, 83.
- Janet (1576), injunction against, 115.
- (*née* Fairbridge), Joanna (1678), mentioned in will, 67.
- John (1617), of London, bequest to Allendale church, 87; of Broomhaugh, ancestry of, 95 n.
- Joshua (1704), of Allendale, bequest to, 96.
- Leonard (d. 1699), of Bridge Eale, charitable bequest by, 87; will of, 95.
- Mary (1704), of Allendale, bequest to, 96.
- Nicholas (d. 1674), charitable bequest by, 87 n.
- Rebecca (1704), of Allendale, bequest to, 96.
- 'Shield,' application of term, 30.
- Shield Green, in Low Quarter, 46.
- Shield Green, homestead in Birtley, 357.
- Shields, W. T. (1864), incumbent of Thockrington, 396.
- Shiphead, Walter (1336), pays subsidy, 332.
- Shipley, Charles (1727), tenant in Barrasford, 317, 318 n.
- Edward (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317.
- John (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317.
- Shippen, William, the Jacobite (1712), marriage with one of the Stote heiresses, 383.
- Shipton Shield, tenement, 61.
- Shilington (1593), in possession of the Herons, 343.
- Shorngate, scene of retreat of the Scots, 102.
- Short Knowes, estate in Little Swinburn, 310.
- Shortmoor, homestead in Chipchase, 350.
- Shortridge Sike, on Eshells moor, 73.
- 'Sike,' 'Sicket,' the term explained, 30 n, 304 n.
- Silkesworth, Thomas de (1312), party to deed, 305 n.
- Silver hill, a homestead near Acomb, 135.
- Simmons (Forster), Catherine (d. 1818), marriage, 63.
- John (1760), of Kent-stone, marriage, 63.
- Simon (1243), abbot of Newminster, 350.
- Simpson, Alice (1626), tenant in Wall, 138.
- Barbary (1693), bequest to, 259.
- (Forster), Catherine, marriage, 63.
- (Ord), Eleanor (1762), marriage, 229.
- George (1663), owner of Hlesley-well, 68.
- Henry (1663), owner of Hole-house, 32 n.
- John (1752), alderman of Newcastle, 147-8.
- (Jurin), Mary (1773), marriage, 147-8.
- Simon (1663), proprietor in Wall, 171.
- Sinclair, Forster (1799), parentage, 425.
- James (1800), marriage, 425.
- Sinderhope, in Allendale, 74, 104 n; school at, 90.
- Sipton Shield, in Low Quarter, 37.
- Sipton Shield, in Allendale, 104 n.
- Sisson, William (1727), bequest to, 146; (1897) vicar of Slaley and incumbent of Whitley chapel, 28.
- Sissoris, Richard (1296), pays subsidy, 307.
- Skardeburch, John de (1361), vicar of Chollerton, 267.
- Skilton, Mr. (d. 1695), of Great Swinburn, burial, 268.
- Skipton, Robert de (1289), acquires moiety of Bingley, 224.
- Skirlaw (1388), Walter, bishop of Durham, 169.
- Slade, Sir Alfred, bart. (1860), marriage, 206.
- (Capper), Horatia (1840), marriage, 229.
- Slaley, Gilbert de, grants to Hexham priory, 46.
- Sleigh, Edward (1752), of Harper Town, tenant, 7.
- Smaleburn, tributary or name of the Dryburn, 272, 404.
- Smaleeyes, lands in Middle Quarter so called, 59.
- Small-burns, farm in Allendale, acreage, 121.
- Smallheye, William (1296), pays subsidy, 307.
- Smelbouris, tenement of Bee family, 116.

- Smelting Sike, estate of, church lands, 6; position of, 41.
- Smith (Featherstone), Ann (d. 1733), marriage, 43; (Dawson) (1766) marriage, 174.
- Christopher (1538), a trooper, 13.
- Cuthbert (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138.
- Sir David (1815), 265 n; notes on pre-historic remains, 311; notes by, 328 n.
- Edward (1747), of Capheaton, agent, 36.
- John (1538), a trooper, 207; (1663) tenant in Acomb, 139; (1727) tenant in Barrasford, 317, 318 n; (1823) of Wester hall, purchases farm in Gunnerton, 329.
- Joseph (1794), curate of Birtley, 360.
- Richard (1615), tenant in Anick, 152.
- Robert (1663), party to suit, 139 n; proprietor in Anick, 152; entered as non-juror, 154.
- Rowland (1538), a trooper, 75; (1699) amount owing by, 120.
- Thomas (1626), tenant in Acomb, 138.
- William (1479), parish clerk of St. John Lee, 128; (1538) a trooper, 136; (1615) tenant in Anick, 152; (1655) tenant in Acomb, 140 n; (1660) marriage, 375.
- Smithlands, in Allendale, 116.
- Smithson, Charles (1717), claims as creditor, 191.
- James (1744), marriage, 145, 236.
- prior of Hexham, monogram at Dotland, 40.
- Smyth of Esh, short pedigree to show succession in blood and title to Errington of Beaufront, 194.
- Walter (1750), of Esh, marriage and alliance with Errington family, 189.
- Snape, a tenement in Middle Quarter, 13-6; owners, 16 n.
- Snaridelf, granted to William de Swinburn, 255.
- Suiphouse, homestead in Allendale, 104 n.
- Snowball (Atkinson), Anne (d. 1863), marriage, 38.
- Joseph (1842), of Seaton Burn, marriage, 38.
- William (1857), of Sunderland, trustee, 423.
- Snowdon, Robert (1296), pays subsidy, 258.
- Solby, John and Robert (1538), of Sandhoe, troopers, 207.
- Sorby, Andrew, George, John (1538), of Cocklaw, troopers, 184.
- Sorsby, Benjamin (1745), marriage, 269.
- Soulsby of Hallington, pedigree, 243; epitaphs at Chipchase, 349. *See also* Reed of Chipchase.
- Soulsby, Andrew (1538), a trooper, 184, 184 n.
- Christopher (b. 1726), assumes name of Reed on succeeding to Chipchase, 243; (1741) lands in Gunnerton, 329; (1779) tenant in Acomb, 141; (1794) pew in St. Oswald's, 176 n.
- John (1538), a trooper, 184, 207; (1752) tenant, 7.
- Mary (1766), claims Errington estates, 192-3.
- Nicholas (1663), proprietor in Sandhoe, 211.
- Ralph (1717), of Anick Grange, claims as creditor, 191; pew in St. Mary's, Bingley, 222 n; his estate in Hallington, 242; descendants, 243; (1741) his lands in Gunnerton, 328-9; (1748) his lands in Allendale, 83.
- Robert (1681), marriage, 133; executor, 243.
- Sowerby, John (1535), tenant in Anick, 151.
- Robert (1535), tenant in Anick, 151; (1538) tenant in Sandhoe, 207.
- Thomas (1535), tenant in Anick, 152.
- Spain, Edward (1538), a trooper, 170.
- George (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139.
- John (1535), tenant in Anick, 152; (1538) a trooper, 136, 136 n, 207; setter and searcher, 137 n; (1626) tenant in Acomb, 138, 140 n.
- Richard (1663), tenant in Acomb, 139; (1730) bequest to, 58.
- Robert (1538), of Acomb, a trooper, 136.
- Spain, Thomas (1535), tenant in Anick, 151; (1538) a trooper, 207.
- William (1538), of Acomb, a trooper, 137.
- Spaniel-hall, *alias* Low Brunton, estate of, 175.
- Spark, Arthur (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
- Barbary (1704), of Burnlaw in Allendale, will of, 96.
- (Watson), Jane (1660), marriage, 105.
- George (1538), of Coastley, a trooper, 13.
- Isaac (d. 1816), heirs of, 16 n; marriage, 407.
- John (1537), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
- Ralph (1774), of Hexham, freeholder, 16 n.
- Thomas, bishop suffragan of Berwick (d. 1571), of an Allendale family, 96; (1608), of Burnlaw, possessions of, 96; (1660) imprisoned at Hexham and Morpeth, 107.
- Sparty Lee, a homestead in Allendale, 104 n.
- Spartywell, a homestead in Allendale, 116, 120, 123 n.
- Spavold, Thomas, of Louth, marriage, 384.
- Spence (Watson), Sarah (d. 1871), marriage, 106.
- Spencer, Robert (1356), of Bingley, witness, 202.
- William (1833), purchases Buteland, 366.
- Splendow, John (1358), charge against, 201.
- Spens, Roger del (1348), lands in Chipchase, 332; witness, 333 n.
- Spink, Richard (1296), pays subsidy, 291.
- Spital, homestead in Allendale, 90 n.
- Spital Shield, in Middle Quarter, owners, 61.
- Spoor, William (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Springs, medicinal: at Allendale Town, 88 n; at Allendale, 101 n; at Birtley, 354.
- Sprunton, George (1724), estate of, 367, 367 n, 368.
- Stack, James (1753), of Newcastle, marriage, 407.
- Stagshaw-bank, muster at, 75; course of Roman Wall at, 160; annual fair at, 209-11; the proclamation made at the fair, 210.
- Stagshaw Close house, residence of Mrs. Straker, 198; position of, 207; pre-historic remains at, 207; commission concerning, 207-8; devolution of estate, 208; domestic chapel (photogravure), 209.
- Stall, John (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Stanbridge, Sir Hugh de (1250), possessions in Durham, 200; (1243) rector of Stamfordham, 330 n.
- 'Standing stone,' in Swinburn park, description and illustration of, 272-3.
- Stannard (Shalto), Jemima (1823), twice married, 419.
- Stanley, Sir Rowland (d. 1875), assumes name of Errington on succeeding to the Errington estates, 193-4.
- Stanley-Errington, of Sandhoe, genealogy, 194; estates of, 205.
- Staples, estate in Middle Quarter, 48, 51, 52.
- Stapleton (Riddell), Catherine (d. 1872), marriage, 287.
- Henry (1616), marriage, 83.
- Starkey, John (1604), sells Winter-house, 62.
- Statesmen*, application of the term, 76 n; instances, 104.
- Staward-le-Pele, Roman remains at, 94 n; acquired by William de Swinburn, 255.
- Stawpert, Christopher (1538), a trooper, 240.
- (Thirwall), Mary, marriage, 23.
- William (1752), of Howshill, tenant, 7.
- Stevenson, John (1693), of Byerside, 260.
- Steel, Jesse (1716), tenant in Thockrington, 403.
- William (1745), of Staward, yeoman, 92.
- Steel, in Broomhope, held by the Lises, 364-8; old iron workings at, 363; fells attached to, 367; position of, 369.
- Steel, the, in Allendale, 93, 98 n, 117.
- Steel, the, in High Quarter, identity, 69; known as Growley-field, 69; owners, 69.

- Steel, the, in Low Quarter, identity, 39, 69; position of, 45-6; formerly Ruleystal, 46.
- Steel burn, a tributary of the Allen, 74; a tributary of the Rede, 363.
- Steel-rigg, farmstead in Little Bavington, 411, 423 n.
- Stehinson, Robert (1495), vicar of Chollerton, 267.
- Stelden, a monastic estate in East Swinburn, 269, 304-5, 358.
- Stephen the forester (1295), pays subsidy, 109.
- Stephenson, Elizabeth (1663), proprietor in Sandhoe, 211.
- George (1854), estates of, 230; (1897) owner of Bingfield East Quarter, 230.
- Henry, of the Hagg, charitable bequest by, 87 n.
- John (1538), tenant in Sandhoe, 207; (d. 1680) buried in Allendale chapel, 79; (1779) tenant in Acomb, 141.
- Sarah (1776), bequest to, 93.
- Stephenson's farm, acreage, 193 n.
- Stere, William (1538), a trooper, 170.
- Stewart, John (1538), a trooper, 75.
- Steward, Isabella (1302), concerned in suit, 156.
- Stobart, Thomas (1538), a trooper, 157.
- Stobart, John (1747), tenant in Wall, 171.
- Stobbs, Edward (1897), owner of Dalton, 53.
- Ralph (1538), a trooper, 109.
- Simon (1897), owner of Black-hall, 42.
- Stobbs-green, in Allendale, 104.
- Stobby Lee, known as Stobley, 67, 69; owners, 69.
- Stockell, William (1630), of Thornton, marriage, 188.
- Stoddart, Rev. Charles (d. 1790), trustee, 61; vicar of Chollerton and Brampton, 267, 271.
- Stoke, Richard (1674), executor, 107.
- Stokell, Cuthbert (1538), of Yarridge, a trooper, 18.
- Henry (1538), of Coastley, a trooper, 13.
- Humphrey (1538), of Coastley, a trooper, 13.
- John (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 75.
- Nicholas (1538), of Paise, a trooper, 21.
- Robert (1538), of Paise, a trooper, 21.
- Roland (1538), of Coastley, a trooper, 13.
- Sarah (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- William (1538), a trooper, 13.
- Stoker, Robert (d. 1832), curious epitaph, 29.
- Stokoe of Hexham, family epitaphs at St. John Lee, 133.
- Stokoe, Rev. Alexander (d. 1766), curate of St. John Lee, 129 n, 131; marriage, 131 n; office against, 134; bequest to, 192; curate of St. Oswald's, 221.
- (née Watson), Elizabeth, bequest, 107-8.
- George (1631), owner of Summerrods, 17.
- Henry (sixteenth-century), a trooper, 8 n.
- Hugh (1780), curate of Allendale, 81; curate of Allenheads, 100.
- John (1517), seeks sanctuary at Durham, 44; (1608) tenant of the Paise, 21.
- Margery (1752), of Humshaugh, tenant, 7.
- (Shaftoe), Mary (d. 1785), marriage, 406.
- Michael (1674), bequest to, 107; (1752) tenant, 7.
- Richard (1674), marriage, 105.
- Robert (1690), witness to indenture, 146.
- Thomas (1747), tenant in Wall, 171; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 7; trustee, 61.
- Rev. T. H., D.D., sells Summerrods, 17.
- William (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7; (1779) tenant in Acomb, 141.
- Stone-house, an estate of Anthony Leaton's, 67.
- Stone Stile, a farm in Allendale, 95.
- Stonehall, a farm in Allendale, 90 n.
- Stonor, Edward (1896), of Ascot, marriage, 287.
- Stonson, John and Thomas (1538), troopers, 13.
- Stony Law, a beacon hill in Allendale, 93 n., 94.
- Story (Reed), Mary Ann (d. 1863), marriage, 347.
- John (1663), proprietor in Bingfield, 228, 231, 237; (d. 1769) marriage, 19.
- Joseph (b. 1679), bishop of Killaloe, 237.
- Lancelot (1626), tenant in Wall, 138.
- Major (1897), of Crossdoney, co. Cavan, 237.
- Mark (1663), proprietor in Wall, 171.
- Peter (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Robert (1538), a trooper, 170.
- Thomas (1538), a trooper, 225, 237; (1608) tenant in Bingfield, 226, 237.
- William (1580), witness, 270.
- Story's lands, in Bingfield, history and value, 221, 226, 237.
- Stote of Stote's hall and Kirkheaton, pedigrees, 383, 384; brief account of suits for, and devolution of, the family estates, 382.
- Stotsfield, in High Quarter, 65.
- Stott, John (1563), witness, 82.
- Stourton, William (1737), of Gray's Inn, bequest to, 192.
- Stout, Christopher (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
- Cuthbert, of Old Town, charitable bequest by, 87 n.
- Edward (d. 1677), killed in a 'grove', 86.
- John (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 109.
- Robert (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 109.
- Thomas (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
- William (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
- Straker of Stagshaw, notices of family, 208; estates at Coastley, etc., 16, 19, 25, 234.
- John, builds Stagshaw chapel, 208.
- Strathmore, earl of (1888), sells the Steel, 369.
- Streathfield, H. J. (d. 1869), epitaph at Chipchase, 350.
- Strivelyn (Middleton), Christian (1371), marriage, 308.
- Sir John de (d. 1378) of Belsay, witness, 258 n; receives East Swinburn in marriage, 308-9; lands in Caldstrother, and arms, 278.
- Strother, Alan de (1359), of Wallington, holds Sweethope, 410; (1479), lands in Cowden, 300.
- John de (d. 1425), of Wallington, lands, 402.
- Stubblick Sike, in West Quarter, 21.
- Stubbs, Catherine (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Studdon, a farmhold in Allendale, 98 n.
- Studholme, Barbara (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Stukilhop, an old place name in Middle Quarter, 59.
- Subsidy rolls of 1296 and 1336: Barrasford, 315 n; Birtley, 354-5, 355 n; Buteland, 364; Caldsrother, 377; Chipchase, 332; Chollerton, 258; Colden, 258; Colwell, 292-3; East or Little Swinburn, 308; Gunnerton, 320, 324; Kirkheaton, 377, 377 n; Little Bavington, 412; Ninebanks, 109; Sweethope, 409; Thockrington, 399; West Swinburn, 277.
- Suffolk, Theophilus, earl of (1664), sells divers estates in Tyndale, 371.
- Summerrods, near Hexham, area, 8; owners, 17.
- Sunniside, residential estate near Hexham, 2, 4.
- Surmayn, Walter (1296), of Chipchase, pays subsidy, 332.
- Surtees (Scolaciiffe) Alice de, lands in Coastley, 12.
- Anthony (d. 1803), owner of Newbiggin, 34; parentage, 37-8.
- (Cuthbertson), Catherine (1766), marriage, 213.
- Cuthbert (d. 1759), purchases Newbiggin, 36-7; family history, 37-8.
- (Dagleas), Margaret, marriage, 133.
- (Surtees), Dorothy (d. 1757), marriage, 38.
- (Wilson), Elizabeth (d. 1809), marriage, 38.
- John (1694), tenant in Acomb, 140 n.
- John (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
- (Riddell), Mary (d. 1660), marriage, 284.
- Ralph (1350), children of, 12; identity, 12.

- Surtees, Robert (1800), lands in Stobby Lee, 69; (1693), of Ryton, 260.
- Sutton, (Shafto), Elizabeth (1891), marriage, 420.
- Francis (1669), marriage, 366, 369.
- Robert (1722), brother-in-law of W. Cotesworth, 146.
- Swainston, Elizabeth (1766), baptism, 395.
- Swaldale, Richard (1500), trooper, 8 n.
- Swayn, John (1279), marriage, 276; his identity, 277.
- Sweethope of Sweethope, pedigree, 409.
- Sweethope, Walter de (1260), witness, 275 n, 305 n; obtains lease of Thockrington manor, 398.
- Sir Walter de (1268), concerned in abduction, 408; knighted, 409; appointed justice, 409.
- Walter de (1342), vicar of Middleham, ordained deacon, 409; instituted vicar of Middleham, 410.
- Warin de (1320), commissioner in suit, 223, 239; bailiff of Hexham, 409; clerk, 410; witness, 414.
- William de (d. *circa* 1231), first of his line, 408; (1303) witness, 401; does homage for Sweethope, 409; lands forfeited for rebellion, 410; commissioned for gaol delivery, 409; (1341) ordained acolyte, 410.
- Sweethope, in Thockrington parish, 408-10; acreage and census returns, 408; camp and pre-historic remains, 408; history of ancient owners, 408-10; subsidy roll, 409; bastle house 410.
- Sweethope crag, camps near, 408.
- Sweethope lough, source of Wansbeck at, 246; geological features, 248-9, 251-2.
- Swin burn, the, source of, 406.
- Swinburne, of West Swinburn, pedigree, 276; origin and history of family, 273, 278.
- Swinburne of East Swinburn, pedigree and arms, 309; origin and history of family, 305-9.
- Swinburn, of Black hall, in Low Quarter, account of, 42.
- Swinburn, Sir Adam de (d. 1318), witness to deed, 278 n; pays subsidy, 291; lands at death, 292; ordered for Border defence, 306; his seal armorial, his services, and sketch of career, 306-9.
- Adam de (1236), witness, 274 n; receives grant of lands in East Swinburn, 303-4.
- Alan, son of Godfrey de (before 1274), his inheritance, 274 n; a witness, 303 n.
- Alan de (1293), rector of Whitfield, purchases Capheaton, 257, 275; Alan (1674), executor, 296; purchases Tone, 297.
- Alexander de, of Capheaton (1332), gifts of land by, 258 n; progenitor of Swinburne of Capheaton, 276.
- Alicia (1279), renounces dower, 275; marriage, 276;
- (Swayn), Avicia (1279), confirms endowment, 275; receives homage, 277; marriage, 277; (1313) wife of Sir John Swinburne, buried at Chollerton, indulgence granted for soul, 306.
- (Hodgson), Anne (1693), marriage, 298.
- (Strivelyn), Barbara (1363), estates restored to, 308.
- (de Fishburn), Christiana de (1279), confirms endowment, 275; marriage, 275, 276.
- Cuthbert, the elder (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Edward (d. 1716), of Capheaton, purchases Little Swinburn, 309; his forfeited estates sold, 310.
- Eleanor (*née* Claxton) (1528), twice married, 284; (Riddell) (*circa* 1580) marriage, 284; (*née* Thirlwall) (d. 1777) possessions of, 24; marriage, 35-7; mortgages and sells estates, 36-7; registered estate of, 37.
- Elizabeth (Shafto), marriage, 417; (Widdrington) (1591) marriage, 231 n; (Thirlwall) marriage, 35.
- Frances (1693), of Tone, covenants to levy fine, 297.
- Gawen (1601), of Blackhall, administers estate as next of kin, 42; his lands in Lillswood, 64.
- Swinburn, Godfrey de (*circa* 1200), lands in East Swinburn, 304; (*circa* 1200) has grant of lands in West Swinburn, 274; in Gunnerton, 322.
- George (1567), surrenders lands in Bingfield to Hexham priory, 226.
- Henry de (1323), forfeits estates, 292.
- Sir Hugh (1329), of West Swinburn, 278.
- James (1694), of Capheaton, a legatee, 260.
- (*née* Bee), Jane, inherits brother's estates, 117-8.
- John de (1257), holds West Swinburn, 274; witness, 275 n, 278 n; grants of land, 291; (1313) grants lands to Baliol college, 305-6; his seal armorial, 305 n; his identity, 305; acquires Bewcastle, 306; sheriff of Cumberland, 306; ordered for Border defence, 306; indulgence for soul, 306; purchases Gunnerton, 323; witness, 331 n; (1279) suit against, 398; (1356) witness, 201; (1547) of Blackhall, possessions of, 46, 50, 53, 55, 62; (1591) of Blackheddon, 231 n; (1650) of Capheaton, marriage, 341; (1663) estates of, 259; executor, 259-61; (1663) in possession of Lillswood, 64; (1676) overseer of will, 56, 58; (1697) of Blackhall, 42; (1699) of Podsbank, bequest to, 90 n; (1752) tenant, 7; (1897) estates of, 193, 259.
- Joseph (1772), marriage, 63.
- (de Middleton), Juliana (1279), confirms endowment, 275; twice married, 276.
- Margaret (1282), wife of Sir William, 257 n.
- Margery (d. 1673), burial, 85; (b. 1677) baptism, 86; (*postea* de Lucy) (1293) second marriage, 258.
- (Heron), of Edlingham, Marion, marriage, 340.
- (Widdrington), Mary (1623), of Blackheddon, marriage, 294 n.
- Matthew (1738), of Capheaton, possessions of, 24; marriage, 35, 37; mortgages and sells estates, 36.
- Mary (1693), bequest to, 260; (Shafto) (d. 1840) marriage, 419.
- Nicholas (1278), founds chantry in West Swinburn chapel, 274-5, 278; witness, 331 n.
- Richard de (1255), 309; (1310) his inheritance, 274 n; witness to deed, 278 n; his lands in dispute, 322.
- Robert de (1278), holdings in West Swinburn, 275; does homage, 276, 277 n; witness, 278 n; (d. *circa* 1326) succeeds to Gunnerton, 306, 324; arms, 306; ordered for Border defence, 306; lord of Little Horkesley, 324; monumental brass, 324 n; (1678), of Podsbank, marriage, 86; will of, 90 n.
- Roger (1567), acts under power of attorney, 226.
- Thomas de (1392), of East Mersey, gives power of attorney, 324; seal of, 324; releases his rights in Gunnerton, 326; Thomas (1580) involved in suit, 269; (1663) possessions in Dotland, 41; (1737) of Capheaton, bequest to, 192.
- Troth (1693), of Capheaton, bequest to, 260.
- Ulfchill de (*circa* 1182), lands in Little Swinburn, 303, 303 n; founder of East Swinburn family, 309.
- William de (d. 1289), obtains grant of Chollerton, 254; treasurer to Queen Margaret of Scotland, 255, 275; rector of Fordun, 255, 275; estates, 255; title contested, 256; establishes ferry boat at Haughton, 256; bailiff of Tynedale, 257; death, 257; witness, 275 n, 325; (1304) marriage, 202; (1392) of Capheaton, receives power of attorney, 324; witness, 333 n; (1443) entail of estates, 379; (d. 1551) lands in Kirkheaton, 380; (1669) lands, 97, 110, 117; estates sequestered, 118; acquires Beaumont, 259; (d. 1673) of Podsbank, burial, 85; (1678) marriage, 118; conveys moiety of Ninebanks, 118; (1698) of Blackhall, marriage, 42.

- Swinburn castle, licence to crenelate, and early history, 279-80; held by the Widdringtons, 280; the seventeenth-century buildings, 281-2; modern house, 283.
- Swinburn, East or Little, Chollerton parish, 302-10; geological features, 250; tithes sold to Mercers' company, 270-1; a member of the Baliol barony, 273; description of the tower (with illustration), 302; acreage, 302; remains of camps at, 302; chapel, 303; history of East Swinburn family, 303-9; lands known as 'Stelden' leased to Hexham priory by abbot of Newminster, 304-5; Scottish ravages, 306; later owner, 309-10.
- Swinburn, West or Great, 272-288; a member of Hadston barony, 245, 272-3; evidences of glacial action, 250; pre-historic remains, 272; acreage and population, 272; chantry, 275, 278, 283; subsidy roll, 277; history of West Swinburn family, 275-8; Scottish raids, 278; held by William de Acton, 279; acquired by the Widdringtons, 279; taken by Sir Robert Kerr of Cessford, 281; Roman Catholic chapel and chaplains, 283.
- Swinburn's lands, at Bingfield, 226.
- Swindle, John (1897), owner of Limestone Brae, 122.
- Swinhope burn, tributary of the Allen, 74, 99.
- Swinhope Shield, in Allendale, 104 n.
- Syde, Henry del (1290), claims lands in Anick, 150.
- Robert del (1290), suit against, 150.
- Thomas de (1296), pays subsidy, 320; (1321) of Anick, contest with prior of Hexham, 150.
- Sykes, Rd. (1662), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
- Syward, Richard (1313), lands in Tyndale, 306 n.
- T.
- Tallyrand-Perigord (Stanley), Maria Theresa de (1875), marriage, 194.
- Tandy, G. M., Rev. (1860), curate of Birtley, 360.
- Tanfield, Thos. (1474), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- Tang, Richard de (1332), justice, 71.
- Tate, Edward (1736), of Hexham, trustee, 61.
- (*née* Johnson), Jane, of Hexham, bequest, 60.
- John (1663), rated, 16 n; (1712) bequest to, 60; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Joseph (d. 1725), bailiff of Hexham, 16 n; (d. 1729) lands of, 5; (1728) bequest to, 61; (d. 1730) of Hexham, death, 16 n.
- William (1336), pays subsidy, 399 n; (1752) of Morpeth, tenant, 7.
- Taylboys, Luke (1297), juror, 322 n.
- Taylor, Rev. Christopher (1869), chaplain at Kirkheaton, 386; curate of Thockrington, 396.
- Cuthbert (1795), named in will, 423.
- David (1552), setter and searcher, 245.
- Edward (1752), tenant, 7; (d. 1786) epitaph, 267.
- (Rowland), Eleanor, marriage, 41.
- (*née* Watson), Elizabeth, bequest to, 108.
- Hugh (1897), of Chipchase, estates of, 300, 348.
- Janet (1586), tenant in Barrasford, 317.
- John (1336), pays subsidy, 332, 355 n, 377 n; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- (*née* Shafto), Mary (1775), named in will, 423.
- Percy (d. 1878), epitaph at Chipchase, 350.
- Thomas (1897), of Slaye, owner of Litterage, 66.
- William (1752), marriage, 63, 63 n; (1775) named in will, 423.
- Mr. (*circa* 1660), minister of Thockrington, 396.
- Taylor-burn, in Allendale, 117, 123 n.
- Teasdale, Abraham (1722), of Dalton, marriage, 57.
- Ann (1756), bequest to, 51, 51 n.
- Teasdale, Cuthbert (1678), mentioned in will, 67; (1756) bequest to, 51, 51 n; (1766) marriage, 29.
- Elizabeth (1756), children of, 51; executrix, 51 n.
- (Errington), Frances, of Dalton, marriage, 54.
- John (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 109.
- (*née* Johnson), Mary, bequest to, 60; (Angus) marriage, 29; (*née* Ord) bequest to, 58.
- Samuel (1719), bequest to, 68; (1752) tenant, 7.
- Thomas (1717), claim as creditor, 191; (1800) of Gateshead, marriage, 233.
- Tedham, a homestead in Allendale, 103, 104 n.
- Ten Thousand a Year*, a romance by S. Warren, founded on the history of the claimant of Stote estates, 382.
- Tenter-house, a homestead in Low Quarter, 41.
- Teket, Jane de (1243), conveys land in Chipchase, 331.
- Tessimond, Thomas (1805), marriage, 106.
- Theakston (Shafto), Martha (1784), marriage, 406.
- Theules, William (1296), pays subsidy, 320.
- Thirkeld, Taylor (1705), Woolley-burn-foot, baptism, 86.
- Thirlwall of Thirlwall and Newbiggin, pedigree, 35; evidences, 36; history of family, 33-7.
- Thirlwall of Nether Ardley and Dalton, pedigree, 54; evidences, 55.
- Thirlwall of East Greenridge, pedigree, 23.
- Thirlwall of Mollersteads, pedigree, 51.
- Tbirlwall, Ann (1663), lands in Dotland, 41.
- (Errington), Eleanor (1583), of West Dipton mill, 46.
- George (1632), of Rothbury, named in will, 295.
- John (d. 1686), of Newbiggin, shot in Hexham, 36; (d. 1704) of East Greenridge, will and inventory of goods, 24; (d. 1713) extraordinary death, 23; (d. 1730) of Mollersteads, lands of, 50; (d. 1756) last of Mollersteads family, 50-1.
- Lancelot (1582), owner of Newbiggin, 33-4; marriage, 340.
- (Widdrington), Mally, of Colwell, marriage, 294.
- May (1752), surrenders property, 24; co-heiress of Newbiggin family, becomes a nun, 36; party to deed, 36.
- Peter (b. 1647), of East Greenridge, bequest to, 24; (d. 1679) a minor, 55; (d. 1706) of Mollersteads, provisions of will, 50; (d. 1743) death of, 50.
- Philip (1606), of Hexham, holds Gairshield, 70.
- Richard (1591), succeeds to Greenridge, 23; (1597) executor, 295; (1608) of Newbiggin, lands, 34.
- Robert (d. *ante* 1608), estates of, 36; (1621) of Blackball, action against, 49.
- (*postea* Ord), Susanna (1666), marriages, 54, 57.
- Thomas (1295), pays subsidy, 109; (d. 1625) of Nether Ardley, his lands, 55.
- William (1597), administers estate, 116; (1659) answers for Dotland, 41.
- Thockrington, Alice de (1300), party to suit, 412.
- Adam de (1300), party to suit, 412.
- Hugo (1296), pays subsidy at Colwell, 291.
- Margaret de (1250), lands in Thockrington, 413.
- Robert de (1296), suit with abbot of Newminster, 397 n; (1350) possessions of, 413.
- William de (1274), chaplain, lands, etc., 398.
- Thockrington, parish, 387-425; its four townships, 387; TOWNSHIP, 387; acreage and census returns, 387; pre-historic remains, 387; vill given to archbishop of York by Ric. de Umframvill, 387; early history, 397; connection with Fossor family, 399; John Fossor, prior of Durham, 400; subsidy roll, 399; lease from Cardinal Wolsey to Cuthbert Shafto, 402; manor acquired by Shafto family, 402; survey of forfeited lands made in 1716, 403; its homesteads, 387, 403, 423.

- Thockrington church, assigned as an endowment for prebend at York, 388; list of prebendaries of, 388-9; architectural description of church, with illustrations, 390-3; ancient sepulchral monuments, 393-4; remains of churchyard cross, 394; epitaphs, and extracts from registers, 394, 395; visitations and list of ministers, 396; the tithes of suspended prebend granted to incumbent, 397.
- Thomas II. (1113), archbishop of York, various grants to priory, 18, 149-50, 205, 236.
- Thompson, Rev. Francis (1817), vicar of Carham, proprietor of Stagshaw Close-house, 208.
- George (1752), of Langley-castle, tenant, 7.
- Isabel (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
- John (1535), tenant in Anick, 151; (1693) referred to in will, 261; (d. 1826) vicar of Warden, mortgage, 119, 121; purchases Stagshaw Close, 208.
- Leonard, of York, goldsmith, connection with Kirkley, 34 n.
- Mary (Ridley) (1697), marriage, 57; (1779) tenant in Acomb, 141.
- Ralph (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Robert (1538), a trooper, 258, 380; (1694) tenant in Acomb, 140 n.
- (Forster), Sarah (d. 1748), marriage, 63.
- Shafto (d. 1833), marriage, 425.
- (*née* Watson), Sarah, bequest to, 108.
- Thomas (1791), curate of Birtley, 360; (d. 1842) of Wallington marriage, 425.
- William (1385), charged with raiding, 201.
- Thorald, William (1320), purchases lands in Swinburn, 278.
- Thoresby, Elys de, a commissioner, 150.
- Archbishop, grants of lands, etc., 34, 40; grants lease of Thockrington, 399.
- Thorneborough, John (d. 1641), prebendary of Thockrington, 389; bishop of Limerick, 389 n.
- Thornhill, Brian de (1332), rector of Bydale, 258 n.
- Thornley gate, in Allendale, 90.
- Thornton (*née* Simpson), Anne (1693), bequest to, 259.
- Henry (1670), of Wilton Shields, executor, 214.
- John (1670), of Netherwitton, executor, 214.
- Nicholas (1697), of Netherwitton, bequest to, 36 n.
- Roger (1310), suit against, 223; (d. 1483) lands, 402.
- William de (1228), witness, 325.
- Threepit-hill, homestead in Chipchase, 350.
- Throckmorton, Mary (Riddell) (1843), marriage, 287.
- Throclaw, Robert de (1346), lands in Bavington, 414.
- Thurbottell, Robert (1547), lands in Ardley, 54.
- Thurston, Archbishop, gives Dotland and Grottington to Hexham priory, 39, 196.
- Tilley (Shafto), Sarah (1842), marriage, 420.
- Tinker-house, in Allendale, devised for a free school, 89-90; a possession of the Bee family, 116.
- Tirsterl, identified with Steel, 39.
- Todd, Adam (1296), of Colwell, pays subsidy, 291.
- George (d. 1680), incumbent of St. John Lee, 131.
- Grace (d. 1688), of St. John Lee, burial, 133.
- Miss (1881), purchases and devises Carrycoats, 405.
- William (1752), Land-ends, tenant, 7.
- Todridge, John de (1310), successful suit by, 223.
- Matilda (1310), successful suit by, 223.
- Todridge, estate in Bingham township, 220; assessment of, 221; acreage, 222; granted to Hexham priory, 236; identified with Little Grottington, 236; successive owners, 236-7.
- Toft-hall, homestead in Kirkheaton, 376.
- Tolland. *See* Tone.
- Toly, Thos. (1467), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- Tom Told's quarry at Hexham, 3.
- Tombs-house, a farmhold in Allendale, 16 n, 90 n, 147.
- Tone, Richard (1441), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- Tone, in Chollerton parish, 296-301; granted to Newminster, 296; at dissolution acquired by the Widdringtons, 281, 297; history and pedigree of Hodgson family, 297-9; devolution of estate through families of Swinburn and Hodgson to present owner, 297-300; a Jacobite centre, 297.
- Tonge, John (1709), rector of Brancepeth, marriage with one of the Stote heiresses, 383.
- Tongues hill, colliery in Kirkheaton, 249.
- Toppin (Stephenson), Ann (1754), monument to, 81; bequest to, 84.
- Ann (1754), Cliburn, bequest to, 84.
- (*née* Lowthian) Eleanor (1754), marriage, etc., 81, 84.
- John (1734), curate of Allendale, 81; will, 84.
- Joseph (1755), of Hexham, lands of, 4 n, 7.
- Towers, castles, and bastle houses: (?) Barrasford (with illustration), 316; Beaufront (with illustrations), 198; (?) Birtley (with illustration), 361; Carrycoats, 404, 405; Chipchase (with illustrations), 333; Cocklaw (with illustration), 180; Filton, 404, 405; Gunner-ton, 326; Little Bavington, 414; Little Swinburn (with illustration), 302; Ninebanks (with illustrations), 111, 118; (?) Portgate, 211 n; Thockrington, 390, 403 n; West Swinburn (with illustrations), 279, 281.
- Travers, John (1321), steward to Archbishop Melton, 223.
- Trepenoke, in the manor of Anick, claimed by the people of Corbridge, 150.
- Treshfield cottage, tenement of Bee family, 116.
- Trevelyan, Mrs. Catherine Anne (1862), purchases Hallington demesne, 244, 244 n.
- Sir John (1846), inherits Sweethope estate, 410.
- Sir Walter Calverley (d. 1879), wills Sweethope estate, 410.
- Rev. William Bouverie (1891), sells Sweethope, 410.
- Rev. William Pitt, inherits Sweethope estate, 410.
- Trewyk, Thomas de (1373), witness, 378.
- Trivett, Jane (1776), bequest to, 93.
- Trotter, Rev. Alex., minister at Great Bavington (d. 1852), epitaph, 395.
- Trow burn, in Chollerton parish, 300.
- Trow hill, position of, 300.
- Trubell, Robert (1538), a trooper, 225, 270.
- Trueman, Dorothy (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Robert (1725), clandestine marriage, 83.
- Trumbell, Gerard (1538), a trooper, 225.
- John (1538), a trooper, 380.
- Nicholas (1626), tenant in Wall, 138.
- Tulip of Fallowfield and Walwick, pedigree, 159; epitaphs, 133.
- Tulip, Henry (1752), of Fallowfield, tenant, 7, 171; (d. 1800) purchases Walwick, 159 n; pulls down section of Roman Wall, 162; (1806) estates in Wall, 175.
- (Mewburn), Mary (1744), marriage, 133, 142.
- Tully, Richard (1333), excommunicated, 70.
- Tunhok, Galfridus (1296), pays subsidy, 258.
- Tunstal, Francis (1660), of Ovington, Ebor. marriage, 285.
- Turf-house, in High Quarter, 54, 65.
- Turnbull, John (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Turner (*née* Kell), Elizabeth (1722), named in will, 173.
- Joshua (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
- Margaret (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.

Turner, Mrs. Rebecca Jane, lands in Hayrake, 104.
 Turners-house, a homestead in Allendale, 117.
 Turnersfield, homestead in West Allen, 123 n.
 Turpin, Martin, marriage, 417.
 — Thomas (1296), pays subsidy, 258.
 'Turret' of Roman Wall, at Brunton, 160; description, 162-3.
 Tweddell of Threepwood, lands in Bingfield, 237.
 Tweddell, Ann (1752), tenant, 7; (1839) landowner in Bingfield, 222.
 — Edward (1720), curate of St. John Lee, 131; office against, 134; curate of Thockrington, 396.
 — Francis (1805), estate in Bingfield, 230.
 — John (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 7.
 — Robert (1805), estate in Bingfield, 230.
 — Sarah (d. 1726), of St. John Lee, baptism and burial, 133.
 Twessege, tenement in or near Kirkheaton, 379.
 Twystreg, Richard (1296), pays subsidy, 377.
 Tyeys, Francis de (1297), juror, 322 n.
 Tyne green, Hexham, common land, 3.
 Tyndale, Anabel de, parentage, 320; marriage, 325.
 — Thomas de, marriage, 325.
 — William de (1310), marriage, 325; (1329), witness, 279 n. (1348) 333 n.
 Tyndale, family of, owners of Kirkhaugh, 325.
 Tyson, Richard (thirteenth-century), witness, 201.

U.

Uctred, son of Mildred (1138), raids, 185 n.
 Ulfchill (1182), the earliest known resident proprietor in East Swinburne, 303-5; probable mention in *Liber Vitæ*, 303 n.; founder of family, 309.
 Ullesby, Thomas (1367), acts as attorney for Roger Widdrington, 224.
 Umframvill, Emma (de Aydon), 200, 202, 376.
 — (*postea* Percy), Eva de (1274), 256.
 — Gilbert de (d. 1245), grants Beaumont to Hexham priory, 254; lord of Chollerton, 254; holds Colwell, 291; confirms grant to Newminster, 296; holds Barrasford, 313; (1291) succeeds to Barrasford, 314; in possession of Birtley, 354; settlement of Birtley and Otterburn, 355; limits of liberty, 364.
 — Ingram de (1284), claims Birtley, 354.
 — Lucy (1324), lands in Colwell, 292.
 — (de Merlay), Margery, marriage and death, 314; grants to Hexham priory, 315.
 — Odinel de (d. 1182), grants Chollerton church to Hexham priory, 253, 261, 289, 326, 348, 357, 376; grants to Newminster, 296, 404.
 — Richard de (d. 1226), resigns Chollerton to Earl Gilbert, 254, 256; becomes insane, 256; grants to Hexham priory, 300; grants Barrasford as daughter's marriage portion, 314; death, 330; surrenders rights to Thockrington, 387-8; (1282) claims Birtley, 354; admitted heir, 355.
 — Robert 'cum barba,' first lord of Redesdale, 253.
 — Robert de (1246), acquires Chollerton manor, 254; confirms grant to Newminster, 296.
 — Robert, earl of Angus (1307), 315; (1324) lands in Colwell, 292.
 Umframvill family, lords of Redesdale, 253; of Prudhoe, 245, 253, 273; acquire Colwell, 291; lords of Barrasford, 313; of Birtley, 354; of Broomhope, 363; of Chollerton, 253-4; of Chipchase, 330; of Kirkheaton, 376; of Little Bavington, 411; of Thockrington, 387.

Undwanus (1229), surrenders lands in Middle Quarter, 59.
 Unstain, Roger (1538), a trooper, 170.
 Uppermollop, tenement of Bee family, 116.
 Urns discovered, at Stagshaw, 207; at Chollerton, 253; at Barrasford, 311; at Birtley, 352, 353, 354; at Sweethope, 408.
 Urswick, Christopher (1487), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
 Urwin, James (1828), chaplain at Kirkheaton, 386; curate of Thockrington, 396.
 Usher, Isabel (1727), tenant in Barrasford, 318 n.
 — George (1716), leaseholder in Barrasford, 317; commissioner, 317.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 258; (1586) tenant in Barrasford, 316-7; (1594) witness, 294 n.
 — Thomas, junior (1605), marriage, 20.
 — William (1752), of Delicate hall, tenant, 8.
 Usher's Close, a place name in Gunnerton, 329.

V.

Vaccinium uliginosum, example of, 5 n.
 Val, Hugo de la (1297), juror, 322 n.
 — Robert de la (1297), juror, 322 n. See also Delaval.
 Valle, Salamon de (1302), a landowner in Fallowfield, suit against, 156.
 Vallibus, de, family of. See Vaux.
 Vallum, the, course of, 125, 160; St. John Lee section, 160-3; near Portgate (illustration), 161; theories regarding, 162 n. 163 n.; crossed by Watling Street, 218. See also Roman Wall.
 Vaux of Beaufront, pedigree, 202; thirteenth and fourteenth-century charters, 201-2; history, 199-202.
 Vaux, Adam de (1356), named in deed, 201-2, 225; suit against, 212.
 — Agnes de (1256), widow of Sir Peter, 200.
 — Alan de (1285), charge against, 201.
 — Alice (1356), named in deed, 201-2.
 — (*née* Widdrington), Barbara (1356), named in deed, 201; marriage, 202.
 — (Errington), Elizabeth de (1380), marriage, 186; estates, 197, 212.
 — Gilbert de (1356), witness, 202; indicted, 212.
 — Henry de (1336), indicted, 212.
 — Sir John de (1301), a justice, 239; (1321) commissioner, 128 n. 150, 185; possessions, 156, 200; does homage for Beaufront, 200; suit against, 223; (1387) estates, 197, 212; wardship, 200; styled 'dominus de bello fronte,' 201; gives power of attorney, 202; witness, 279 n.
 — Peter de (1238), settles in Northumberland, 199; rector of Crathorne, 200, 200 n.; (d. *circa* 1256) marriage, 199-200, 408; death, 200; witness, 398.
 — Richard de (1320), suit by, 156.
 — Thomas de (1387), estates entailed to, 197, 212; marriage, 212.
 Vauzht, Sir John de (1301), justice, 239.
 Vazie, Robert (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 8.
 — William (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 8.
 Vernol, Elizabeth (1730), of Bingfield, party to agreement, 236.
 — (*née* Jefferson), Mary (1730), marriage, 236.
 — Mary (1737), 221-2; conveys land for school-house at Bingfield, 223.
 Vickers, William (1699), of Whitfield, 95.
 Villiers, Dame Barbara (1717), claims as creditor, 191.
 — Dame Martha (1687), her annuity, 241.
 Vincent (Heron), Anne, marriage, 344.

- Vinter, Charles, of Louth, marriage, 384.
 — (*née* Manby), Elizabeth, executrix, 384.
 Vlquam (? Ulgham), John (1410), tenant, 12 n.
 — Thomas (1410), tenant 12 n.
- W.
- Waddilove of Beacon and Woodhorn, notice of family, 4-5; epitaphs, 29, 133.
 Wade, Albany (1663), possessions in Dotland, 41.
 — General (1745), military road constructed by, 160, 175, 218, 219 n.
 — Thomas (1639), sells Barker-house, 55.
 Wager-house, homestead in Allendale, 90 n.
 Wagtail, the, a homestead in Low Quarter, 39.
 Wailes, Judith (1752), of Eachwick, tenant, 8.
 — Thomas, (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 8.
 Waite, Charles, (1706), of Inner Temple, marriage, 229.
 — John (d. 1749), mortgages Bingfield estate, 230; marriage and death, 230.
 Wakefield, Simon de (1297, under-sheriff, 323 n.
 Walays, Hugh de (1296), witness, 325.
 — Robert de (1347), witness, 332 n.
 Wales, Robert de (1272), lands in Chipchase, 331.
 Walhou, Gilbert de (1296), pays subsidy, 377.
 Walkelyn, John (1300), possessions in Hallington, 239.
 Walker, Abraham (1812), bequest to, 28.
 — Elizabeth (1694), tenant in Acomb, 140 n; (Ord) (d. *circa* 1699) marriage, 57.
 — Emma (d. 1799), of Newcastle, burial, 29.
 — James (1812), bequest to, 28.
 — Jane (Cuthbert) (d. 1757), of Sprouston, marriage, 205.
 — (Watson), Mary, marriage, 105.
 — Robert (1779), tenant in Acomb, 141.
 — William (1799), of Quayside, Newcastle, 29.
 Wall, in parish of St. John Lee, 160-175; petition by tenants, 137-8; Scottish inroads, 137, 170; list of tenants in 1626, 138; certain lands held of the manor of Anick Grange, 149; lands held by copy of court roll, 160, 170-1; area and population, 160; description of the section of the ROMAN WALL which traverses township, 160-164; Roman bridge, 164-8; Chollerton bridge, 169; ancient grave, 169; muster roll, 170, 170 n; water corn mill 170; proprietors in 1663, 171; division of common lands, 171; evidences of the Kell family, 172-3; pedigree of Dawson family, 174; present owners, 175.
 Wall nook, homestead in West Allen, 123 n.
 Wallace (*née* Bowrey), Catherine (1710), marriages, 233.
 — John (1720), of Newburn, marriage, 233.
 Wallas, Richard (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 8.
 Wallington, John de (1373), witness, 378.
 Wallis, John (1538), a trooper, 293.
 — William (1663), lands in Allendale, 98.
 Wallon, Henry (1229), has grant of wardship, 223.
 Wallon (Wallow) bank, in Bingfield, 232.
 Wally Thorn, a farmstead in Middle Quarter, 54, 55, 58.
 Walter, son of Eustice (1281), does homage for lands in Swinburn, 276.
 Walton, John (1694), imprisoned, 107; (1820) of Clargill hall, marriage, 106.
 — Mrs. Mary Ann, lands at Hayrake, 104.
 — (1756), vicar of Corbridge, 147.
 — Richard (1676), of Peacock-house, trustee, 58.
 — William (1827), curate of St. Peter's-in-the-Forest, 100.
 Wangeford, John de (1342), witness, 402.
 Wansbeck, source, etc., 246, 252, 408.
 Ward, John (1596), tenant of the Paize, 21.
 — Robert (1608), lands in Nether Rawgreen, 52.
 Wardelaw, John de (1296), pays subsidy, 364.
 — Robert de (1296), pays subsidy, 364.
 Wardle (Heron), Catherine, marriage, 362.
 — Richard (1547), his tenement in Mollersteads, 50.
 Warena, John de (1280), prebendary of Thockrington, 388, 400-1.
 Warkshaugh, annexed to Birtley, 270; Heron estates in, 339; deposits of ironstone found at, 354.
 Warner (Shafto), Ann (d. 1819), marriage, 419.
 Warren, Samuel (1855), pleads in the Stote Manby trial, 382.
 Warton, Rev. William (1752), bequest to, 236 n.
 Warwick, John (1716), of Warwick hall, party to deed, 36.
 — (Thirlwall), Lucy, marriage, 35, 37; party to deed, 36.
 Wasche, Adam. *See* Vaux.
 Waskerley, Simon de (1356), witness, 201.
 — William de (1323), serves on jury, 292.
 Wastell, H. (1766), curate of Birtley, 360.
 Watch Currock, a homestead in Hexham township, 5.
 Water-falles, William de (1296), pays subsidy, 258.
 Waterfalls, farm in Carrycoats, acreage, 403 n; standard of rebellion unfurled in 1715, 406.
 Waterhaugh, in West Allen, 116.
 Waters, Matthew, of Wallsend, (1772), trustee, 422.
 — William (1749), of Wallsend, mortgagee, 36.
 Watling Street, description of section which crosses the parishes of St. John Lee and Thockrington, 214-9.
 Watson of Allendale and Newcastle, pedigree, 105; evidences, 107-9.
 Watson, Andrew (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
 — Cuthbert (1740), marriage, 269.
 — Edward (1538), of Wall, a trooper, 170.
 — (Cotesworth), Hannah (d. 1765), marriage, 145; death, 145 n; (1790) executrix, 93.
 — Hugh (1699), of Studdon, trustee, 103; (1711) a Quaker of Allendale, 83.
 — Joseph (1711), a Quaker of Allendale, 83.
 — Joshua (1711), a Quaker of Allendale, 83; fined, 108.
 — Richard (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
 — Robert, marriage, 425.
 — Roland (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
 — Thomas (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
 — Thomas Carrick (1897), notes by, 104 n.
 Waugh, Thomas (1775), a petitioner to archbishop, 89 n.
 Waukelin, William, clerk (1248), lands in Hallington, 239.
 Wauker, William de (*circa* 1289), vicar of Chollerton, 256, 267; lands in Chollerton, 257.
 Waukin, William (1220), lands in Hallington, 239.
 Wauton, John de (1322), a justice, 239.
 Way, Richard (1677), sells Hallington, 241.
 — Thomas (1663), lands in Hallington, 241.
 Weakliffe (Soulby), Martha, marriage, 133.
 Weapons discovered: at Allendale Town, 88; at Barrasford, 311, 312; at Chipchase, 330; at Gunner-ton Crag, 320 n; at Sweethope, 408 n. *See also* pre-historic remains.
 Weir, Thos. (1765), of Brinkburn parish, marriage, 29.
 Wears, John (1711), marriage, 269.
 Weatherley, Elizabeth (1841), trustee, 232; lands, 233.
 — Robert (1830), marriage, 233.
 Weatherley Meed, a place name in Hallington, 241 n.
 Webb, Edward (1737), of Gray's Inn, trustee, 192.
 Weld, Edward (1775), of Lulworth, marriage, 194.
 Weldon, Barbara (1718), bequest to, 153.

- Weldon, John (1663), proprietor in Sandhoe, 211.
 — Lancelot (1702), bequest to, 153; action against, 214.
 — (Errington), Margaret (d. 1732), marriage, 153.
 — Michael (*circa* 1600), marriage, 341; (d. 1718) will of, 153; death, 153 n.
 — William (1676), trustee, 58; (1718) executor, 153.
 Welford, Thomas (1897), owner of High Shield, 5.
 Werke, Gilbert de (1336), pays subsidy, 324.
 Werst, William (1296), pays subsidy, 399.
 Wesley, John (1784), his visits to Allendale, 88-9.
 West (Teasdale), Anne, of Whitley chapelry, marriage, 29.
 — John (1538), a trooper, 75.
 — Richard (1547), lands in High Quarter, 65-6, 70.
 West Boat, suspension bridge, 9.
 West Quarter township, in parish of Hexham, detailed history of estates, 8-25; population and area, 8; rights of common, 72-3.
 Westburnhope, in High Quarter, 70-1.
 Wester house, homestead in Allendale, 90 n.
 Wester-meadow, in High Quarter, 71 n.
 Westmoreland, Johanna, countess of (1441), 365.
 — John (1498), vicar of Chollerton, 267.
 Westwood, Nicholas (1538), a trooper, 75.
 Westwood, forest of, owners, 15, 17, 34.
 Whapweasel, a burn in Hexhamshire, 64, 73.
 Wharmlands, farm in West Allen, 110 n, 116, 121, 123 n.
 Whelpington, Hugh de (1280), witness, 401; (1347) witness, 332 n.
 Whinfield (*née* Cuthbertson), Dorothy (d. 1774), marriage, 213; death, 214.
 — William (1740), vicar of Branxton, marriage, 213.
 Whinnetly, estate, 36-7, 374.
 Whinnetly mill, surrendered, 24.
 White, James (1782), of Lambshield, trustee, 143.
 — Lionel (1538), of Bingfield, a trooper, 225.
 — Robert (1538), of Hallington, a trooper, 240.
 — Taylor (1728), of Lincoln's Inn, marriage, 189.
 White walls, a message in Buteland, 366.
 Whitehall, in High Quarter, 54; history, 66; Methodist chapel, 66.
 Whitehead (Forster), Jane, of Berwick, marriage, 63.
 — (Ramsay), Maria (d. 1855), marriage, 195.
 — Richard (1385), charge against, 201.
 — William (*circa* 1500), of Newlands, a trooper, 8 n.
 Whitehouse, farm in Carrycoats, acreage, 403 n; bastle house, 405.
 Whitelawe, William de (1296), witness, 325; pays subsidy, 324.
 Whiteridge, homestead in Allendale, 103, 104 n.
 Whiteside Law, a township, in parish of Chollerton, 301.
 Whitesmocks, a tenement in Hexham, 422.
 Whitestone, in Allendale, 116.
 Whitfield, Francis (1666), of New Mill in Allendale, 92.
 — (*née* Watson), Jane, bequest to, 108.
 — John (1671), of Whitfield, marriage, 133.
 — (Bee), Margaret (1681), marriage, 86.
 — Matthew (1538), a trooper, 13; (1552) setter and searcher, 96; (1563) witness, 82; (1663) possessions in Ninebanks, 110; (1685) of Whitfield, parentage, 97.
 — Nicholas (1596), witness to will, 116; (1699) of Church-style, amount owing to, 120.
 — Ralph (1576), acts as an attorney for Sir John Forster, 115.
 — Richard (1538), of Fallowfield, a trooper, 157.
 — Rynzen (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 110.
 — Ulrich, of Whitfield (1685), possessions of, 97.
 — William, of Whitfield (1685), inheritance of, 97; (d. 1711) of Allendale Town, burial, 86.
 Whitfield, in Broomhope, owners of, 369; in Kirkheaton, 381.
 Whitgwam, Robert (1496), curate of St. John Lee, 131.
 Whittington, Thomas de (1233), grant of Lillswood, 45.
 Whitley chapel, account of, 25-28; list of ministers, 28; monumental inscriptions, 28; registers and charities, 29.
 Whitley chapelry, extent, 25; characteristic nomenclature, 30.
 Whitley mill, in Middle Quarter, history of, 48-50.
 Whitleyshield-green, in Allendale, 116, 121, 123 n.
 Whittington, Little, Errington estates in, 187, 191, 193, 193 n; acquired by Peter de Vaux, 200.
 Whittonstall, Vaux possessions at, 201-2.
 Whitwalls burn, tributary of the Allen, 74.
 Wicks (Shafto), Sarah (d. 1865), marriage, 407.
 Widdrington of Colwell, pedigree, 294; evidences, 295-6.
 Widdrington of Buteland, Broomhope, and Morpeth, pedigree, 369.
 Widdrington of Colt Park, pedigree, 213; evidences, 214.
 Widdrington, Ann (1654), lands in Carrycoats, 405.
 — Benjamin (1594), defendant, 294 n; (1608) of Little Swinburn, purchases estate, 365.
 — (*née* Errington), Cath. (d. 1720), named in will, 214.
 — Clara (1620), of Colwell, monumental slab, 266.
 — (Errington), Dorothy (1643), marriage, 188; will, 190; (1668) of Buteland, co-heiress, 366; marriage, 367.
 — Edward (d. *circa* 1577), inheritance, 280; (1674), of Blackheddon, will, 296.
 — (Riddell), Elizabeth Margaret (d. 1798), of Felton, marriage, 286.
 — Sir Ebrahim, of Ritton, marriage, 35.
 — Francis (1632), of West Harle, bequest to, 295; lands in Carrycoats, 405.
 — Gerard de (1327), lands, 292; estate restored to, 308; juror, 322 n; witness, 333 n; (1452) lands in Portgate, 212.
 — Henry (1592), inheritance, 280; quarrels with Lord Eure, 280-1; disposition of his estates, 280; duel with Sir Robert Kerr, 281; (1596) juror, 370; (1599) trustee, 415; (1610) of Rothbury, marriage, 14-5; (1625) purchases lands in Buteland, 365-6; (d. 1633) of Colwell, monumental slab, 266; will, 295; estates, 296; (1640) of Bingfield, estates, 231; (1643) of St. Anthony's, named in will, 190; (1654) of Blackheddon, estates, 405; (1709) of Buteland, slain in duel, 372; party to petition, 374; (d. 1728) marriage, 214, 237.
 — James (1570), of Hallington, 240 n.
 — John (1567), marriage, 224; witness, 279 n; (d. 1443) of Swinburn castle, 280; lands, 280; (1536) farms Chipchase corn tithes, 349; (1547) freeholder in Bingfield, 225; lands in Hallington, 240-1; will, 240 n; (1555) of Swinburn castle, 280; tithes of Colwell, 290; (1640) estates entailed on, 231; (1643) Newcastle, estates inherited by, 190; (d. 1738) of the Chesters, burial, 134.
 — Katherine (1643), wife of Benjamin, 190.
 — (Riddell), Katherine (d. 1658), marriage, 284.
 — (*nuper* Ridley), Margaret (1610), marriages, 14, 15; (1704), legatee of John Thirlwall, 24; (Algood) (1743), of Portgate, sells Todridge, 237.
 — (Sutton), Mary (1668), marriage, 366; (Riddell), (d. 1751), marriage, 286.
 — Michael (1720), of Morpeth, estates, 368, 369.
 — Oswald (1522), setter and searcher, 410 n.
 — Ralph (1522), his tenement in Filton, 404; overseer of watch, 355; (1596) his escape from Swinburn when the castle was captured by Sir Robert Kerr,

- 281; (1653) of Colwell and Bingfield, surrenders property, 33; estates confiscated, 231; marriage, 231 n, 294 n; conveys estates, 237; bequest to, 295; executor, 295.
- Widdrington, Robert (1599), named in will, 415; (1716) of Buteland, lands of, 368; party to petition, 374.
- Roger de (1345), his lands in West Swinburn, 279; has licence to crenellate castle, 279; sheriff of Northumberland, 280; possessions of, 293; (1356) party to deed, 202, 224; (1368) acquires lease in Thockrington, 399; (1448), party to deed, 224-5; witness, 333 n; (1567) grant from Crown to, 305, 404 n; (1596) captured by Sir Robert Kerr, 280-1; (*circa* 1610) marriage, 35; (1633) of Cartington, 295; sells lands in Buteland, 365.
- Sarah (1715), of Anick, entered as non-juror, 154.
- Thomas (1632), of Gray's Inn, executor, 295; (1640) estates entailed to, 231; (1677) of Bingfield, monumental slab, 266.
- William (1640), estates entailed to, 231; (1654) estates conveyed to, 405; (1678) bequest to, 190; conveys estates, 296, 301; Tonehouse, 297.
- Widehaugh, a place name in Acomb, 136.
- Widington, W. de (1229), witness, 59.
- Wigglesmere (1285), lake of, 257.
- Wigham, Elizabeth (1779), petition by, 85.
- John (1650), vicar of Chollerton, 267, 270.
- (Watson), Rachel (d. 1794), marriage, 105.
- Robert, of Coanwood, marriage, 106.
- Thomas (1815), trustee, 108.
- William, of Coanwood, marriage, 106.
- Wigornia, Ralph de. *See sub* Wirecester.
- Wild, Elizabeth (1747), tenant in Wall, 171.
- John (1747), tenant in Wall, 171.
- Wilkinson, Anthony (1538), a trooper, 109; (1716) millwright, repairs Hallington mill, 242.
- Christopher (1700), of Chapel-house, endows schools, 89, 90, 90 n; will of, 89; (1772) of Newcastle, 243.
- Francis (1727), tenant in Barrasford, 317, 318 n.
- Major-General F. Green (1860), marriage, 206.
- George (1715), tenant of Hallington mill, 242.
- Henry (1538), a trooper, 109; (1876) purchases Bingfield East Side, 233.
- (Tulip), Isabella (1769), marriage, 159; (Coppin) (d. 1798) of North Shields, marriage, 234.
- Joseph (1699), amount owing by, 120.
- Lawrence (1537), of Coastley, a trooper, 13.
- (Alder), Margaret, marriage, 133; (Cotesworth) (b. 1672), of South Shields, marriage, 145.
- Nicholas, charitable bequest by, 87 n.
- Roger (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 110.
- Roland (1538), of Keepwich, a trooper, 196.
- Simon (1693), of Chollerton, bequest to, 260.
- Thomas (1538), of Allendale, a trooper, 110.
- William (1563), suit by, 82; (1715) tenant of Hallington, 241; (1717) claims as creditor, 191.
- William, the griever of Ninebanks (1295), pays subsidy, 109.
- William, archdeacon of Richmond, witness, 398.
- William, son of Lawrence (1279), tenant in Swinburn, 275, 276 n; does homage, 277.
- William, son of Richard (1279), tenant in Swinburn, 276 n.
- William, vicar of Bywell (1243), witness, 330 n.
- William, vicar of Chollerton (1316), 267.
- Williams, William (1887), incumbent of Allenheads, 100.
- Williamson of Hayrake, in Allendale, family, 103-4.
- Williamson, Alex. (1686), imprisoned, 103; will, 103.
- Margaret (1748), bequest to, 28.
- Williamson, Naomi (d. 1699), buried at Hayrake, 86.
- Thomas, junior (d. 1690), fined and imprisoned, 103, 107.
- Wills, John (1700), of Durlham, marriage, 119.
- (*née* Robson), Susanna, bequest to, 120.
- Wilson of Kingswood and Newbiggin, pedigree, 38.
- Wilson, Ann (1699), of Ninebanks, bequest to, 120; (1720) charitable bequest by, 87, 120; will of, 120.
- Cuthbert (1714), of Walwick, agent for Chipchase estates, 368; (1780) sells Walwick, 159 n.
- (*née* Winter), Edith (1734), executrix, 120.
- Edward (1538), a trooper, 170; (1735) acts as arbitrator, 236; (1752) of Hexham, tenant, 8.
- George (1715), of Anick, entered as non-juror, 154.
- Henry (1538), trooper, 258; (1679) named in will, 153.
- Hugh (1608), holds Catton Lee, 94; charitable bequest by, 88 n.
- John (1538), a trooper, 13; (1563) witness, 82.
- Leonard (1668), of Cooperhaugh, lands in Catton, 95; (d. 1699) of Dryside, marriage, 119; will of, 120; (1825) of Newcastle, purchases Hallington demesne, 243; reference to will, 244 n; of Oakpool, charitable bequest by, 87 n.
- (Heron), Mary (1672), marriage, 362; (Fewster) (1710) marriage, 86; (*née* Widdrington) bequest to, 295.
- Matthew (1699), bequest to, 120.
- Ralph (1632), marriage, 294; of Hartlepool, marriage, 285.
- Richard (1538), a trooper, 170; (1625) of Houghton castle, buys lands in Chollerton, 259; (1663) tenant of Hallington Mains, 242; (1694) administers son's estate, 242 n.
- Robert (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 8.
- Roger (1642), sells lands in Chollerton, 259.
- Samuel (1680), of Bingfield, marriage, 227-8; baptism of his daughter, 133.
- Thomas (1538), a trooper, 13, 225; (1552) setter and searcher, 96; (1663) tenant, 94.
- William (1538), a trooper, 18; (1699) bequest to, 120.
- William Heron (d. 1870), incumbent of Birtley, 360.
- Wilton, Step. (1434), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- Windshill, tenement of Bee family, 116.
- Windsor, Honourable Dixie (1743), marriage, 385.
- (*née* Stote), Dorothy (d. 1757), contested succession to her estates, 382, 382 n; erects chapel at Kirkheaton, 385.
- Winnis hill, Quakers' meeting-house at, 108.
- Winsellow, James (1713), nephew of Roger Carnaby, 21.
- Winship, Ann (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 8.
- Edward (1735), of Corbridge, trustee, 61.
- (*née* Ridley), Sarah (1782), bequest to, 143.
- Winter, Abraham (1762), of Spital Shield, death of, 61.
- Edith (Wilson), of Nine Banks, twice married, 119.
- Elizabeth (Forster), of Eshells, twice married, 63.
- George (1688), of Spital Shield, named in will, 61.
- Hugh (1538), a trooper, 110.
- John (1688), of Spital Shield, named in will, 61.
- Joseph (1699), bequest to, 120.
- Margaret (1688), bequest to, 61.
- Robert (1538), a trooper, 109; (1677) lands in Spital Shield, 61.
- William (1688), provisions of will, 61; (1690) of Upper Ardley, bequest to, 61; (1694) bequest to, 120.
- Winter Eale, farmhold in Allendale, 97 n.
- Winter-house, homestead in Middle Quarter, 61, 62.
- Wirecester, Aschatinus (1128), witness to charter, 273.
- Gilbert de (1290), gifts to Hexham priory, 411, 414.

- Wirecester, John de (1240), in possession of West Swinburn, 274; identified with John de Swinburn, 274; genealogy, 276.
- Pagan de (1168), holds manor of West Swinburn, 274; descendants, 276
 - Ralph de (1162), owner of Hadston barony, 274.
 - William de (1184), succession opposed, 274; genealogy, 276; witness, 303 n.
- Wirecester barony. *See* Hadston barony.
- Wirksworth, William (1331), receiver at Hexham, 240.
- Wise, Andrew (1717), of Newcastle, creditor of Thomas Errington, 191.
- Ann (1700), of Allendale, executrix, 80 n.
 - George (1700), bequest to, 80 n.
 - Thomas (1690), curate of Allendale, 80; will, 80 n; educational benefactions, 90; (1700) bequest to, 80 n.
- Withell, Edward (1538), of West Allen, a trooper, 109.
- Wittewrith, Richard (1235), lands in Middle Quarter, 59.
- Witton, Denise de (1271), of Bitchfield, abducted, 408.
- John (1740), prebendary of Thockrington, 389, 389 n.
- Wodehouse, Walter de (1347), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- Woding, Matthew (1538), of West Allen, a trooper, 109.
- Wolf, Thomas (1754), curate of Birtley, 360.
- Wolfleugh, in Allendale, 116, 121, 123 n.
- Wolfe, Adam (1336), of Gunnerton, pays subsidy, 324.
- Wolsey, Cardinal (1518), grants lease of Thockrington, 402.
- Wolveden, Robert de (1432), prebendary of Thockrington, 388.
- Wood (Carnaby), Alice (d. 1703), marriage, 20.
- Anthony (1538), of Binglefield, a trooper, 225.
 - David (1538), a trooper, 258.
 - Francis (1720), sinks for coal on Steel fell, 368.
 - James (1782), of Byker, will, 70.
 - John (1585), vicar of Chollerton, 267; (1741) commissioner, 328 n.
 - Robert (1538), a trooper, 225; (1782) succeeds to Cockersfield estate, 70.
 - Roger (1538), of Binglefield, a trooper, 225.
 - Thomas (1741), commissioner, 328 n.
 - William (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 8.
- Woodcock, Thomas (1556), curate of Chollerton, 267.
- Wooddell, Alexander (1610), vicar of Chollerton, 267, 270.
- Bridget (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 8.
- Woodman, Anthony (1552), setter and searcher, 245.
- Henry (1538), a trooper, 258.
 - Richard (1538), a trooper, 293
 - Robert (1538), a trooper, 258.
 - Thomas (1538), a trooper, 258.
 - William (1538), a trooper, 258.
- Woodmas, Thomas (1547), tenements of, 121.
- William (1538), of West Allen, a trooper, 109.
- Woodmas Walls, in Allendale, owners, 117, 121.
- Woodside, in High Quarter, position of, 66.
- Woodside, in Middle Quarter, position of, 48.
- Wooler, Henry (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 8.
- Wooley burn foot, Quakers' meeting house at, 89, 108.
- Wooley, a farmhold in Allendale, 98 n.
- Wortley, Matilda, wife of Robert Reymes of Shortflat, 325.
- Wotton, Thomas de (1324), serves on jury, 292.
- Wray, Jane White (1883), monument at Birtley, 359.
- Mary (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 8.
- Wright, Henry (1580), prebendary of Thockrington, 389.
- William (1385), makes raid on Whittonstall, 201.
- 'Written rock,' the, on Fallowfield fell, 125, 155, 164.
- Wychleshe, William (1336), pays subsidy, 292.
- Wyghtflessh, William (1336), lands in Colwell, 293.
- Wyld, Mrs. (1663), of Hunton, letter to, 288.
- (Riddell), Isabel (d. 1663), of Hunton, marriage, 285.
- Wyndmylnstob, a place name in Hexham, 14.
- Wyndswift, Adam (1336), of Thockrington, pays subsidy, 399 n.
- Wynn (*née* Leadbitter), Agnes, of Hexham, 131.

Y.

- Yare, James (1762), of Ordley, will, 44; trustee, 51 n.
- (*née* Carr), Jane (1744), bequest to, 68.
 - (Richardson), Mary, 44.
 - Richard (d. 1721), of Ordley, death, 44; will, 44.
 - William (1690), holds moiety of Ordley, 44.
- Yarridge, in West Quarter, area, 8; history, 17, 18; granted to Hexham priory, 17-8; muster roll, 18; order to tenants, 49; certain lands held of manor of Anick Grange, 149.
- Yarrow, James (1715), tenant in Hallington, 242.
- Yates (Cuthbert) Francis (1874), marriage, 206.
- Yeateshouse, a tenement in Allendale, 116.
- Yeland, Adam de (1210), steward to the bishop of Durham, witness, 325.
- Yeldart, Archibald (1538), a trooper, 258.
- Roger (1538), a trooper, 170 n.
- Yetham, Adam de (1310), witness to deed, 278 n; conveys Colwell, 292.
- Nicholas de (1290), arbitrator in suit, 150; justice, 156; witness, 275 n; custodian of deed, 277, 277 n; pays subsidy, 291, 399; has manor of Colwell, 292; lands in Thockrington, 401; commissioner for gaol delivery, 409.
- Yokesley. *See* Nubbock.
- York, archbishops of: Bowett, 13, 23, 185; Thomas de Corbridge, 16, 64, 143, 180, 239, 409; Geoffrey Plantagenet, 9, 16; Walter Gifford, 109, 170, 239, 393, 409; Walter Gray, 9, 16, 39, 45, 59, 143, 170, 185, 197, 199, 223, 239, 397, 400, 408; Greenfield, 16, 25, 78, 128-9, 176, 200, 221, 223; Robert Holgate, 149; William Melton, 10, 157, 185, 200, 211-2, 224; George Neville, 11, 173 n; Romayne, 39, 150, 185, 223; Thomas II., 18, 149-50, 205, 236; John Thoresby, 34, 40, 399; Thurstan, 39, 196; Walter, 211; Thomas Wolsey, 402; William le Zouche, 23, 25.
- Young (Caldcleugh), Elizabeth, of Durham, marriage, 124.
- James (1596), *alias* James of the Coave, rescued from Swinburn castle, 281.
 - (Caldcleugh), Jane, of Durham, marriage, 124.
- Younger, Anton (1538), of Hallington, a trooper, 240.
- Clare (1752), of Hexham, tenant, 8.
 - Elizabeth (1699), bequest to, 90 n.
 - George (1538), a trooper, 225, 293.
 - Gerard (1538), a trooper, 196, 240, 292.
 - (Swinburn), Grace (1678), marriage, 86.
 - John (1538), a trooper, 225, 240.
 - Patrick (1538), of Sandhoe, a trooper, 207.
 - Philip (1538), of Hallington, a trooper, 240.
 - Robert (1538), a trooper, 225, 240; (1752) a tenant, 8.
 - Roger (1538), of Hallington, a trooper, 240.
 - Thomas (1538), a trooper, 207; (1752) tenant, 8.
 - William (1538), of Hallington, a trooper, 240.

Z.

- Zouche, William le (1348), archbishop of York, 23, 25.

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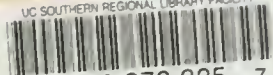
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